



The Toolkit



Partnering with NETL

Informal Discussions (ID)

Informal discussions allow for full exploration of the breadth of interests and capabilities to identify areas of overlap or synergy. Once the synergies are understood, discrete activities take shape. From these activities, one or more appropriate partnering mechanisms are pursued.

Scan to
learn more



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Activities



Mechanisms

Activities



Mechanisms



**Ideation, Scoping Projects,
Drafting Joint Proposals,
Sharing Technical Information,
Testing Samples**

Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDA)

NDAs enable a free-flowing exchange of information (including samples and data) by requiring confidentiality of certain shared information. Even without an NDA, NETL is bound to keep partner information confidential under the Trade Secrets Act, and its contractors are bound by their contracts.

Non-Analysis Agreements (NAA)

NAAs allow for testing and evaluation of NETL patented technology. Other activities are prohibited, such as determining composition and using the technology for commercial purposes.

Cooperative Research & Development Agreements (CRADA)

CRADAs define joint R&D projects and the terms and conditions that apply. Financial contributions of each party are identified. Background intellectual property is declared, and CRADA developed intellectual property rights are outlined.

Strategic Partnership Projects Agreements (SPP)

SPPs enable NETL to conduct a project for a sponsor. The sponsor provides input and direction, but does not collaborate. The sponsor fully funds the project and receives rights to any inventions generated by the work via a patent class waiver.

Partnership Opportunity Notices (PON)

PONs announce a competitive solicitation that seeks a partner(s) to become a part of an NETL team responding to a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) or performing work under an award or agreement.



**Co-Developing Technology;
Accessing Experts,
Capabilities, and Equipment**



**Commercializing NETL
Intellectual Property, Creating
Startups**



Teaming



Accessing Federal Funding

Licenses

Licenses transfer NETL-created, DOE-owned intellectual property rights to another party. The type of license (exclusive, partially exclusive, or non-exclusive) and the rights transferred (make, use, sell, research, evaluate) depend on the stage of the technology's development and the commercialization plans of the licensee.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) & Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

MOUs memorialize an understanding of an intended common line of action and the terms therefor through a non-binding agreement. MOAs memorialize an agreement for cooperatively working together on an agreed upon project and the terms therefor through a binding agreement. Neither allows for transfer of funds. Implementation of funded, collaborative projects must be accomplished through a separate, legally binding instrument

Financial Assistance Awards (FA)

FAs support specific projects conducted outside of NETL through cooperative agreements or grants. FAs result from a competitive Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) process or a non-competitive, unsolicited proposal (USP) submission.

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) & Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs

SBIR and STTR programs encourage domestic small businesses to engage in Federal Research/Research and Development projects with the potential for commercialization. The highly competitive, awards-based programs enable businesses to explore technological and commercial potential and provide the impetus to profit from commercialization. Awards are categorized into three phases: feasibility, R&D, and commercialization (not Federally funded).



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