WATER FINANCE CLEARINGHOUSE

ONE STOP SHOP FOR ALL THINGS WATER FINANCE

EPA's Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center

www.epa.gov/wfc

MEET THE PRESENTER

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The Water Finance Center is an information and assistance center, helping communities make informed decisions for drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure to protect human health and the environment.

Research  Advise  Innovate  Network

https://www.epa.gov/waterfinancecenter

Meeting the Needs of Key Stakeholders

The Water Finance Clearinghouse is an easily navigable web-based portal that helps communities locate information and resources that will assist them in making informed decisions for their drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure needs.
Essential Resources and Information in the Clearinghouse

**RESOURCES**

- Reports
- Webinars
- Case Studies
- Videos
- Websites
- Trainings
- Guides

- Outreach
- Presentations
- Events
- Feasibility Studies
- Resource Lists
- Tools
- Other

**FUNDING SOURCES**

- **Federal funding** – grants and loan programs that support water infrastructure project development and construction
- **Regional funding** opportunities
- **State funding** – grant and loan programs
- **Foundation** opportunities
- **NGO**
QUALITY OVER QUANTITY

FOCUS ON WATER FINANCE
All resources should have a strong emphasis on financing, funding, capacity development etc.

EASY TO LOCATE INFORMATION
Will NOT accept reports or guides that contain only a short section on funding.

FREE OF CHARGE
No resources in the Water Finance Clearinghouse should require users to pay for access.

SOLICIT FEEDBACK
Solicit feedback on Clearinghouse content and functionality through meetings, events, webinars etc.

RECRUIT CONTRIBUTORS
Teach funding agencies and key stakeholders (technical assistance providers, NGOs, foundations etc.) how to become Clearinghouse Contributors.

VERIFY CONTENT
Encourage Clearinghouse Contributors to edit and/or verify content is accurate and complete before public launch.

BETA TESTING
April 2017 to June 2017

1500 Stakeholders

23 Meetings
10 Webinars
3 Events
BETA TESTING FEEDBACK

POSITIVE FEEDBACK
Overwhelming and exclusively positive feedback – meeting the needs of the sector.

FILTER EDITS & ADDITIONS
Suggestions to add or edit filter options – decentralized filters, drinking water, funding scope, etc.

EXPANDED USER FEATURES
Requests to expand “favoriting” feature to general users & develop notification system for new content.

CONTRIBUTOR FEATURES
Add an option to print draft suggestions prior to submitting for review.

WATER FINANCE CLEARINGHOUSE

- 2 Databases in 1
  - Funds
  - Resources

- Can search multiple ways:
  - Resources Icon/Tab
  - Funds Icon/Tab
  - Map Search
  - Global Search – searches both databases using key word/s
  - Quick Searches (applies filters for user)
**MAP SEARCH**

Key Features:
- Users can click on any state – will populate search results for resources tagged for that state.

**SEARCH RESOURCES**

Key Features:
- Drop-down filters at the top of the search results.
- Information Displayed:
  - Clickable Resource Title
  - Author
  - Brief Description
  - Resource Type
  - Year
Users can apply multiple filters by clicking on the gray tabs & selecting filters.

Can remove individual or all filters by clicking on the “X”.

RESOURCES: FILTER DROP-DOWN MENU

Users can apply multiple filters by clicking on the gray tabs & selecting filters.
**SEARCH FUNDS**

Key Features:
- Drop-down filters at the top of the search results.
- Information Displayed:
  - Clickable Funding Option
  - Source
  - Description
  - How to Apply
  - Current Funding Level
  - Contact Information

**KEY CLEARINGHOUSE FEATURES**

Key Features:
- Export search results at any time to an excel file – includes hyperlink.
- Search within search results.
- Reorganize search results by clicking on column header.
- Remove columns of information for customizable display.
GENERAL USER ACCOUNT

Create a “General User” Account:

• Click on “Create Account” and select “General”
• Type in your email address and click “Submit”
• General Users can:
  • Favorite resources and funding sources for quick access at any time
  • Subscribe to receive email updates for new additions/edits to specific filters options.

GENERAL USER - MY ITEMS

When logged-in as a General User, in the “My Items” tab you can:

• View
  • Favorite Resources.
  • Favorite Funding Sources.
• You can “favorite” items by clicking on the STAR icon on the left-side of each Clearinghouse entry.
• Un-favorite by deselecting STAR icon
GENERAL USER - MY SUBSCRIPTIONS

Under “My Subscriptions” in the “My Items” tab, General Users can:

• Track and manage email subscriptions.
• You can select filter options for email notifications.
• You can set email frequency.

GENERAL USER FEEDBACK

• Users can provide general feedback – report a broken link, desired content, etc.
• Users can suggest new resources and funding sources be added to the Clearinghouse.
MAINTENANCE

2-Pronged Approach

- EPA Staff: Annually/Bi-annually
- Clearinghouse Contributors
  - Desired Contributors: Individuals who represent entities that routinely publish or produce water finance-specific resources and/or those that manage water funding sources.

Suggest:
- edits to existing content in the Clearinghouse.
- additions of new resources and/or funding sources.
- removal of resources and/or funding sources.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Water Finance Clearinghouse will be maintained and content expanded over time.

LEARNING MODULES
The Water Finance Center is developing step-by-step guides on specific water finance topics: Water loss financing, disaster recovery & resiliency financing, State Revolving Funds 101, financing decentralized systems, etc.

WATER FINANCE DATA
Incorporate data and analytics of water infrastructure investments made in the United States – through SRFs, other federal programs, and the market (muni bonds). May include water infrastructure needs data.

CLEARINGHOUSE 2.0
Soliciting recommendations and ideas for how to make the Clearinghouse even better for key stakeholders. What would you like to see?
CONTACT

Visit the Site
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