



Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship

## i6 Green Webinar

March 21, 2011



*“...unleashing innovation is an essential component of a comprehensive economic strategy.”*

**-President Barack Obama**



# A New \$12M Innovation Competition

EDA's **i6 Green** is designed to accelerate commercialization by requiring team formation around existing regional infrastructure, technologies and human capital, while allowing the creation of new support networks that showcase the region's competitive advantages. Proposals should:

- Incorporate ideas that address the varying needs of local regions
- Outline plans that can be fully implemented within a 2-year timeframe
- Be project-ready and fully leverage regional competitive advantages
- Demonstrate widespread commitment from impacted communities
- Have a significant, positive economic impact on their region

# i6 Green



- **Economic Development Administration:** Up to \$1 million to each of six regional teams with the most innovative ideas to drive green technology commercialization and entrepreneurship
- **Department of Energy:** Up to \$2 million for energy related investments
- **Environment Protection Agency:** Up to \$700k to support technology focusing on public health and environmental protection
- **National Science Foundation:** Up to \$3 million for SBIR grantees
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture:** Up to \$600k in funding technological research activities to foster green and sustainable technologies
- Commerce bureaus **NIST** and **USPTO** will provide in-kind services

# About the Challenge

- EDA is funding through **Global Climate Change Mitigation Incentive Fund**
- Created to reward the most innovative ideas that drive **green technology** commercialization and entrepreneurship
- **Broad participation encouraged** by different stakeholders including universities, entrepreneurs, Small Business Innovation Research grantees, private development organizations, for-profit organizations, state and local governments, etc
- Awards made in each of the **six EDA regional offices**: Atlanta, Austin, Chicago, Denver, Philadelphia, Seattle
- Awards will be made on **concept, feasibility, impact, personnel, resources, and long-term growth plan**

# Proof of Concept Centers

## Bridging the Innovation Gap



Research

Industry Catalysts

Commercial  
Enterprise/  
Marketplace

Idea exchange

Public Outreach

Seed Funding

Mentoring

Educational  
Programs

# Applicants

# Project Partners



**Any individual or entity\***  
(Including for-profits) committing resources including: Financial Capital; Human Capital; Infrastructure; etc.

Project partnerships will be valued as a significant part of the overall value of the application.

\*EDA is not authorized to provide grants directly to individuals or for-profit entities.

# Eligible Projects

- **Renewable Energy:** projects that support the development, production, or use of energy derived from renewable resources
- **Energy Efficiency:** projects that support a large-scale reduction in energy production or consumption
- **Manufacturing:** projects that support process innovations that utilize green technology and improve efficiency while reducing pollution
- **Reuse/Recycling:** projects that support the reuse of given products, or produce a new or innovative product from recyclable materials
- **Green Building:** projects that facilitate technological advances, processes, and materials that minimize environmental and public health impacts of buildings over their lifecycles
- **Restoration:** projects that support ecosystem restoration and other activities that protect and revitalize natural and cultural systems



## EDA's i6 Green projects will be evaluated on:

- **Personnel Qualifications and Resources:** Qualified personnel; Education and accomplishment; Previous performance; Quality of partners; Appropriateness of facilities; Access to VC/Angel investors
- **Impact:** Wide regional quantifiable benefits; Enhance infrastructure; Replicability
- **Long-term:** Financial resources to sustain; Self-sustaining
- **Feasibility:** Coherent plan; Sound strategy; Adequate financial resources; Multi-stakeholder commitment; Strong human capital
- **Concepts:** ID Problems/needs; Creative & new models; Understanding regional challenges; Develop a roadmap; Utilize Proof of Concept Center

## 1) Regional Review

- Initial screening for completeness and eligibility
- Initial Merit review
- Identify 10 apps per region

## 2) Interagency Review Panel

- Panel of Federal employees from partner agencies
- Judging on evaluation criteria listed in FFO
- Identify top 5 apps per region

## 3) Merit Review by NSF Peer

- NSF external peer review panel
- Judging on evaluation criteria listed in FFO
- Summary and recs to Selection Committee

## 4) Joint Selection Committee Review

- Senior officials from DOC, EPA, USDA DOE and NSF
- Review apps & prior recs
- Make recs to Selecting Official

Selecting Official: Regional Director

EDA i6 Challenge Winners

## 1) All Applications Must Submit a Letter of Intent

Due May 02, 2011 to [i6@eda.doc.gov](mailto:i6@eda.doc.gov)

Such a letter is NOT binding, but IS required, and must contain:

- Applicant's names & affiliations
- How funding will be used
- Potential team members and/or partners.
- Description of budget and scope of work
- Outline of plan for increasing commercialization
- Description of current funding through EDA, EPA, DOE, USDA/NIFA, and NSF (applicants and co-applicants)

## 2) Final Application Deadline

May 26, 2011

## 3) Complete Package downloadable at: [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)

Funding Opportunity Number: I6GREENEDA031011

## 4) Electronic Submission @ Grants.gov only

Also See section IV. C. of the FFO

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