NSF EPSCoR
ADVANCING GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY IN STEM

EPSCoR Live!

EPSCoR Collaborations for Optimizing Research Ecosystems Research Infrastructure Improvement (E-CORE RII)
&
EPSCoR Research Incubators for STEM Excellence Research Infrastructure Improvement (E-RISE RII)

Casonya Johnson, Ph.D., (E-RISE RII Program Lead)

JD Swanson, Ph.D., (E-CORE RII Program Lead)

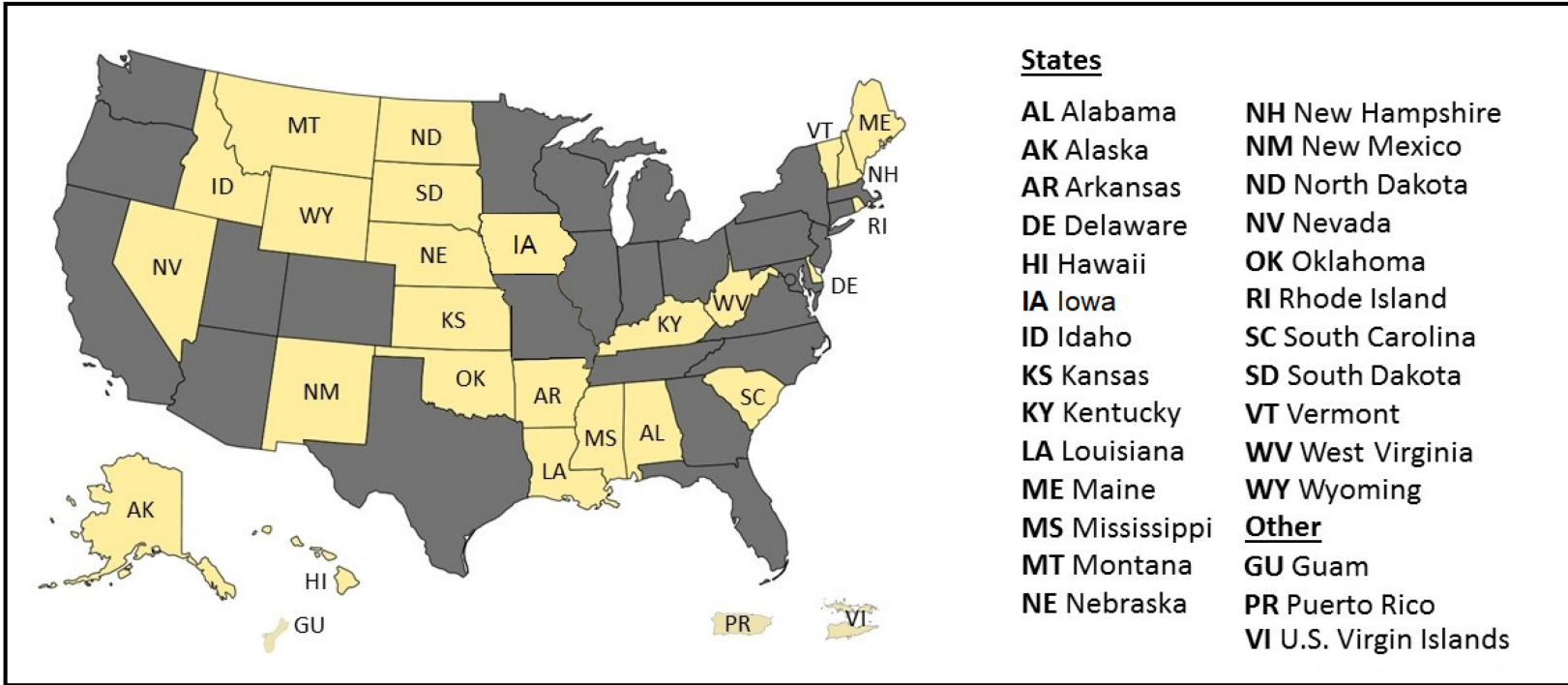*Program Directors*

NSF RCC

1

FY24 EPSCoR Team

E-CORE and E-RISE are designed to build a research ecosystem approach that is dynamic and can be tailored to a Jurisdiction's unique needs

What does the jurisdictional ecosystem look like now?

Each EPSCoR Jurisdiction is Unique

States

AL Alabama	**NH** New Hampshire
AK Alaska	**NM** New Mexico
AR Arkansas	**ND** North Dakota
DE Delaware	**NV** Nevada
HI Hawaii	**OK** Oklahoma
IA Iowa	**RI** Rhode Island
ID Idaho	**SC** South Carolina
KS Kansas	**SD** South Dakota
KY Kentucky	**VT** Vermont
LA Louisiana	**WV** West Virginia
ME Maine	**WY** Wyoming
MS Mississippi	**Other**
MT Montana	**GU** Guam
NE Nebraska	**PR** Puerto Rico
	VI U.S. Virgin Islands

And lives in a PESTLE+G World

P-Political
E-Economic
S-Social
T-Technological
L-Legal
E-Environmental
+
G-Geographical

NSF Investments

Community, Stakeholders, and Public

Jurisdictional EPSCoR Steering Committee

S&T Plan

EPSCoR-RII Investments

Other NSF Centers or Center-Like Activities (Not limited to state)

Other NSF Investments

Other Research or Translational Activities in State or Nationally

Academic Institutions

R1 Institutions

Emerging Research Institutions including Primarily Undergraduate Institutions

Community Colleges

Minority Serving Institutions

State and Local Resources and State and Local Government Agencies

Partnerships
- Industry Partnerships
- Tribal Partnerships
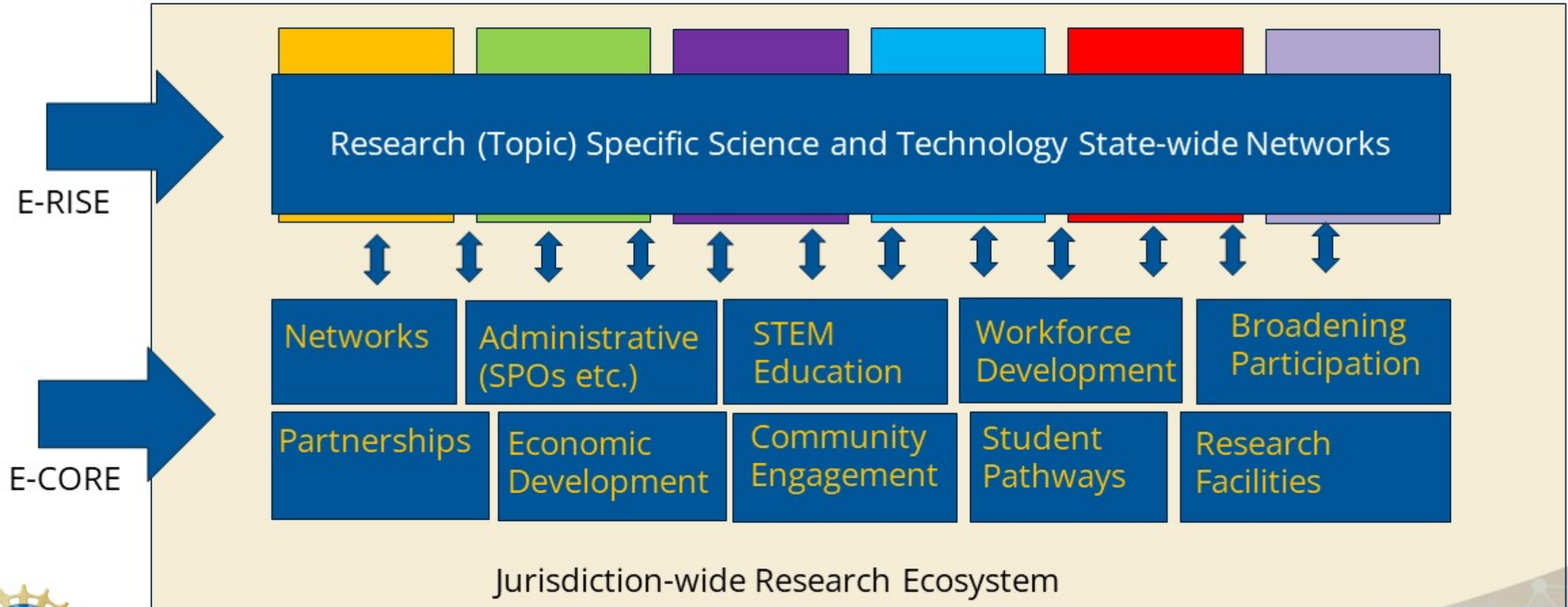- Public and Private Partnerships

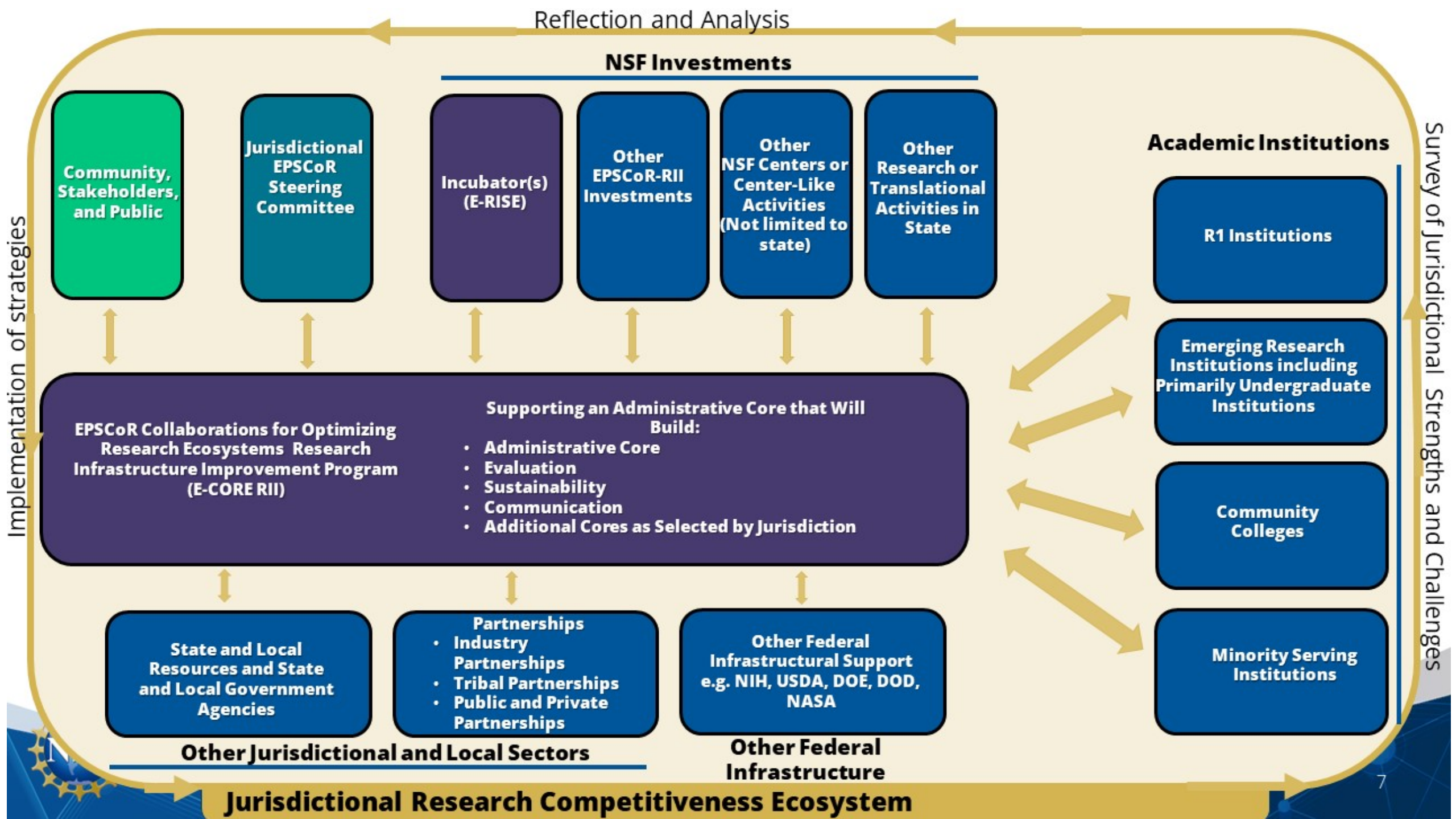Other Federal Infrastructural Support e.g. NIH, USDA, DOE, DOD, NASA

Other Jurisdictional and Local Sectors

Other Federal Infrastructure

Jurisdictional Research Ecosystem (Irrespective of research topic)

Key levels of developing Research Infrastructure and Competitiveness

E-RISE

E-CORE

Research (Topic) Specific Science and Technology State-wide Networks

Networks	Administrative (SPOs etc.)	STEM Education	Workforce Development	Broadening Participation
Partnerships	Economic Development	Community Engagement	Student Pathways	Research Facilities

Jurisdiction-wide Research Ecosystem

Jurisdictional Research Competitiveness Ecosystem

E-CORE RII (NSF 23-587)

The E-CORE RII Program aims to support EPSCoR-eligible jurisdictions to:

1. Address challenges and opportunities in research infrastructure specific to the **current and evolving needs of a jurisdiction's** science and technology research ecosystem;

2. Build **capacity** for jurisdiction-wide investigator expertise into critical masses for **sustained, effective**, research and education **partnerships** and funding; and

3. Develop **pathways to broaden the participation** of institutions and individuals in the jurisdiction's research ecosystem.

Structure of E-CORES

- More than one proposal per jurisdiction is allowed

- More than one E-CORE per jurisdiction is allowed (depending on availability of funds)

- Funded for $2M/year for four years
- Renewal of $2M/year for an additional four years depending on progress
- Possible total of $16M per E-CORE project

- Cooperative agreement
  - with a Reverse Site Visit/Site Visit in Year 3-4

To be successful, projects must:

- Be focused on **the Jurisdiction as a whole**, irrespective of Scientific foci (or show a trajectory towards that vision over the potential 8 years of the award)
- **Build Networks**, or networks of networks to bring folks together
- To **look inward** at the challenges and opportunities to building fundamental research infrastructure and capacity
- To **focus in on several key areas** (depth vis breadth) to **move the needle**

- Remember that these are designed to develop over eight years, really talk about the **first four, so you are really developing a trajectory that sustainability**

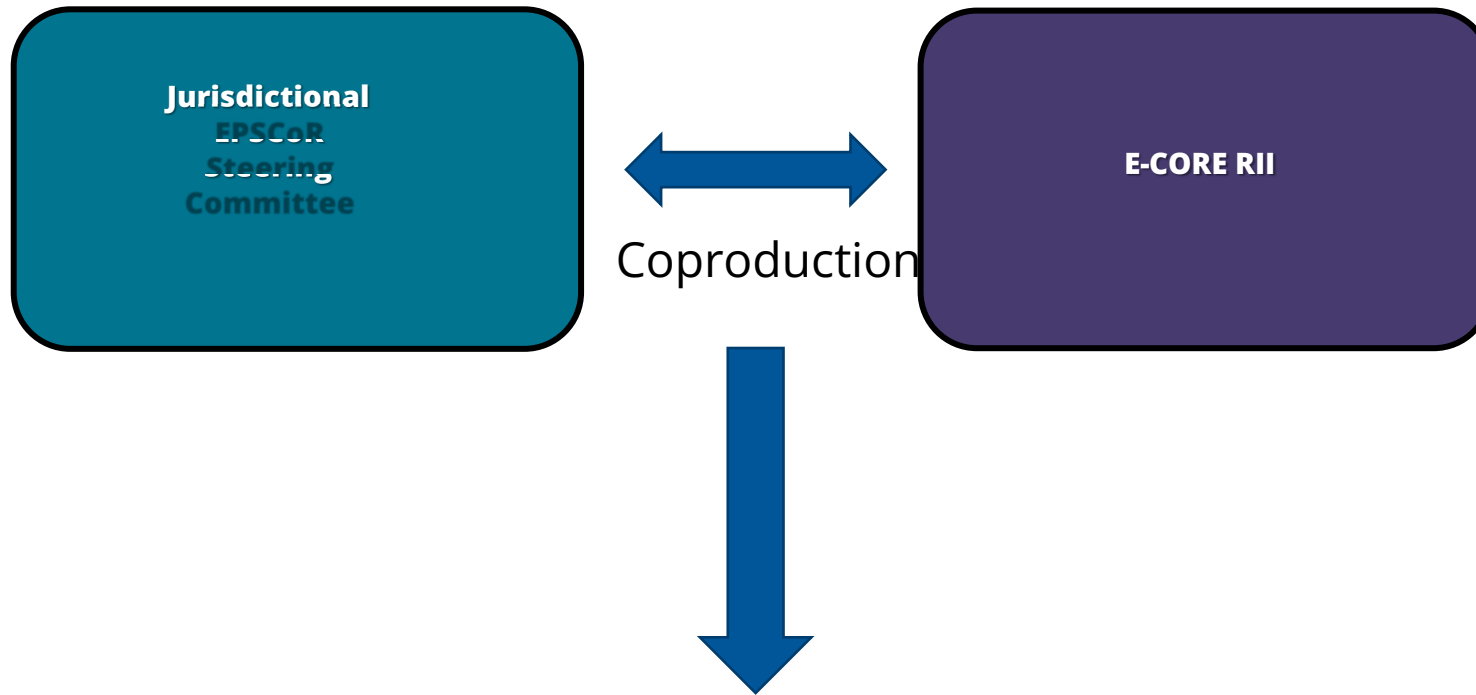# What will an E-CORE look like?

Administrative Core (Required)

Purpose of the Administrative Core

- Broadening Participation and Collaboration
  - Know WHO is there across the ENTIRE jurisdiction

- Connections
  - Bring everyone who wants to participate to find a place in the Jurisdiction's research ecosystem

- Goals, Metrics, and Evaluation
  - Know that research capacity is being built in a measurable way
  - Work with the Jurisdictional EPSCoR Steering Committee to connect what is being done within the jurisdiction and other jurisdiction-wide efforts (budget included)

- Leadership and Communication Capacity
  - Build and empower leadership across the jurisdiction

- Jurisdictional Development
  - Need to be able to describe how research capacity is being built and how it will contribute to the nations STEM enterprise

Continual Improvement and Assessment of the Jurisdictional Research Ecosystem

What will an E-CORE look like?

Research Support Core

Academic Inf. and Rsh, Fac, Core

Higher Ed. Pathways Core

STEM Edu (K-16) Core

Workforce Development Core

Broadening Participation Core

National and Global Partnerships Core

Community Engagement Core

Economic Development and Use-Inspired Core

Early Career Research Trainee Pathway Core

"Other" Core

Jurisdictional
- Needs
- Challenges
- Strengths

Administrative Core (Required)

How will an E-CORE Develop over time?

Jurisdictional
- Needs
- Challenges
- Strengths

Academic Inf. and Rsh, Fac, Core

Higher Ed. Pathways Core

STEM Edu (K-16) Core

Workforce Development Core

Administrative Core (Required)

Broadening Participation Core

Research Support Core

National and Global Partnerships Core

Community Engagement Core

Economic Development and Use-Inspired Core

Early Career Research Trainee Pathway Core

"Other" Core

Proposals have a slightly different structure

- Part 1: State of the Jurisdiction and E-CORE vision
  - What, and why they are going to do it. Remember networks, evaluation, and focus.
- Part 2: Strategic Plan, Assessment and Evaluation
  - HOW are they going to do it, and what does success look like?
- Part 3: Leadership, Organization, and Management
  - Have that got the folks in place and systems to run a large jurisdiction wide program (that allows anyone to participate)
- Part 4: Results from Previous support
  - Have they got a track record that sets them on a trajectory to achieve the promised made. (or can they build the ecosystem they envision?)

E-RISE RII (NSF 23-588)

E-RISE-RII Program Goals

- Designed to provide EPSCoR-eligible jurisdictions with funding to support incubation of research in a scientific field that will lead to:
    - increased research capacity and competitiveness in the topical area and
    - sustainable improvements in the jurisdiction's academic research infrastructure and human networks related to the chosen topical area.

- Aims to support EPSCoR-eligible jurisdictions to:
    - Build a jurisdiction-wide network of teams of researchers … that incubate high-quality research in a defined STEM disciplinary area …that is aligned with jurisdictional priority areas and EPSCoR's mission and goals.
    - Develop high quality hypothesis- and problem-driven research projects that will sustain project outcomes beyond the E-RISE RII funding.

An E-RISE RII Project

- Develops a critical mass of researchers across the jurisdiction's institutions (R1, R2, ERI, MSI, CCs) and across STEM disciplinary areas

- Provides support within a particular research focus area that extends beyond seed funding, with objectives for sustainability and growth

- Is research driven, but selected by the project team and in alignment with jurisdictional priority

- Demonstrates a commitment to collaboration and engagement with E-COREs for infrastructural support

To be successful E-RISE RII projects must:

- Build a jurisdiction-wide network of individuals, institutions, and organizations to develop high-quality research aligned with jurisdictional scientific priority areas

- Incorporate Diversity, Equity, Access, and Culture of Inclusion of different institution types and sectors (DEACI)

- Promote development of a skilled workforce that is relevant to the project and its outcomes (WFD)

- Consider use-inspired perspectives and societal impact (SI)

- Build a pathway to sustainability

- Develop a continual improvement cycle

Structure of E-RISE's

- Multiple proposals/awards per jurisdiction are allowed (per availability of funds).

- Award duration up to 4 years, with a total budget of $7M

- Possibility for a 3-year renewal, with an additional total budget of $4.5M

- Cost share is required in renewal years only

- Awards will be made as continuing grants, with a site visit in year 3-4.

Timeframe

Submission deadline

- E-CORE (NSF 23-587)
  - Full Proposal Due July 09, 2024
  - Due Second Tuesday in July Thereafter
- E-RISE (NSF 23-588)
  - Full Proposal Due August 13, 2024
  - Due Second Tuesday in August Thereafter

Resources

- Solicitation:
  - E-CORE RII – NSF 23-587
  - E-RISE RII – NSF 23-588

- Dear Colleague Letter - NSF 23-147

- Frequently Asked Questions -NSF 23-148

- EPSCoR Investment strategies website: https://new.nsf.gov/funding/initiatives/epscor/epscor-investment-strategies

- Upcoming Webinars and Office Hours

  - E-RISE RII General Information Session - May 24, 2024
  - E-RISE RII Solicitation Specific Review Criteria Session – May 28, 2024
  - E-RISE RII Open House and Question/Answer Sessions - June 11, 2024

  - E-CORE RII General Information Session - May 29, 2024
  - E-CORE RII Solicitation Specific Review Criteria Session – June 5, 2024
  - E-CORE RII Open House and Question/Answer Sessions - June 12, 2024

- For E-CORE questions
  - EPSCoR-CORE@nsf.gov
- For E-RISE questions
  - EPSCoR-RISE@nsf.gov