



Fact Sheet | Puerto Rico Energy Resilience Fund

In December 2022, President Biden signed the Fiscal Year 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act into law, which included \$1 billion for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to establish the [Puerto Rico Energy Resilience Fund](#) (PR-ERF) to improve the resilience of Puerto Rico's electric grid, with a focus on the Island's most vulnerable households.

Entities Selected to Support Residential Rooftop Solar and Battery Storage Deployment in Puerto Rico

On November 29, 2023, DOE's [Grid Deployment Office](#) (GDO) announced the final round of selectees under the Puerto Rico Energy Resilience Fund's (PR-ERF) initial \$450 million [Funding Opportunity Announcement](#) (FOA), as well as the selectees for its \$3.85 million [Solar Ambassador Prize](#) to support residential solar photovoltaic (PV) and battery storage installations in Puerto Rico. These selections conclude the first round of funding released under the PR-ERF, and these efforts will support the installation of approximately 30,000–40,000 residential solar systems to vulnerable Puerto Rican households. Beneficiaries of the installed systems will include very low-income, single-family households that are either:

- Located in areas that have a high percentage of very low-income households and experience frequent and prolonged power outages; or
- Include a resident with an energy-dependent disability, such as an electric wheelchair user or individual who uses at-home dialysis machines.

Solar Companies Selected for Negotiations - \$400 million

Three qualified solar companies with an existing workforce in Puerto Rico, **Generac Power Systems Inc.**, **Sunnova Energy Corporation**, and **Sunrun Inc.**, will now enter award negotiations with DOE. Pending successful negotiations and demonstrated successful project performance, a total of \$400 million may be awarded across these three companies to deploy residential solar systems to vulnerable Puerto Rican households.

Nonprofits and Cooperatives Selected for Negotiations - \$40 million

Five qualified local nonprofits and cooperatives will now enter award negotiations with DOE: **Barrio Eléctrico**, **Comunidad Solar Toro Negro, Inc.**, **Environmental Defense Fund**, **Let's Share the Sun Foundation**, and **Solar United Neighbors, Inc.** Pending successful negotiations and demonstrated successful project performance, these five organizations may be awarded up to \$40 million total to deploy residential solar systems to vulnerable households across Puerto Rico.

Nonprofits Leading Education and Consumer Protection Efforts Selected for Negotiations - \$10 million

To help ensure vulnerable households understand how to use their solar and battery systems as well as their consumer rights in Puerto Rico, GDO is announcing the selection of two qualified organizations—**Hispanic Federation Inc.** and the **Institute for Building Technology and Safety**—to lead education, training, and consumer protection initiatives. Pending successful negotiations and demonstrated successful project performance, these two organizations may be awarded up to \$10 million total from the PR-ERF Funding Opportunity Announcement.

Solar Ambassador Prize Selectees - \$3.85 million

To ensure that the FOA selectees can quickly deploy solar PV and battery systems where they are most needed, the Solar Ambassador Prize is a complementary competitive funding opportunity for organizations in Puerto Rico to assist DOE in identifying, engaging, and assisting with intake processing of qualifying households. These groups were chosen based on their stated understanding of the unique needs and challenges of their neighbors and are in the best position to serve as local, trusted partners to help DOE identify and support the Puerto Rico's most vulnerable residents who will receive solar PV and battery systems through the PR-ERF. DOE will award a total of \$3.85 million across the following **16 community organizations** to assist in this work. These organizations will initially receive \$17,500 in seed funding and will be eligible for further compensation based on the number of households they enroll for solar PV and battery storage home inspections:

- *Alianza de Médicos Al Rescate, Inc.*
- *Borincana Foundation Inc.*
- *Cáritas de Puerto Rico, Inc.*
- *Centro de Microempresas y Tecnologías Agrícolas Sustentables Yauco Inc. (CMTAS)*
- *Centro Madre Teresa de Calcuta Inc.*
- *Centros Sor Isolina Ferré*
- *Cooperativa Hidroeléctrica de la Montaña*
- *Corporación Desarrollo Económico Vivienda y Salud (CODEVyS), Inc.*
- *Grupo Resiliente del Oeste/ Sunrise Solar & Consulting LLC*
- *Movimiento para el Alcance de Vida Independiente (MAVI)*
- *Pathstone Corporation*
- *Por Los Nuestros Inc.*
- *Productores de Café de Puerto Rico, Inc. (PROCAFE)*
- *Programa de Apoyo y Enlace Comunitario, Inc.*
- *The Saint Bernard Project Inc.*
- *ViequesLove*

Next Steps

DOE anticipates that Solar Ambassador outreach to eligible households will begin in early 2024. FOA selectees that successfully complete award negotiations and receive an award will move to a planning phase, in which they will develop a detailed deployment plan to execute their projects. If GDO determines that these plans align with the deployment goals of the FOA, awardees will receive funding and approval to begin installations of rooftop solar and storage for vulnerable households by Spring 2024. The second round of funding for the PR-ERF will be announced at a later date.

- For more information on this FOA, visit www.energy.gov/gdo/PRFOA2023.
- For more information on the Solar Ambassador Prize, visit www.energy.gov/gdo/solar-ambassador-prize.
- For more information on the PR-ERF and other efforts of DOE's Grid Recovery and Modernization Team, visit www.energy.gov/gdo/puerto-rico-energy-resilience-fund.
- Questions about the PR-ERF can be sent to PuertoRicoGDO@hq.doe.gov.

