

**\*Note: We will be recording this webinar and sharing online\***

# Welcome to the Community Science Hub Informational Webinar!

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***Your hosts (in order of appearance):***

***Amanda Shores***, Manager of Cohorts, Thriving Earth Exchange

***Natasha Udu-gama***, Director, Thriving Earth Exchange

***Blake McGhghy***, Program Manager, Community Lead  
Engagement, Thriving Earth Exchange

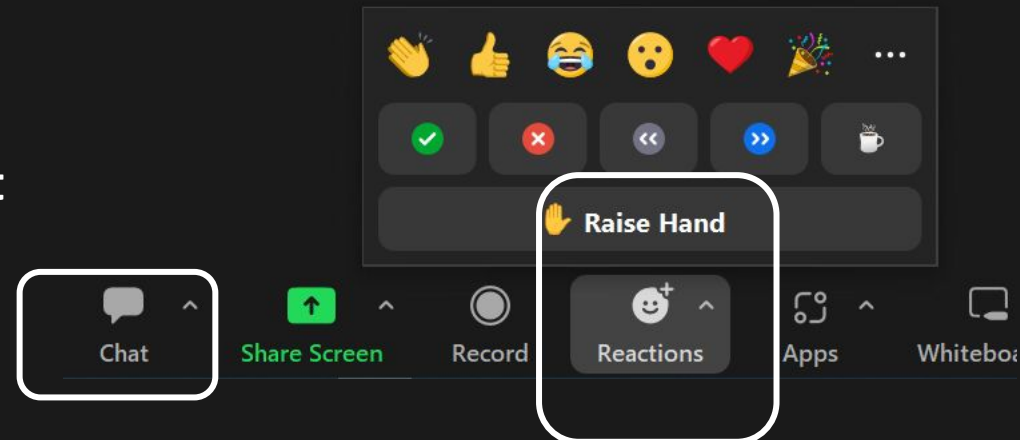
***Kathleen Kirkpatrick***, Southeast Regional Hub Coordinator, The  
Capacity Collaborative/Thriving Earth Exchange

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# Today's Agenda

- Welcome
- Introduce American Geophysical Union and Thriving Earth Exchange
- Community Science Hub Opportunity
- Sharing Experiences Learned from Our First Hub, Capacity Collaborative
- Upcoming Timeline
- Question-and-Answer Period

**How to use Zoom chat  
and reactions:**



**Please save your questions until the Question-and-Answer Period!**

# Thriving Earth Exchange

*Building a shared future where all communities can participate in, contribute to, and guide the use of scientific knowledge*

[ThrivingEarthExchange.org](https://ThrivingEarthExchange.org)

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## What We Do

- Connect communities with scientists to advance local priorities
- Share our community science framework with global partners

## Core Principles:



**Begin with  
community  
priorities**



**End with  
community  
impact**



**Science is a  
community  
right**



# Community Science

The process by which scientists and communities [use/pursue/apply] science **together** to advance one or more **community priorities**.

- Centers communities historically shut out of science
- Centers and follows the leadership of local context, knowledge and expertise



# A flexible approach provides a guiding framework; together they enable community science

## Our Model:

- Flexible but guided framework:  
Scope-Match-Solve-Share
- “One-to-one” community-scientist pairs (typically individual scientists, vs. institutions)
- A dedicated Project Manager (Community Science Fellow) builds the bridge between the community & scientist
- Free to communities
- Volunteer effort
- 18-month project duration
- Projects have access to an easily-accessible microgrant



How We Make  
Community  
Science  
Happen



## **Community Leads**

Represent community knowledge, context, and guidance throughout the project



## **Community Scientists**

Volunteer their expertise to address the technical aspects of the project



## **Community Science Fellows**

Project managers who guide the team through the process

# Characteristics of Projects We Support

**Topics:** Natural hazards, environment health, pollution, natural resources, sustainability, environmental and social resilience, and climate change.

**Stage:** Typically beginning to intermediate stages. Consider whether the priority is one that can be advanced by the pro bono technical support that Thriving Earth Exchange provides through our Earth and space science network within about one year's time.

**Languages:** We can provide support for English and/or Spanish-speaking communities

**Examples of outputs:** Reports, webinars, application of technology, conference or community gathering/forum, proposal, exhibition, interview, communication materials, maps, podcast.

**Examples of outcomes:** Policy changes, enhanced communication around an issue, changing of habits, encouragement/discouragement of particular development, creating a new opportunity, decision making based on data-driven information.

# Underserved Communities

**People sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have knowledges and context that should be included and/or they have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life.**



- Diverse backgrounds (e.g., cultures, languages, zip codes, socioeconomic class, education, jobs, race/ethnicity, etc.)
- Groups based on geography (e.g., rural, coasts, US territories, etc.)
- Groups facing challenges (e.g., adversely affected by persistent poverty, economic and social inequality, etc.).



# The Capacity Collaborative: Our 1st Thriving Earth Hub

- The CC works with a network of primarily southeastern nonprofit, grassroots organizations to catalyze environmental and energy justice through training, technical assistance and capacity building.
- Based in Montgomery, Alabama, focusing on rural and underserved communities in the South and Puerto Rico.
- Bringing diverse talents to communities seeking a sustainable, resilient future through people-focused, place-based solutions
- CC hub coordinator has been trained in Thriving Earth approach and is in the process of recruiting 12 communities.

<https://www.thecapacitycollaborative.net/>

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# The Capacity Collaborative: Our 1st Thriving Earth Hub

- Thriving Earth Exchange community science approach complements the CC's interests in providing technical assistance to environmental justice communities
- Capacity Collaborative continues to build relationships with communities and non-profit networks throughout the South and Puerto Rico
- CC Co-Director Kathleen Kirkpatrick signed on as hub coordinator with an interest in using Thriving Earth project outcomes to support applications for federal infrastructure funds, community resilience, and develop peer networks



**Capacity Collaborative**  
Co-Director Kathleen  
Kirkpatrick

<https://www.thecapacitycollaborative.net/>

# We are in the Process of Selecting 3 New Hubs

- Opportunity to advance and tailor community science for marginalized and underserved communities around the country.
- The Capacity Collaborative was selected as the 1st Hub and is currently bringing on their 12 communities.
- The hubs will be tasked to identify a hub coordinator and twelve (12) underserved/marginalized communities in their region/topical area to do community science projects in the next 2.5 years.

# You may apply if you are...

- US-based or US-based with the ability to serve some global communities (e.g. Americas and Caribbean)
- An established community-based organization, science institution, etc. that primarily serves underserved/marginalized communities.
- Have some history of serving a specific underserved/marginalized community(ies)
- Have **deep organizational/staff connections** with aforementioned communities
- An organization with a **mission that aligns** with community science
- An organization that can identify a **regional hub coordinator** who has time to dedicate to bring in and support 12 communities and to liaise with Thriving Earth.
- An organization that can describe how doing community science and being a hub fits into their **sustainability** plans

# Benefits

- Provide more comprehensive, tailored support to twelve of your communities.
- Obtain resources, guidance and support from Thriving Earth Exchange staff.
- Connect your communities to over 300k AGU members and affiliates to support co-production in those communities.

# What we're looking for in the Expression of Interest



## **Organization's mission**

What is it? Emphasize how it aligns with Thriving Earth's mission and community science.



## **What communities do you partner with?**

Describe to us the communities that you work with and those where you might have deeper, long-established relationships. We want to know whether your communities might be ready for a community science project!



## **What region(s) and/or topical areas do you specialize in?**

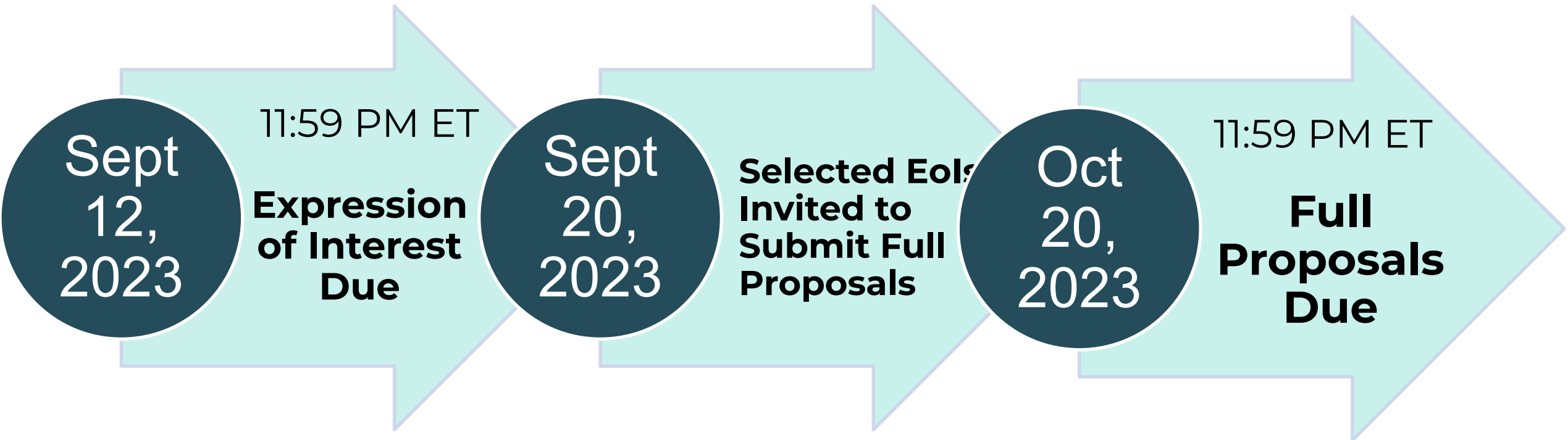
Tell us in what geographic location your communities are located and/or topical areas (e.g. Southwest Indigenous nations; coastal flooding; wildfires; Lutheran communities in the Midwest, etc.)



## **If your Expression of Interest is approved, you will be invited to submit a full proposal. Are you prepared to commit the necessary time and resources to develop a comprehensive proposal for further evaluation by October 20, 2023?**

We want to understand whether you'll have time to consult with your board, fiscal sponsors and/or sufficient staff capacity to fill out the form and submit by this date.

# Timeline for Hub Recruitment

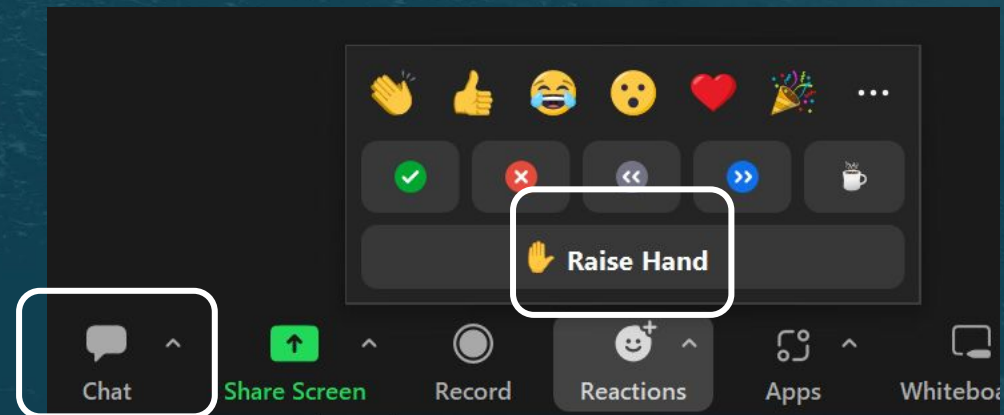


# Questions?

*Feel free to raise your hand or add your questions in chat*



**ThrivingEarthExchange@agu.org**





# AGU THRIVING EARTH EXCHANGE

[ThrivingEarthExchange.org](https://ThrivingEarthExchange.org)

 [ThrivingEarth](https://twitter.com/ThrivingEarth)

We support community science by helping communities find resources, project managers, and experts to address their pressing concerns



Projects in 10+ countries



Launched over 250 projects



10 years of experience