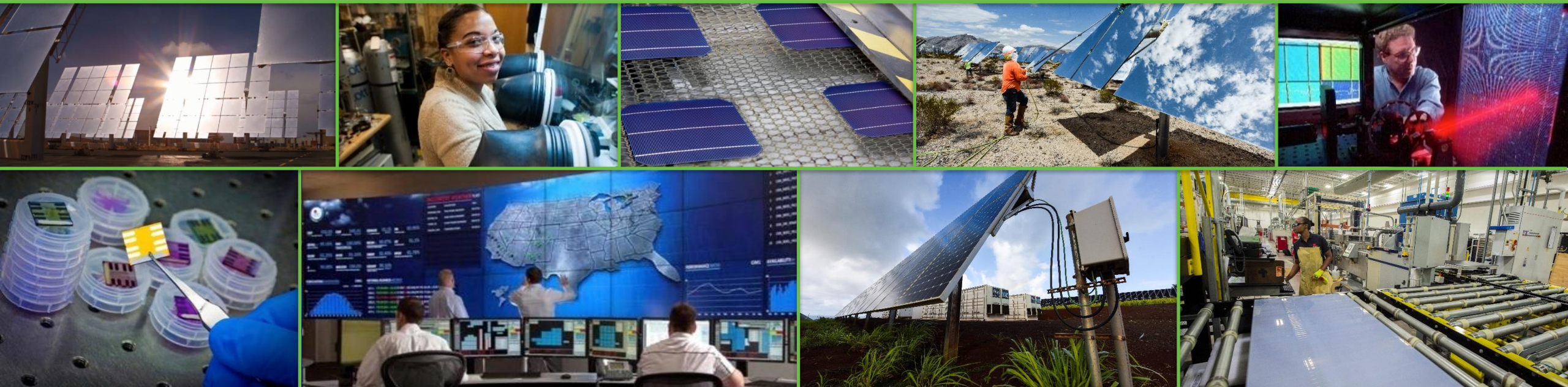


Equitable Solar Communities of Practice

Objective Strategic Session: Lead Organization Application

U.S. Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office
November 15, 2023



Agenda

- 1** **Introductions**

- 2** **How it WERX & Timeline**

- 3** **Equitable Solar Communities of Practice Program**

- 4** **Application Overview & Materials**

- 5** **Open Forum Q&A**

Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) Overview

MISSION

We accelerate the **advancement** and **deployment of solar technology** in support of an **equitable** transition to a **decarbonized economy no later than 2050**, starting with a decarbonized power sector by 2035.

WHAT WE DO

Drive innovation in technology and soft cost reduction to make solar **affordable** and **accessible** for all Americans

Enable solar to support the **reliability, resilience, and security** of the grid

Support **job growth, manufacturing, and the circular economy** in a wide range of applications



Workforce & Equitable Access Team

- Create a more equitable clean energy future by addressing the barriers that low- and moderate-income households face in accessing the benefits of solar through **innovations in financing**, and **equitable solar development**
- Support efforts to **prepare and sustain a skilled and diverse clean energy workforce** with jobs accessible to workers from all backgrounds, that provide competitive wages and benefits, and offer opportunities for union membership.

= People

Project Goals

Develop a **stakeholder-led** process to:

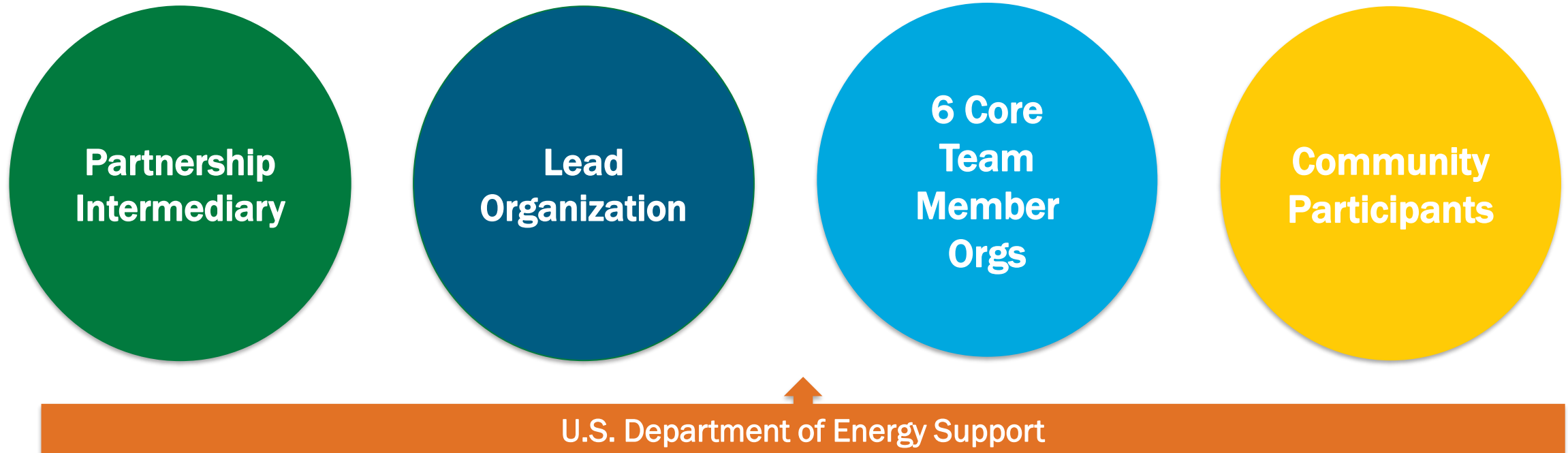
- Analyze and identify gaps in existing resources
- Identify and highlight leading practices, and
- Propose pathways to scale...

...the delivery of meaningful benefits across all **equitable solar projects**, including

- Community solar
- Low-income residential solar
- Other types of distributed solar + storage located in or serving low-income or disadvantaged communities

What is a Community of Practice?

- A group of people or organizations with shared interest or expertise that meet regularly to share best practices and creating new knowledge to advance a domain of professional practice¹
- Each community of practice will be composed of the following participants:

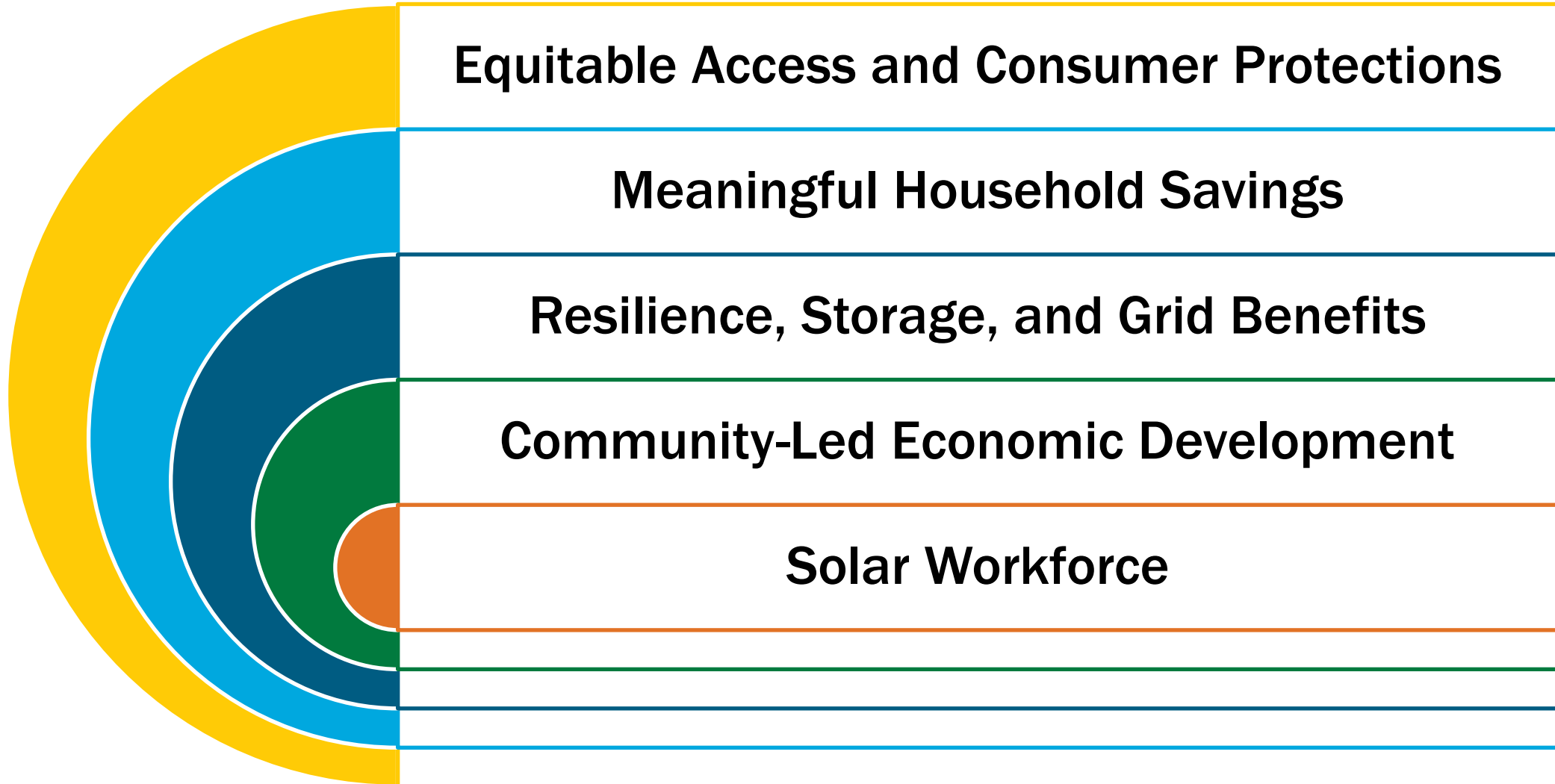


(1) Community of Practice Definition: <https://www.communityofpractice.ca/>

Community of Practice Participants

Partnership Intermediary	Lead Organization	Core Team Participant	Community Participant
ENERGYWERX	TBD: RFP	TBD: Nomination	Open
Oversees all administrative functions, recruitment, payments to lead organizations	Up to 5 organizations Responsible for recruiting core team participants & managing convenings & deliverables	Up to 30 organizations (6 per CoP) Responsible for leveraging expertise to inform deliverables, attending convenings	No limit Opportunity to attend community convenings, provide feedback on deliverables, & strategy

Five Communities of Practice



Five Communities of Practice

Target Benefit	Description
Equitable Access and Consumer Protections	Contract terms that support strong consumer protections for low-income households, availability of financial products to support installation/participation among all households, and inclusive outreach
Meaningful Household Savings	Guaranteed bill and/or household savings, wealth building opportunities, and other benefits such as tenant benefits provided to residents in master-metered buildings beyond those provided prior to solar being utilized
Resilience, Storage, & Grid Benefits	household- and community-level resilience, grid strengthening and grid-level resilience, and improved health outcomes through reduced or shortened power outages
Community-led Economic Development	Opportunities for community ownership, community benefits agreements, entrepreneurship, and increased support for local-, small-, minority-, and women-owned businesses, and community participation in project or program design
Solar Workforce	Policies that ensure jobs are accessible to workers from all backgrounds, provide competitive wages and benefits, and offer opportunities for union membership as well as programs that prepare and sustain a skilled and diverse clean energy workforce such as online and in-person training and education programs, work-based learning opportunities such as internships and apprenticeships, collegiate competitions, certification programs, and support services such as career counseling, mentorship, and job readiness

Timeline and Activities

Months	Activities	Deliverables
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recruit & onboard up to 6 Core Team participating organizationsIdentify strategy for completing deliverablesParticipate in kick off meeting for community of practice leads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hold Core Team kickoff meetingDevelop Core Team strategySchedule ongoing Core Team meetings
2-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hold monthly convening with Core Team participantsConduct literature review and gap analysis for target meaningful benefitBegin to identify any targets or milestones for scaling target meaningful benefitPlan community convening with Community Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Summary of literature review research and key takeaways in the form of a slide deck to share with SETO and other community of practice leads

Timeline and Activities (continued)

Months	Activities	Deliverables
4-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold community-wide convening • Hold monthly convening with Core Team participants • Finalize industry best practices and scalable models for delivering target meaningful benefit • Draft report of leading practices related to the meaningful benefit category 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short report or slide deck on lessons learned from community convening • Complete report and provide a presentation to SETO team on best practices share with SETO and other community of practice leads
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold monthly convening with Core Team participants • Aggregate data and feedback gathered and propose pathway to scale to DOE • Attend and present at in-person conference in summer 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share summary of key needs and/or proposal of resources, tools, or other next steps to scale the target benefit in the form of a report or slide deck

Equitable Solar Communities of Practice Lead Organization Application

Who should apply to be a Lead Organization?

Competitive applicants will have:

- Expert-level subject matter knowledge in target benefit(s)
- Regional or national scope or experience
- Knowledge of and relationships with local or regional organizations with expertise in target benefit(s)
- Strong capabilities in facilitation, project management, and research and analysis

Why Apply?

Community of Practice leads will

- Be key conveners and facilitators of expert organizations to inform how to scale the benefits equitable solar
- Have the opportunity to present findings from research and stakeholder convenings publicly
- Have the opportunity to work closely with the Department of Energy and other federal partners to help identify additional opportunities to scale equitable solar nationally

Application Sections Overview

- 1 Eligibility criteria & organization information
- 2 Capabilities Assessment
- 3 Appendix Materials

Eligibility criteria & organization information

Lead organizations must:

- Be based in the United States or its territories

Additional organization information:

- Organization size/capacity
- Organization scope
- Lead contact information
- Organization webpage

Includes three sections:

1. Organizational Expertise & Alignment
 - History working in target benefit(s) field, specific expertise, mission and values alignment
2. Industry Knowledge & Leadership
 - Knowledge of critical challenges facing target benefit(s) and experience leading diverse coalitions
3. Organizational Core Capabilities and Capacity
 - Facilitation, project management, collaboration, research and analysis experience

Suggested maximum of 1,500 words, submitted as a single PDF

Applicants are encouraged to share resume(s) of staff member(s) proposed to lead or support the completion of deliverables

- Please submit as a single PDF, included in the same file as the capabilities assessment

Open Forum Q&A

Next Steps

START YOUR APPLICATION:

<https://energywerx.submittable.com/submit/ff8c3434-ea96-47a4-bc34-7081f830a95b/doe-ncsp-equitable-solar-communities-of-practice>

ATTEND OFFICE HOURS:

<https://energywerx.wufoo.com/forms/q1asvi3b09zfg11/>

KEY DATES:

Applications are due Friday, December 8th at 5:00 p.m. (Eastern)

QUESTIONS: info@energywerx.org