



Examples of Climate Change Research Projects

A Tribal Workgroup of nine San Diego region tribes is informing the research approach of a **San Diego State University**-led project titled Connecting Wildlands & Communities that worked to integrate land use planning for climate resilience. This project also featured partnerships with local and county governments to ensure actionable results for land use planning for several types of decision-makers.

A **UC-Berkeley**-led project titled Toxic Tides investigated the effects of sea level rise on 440 toxic sites, and the resulting impacts to surrounding disadvantaged communities. The research team included the Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN) as a bridge organization to engage regularly with the environmental justice community affected by the research results. This meaningful partnership has already resulted in modifications to the research approach that will help ensure the results meet the needs of these communities.

A team of energy research and development, and valuation and strategy researchers led by the **Electric Power Research Institute** (EPRI) worked with the City of Modesto and the Central Valley Opportunity Center to develop, demonstrate, and deploy a new energy efficient portable residential heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system with low global warming potential refrigerant. Additionally, this partnership is conducting a pilot in the city that is developing and implementing innovative buying journeys and payment plans to bring this technology to low-income residents, avoiding up-front costs and reducing utility bills. SGC's initial funding for this system was followed by grants from the CEC and the US EPA, as well as \$18 Million in Series A funding and a \$24 million contract to bring accessible carbon friendly heating and cooling to low-income housing as a winner of the New York City Housing Authority Clean Heat for All Challenge.

Residents in Southeast Los Angeles partnered with researchers from **UCLA's** California Center for Sustainable Communities to take action towards building an equitable energy transition through the development of a Community Solar Opportunities Mapping Tool that identifies community solar and resilience center opportunities within their community.

Cal Poly Humboldt researchers worked to identify sustainable pathways to achieve climate-smart rural and Tribal California communities through energy and air quality infrastructure development that integrates social dimensions of change. The SAFE project focus has been on the communities of Orleans to Somes Bar on the Klamath River in the Karuk aboriginal territory and Blue Lake Rancheria on a reach of Baduwa't (Mad River) in the ancestral territory of the Wiyot people. This project unlocks progress towards more resilient rural communities in California, particularly in places facing intersecting climate hazards from wildfire, insufficient infrastructure, and economic isolation.

Investigators at **UCLA's** Luskin Center in partnership with Liberty Hill Foundation conducted an evaluation of the emPOWER pilot, funding eight grassroots community-based organizations to connect low-income residents to clean energy, transportation, and financial assistance programs, demonstrating that a CBO-led outreach approach for a bundle of programs is highly successful in reaching some of the most environmentally disadvantaged and impoverished communities in the county.