Connecting university resources to the needs of local governments and communities to improve quality of life.
Leverage the knowledge, innovation, and energy of universities to tackle your community’s most pressing problems.

- Increase community capacity
- Increase outreach efforts to the community with the participation of students, whose ideas are often received more positively by constituents
- Reinvigorate projects that are “stuck” due to lack of resources, will, or skill
- Generate material for future grant submissions
- Bring a new energy to your community and improve staff morale
- Provide a coordinated entry point to the university for all future projects
- Increase access to the next generation of workforce and help train them for your future needs

Students gain real-world experience by delivering radically useful ideas to surrounding communities.

- Engage with the community efficiently and economically
- Meet the community where they want to be met
- Provide students real-world experience while decreasing administration time for faculty
- Support faculty without altering their core syllabus
- Leverage projects for future research and collaboration between the public sector and faculty researchers
- Build partnerships with diverse stakeholders in the community
- Build internal relationships across departments through projects that overlap disciplines
- Improve university visibility
The EPIC-Network (Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities) connects the human capital of universities with the needs of local governments and communities to improve quality of life. EPIC-N is the nonprofit association of institutions that adopt the award-winning EPIC Model for university-community partnerships.

The EPIC Model is radically simple. It works within administrative structures of universities and communities to achieve tremendous outcomes for all involved. It brings together the greatest resources in academia — professors, students, laboratories, research libraries, existing curricula — and creatively draws them together to tackle the biggest challenges in local communities. The results are immediate, lasting, and transformative: Solutions that might never have been imagined through traditional structures; public goodwill toward the university; real-world learning for students; and a community that feels meaningful change.

By adopting the EPIC Model, colleges and universities around the world can become an active part in catalyzing real change in local communities, leading to high-road practices that will make life richer and more sustainable for generations to come.

“Perhaps the most comprehensive effort by a university to infuse into its curricula sustainability and community outreach.”

— New York Times
EPIC Programs Worldwide

To date, EPIC-N includes roughly 100 active programs in the United States, Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean. To support and grow the network, EPIC-N hosts regional conferences around the world with the help of organizations and leaders with similar missions. Although located across the globe, members connect in meaningful ways through EPIC-N programs and events.

Through its member programs, EPIC-N has completed 2,000+ SDG-promoting projects in 4000+ diverse communities, with high partner promotion and a median Return on Investment of >500%.

To learn more, visit our website at epicn.org.