SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN RESILIENCE FUND
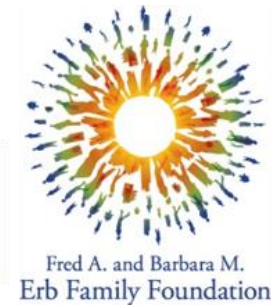## 2022-2023 Funding Opportunity - Guidance for Applicants

WEBINAR AGENDA

- **Welcome & Introductions**

- **Southeast Michigan Resilience Fund Overview**

- **2022-2023 Funding Opportunity**

  - **Funding Priorities**

  - **Elements of a Competitive Proposal**

  - **Applying for a grant – Additional pre-recorded Easygrants webinar available**

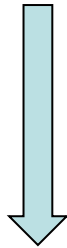 - **Recording of webinar available at:** *www.nfwf.org/semichigan*

PUBLIC–PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

- Cleveland-Cliffs

- Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation

- The Kresge Foundation

- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

- Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- U.S. Forest Service

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: 2018-2022

28 grants: $6.1 million
Grantee match: $7.1 million
Total investment: $13.2 million

- 12.1M gal stormwater storage

- 870 acres habitat restoration

- 37 acres public green space added or improved

2023 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

- Available funding: **Approximately $1.7 million**

- Grant size: **$150,000 to $350,000**

- Grant duration: typically **24 months**

- **Pre-Proposal** due date: **August 30, 2022 by 11:59 PM ET**

- **Full-proposal** due date: **November 3, 2022 by 11:59 PM ET**

GEOGRAPHIC ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for funding, projects must be located within the seven-county region of southeast Michigan including the following counties:

- St. Clair

- Macomb

- Oakland

- Wayne

- Washtenaw

- Livingston

- Monroe

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- Eligible applicants

  - ✓ Non-profit organizations
  - ✓ State, tribal, and local governments
  - ✓ Educational institutions

- Ineligible applicants

  - ✓ Individuals
  - ✓ Federal agencies
  - ✓ For-profit businesses

- *A single organization may submit multiple applications*

- *Unlikely for an organization to receive more than one award per cycle*

- *Grantees with active NFWF grants are eligible to apply for funding*

Healthy Schools Campaign, Space to Grow

FUNDING CATEGORIES

1. Expanding Green Stormwater Infrastructure and Enhancing Public Space

2. Improving Habitat Quality, Connectivity, and Enhancing Public Space

-rain gardens   -pervious surfaces
-bioswales   -constructed wetlands

-pollinator habitat   -stream restoration
-invasive control   -wetland restoration

Public-use Improvement/Access

-neighborhood greenspace   -schoolyards   -trails/riverwalks
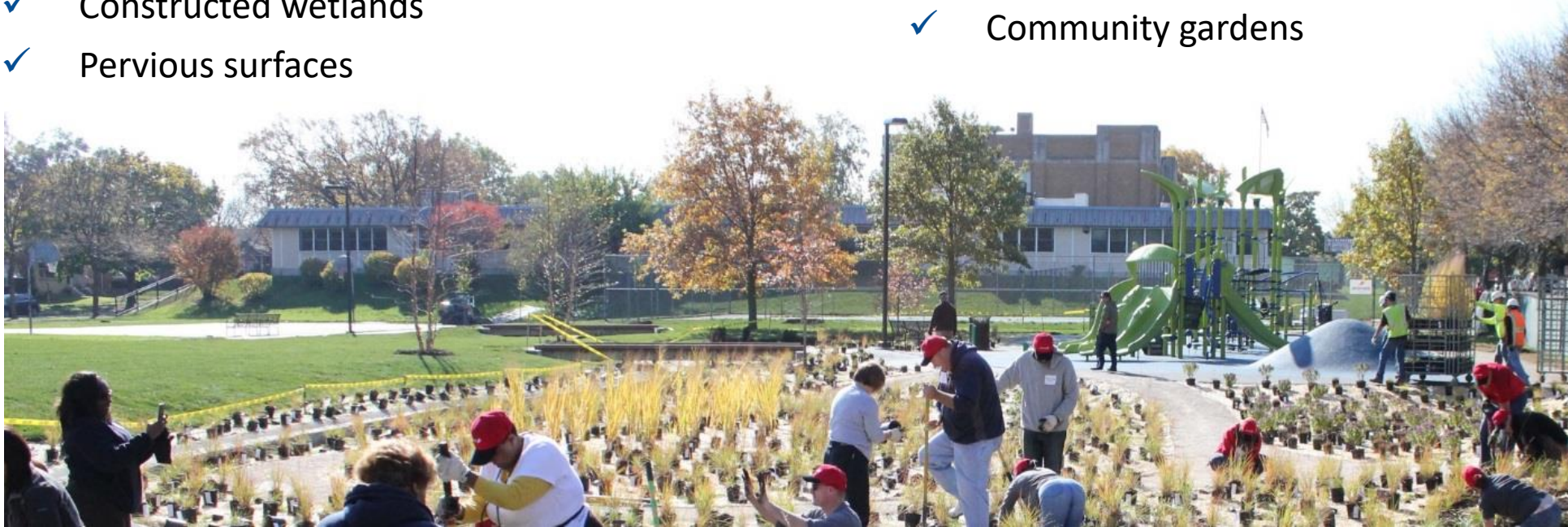-passive/active recreation   -parklands   -public access points
-waterway access   -play areas   -community gardens

EXPANDING GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENHANCING PUBLIC SPACE

Support green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) projects that improve stormwater capture and storage to mitigate the impacts of climate change, including reducing runoff, combined sewer overflows, basement backups, and flooding.

- Install and maintain GSI
  - ✓ Rain gardens
  - ✓ Bioswales
  - ✓ **Tree planting in underserved communities**
  - ✓ Constructed wetlands
  - ✓ Pervious surfaces

- Improve public green space
  - ✓ Trails/paths
  - ✓ Recreation (benches, play areas, etc.)
  - ✓ Educational signage and community engagement
  - ✓ Community gardens

EXPANDING GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENHANCING PUBLIC SPACE

- GSI projects must be designed with a dual purpose, to increase stormwater storage capacity while also enhancing the quality of, access to, and/or use of community green space or natural areas.

- Competitive projects will:

  ✓ Be of sufficient size and scope to significantly reduce runoff and increase GSI function at a regional scale

  ✓ Connect to a larger green infrastructure or similar plan or strategy

  ✓ Maintenance: outline authority and capacity to maintain sites

Projects must add or maintain a minimum 50,000 cumulative gallons of stormwater storage capacity annually to be competitive

IMPROVING HABITAT QUALITY, CONNECTIVITY AND ENHANCING PUBLIC SPACE

Support habitat restoration projects, including in-stream, riparian, upland, and wetland habitat, that improve the quality and connectivity of habitats

- Restore/enhance habitat quality
  - ✓ Pollinator habitat
  - ✓ Streambank stabilization
  - ✓ Invasive species control
  - ✓ Native plant restoration
  - ✓ Instream and hydrologic structures

- Increase access to/use of   natural areas
  - ✓ Trails/paths
  - ✓ Public access points
  - ✓ Waterway access infrastructure
  - ✓ Passive/active recreation

IMPROVING HABITAT QUALITY, CONNECTIVITY

- Competitive projects will:
  - ✓ Improve water quality in Great Lakes and other waterways
  - ✓ Reduce erosion
  - ✓ Add habitat complexity and quality
  - ✓ Increase habitat connectivity
  - ✓ Encourage biodiversity

- Priority to projects that:
  - ✓ Improve native/natural habitat
  - ✓ Improve habitat for multiple species of concern
  - ✓ Meaningfully engage/benefit underserved communities

LONG-TERM OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

- ≥5 year plan required

- Plan elements:

  - ✓ Actions needed
  - ✓ Cost estimates
  - ✓ Likely sources of funding
  - ✓ Responsible parties
  - ✓ Equipment access or ownership
  - ✓ Capacity for long-term stewardship

- If applicable, describe long term invasive species management and EDRR protocol

- Portion of grant funding may be used for plan development

- Plan must be completed prior to grant end date

EQUITY AND INCLUSION

- Support projects that meaningfully engage and benefit communities that have historically been underrepresented and underserved, particularly low-income and Black, Indigenous and communities of color

  - Applicants must:

    - ✓ Demonstrate how the project and/or project partners address equity and community engagement in full proposal narrative

    - ✓ Include plans and methods to engage and inform the pubic about the project

    - ✓ Discuss and their appraoch to tracking and measuring qualitative, long-term diversity, equity and inclusion outcomes in the full proposal narrative and plan to report progress to NFWF

  - Priority to projects that:

    - ✓ Were developed through community input and co-design

    - ✓ Engage communities meaningfully throughout and beyond the grant timeline

Pre-Proposal Narrative Question – Community Impact

Describe the community(ies) where the project will take place, who will benefit from the project, and how they were or will be engaged in project development and implementation. Provide demographic information on the community(ies), including but not limited to age, race and ethnicity, poverty rates.

Two-part question:

    1) Describe community characteristics of the project area and identify any communities impacted.

        • Use **demographic data** to document (poverty statistics, school lunch data, demographic records etc.)

        • This data can be found using Census data, School District data, State data centers, EJ Screen, and other sources

    2) Describe outreach and community engagement activities for project development and implementation

COMPETITIVE PROJECTS

- Applicants must demonstrate capacity & experience commensurate with the scale and funding request of the project and/or

- Utilize established partnerships with other organizations to increase capacity, improve project design and outcomes and enhance community engagement

- Align with and demonstrate how projects will complement and connect to local, regional, or other existing strategies or plans

- Shovel-ready (project can begin shortly after grant is awarded).

- Apply most (≥70%) grant funding to on-the ground activities

- Technically sound and feasible. Proposal sets forth a clear, logical and achievable work plan and timeline.

COMPETITIVE PROJECTS

- Include long-lasting and sustainable benefits to communities and natural resources, as demonstrated by provisions for long-term (5-year) maintenance, operation, and management plans

- Provide monitoring and evaluation plans to measure outcomes of the project beyond the grant period

- Incorporate planning for climate change into their design, location, and/or function. Identify existing and anticipated impacts of climate change on target communities and/or ecosystems and wildlife identified as the intended beneficiary of the grant funded work.

- Demonstrate potential to catalyze additional efforts in communities or settings throughout Southeast Michigan where it has not been broadly deployed, including underserved or traditionally excluded communities

- Seek to improve regional collaboration and advance or establish regional strategies

APPLICATION PROCESS

Pre-Proposal

- Staff Contact and Organization Information
- Project Information:
  - Title
  - Period of Performance
  - Description & location
  - Requested amount
- Matching Contributions
- Uploads:
  - *2-page max. narrative*
  - Applicant Demographic Form

Full Proposal

- Staff Contact and Organization Information
- Project Information:
  - Title
  - Period of Performance
  - Description & location
  - Requested amount
- Matching Contributions
- Project Map
- Metrics
- Budget
- Uploads:
  - *7-page max. narrative*
  - Letters of support required
  - Financial documents

Pre-Proposal Upload - Applicant Demographic Information Form

- **The information you provide will <u>not</u> be shared with proposal reviewers and will <u>not</u> be considered when making grant decisions.**

- The Foundation will <u>not</u> share identifying information about any particular entity or project.

- While the form is a required upload, applicants can opt out of providing the information within the form itself

- The information provided on this excel form will be kept confidential, the Foundation may share its anonymized aggregate findings as appropriate with its staff, Board of Directors, funding partners, and publicly on its website or through other media.

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

- Start date should be no earlier than **March 13, 2023**

- Duration typically 2 years (or two full field seasons)

- Matching contributions must be spent or applied between project start and end dates

MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

- Match is not required. However, projects offering a 1:1 match ratio may be more competitive. **Match limitations should not discourage applicants from submitting a proposal**.

- May be Federal or Non-federal

- Match eligibility

  ✓ Verifiable from the grantee's records

  ✓ Not included as contributions for any other award

  ✓ Necessary & reasonable for accomplishment of project or program objectives

  ✓ Are allowable under OMB Cost Principles (applicable to Federal match only)

  ✓ Committed directly to the project and must be used within the period of performance

ACCEPTED MATCH SOURCES

- Cash

- In-kind contributions of staff

- Materials and services donated

- Volunteer time

- Cost of land acquisition/easement

- Allowable indirect costs not covered by grant funding

- Other tangible contributions to project goals

METRICS

- All possible outcome metrics are listed & available in Easygrants during the Full Proposal application process

- Only metrics relevant to the proposed project should be selected

- All starting values should be **zero (0)**

- Grantees will be required to report progress toward project outcomes in terms of metrics selected

- Applicants must identify, track and measure qualitative, long-term diversity, equity and inclusion outcomes in Full Proposal narrative and reporting to NFWF if awarded

  – These metrics are not in Easygrants, see RFP and full proposal narrative

Project Activity	Recommended Metrics *Required metric	Additional Guidance		
Expanding Green Stormwater Infrastructure	*Volume stor added	Enter the volume (in gallons) of stormwater storage retained annually through green		
	Impervious S		Improving Public Access & Community Engagement (all proposals should select at least two of these metrics)	Infrastructure - acres of greenspace	Enter the acres of neighborhood green space and habitat created or improved
	Square feet o infrastructur			Infrastructure - miles trails developed/improved	Enter the number of miles of trails or river walks developed or improved
	# of trees pla			Infrastructure - access pts developed/improved	Enter the number of public access points developed/improved
Enhancing Habitat Quality	Riparian rest restored			# of volunteer hours	Enter the # of volunteer hours in this project
	Instream res restored			# jobs sustained	Provide number of jobs continued or sustained through the grant. Jobs should be directly engaged in project activities, exist prior to the grant period, and be sustained beyond the end of the grant.
	Instream res habitat struct			# jobs created	Provide number of individuals hired by organization or contractor directly working on the project (non-volunteers) during the project period. This reflects the addition of new jobs to the local and regional economy as the result of the work proposed in the grant.
	# passage ba			# people reached	Provide total number of people reached by grant activities throughout the period of performance. People reached should reflect the number of community members (volunteers, local groups, residents) meaningfully engaged in the project design, implementation, or who utilize the project's on-the-ground assets post-implementation. If the applicant will be measuring public use of grant investments post-implementation, please indicate the method of measurement to validate the use estimate (e.g. trail counters, volunteer observations, etc.)
	Miles of strea				
	Acres of wetl restored				
	Acres restore species remo				
	Pounds sedim (annually)				
	Pounds phos; prevented from entering (annually)	from entering system annually			
	Pounds nitrogen prevented from entering (annually)	Enter the amount of nitrogen prevented from entering system annually			

METRICS

Add notes to selected metrics provided.

Filter By: [EMR Metrics ▼] [Show All Strategies ▼]   [Select Metric]

	Metric		Strategies	Required	Starting Value		Target value	
☐	FIF - Building institutional capacity - # FTE with sufficient training	❓	Capacity, Outreach, Incentives	Optional	[____]	# FTE with sufficient training	[____]	# FTE with sufficient training 📄 ✕
☐	FIF - Monitoring - # vessels in monitoring program	❓	Planning, Research, Monitoring	Optional	[____]	# vessels in monitoring program	[____]	# vessels in monitoring program 📄 ✕

Viewing Records 1 - 2 of 2   Page size [25 ▼] First | Previous | Next | Last | Show All

☐ Select All [Delete Selected]

[Save] [Save and Continue]

Notes   ✖

Metric : FIF - Monitoring - # vessels in monitoring program

Note   We plan on using small scale fishing vessels (40ft in length) to
       engage in pound net fishing ....
       We will work with 1-2 fishers/vessels in each location....

[Save And Close] [Close]

APPLICATION ASSISTANCE – REFERENCE SHEET

Supporting Documents:

1. Southeast Michigan Resilience Fund 2022-2023 RFP webpage
   a. Tip Sheet
      - Step-by-step proposal guidance
   b. Easygrants Instructional Webinar
      - Step-by-step video tutorial on how to start and complete a proposal in Easygrants

2. NFWF Application Information
   a. Budget instructions
      - Download the Detailed Budget and Narrative Guide
      - *For the Full Proposal Budget section, please provide a respective budget narrative describing the purpose of each line item towards the project.
   b. Required financial documents
      - Financial documents must be for the same fiscal year and **no more than 2 years old**
   c. Indirect Cost Policy

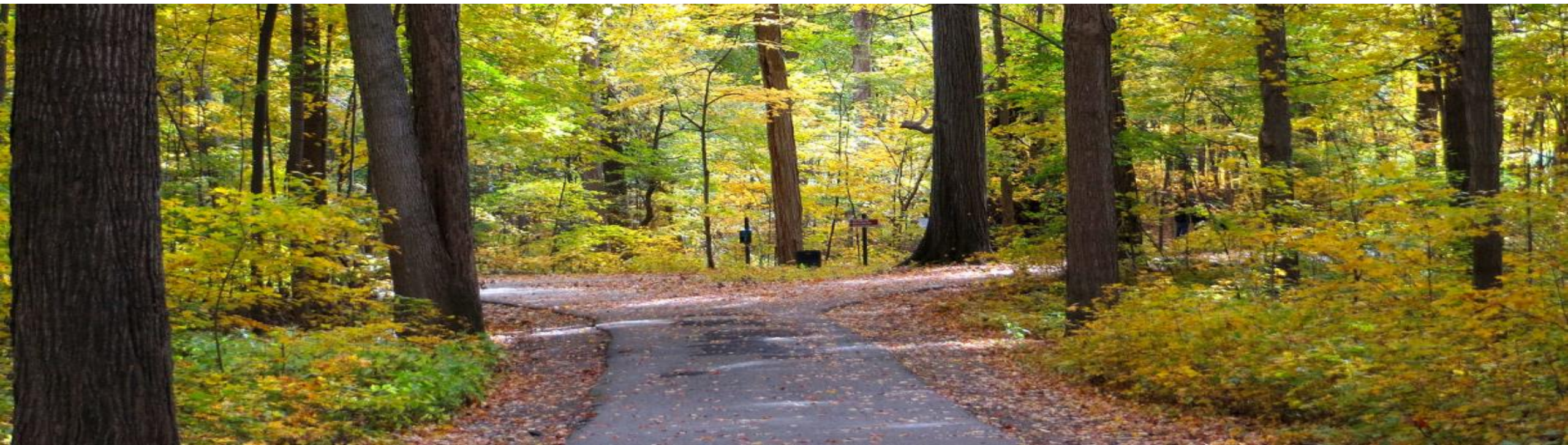# APPLICATION ASSISTANCE – EASYGRANTS TIPS

- If you've never used Easygrants before, create your login at easygrants.nfwf.org TODAY and familiarize yourself with the system. **View the pre-recorded instructional webinar.**

- Turn off your browser's pop-up blockers

- Download the Tip Sheet (available on the RFP webpage) and use it as a reference to complete each field of the proposal

- Refer to the RFP and metrics instructions in Easygrants for required metric notes

- DO NOT mail physical letters of support to NFWF, upload digital copies into the online proposal

- Provide a phone number in your Easygrants account. Keep your email and proposal contact information up-to-date.

TIMELINE

- Pre-Proposals Due: **August 30, 2022 by 11:59 PM ET**

- Full proposals due: **November 3, 2022 by 11:59 PM ET**

- Grant awards announced: **March 2023**

- Grant agreements developed: **March – June 2023**

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