



# ACLS Leading Edge Fellowship

<b>Position Title:</b>	Data Inclusion Specialist
<b>Organization:</b>	Open Environmental Data Project
<b>Location:</b>	Remote
<b>Stipend:</b>	\$66,000 in year one, \$70,000 in year two, a monthly health coverage stipend, and \$3,500 per year in professional development funding
<b>Start Date:</b>	September 2023

## ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

The [Open Environmental Data Project](#) (OEDP) envisions a world where environmental and climate data play a more significant role in collaborative and participatory systems that help us better manage and protect our environmental health. We build spaces to grow the global conversation on environmental data access and use with the aim of increasing the flow of usable information between communities, researchers, lawmakers, and enactors seeking to actively address environmental and climate injustices that impact the quality of life and health of our communities. OEDP builds socio-technical systems through research, policy, and future narrative creation; technical systems redesign; pilots and prototypes; and modeling collective environmental and climate governance. We also develop workshops, playbooks, and curricula to guide government, scientists, and communities in creating cooperative data ecosystems.

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

At Open Environmental Data Project, the ACLS Leading Edge Fellow would take on the role of Data Inclusion Specialist to help improve and sustain OEDP's data collection and stewardship processes. OEDP centers the creation of inclusive socio-technical systems that value and highlight multiple forms of data. We do this to address how current systems perpetuate injustice, ensuring that information gathered in communities is (i) usable throughout our governance structures, (ii) that communities and researchers can use other forms of scientific data, and (iii) that communities are equitably represented in scientific data and regulatory information flows. While these systems by and large include quantitative information, our work is deeply qualitative in nature, integrating local experience, history, and geography. Supervised by the Director of Policy Initiatives, the Fellow will work across our Research and Policy programs to apply nuances in the collection, discovery, access, use, interpretation, and inclusion of diverse environmental data in our governance systems.

Our work with community data stewardship models articulates governance approaches and sociotechnical systems for data-sharing among communities and between communities and government. OEDP supports communities in making collective decisions about their own data. The Fellow will conduct research to help design data stewardship initiatives alongside our team and partners. Their work will improve understanding, at OEDP and in our broader networks, of how different actors, sectors, and communities collect, find, interpret, use, and share environmental data. Their research will inform the design of data ecosystems and tools that are more accessible, inclusive, and representative of community knowledge—for example the EPA's approach for sharing regulatory data and integrating community data in its decisions or research, or policy and training resources for community-oriented environmental researchers.

The Fellow will also support OEDP in applying robust impact evaluation processes and stronger accountability mechanisms to our policy work to inform programmatic strategy. They will gain relevant experience and contacts in fields like data stewardship and governance; environmental justice and policy; environmental, climate, and science and technology policy; and the growing movements for open science and government, supporting translation and collaboration between diverse groups and sectors.

This position is *only* available through the Leading Edge Fellowship program.  
You may *not* contact the host institution to inquire about this position.

The fellowship tenure is 24 consecutive months, with an expected time commitment of approximately 37.5 hours per week.

### Responsibilities and Tasks:

- Take an ethnographic approach to understand and articulate the needs and capacities of different seekers and users of data related to environmental health and climate change for the [Beyond Compliance Network](#). The Fellow will collect and synthesize information from interviews, focus groups, and/or workshops with environmental scientists, community organizations, and regulatory agency staff. They will lead or support the development of articles, briefs, and design prototypes for novel, updated, and/or scaled approaches to data integration and application, in addition to supporting coalition building efforts to advance the broad use of these approaches.
- Work with the [SEEKCommons](#) team to organize network convenings, design a fellowship program for students, and co-create and curate curricular and guidance resources for SEEKCommons. Specific deliverables the Fellow will support include annual in-person convenings and bi-monthly community calls, a resource library, training and workshop curriculum, and research or communications outputs from SEEKCommons fellows. Time permitting, the Fellow might pursue relevant research questions, for example, conducting a landscape assessment for environmental data labels.
- As part of our [Research & Policy Initiatives](#), the Fellow will create and pilot processes and metrics to evaluate and advance the impact of our policy programs and resources on the environmental policy and governance landscape. This might include researching or developing processes for tracking the collection, discovery, access, use, interpretation, and inclusion of diverse environmental data in the context of US environmental governance systems.

### Qualifications:

- PhD in any field of the humanities or humanistic social sciences. More about eligible fields [here](#).
- Experience applying ethnographic or oral history approaches to understanding individuals, groups, and social phenomena.
- Alignment with OEDP's [mission](#) and [values](#).
- Excellent writing and interpersonal communication skills.
- Mindfulness of cultural differences, power dynamics, and diverse ways of knowing.
- Extensive experience in quantitative data analysis is not necessary for this position, but rather an interest in understanding the social life of that data.
- Willingness to work in collaborative and agile environments, as well as independently.
- Strong organizational skills.

#### *Preferred:*

- Interest and background in environmental and climate justice, preferably with an understanding of, or interest in, open science and data.

### APPLICATIONS

- Information on the Leading Edge Fellowship Program: <https://www.acls.org/Competitions-and-Deadlines/Leading-Edge-Fellowships>
- All applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application System (ofa.acls.org)
- Application deadline: 9:00pm EDT, March 15, 2023.

This position is *only* available through the Leading Edge Fellowship program.  
You may *not* contact the host institution to inquire about this position.