

# Briefing on the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Solar for All Program for Community- Based Organizations

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# What This Deck Covers

1. Solar for All Basics
2. A Timeline for Programs Deployment
3. Things Community-Based Organizations Should Know and Do
4. Resources List

# The Solar For All Basics

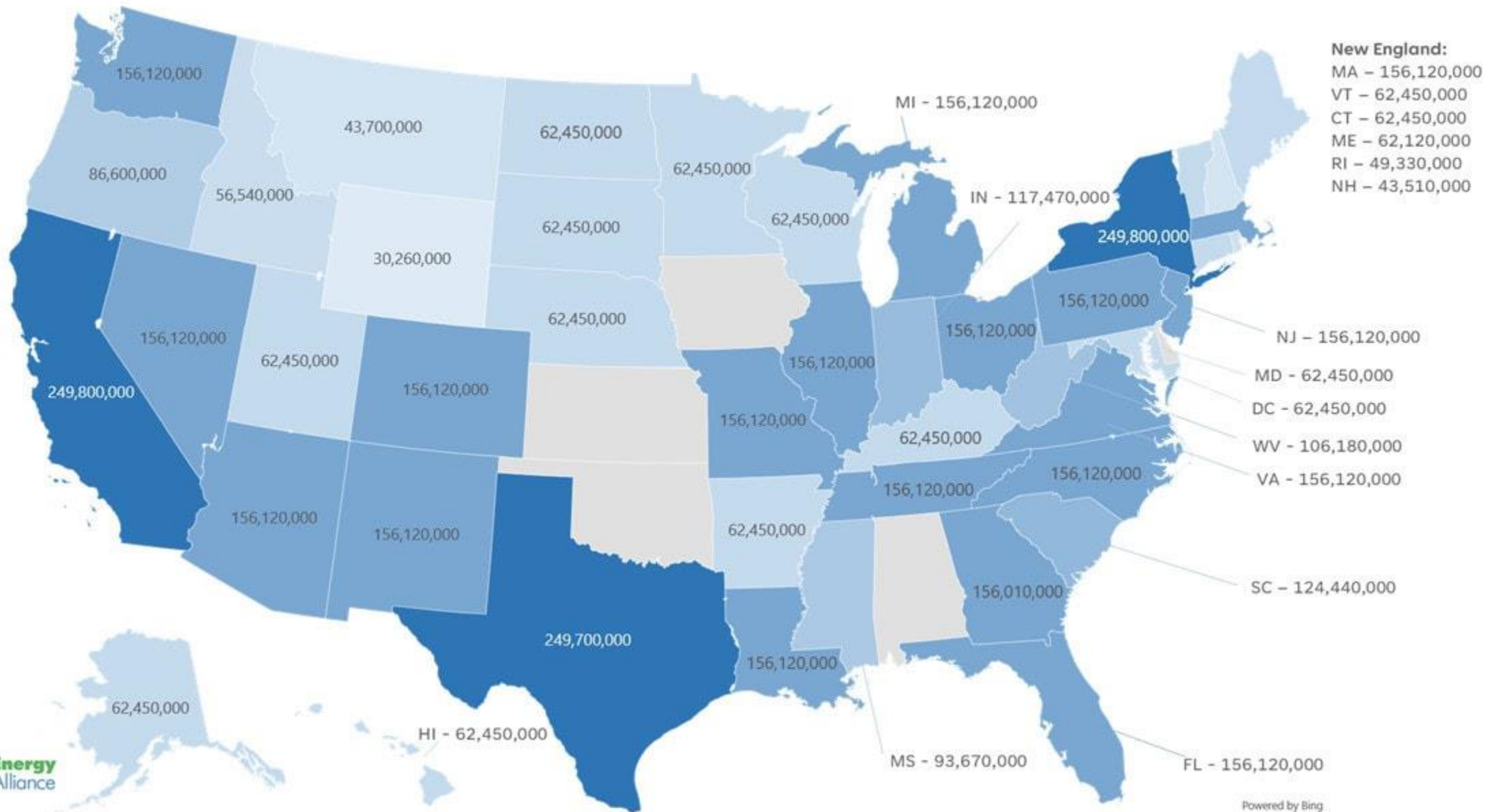
In a Few Short Slides

# Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) Solar for All Program

- \$7 billion within the \$27 billion GGRF network
- [60 awardees](#), including 49 state-level, 5 multistate, and 6 tribal
- 4GW of distributed solar:
  - Rooftop solar (included in 90% of applications), residential serving community solar (88%), solar+storage (78%), enabling upgrades, technical assistance
  - **100% LIDAC-serving – Will increase LMI solar by a third in the next five years!**
- 20% minimum savings requirements: ~\$400 expected on average in annual savings on power bills as per EPA
- Includes workforce development
- The basics are on [EPA's website!](#)

# GGRF Solar for All State-Wide Awards

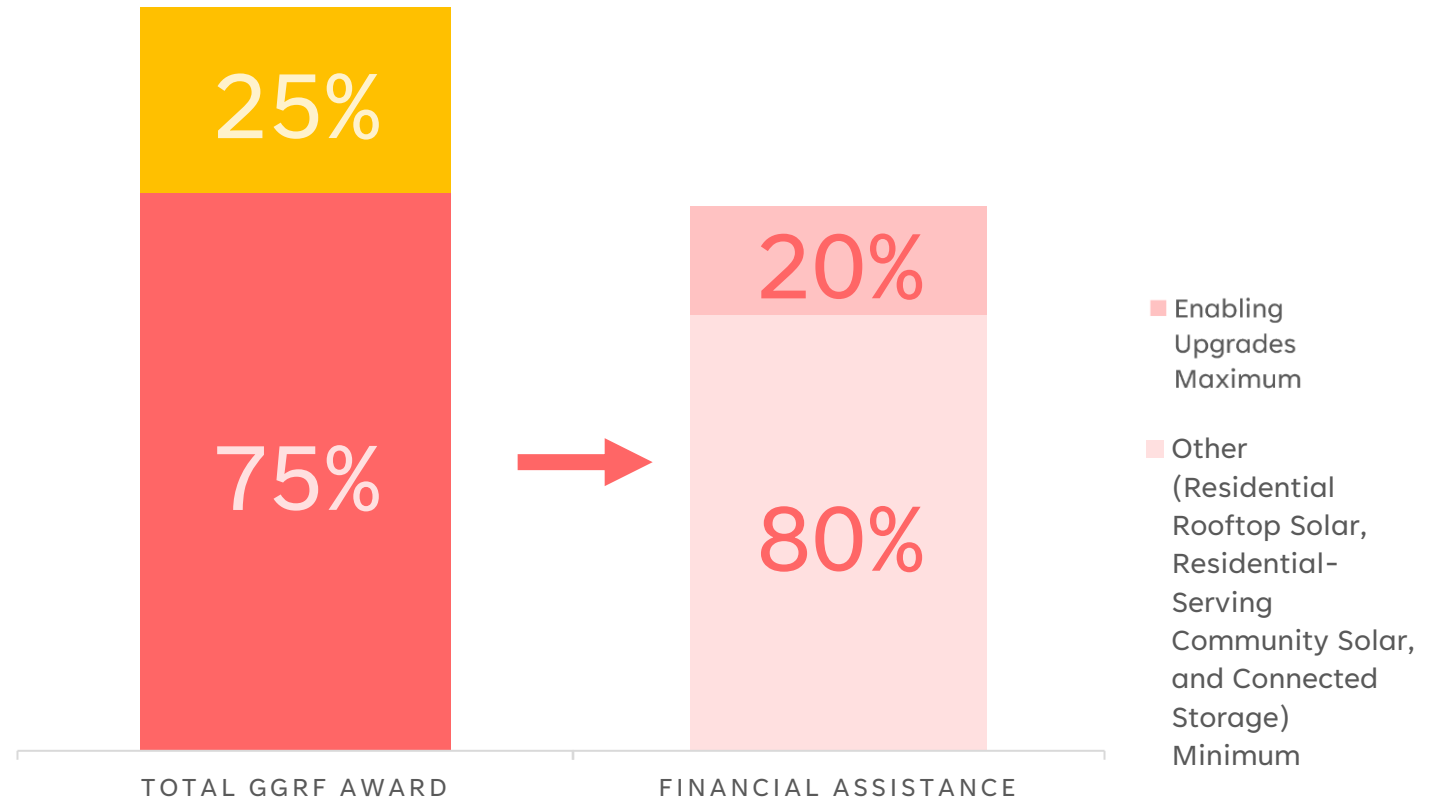
In US Dollars – Excludes tribes and overseas territories – Note: As per EPA, geographies that did not receive state-wide funding are still covered under multi-state and tribal awards, e.g., those led by Groundswell, GRID Alternatives, and Inclusive Prosperity Capital



# GGRF Solar for All Award Breakdown for State-Level Awards (Not Applicable to Tribes)

At minimum  
60% of an  
award to go to  
solar or Solar +  
Storage

- Administrative Costs and Project Deployment Technical Assistance Maximum
- Financial Assistance Minimum



# Solar for All LIDAC Typology Summary

- 100% of funds to be spent within some configuration of the allowable criteria below
  - **Location**
    - a) Communities identified as disadvantaged by the [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#) map
    - b) Areas included in the limited supplemental set of census block groups that are at or above the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for *any* of [EJ Screen's Supplemental Indexes](#) when compared to the nation or state;
    - c) Areas within Tribal lands as included in EJScreen.
  - **Income**
    - c) Geographically dispersed low-income households\*
  - **Type**
    - d) Properties providing affordable housing\*

\*Further definitions in NOFO

# A Timeline

Where We Are



# Prospective Timeline – Ends in 2029 at the earliest and in 2031 at the latest (if extended)

Notice of Award

EPA Approval of Budget and Workplan

Programs Launch

## Initial Obligation Phase

## Limited Drawdown Phase

## Planning Year

April 2024

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December

January 2025

February

March

...

- By statute obligation must happen before September 30
- EPA works on compliance (DBA, BABA, reporting framework, etc.)
- States work on reducing their budget and nonprofits work on capability assessments
- Limited pre-award funding is available for awardees

- Awardees continue work on reducing their budget
- Awardees and EPA work on updating work plans, budgets, with NREL support
- Ends with EPA approval to finalize the federal contract
- Funding is available for awardees only (not for subrecipients)

- Awardees and sub-recipients start their planning year and engage actively in more detailed program design activities
- Within a year, awardees launch programs - staggered based on speed of progress
- Funding is available for awardees and subrecipients. Household funding is not available until AFTER programs are launched.

# Engaging with Solar for All

A Few Recommendations for Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)

# Things to Understand Before You Engage

## – Mostly, Your Support Is Critical to States

- This is not just “free” money. This is a very compliance-heavy federal award with **\*\*\*lots\*\*\*** of strings, reporting, and regulations. Awardees and EPA are still working through understanding implications.
- The content of applications will hold. The application period was very short. Different states brought different levels of “finality” to their applications. Most states will use the “planning year” to refine plans.
- Each state has one Solar for All grant but multiple programs to build.
- Every single program **\*must\*** develop a meaningful engagement plan (with extra points if participatory governance structure). Every single program will need a way to market itself to communities.
- States will need communities’ help for at minimum (a) testing program design, (b) consumer education, (c) outreach to communities and households. They want help from you!
- Every state is different. Some will have put together very comprehensive plans with energy navigators, and engagement throughout the application stage. Others will not have had time to yet. So, you will need to ask questions.



# Recommendation on How to Engage (1)

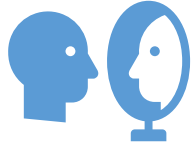
1. Go to the [CESA website](#) and see if your state has published its application online to learn about the plan – **Read the application or visit the site as relevant**
2. Read the qualitative part of CESA's [Empowering Tomorrow report](#) starting on page 23 – **List ideas to explore and steal!**
3. Go the [EPA website](#) and search for your state – **List all relevant state-level, tribal, and multistate awardees for your community**



# Recommendation on How to Engage (2)

## 4. Create a list of questions to ask your SFA awardees

- a) **WHO** - Who are the expected beneficiaries of the programs that were included in your application? E.g., WAP customers? Public housing tenants? SFH homeowners? Residents of community xyz? Others?
- b) **WHEN**
  - 1. What is your expected timeline? Are you using a planning year?
  - 2. When can we expect the meaningful engagement plan to start getting drafted and then implemented?
- c) **MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT PLAN**
  - 1. What activities will the meaningful engagement plan include?
  - 2. How can we, CBOs, help you, SFA awardee, develop and iterate that plan?
- d) **PROJECT DEPLOYMENT TA** - How can CBOs support technical assistance for project deployment? Will you need help reaching potential workforce? What help do you need in understanding community education needs on solar and the program?
- e) **REGULATORY PROCESS** - If there are existing state programs, how will they be used, or modified to accommodate the changes and/or new programs?
- f) **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** - How can we participate in pressure-testing the financial assistance program design?
- g) **PATHWAYS FOR CBO REMUNERATION** - Will you open a procurement process for some of your engagement work?



# Recommendation on How to Engage (3)

## 5. Create a list of questions to ask yourselves

- a) **DESIGN** - What capacity do I have to engage in a stakeholder process during the design finalization piece?
- b) **MARKETING AND EDUCATION** - Could I play a role in promoting the programs in my community to ensure that they are successful? If so, what would I need to participate in and/or lead this?
- c) **FEEDBACK PROCESS** - What community needs should be met to ensure that the programs are successful? How are our existing LMI solar programs working? List what is and is not working pertaining to the types of programs included in your state's plan.
- d) **VISIONING**
  - a) What is success for my community with these programs within EPA's program goals?
  - b) How do I want to engage over time? This is not a sprint, but a marathon!

## 6. Talk to your friends!

- a) How are other CBOs in your state thinking about this?
- b) Can you propose a plan or offer feedback as a group?

## 7. When should you start?

- a) Whenever you can! There is no reason to wait if you are ready to engage. However, **you may receive slow responses:** Not all states have started hiring and awardees are busy negotiating awards with EPA, which is lengthy and complicated. See timeline above.

# What We Do Not Yet Know

- Exact timeline of activities for each awardee
- Details of programs
- Many things on federal compliance, reporting, etc. Stay tuned!

# CESA Resources

A Few Suggestions



# Some Resources on Solar Stakeholder Engagement for CBOs and States

- [Solar with Justice project case studies, including \*Investing in Relationships: Strategies State Agencies Can Use to Equitably Partner with Community Representatives\*, by Bayoán Ware and Lidia Garcia](#)
- CESA's [\*Community Outreach and Solar Equity: A Guide for States on Collaborating with Community-Based Organizations\*](#) by Abbe Ramanan, Shauna Beland, Yasmin Yacoby, Nicole Hernandez Hammer

# Additional Solar for All Resources

- [Solar for All Public Information from State Applicants](#)
- [Empowering Tomorrow Report](#), a preview of GGRF SFA state programs
- [List of Programmatic Functions for SFA programs](#)
- [Solar for Manufactured Homes Reports](#)
- [Guide for Philanthropies to Support Solar for LMI-Serving Community Institutions](#)
- [Solar for All Single-Family Homes Program Design Guidance](#), [Template Request for Proposals](#), [LMI Solar Lease Consumer Disclosure Form Template](#)
- [Solar for All Multi-Family Guidance](#)
- [Solar for All Community Solar Guidance](#)
- [Solar for All Position Descriptions for States](#)
- [Davis Bacon Primer for Solar for All States](#)
- [List of Selected Resources on Stakeholder Engagement for States](#)
- [CBOs Database](#)
- [Free TA Directory for CBOs](#)
- [LMI Community Solar Resource Database](#)
- [Low-Income Communities Bonus Credit Program FAQs](#) (Caution: This document was drafted before the final regulations were issued and needs an update.)