# **NSF ENGINES** INAUGURAL AWARDS

# NSF's Regional Innovation Engines

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#### 1. Overview of the NSF Engines program

2. Introducing the NSF Engines



# **Expanding the Geography of Innovation**

#### **NSF Goals:**

Catalyze and accelerate regional-scale, R&Dbased innovation ecosystems throughout the U.S.

Investment in NSF Engines will:

- Advance critical technologies
- Address societal challenges
- Promote economic growth
- Enable job creation
- Cultivate regional talent

Award regions up to \$160 M (per awardee), 10 years.

Create a diverse portfolio of regions and technology areas spanning the nation.

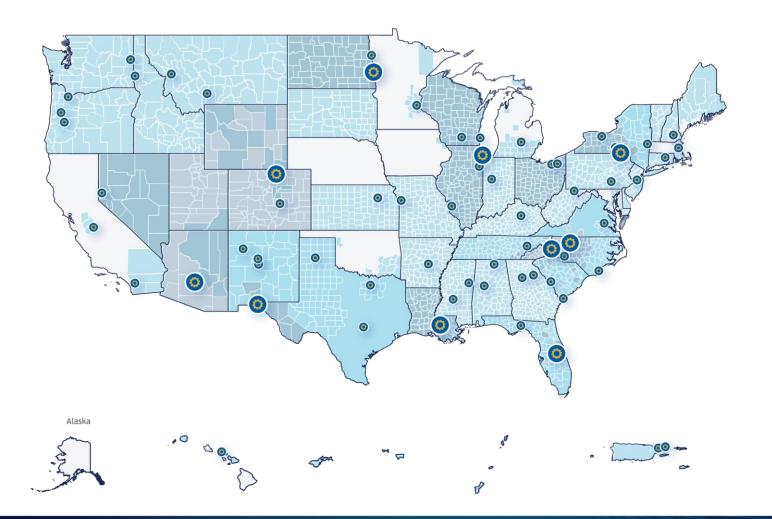
Launch one of the largest regional innovation ecosystem building efforts in the history of federal government (up to ~\$1.6 B over 10 years).



# **NSF is Making History**

NSF Engines awards represent:

- Up to \$1.6 billion over a decade
- 450+ partners across sectors
- 18 states across 10 regions
- 2:1 matched investment from public and private sectors.
- Catalyzing America's innovation economy in all corners of the country





# **By The Numbers**



Concept outlines submitted



**10** NSF Engines Inaugural Awards





Key technology areas from the CHIPS & Science Act represented in the portfolio



Organizations partnering with NSF Engines Awardees **2:1**+ Match of NSF funds from corporate, philanthropic, and government sources.



**40%** First time NSF Engine awardees

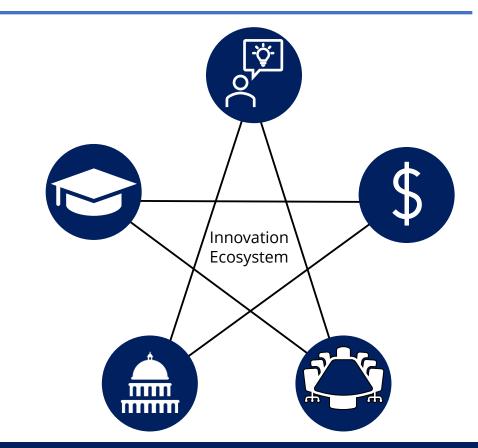
# **Theory of Change**

# How do we build vibrant regional innovation ecosystems?

Interconnected set of cross-sector stakeholders in a **<u>specific region of service</u>** working cohesively to:

- connect assets
- expand economic opportunity
- cultivate regional talent
- drive national competitiveness in topic area

**Flywheel effect;** allowing ecosystems to become self-sustaining.



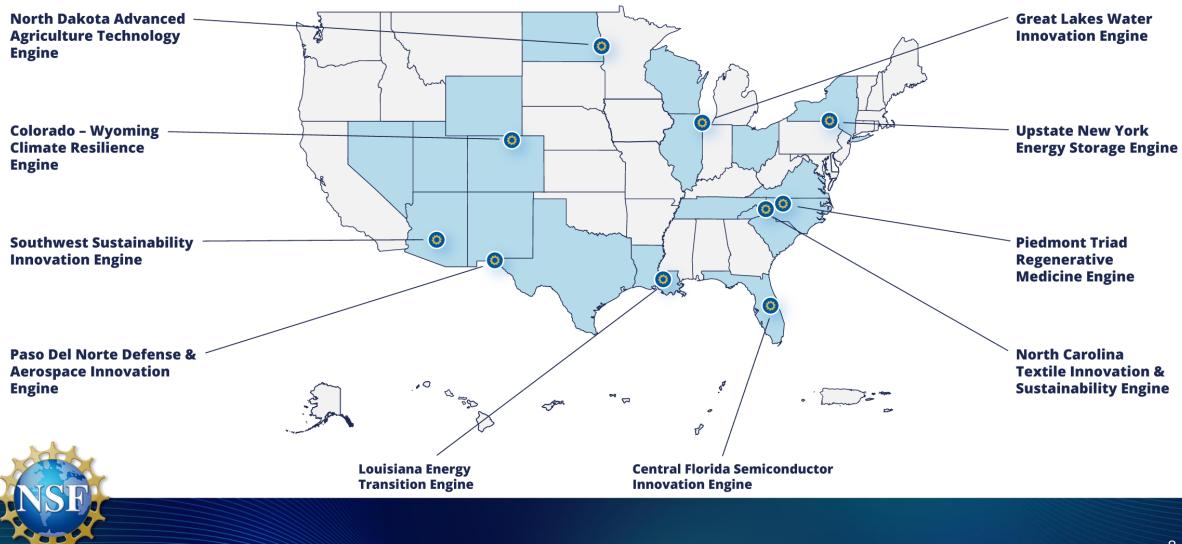
NSF aims to catalyze vibrant innovation ecosystems with a focus on regions that have been left behind by the tech boom.



# NSF Engines Competition (2022 – 2024)



# **10 Inaugural NSF Engines**



### **Paso del Norte Defense and Aerospace Innovation Engine**

#### **Lead Organization:**

University of Texas-El Paso (UTEP)

#### **Primary Societal Challenge:**

Aerospace and Defense small and medium (SMM) Manufacturer network

#### **Innovations:**

Transformation of SMM manufacturers via digital engineering, additive manufacturing, and various aerospace and defense technologies

#### **Capital Commitments**:

\$50M EDA Build Back Better Regional Challenge



#### Sampling of Partners (18)

ACADEMICS (2) GOVERNEMENT ENTITIES (9) INDUSTRY (3) NON-PROFIT(4) UTEP KECK AND AEROSPACE CENTERS) CITY OF EL PASO, NM SPACEPORT AUTHORITY LOCKHEED MARTIN, BELL TEXTRON EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE



### **Upstate New York Energy Storage Engine**

#### **Lead Organization:**

Binghamton University

#### **Primary Societal Challenge:**

Building energy storage technologies to support USA based supply chain.

#### **Innovations**:

Battery technology and innovation for full battery lifecycle, novel battery chemistry, cell design/prototyping/production, module production, battery recycling

#### **Capital Commitments:**

\$63 M EDA Build Back Better Awardee + Tech Hubs Finalist, \$16 M from state of NY



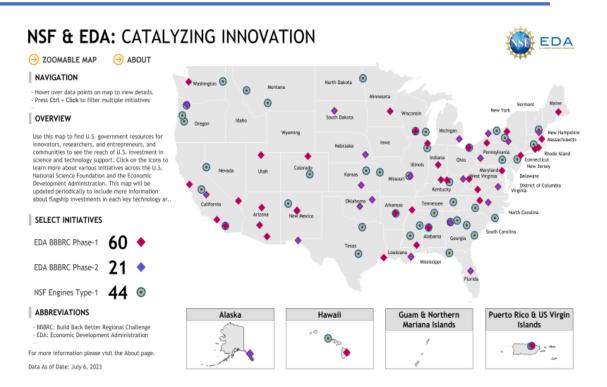
#### Sampling of Partners (40)

ACADEMICS (10) GOVERNEMNT ENTITIES (6) INDUSTRY (18) NON-PROFIT (6) CORNELL UNIVERSITY EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT BAE SYSTEMS, KODAK LAUNCH NY, ACTIVATE GLOBAL INC.



# Partnering with & Leveraging Resources from other Regional Innovation Programs

- NSF and the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) are officially coordinating on NSF Engines and Tech Hubs, two regional innovation programs named in the "CHIPS and Science Act of 2022."
- 4 NSF Engines are leveraging funding from Build Back Better Regional Challenge communities, unlocking more than \$230 M.
- 12+ NSF Engines + Development Awardee communities are finalists for EDA Tech Hubs, with the potential to unlock hundreds of millions more.



The coordination may include research and education activities, facilities, centers, data infrastructure and outreach.



# **How to Get Involved**

- Reach out to the teams in your city/region.
- Help them build the partnerships. Work through the NSF Engines Builder Platform.
- Amplify the stories of our NSF Engine awardees and their communities.
- **Co-Fund our awardees and the Engines portfolio**, help them unlock new sources of funding.
  - Philanthropy
  - Corporate commitments
  - State and local government commitments
  - Complementary federal investments



# **NSF Engines Builder Platform**

- Run by The Engine Accelerator, a public benefit corporation with origins at MIT.
- A unique post-award support model that will provide tailored resources and a high level of personalized engagement.
- The NSF Engines Builder Platform is a human-centered portfolio of support structures that empowers awardees with the tools, networks and capital needed to thrive.
- The Platform is inspired and informed by the support systems pioneered by venture incubators and accelerators, national philanthropy and lessons learned from prior place-based investment efforts.



# This is Only the First Chapter

We're seeding these regions but there is much work to be done. <u>It will require a</u> <u>village.</u>



Awards are up to 10 years (up to \$160 M). 10 NSF Engines will be eligible for their next tranche of funding in 2025, dependent on progress made towards goals.

Running a second round of the NSF Engine (pending the availability of funds).





We expect that NSF Engines and Development Awardees, and even other proposers will team up to build stronger coalitions. Some will be successful in the NSF Engines program while others will be funded by complementary programs at NSF and across the federal government.





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