

TVA INNOVATION AND RESEARCH

# Connected Communities Call for Pilots

March 2023

## Announcing a \$2M funding opportunity to advance data and technology for those served by TVA.

Innovative pilot projects that address urgent community needs and create long-term benefits are happening throughout our service region. With 14 pilot projects currently in the field, TVA is now looking to add more projects and expand to new communities with a new Connected Communities Call for Pilots. Non-profits, businesses, governments, local power companies and others are invited to submit innovative pilot project ideas.

### WE ARE FUNDING

**\$2M**

in total  
awards

**\$750K**

maximum  
per project

**4-8**

projects  
total

## What Projects Qualify?

Projects demonstrating an emerging technology or a new intervention approach to connect communities to resources that will directly and measurably have a positive outcome on two or more of these areas:

- Equitable access to services such as broadband and digital literacy
- Equitable access to innovative, sustainable and connected technologies
- Energy burden or energy poverty
- Access to quality science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education
- Environmental health, including indoor environmental health/justice
- Enhanced resiliency for vulnerable populations
- Access to better employment, career or entrepreneurial opportunities

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## Pilot Project Focus Areas



### Broadband and Digital Literacy

Everyone in the TVA service region has access to services through broadband, modern technology and the knowledge and empowerment to use it.



### Energy and Environmental Justice

Everyone in the TVA service region has access to a healthy environment (natural and built) and reliable, affordable and clean energy.



### Economic Empowerment

Everyone in the TVA service region is economically secure and can contribute to a modern, 21st century economy to the best of their ability.



### Enhanced Community Resiliency

Communities in the TVA service region have plans and resources to minimize the impacts of events like natural disasters and cyberthreats, to endure them safely and to recover quickly.

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## Who is Eligible

Pilot projects should be led by a principal organization with the resources and authority to implement the pilot project. Applicants or team members may include:

- Non-profits and non-governmental organizations (NGO)
- Government agencies
- Local power companies
- Businesses
- Universities and colleges

The principal organization must be willing and able to receive federal funding.

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## How Project Proposals are Evaluated

Pilot projects must be conducted in the TVA service region and will be evaluated based on strategic alignment, feasibility and impact.

More information about the evaluation criteria and required documentation can be found at: [tva.com/connectedcommunities](https://tva.com/connectedcommunities).

## Important Dates

### APPLICATIONS OPEN

April 3, 2023

### APPLICATIONS CLOSED

June 30, 2023

### RECIPIENT ANNOUNCEMENT

September 2023

## Visit us Online

Visit [tva.com/connectedcommunities](https://tva.com/connectedcommunities) to learn more about the call for pilots, see examples of previous pilot projects funded, explore links to resources for your community and learn more about Connected Communities.

 [tva.com/connectedcommunities](https://tva.com/connectedcommunities)

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