A map of the United States with state boundaries. The Southern Economic Advancement Project (SEAP) region, including states from Virginia to Florida, is highlighted in a vibrant green color. The rest of the map is in a light teal color.

Southern Economic Advancement Project (SEAP)

Energy & Environment in Local ARP Spending





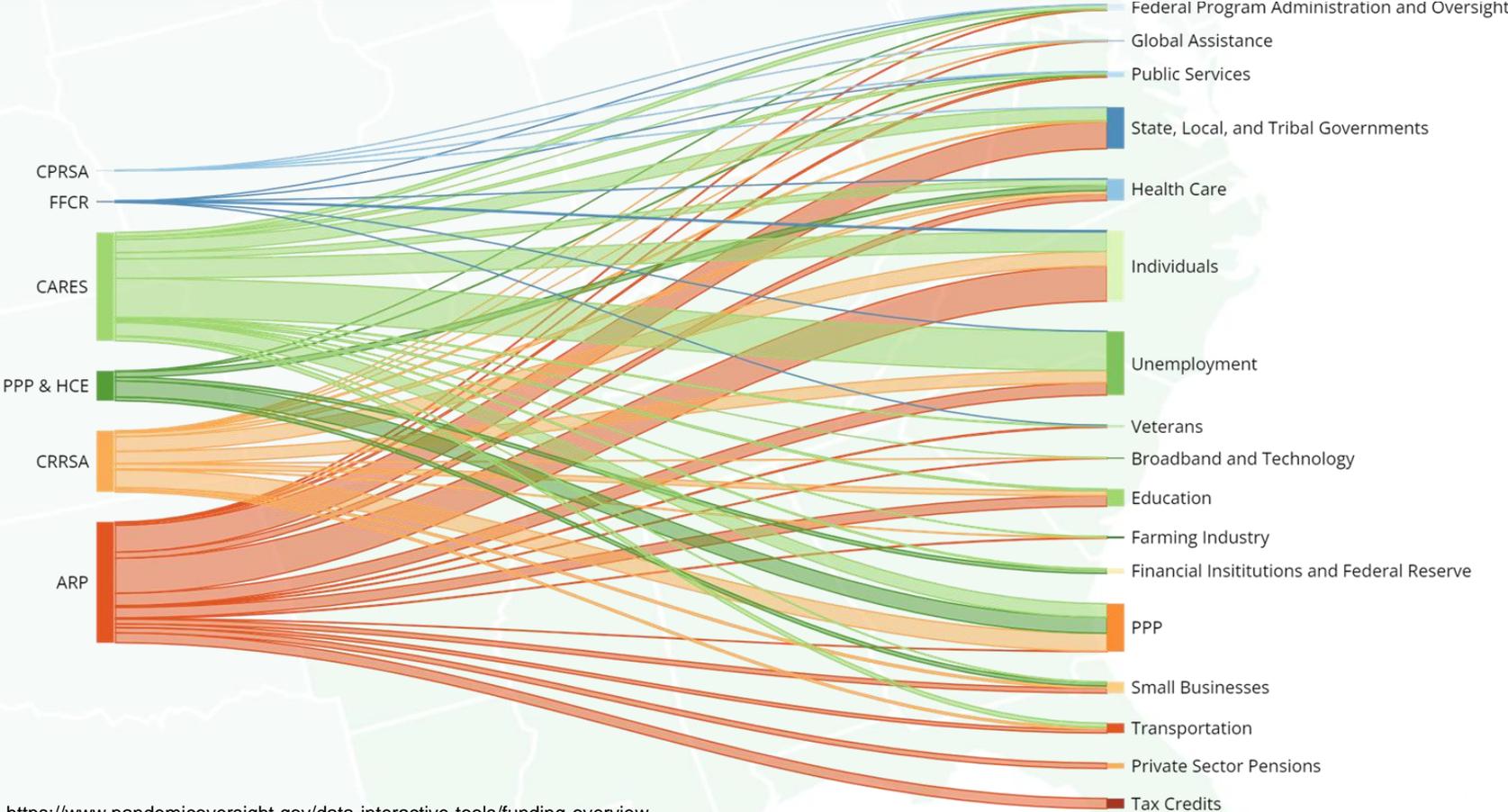
SOUTHERN
ECONOMIC
ADVANCEMENT
PROJECT

ABOUT THE SEAP

SEAP partners with policy thinkers and does to amplify their efforts and bridge gaps in policy infrastructure. We act as a connector, convener, and policy entrepreneur across issues and states, translating good ideas to the Southern context. Our goal is to advance policies that improve economic security, healthcare access, and environmental justice for all Southerners.

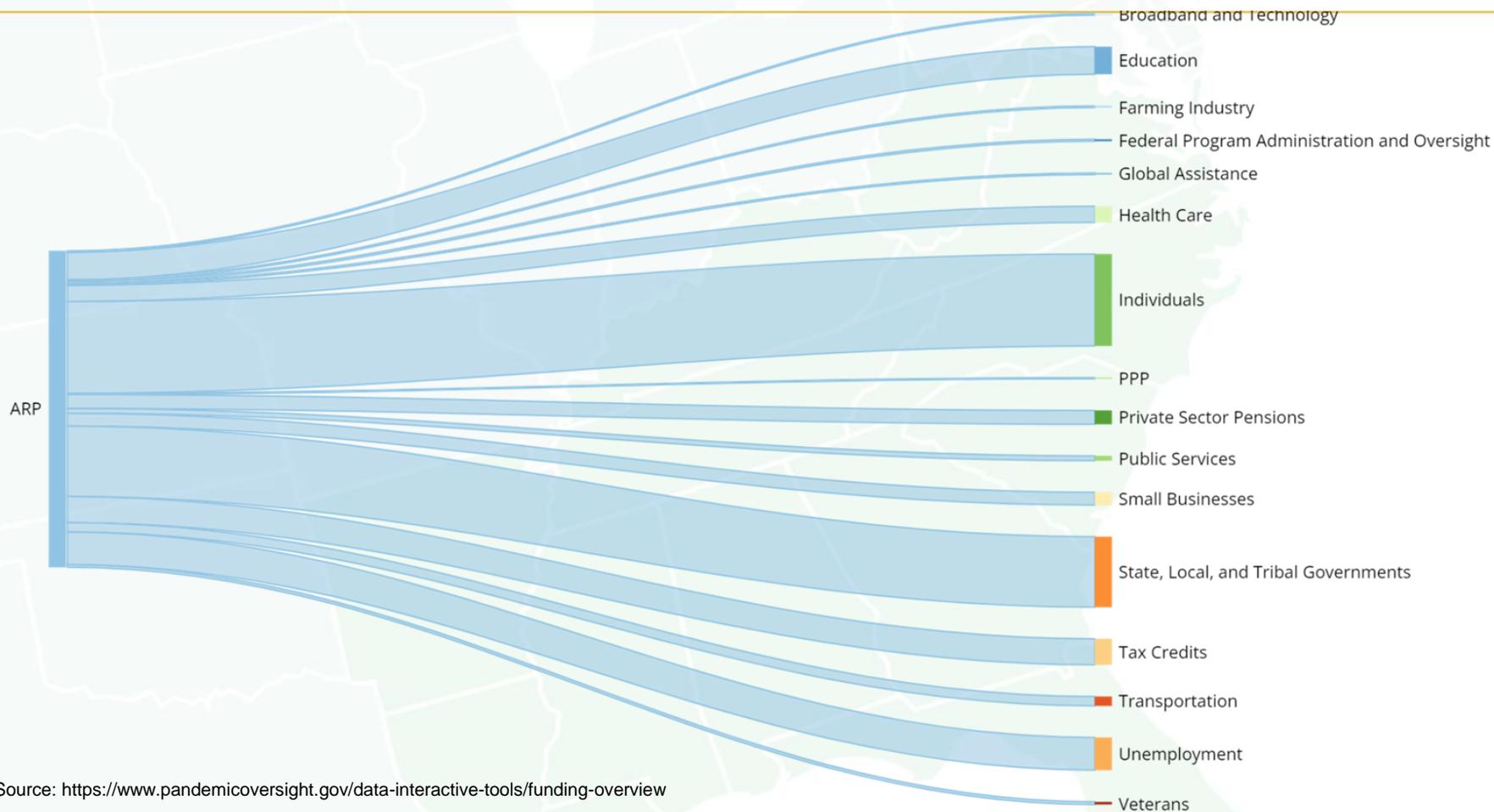
www.theseap.org

Six Laws that Funded Pandemic Relief Programs



Source: <https://www.pandemicoversight.gov/data-interactive-tools/funding-overview>

American Rescue Plan: What is it?



Local Recovery Funds: What to know first

The amount of funding is significant, and the shape of the program is very flexible

- **Cities/counties will each decide how to spend their SLFRF**
 - First time that all local governments have received money directly, without asking
 - First half (“tranche”) arrived Summer 2021, second half arriving now
 - Lots of time to decide how to use funds (decisions are required by 12/31/2024)
 - Additional time to complete spending (spending is required by 12/31/2026)

Equity and community engagement are at the forefront of Treasury guidance.

- **US Treasury guidelines say that local governments should:**
 - engage with residents to set priorities for spending
 - consider how SLFRF can support the most vulnerable, disproportionately impacted community members
 - seek transformative, strategic investments to help communities move forward
 - should be transparent, so residents can understand how these funds will be used

Recovery In Action: Utility Assistance

Location	Category	Project	Amount
Louisville-Jefferson County, KY	Negative Economic Impacts	Utility Assistance Program The purpose of this project is to pay electric and water/sewer expenses for residents who would otherwise have their utilities turned off.	\$5 million
Prince William County, VA	Negative Economic Impacts	Community Alliance Program County is partnering with the Human Services Alliance to administer grants to non-profit and faith-based groups who provide support to underserved COVID-19 impacted residents: rental assistance, mortgage assistance, utilities assistance, childcare support, emergency shelter, employment support, mental and behavioral health assistance.	\$10 million
Arlington County, VA	Revenue Replacement	Eviction Prevention Program Provides COVID-impacted residents with assistance to help cover the housing costs of rent, mortgages, arrearages, security deposits, and utilities as necessary to avoid evictions.	\$1 million
Pompano Beach, FL	Negative Economic Impacts	Small Business Relief Program Provide up to \$25,000 in assistance to small businesses impacted by the Covid-19 Pandemic to help mitigate financial hardship, such as declines in revenues or impacts of periods of business closure, for example by supporting payroll and benefits costs, costs to retain employees, mortgage, rent, or utilities costs, and other operating costs.	\$2.5 million

Additional Examples: Washington Cty, AR; Lexington, KY; Tucker, GA; Chatham Cty, GA; Fulton Cty, GA; Plantation, FL; Nashville, TN; Gaston Cty, NC; Glynn Cty, GA; Winston Salem, NC; Columbus, GA; Lincoln Cty, NC

Recovery In Action: Housing/Energy Efficiency

Location	Category	Project	Amount
Danville, VA	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities	Energy Efficiency Develop and implement an energy efficiency program for low-income utility customers. Program will provide financial assistance to assess the customer's residence and utility consumption, as well as help offset the cost of energy efficiency measures, such as insulation of walls/attics, and installation of energy efficient appliances, windows, etc. to provide customers ongoing savings with utility costs.	\$1 million
Palm Beach County, FL	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities	Housing - Owner Occupied Housing Rehab Funding will be provided to income eligible homeowners to assist with substantial rehabilitation to correct code violations or incipient items that will become a code violation, eliminate housing conditions, which threaten the life, health or safety of occupants, connect residents to public utilities, and adapt residences to meet accessibility.	\$10 million
Prince George County, MD	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities	Housing Rehab Assistance Program Habitat for Humanity Metro Maryland (Habitat) will implement the ARPA Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Program (ARPA - HRAP). The ARPA-HRAP program will provide income-qualified homeowners with Critical Home Repair, Accessibility and Weatherization improvements.	\$1 million

Recovery In Action: Infrastructure

Location	Category	Project	Amount
Deltona, FL	Infrastructure	<p>Water Meter Replacement Project</p> <p>42.68% of the residents of Deltona identify as low- or moderate-income households. The system can achieve substantial impacts and benefits for customers and utilities, including reduced costs for metering and billing, more customer control over consumption and improved billing accuracy and leak detection.</p>	\$11 million
Virginia	Public Health	<p>HVAC/Air Quality in Schools</p> <p>Improve ventilation and air quality in public schools through HVAC replacement. (Plus \$50M for HVACs at Readiness Centers, \$4 million at assisted living centers, \$50M at behavioral health, \$2M at museums)</p>	\$250 million (\$500M total)
Dallas, TX	Revenue Replacement	<p>Solar/Energy Storage Initiative</p> <p>Provide solar equipment and battery storage as part of a pilot implementation program to assess the ability of this technology to effectively enhance climate resilience at one- or more City facilities to support continuous facility use for emergency operations and sheltering.</p>	\$1 million
Collier County, FL	Infrastructure	<p>Collier GM – Harbor & Holiday Lanes Stormwater Management, Green Infrastructure</p> <p>Project involves the reconstruction of two neighborhood streets, using green infrastructure such as swales, to reduce flooding in the Brookside neighborhood of Collier County. This project addresses climate change through improved stormwater management practices.</p>	\$2.3 million
Richmond, VA	Services to Disp. Impacted Communities	<p>Build Back Greener and More Resilient</p> <p>Climate and sustainability projects; stormwater; and lead line replacement</p>	\$18 million

Recovery In Action: Outside of the Region

Location	Category	Project	Amount
Boston, MA	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities	Green Residential Building Retrofits Programs to support efficiency, electrification and renewable energy (e.g., solar PV, battery storage, heat pump installation) in residential buildings, including addressing barriers to such installations.	\$500,000
Minneapolis, MN	Negative Economic Impacts	Low-Income Home Repairs/Maintenance 0% interest loans that are deferred and payable upon property sale. For long term maintenance, energy efficiency, systems replacement, and environmental hazard mitigation. (Plus Green Careers for BIPOC Communities \$3M)	\$2 million
Auburn, NY	Infrastructure	Urban Forest Removal of trees and replanting of urban street trees in QCT	\$100,000
Madison, WI	Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities	Occupy Madison Solar Project Funds will be used to purchase solar panels and pay for installation at OM's tiny house village. (Plus energy efficiency program for naturally occurring affordable housing)	\$150,000
San Diego County, CA	Infrastructure	Energy conservation: SDRPIC-Water Energy Technology Launchpad Create platform for public experimentation/innovation to help test, deploy, & scale "hardware" solutions that address infrastructure gaps-- preparing for future pandemics, addressing local water pollution, expanding broadband connectivity, providing early detection & monitoring to improve overall resilience to climate change.	\$100,000

THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN TOOLKIT



Model Resolution



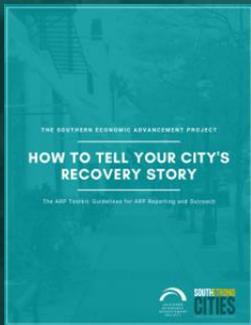
Good Examples



Community Engagement Guide



Grab 'n Go Policies



Telling Your City's Recovery Story



U.S. Treasury Reporting Template



Local Funds Tracker



Community Needs Survey

Learn more at:
www.theseap.org/arp-toolkit-2/

What We're Hearing from the Community

- [Community Needs Survey](#)
- About 4,000 food-insecure households in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi
- New [report](#) highlights:
 - Personal debt, utilities, internet access some of the top personal challenges
 - Utilities, housing, debt, employment greatest community challenges

Georgia
SEAP ARP Survey Responses

Filter by County
Select a County to Filter Dashboard

County Name
(All)

Filter by Demographics
Select a demographic factor to filter or select "none" to see data in totals

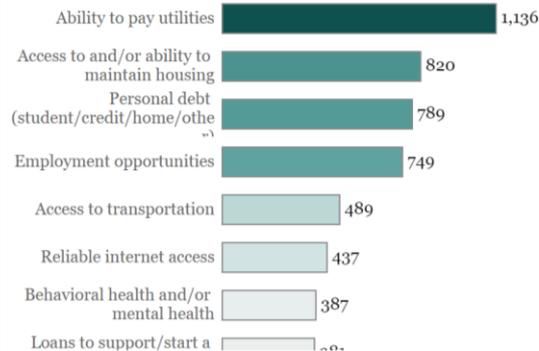
Age range
(All)

Annual Household Income

Survey Responses

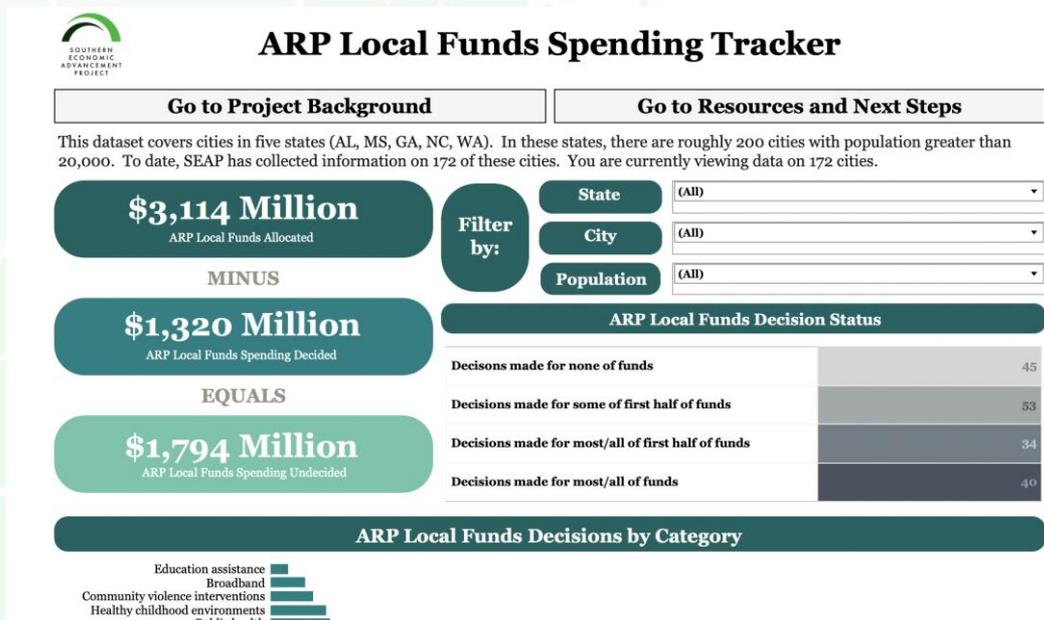
- What's been most challenging for your community?
- What are 3 greatest challenges for your community?
- What have you experienced, personally?
- What's the most important way you want money invested in you...
- What are the 3 other places you would want your funding spent?
- How do you usually receive community info?
- Has anyone reached out to you about relief funding?

What's been most challenging for your community?



SEAP Dashboards: ARP Spending Tracker

- [Spending decisions and categories of funds](#) for 170+ cities across 5 states (AL, MS, GA, NC, WA)
- Info on equity and engagement efforts
- Q2 [report](#) highlights:
 - Majority of funds have yet to be allocated – still time to make an impact!



SEAP ARP Playbook

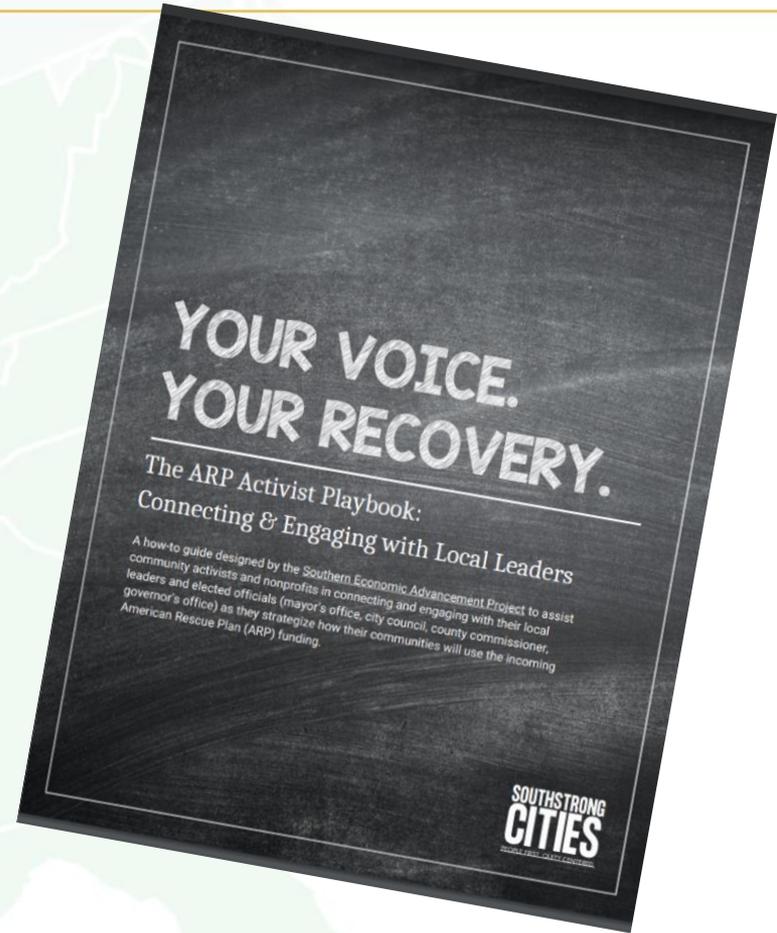
North Carolina: Budget and Tax Center, NC Black Alliance, Disaster Recovery Network, Local Progress

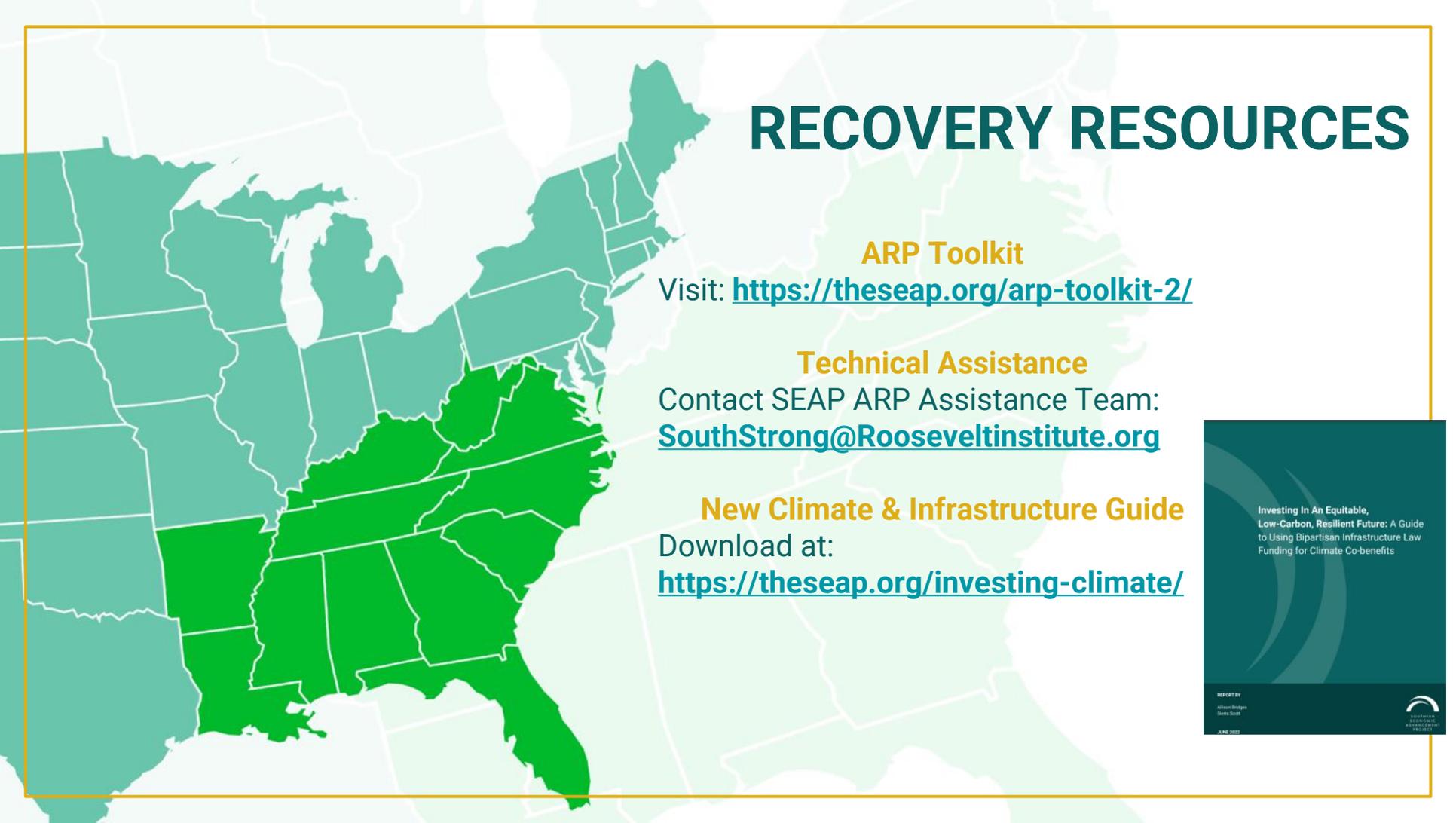
- Action hours with local advocates and nonprofits
- Bi-weekly virtual office hours for one on one assistance
- Information and knowledge sharing
- Postcard campaign with SEAP
- Scorecards for accountability

How You Can Help

- Learn about the funds arriving in your community
- Publicize the significance/opportunity of these funds
- Daylight the process leaders plan to use to determine how to spend (advocate for better process if needed)
- Provide input to your city/county on key needs
- Gather stories, data, surveys, priorities
- Identify community partners to deploy funds: shovel-ready and others
- Help local leaders highlight success and gather evidence
- Report up to Treasury if need be!

These funds can provide generational investments for local communities.





RECOVERY RESOURCES

ARP Toolkit

Visit: <https://theseap.org/arp-toolkit-2/>

Technical Assistance

Contact SEAP ARP Assistance Team:
SouthStrong@Rooseveltinstitute.org

New Climate & Infrastructure Guide

Download at:
<https://theseap.org/investing-climate/>

Investing In An Equitable,
Low-Carbon, Resilient Future: A Guide
to Using Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
Funding for Climate Co-benefits

REPORT BY
Allison Bridges
Serra Scott

JUNE 2022

