

We help cities combat and adapt to climate change while advancing racial and economic justice.

We imagine a future where everyone is protected from the short- and long-term effects of climate change because their communities have proactively transitioned to renewable energy, prepared for climate change impacts, and done so by elevating equity as a critical priority.

We know the impacts of climate change are disproportionately affecting people of color and people with low wealth, adversely affecting their health, wellbeing, and opportunities in life. To take equitable climate action, cities must reckon with decades of structural inequities and racism that now exacerbate the effects of climate change.

To help drive public-sector climate action crafted in partnership with community leaders:

- We support the leadership, influence, and power of people of color, people of low wealth, and equity-focused organizations in climate change-related decision making;
- We support the capacity and effectiveness of changemakers within local government who are committed to equitable climate action;
- We foster connections among public sector staff, community leaders, and other urban practitioners to advance equitable climate action; and
- We advocate that communities address climate change mitigation and adaptation concurrently.

We Invest in These Focus Areas:

- Field Building: We work to support and strengthen leaders and organizations whose work is critical to addressing climate change while advancing racial and economic justice. Achieving equitable climate action in U.S. cities requires a strong, well-resourced and well-networked movement of trusted nonprofit organizations and leaders who center climate justice. This belief has guided our field-building strategy.
- Transforming Urban Systems:
 We work to accelerate equitable climate action in cities by transforming urban energy, health and water systems.
 Climate change requires that U.S. cities change how they manage each of these systems.
 All are critical to urban residents' health, safety and quality of life.

We Invest in These Initiatives & Strategies

Our work is driven by the needs of both municipal leaders working on climate change and community leaders who center the lived experience of residents who disproportionately bear the impacts of climate change. We believe climate policies and programs developed and implemented with the engagement of impacted communities will be more equitable, effective and durable. This belief guides our funding decisions within the following initiatives and strategies.

Field Building



Climate Justice Movement Support

Supporting leaders, organizations, and the network infrastructure to advance the climate justice movement.



Public Sector Leadership Support

Accelerating the efforts of public-sector leaders whose work is critical to advancing an equitable climate action agenda.



Community Development Climate Finance Ecosystem

Strengthening community-focused co-developers of climate-beneficial projects - and the financing intermediaries and technical assistance providers working with them - to ensure communities of color and low-wealth communities have equitable access to public and private capital to deploy renewable energy and address climate challenges.

Transforming Urban Systems



Climate Change, Health & Equity (CCHE)

Mobilizing equitable climate action by health care institutions, health practitioners and community advocates in ways that reflect the needs and priorities of low-income communities in America's cities.



Climate Resilient and Equitable Water Systems (CREWS)

Transforming urban stormwater and wastewater systems to provide reliable, equitable and innovative services to all community residents.



Equitable & Just Energy Transition (EJET)

Facilitating an urban energy transition that eliminates carbon pollution, builds power for low-wealth communities and communities of color, and propels racial and economic equity.

For More Information



Subscribe & Connect

Sign up for Kresge newsletters and follow us on social media















Learn More

Visit our webpage to learn more about our work.

3215 W. Big Beaver Road Troy, Michigan 248-643-9630 kresge.org