

USING BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED IN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE



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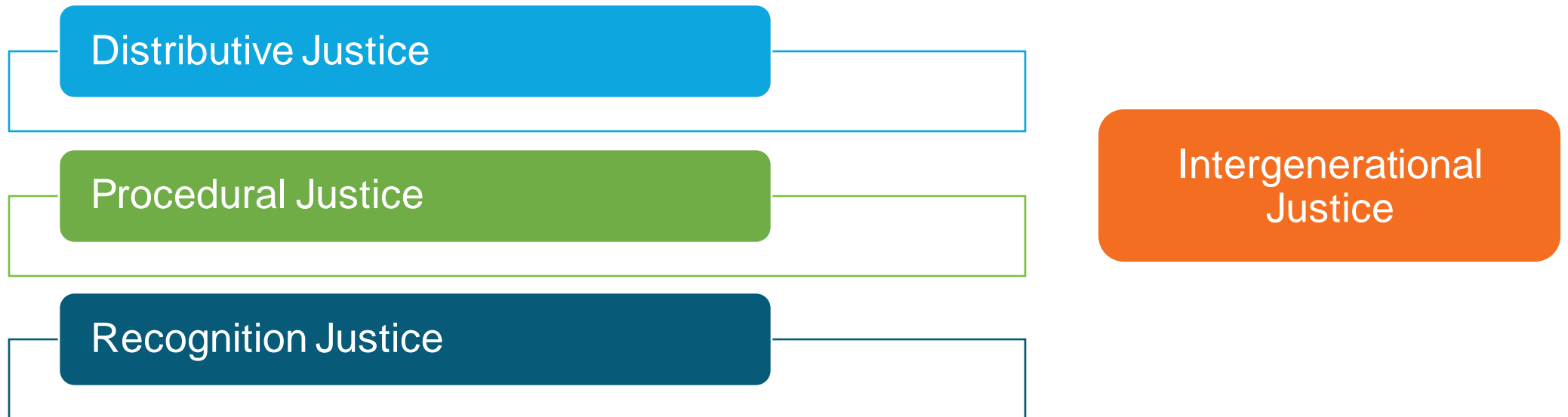
INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EJ) EXPERTISE



- Social science and environmental justice expertise at DOE
- Subject matter experts at the national labs
- Deep dives on reviewing, understanding and integrating social science and EJ literatures and practices

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EJ)

The **fair treatment** and **meaningful involvement** of **all people**, regardless of **race, color, national origin, or income, Tribal Affiliation, or disability** with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE BEST PRACTICES

Executive Order 14096

Revitalizing our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All

- Supports “**interagency collaboration** on programs and activities related to environmental justice, including the **development of materials** for environmental justice training to **build the capacity** of Federal employees to advance environmental justice and to **increase the meaningful participation** of individuals from communities with environmental justice concerns in Federal activities.”

Principles of EJ

- Transparency
- Equity
- Access to resources
- Access to information
- Meaningful participation
- Trust, engagement and relationship-building

DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE ACTIVITIES



Compliance with
Executive Orders
(e.g., Justice 40 initiatives)



Intra-agency
collaboration



Inter-agency
collaboration

LEVERAGING EFFORTS ACROSS FEDERAL SECTORS



- White House Council on Environmental Quality Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool
- Environmental Protection Agency EJ Screen
- DOE Low-Income Energy Affordability Data Tool
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provision for “rural and remote communities”
- Nuclear Regulatory Commission EJ guidance addressing Executive Orders

DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE

- Discuss benefits and impacts
- Co-design and co-development

PROCEDURAL JUSTICE



Request for Information

- 225 responses
- Comment summary and analysis



Adaptive Process

- Engagement with Tribes, States, local communities
- Encourage involvement in process- and decision-making
- Remove barriers to participation



Funding Opportunity Announcement

- Capacity building, mutual learning, and engagement

PROCEDURAL JUSTICE AND CONSORTIA



- Strengthen engagement
- Build relationships and trust with underserved communities
- Engage in mutual learning
- Develop community capacity to engage in decision-making
- Understand and define consent

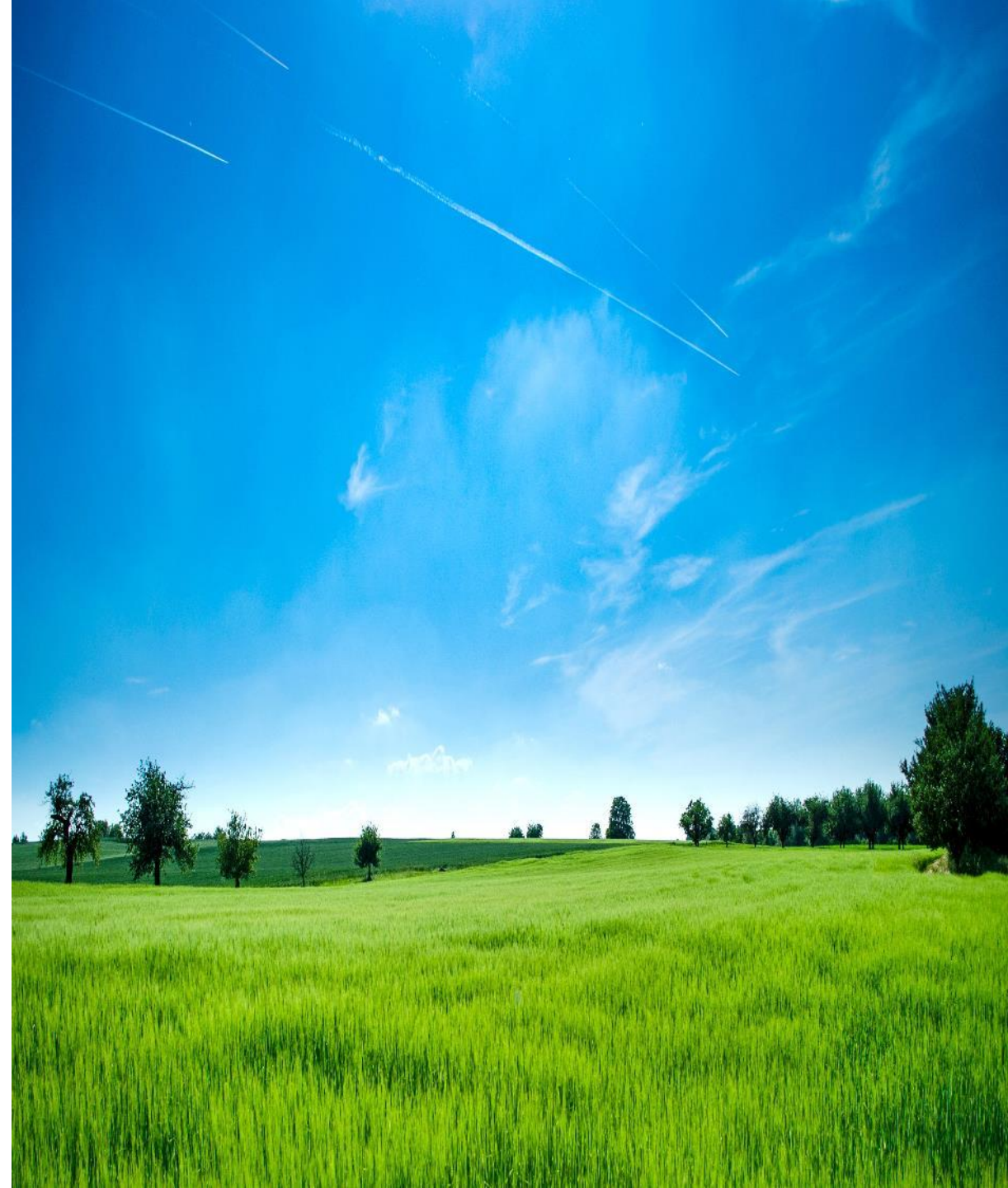
REACHING COMMUNITIES WITH LIMITED INTERNET ACCESS

Challenges

- Lack of internet infrastructure and availability
- Affordability
- Digital literacy

Opportunities

- Expand DOE event access (e.g., audio dial-in)
- SMS communications
- Design content for mobile devices
- Develop alternative engagement strategies
- Partner with local organizations and institutions



INTEGRATING EJ INTO DIGITAL TOOLS



Ongoing work in CURIE resource portal to improve user experience, including taxonomies to better tag consent-based siting related content.



Working group has been formed for various geographic information system (GIS) digital tools (e.g., Land-area Identification, Tagging, and Exploration (LITE), and Stakeholder Tool for Assessing Radioactive Transportation (START))

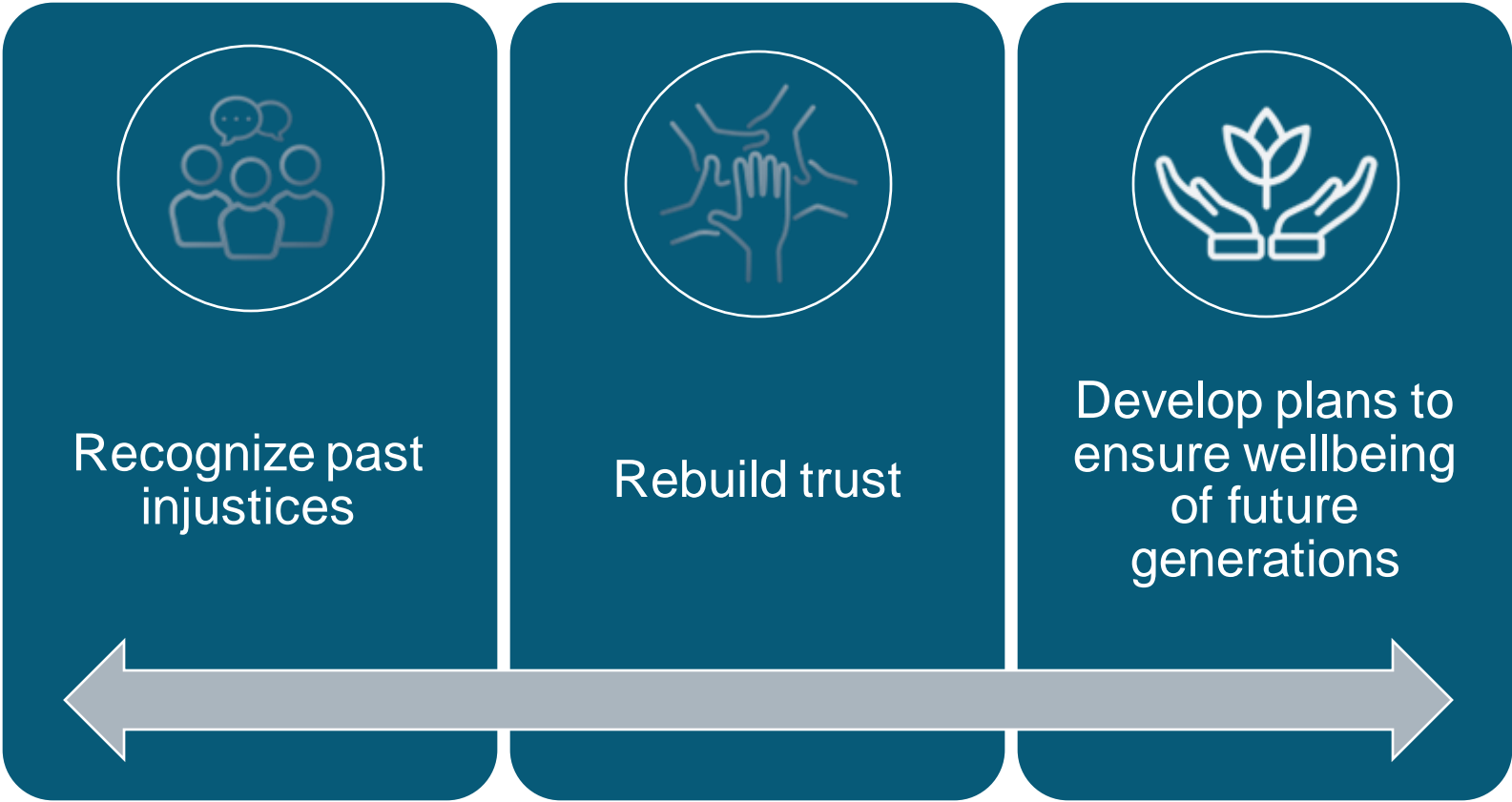


One goal of the working group is to identify unique and shared data layers, such as proximity to disadvantaged communities.



Ongoing enhancements in LITE to allow users to perform proximity analysis for select geographical locations based on various GIS data layers.

INTERGENERATIONAL JUSTICE



TRIBAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Respect Tribal sovereignty, comply with all laws and federal trust responsibility, United Nations Declaration of Free Prior and Informed Consent
- Develop trust and relationships with Tribes
- Evaluate impacts on and off reservations
- Incorporate Indigenous knowledge into siting
- Provide resources for participation in process and emergency response
- Establish a new organization to manage nuclear waste
- Increase accessibility of materials



EXPERT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION STRATEGY

1. Understand and respect Tribal sovereignty
2. Provide resources to Tribes for participation and decision-making
3. Build capacity and internal resources for Tribal engagement
4. Utilize early and transparent community
5. Engage with, and through, trusted programs

DOE INTEGRATION OF TRIBAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Collaborating across DOE, federal agencies to prepare for consultation, implement federal guidance and comply with laws
- Partnering with trusted programs and institutions and broadening accessibility and engagement
- Building capacity and resources at DOE and within national laboratory system to support Tribal engagement and understand effects to Tribes
- Funding and resources to Tribes through the consent-based siting Consortia and future funding opportunities

THANK YOU

For more information, visit us at
energy.gov/consentbasedsiting

