



## Photovoltaics R&D

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Program Manager for PV R&D



# Focus of the Photovoltaics R&D Subprogram

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- Reduce the levelized cost of energy (LCOE) through R&D advances in PV cell and module technology

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- **Module Cost < 50¢/W**

- New PV materials
- Reduced PV materials use
- New processes

Research examples

kWh

- **Module Reliability**
- **Module Efficiency > 20%**

- Understanding defects
- Interfaces
- New device structures

Research examples

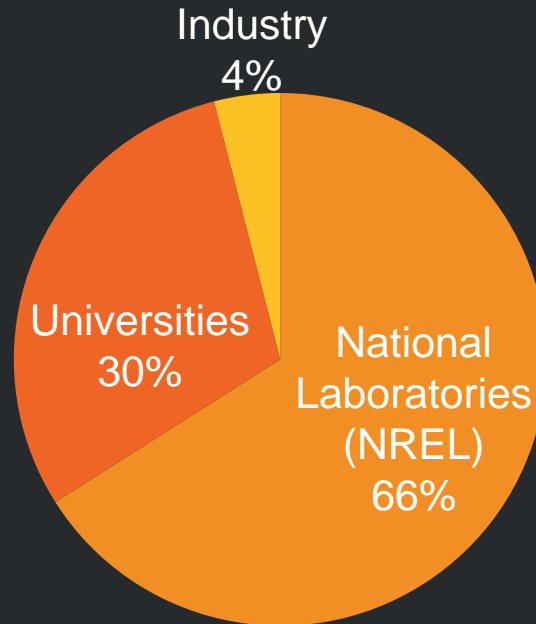
# Funding Streams

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National Laboratory R&D



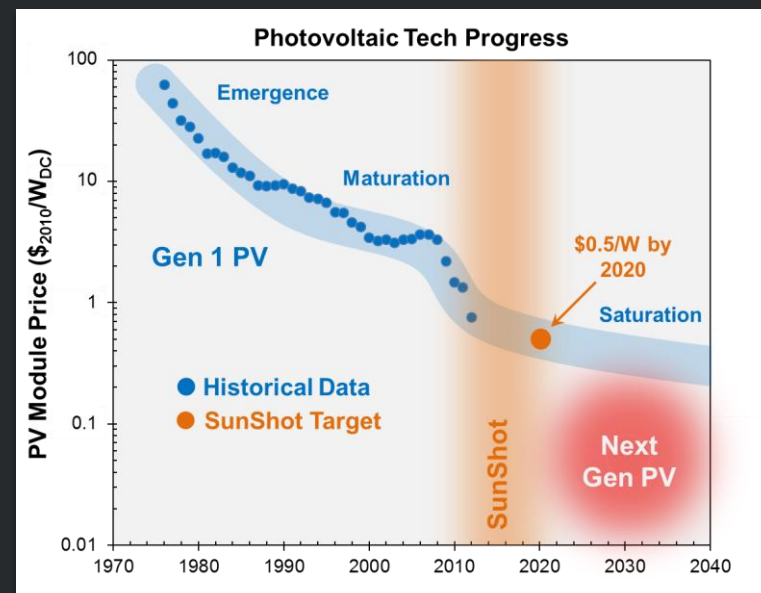
Funding Opportunity  
Announcements (FOAs)



- Current value of projects in PV R&D Portfolio: \$183 million
  - Project durations from 2 - 5 years
  - Funding spans early applied research through development leading to a commercial prototype

# Next Generation Photovoltaics

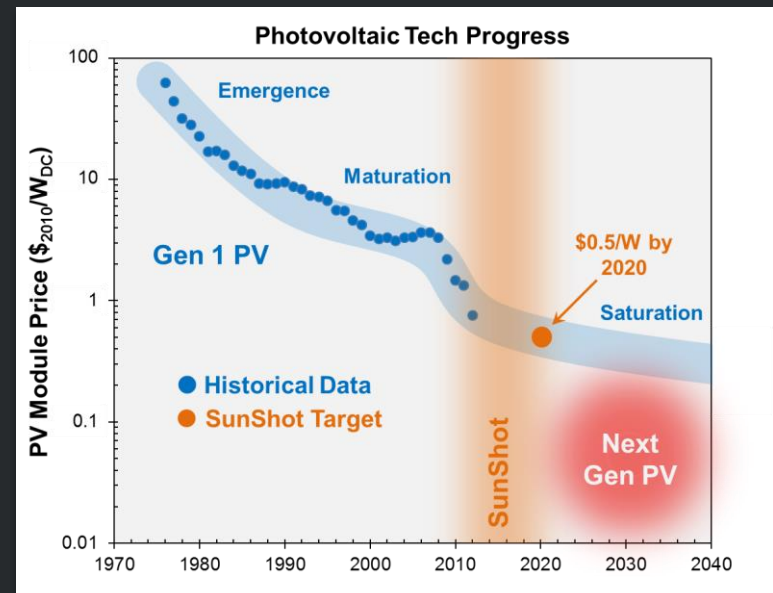
- Applied research on innovative materials and device structures
- Targets significant reductions in LCOE beyond SunShot goals
  - Module price < 50¢/W
  - Module efficiency > 20%
- Core FOA: Next Generation Photovoltaic Technologies
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> round in review, awards expected this summer (currently in a silent period)



# Next Generation Photovoltaics

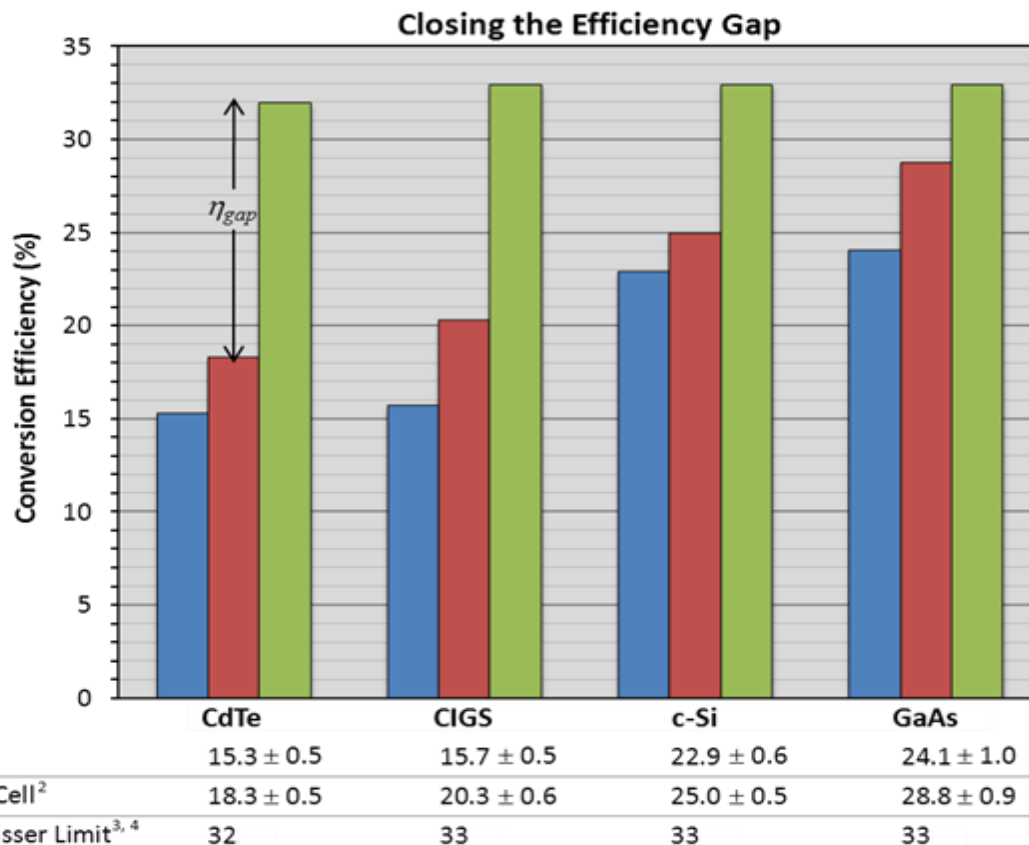
## Next Generation 3 Areas of Interest:

- New materials and processes to demonstrate greater than 30% cell efficiency at less than 50x
- New materials and processes that enable LCOE reduction and produce cell efficiencies competitive with incumbent technologies
- Processes and advanced multijunction structures to reduce cell  $\$/\text{cm}^2$  costs while maintaining efficiency
- Advanced modules



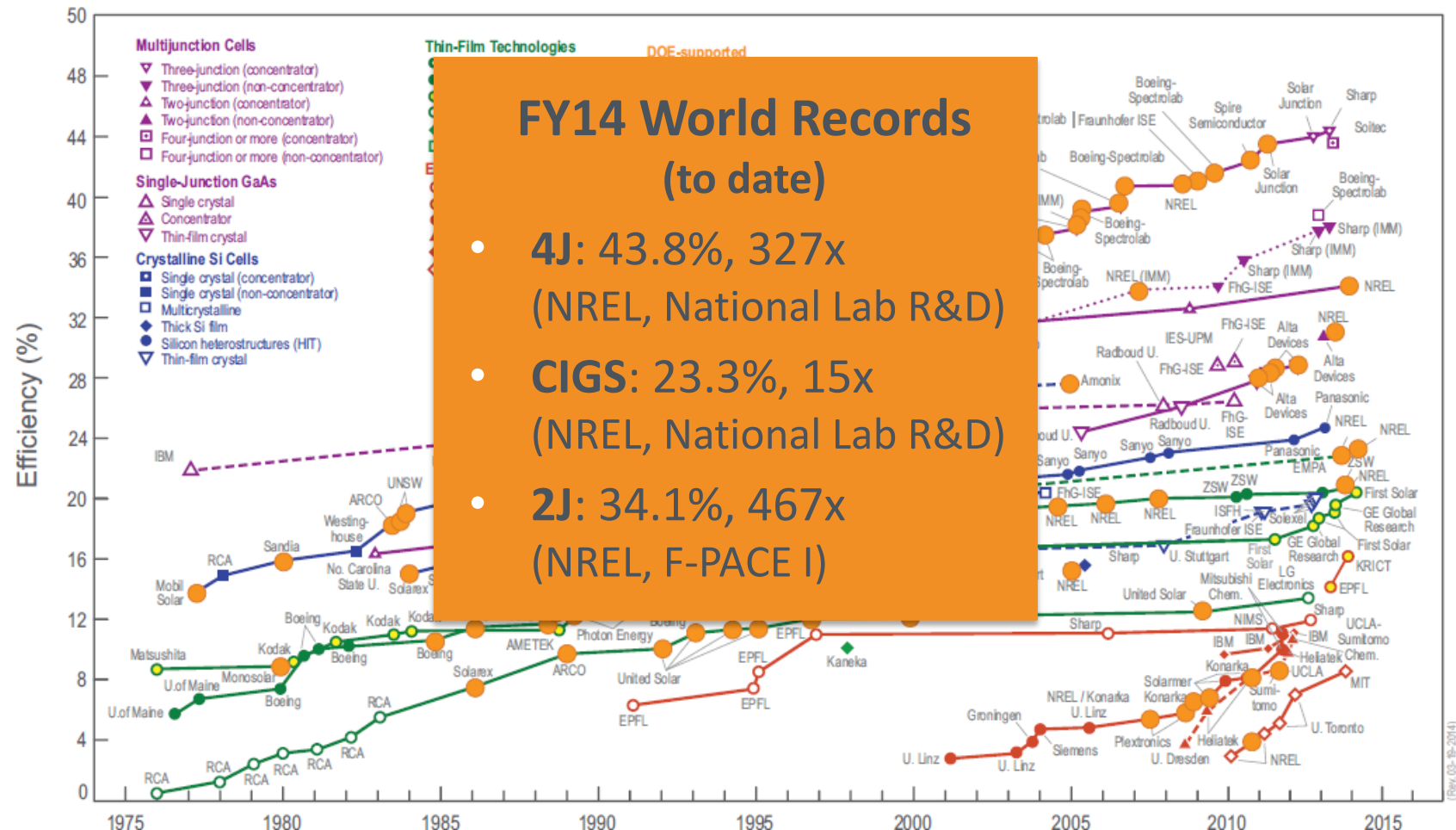
# Advancing Photovoltaic Efficiency

- Improving the efficiency and overcoming technological barriers in established solar cell materials
  - Si, CdTe, CIGS and III-Vs



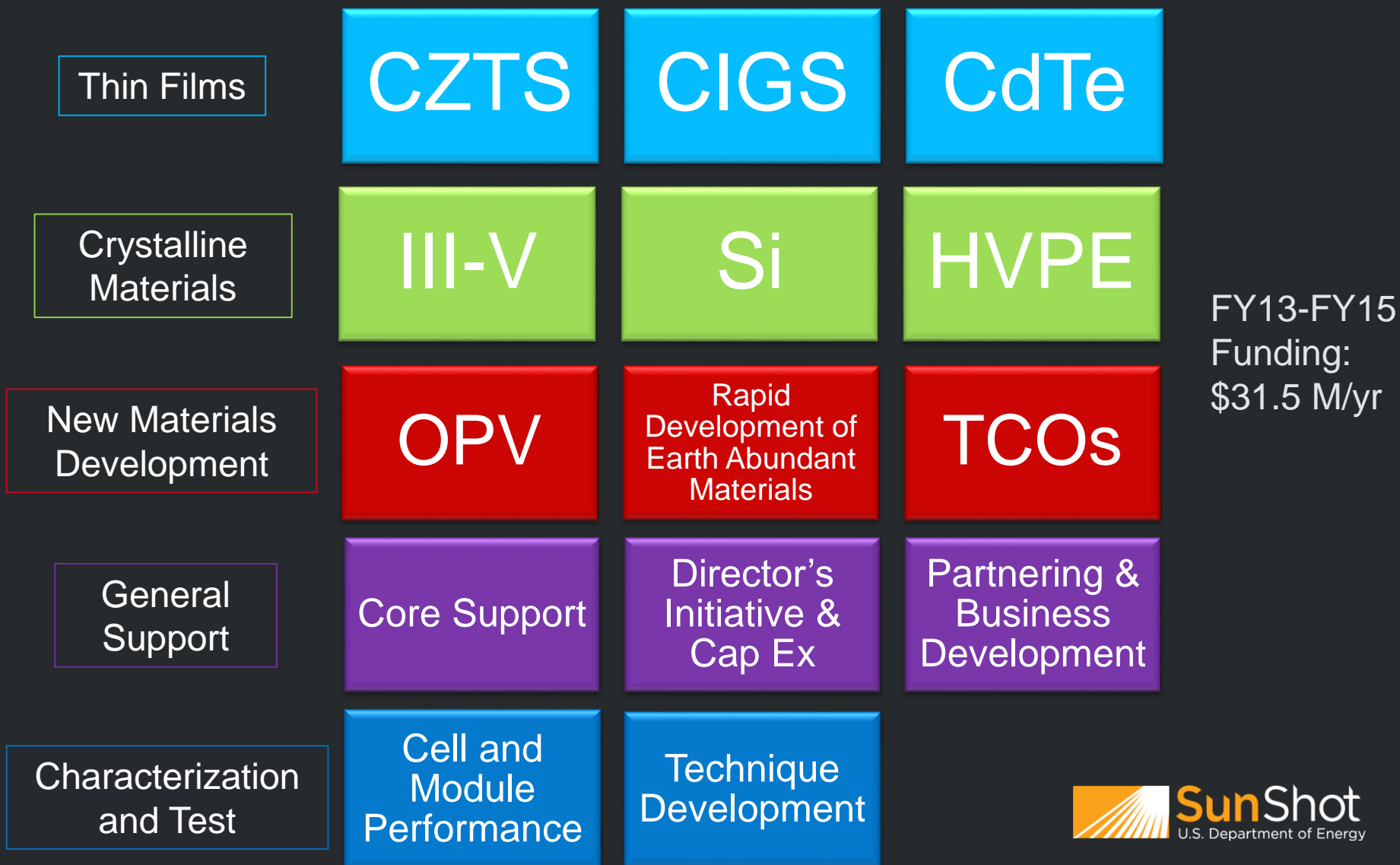
Core FOA:  
Foundational  
Program to  
Advance Cell  
Efficiency  
(F-PACE)

## Long History of Impact: Supporting >50% of Records



Underlying chart by Keith Emery, NREL, with National Laboratory R&D funding (April 2014)

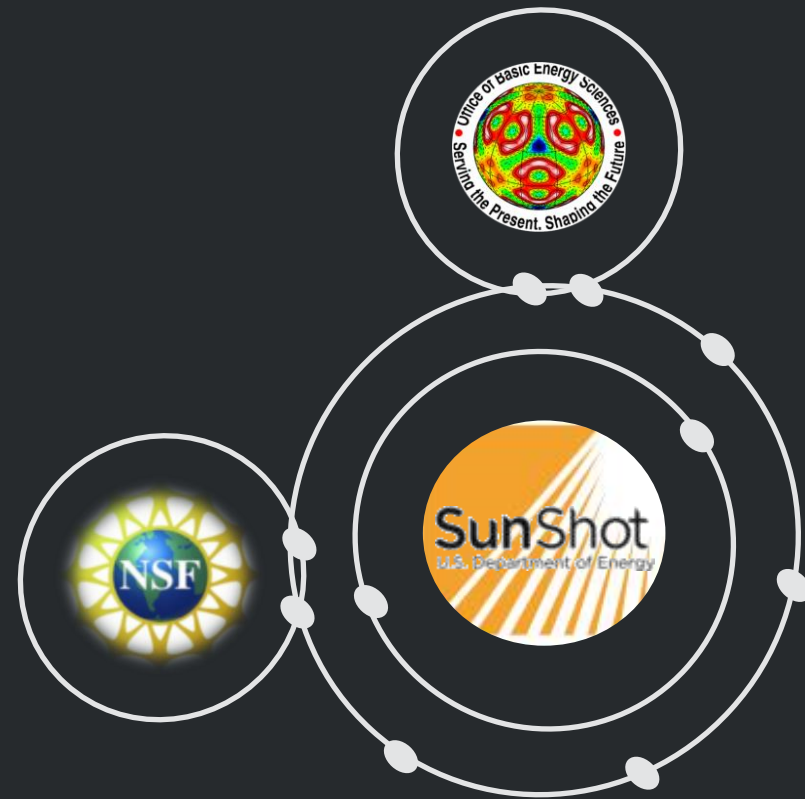
# National Laboratory R&D at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL's) National Center for Photovoltaics (NCPV)





# Additional Areas of Investment

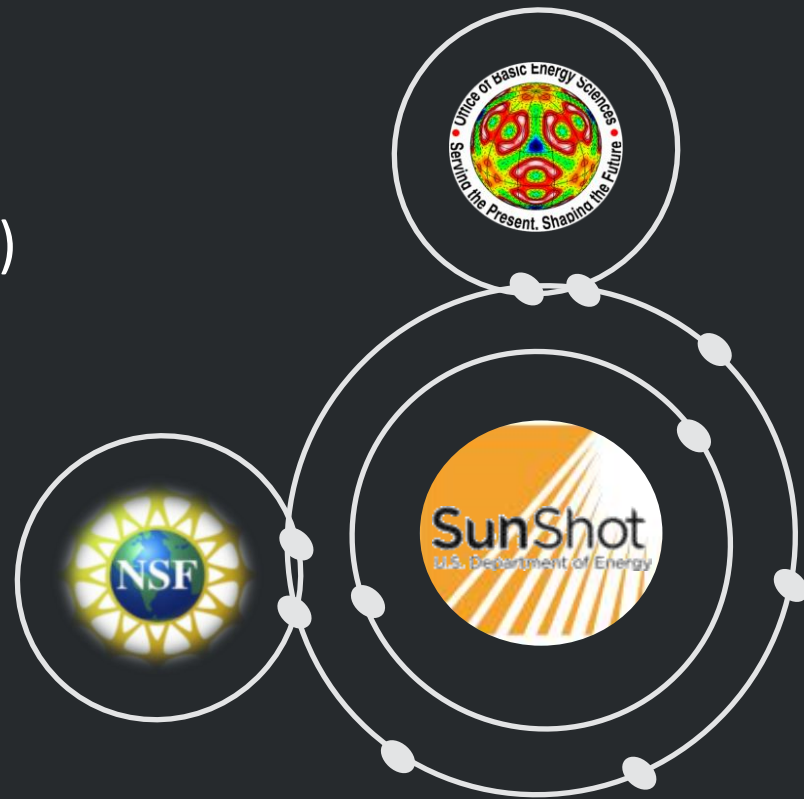
- Bridging the gap between basic science and applied PV research (BRIDGE FOA)



# Additional Areas of Investment

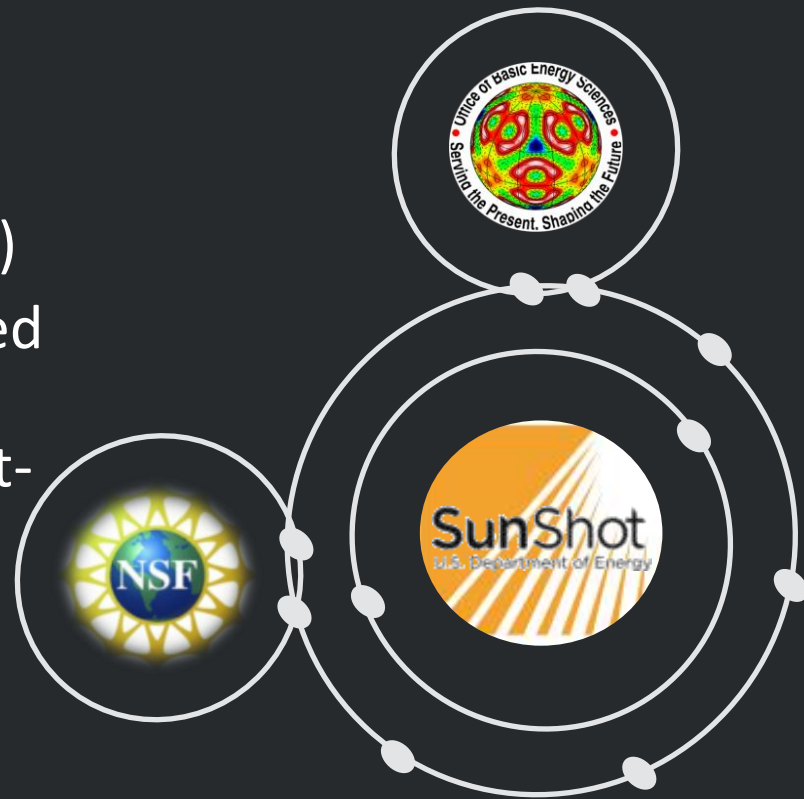
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- Bridging the gap between basic science and applied PV research (BRIDGE FOA)
- Physics of reliability (PREDICTS FOA)



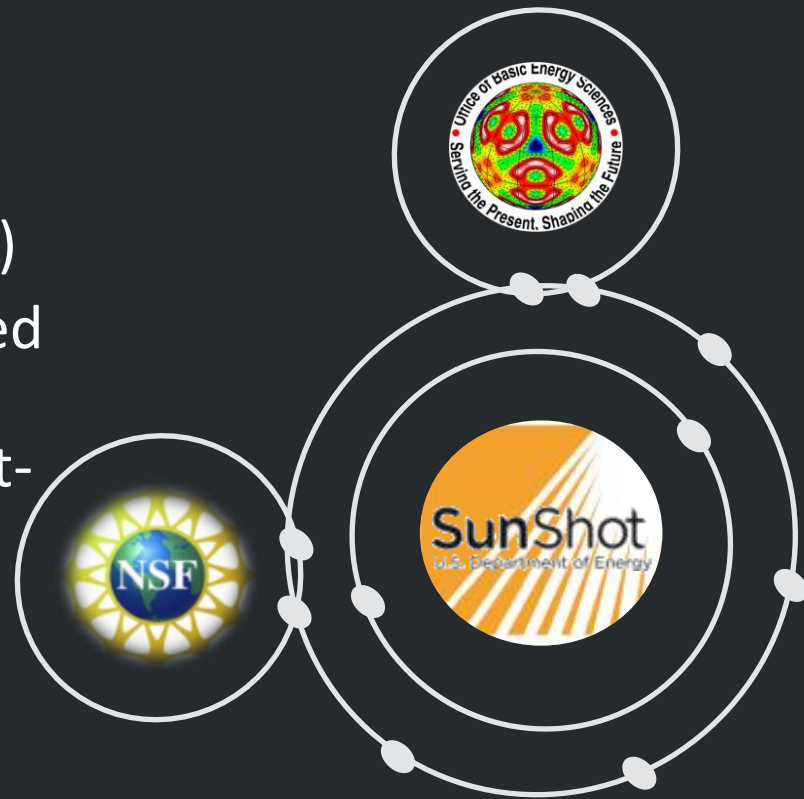
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- Bridging the gap between basic science and applied PV research (BRIDGE FOA)
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- Support the development of a skilled and diverse next generation of researchers (MURA, DISTANCE, Post-Docs FOAs)



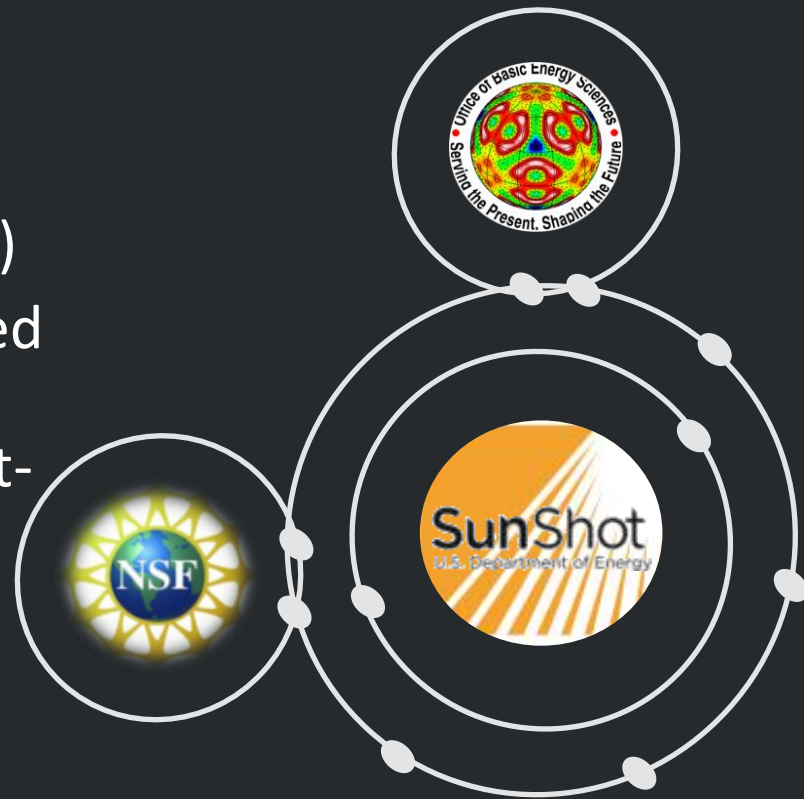
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- Quantum Energy and Sustainable Solar Technologies Engineering Research Center (with NSF)



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- Quantum Energy and Sustainable Solar Technologies Engineering Research Center (with NSF)
- Solar Energy Research Initiative for India and the U.S. (with DOE Office of Science)



# Thank You

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