



PLACE INITIATIVE

Proactive Leadership Advocating for Climate & Equity



PLACE Community Readiness Assessment

Building Climate-Ready, Equitable Communities

OVERVIEW

The PLACE Community Readiness Assessment is a transformative tool designed to help communities evaluate their readiness to address existing and expected climate challenges and embrace opportunities for equitable growth. By identifying strengths, gaps, and actionable strategies, this assessment empowers local leaders to foster resilience, promote sustainability, and better serve new and existing residents.

The Assessment is based on the 9 PLACE Principles, a set of integrated focused areas that embody a flexible, adaptive, and community-centric approach, **providing a roadmap** for equitable and sustainable community development in the face of evolving challenges.

PLACE Initiative's unique approach integrates climate action, equity, and placemaking to create vibrant, inclusive, and future-ready communities.



PLACE PRINCIPLES

1. Support Current & Future Residents
2. Establish Partnerships with a Regional Focus
3. Create Resilient Infrastructure
4. Employ Good Governance
5. Develop Places for People
6. Connect Communities
7. Advance Economic Prosperity
8. Foster Environmental Stewardship
9. Reduce Hazard Risks

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Step 1: Online pre-assessment survey

- Brief survey to identify workshop priorities and better understand local conditions

Step 2: In-person Round 1 Assessment

- 5-hour community-driven planning workshop with local applications of each PLACE Principle

Step 3: Action Plan Fact Sheet

- PLACE will summarize key takeaways and recommendations from the workshop in a concise handout to guide implementation

WHAT DOES IT REQUIRE?

- A space to hold the workshop with A/V capabilities
- 10-15 workshop participants that are enthusiastic about furthering innovative local solutions, ideally with some knowledge or experience in one or more of the 9 PLACE Principle focus areas
- A local partner(s) willing to coordinate the recruitment of participants and assist with workshop logistics



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The PLACE Community Readiness Assessment is an integral part of the Climate Receiver Places Project (CRPP), which identifies and supports communities with the potential to become *Climate Havens*.

In 2024, PLACE was awarded a planning grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to guide communities in Eastern Kentucky through the PLACE Assessment. The focus of this project is on capacity building for community leaders, with project outcomes including an **Action Plan Fact Sheet** tailored to each place, which details a list of recommendations for actionable problem-solving. As a result, local leaders will be better prepared to engage in innovative and informed strategic planning, including preparing funding applications for the implementation of recommendations.

WHO IS PLACE INITIATIVE?

Founded in 2020, PLACE Initiative is a national nonprofit advancing equitable climate action through place-based solutions. Certified as a 501(c)(3) in 2023, PLACE builds on a rich history of collaboration among urban planners, climate experts, and related professionals. By bridging planning, design, climate action, and equity, PLACE provides communities with the tools and guidance needed to address the challenges of a changing climate.



If you are interested in participating, please reach out to info@placeinitiative.org



LEARN MORE AT PLACEINITIATIVE.ORG