An Introduction to Technical Assistance For Communities

Overview

Technical Assistance Needs Assessment (TANA)

Technical Assistance Grants (TAG)

Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC)

What is a "TANA"?

Technical

Assistance

Needs

Assessment

- A process to identify whether a community requires additional support:

  - Understanding technical information

  - Meaningful participation in the Superfund decision-making process

What makes up a Technical Assistance Needs Assessment?

- Integration of:

  - Community-identified technical assistance needs

  - Other stakeholder identified technical assistance needs

  - Knowledge of how technical assistance needs can be met

Result:

  - Prioritized list of technical needs and recommendations for ways to meet needs

After Technical Assistance Needs Assessment (TANA)…

- Distribute the TANA

- Community members make specific technical assistance requests to EPA

- EPA considers requests and meets with the community to discuss options going forward

Technical Assistance Grants (TAG) or Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) ...Which is the best fit?

Broad focus	Narrow focus
Short or long-term	Long-term
Any community-based organization eligible	Non-profit incorporated community groups eligible
No matching contribution	20% matching required
Services by EPA contractor	Services by community Technical Advisor via a contract.
Relatively rapid implementation	Takes 6-12 months time to get grant going
EPA manages administrative burden	Community group responsible for administrative tasks

Technical Assistance Grants (TAG)

- EPA can award a TAG to qualified community groups for up to $50,000.

- The community group must be incorporated as a 501(c)3 (non-profit status).

- The primary purpose of the TAG is to hire an independent technical advisor to interpret and comment on site related documents.

- Application process is competitive.

Technical Assistance Grants (TAG)

- Applying for a TAG
  - ◦ Letter of Intent
  - ◦ Eligibility & Application
- Managing a TAG
  - ◦ Technical Advisor
  - ◦ Allowable & Unallowable activities
  - ◦ Providing match
  - ◦ Recording keeping & reimbursements
  - ◦ Reporting requirements
  - ◦ Records retention

Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC)

- TASC program provides technical help so communities can better understand the science, regulations, and policies of EPA actions.

- Services are provided through a national EPA contract. Under the contract, a contractor provides scientists, engineers and other professionals to review and explain information.

Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC)

- Technical advisor services
  - Explains technical information
  - Help communities formulate questions and comments on agency documents
- Trainings
- Workshops
- Fact sheets & brochures
- Maps, diagrams, visual aids
- Translations
- Meeting facilitation
- Websites

For More Information Visit...

Superfund Community Involvement

www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-community-involvement

Technical Assistance Grants

www.epa.gov/superfund/technical-assistance-grant-tag-program

Technical Assistance Services for Communities

www.epa.gov/superfund/technical-assistance-services-communities-tasc-program

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