

Building Disaster Resilient Economies

**How the U.S. Economic Development Administration
Can Assist in Post-Disaster Economic Recovery**

January 26, 2012

In Partnership With:



INTERNATIONAL
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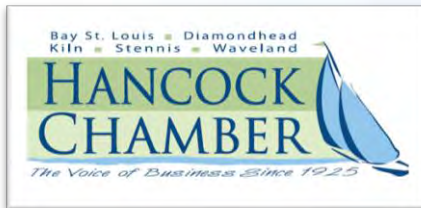
Panelists



Joshua Barnes, Disaster Recovery Coordinator
U.S. Department of Commerce,
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Denny Coleman, CEcD, FM, President & CEO
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Development Administration



EDA's Role in Disaster Recovery

Disaster Recovery Best Practices Webinar

January 26, 2012

Joshua Barnes

Disaster Recovery Coordinator



EDA's mission *is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.*



PROGRAMS



Economic Adjustment



Planning



Global Competitiveness



Technical Assistance



Sustainable Economic
Development



Recovery Support Function



Research & Evaluation



Trade Adjustment
Assistance



21st Century Infrastructure

- **NDRF Background:**

- Base document in development since 2009
- Describes and institutionalizes agency-wide approaches to prepare for, plan for, and manage disaster recoveries.
- Seeks to provide a structure for all Federal agencies to participate in on-going disaster planning and recovery that would facilitate problem solving, improved access to resources, and foster coordination among state and Federal agencies and nongovernmental partners and stakeholders.

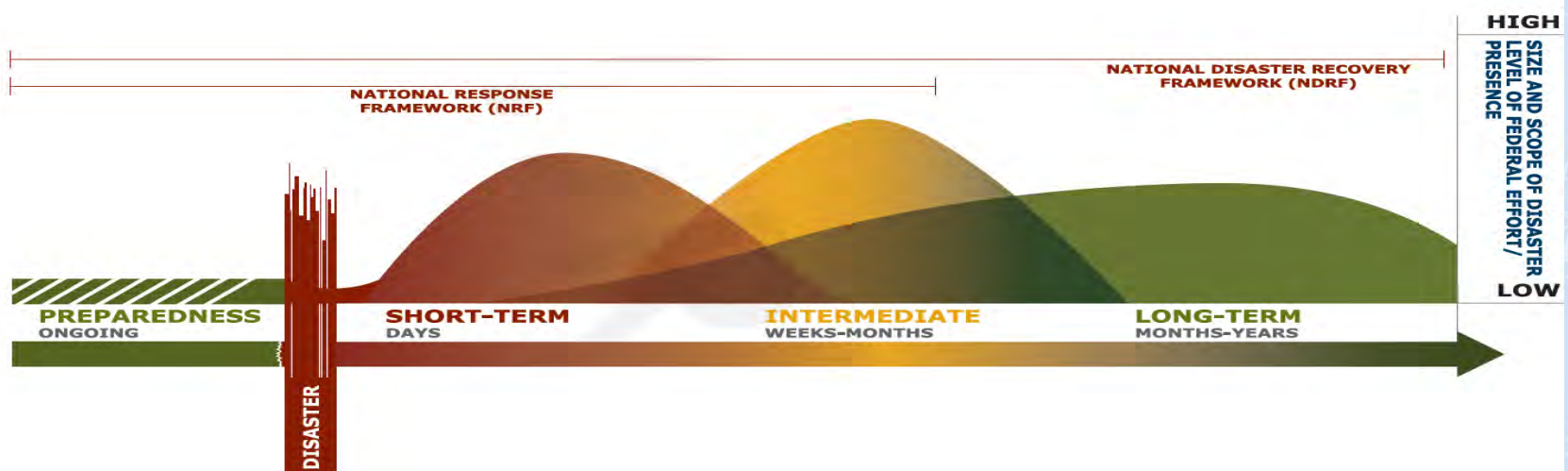
- **Commerce/EDA Role:**

- The Department of Commerce (DOC), through the Economic Development Administration (EDA), leads the Economic Recovery Support Function (RSF) of the NDRF.

- **Sustainability and Resiliency in Recovery**

- NDRF seeks to create a higher order of interagency/intergovernmental coordination over a longer span of the recovery continuum
- Pre-disaster activities focus on integrating resiliency practices into day-to-day operations
- Recovery continuum starts at the moment of the disaster and scales up as the response roles diminish

Recovery Continuum

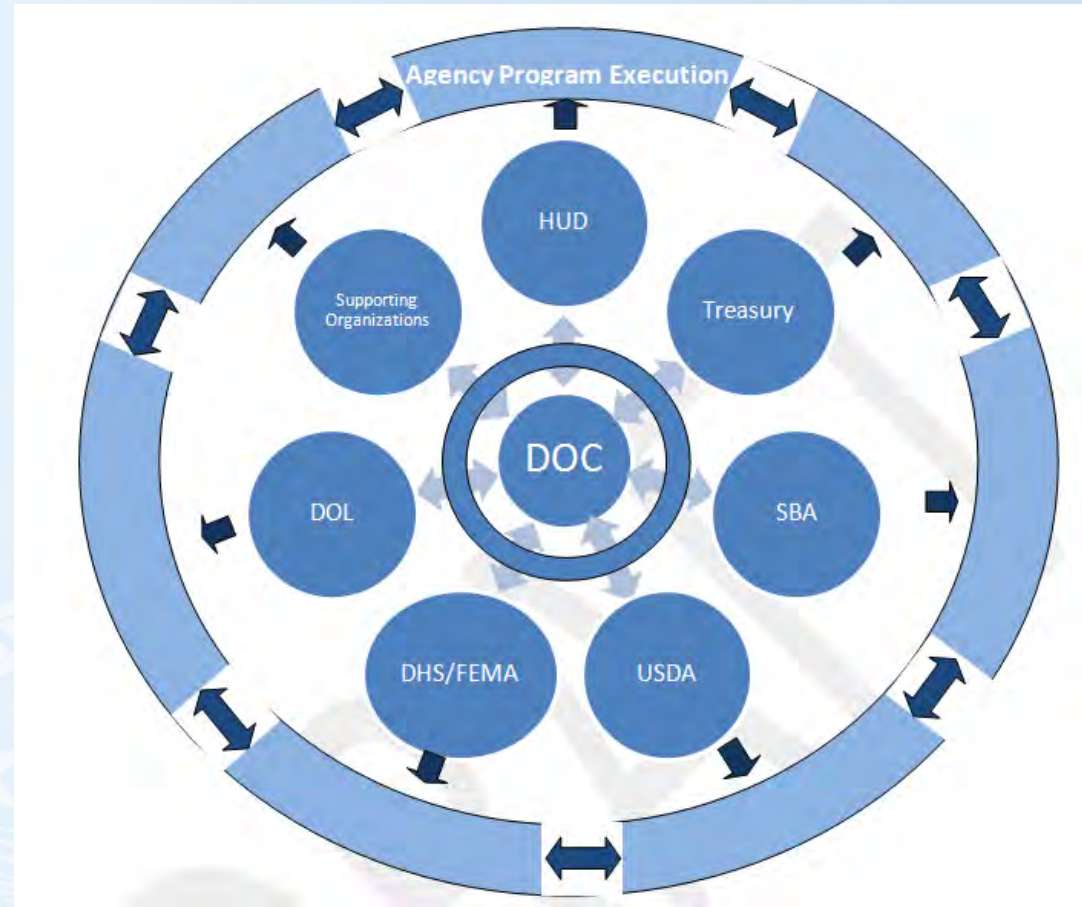


- The RSFs comprise the Recovery Framework's coordinating structure for providing recovery assistance by key sectors areas.
- Their purpose is to support local governments by providing a platform for addressing complex issues, facilitating problem solving, improving access to resources, and by fostering coordination among state, federal agencies, private sector, and NGO partners.
- The RSFs are organized into six manageable components and through the RSFs, relevant stakeholders and experts are brought together to identify and resolve recovery challenges.

- The mission of the Economic RSF is to integrate the expertise of the Federal government to help local, state, and tribal governments and the private sector sustain and/or rebuild businesses and employment, and develop economic opportunities that result in sustainable and economically resilient communities, after significant natural and man-made disasters.
- Economic RSF is achieved through a highly coordinated interagency effort.

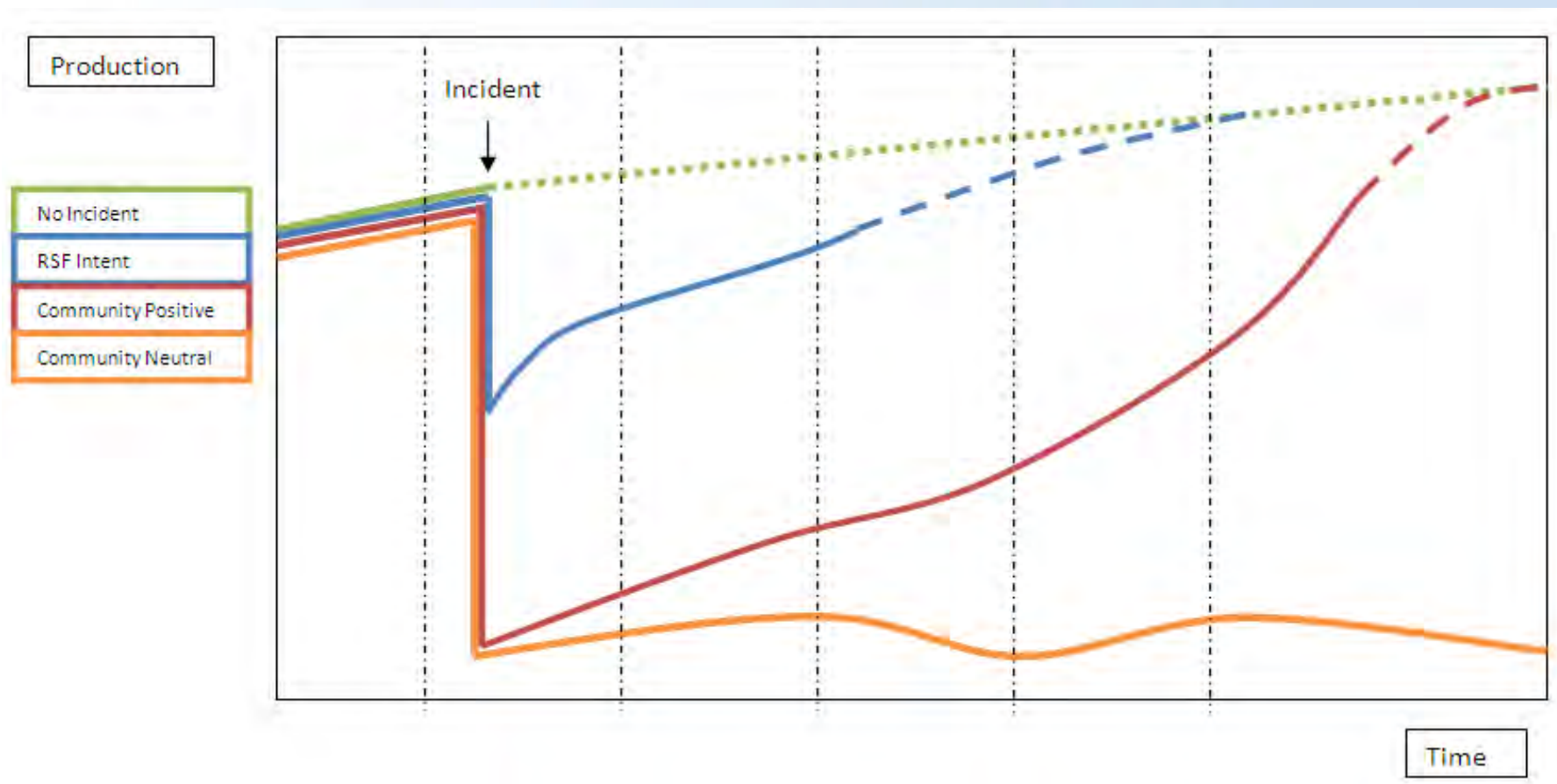
Coordinating Agency:	DOC
Primary Federal Agencies:	DHS/FEMA, DOL, SBA, TREAS, USDA
Supporting Organizations:	CNCS, DOI, EPA, HHS, HUD

- EDA's role is to serve as an aggregator and coordinator of interagency economic recovery activities
- Activities are enabled through collaborative relationships with other agencies and at all levels of the Whole Community
- Future coordination avenues could include combined disaster FFOs, combined training opportunities, and information sessions



- Captured within the draft annex are some fundamental concepts:
 - Investment of time, energy, and resources pre-disaster is key.
 - Integrating resiliency planning into economic, workforce, and community development could yield benefits pre- and post-disaster.
 - Post-disaster economic recovery initiatives should consider and address the unique needs of the community. Some could include, but are not limited to:
 - Community Planning
 - Cash Flow
 - Business Resumption
 - Finance and Insurance
 - Workforce Development
 - Economic Development
 - Small Business
 - Marketing and Communications
 - Assessment and Evaluation

- Preparedness and resiliency efforts should be *long-term* and yield benefits pre- and post-disaster



- Congress recently passed a series of appropriations bills which will provide approximately \$2.6 billion in disaster recovery funds to help communities across the country. Of these funds, Congress provided the EDA with \$200 million in disaster recovery funding.
- EDA's spend plan for allocating the disaster funds is now in the Congressional approval process. In the meantime, EDA is developing a Federal Funding Opportunity that will be posted on Grants.gov and www.eda.gov as soon as possible in connection with Congressional approval of the spend plan.
- Communities in counties with a major disaster designation, declared in FY 2011 will be considered eligible under this opportunity.
- Projects must clearly demonstrate a nexus between the scope of work and the consequences of the disaster.
- Projects must demonstrate a component of enhancing disaster resiliency for the community or an integration of resiliency principles into the investment itself.

- Projects for disaster recovery generally fall within three categories:
 - **Strategic Planning:** EDA offers financial resources and technical assistance to help develop and enhance economic development plans following a disaster. This is achieved through the funding of disaster recovery plans, strategies, and funding for disaster recovery coordinators.
 - **Infrastructure Development:** EDA offers grant funds to build new infrastructure (e.g., business incubators, technology parks, research facilities, basic utilities such as water treatment) that foster economic development to retain or attract jobs to the region.
 - **Capital for Alternative Financing:** Through EDA's Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program, non-profit and governmental entities can apply to establish an RLF which in turn makes below market-rate loans to businesses to help recovery
- Applicants are highly encouraged to contact their regional office and begin the process of refining projects.



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