



ACTION FOR CLIMATE EMPOWERMENT
NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLANNING
FOR THE UNITED STATES

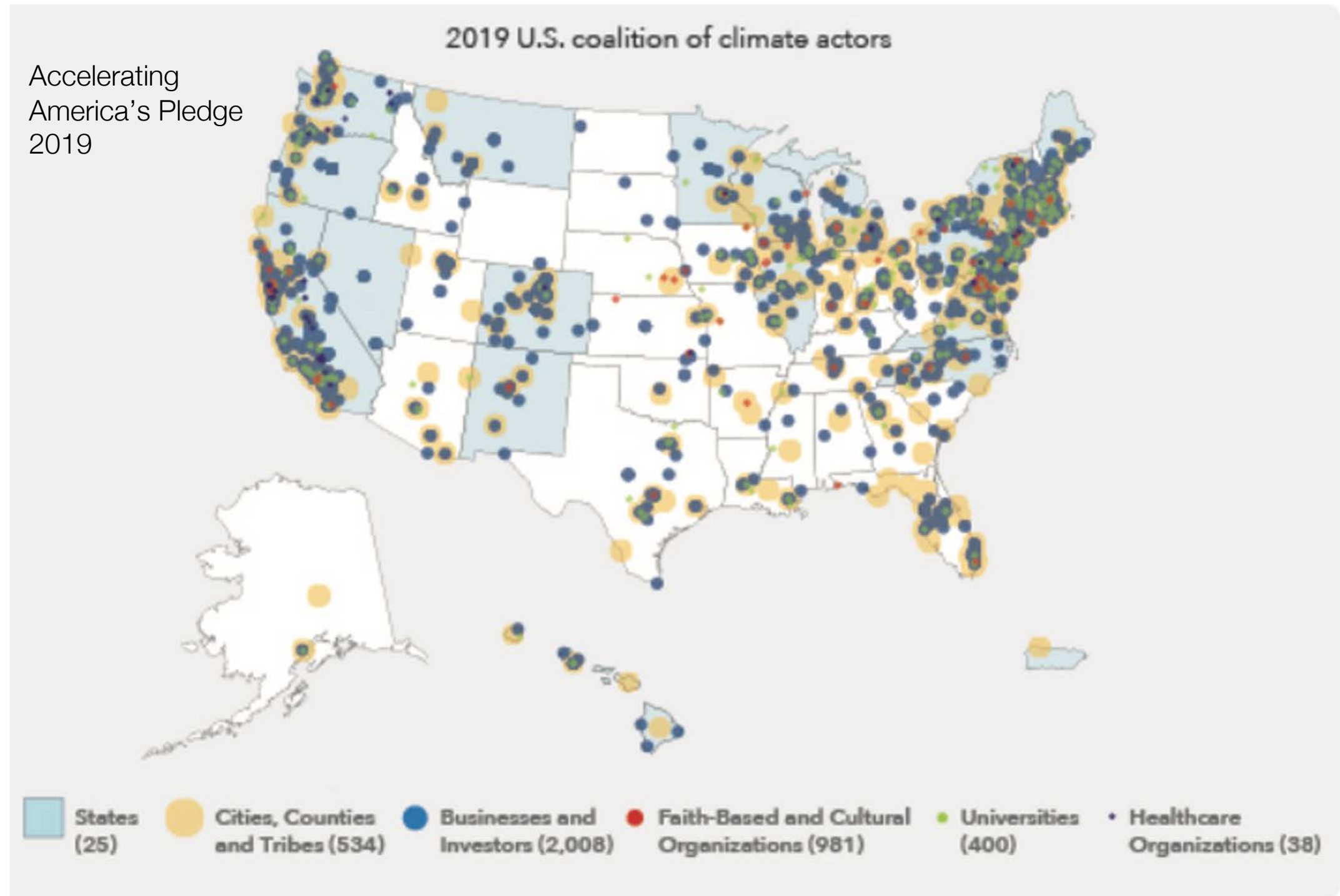
Action for Climate Empowerment

Building Capacity and Momentum to Accelerate
Just Community-based Climate Action

**Haley Crim, CLEAN and former Park Forest Greenest
Region Corps Member**

**Frank Niepold, U.S. ACE Focal Point for the United States,
NOAA**

Accelerating
America's Pledge
2019



Making the case for climate action is one of the leading challenges that cities face in undertaking ambitious urban climate action. - C40 Benefits Report

Municipalities are already active on climate

- “States, cities, and regions are scoping new opportunities for climate action and delivering on a burgeoning suite of existing climate commitments to ***support new jobs and the transformation of their economies.***”
- “And they reflect a ***growing interest*** in driving forward toward a clean and healthy economy in ways that reflect the ***support of their constituents and members and are targeted to deliver real and immediate benefits*** for jobs, economic growth, and wellbeing—and in doing so, also help contribute to an overall reduction in U.S. emissions.”

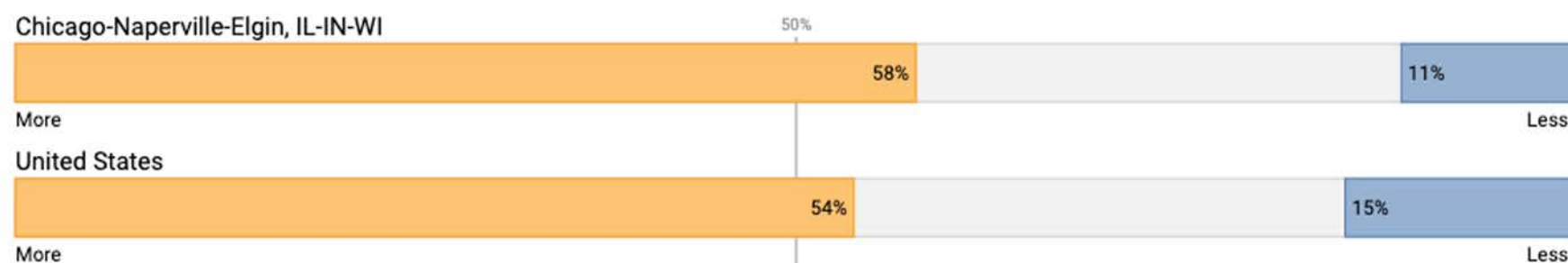
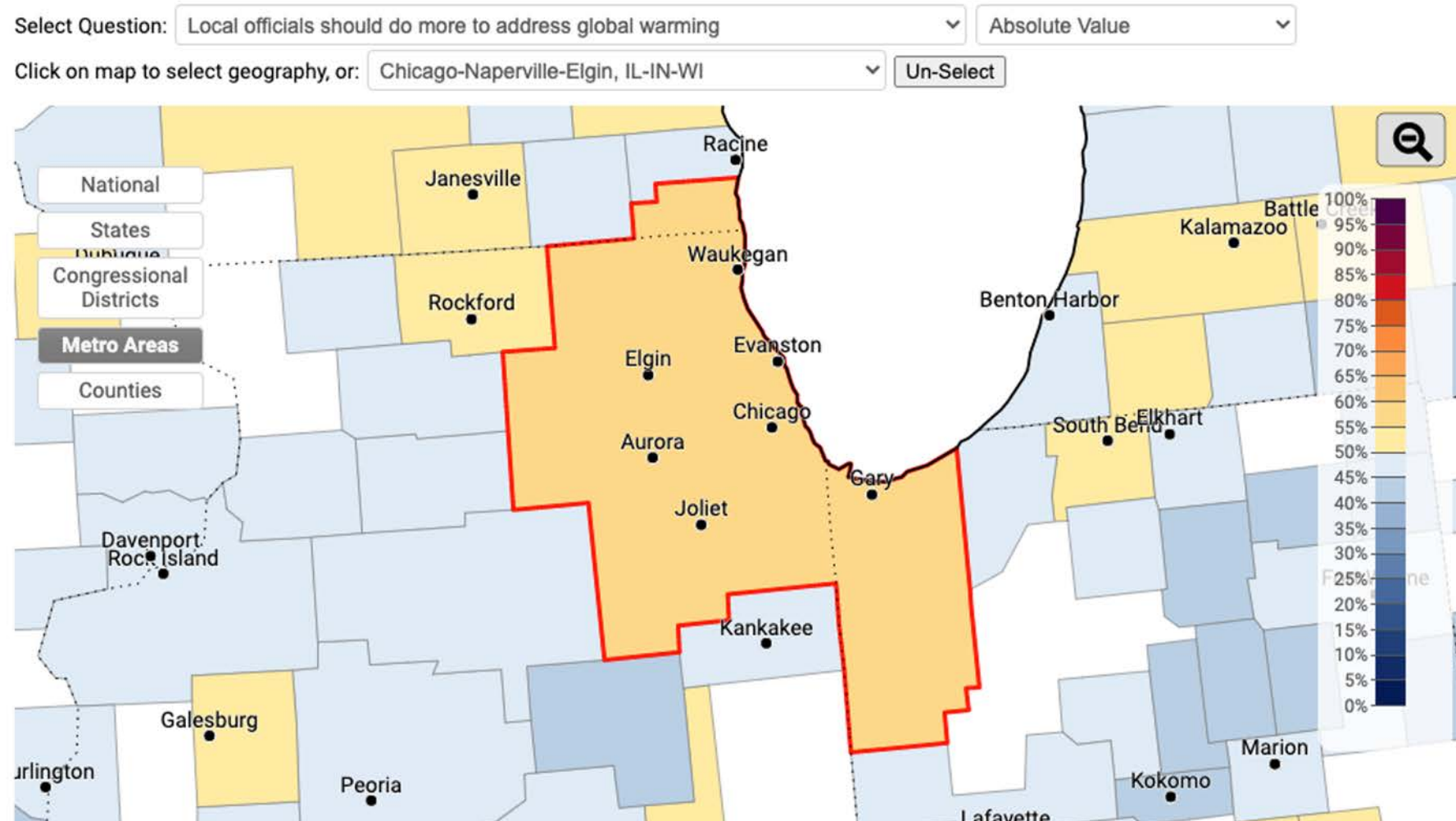
America Is All In, April 2021



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The Chicago region supports more aggressive municipal climate action.

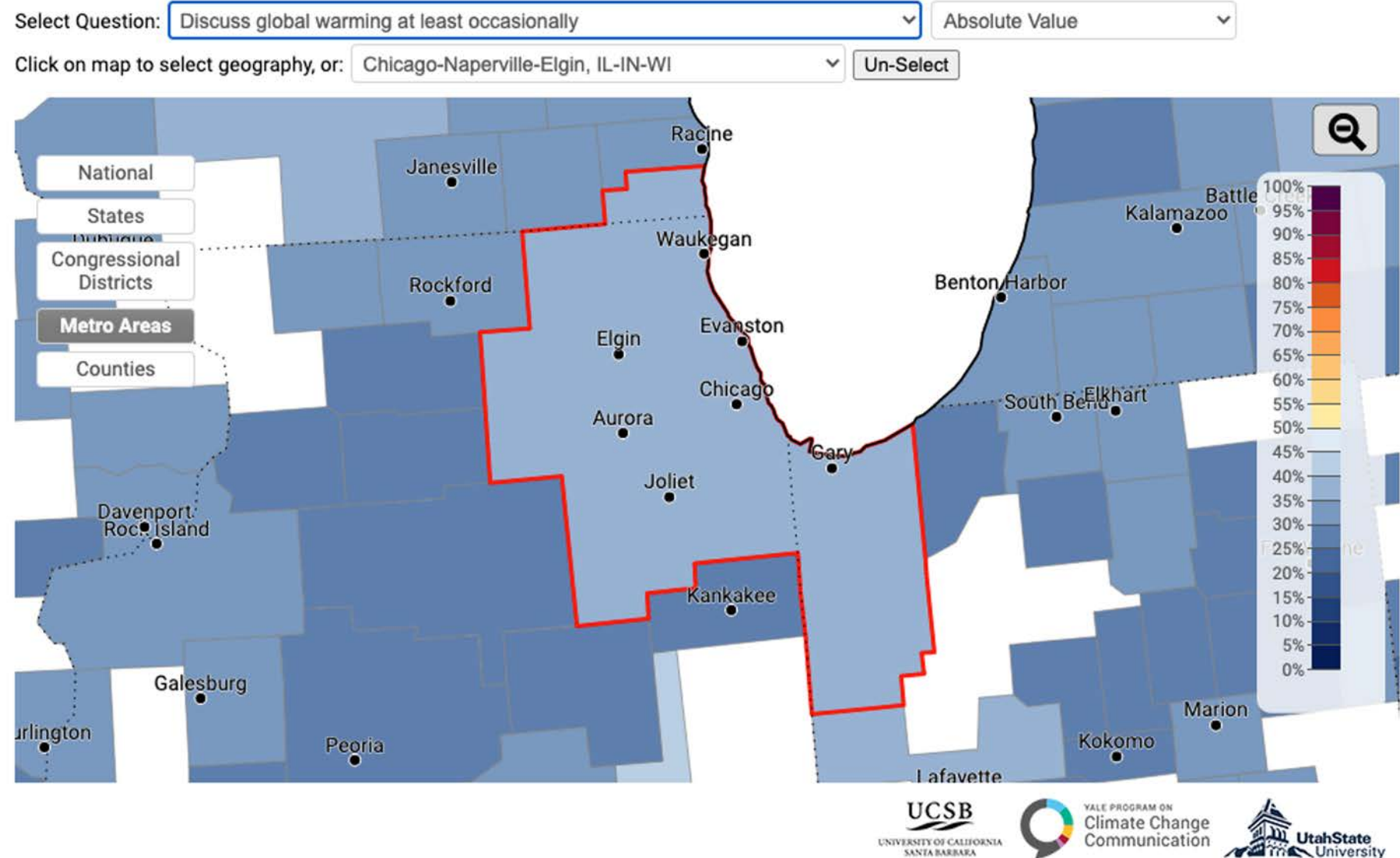
Estimated % of adults who think my local officials should do more to address global warming (54%), 2020



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But the majority of residents are not calling for change.

Estimated % of adults who discuss global warming at least occasionally (35%), 2020



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What is holding municipalities back?

- Political will for climate policy
- Climate awareness and education for the public and leaders
- Funding and technical support
- Finding data and evidence-based solutions
- Coordination to stop reinventing the wheel
- Communicating successes and challenges with peers
- Ways to implement climate solutions equitably

Share what else
is holding you
back in the chat



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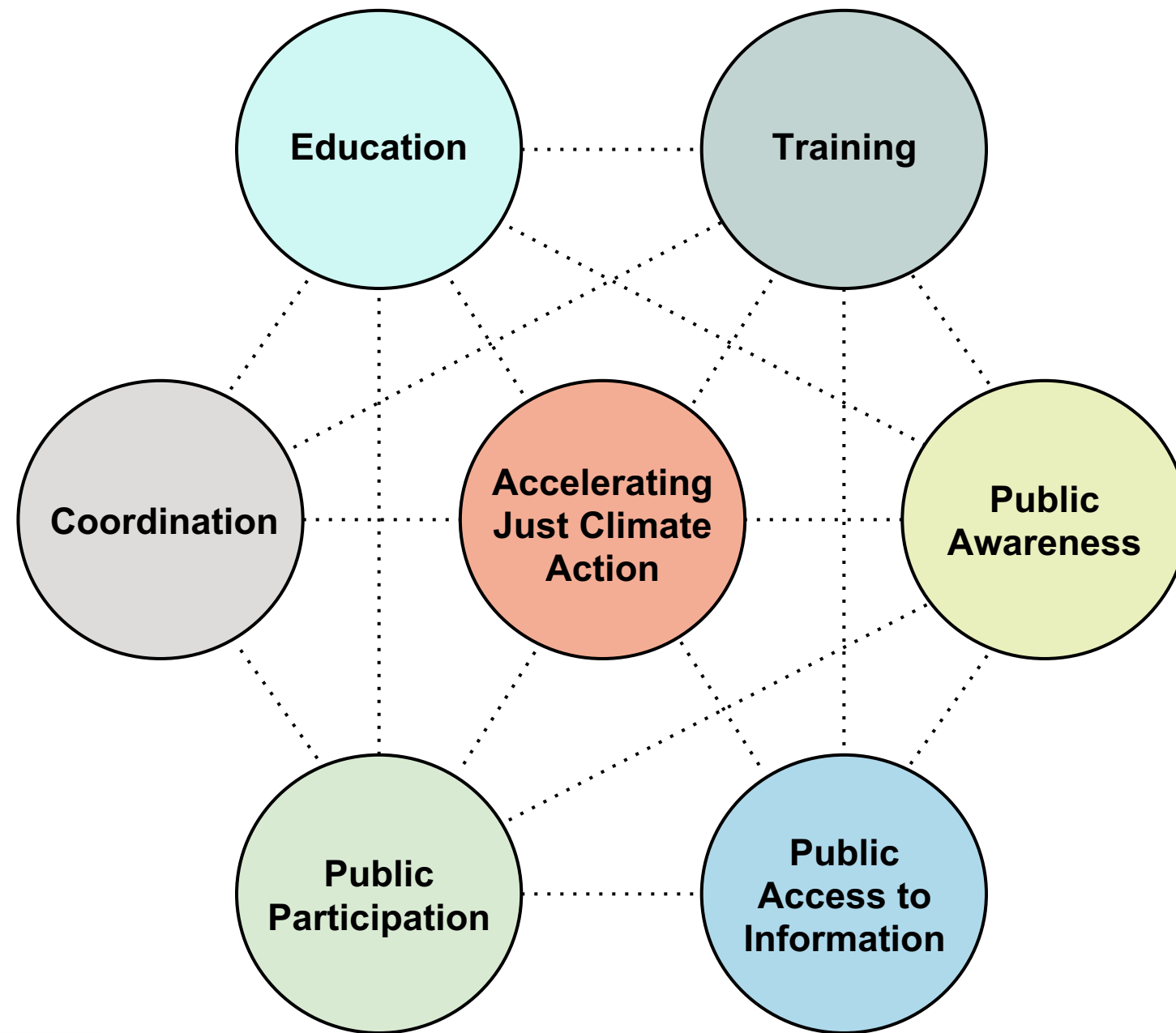
Overcommunication and Competition for Attention

- By any measure, people are bombarded by more messages today than at any other time in human history.
- Communication is a powerful tool, but not enough by itself.
- The combination of communication with other strategies will overcome the social obstacle in meeting the climate crisis.



The NYC Solar Schools program follows a “train the trainer” model, with a series of professional development workshops organized to train teachers on the incorporation of new lessons into existing curriculum.

Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)



Climate Empowerment Work is Already Happening

- School Districts, Universities, and Community Colleges
- Museums, Aquariums, and Parks
- Training and Professional Development Programs
- Social Movements and Community Organizations
- NGOs and Nonprofits
- Sustainable Businesses
- Faith Groups
- Media, Reporters and Broadcast Meteorologists
- **State, Tribal, and Local Governments**



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How can coordinated ACE help municipalities?

- ACE efforts **build political will** for municipal climate action.
- ACE **empowers residents** to take action on climate at home, at work, and in the community.
- ACE **prepares your workforce** to take advantage of the coming wave of new, quality jobs.
- ACE distributes **financial and technical support** for organizations and local governments to take locally focused, nationally aligned climate action.

ACE is key to accelerating bold, community-centered climate action.



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Climate Empowerment Processes Center Climate Justice

- ACE is built on and promotes **equitable participatory processes**.
- ACE **uplifts marginalized and BIPOC voices** and knowledge.
- ACE directs **resources and capacity** to environmental justice communities and other historically marginalized groups.

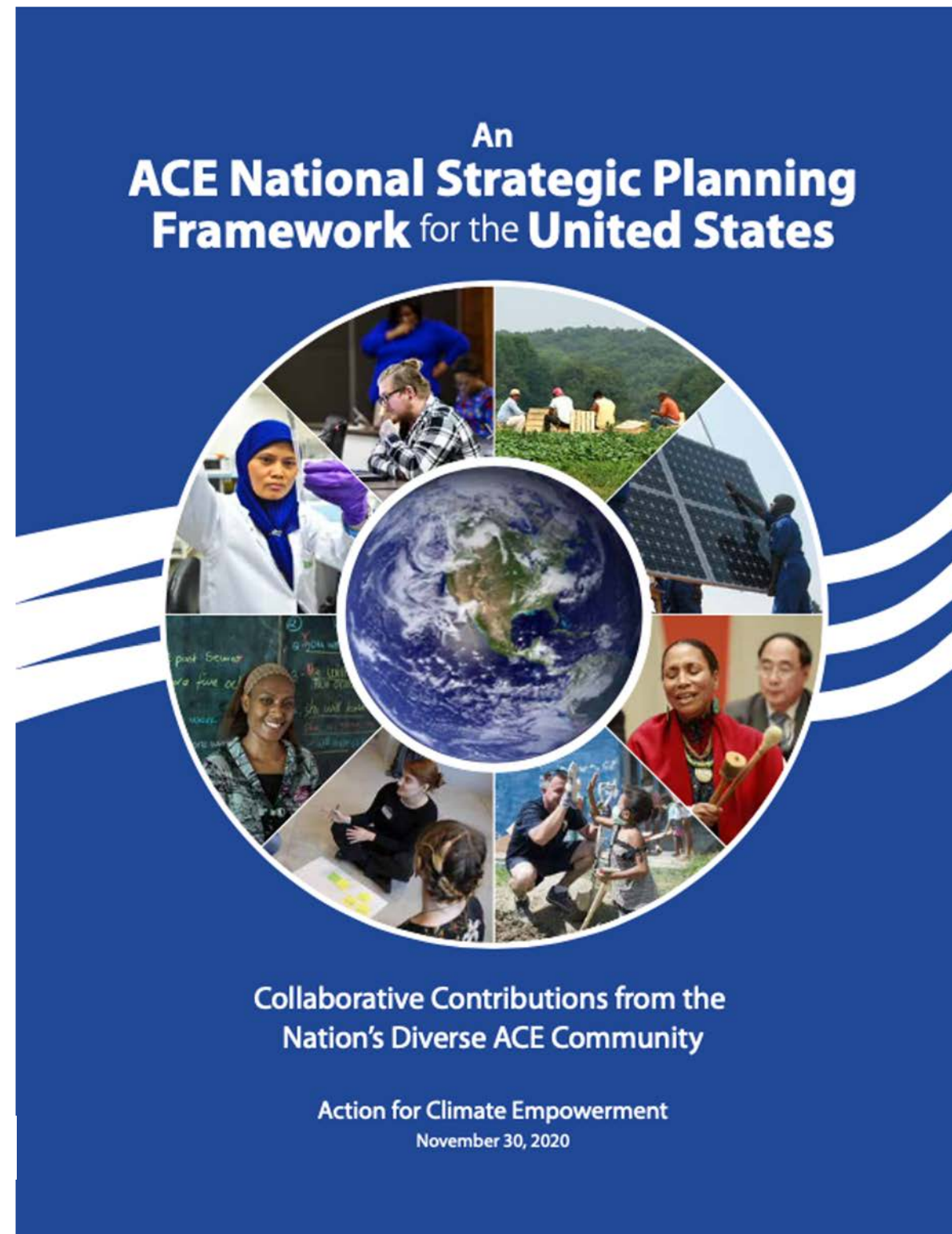


Offshore Wind Career Info Session for Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe in Massachusetts for high school students and adults.



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How do we get to whole-of-society climate action?

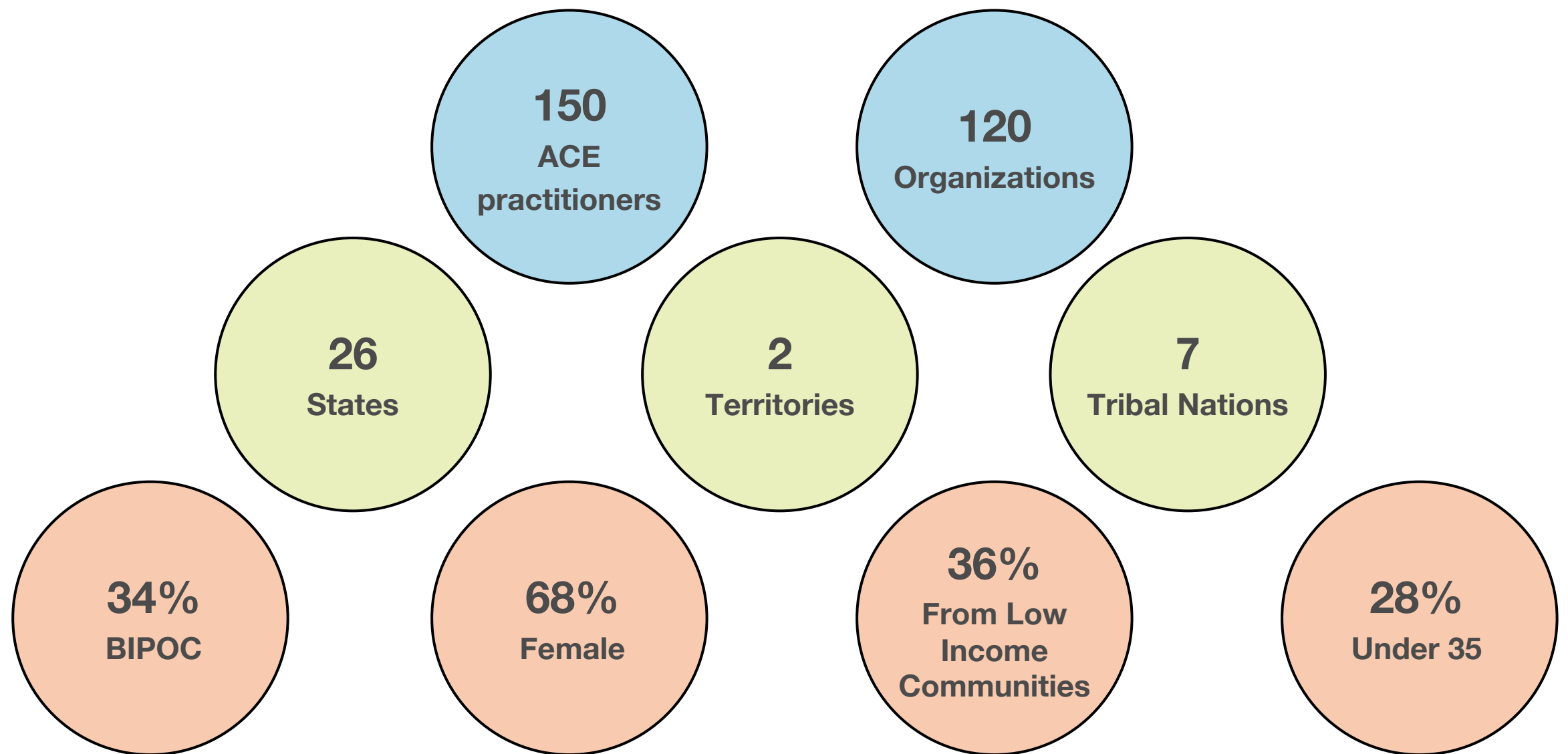


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Action for Climate Empowerment
November 30, 2020

aceframework.us

Who Wrote the Framework?



Signatory Organizations



Where We're Going Now

“An ACE national strategy—especially one that **emphasizes decision-making and actions in and by local communities**— is an integral part of our journey for shaping the future that we want.

— ***Chris Castro***

Director

Office of Sustainability and Resilience

City of Orlando, Florida



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The U.S. ACE National Strategy

- Offers a coordinated strategy for **sustained success** on climate change, systemic racism, jobs, and education **at all levels of government.**
- Supports the **creation of millions of quality jobs** across the country.
- Provides an organizing structure to **align, amplify, and support** ACE efforts across the country.
- Aligns with Biden-Harris goals of **elevating community and state level climate work.**



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The U.S. ACE National Strategy

- Provides a platform for **international visibility and collaboration.**
- Embraces the intersection of **climate justice and climate solutions.**
- Is based on **evidence-based approaches** and collects data to measure effectiveness and equity in ACE activities.
- Promotes **inclusive, participatory processes** for decision-making at all levels.
- Elevates **best practices** for all kinds of ACE activities.



ACTION FOR CLIMATE EMPOWERMENT
NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK
FOR THE UNITED STATES

Our Ask

Support the development and implementation of an ACE National Strategic Plan

- Participate in future dialogs to develop the National Strategy
- Share your best practices with the ACE network
- Promote ACE best practices across your communities and departments
- Support implementation of ACE in your jurisdiction



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Thank you. Questions?

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The US ACE Coordinating Network

- **Frank Niepold** — ACE National Focal Point for the United States, NOAA Senior Climate Education Program Manager and Coordinator CLEAN Network co-chair and founding member
- **Tom Bowman** — Founder, Bowman Design Group; President, Bowman Change, Inc. and co-founder, Long Beach Sustainable Business Network
- **Deb Morrison** — Learning Scientist, Climate Justice and Equity in Science Education, University of Washington
- **Isatis Cintrón Rodriguez** — Fellow at NSF GRFP, Citizen's Climate Lobby Latin America Regional Manager
- **Rebecca Anderson** — Director of Education, Alliance of Climate Education
- **Haley Crim** — Sustainability Fellow at the Village of Park Forest and Greenest Region Compact, CLEAN Network Project Coordinator
- **Timothy Damon** — Founder and President, Global Youth Development Institute; Education, Communication and Outreach Stakeholder Community (ECOS) Steering Committee
- **Cyane Dandridge** — Founding Executive Director, Strategic Energy Innovations and School of Environmental Leadership
- **Sherri Mitchell Weh'na Hamu Kwasset** — Tribal Attorney and Founder, Land Peace Foundation
- **Hernán Gallo-Cornejo** — Project Coordinator, Strategic Energy Innovations
- **Kristen Poppleton** — Senior Director of Programs at Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy
- **Jen Kretser** — Director of Climate Initiatives at The Wild Center
- **Billy Spitzer** — Principal Investigator at National Network for Ocean and Climate Change Interpretation, NNOCCI
- **Felicia Davis** — Director, HBCU Green Fund
- **Laura Weiland** — Education, Communication and Outreach Stakeholder Community (ECOS) Steering Committee

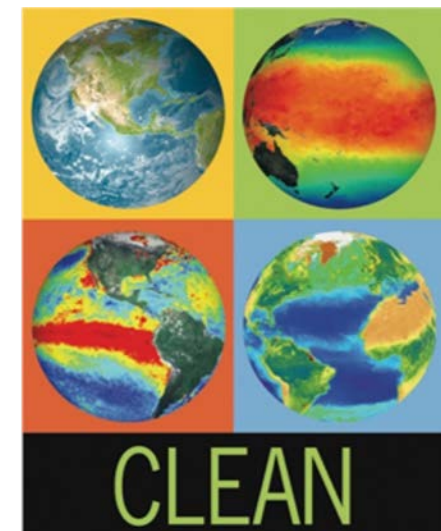


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Supporting Organizations



Citizens' Climate Lobby



bowman.change

Zoom Poll Question

- What would be most helpful to you/your municipality?
 - Climate education
 - Workforce development/training
 - Access to information
 - Public participation
 - Public awareness
 - National/international coordination