

Sample Project Ideas for the Regulated Community

1. Sector-specific compliance training workshops

- Host workshops for metal finishers, auto maintenance garages, or agricultural-based businesses to explain relevant air, water, or waste regulations, permitting, monitoring, and best practices.
- Provide “toolkit” materials (slide sets, checklists, fact sheets) so participants can apply lessons in their own facilities.

2. Online self-paced module and certificate program

- Develop e-learning modules (videos, quizzes, case studies) explaining regulatory topics (e.g., stormwater management, air permitting, spill prevention, hazardous waste management).
- Offer completion certificates or badges to incentivize participation.

3. Peer-to-peer “best practices” exchange or benchmarking network

- Set up a program for companies in a regulated sector to share environmental practices (e.g., waste reduction, energy efficiency, water reuse).
- Organize site visits among the group culminating with symposium or webinar to summarize and share highlights.

4. Regulatory outreach campaign

- Engage with industrial parks or trade associations to host brief “lunch-and-learn” sessions covering compliance trends, emerging rules, and resources.
- Supplement with printed materials or an interactive web portal tailored to that industrial sector.

5. “Green supply chain” education program

- Work with a major manufacturer (or trade association) to educate suppliers on environmental practices (waste, emissions, material substitution, water conservation) so the entire supply chain becomes more sustainable and environmentally compliant.
- Develop tracking mechanisms and incentives for suppliers that reach specific reduction or conservation goals.

6. Technical assistance series

- Host monthly/quarterly drop-in sessions, where regulated businesses can bring their compliance problems or questions (e.g., stormwater permit issues, emissions control, hazardous waste) For troubleshooting by subject matter experts.
- Sessions could include case studies (with participant permission) and publish anonymized lessons learned.

7. Demonstration project and facility tours

- Fund a pilot demonstration at a willing facility (for example, installing a new pollution-control device or water reuse system) and then host tours or open houses for other regulated community members to see it in action.
- Document performance data, cost, payback, and lessons learned, disseminated via webinars, briefs, and infographics.

8. Sector-specific compliance “quick guides” or pocket reference tools

- Publish a series of short, illustrated pocket guides or mobile-app quick references for specific regulated sectors (e.g., “Metal Finishing Best Practices,” “Small Manufacturer Stormwater Guide,” etc.).
- Include decision trees, regulatory thresholds, contact points, and definitions.

9. “Train-the-trainer” for environmental health and safety (EHS) professionals

- For a trade association or multi-site business, educate EHS staff to cascade training to their member companies or branch locations.
- Provide curriculum, presentation materials, evaluation tools.

10. Community and stakeholder engagement programs tied to regulated operations

- Develop an outreach program for communities near a regulated facility explaining what it does, compliance efforts, emission controls, and safety precautions.
- Could include open-house events, facility tours for community leaders, interactive maps, and brochures.

11. Data transparency dashboards and education

- Create a public-facing or sector-specific dashboard that shows compliance metrics, emissions, trends, etc., for regulated entities (anonymized or aggregated) and educational content on interpreting the data.
- Accompany with webinars or workshops to help regulated businesses understand how they compare and where to improve.

12. Environmental literacy for new or small regulated businesses

- Provide “101” training, mentorship, and resources to help new or small businesses navigate permitting, compliance, and sustainable practices.
- Develop a new business environmental toolkit to assist businesses with common environmental compliance challenges.

13. Cross-sector “green certification” or voluntary program

- Develop a voluntary certification or recognition program for businesses based on environmental best practices.
- Regulated businesses can apply, receive training, audits, and use the certification in marketing.

14. Sector advisory group or stakeholder forum

- Set up a periodic forum (in-person or virtual) for EHS professionals in different sectors to share challenges, upcoming rule changes, innovation, and cooperative solutions.
- Produce white papers or recommendations from the forum.

15. Interactive simulation for decision-makers

- Create a web-based or in-person simulation where executives or compliance managers “make decisions” (capital investments, process changes, compliance choices) under budget constraints to evaluate the environmental and regulatory consequences.
- Develop it as a training tool in workshops.