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# science in ACTION

INNOVATIVE RESEARCH FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

## REGIONAL SCIENCE LIAISONS

The Regional Science Liaisons (RSLs) are the primary link between Office of Research and Development's (ORD) research programs and the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) regional offices. The RSLs are regional scientists supported by ORD's Office of Science Policy (OSP). One RSL is located in each of the 10 regional offices.

This team of 10 scientists builds networks and partnerships between regional offices and ORD scientists. By being in close communication with regional management and technical staff, the RSLs are uniquely situated to identify ORD research that can impact high-priority regional policy and regulatory actions with state-of-the-art science. They strive to ensure the impact of ORD science in environmental decision-making through technology transfer and delivery of ORD research results, models, and tools to their Regions.

### RSL Responsibilities

#### ORD Science Communication

RSLs facilitate the communication and transfer of ORD's products to regional offices, state partners, local agencies, and tribal programs through venues such as regional demonstration projects, training courses, and seminars.

#### ORD Research Planning

RSLs communicate high-priority regional research needs and issues to ORD's National Program Directors to support development of strategic research plans.

#### RARE and R2P2

The Regional Applied Research Effort (RARE) program responds to high-priority, near-term research needs of EPA's regional offices. The Regional Research Partnership Program (R2P2) provides an opportunity for regional scientists to work directly with ORD science mentors.

At the regional level, RSLs manage these programs by coordinating proposal solicitation, funding activities, and project development. RSLs also create opportunities for collaboration between staff in regional offices and ORD. When the projects are completed, RSLs communicate the impacts that the results have had in the regions.

#### Regional Science Workshops

OSP sponsors the Regional Science Workshop series. Each year, the RSLs select high-priority, cross-regional science topics for workshops. The RSLs take an active leadership role to plan and conduct these workshops in collaboration with ORD and Program Offices.

#### Diverse Range of Technical Support

The RSLs coordinate a wide range of ORD technical support for regional staff. This support includes activities such as informal discussions, responses to technical questions, ongoing project participation, demonstration projects, and training.

**For more information,  
visit us on the Web:**

[http://www2.epa.gov/research/  
fact-sheets-regional-science](http://www2.epa.gov/research/fact-sheets-regional-science)

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