

Exchange Network Forum

Thursday, August 8, 2024

1:00 – 2:00 PM ET

Welcome

Cathy McGuire, EPA Office of Information Management (OIM), Office of Mission Support (OMS)

- Cathy McGuire welcomed participants to the meeting and noted that the format is designed to be an open meeting to encourage interaction between participants.
- The meeting materials, including the summaries from the Forum meetings are available on the [Exchange Network website](#).
- Cathy reviewed the agenda:
 - Environmental Information & Innovation (E2i) National Meeting
 - Tribal Exchange Network Conference
 - Central Data Exchange and Login.gov
 - Open Forum
- Cathy introduced herself as the Branch Manager for OIM's Data Interoperability Partnership Branch (DIPB). DIPB leads the Exchange Network Reinvigoration as well as the new OIM Customer Engagement Program.

Environmental Information & Innovation (E2i) National Meeting

Eric Cleckler, Alabama Department of Environmental Management

- The E2i National meeting will be in Kansas City, MO, September 17-19, 2024 at the [Westin Kansas City at Crown Center](#).
- The line up of speakers includes EPA's Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe, the Region 7 Administrator Meg McCollister, EPA CIO Vaughn Noga, and former head of DC Water George Hawkins.
- If you intended on staying at the Westin, you must [make your reservation online](#) before the room block closes on **Monday, August 26, 2024 at 5:00 PM Central**.
- The E2i agenda is nearly finalized and available at www.e2imeeting.net. There are several tracks each day, organized by the meeting themes, which are Reinvigorate, Collaborate and Innovate. An application called Whova is being used to organize sessions and will be used as a meeting application that you can use to plan which sessions to attend.

- If you are an attendee from a state or territorial environmental agency, you may be eligible for reimbursement of travel expenses. Please visit the [Travel section](#) of the E2i website for details.
- For those at EPA, the Office of Information Management has a conference code that Alex O’Neill messaged out over the past month. EPA staff will need this conference code for travel forms. Alex is also organizing a group Form SF-182 for EPA staff, so you should have received that as well. If you have not, please message Alex at oneill.alexander@epa.gov.

Tribal Exchange Network Conference

Lydia Sheer, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals

- The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals and the Tribal Exchange Network Group (TXG) will host the Tribal Exchange Network Conference (TENC) in Spokane, WA, October 16-17, 2024.
- This conference is designed for Tribal communities to connect with colleagues across the country as we expand Tribal capacity for environmental data sharing, management and analysis.
- This year’s theme is Tribal Data: Sharing Stories, Supporting the Future.
- To learn more, reach out to Lydia Sheer at lydia.scheer@nau.edu.
- The Conference will have hybrid sessions, exhibits and networking events and interactive workshops.

Central Data Exchange & Login.gov

Obi Obioha, EPA Office of Information Management (OIM), Office of Mission Support (OMS)

- Due to an unforeseen non-technical issue, the Central Data Exchange’s (CDX) production integration with Login.gov scheduled for August 2, 2024 was postponed. Deployment will be rescheduled in the coming weeks.
- Integration with Login.gov supports phishing resistant Multifactor Authentication (MFA).
- If you have any specific questions or concerns about how this delay may affect your program, please contact Joe Carioti at Carioti.joe@epa.gov. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we work to overcome this unexpected setback.

Open Forum

- Q: Does the Navajo Nation frequently participate in the Tribal Exchange Network? I’m curious because your headquarters is in Flagstaff, and I have had some academic connection to the environmental research on the Navajo Reservation.

- A: The Navajo Nation has not been a recent recipient of the Tribal Exchange Network's Grant Program. However, the Navajo Nation has had representatives at some of the meetings and conferences hosted by the TXG.
- Q: Any anticipation on when you might have a decision on the latest Tribal Exchange Network grant applications?
 - A: Our selection decision is being reviewed by management. Decisions should be available in the next two weeks.
- Q: I currently have a Tribal EPA exchange grant and am wanting more info on reporting requirements?
 - A: You can reach out to Erin McGown at mcgown.erin@epa.gov. You can also reach out to your Regional Exchange Network Coordinator (RENC). A list of RENCs are available at this link: <https://www.epa.gov/exchangenetwork/forms/contact-us-about-environmental-information-exchange-network>
- Q: I applied to speak at E2i, but I have not received a response. Does this mean that my talk was not accepted?
 - A: Michelle has been accepted as a speaker, and the E2i tri-chairs will be sending selected conference speakers more information soon.