Fact Sheet: Supporting Regional Semiconductor Industry Growth through Government Partnerships

Successfully advancing U.S. leadership in the semiconductor industry and implementing a domestic strategy for manufacturing and research innovation will depend on collaboration across all levels of government. This partnership will ensure CHIPS for America goes beyond helping to seed private sector investments in the U.S. manufacturing landscape to facilitating the growth of regional semiconductor ecosystems and building strong communities.

The Department of Commerce – through CHIPS for America – is working with regions hosting leading-edge semiconductor manufacturing projects, which are vital to the CHIPS for America Vision for Success. In these regions, the Department will lead the way, on behalf of the federal government, in forging cross-government relationships. We will coordinate with our state and local government partners to ensure sustained growth of regional clusters of investment and innovation in semiconductors; encourage ongoing private sector investment; and meet our economic and national security goals.

What are the goals for this partnership?

- This all-of-government partnership seeks to promote cooperative efforts that aid the development of regional semiconductor ecosystems seeded by leading-edge logic or memory semiconductor manufacturing fabs.
- Guided by the collaboration with state and local governments, as part of its work with regions, the Department of Commerce will mobilize federal agency partners to support the advancement and growth of regional semiconductor ecosystems.
- This will help to ensure efforts are streamlined across government and can address project and ecosystem challenges in a timely and fulsome manner.
- The Department of Commerce and its state and local government partners will identify clear priorities upon which they can collaborate to mitigate challenges to successful implementation of CHIPS-funded project(s) and foster growth of the regional semiconductor ecosystem.
- The partnership will aim to support regional clusters with additional investment in semiconductors and industry support – beyond funding from CHIPS for America awards – through public resources, technical assistance, and activities that build strong communities and facilitate the growth of the regional semiconductor ecosystem.

What will this partnership look like?

- The Department of Commerce will establish a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between federal, state, and local governments hosting leading-edge manufacturing projects to memorialize the partnership in these regions.
- The MOU will create a framework for collaboration and outline the commitments from each government partner to support development of vibrant regional semiconductor ecosystems through policies that support necessary infrastructure, supply chain, housing, workforce, transit, and other regulatory frameworks or support structures that foster ecosystem growth.
• The partners will define, in general terms, the basis on which they will work together including norms for communication and collaboration, sharing of information, convening, and engagement with a broad network of key stakeholders in the region.

What are the expectations of each partner?

Department of Commerce will:
• Create a “one-stop shop” within the federal government to coordinate technical assistance and leverage resources from agency partners in response to regional challenges and opportunities;
• Convene key regions across the country to share best practices and collaborate on addressing common issues;
• Provide ongoing support to regions and CHIPS awardee companies to mitigate challenges to project success and cluster growth; and
• Where applicable, connect regional and company stakeholders with existing Biden-Harris Administration programs, such as Workforce Hubs and Tech Hubs, to support workers and the development of innovative industries in regions across the country.

State Governments will:
• Utilize state legislation, initiatives, and funding resources to enhance statewide support of the semiconductor industry;
• Support the Department of Commerce as a strategic implementation partner in the leading-edge regions through the State’s Economic Development Agency; and
• Use their convening power to bring together industry and community stakeholders across the region and state in support of the semiconductor industry in partnership with the White House’s Workforce Hubs and EDA Tech Hubs where applicable.

County Governments will:
• Streamline processes and leverage resources to ensure timely project implementation and support;
• Collaborate on mitigating challenges to projects and ecosystem development, utilizing local, state, and federal government partners; and
• Develop regulations and encourage programs throughout the county that support and encourage future investments in the industry.

City/Town Governments will:
• In partnership with the White House Workforce Hubs, invest in programs that foster equitable access to participation in the semiconductor industry through workforce development;
• Create widespread economic opportunity through programs for workforce wraparound services, workforce housing, regional transit, updated zoning, and small business programming; and
• Collaborate on mitigating challenges to projects and ecosystem development utilizing local, state, and federal government partners.
More on the CHIPS Regional Strategy

- Learn more about CHIPS for America’s 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.