

Forum on Democracy and Trade

(Brooklyn, NY)

General Support**Total Award: \$100,000 over 1 year**

To provide general support to the Forum on Democracy and Trade which works to safeguard local decision-making authority against the encroaching power of international trade agreements and institutions. The Forum works at state and local levels to connect public officials to these debates and to educate them about the ways in which trade and globalization pose a threat to democratic systems and American federalism. The Forum is developing several working groups made up of public officials that will work in several areas of public policy, including trade and investment rules in relation to 1) essential services (water and energy); 2) advancing investment at state/local levels in renewable energy technologies and smart-growth solutions; 3) increasing attention to the impact of trade rules on agriculture and health care provision; and 4) curbing the power of investment provisions found within the trade agreements to limit the economic development, environmental protection, and social benefit options of state and local governments. The Forum will work closely with state legislators and other public officials-through outreach in state capitals and targeted municipalities, as well as through the national associations that represent state and local interests in Washington.

Program Contribution Breakdown:**\$50,000** Environment Program: *Objective I, Strategy 1***\$50,000** Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice: *Objectives I & II*