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# Overview of Puerto Rico Energy Resilience Fund (PR-ERF) Funding Opportunity Announcement #2:

## Programa de Comunidades Resilientes (DE-FOA-0003348)

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GDO Staff: Aisha Miranda-Rivera;  
Pete Gingrass

NETL Staff: Virginia Chambers

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# Webinar Notice

- ▶ None of the information presented herein is legally binding.
- ▶ The content included in this presentation is intended for informational purposes only relating to the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) DE-FOA-0003348.
- ▶ Any content within this presentation that appears discrepant from the FOA language is superseded by the FOA language.
- ▶ All applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully read the FOA guidelines and adhere to them.



# Agenda

- Part 1: Review of Programa de Comunidades Resilientes FOA
  - Background on the Puerto Rico Energy Resilience Fund (PR-ERF)
  - FOA Strategic Goals
  - Priority Areas for Investment
  - FOA Award Summary and Structure
  - Review Criteria
  - Timeline & Schedule
- Part 2: How to Apply for Funding





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# Part 1: Review of Programa de Comunidades Resilientes FOA

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# Puerto Rico Energy Resilience Fund

- ▶ **Background:** On February 21, 2023, the Grid Deployment Office launched the PR-ERF to support improvements to Puerto Rico's electric grid. After recent natural disasters and decades of underinvestment in the electric grid, this fund is being developed in consultation with local entities and communities to increase energy resilience and reduce the energy burden of vulnerable residents.
- ▶ **Purpose:** To support Puerto Rico's grid resilience efforts and achieve the commonwealth's law of 100% of its electricity needs with renewable energy by 2050 (Puerto Rico Energy Public Policy Act -Act 17) .
- ▶ **Available funding:** \$1 Billion from the 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act, to remain available until expended.
- ▶ **Multi-phased approach:** PR-ERF currently includes two major solicitations:
  - **1<sup>st</sup> round of funding:** Programa Acceso Solar - up to \$450 million to support residential rooftop solar and battery storage installations for Puerto Rico's most vulnerable households, as well as consumer protection and education resources.
  - **2<sup>nd</sup> round of funding:** Programa de Comunidades Resilientes - up to \$325 million to fund **community-level resilience investments, including solutions for community healthcare facilities and public housing and privately owned subsidized multi-family properties.**



# Strategic Goals

1. Mitigate against the disproportionate impacts associated with severe and prolonged power outages affecting low- and moderate-income residents of public housing or privately owned subsidized multi-family properties through energy resilience investments such as solar and battery storage.
2. Enable quality, equitable health care services for the most vulnerable populations and disadvantaged communities, who include the medically underserved in Puerto Rico, by ensuring energy reliability and resiliency through solar and battery storage.
3. Support the growth of the Puerto Rican workforce.



# Priority Areas For Investment (1/2)

- Projects that target facilities or properties in the most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, including those serving low- and moderate-income or disabled individuals throughout Puerto Rico.
- Projects that cover multiple facilities that increase building resilience against extreme weather and adapt to the changing energy and technology landscapes.
- Projects that take advantage of the “solar readiness” of facilities or properties.
- Projects that implement replicable approaches to reducing operating costs and increasing natural hazards/climate resilience for facilities or properties in disadvantaged communities, including the most vulnerable communities serving low- and moderate-income or disabled individuals throughout Puerto Rico.



# Priority Areas For Investment (2/2)

- Projects that measurably improve the electric resilience of a power system within eligible facilities serving the population during and after a hazard event as well as reduce the severity of the post-event outages.
- Teams that prioritize capacity building by including local entities and organizations.





# FOA Award Summary

Topic Area	Cost Share	Anticipated Number of Awards	Anticipated Award Size Range	Approximate Total Federal Funding Available for All Awards	Anticipated Period of Performance
<b>Topic 1: Solar PV and Battery Storage Installations for Common Areas within Public or Privately Owned Subsidized Multi-Family Properties</b>	10% per phase	1-2	\$93-185 Million	\$185 Million	60 months
<b>Topic 2: Solar PV and Battery Storage Installations for Community Healthcare Facilities</b>	10% per phase	1-2	\$70 -140 Million	\$140 Million	60 months



# Topic Area 1: Solar PV and Battery Storage Installations for Common Areas Within Public or Privately Owned Subsidized Multi-Family Properties



- **Objective:** Funding to plan, design and deploy solar and battery systems at community centers or power common areas located within qualifying public or subsidized housing projects. Includes funding for capacity building of administrators and residents.
  
- **Eligible Facilities:**
  - Puerto Rico public housing properties.
  - Privately owned, multi-family housing properties subsidized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
  - Privately owned, multi-family housing properties subsidized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
  
- ▶ **Project Examples:**
  - Community center allowing residents to charge communication devices, refrigerate medication, and power medical devices after a natural disaster;
  - Elevators to ensure access to and from the building residence in case of an emergency; and
  - Recreational room with a communal kitchen to provide residents access to food and refrigeration during an outage.

# Topic Area 2: Solar PV and Battery Storage Installations for Community Healthcare Facilities



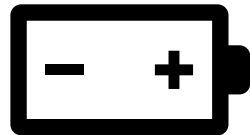
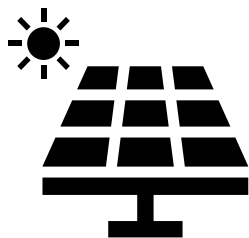
- **Objective:** Funding to plan, design and deploy solar and battery systems that address critical loads at community healthcare facilities.
- **Eligible Facilities:**
  - Health Centers (Centros 330)
  - Diagnostic and Treatment Centers (CDT)
  - Dialysis Centers
- ▶ **Project Examples:**
  - Vaccination clinic of a Healthcare Center in rural area that is prone to frequent and prolonged power outages to ensure continued refrigeration of vaccine vials during a power outage;
  - Emergency room section of a Diagnostic and Treatment Center in a low-income community to provide critical health services after a natural disaster; and
  - Dialysis center to provide continuous dialysis treatment to individuals with a kidney-related disability.



# Eligible Investments (1/2)

## Systems can include:

- Installation of a photovoltaic panel system with battery storage.
- Integration of storage (batteries) in structures that already have an operational photovoltaic panel system in optimal conditions.
- Upgrades or expansion of existing solar systems.
- Upgrades to the local distribution infrastructure as a result of solar PV and storage installations that may be identified through an interconnection study.

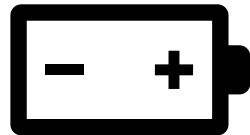
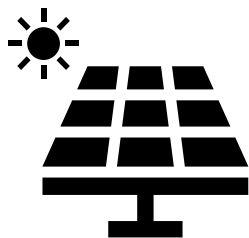


# Eligible Investments (2/2)

## Systems can include:

- Energy efficiency upgrades that would have a material impact on the critical loads to be covered by the PV and storage installation (HVAC systems and lighting), if identified through the energy audit.
- Upgrades to a connected microgrid in order for the solar PV and battery storage system to seamlessly integrate (e.g. operational management system to tie into the microgrid).

The photovoltaic panels should be exclusively installed on the roof or within the footprint (e.g., parking lot) of the property. Rooftop should be maximized before considering ground-mounted options.



# Applicant Teaming Partnership



- Potential applicants may include individual organizations or teams of organizations based in Puerto Rico that can coordinate the deployment of projects across many community healthcare facilities or public housing and privately owned subsidized multi-family properties (e.g., 100-150) in partnership with local stakeholders.
- Teams should include members that have an existing, physical presence in Puerto Rico and are in financial and regulatory good standing.
- A teaming arrangement allows applicants to combine their complementary capabilities and resources that a single entity could not perform on its own to apply for this competitive solicitation.

The arrangement may include but are not limited to:

- Community-based organizations
- Consultants
- Energy auditors
- Energy Service Companies (ESCO)
- Engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) firms
- Grassroots organizations
- Non-profit organizations
- Renewable technology installation companies



# Applicant Teaming Partnership



- Organizations that are interested in this funding opportunity can access a Teaming Partner List, located on [DOE's Infrastructure eXCHANGE website](#).
- The Teaming Partner List aims to facilitate the formation of project teams, allowing organizations that may wish to participate in a project to express their interest to other applicants and explore potential partnerships.
- On this webpage, an interested entity can enter general contact information, along with the type of entity they are, areas of expertise, and the specific role they are interested in on a potential team.
- Teams may submit to the Teaming Partner List in either English or Spanish
- If your organization is applying as part of a team, only **one** entity on your entire team will serve as a **prime applicant** for this FOA and submit your team's application.



# Award Structure


- ▶ Phased approach with two budget periods to manage scope, schedule, deliverables, and budget.
- ▶ Formal Go/No-Go decision point between the Design (Phase 1) and Construction (Phase 2) of the system(s).
- ▶ At the Go/No-Go decision point, DOE will evaluate project performance, project schedule adherence, the extent milestone objectives are met, compliance with reporting requirements, and overall contribution to the program goals and objectives.

	Phase 1: Design	Phase 2: Construction
Approximate Proportion of Project Cost	10-30%	70-90%
Approximate Duration	12-24 months	12-48 months
Phase Summary	Energy audits, load analysis, engineering and operational design, and financial planning	Permitting, procurement, installation, integration, and construction activities






# Review Criteria (1/4)

Application Element	Criteria
<p data-bbox="12 335 420 435"><b>Project Benefits and Impact (35%)</b></p> 	<ul data-bbox="535 335 2522 1120" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The degree to which the vulnerable populations, disadvantaged community, and/or LMI area experiences significant energy challenges.</li><li>• The degree to which the project team has engaged and understands community priorities.</li><li>• The degree to which the applicant demonstrates that the proposed project will result in the maximum benefits to the target community or communities, including with respect to the proposed design, installation, and storage dispatch approach as well as with respect to the financial benefits of the projects to the proposed sites.</li><li>• The degree of criticality of the project to the community or communities it serves, as described by:<ul data-bbox="624 792 2446 1120" style="list-style-type: none"><li>-<u>Resilience Priority: Severity of the post-event outages of the feeder(s) to which the project is connected.</u> Applicants may use the <a href="#">Resilience Priority Areas map</a>, to determine the level of priority (<i>i.e. high-90 days or longer power outage, medium-between 30- and 90-days power outage, and low-30 days or less power outage</i>).</li><li>-High-Impact Area: Extent to which the project provides targeted service on non-major events days to vulnerable populations, disadvantaged communities, and/or LMI areas.</li></ul></li></ul>

# Review Criteria (2/4)


Application Element	Criteria
<p data-bbox="12 307 458 406"><b>Preliminary Workplan (35%)</b></p> 	<ul data-bbox="535 307 2509 1092" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The likelihood that the proposed Workplan will lead to construction and operation of at least one project within three years.</li><li>• The likelihood that the proposed Workplan will enable construction and operation of projects at multiple sites within three years.</li><li>• The degree to which the proposed Workplan and critical path have been clearly and thoroughly described and thoughtfully considered.</li><li>• The degree to which the task descriptions are clear, detailed, timely, and reasonable, resulting in a high likelihood that the proposed Workplan will succeed in meeting the project goals.</li><li>• The strength and level of clarity in the definition of the project phases, metrics, integrated project schedule, and Go/No-Go criteria.</li><li>• Extent to which the Applicant demonstrates understanding of the key technical, construction, regulatory, permitting, safety and occupational health, scale-up and infrastructure integration risks involved in the proposed work, and the quality of the mitigation strategies to address them.</li></ul>

# Review Criteria (3/4)

Application Element	Criteria
<b>Commercial and Financial Viability (15%)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The degree to which the application justifies the proposed project’s economic viability and sustainability beyond DOE funding.</li><li>• The extent the prime applicant demonstrates financial and regulatory good standing to perform on the proposed project.</li><li>• The adequacy and justification of the proposed budget and spend plan.</li><li>• The extent to which monetization of available clean energy tax credits is factored into the business model.</li><li>• The extent to which project partners have demonstrated past successes working together in achieving renewable energy installations in the public housing sector for vulnerable populations, disadvantaged communities and/or LMI customers or sufficient documentation through a memorandum of understanding or similar document that details strong partnership credentials.</li></ul>



# Review Criteria (4/4)

Application Element	Criteria
<p data-bbox="12 321 496 428"><b>Teaming Structure for Project Execution (15%)</b></p> 	<ul data-bbox="535 321 2522 1113" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The capability, locality of the prime recipient, the proposed team, and key personnel to manage and address all aspects of the proposed work with a high probability of success.</li><li>• Key project participant qualifications and relevant experience on similar projects, including number of years, number of projects successfully deployed at similar sites, demonstrated safety performance history, occupational health history, and level of responsibility commensurate with this experience.</li><li>• The extent to which the applicant demonstrates a plan for long-term operation and maintenance of the solar PV and battery storage systems, including necessary agreements, workforce training programs, or other measures.</li><li>• The likelihood that the proposed approach will ensure appropriate maintenance of the installed system for at least 20 years.</li><li>• The extent to which applicant demonstrates that there are firm lease agreements or ownership by applicant or proposed subrecipients for the buildings upon which the solar PV and battery storage systems will be installed.</li></ul>

# Application Submission Timing / Schedule

**FOA Released: August 28, 2024**

**Topic Area 1 & 2  
Resilient Communities Program**

**Full  
Applications  
Due**

October 22, 2024  
5:00 PM ET

**Expected Date  
For Selection  
Notifications:**

December 2024

**Expected Date  
For Award:**

March 2025

