CLean & Inclusive Manufacturing Advanced Training Ecosystem (CLIMATE)

The Mission

The manufacturing industry contributes approximately 25% of total US greenhouse gas emissions, necessitating a shift to clean energy manufacturing for the nation to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. However, this transition is hindered by skill gaps, increased demand from reshoring, and a shortage in the existing manufacturing workforce. There is a lack of a platform for scalable practices in clean energy manufacturing and workforce integration. The proposed initiative aims to address these challenges.
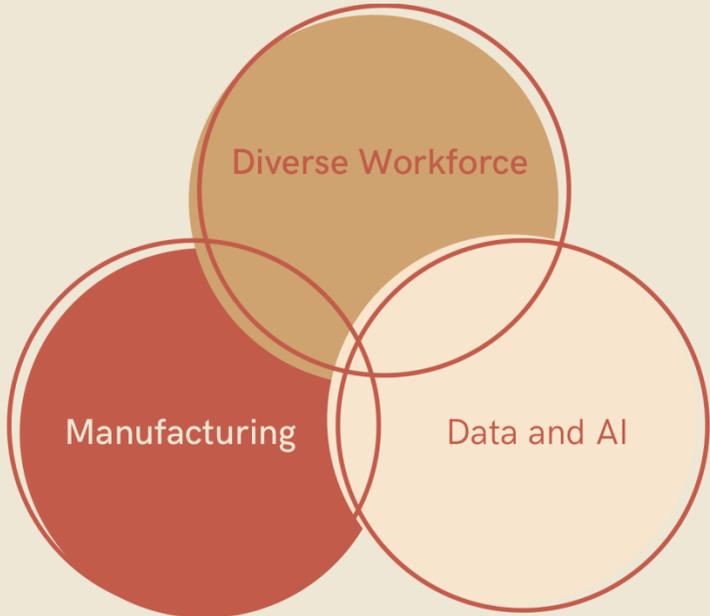
CLIMATE will leverage its community partners in disadvantaged Justice 40 counties and collaborate with experts from various sectors. The plan involves a three-phase approach: convening a Partnership Forum, awarding Partnership Seed Grants, and the supporting Ecosystem Impact Award. This strategy has proven successful in establishing self-sustaining ecosystems in other contexts.

The team will focus on engaging underserved communities, promoting environmental justice, and creating strong ties between the Department of Energy (DOE) and community partners. The ultimate goal is to fortify advanced digital manufacturing ecosystems, fostering a smooth transition from communities to the workforce and advancing clean energy practices. The initiative will serve both jobseekers and employers, positioning workforce development as an economic development engine.

The team, comprising IMANI Network, Engineering Change, and the Georgia Tech - South Big Data Innovation Hub, brings diverse expertise in community engagement, workforce development, clean energy manufacturing, and data/AI. CLIMATE is well-positioned to convene stakeholders from government, industry, academia, and community-based organizations to accelerate the adoption of innovative materials and manufacturing technologies for a clean, decarbonized economy which includes historically underserved communities.

The Plan

Partnership Forum

Diverse Workforce

Manufacturing

Data and AI

Partnership Seed Grants

10 Partnerships

4 Disadvantaged Communities

1 Million People

Chicago - Cook County • Detroit - Wayne County
Baltimore - Baltimore City • Atlanta - Fulton County

The Team

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