

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROJECT

DEFENDING PUBLIC HEALTH SINCE 2012

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Press Release

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EHP Executive Director Steele Selected for 2024 Indo-Pacific Leadership Lab

PITTSBURGH, PA, January 4, 2024 – Environmental Health Project Executive Director **Alison L. Steele** has been selected to participate in the [2024 Indo-Pacific Leadership Lab](#) as a member of the inaugural cohort of an international leadership-development initiative, with a current year focus on “Climate Change and Adaptation.”

A program of the [East-West Center](#), with support from the [Japan Foundation](#), the Indo-Pacific Leadership Lab invites rising leaders from diverse sectors—academia, civil society, nonprofit, business, and government—who want to deepen their leadership practice and increase their impact. A total of [16 leaders](#) from 12 countries are participating in this year’s initiative.

As outlined by the initiative: “Together, leaders will critically examine current responses to the issue and explore community approaches and their connections to local and regional policy. They will identify critical gaps and explore and test responses in their home communities, with guidance from community leaders, topic experts, and leadership mentors.”

Said Steele: “I’m excited and honored to be chosen to participate in the 2024 Indo-Pacific Leadership Lab. Climate change affects everyone on this planet, with some experiencing disproportionate impacts, depending on where they live. Hailing from a region with a legacy of fossil fuel extraction, I’m looking forward to sharing the environmental health perspective EHP has developed over the past decade while also learning from other leaders. Sharing innovative approaches, best practices, and lessons learned across cultures will help us all strengthen our own work in the future. Helping communities adapt to climate shifts caused by oil and gas pollution, while also mitigating future climate change

and public health impacts from the fossil fuel industry, is central to our work both at home and worldwide.”

Steele is happy to be working with leaders from around the globe, including those from the Pacific Rim, where she spent considerable time working and traveling in the past. For two years she taught English in Fukushima Prefecture as a member of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme. The Indo-Pacific Leadership Lab initiative includes paid travel to Pacific Rim locations to meet with other leaders in person as well as online conferencing.

Through this leadership opportunity, Steele hopes to utilize her science, business, and international experience to help organizations and individuals reduce their environmental impacts through more responsible resource use, thereby better safeguarding our global community now and for future generations.

About Alison L. Steele

[Alison L. Steele](#) is the executive director of the Environmental Health Project, a public health nonprofit based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, that advocates for health-protective public policy in the face of oil and gas development. Steele earned her bachelor’s degree in physics and her master’s in business administration, with a focus on sustainable business practices, studying sustainability principles and applications on multiple continents. During her professional career, she has addressed various issues related to energy and the built environment, and she has worked to mitigate adverse public health and climate impacts through multiple angles including the implementation of energy efficiency measures in buildings and adoption of stronger policy-based protections at various levels of government.

About the Environmental Health Project

The [Environmental Health Project](#) (EHP) is a nonprofit public health organization that defends public health in the face of shale gas development. EHP provides frontline communities with timely monitoring, interpretation, and guidance while engaging diverse stakeholders: health professionals, researchers, community organizers, public servants, and others.

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