Fostering Regional Growth

- Thanks to President Biden’s Investing in America agenda, communities across the country are making a comeback. Targeted, place-based investments are advancing opportunity and creating good-paying manufacturing jobs—particularly in semiconductors.
- Already, we’ve seen investments of vital importance to the CHIPS for America Vision for Success promote economic development in regions across the country, which will strengthen broader economic and national security over the next decade. And more are on the way.
- To support implementation of these investments, CHIPS for America is working with key regions across the United States to provide the support needed for expanding and emerging regional semiconductor industry clusters to succeed.
- This place-based approach to semiconductor manufacturing builds off of existing initiatives like the White House’s Workforce Hubs, which are creating partnerships to train and connect Americans to good-paying jobs in industries of the future, and the Economic Development Administration’s Tech Hubs, which are funding inclusive regional growth centered on emerging or critical technologies.
- CHIPS for America is initially focusing these efforts in locations hosting commercial-scale manufacturing of leading-edge logic or leading-edge memory technology – building on a key objective of CHIPS’ Vision for Success.
- In these emerging leading-edge cluster regions, the Department of Commerce expects to:
  - Enter into Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with state and local government entities that define a shared vision for success, responsibilities, commitments, and norms of working together.
  - Work closely with state economic development agencies as primary local points of contact for CHIPS project implementation and cluster development.
  - Serve as an implementation partner to the region after a CHIPS award is finalized, including regular touchpoints, bespoke technical assistance, and connections to federal inter-agency partners (see: Highlights of CHIPS Regional Support).
  - Facilitate cross-regional knowledge-sharing across leading-edge regions to help address common challenges and disseminate effective approaches.
  - Coordinate with existing federal resources (e.g., Workforce Hubs and Tech Hubs) in convening local partners and marshal resources to address implementation needs.

Why CHIPS for America Is Supporting Regions

- CHIPS for America is ensuring that communities hosting leading-edge manufacturing investments will have the tools they need to successfully support these projects and compete on a global scale.
- Investing in U.S. production of leading-edge chips is one of the key strategic goals of CHIPS for America.
- These chips require the most sophisticated technology and processes available in the world today, and tend to be the most expensive and transformational for a regional ecosystem, with high projected capital expenditure costs, large physical footprints, high volume of suppliers and associated follow-on investment, and wide diversity of workforce needs.
• The complexity of these types of facilities necessarily requires significant partnership from all levels of government and across multiple agencies at each level to facilitate timely and effective implementation, on topics ranging from supply chain coordination to permitting to physical infrastructure to workforce development to emergency management.
• Industry clusters seeded by leading-edge investments are catalyzing transformational place-based investments – supporting good jobs, renewed infrastructure, vibrant innovation pipelines, and broadly-shared economic growth in communities.

How is CHIPS Focusing These Efforts?
• The Department of Commerce has identified industry clusters as being core to ensuring that chipmakers view continued expansion in the United States as economically attractive and core to their business models, even in the absence of future funding from CHIPS.
• In the context of CHIPS, clusters are geographically compact areas with multiple commercial-scale fabs owned and operated by one or more companies; a large, diverse, and skilled workforce; nearby suppliers to the semiconductor industry; R&D facilities; reliable, efficient utilities; and specialized infrastructure.
• The development of regional clusters of investment and innovation in semiconductors requires active coordination across industry, multiple federal agencies, state and local governments, labor, academia, and other partners working together to build infrastructure, support innovation, and grow self-sustaining domestic ecosystems.

Other Key Semiconductor Regions
• Regions across the United States are also critical to the CHIPS for America Vision for Success, including geographies that host current, mature, supply chain, advanced packaging, and R&D investments.
• Communities throughout the country will make important contributions to our goals to increase production capacity, strengthen domestic supply chain resilience, and accelerate innovation through research and development.
• CHIPS for America expects to continue to engage actively with regional stakeholders around the country to support project implementation and grow the domestic semiconductor ecosystem.
• In the future, CHIPS for America may also expand its support to additional regional industry clusters as our programs continue to grow and mature.

Advancing the Investing in America Agenda
• The Biden-Harris Administration’s Investing in America (IIA) agenda is mobilizing historic levels of private sector investment in the United States, bringing manufacturing back to America after decades of offshoring, and creating new, good-paying jobs in every community across the country.
• The CHIPS Regional Strategy is a part of this universe of IIA programs—and will build off of the existing place-based supports the Administration has already launched including:
EDA’s Tech Hubs program, also created by the CHIPS and Science Act, which is seeding the growth of innovative industries of the future and will develop the next generation of manufacturing technologies to support ongoing resiliency in the U.S.; and

The White House Workforce Hubs which are creating partnerships to train and connect Americans to good-paying jobs in industries of the future, while solving workforce challenges facing nascent industries.

CHIPS’ Regional Strategy will also work with programs that are improving transportation infrastructure, investing in energy resiliency, growing the innovation pipeline, and ensuring good paying jobs that are crucial to catalyzing ongoing investments in the semiconductor industry and other critical industries in the U.S.

More on the CHIPS Regional Strategy

- Learn more about how CHIPS for America is leveraging resources from across the federal government to accelerate regional cluster growth.
- Learn more about actions that state and local partners can take to support cluster growth.
- Learn more about state-level legislation that is fostering growth of the domestic semiconductor industry.
- Learn more about the role of government partnerships in supporting regional clusters.