

PE8 Action: Green Vendor Fairs



A. Why is this action important?

Organizing and holding a green vendor fair provides a great opportunity for local green vendors to market themselves to the community, network with each other, and educate community members about green products and services available. Supporting green vendors will support a shift to a local green economy.

B. How to implement this action

A green vendor fair can be a standalone event, or something a local government may want to do in conjunction with other environmental events, or with other regional events, or other local government partners. Depending on the size of the community and the resources available to plan the event, local governments should determine the most appropriate approach to hosting the event. Local governments will likely want to collaborate with community partners with shared objectives around promoting a green economy, and leverage the partner's resources to plan and execute the event.

Local governments will must identify and recruit vendors for the event, find a date and location for the event, and promote the event to the public. It is recommended to maintain a database of green vendors and make this information available to the public and to government contractors.

C. Time frame, project costs, and resource needs

Preparing for a green vendor fair can take four to eight months, depending on the size of the fair, availability of venues, etc. Local governments can minimize costs for the event by using a government owned building for the fair and partnering with other organizations to plan and host the event. Local governments may also consider charging a fee to vendors to participate, which can offset the costs and possibly earn revenue for the community.

D. Which local governments implement this action? Which departments within the local government are most likely to have responsibility for this?

This action is applicable to any local government. It could be organized by a variety of departments, councils, or committees, such as the planning, public works, or sanitation department, a sustainability committee, an environmental committee, town council, or others. It may also be worth considering partnering with a local non-profit, the local chamber of commerce, or other neighboring jurisdictions.

E. How to obtain points for this action

Points for this Climate Smart Communities (CSC) action are earned by hosting at least one green vendor fair or environmental fair per year where green vendors are invited to participate and market their goods and services.

F. What to submit

Submit copies of event posters or advertisements, a list of vendors in attendance, local government departments or staff members in attendance, and an estimated number of attendees. Local governments must demonstrate that the green vendor fair occurred within one year prior to the application date.

All CSC action documentation is available for public viewing after an action is approved. Action submittals should not

include any information or documents that are not intended to be viewed by the public.

G. Links to additional resources or best practices

• Boston, MA, GreenFest

H. Recertification requirements

The recertification requirements are the same as the initial certification requirements.