### **USDN** urban sustainability directors network USDN Sust Innovation

USDN Sustainability Innovation Report

May 2016

### Climate Work Growing in the USDN Innovation Fund Portfolio

#### Climate change preparedness represents the USDN Innovation Fund's largest investment category to date, with 16 grants totaling \$615,665 in this category.

The USDN Innovation Fund has invested over \$2.9 million in 68 projects, representing 13 general content areas. The Fund serves 146 USDN member communities: 77 communities have participated in at least one collaborative grant. Of those 77, 39 different USDN member cities have led at least one collaborative grant.



#### **USDN Innovation Fund Portfolio by Content Area**



#### USDN Innovation Fund Portfolio - Total Spent by Content Area

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# Products resulting from all USDN Fund investments in climate change preparedness can be found <u>here</u>.

Grant Name: City Lead	Grant Amount	Description
Climate Equity: Seattle WA	\$91,500	This project focus is to identify specific climate resilience strategies, which will advance both equity and climate preparedness goals, as well community engagement tactics.
Climate Toolkit: Baltimore MD	\$86,760	The focus of this project is to develop a climate training toolkit for local governments to utilize as they train their own staff on opportunities to support climate adaptation and resilience progress.
Adaptation Planning: <i>Seattle WA</i>	\$50,000	The focus of the project was to facilitate research and collaboration to create an agenda to advocate for federal government policy support of cities climate adaptation planning along with a global adaptation planning best practice guide for cities.
Adaptation Metrics: Washington DC	\$45,000	This project evaluated several existing frameworks to identify their connection to adaptation then assess the need for and feasibility of developing a framework for cities to use.
Inter-Mountain Regional Adaptation Planning: Salt Lake City UT	\$43,300	This project created a new 7-city Southwest alliance – the Western Adaptation Alliance – to organize regionally with the purpose of advancing climate adaption issues.
SSDN Adaptation: Fayetteville AR	\$40,000	The focus of this project was to launch the Partnerships for Resilience and Empowered Planning program to provide education on community resilience planning, promote network collaboration, and develop an online Community Resilience Planning Handbook for communities across the Southeast region.
Cascadia Adaptation: <i>Eugene OR</i>	\$40,000	The purpose of this grant was to convene the first Cascadia regional workshop to bring together experts and practitioners of urban forestry, municipal sustainability and planning, and climate adaptation.
Utah Climate Action Network Expansion: <i>Salt Lake City UT</i>	\$40,000	The Utah Climate Action Network Expansion will create a model climate change charter, replicable public climate change engagement campaign, and a policy/programmatic clearinghouse for local governments that promotes collaborative applications of best practices aligned with major climate impact areas: Water, Energy, Transportation, Public Health, Economy, and Land.
Western Adaption Alliance Adaptation Framework: <i>Las Vegas NV</i>	\$39,900	The project will help inform the communications of WAA members as they increase their efforts to build adaptive capacity and community resilience within their respective communities, bolster the WAA as a network by building a regionally coherent narrative that underscores the importance of networked collaboration within and among the region's major cities, and create and pilot a framework for primary solution sets for the principal climate risks faced by the WAA region.

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Grant Name: City Lead	Grant Amount	Description
Copenhagen Exchange	\$35,000	The focus of the exchange was on deep carbon reductions and integrating adaptation and mitigation strategies.
Heartland Adaptation: <i>Iowa City IA</i>	\$33,200	The purpose of this grant was to identify specific areas of public policy decisions and actions where Midwestern local governments should incorporate anticipated climate impacts.
California Adaptation Planning in Regions: <i>San Diego CA</i>	\$26,005	Green Cities California (GCC) convened local government representatives from regional climate adaptation networks in California for the primary purpose of clarifying the most effective roles for local governments in regional public/private climate adaptation efforts.
New England Resiliency: <i>Northampton MA</i>	\$17,000	This project created a Design and Resiliency Teams (DARTs) to help two New England communities (Providence, RI; Belchertown, MA) identify strategic and paradigm shifting resiliency opportunities and to catalyze action.
Preparedness Engagement: <i>Seattle WA</i>	\$16,000	This project supported bottom-up approaches that make use of social networks and support autonomous adaptation based on the lived experience of low-income communities and communities of color, enhance social learning and sound governance, empower advocates in these communities as resiliency champions, reveal specific actions and strategies for inclusion in the Seattle Climate Preparedness plan, and act as a pilot for similar efforts in other communities in Seattle.
WAA Adaptation Framework Dissemination: <i>Flagstaff AZ</i>	\$6,000	The Western Adaptation Alliance conducted a deep dive training into the tools being developed for the Lessons for Advancing Adaptation to Climate Change Regionally initiative. The proposed project trained key representatives from WAA member cities and several additional Phoenix Metropolitan Area municipalities to utilize the lessons project tools (i.e. database, templates and materials development).
Michigan Green Communities Adaptation: <i>Dearborn MI</i>	\$6,000	Michigan Green Communities is accelerating climate resiliency at the local level in Michigan through a face-to-face convening that is focused around effective roles for local governments in regional climate resiliency efforts.