



GOAL 2 OVERVIEW

Trish Koman, PhD, MPP

OAR Senior National Environmental Justice Coordinator | Scientist

TOPICS



- Background
- EO 14096 definition of environmental justice
- EPA's Long-Term Strategic Plan and Agency environmental justice efforts
- FY24 OAR draft implementation plan goals
- Next steps



BACKGROUND

EXECUTIVE ORDER 14096 DEFINITION OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE





In April 2023, President Biden signed Executive Order 14096 on *Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All*. The new EO will:

- Deepen the whole-of-government commitment to environmental justice.
- Better protect overburdened communities from pollution and environmental harms.
- Strengthen engagement with communities and mobilize federal agencies to confront existing and legacy barriers and injustices.
- Promote the latest science, data, and research, including on cumulative impacts.
- Expand interagency coordination and launch a new Office of Environmental Justice within the White House Council on Environmental Quality.
- Increase accountability and transparency in federal environmental justice policy.
- Honor and build on the foundation of ongoing environmental justice work.

EO 14096 DEFINES ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- “Environmental justice” means the just treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of income, race, color, national origin, Tribal affiliation, or disability, in agency decision-making and other Federal activities that affect human health and the environment so that people:
 - (i) are fully protected from disproportionate and adverse human health and environmental effects (including risks) and hazards, including those related to climate change, the cumulative impacts of environmental and other burdens, and the legacy of racism or other structural or systemic barriers; and
 - (ii) have equitable access to a healthy, sustainable, and resilient environment in which to live, play, work, learn, grow, worship, and engage in cultural and subsistence practices.



EPA'S LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLAN

EPA'S ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EXTERNAL CIVIL RIGHTS



FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan

Mission: To Protect Human Health and the Environment

Principles: Follow the Science, Follow the Law, Be Transparent, Advance Justice and Equity



Strategy 1:

Ensure Scientific Integrity and Science-Based Decision Making



Strategy 2:

Consider the Health of Children at All Life Stages and Other Vulnerable Populations



Strategy 3:

Advance EPA's Organizational Excellence and Workforce Equity



Strategy 4:

Strengthen Tribal, State, and Local Partnerships and Enhance Engagement



Goal 1:

Tackle the Climate Crisis



Goal 2:

Take Decisive Action to Advance Environmental Justice and Civil Rights



Goal 3:

Enforce Environmental Laws and Ensure Compliance



Goal 4:

Ensure Clean and Healthy Air for All Communities



Goal 5:

Ensure Clean and Safe Water for All Communities



Goal 6:

Safeguard and Revitalize Communities



Goal 7:

Ensure Safety of Chemicals for People and the Environment

- Obj 1.1: Reduce Emissions that Cause Climate Change
- Obj 1.2: Accelerate Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts
- Obj 1.3: Advance International and Subnational Climate Efforts

- Obj 2.1: Promote Environmental Justice and Civil Rights at the Federal, Tribal, State, and Local Levels
- Obj 2.2: Embed Environmental Justice and Civil Rights into EPA's Programs, Policies, and Activities
- Obj 2.3: Strengthen Civil Rights Enforcement in Communities with Environmental Justice Concerns

- Obj 3.1: Hold Environmental Violators and Responsible Parties Accountable
- Obj 3.2: Detect Violations and Promote Compliance

- Obj 4.1: Improve Air Quality and Reduce Localized Pollution and Health Impacts
- Obj 4.2: Reduce Exposure to Radiation and Improve Indoor Air

- Obj 5.1: Ensure Safe Drinking Water and Reliable Water Infrastructure
- Obj 5.2: Protect and Restore Waterbodies and Watersheds

- Obj 6.1: Clean Up and Restore Land for Productive Uses and Healthy Communities
- Obj 6.2: Reduce Waste and Prevent Environmental Contamination
- Obj 6.3: Prepare for and Respond to Environmental Emergencies

- Obj 7.1: Ensure Chemical and Pesticide Safety
- Obj 7.2: Promote Pollution Prevention

STRATEGIC PLAN: GOAL 2

Take decisive action to advance EJ and external civil rights

- **Objective 2.1:** Promote Environmental Justice and Civil Rights at the Federal, Tribal, State, and Local Levels
- **Objective 2.2:** Embed Environmental Justice and Civil Rights into EPA's Programs, Policies, and Activities
- **Objective 2.3:** Strengthen Civil Rights Enforcement in Communities with Environmental Justice Concerns

Develop implementation plans with performance metrics

FY2023 EPA GOAL 2 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights Implementation Plans FY 2023 SUMMARY



- For FY2023, EPA published a summary of the EJ and External Civil Rights Implementation Plan
- OAR priorities focused on:
 - Meaningful engagement related to OAR rulemaking
 - Capacity-building for State, local and Tribal governments
 - EJ and air permitting principles
 - Strengthening EPA capacity (e.g., tools, data sets, training, work groups)



FY24 OAR DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN GOALS

KEY HIGHLIGHTS FOR DISCUSSION



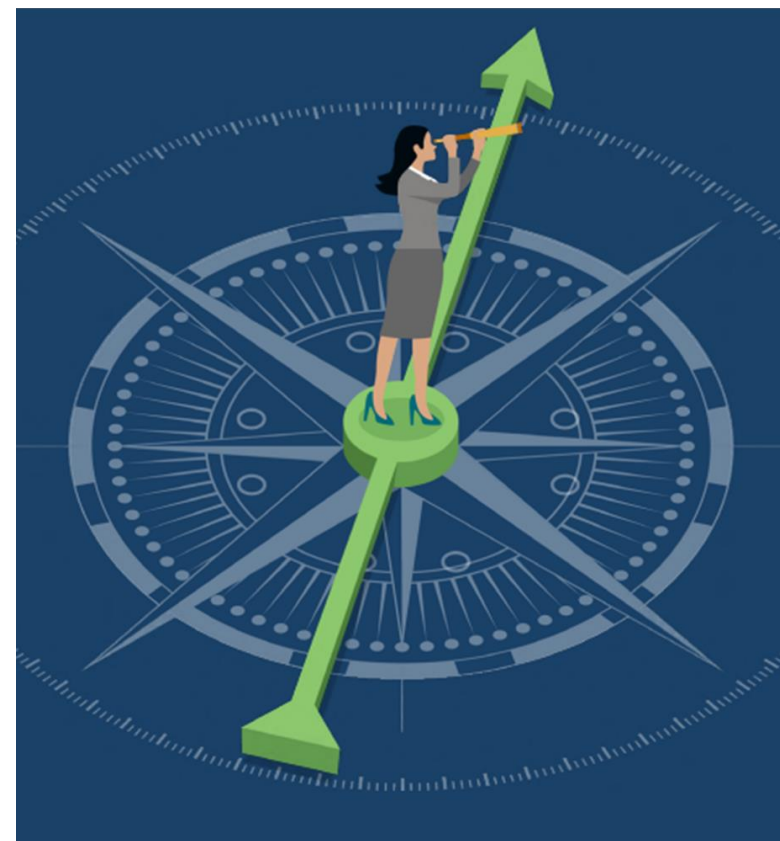


Objective 1. Promote EJ and Civil Rights at the Federal,
Tribal, State, Local, and Community Levels

*EMPOWER AND BUILD CAPACITY OF UNDERSERVED AND
OVERBURDENED COMMUNITIES TO PROTECT HUMAN
HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT.*

OBJECTIVE 1: FY24 OAR DRAFT ACTIVITIES

- Update plans to provide regular opportunities for early and meaningful engagement with communities with EJ concerns on upcoming regulatory actions including reporting back to communities for final rules.
 - Outreach may include training on the regulatory process or communications materials designed specifically for communities with EJ concerns to facilitate meaningful early engagement and to explain final actions and implementation phases (e.g., compliance assistance, additional air quality monitoring).
- Deliver Clean Air Act & EJ in Permitting training for the public, including communities with EJ and Title VI CR concerns.



OBJECTIVE 1: FY24 OAR DRAFT ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

- Meaningful engagement with communities with EJ concerns regarding upcoming inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunities.
 - The Community, Equity & Resiliency initiative delivers a range of resources to support communities, including an online hub, virtual panel discussions and fireside chats to kick off a national virtual conversation on environmental and climate justice issues. Regional events will continue the conversation via three pilot events in Regions 2, 8, and 9.
 - Pilot at least 3 OAR programs to share current information with the Thriving Community Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs) with information about applying for or participating in IRA programs.



Objective II. Embed EJ and Civil Rights in EPA Policies,
Programs and Activities

*INTEGRATE EJ AND CIVIL RIGHTS IN ALL THE AGENCY'S
WORK TO MAXIMIZE BENEFITS AND MINIMIZE IMPACTS
TO UNDERSERVED AND OVERBURDENED COMMUNITIES.*

OBJECTIVE II: FY24 OAR DRAFT ACTIVITIES

- Use CAA authorities to promulgate rules or utilize non-regulatory authority to assist over-burdened communities. Screen regulatory actions for potential adverse risks on overburdened communities and identify opportunities to mitigate impact on low-income and communities of color. Steps may include:
 - Conduct appropriate EJ analyses, from basic proximity analyses to comprehensive demographic exposure, which may include risk analyses of pre- and post-policy options, including both criteria and air toxics regulations and steps toward cumulative impact analyses, as appropriate.
 - Perform air quality modeling for rulemakings to characterize distribution of exposures to population groups under baseline and policy cases.
 - Apply near-roadway techniques, where applicable, and evaluate the size and demographic composition of the population living near airports, rail lines, rail yards, and ports.

OBJECTIVE II: FY24 OAR DRAFT ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

- Oversee and measure use of EJ in Air Permitting principles and tools. Document and share best practices for EPA-issued and for those issued by State, Local, and Tribal authorities.
- Ensure transportation projects meet existing CAA transportation conformity requirements. Project sponsors of certain large, federally supported transportation projects (such as freeways and freight terminals) in PM areas must conduct a PM hot-spot analysis to evaluate the air quality impacts of the project on nearby communities.
- Coordinate the use of climate- and air-related data and tools to promote enhanced compatibility, analyses, and understanding of multiple burdens facing communities, and to contribute to the Agency's cumulative impact efforts. EPA tools would incorporate factors such as demographic data, multipollutant screening, and the six integrated climate and social vulnerability indices to contribute to a cumulative exposure framework.



NEXT STEPS

FINALIZE PLANS WITH OEJECR, OTHER MEDIA OFFICES AND REGIONS

TRACK AND EVALUATE PROGRESS





QUESTIONS?