

September 28, 2022



Equinix Commits \$50 Million to Global Foundation to Advance Digital Inclusion

The Equinix Foundation is an employee-driven charitable organization working to advance digital inclusion through philanthropic grant making and strategic partnerships

REDWOOD CITY, Calif., Sept. 28, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- [Equinix, Inc.](#) (Nasdaq: EQIX), the world's digital infrastructure company™, today announced the launch of a global foundation focused on the advancement of digital inclusion—from access to technology and connectivity to the skills needed to thrive in today's digitally driven world. The Equinix Foundation, a private 501(c)(3), will provide funding to organizations working to ensure equitable and inclusive access to technology, connectivity and education. It will also assess opportunities in environmental sustainability, an area of strategic importance to the company.



EQUINIX

Equinix is making an initial financial commitment of \$50 million in funding, through contribution of Equinix shares for the Equinix Foundation that will allow it to be a self-sustaining foundation. In alignment with guidelines governing private foundations, the Equinix Foundation Board of Directors will determine the Foundation's annual giving budget each year, which is expected to cover grantmaking, employee donation matching, and crisis response donations. The Foundation also intends to make impact investments with interest income earned contributing to Foundation assets while simultaneously supporting social programs.

Equinix employees will play a key role in shaping the Equinix Foundation, helping to identify and support community-driven nonprofits and social enterprises dedicated to closing the digital divide locally and globally. Equinix is currently partnering with dozens of nonprofit organizations working to bridge the digital divide, including:

- [BigHope](#), a nonprofit in Texas that prepares elementary school youth for opportunities in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM).
- [CLAP-TECH](#), a group that collaborates across education and industry partners in Hong Kong to prepare high school students for the future.

- [World Pulse](#), an online social network led by women from more than 227 countries with a mission to lift and unite women's voices to accelerate their impact for the world.

Through the Foundation, the company can now be more strategic in its philanthropic investments, driven by its employees' passions and scaling the positive impact it is making in communities around the world.

Highlights/Key Facts

- Equinix invests in the communities in which it operates—enabling widespread, equitable and inclusive access to the digital world, generating both positive social and economic impact through its programs.
 - The company has evolved its [Social Sustainability Strategy](#) to focus on the following main areas of impact: Engaging Employees; Digital Inclusion; Pathways to Opportunity; and Equity & Social justice. The Equinix Foundation will complement this strategy by making grants and impact investments in all four areas.
- Through Equinix Community Impact, the company has been supporting organizations bridging the digital divide since 2015—providing funding and volunteer support to dozens of incredible initiatives. For example:
 - As part of its alliance with [CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion](#), since 2020 Equinix has participated in its Racial Equity Fellowship to advance policy change.
 - Last year Equinix partnered with the Northern Virginia Community College and the [NOVA Foundation](#) to establish the Equinix Digital Infrastructure Scholarship that supports students pursuing data center careers.
- The Foundation is an important part of the company's Future First sustainability strategy, helping to pave the way to a more accessible, equitable and sustainable future for communities around the world.
 - Last year, [Equinix became the first in the data center industry to commit to globally reaching climate-neutral by 2030](#), backed by science-based targets and an aggressive sustainability innovation agenda. Aligned with the Paris Climate Agreement, this is an important step to ensure that Equinix continues to advance investments and innovations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and keep global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
 - The Equinix Foundation will help accelerate the company's commitment to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), specifically Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
 - Equinix is a long-standing member of [Chief Executives for Corporate Purpose](#) (CECP), a CEO-led coalition that believes that a company's social strategy—how it engages with key stakeholders including employees, communities, investors and customers—determines company success.
- The Equinix Foundation will rely on its employees and network of partners to help identify the organizations that it may want to support. For more information, please visit the Foundation website: equinix.com/about/equinix-foundation

Quotes

- **Charles Meyers, President and Chief Executive Officer, Equinix**

"At Equinix, our purpose is to be the platform where the world comes together, enabling the innovations that enrich our work, life and planet. The Equinix Foundation is an important vehicle to deliver on our 'In Service To' commitment—to one another, our customers, our investors and the communities in which we operate. We are excited that through the Foundation, we'll also advance our future-first commitment to build a better, more inclusive, more sustainable world, while harnessing and amplifying the passion of our people to help close the digital divide in our communities and beyond."

- **Jensine Larsen, CEO and founder, World Pulse**

"World Pulse provides three core services: a safe, supportive community for women through blogging and collaboration, greater digital skills through digital empowerment training, and we raise the volume on women's voices by disseminating their content more broadly worldwide. With Equinix's support over the past seven years, we have developed classes that provide women worldwide with technology stipends and training. This has had a huge ripple effect for the global community since one digitally-trained woman can impact thousands of lives. In addition, Equinix employee volunteers play active roles as 'listeners,' supporting the women in the World Pulse network. This gives the Equinix employees a real opportunity to learn first-hand from women all over the world and provide support to the community. Just by posting a single comment from one woman can fundamentally change her life and set her on a course of believing in herself."

- **Andrew Ho, Director, The CLAP-TECH Pathway**

"A tripartite partnership between secondary schools, industry partners and the Hong Kong Baptist University, The CLAP-TECH Pathway ("CLAP-TECH")—an initiative funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust—equips students with valuable skills, competencies and work ethics via non-traditional education pathways, allowing them to take on 'new collar' roles that are increasingly popular across industries. We rely on partners like Equinix to offer meaningful workplace learning opportunities, support development of industry-recognized qualifications, and advise on skills mapping, enabling educators to embed industry-recognized skills into students' learning journey."

- **Oren O'Neal, engineer, retired NFL player, and founder of BigHope**

"We're working towards creating a more inclusive opportunity set for young people in communities that are traditionally underserved. The robotics and engineering projects that we're doing in the classroom with students helps to enrich all the other curriculum that they need to be successful people in life. If we can educate and excite our youth at an early age and encourage them to pursue careers in technology, then they can really start to rebuild and revitalize the communities where they live."

About Equinix

[Equinix](#) (Nasdaq: EQIX) is the world's digital infrastructure company. Digital leaders harness Equinix's trusted platform to bring together and interconnect foundational infrastructure at software speed. Equinix enables organizations to access all the right places, partners and possibilities to scale with agility, speed the launch of digital services, deliver world-class experiences and multiply their value, while supporting their sustainability goals.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from expectations discussed in such forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause such differences include, but are not limited to, risks to our business and operating results related to the COVID-19 pandemic; the current inflationary environment; foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations; increased costs to procure power and the general volatility in the global energy market; the challenges of acquiring, operating and constructing IBX[®] and xScale[®] data centers and developing, deploying and delivering Equinix products and solutions; unanticipated costs or difficulties relating to the integration of companies we have acquired or will acquire into Equinix; a failure to receive significant revenues from customers in recently built out or acquired data centers; failure to complete any financing arrangements contemplated from time to time; competition from existing and new competitors; the ability to generate sufficient cash flow or otherwise obtain funds to repay new or outstanding indebtedness; the loss or decline in business from our key customers; risks related to our taxation as a REIT and other risks described from time to time in Equinix filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. In particular, see recent and upcoming Equinix quarterly and annual reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, copies of which are available upon request from Equinix. Equinix does not assume any obligation to update the forward-looking information contained in this press release.

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