



E2I2 ACCESS POINT.

NEWS & ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Partners and Supporters,

Over the past six months, communities across the South have continued to face growing environmental, health, and economic uncertainty. From Georgia's drought conditions and wildfires to concerns about data centers, the cost of food, utilities, and healthcare, many of the challenges people are experiencing are deeply connected.

At E2I2, we know that addressing only one piece of this puzzle is unlikely to create lasting change. Instead, environmental justice work must be approached holistically by supporting the broader conditions communities need to become resilient and thrive.

Our work increasingly recognizes that environmental challenges cannot be separated from food access, economic opportunity, health, and long-term community resilience. Our most recent partnership in South Brunswick, Georgia, reflects this approach.

Together with Ebony Tree Farms and the Brunswick Housing Authority, we are supporting Restoring Opportunity, Ownership, Training, & Sustainability (ROOTS):Agritech for Coastal Resiliency.

ROOTS is a community-based initiative designed to address climate and environmental risks, economic disinvestment, food insecurity, and barriers to health and wellbeing through practical, locally grounded solutions. This summer, the team will pilot a community-embedded hydroponic farming system to grow culturally aligned fresh vegetables and herbs for distribution through the Brunswick Housing Authority's food pantry.

When fully funded, ROOTS will also support workforce development through agritech apprenticeships, nutrition and food-as-medicine workshops, and community climate resiliency planning.

At a time when demand for community-centered solutions continues to grow while funding becomes increasingly competitive, support from partners, donors, and community members matters more than ever.

If projects like ROOTS speak to you, we welcome your support, however large or small. Please consider making a donation and become an E2I2 Green Horizon Society member.

What makes ROOTS especially promising is its potential to scale across the region—from housing authorities to schools, faith institutions, and community centers. It represents a practical, community-driven model for addressing interconnected challenges involving environmental justice, food access, health, workforce development, and local resilience.

Thank you for standing with E2I2 and investing in communities working toward healthier, more resilient futures.

With Gratitude,

Louise
Executive Director
Environmental Equity Information Institute [E2I2]

Advancing Environmental Equity through Climate Adaptation

In January, The Climate Smart Communities Initiative (CSCI) added E2I2 as a registered Climate Adaptation Practitioner to their [Registry of Adaptation Practitioners](#).

As a Climate Adaptation Practitioner, we are recognized as a skilled leader to partner with community-based organizations, public education institutions, and municipalities to develop adaptation strategies that follow the 6 Steps to Resilience—a community-led framework for understanding and responding to climate change impacts.



Defining Climate Adaptation

The [Global Center on Climate Adaptation](#) defines **climate adaptation** as “any strategy which takes action to prepare for, and adjust to the current and projected impacts of climate change.”

The 6 Steps to Resilience was formulated in the United States following COP28, where United Nations member-states convened to finalize the [Global Goal on Adaptation Framework](#). This model provides scaffolding for climate resilience initiatives to be tailored within national, regional, and local contexts rather than a one-size fits all approach.



Climate Risks in Georgia, USA

According to the [U.S. Climate Vulnerability Index](#), Georgia ranks fifth most vulnerable to environmental and socioeconomic threats from climate change. However, as we enter the ninth month of the [worst drought on record](#), Georgia remains 1 of 18 states across the country without a state-level, comprehensive climate adaptation plan.



Across the U.S. South, environmental justice communities are responding to inter-dependent challenges exacerbated by legacy pollution, disinvestment, and regional climate change impacts.

Sweeping cuts to federal climate programs adds to climate adaptation resource gaps throughout the state. Public institutions, nonprofit organizations, and government stakeholders still face significant hurdles in the implementation of basic measures that protect community health, food systems, and local economies from climate-driven challenges.

In 2024, Georgia EPD and the Atlanta Regional Commission lost a bid for billions of dollars in federal funding that would have provided substantial support to electrify its public transportation infrastructure, increase availability of renewable energy, and implement multi-pronged strategies to reduce overall carbon emissions.

That same year, Georgia EPD published survey results finding, of existing projects to reduce emissions throughout the state, just 17% of emissions reduction initiatives are fully funded, with half of existing projects underfunded, and over one-third of carbon emissions reduction projects receiving zero funding. Changing climate conditions, like extreme heat, severe drought, and heightened wildfire risk throughout the state, increases risk of harmful exposure to ground-level ozone and other toxic air pollutants.



Climate Adaptation in Georgia

The 2023 [National Climate Assessment](#) (NCA) found that Georgia’s, Black, low income, rural communities are disproportionately impacted by climate-driven challenges, such as increased air pollution, due to historical discrimination and disinvestment. Access to climate adaptation tools is a critical priority for community resiliency, as it discourages widening disparities in access to healthcare, healthy foods, and economic opportunity [Zahnow et al., 2025].

Our work recognizes that people most benefit from climate adaptation strategies that are designed in collaboration with, and for the benefit of, communities most vulnerable to climate threats.

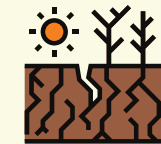
Climate Risks in Georgia: A Snapshot



coastal erosion



coastal and inland flooding



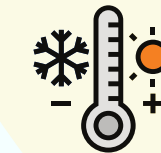
soil degradation and drought



increased wildfire risk



severe extreme weather events



extreme heat and changing growing seasons



Partnering for Community-led Climate Adaptation in Brunswick, Georgia

As we shared in our opening letter, **ROOTS: Agritech for Coastal Resiliency** will ultimately be shaped by community members of six public housing complexes in south Brunswick, Georgia, a historic port city that sits along 100 miles of coastline bordered by inlets, marshland, and barrier islands.

Historic Downtown Brunswick, Georgia



Sustainable, Climate Resilient,
Community-Centered Food Systems

Food security is a climate adaptation priority for many environmental justice communities like Brunswick. Legacy pollution and contaminated soil surrounding these neighborhoods meets coastal erosion and inland flooding from sea level rise, putting more community members at risk of hazardous environmental exposure.

These hazards are then compounded by climate-driven threats to crops and agricultural operations from drought, changing growing seasons, and extreme weather events, necessitating rapid, scalable adaptation measures.

Ebony Tree Farms' hydroponics microgrid system is an ideal solution for people tackling soil pollution challenges, due to its low-cost material setup, indoor-outdoor versatility, and its sustainability.

Alongside providing reliable access to fresh, safe and healthy food, once funded, produce grown with the custom-built agritech systems will be selected according to community priorities and preferences. To maximize benefit, culturally-relevant educational resources for cooking and traditional use of food-as-medicine, is integrated into a broader community vision of climate adaptation and resiliency.

We are proud to partner with Ebony Tree Farms to support their farming operations through data and technical support.



NEW! Our Six Pillars and Our Six Pillars in Action [page 4, 5]



Organizational Partner Highlights, Summer Collaborative Projects, and More [page 6]



Annual Report and Green Horizon Society Recap [page 7]



References for page 2, 3 [page 8]



Solar-powered Air Quality Monitor

Designed by E2I2 and Intellectual Concepts, LLC., Deployed in La Place, Louisiana

July, 2024

OUR SIX PILLARS

1

Climate Adaptation Practitioner



E2I2 is a registered Climate Adaptation Practitioner with the Climate Smart Communities Initiative.

We specialize in helping communities quantify their climate risks and design research-backed, sustainable, community-driven climate resilience solutions.

2

Environmental Data Analysis & Visualization

E2I2 translates climate and environmental data into plain-language reports, interactive dashboards, presentations, and other user-friendly materials that help communities understand pollution levels, climate risks, and health outcomes.

3

Environmental Data Literacy Education & Training

Power Over Pollution [POP] is a multi-module, hands-on training program that increases the capacity of individuals and organizations to understand climate and pollution data, identify local risks, and develop solutions.



4

Community Research & Program Evaluation

We conduct community environmental health assessments to identify immediate risks and concerns, measure long-term impacts of environmental factors on health, safety, and economic stability, and evaluate policies and programs, providing insights that lead to better decision-making and sustainable progress.

5

Sustainable Technology & Technical Support

E2I2 develops custom, smart, sustainable technology to help communities track air, water, and soil pollution, and use data to address environmental challenges. Our solutions include air monitors and community dashboards.

6

Community Engagement & Collaboration

E2I2 creates trust-based partnerships with grassroots organizations, businesses, and local leaders, providing expert guidance on how to use climate and environmental data to inform local policies and initiatives.

When people understand what's in their air, water, and soil, they gain the power to protect it.

At E2I2, we turn environmental data insights into real-world solutions to ensure people have the tools and knowledge to create cleaner, healthier, more sustainable futures through **six programmatic pillars.**

By making environmental information clear, accessible, and actionable, communities can make informed decisions and use data for change.

OUR SIX PILLARS AT WORK

Climate Adaptation Practitioner

Environmental Data Analysis & Visualization

Environmental Data Literacy Education & Training

Community Research & Program Evaluation

Sustainable Technology & Technical Support

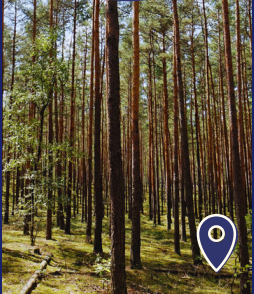
Community Engagement & Collaboration



NATIONWIDE

E2I2 is working with communities throughout the U.S. to analyze data and develop climate resiliency roadmaps targeting urgent climate risks and community priorities using the Climate Smart Communities Initiative's Steps To Resilience Framework.

Mississippi



GLOSTER

For the Dogwood Alliance and Greater Greener Gloster, E2I2 analyzed environmental and health impacts of a biomass wood pellet facility

Texas



STATEWIDE

For Texas Southern University and The Bullard Center for Environmental and Climate Justice, E2I2 analyzed pollution trends and sociodemographic indicators for 86 proposed petrochemical facilities.

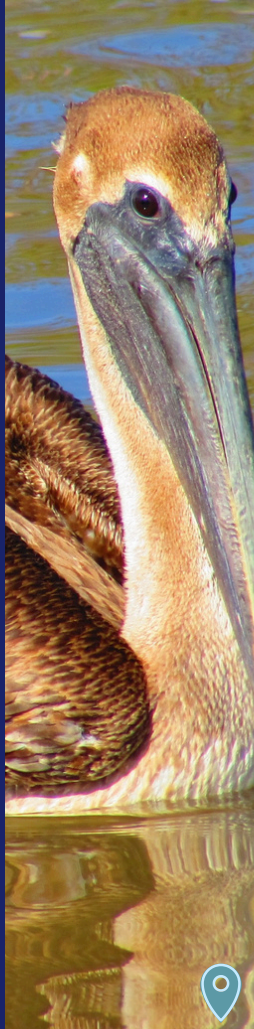
Alabama



WEST ANNISTON

E2I2 is working with the West Anniston Foundation to help conduct a community environmental health assessment and community-science training program.

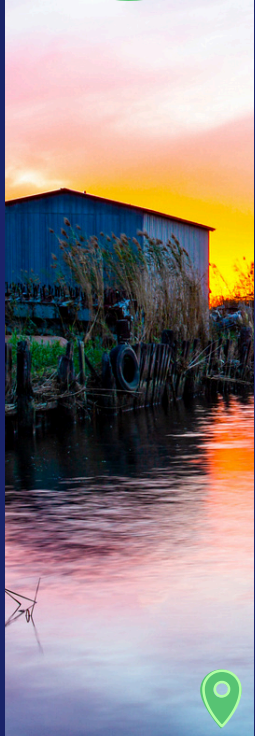
Louisiana



NEW ORLEANS

For the Sankofa Community Development Corporation, E2I2 evaluated a youth environmental education project on 40 acres of revitalized wetlands.

Louisiana



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

For the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, E2I2 and Intellectual Concepts developed prototype customized solar-powered air monitors to collect continuous air quality data.

Georgia



BRUNSWICK

E2I2 is supporting Ebony Tree Farms and the Brunswick Housing Authority to implement a hydroponics farm-to-food pantry and workforce development initiative, including climate resiliency planning.



AUGUSTA

E2I2 is working with Healthy Communities Augusta and Savannah Riverkeeper to analyze environmental, climate, and health data to identify risks & develop community-led solutions.

Organizational Partner Highlights, Summer Collaborative Projects, and More



1 Dr. Krystal Martin, executive director of the KMartin Group and Founder of the Greater Greener Gloster Project, will be featured in the podcast "In Times Like These," an environmental and climate injustice storytelling series by the Anthropocene Alliance (A2). Dr. Martin launched this grassroots collaborative initiative in response to environmental health impacts from a Drax biomass wood pellet manufacturing plant in southwest Mississippi.

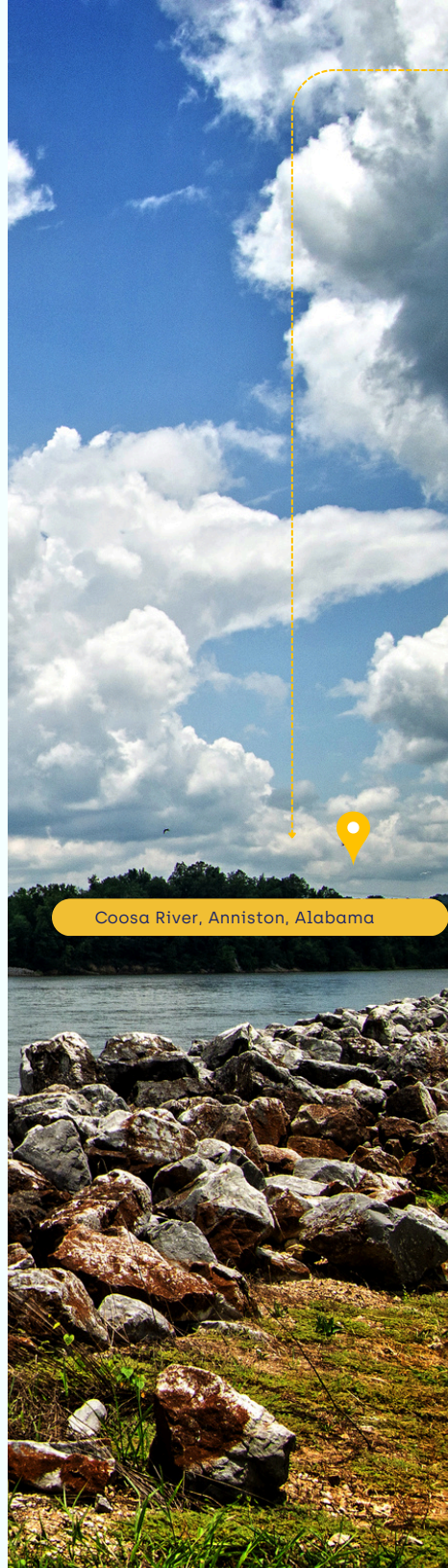
E2I2 is continuing to collaborate with Greater Greener Gloster to access funding to implement robust community-based environmental and health monitoring to fully capture record the impacts of Drax operations on community health and quality of life.

Read our initial data reporting with GridEquity [here](#).

COMMUNITY-CENTERED DATA LITERACY FOR SUSTAINABLE CHANGE IN GEORGIA AND ALABAMA



2 E2I2 is participating as a knowledge expert collaborative project led by Partnership for Southern Equity (PSE), a metro Atlanta-based coalition of local leaders, grassroots organizers, and nonprofit organizations supporting civic action for a more equitable for Georgians and marginalized peoples across the U.S. South.



Coosa River, Anniston, Alabama

3 In continuation of our organizational partnership with the West Anniston Foundation (WAF), the E2I2 team received funding from WAF to develop an environmental data literacy training curriculum as part of YES4EJ. YES4EJ is a project funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

YES4EJ will equip Ambassadors with community science tools, and use participatory learning, to improve understanding of environmental health threats in Anniston, Alabama linked to a Superfund Alternative Site.

WAF is a community-based foundation providing health, educational, and developmental resources to address socioeconomic disparities exacerbated by legacy pollution and decades of toxic environmental exposure to polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and lead.

Together, we are supporting sustainable, long term strategies for community resilience against pollution and climate challenges in West Anniston for a more just environmental future.

ICYMI: OUR 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



In 2025, E2I2 delivered over 2,500 hours of pro bono data and technology support for environmental justice partners in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. For more highlights, sign up to have a copy of the Annual 2025 report sent straight to your inbox, or view it on our website at e2i2.org.

How Our Work is Made Possible

The Green Horizon Society

In 2023, E2I2 launched the Green Horizon Society, our individual giving campaign to support our mission to advance environmental equity through expanding access to community level, actionable data. During the first six months of our campaign, we invited donors to become members of our Founders' Circle.

We are deeply honored that the following individuals chose to become founding members of the Green Horizon Society:

Andria Bellman
Ann Curry
Audrey Schmidt-Davis
Babafemi Adesanya
Crystal Holland
DeLois Babiker
Grace Shickler
Holly Schmidt-Davis
Joseph Wagner

Kathleen Kirkpatrick
Kristina Murphy
Lisa Olshanski
Liz Carr
Louise Palmer
Parul Benders
Patricia Fertig
Sharon Marshall
Silke Shilling



An Update on Vision 2030

Green Horizon Society members have raised over \$1,500 in matching funds to support our five-year strategic plan—Vision 2030. Vision 2030 is our multi-pronged strategy for creating the infrastructure needed to protect access to community-level environmental and climate information against

We are still seeking donors to support Vision 2030. If you would like to join the Green Horizon Society through a matching contribution Please reach out to our Development Manager, Monai Tripp, or make a sustaining gift directly by visiting our page.

[Stay Connected With Us](#)

@e2i2org



The E2I2 Team would like to thank the following partnered nonprofit organizations, research institutions, public agencies, and philanthropic supporters, for their contributions toward a healthier, more sustainable environmental future.



Platinum
Transparency
2026

Candid.

The Environmental Equity Information Institute (E2I2) is a qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization [EIN: 54-1887911].

Grants and donations are fully deductible for tax purposes as permitted by law.

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