

DEEP Climate Resilience Fund

Webinar 3: Overview and Track 1 Focus

- Please mute microphones and keep cameras off
- Put questions in the chat
- We will answer questions afterward



Sarah Watson and Dr. Rebecca French
DEEP Office of Climate Planning
October 7, 2022

CT CLIMATE
ACTION

Webinar 3 Agenda

- Overall program goals
- Overview of full program
- Track 1 – Planning **Program Details**
- Track 1 – Planning **Application Process**
- Track 1 – Planning **Vulnerable Populations**



CT CLIMATE
ACTION 

Program Goals: DEEP Climate Resilience Fund

- Support Connecticut communities in resilience planning and preparing for the impacts of climate change
- Foster the development of resilience project pipelines that can compete and win federal implementation funding
- Build resilience capacity in Connecticut



Connecticut Climate Action



***Taking Action* on Climate Change and Building a More Resilient Connecticut for All**

GC3 Governor's Council
on Climate Change

Phase 1 Report: Near-Term Actions
January 2021



CT CLIMATE ACTION



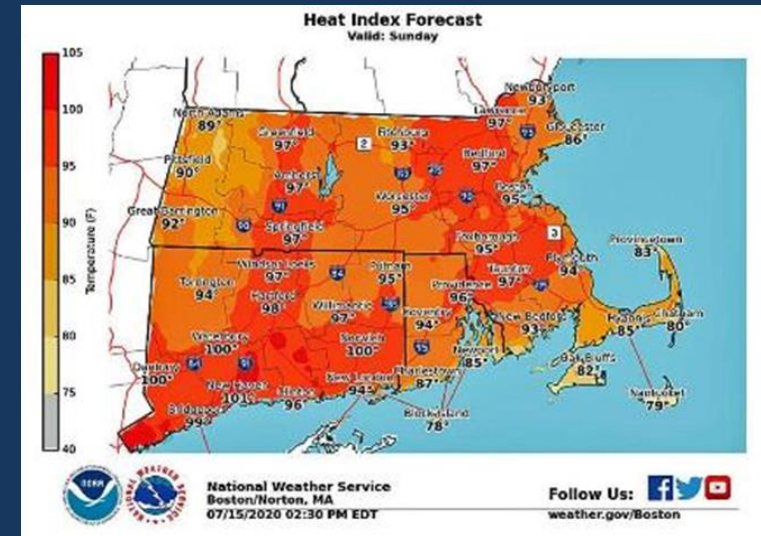
Executive Order 21-3, signed Dec. 16, 2021

DEEP Climate Resilience Fund



Impacts of Climate Change in Connecticut by 2050

- Stronger **storms** with **more wind and rain** and more frequent and longer **droughts**
- Up to **20 inches of sea level rise** along CT coast **by 2050**
- Increased frequency of **coastal flooding** with levels like those seen in Superstorm Sandy every 5-10 years
- Increased frequency of **90°F days**, from ~5 per year from 1970-1999, to ~25 per year from 2040-2069



Federal Funding Opportunity

- Together, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) are a **\$49+ billion investment in climate resilience!**
- NOAA-funded climate resilience grants increased by 400% in one year.
- FEMA's BRIC program doubled every year from \$500M in FY20 to \$1B in FY21 to \$2.3B in FY22. Expect funding to stay high, with guaranteed \$200M/yr from IIJA + Disaster Relief Fund.
- Connecticut needs a project pipeline to benefit from these rapidly increased funding levels!



DEEP Climate Resilience Fund

- Up to \$10 million available in first round. **NO MATCH REQUIRED.**
- 40% of funds must go to vulnerable communities, including EJ
- Must develop strategy for local match funding for implementation
- Preparing federal grant applications for construction is required



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graph LR; A[Track 1: Planning] --> B[Track 2: Project Development]
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**Track 1:
Planning**

**Track 2: Project
Development**

NOTE: Implementation & Construction to be funded by federal grants



What Does Climate Resilience Mean?

“(T)he ability to prepare for and adapt to changing conditions and withstand and recover rapidly from deliberate attacks, accidents or naturally occurring threats or incidents, including, but not limited to, threats or incidents associated with the impacts of climate change.”

- What do impacts from hazards mean to people, property, livelihoods, health, and community services/lifelines?
- How can we reduce disruption, damage, and/or other impacts?



What Does Climate Resilience Mean?

Hazards include:

- Extreme precipitation
- Flooding from riverine, stormwater, tidal sources, or a combination
- Sea level rise (including groundwater impacts)
- Extreme temperatures (heat and cold)
- Extreme weather (winter storms, nor'easters, severe thunderstorms, tornadoes)
- Tropical storm and hurricane impacts
- Windstorms
- Wildfire
- Drought

How do these hazards change due to climate change through at least 2050?

What does changing risk mean to people, property, livelihoods, health, and community services/lifelines?



Track 1 – Planning: Overview

Applications: Due 11/10

Duration: Up to 24 months

Amount: Up to \$250,000

No match required

- **Climate resilience planning**
 - Regional, Municipal, or neighborhood (hyper-local) scale
- **Community engagement** to support equitable climate resilience planning
- **Grant writing** for next steps



Track 2 – Project Development: Overview

Applications: Early decision 10/21
Final deadline: 12/1

Duration: Up to 18 months

Amount: Expect to fund a range between \$300,000 and \$700,000, but no limit.

No match required

- Site studies and selection
- Preliminary designs
- Engineering studies
- Benefit cost analyses
- Community engagement
- Federal grant writing
- Anything else that supports a competitive application to federal resilience competitions.
- **Does Not Include funding for implementation or construction**



Differences Between Tracks

Track 1 – Planning

- Develop a plan
- Identify potential projects
- Identify vulnerability
- Engage community and stakeholders
- Typical applicants: local government, councils of government, utilities, non-profits/academia/consulting firms already partnering with communities
- Typical applications may have multiple partners involved

Track 2 – Project Development

- Already have a plan
- Ready to advance identified projects
- Already understand vulnerability
- Continue engaging community and stakeholders
- Typical applicants: local governments, utilities, COGs, consulting firms, and nonprofits that already manage federal grants or infrastructure projects
- Depending on scope, typical applications will only have partners directly impacted by and/or contributing to the project



Application Deadlines

Track 1: Planning:

- Final Deadline: Thurs, Nov. 10

Track 2: Project Development:

- Early Decision: Fri, Oct 21
- Final Deadline: Thurs, Dec 1

Application email must be submitted by 11:59pm of the due date.

Send all application materials in one email to DEEP.climate resilience@ct.gov



Who Can Apply?

Eligible applicants include:

- Local government
- Councils of Government
- Nonprofit organizations
- Utilities
- Academic institutions
- Private sector

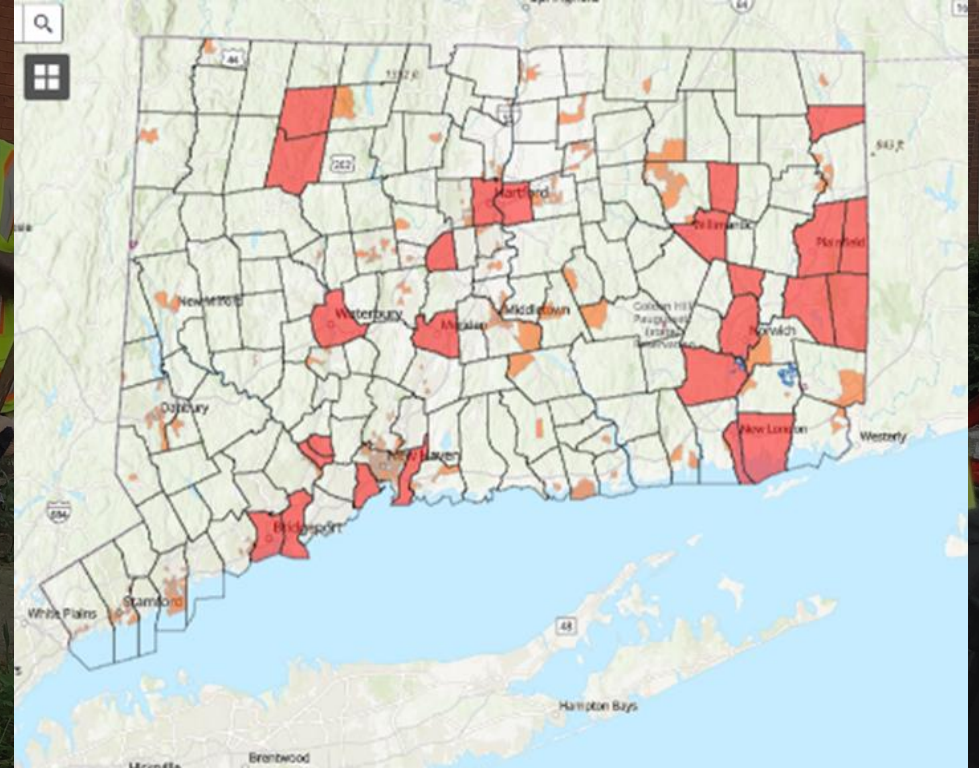
Note: All applications **must** demonstrate strong commitment and partnerships with local governments and community organizations.



Prioritizing Vulnerable Communities

At least 40% of resources must go to municipalities where vulnerable people reside.

This means if DEEP awards \$10 million in grants, at least \$4 million must go to municipalities where vulnerable people reside.



CT Environmental Justice
Communities



DEEP Climate Resilience Fund

Nature-based Solutions

Nature-based solutions involve incorporating elements of nature to reduce flooding and other effects of climate change while protecting, preserving, and/or restoring habitat.

Track 1 – Planning: Plans should explore how to incorporate nature-based solutions to improve resilience.

Track 2 – Project Development: Projects that include nature-based elements are strongly encouraged.



Community Engagement

Track 1: Planning:

Minimum of 3 public meetings, including 1 to share results with community and one final feedback opportunity.

Strongly encourage more!

Track 2: Project Development

Minimum of 2 public meetings, including 1 to share results.

Engagement must be commensurate with proposed scope of work

Community Liaisons are eligible expenses for both tracks



Required Deliverables

Track 1: Planning:

Copy of the prioritized list of next steps (unless already in plan)

Track 2: Project Development

Copy of draft project narrative for federal grant application

- Copy of funded activity (plan, design, study, etc.)
- Executive summary highlighting the process and lessons learned
- Funding assessment exercise
- Presentation slide communicating accomplishments and lessons



Local Match Funding Strategy

All grantees (Tracks 1 and 2) are required to develop a local match funding strategy to meet the non-federal match requirements of federal funding opportunities.

The local match strategy may include using the stormwater authority and climate resilience board expansions authorized under Governor Lamont's **Public Act 21-115**



Where is this funding coming from?

- The DEEP Climate Resilience Fund is authorized through state bond funds.
- State bond funds are primarily disbursed on a reimbursement basis.
- If a potential applicant cannot work via reimbursement basis or has an extenuating circumstance, they may contact DEEP once an award has been announced and contracting process has begun to discuss their needs.
- If you have questions, email DEEP.climate resilience@ct.gov.



Application Support

UConn CIRCA is available to support potential applicants:

Proposal assistance: Connecting applicants with CIRCA's climate resources, including viewers, data, and climate policy fact sheets.

Proposal partnership: Where CIRCA has expertise and capacity, it can formally partner with applicants on proposal writing and budget development.

Contact: circa@uconn.edu



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- DEEP will post an updated version of the [FAQs](#) on the [DEEP Climate Resilience Fund website](#) every Friday.
- We will review emailed questions in batches so we have time to provide a thoughtful response and also add to the FAQs so everyone can see the response.
- If you have already emailed your question, we will respond by this afternoon. Thank you for your patience.



Upcoming DEEP Webinars and Office Hours

Thursday, October 27: 1pm to 2pm

Webinar 4: Budget and Milestone Chart discussion

Friday, October 14: 11am to 12pm

Open Office Hours discussion

Thursday, October 20: 11am to 12pm

Open Office Hours discussion

Thursday, October 27: 11am to 12pm

Open Office Hours discussion



Track 1 – Planning

**Program Details
Application Process
Vulnerable Communities**



**CT CLIMATE
ACTION**

Track 1 – Planning: Funded Activities

Climate Resilience Planning

- Regional (multiple municipalities)
- Municipal (single municipality)
- Neighborhood (subsection of municipality)

Overall Goals:

- Identify how specific hazards will affect the planning area currently and in the future due to climate change
- Connect with residents and stakeholders to better understand implications
- Develop ideas for potential projects to reduce the impacts to life, property, quality of life, community function
- Connect identified projects to federal funding opportunities



What Does Climate Resilience Mean?

Hazards include:

- Extreme precipitation
- Flooding from riverine, stormwater, tidal sources, or a combination
- Sea level rise (including groundwater impacts)
- Extreme temperatures (heat and cold)
- Extreme weather (winter storms, nor'easters, severe thunderstorms, tornadoes)
- Tropical storm and hurricane impacts
- Windstorms
- Wildfire
- Drought

How do these hazards change due to climate change through at least 2050?

What does changing risk mean to people, property, livelihoods, health, and community services/lifelines?



Track 1 – Planning: Requirements

- Planning **MUST** focus on community climate resilience
- Proposal **MUST** demonstrate how planning will advance to implementation. This is evident through partnerships, goals and outcomes, vulnerability assessment process, local government involvement, and other questions.
- End result **MUST** be a climate resilience plan that **can be implemented**



Track 1 – Planning: Requirements

- Proposals solely to conduct a vulnerability assessment or update existing planning will not be competitive.
- Proposals with stakeholder-driven process and meaningful community collaboration and involvement will be most competitive.
- Proposals do not need to align with specific federal grant opportunities
- Federal grant writing expenses are encouraged to support next steps toward project identification and implementation



Track 1 – Planning: Review Criteria

Planning for Climate Resilience Leading to Implementation

- Overall potential impact of the plan to improve community climate resilience
- Clearly identifies the planning scale as regional, municipal or neighborhood level (“hyper-local”.)
- Degree to which the vulnerability assessment and planning process is collaborative and stakeholder-driven
- Demonstrated plan to have participation from multiple local government departments
- Demonstrated collaboration and partnership between local government and relevant community organizations for plan development



Track 1 – Planning: Review Criteria

Planning for Climate Resilience Leading to Implementation

- Strength and depth of stakeholder and community involvement and engagement, with at least three (3) public meetings, including one (1) to communicate report findings
- Examination of current and future climate conditions out to 2050 due to climate change and sea level rise for planning and assessment
- Vulnerability assessment centers on impacts from climate change and resulting community impacts, including to identified critical facilities and community lifelines
- Vulnerability assessment examines social vulnerability
- Planning serves or benefits environmental justice or vulnerable communities



Track 1 – Planning: Review Criteria

Planning for Climate Resilience Leading to Implementation

- For neighborhood-level planning: demonstrated collaboration and partnership with community organizations and local governments
- **Inclusion of prioritized list of next steps that:**
 - Incorporates the Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaption's (CIRCA) PERSISTS framework for project identification
 - Identifies federal resilience grant competitions targeted for funding future implementation steps
 - Includes a locally derived match funding strategy exercise that examines measures authorized in An Act Concerning Climate Change Adaptation (Public Act 21-115)



Track 1 – Planning: Review Criteria

Planning for Climate Resilience Leading to Implementation

- Exploration of solutions that incorporate co-benefits (i.e., addresses multiple issues, creates an amenity to the community, reduces GHG emissions, comprehensive approach to risk reduction)
- Exploration of nature-based solutions and hybrid approaches
- Proposal is technically sound and feasible, with a clear, logical, and achievable work plan and timeline
- Proposal costs are allowable and reasonable
- For those applicants who have previously received funding through DEEP, past performance will be a factor considered in the approval process



Application Deadlines

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- Final Deadline: Thurs, Nov. 10

Track 2: Project Development:

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Required Deliverables

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Copy of the prioritized list of next steps (unless in plan)

Track 2: Project Development

Copy of draft project narrative for federal grant application

- Copy of funded activity
- Executive summary highlighting the process and lessons learned
- Funding assessment exercise
- Presentation slide communicating accomplishments and lessons



Application Process

To apply:

Send all application materials in one email to DEEP.climate resilience@ct.gov.

Materials for both tracks include:

- Completed Application (found on the website)
- Budget Template
- Budget Justification
- Milestone Chart template
- Letters of support
- Additional materials as required (listed on the application)





CT Climate Action Main >

About CT Climate Action >

Executive Order 21-3 >

DEEP Climate Resilience Fund >

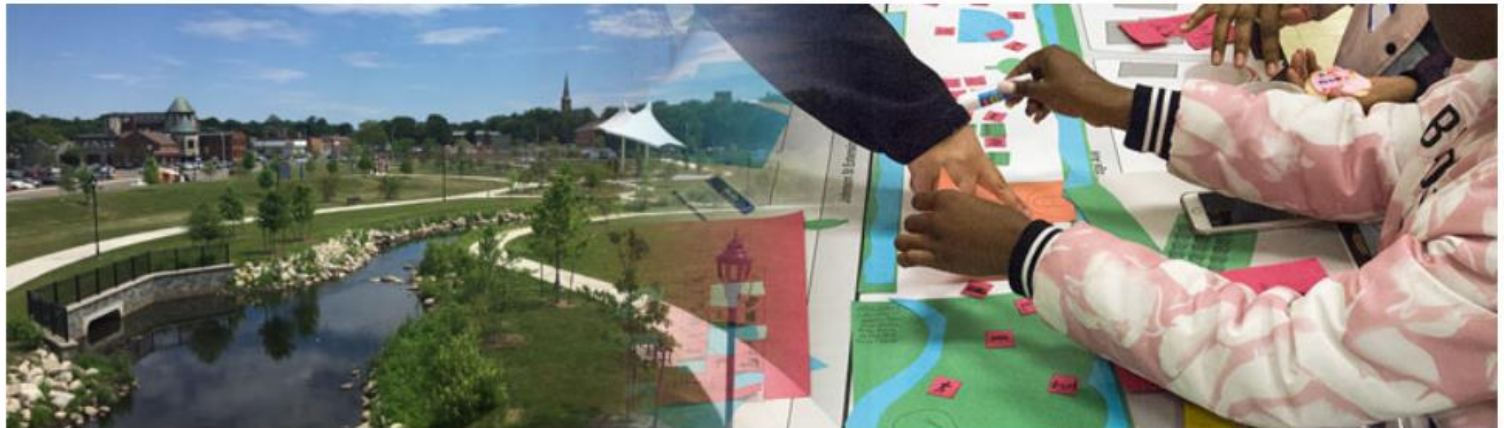
Executive Order 21-3

Search Climate Action

by Keyword



DEEP Climate Resilience Fund



DEEP is pleased to open the first round of the DEEP Climate Resilience Fund.

Check the Webinar section below for upcoming informational webinars.

Register for the next webinar:

Track 2: Project Development Details and Q&A

Friday, September 30, 10 – 11:30 AM

<https://portal.ct.gov/connecticutclimateaction/executive-order/deep-climate-resilience-fund>

DEEP Climate Resilience Fund



The DEEP Climate Resilience Fund has two tracks for applications:





Track 1: Planning

Applicants can seek up to \$250,000 to fund climate resilience planning that addresses the impacts of climate-related hazards, including how climate change increases weather-related risks.

Eligible Applicants include: Municipalities, Councils of Government, Non-Profit Organizations, Academic Institutions, and private sector entities.

To apply: Send all application materials in one email to DEEP.climate resilience@ct.gov by 11:59pm, Thursday, November 10.

Application Materials:

- [Application template](#)  (Note: includes a list at the end of all required documents)
- [Budget template](#) 
- [Budget justification](#) 
- [Milestone chart template](#) 

<https://portal.ct.gov/connecticutclimateaction/executive-order/deep-climate-resilience-fund>



Track 1: Planning – Application



DEEP Climate Resilience Fund

TRACK 1: PLANNING APPLICATION

October 4, 2022

Section 1 – Applicant Details

1.	Applicant name:	Click or tap here to enter text.
2.	Mailing Address:	Click or tap here to enter text.
3.	Primary Contact Name:	Click or tap here to enter text.
	Primary Contact Email Address:	Click or tap here to enter text.
	Primary Contact Phone Number:	Click or tap here to enter text.
4.	Fiscal Agent name:	Click or tap here to enter text.
	Fiscal Agent contact email address:	Click or tap here to enter text.
	Fiscal Agent contact phone number:	Click or tap here to enter text.
5.	Organization EIN:	Click or tap here to enter text.
6.	Requested Amount:	Click or tap here to enter text.



Section 2 – Proposal Overview

1.	Which of the following relevant hazards will your plan or project address? (select all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Extreme precipitation <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding from riverine (including ice jams and dam failures), stormwater, tidal sources, or a combination. <input type="checkbox"/> Sea level rise (including groundwater impacts) <input type="checkbox"/> Extreme temperatures (heat and cold) <input type="checkbox"/> Extreme weather (winter storms, nor'easters, severe thunderstorms, tornadoes) <input type="checkbox"/> Tropical storm and hurricane impacts <input type="checkbox"/> Windstorms <input type="checkbox"/> Fire <input type="checkbox"/> Drought
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> [CHECK BOX] I understand that all plans must examine climate change impacts to 2050 or beyond and that DEEP will provide technical assistance for support throughout the process.	
3.	<input type="checkbox"/> [CHECK BOX] I understand that a climate change vulnerability assessment is a required component of the resilience plan and that the assessment will examine how climate change and related extreme weather will affect community function and assets, including to identified critical facilities and community lifelines .	
4.	Is your planning team including a budgetary request for grant writing for federal resilience funding at the end of the planning process as part of this application?	<input type="checkbox"/> (a) Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> (b) No. We have our own support for applying for federal resilience grant funding. <input type="checkbox"/> (c) No. We do not intend to apply for federal resilience grant funding.

(Note: this is an allowable cost and is encouraged for planning teams that want to pursue federal resilience grant competition funding for next steps.)



Track 1: Planning – Application



Section 3 – Community/Regional Overview



5.	What type of plan will this be?	<input type="checkbox"/> (A) Municipal scale (See question 6) <input type="checkbox"/> (B) Regional scale (Go directly to Question 7) <input type="checkbox"/> (C) Neighborhood/Hyper-Local scale (Go directly to Question 8)
6.	Which municipality/municipalities will this plan serve? Please include a map of the municipality (a screenshot of a Google map is fine).	Click or tap here to enter text.
7.	(Only answer if you selected B in Question 5) If this is a regional plan, please note the boundaries and how these municipalities/entities have worked together on any previous planning. Please include a map of the plan area (a screenshot of a Google map is fine).	Click or tap here to enter text.
8.	(Only answer if you selected C in Question 5). If this is a hyper-local/neighborhood level plan, please describe the boundaries of this neighborhood	Click or tap here to enter text.

9. **For all plans, please describe any partnership between municipalities and community-based organizations for this proposal and list specific partners that will be receiving any funding as subawards.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

10. **Please give a brief overview of current resilience-related issues and concerns. (Do not discuss any previous resilience planning in this section, just focus on any identified concerns and issues.)**

Click or tap here to enter text.



Track 1: Planning – Application



Section 5 – Planning Process, Including Assessing Vulnerability

16. Please describe any prior resiliency planning efforts in the municipality(ies)/region you are working in, including natural hazard mitigation planning. If the municipality you are working in has conducted stand-alone resilience planning, make sure to note how this proposal expands upon previous efforts.
- Click or tap here to enter text.
17. What are the expected goals and outcomes of this plan?
- Click or tap here to enter text.
18. Describe how you will assess the planning area's vulnerability to the climate change impacts you identified at the beginning of the application. Please list the parameters you will use and how you will assess impacts to community assets, including critical facilities and community lifelines.
- Click or tap here to enter text.

19. Please describe the proposed processes for assessing vulnerability and developing a plan in a stakeholder-driven process and what, if any, resilience frameworks your team will use.

Click or tap here to enter text.

20. How will local government staff be incorporated in this planning process? Please detail any commitment for municipal staff time, including departments and positions of those that will participate, and a brief description of their roles/duties.

NOTE: If primary applicant is not a municipality, we strongly encourage applicants to work with local government staff and include letters of support stating how they will participate.



Track 1: Planning – Application

21.	How will your planning team evaluate nature-based solutions as part of the process?
	Click or tap here to enter text.
22.	How will your planning team evaluate the inclusion of project ideas that have co-benefits (reduce emissions, solve multiple problems, serve as a community amenity, etc.)?
	Click or tap here to enter text.
23.	Anything else you would like to share with DEEP regarding the community's commitments to improving resilience?
	Click or tap here to enter text.

Section 6 – Community and Stakeholder Engagement

26.	Describe how this team will engage residents and stakeholders. Be specific. Include details about the number of meetings, charrettes, workshops, public feedback sessions, etc., and any other outreach and engagement strategies. Also include how much notice you will provide to the public regarding public meetings and how information collected during those sessions will be used to inform the project.
	Note: Planning teams must hold a minimum of three (3) public meetings, including one (1) to share results with residents. Meetings must provide adequate public notice.
	Click or tap here to enter text.
27.	Describe how your project team specifically will engage and collaborate with residents who are considered vulnerable populations.
	Click or tap here to enter text.
28.	How will you communicate the findings of the plan and get final input from residents and stakeholders?
	Note: Planning teams must hold at least 1 public meeting to disseminate results to residents.



Budget Justification Template and Summary



Budget Justification Template and Budget Summary

This budget justification template is intended to guide applicants as they provide CT DEEP a breakdown of the costs associated with your Track 1 or Track 2 application. Include total category costs next to each category header. These values will be used when submitting the project budget summary. Applicants are permitted to use alternative budget tools to the spreadsheet template provided, however, the budget summary with all categories costs and a completed copy of this budget justification form must be included with your application.

Italicized text is informational only. Please delete it before you submit your application. The plain text is a mock-budget justification for the mock-budget summary below to further aid applicants in building a budget and justification. Applicants should use values and descriptions that fit their application. This justification narrative is illustrative only.

DEEP Climate Resilience Fund Budget

Budget Summary

Salaries *	\$47,657.00
Fringe	\$23,829.00
Total Salary & Fringe	\$71,486.00
Travel	\$4,000.00
Participant Support Costs	\$7,500.00
Subawards	\$100,000.00
Contractual Services	\$25,000.00

Fringe Benefits. \$23,829

Provide here all personnel names (if applicable), positions, and total fringe benefit amount for Year 1 and Year 2. Fringe benefit rates may differ across positions.

Name: J. Smith
Position Title: Project Manager
Total Fringe Benefit Amount: \$14,297

Name: TBD
Position Title: Project Assistant
Total Fringe Benefit Amount: \$9,532

Travel \$4,000

Include here a topline estimate of travel-related expenses for the project team. Include, planned travel destinations and purpose (i.e., community meetings, conferences, site visits, etc. in [Town X]). If attending a conference, please include the conference name. For all planned travel you must describe how it is intended to benefit the purpose and goals of the project. As a reminder, all actual travel costs are by reimbursement only.

We request \$2000 for Year 1 and 2 each (\$4000 total). It is anticipated that the Project Manager and Project Assistant will travel for an initial visit to the expected site of the climate resilience project. The project team also expects to host up to three in-person community engagement workshops yearly (6 total in Years 1 and 2), where the team will travel to the [Town X] community library. The Project Manager intends to attend [Organization Y's] statewide climate resilience conference at the end of Year 1, where they will gain education on equitable community resilience and capacity

NOTE: This is the budget document we will evaluate




Budget Tool

1	DEEP Resilience Fund Budget Template			Note: The numbers provided here are used for illustration purposes.					
2				Year 1 Months	Year 2 Months		Year 1	Year 2	Total
3	A.	Name (if available) and Title of Personnel	Annual Salary	1/1/2023- 12/31/2023	1/1/2024- 5/31/2024	% Annual Effort	1/1/2023- 12/31/2023	1/1/2024- 5/31/2024	
4		Example: J. Smith, Project Manager	\$75,000	12.00	6.00	25.00%	18,750	9,844	28,594
5		Example: To-be-hired, Project Assistant	\$50,000	12.00	6.00	25.00%	12,500	6,563	19,063
6							-	-	-
7							-	-	-
8							-	-	-
9							-	-	-
10							-	-	-
11							-	-	-
12							-	-	-
13							-	-	-
14							-	-	-
15							-	-	-
16	Total Salaries						31,250	16,407	47,657
17									
18	C.	Fringe Benefits	Yr 1	Yr 2					
19		Example: J. Smith, Project Manager	50.0%	50.0%			9,375	4,922	14,297
20		Example: To-be-hired, Project Assistant	50.0%	50.0%			6,250	3,282	9,532
21							-	-	-
22							-	-	-
23							-	-	-
24							-	-	-
25							-	-	-
26							-	-	-
27							-	-	-
28							-	-	-

Required Budget Summary

Budget Tool

Ready  Accessibility: Investigate

NOTE: This tool is to help you prepare the budget for the justification and summary. You can use any method. We are not evaluating this document. Please do not submit this file with your application.

Required Budget Summary

Budget Tool



Ready Accessibility: Investigate



DEEP Climate Resilience Fund

Milestone Chart for Track 1



Resilience Plan Milestone Chart – DEEP Resilience Fund Grant – TRACK 1

DEEP expects Track 1 funding requests between \$100,000 to \$200,000, however, applicants are eligible to request up to \$250,000. The expected duration of Track 1 planning is up to 24 months from the contract execution date, depending on project scope, complexity, and community engagement plan.

1. Applicant Name: _____
2. Project Name: _____
3. Program Duration: _____
4. Total Grant Request \$: _____

If approved, the schedule will become part of your grant contract with the state. You will be monitored for compliance with these dates. Therefore, you must estimate the dates as wisely as possible.

Please provide projected dates of completion. Be advised these dates will be considered part of your project schedule. A quarterly progress report is required. Quarters are January 1 – March 31; April 1 – June 30; July 1 – September 30; and October 1 – December 31.

Primary Tasks (expand as needed)	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	5th Qtr.	6th Qtr.	7th Qtr.	8th Qtr.

NOTE: This document will be evaluated.

Please use this template for your milestone chart.



Track 1: Vulnerable Communities



Section 4 – Vulnerable Populations

Executive Order 21-3 states that at least 40 percent of the resources in this program **MUST** go to planning activities/project development that serves vulnerable populations. For example, if DEEP awards a total of \$10 million in planning grants, at least \$4 million of that amount must directly serve vulnerable populations as defined in Section 16-243y(7). The questions in this section will help DEEP evaluate whether your proposed plan will benefit vulnerable populations.



11.	Is your plan located in an Environmental Justice municipality or census tract identified on the DEEP Connecticut Environmental Justice Communities map?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
		<input type="checkbox"/> No
12.	Is your plan located in a community eligible for community reinvestment pursuant to section 36a-30 and the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977, 12 USC 2901 et seq., as amended from time to time?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
		<input type="checkbox"/> No



Track 1: Vulnerable Communities

13. People who are considered vulnerable to climate change with limited capacity to adapt include:

- Communities of color
- Children and seniors
- Low-income communities
- People with disabilities
- Pregnant people
- People with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
- Other historically disadvantaged people
- People impacted by the social determinants of health
- Populations identified by the American Public Health Association.

Tell us more about the vulnerable populations in the planning area? Be specific and include data if available.

14. How will your plan and planning process benefit the people you have identified as vulnerable? Be specific.

Click or tap here to enter text.

☐ [CHECK BOX] I understand that the vulnerability assessment portion of the planning process must examine [social vulnerability](#).



Track 1: Vulnerable Communities

Note: Applications that meet the eligibility for serving vulnerable communities and people will be evaluated first, initially only in the pool of other applications meeting that criteria.

Applications that do not meet the vulnerable communities eligibility will be evaluated in the second pool.



Community Engagement

Track 1: Planning:

Minimum of 3 public meetings, including 1 to share results with community and one final feedback opportunity.

Strongly encourage more!

Note: Hiring a community liaison to support engagement efforts with vulnerable populations is an eligible expense.



Letters Of Support

Letters of Support are strongly encouraged

- Make sure each letter highlights the role of the writer/organization and what they will add to the process. Do not send us form letters.
- If the applicant is not a local government, letters of support from local government staff are strongly encouraged and should make participation commitments.



Federal Resilience Grant Opportunities

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program
- FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA)
- National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) National Coastal Resilience Fund (NCRF)
- NFWF Long Island Sound Futures Fund (LISFF)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants
- NOAA Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities
- Clean Water Fund Reserve for Construction of Green Infrastructure and Reserve for Construction of Resiliency Projects



Application Support

UConn CIRCA is available to support potential applicants:

Proposal assistance: Connecting applicants with CIRCA's climate resources, including viewers, data, and climate policy fact sheets.

Proposal partnership: Where CIRCA has expertise and capacity, it can formally partner with applicants on proposal writing and budget development.

Contact: circa@uconn.edu



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- DEEP will post an updated version of the [FAQs](#) on the [DEEP Climate Resilience Fund website](#) every Friday.
- We will review emailed questions in batches so we have time to provide a thoughtful response and also add to the FAQs so everyone can see the response.
- If you have already emailed your question, we will respond by this afternoon. Thank you for your patience.



Application Tips

- Use specific examples to illustrate what you want to accomplish
- Be concise. Think about what DEEP needs to know in each question to make a decision.
- Use supporting materials, such as resumes, the milestone chart and budget, and letters of support to demonstrate your team's qualifications and how you will accomplish this work.



Upcoming DEEP Webinars and Office Hours

Thursday, October 27: 1pm to 2pm

Webinar 4: Budget and Milestone Chart discussion

Friday, October 14: 11am to 12pm

Open Office Hours discussion

Thursday, October 20: 11am to 12pm

Open Office Hours discussion

Thursday, October 27: 11am to 12pm

Open Office Hours discussion



Questions?

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