

# Presentation to the White House Rural Council Task Force on Quality of Place

October 26, 2011



# About NADO's Mission

---

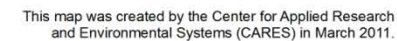
- Strengthen local governments, communities and economies through the regional strategies, partnerships and solutions of the nation's regional development organizations

*Advocacy | Education | Networking | Research*

# About RDOs

---

- The generic term ***Regional Development Organizations (RDO)*** is used to describe a multi-jurisdictional, public-based regional planning and development organization
- These public-sector entities are governed by a **regional policy board with majority control by local elected officials**. As mandated by various federal programs, RDO boards may also include business, nonprofit, education and community leaders





# About RDOs

## RDOs are known by many names...

- Area Development Districts
- Associations of Governments
- Councils of Governments
- Economic Development Districts
- Local Development Districts
- Planning District Commissions
- Planning and Development Districts
- Regional Councils
- Regional Councils of Governments
- Regional Development Commissions
- Regional Planning Agencies
- Regional Planning and Development Boards / Commissions
- Regional Planning Commissions

# About RDOs

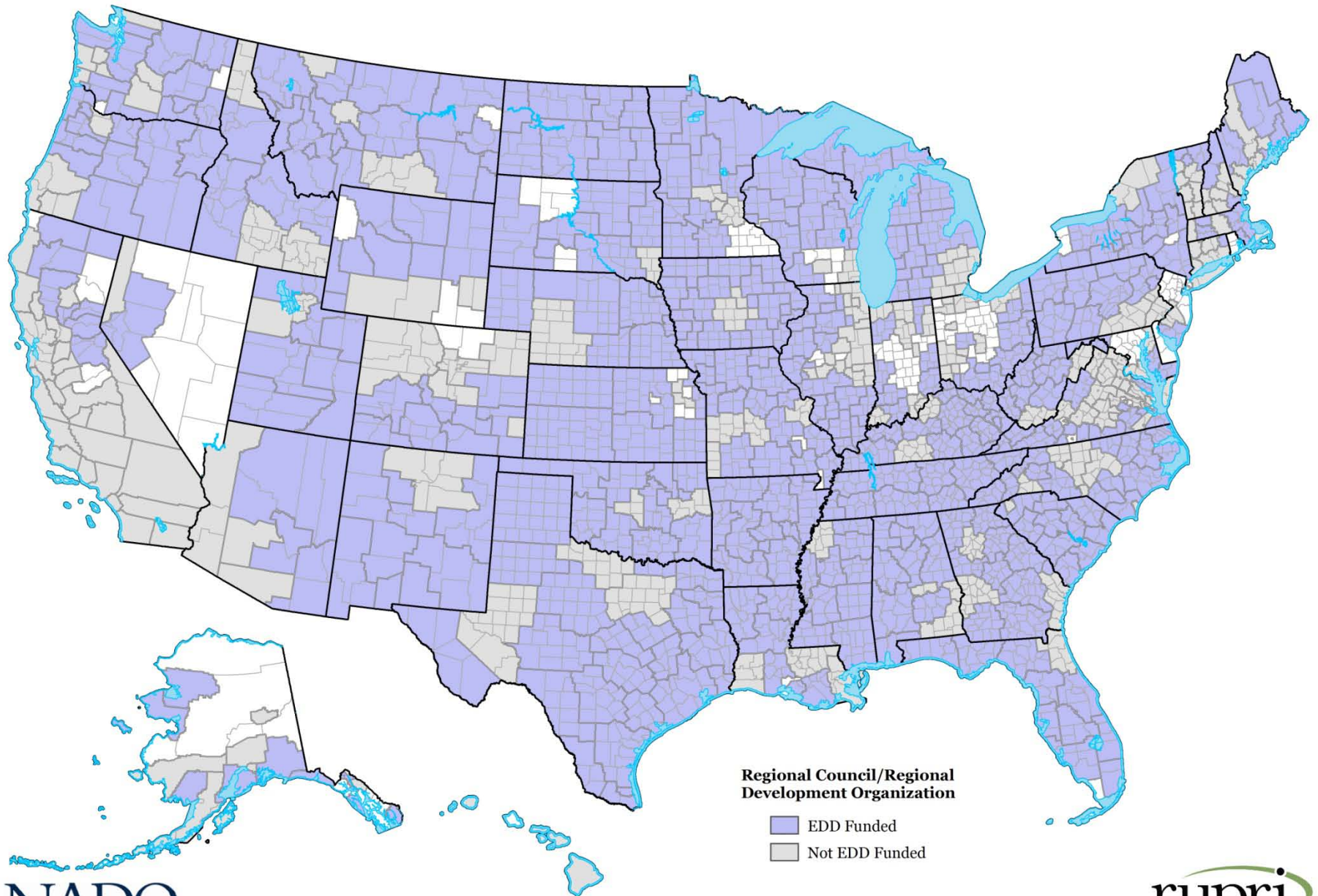
- The legal basis for most RDOs originates through **state statute or gubernatorial executive order**, or MOU of local governments
- **RDOs may have many different federal program designations**, such as:
  - **Economic Development District** for U.S. Economic Development Administration
  - **Local Development District** for a Federal-State Regional Commission (i.e. ARC , DRA)
  - **Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and/or Rural Transportation Planning Organization (RPO)** for Transportation Planning

# About RDOs

---

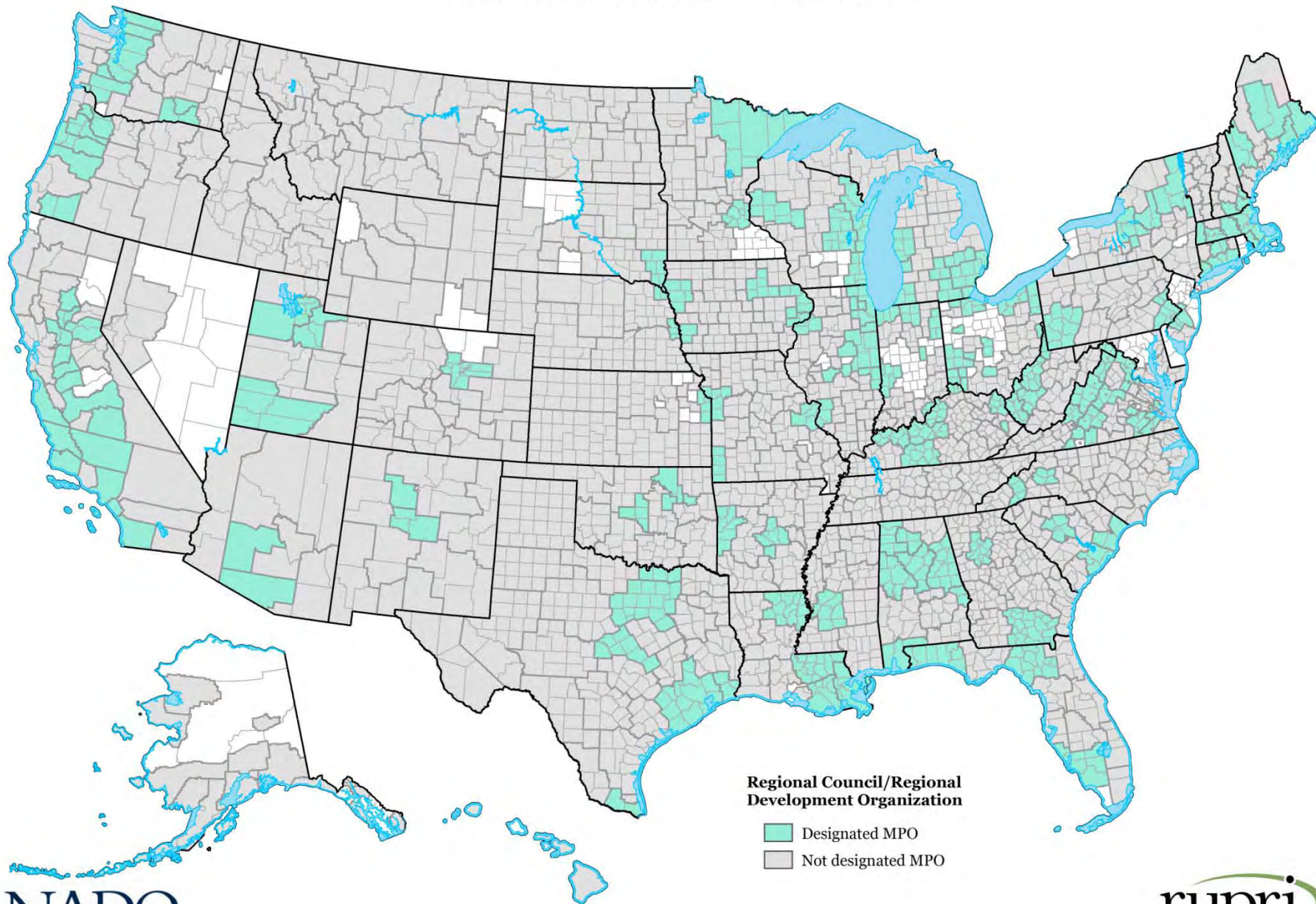
- Serve as forum to **craft regional solutions for areawide** needs and opportunities
- **Prepare plans and strategies** for broad range of regional and local issues, including compliance with federal mandates and requirements
- Strengthen **local governments** through technical assistance, public administration and leadership capacity
- **Advocate for regions and locals** at federal and state levels

## EDA Economic Development Districts - EDD Funded



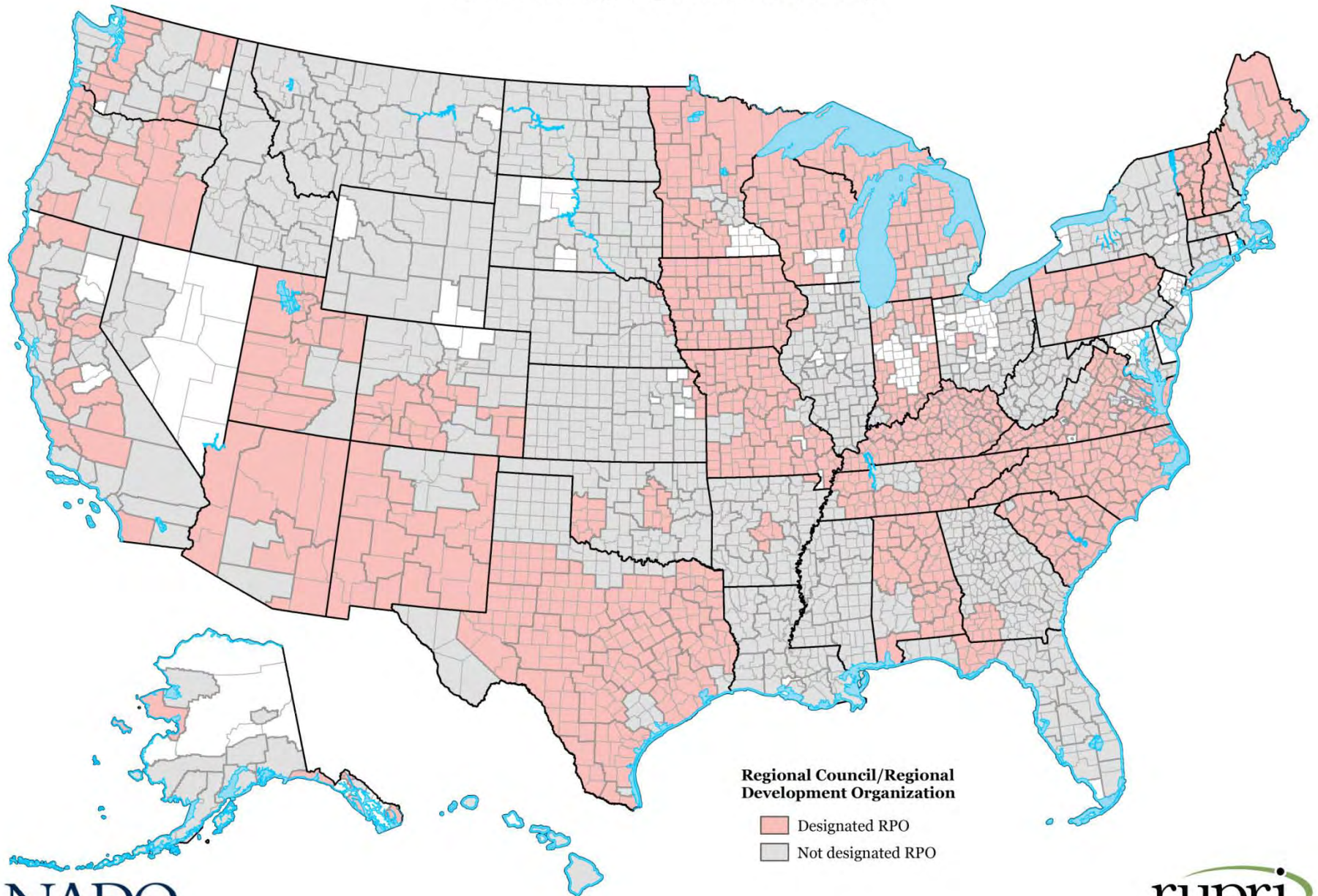


## Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)



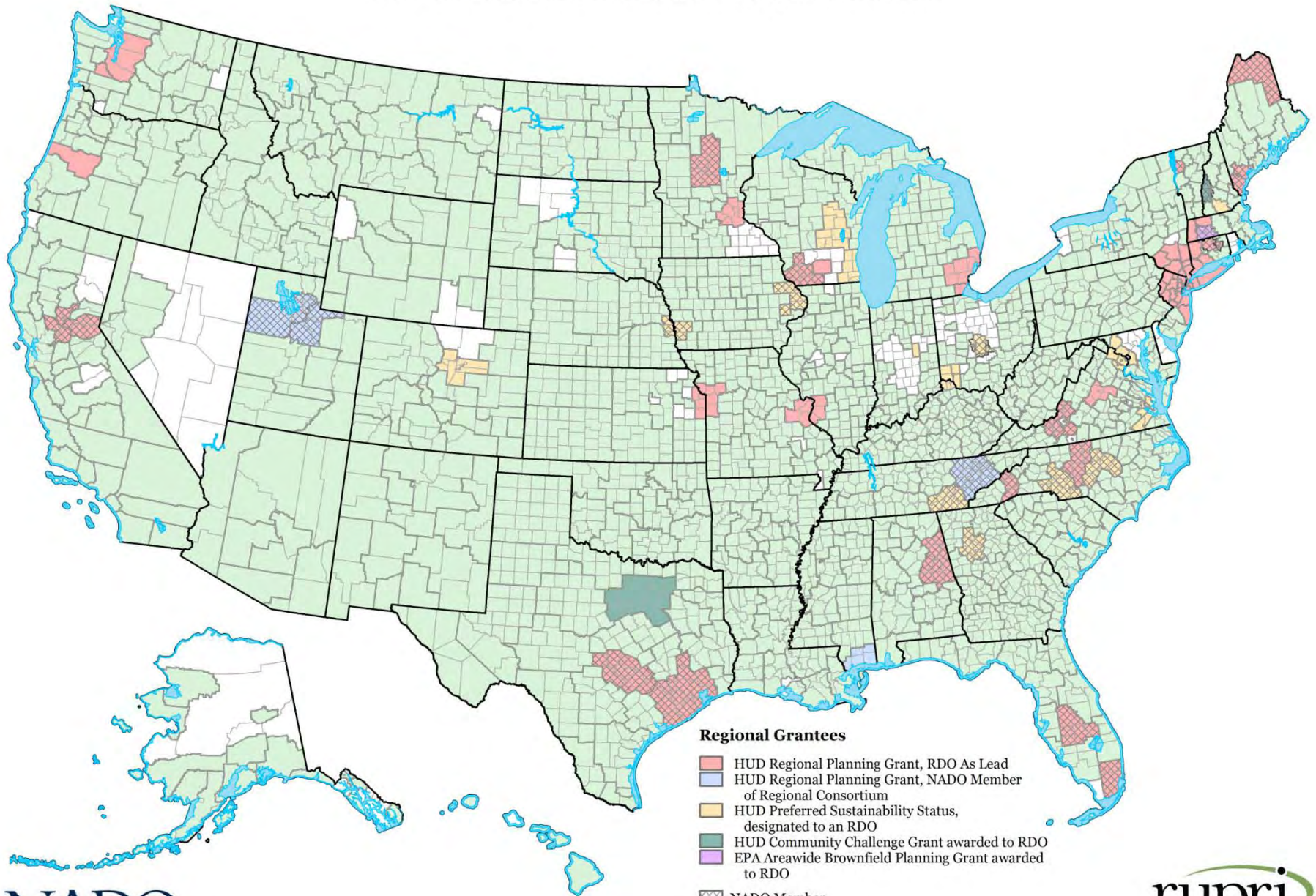


## Rural Planning Organizations (RPOs)



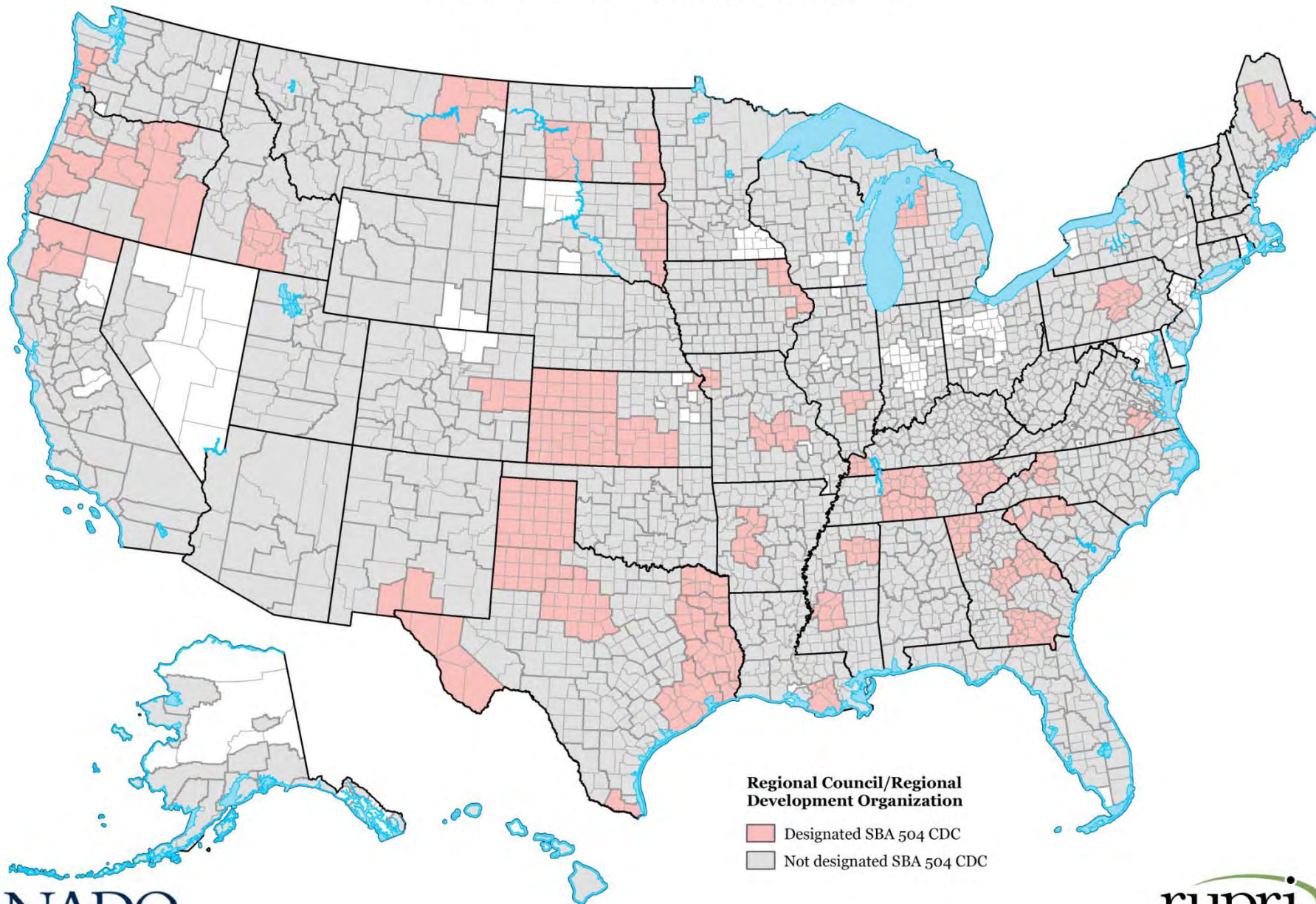


## HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Grantees



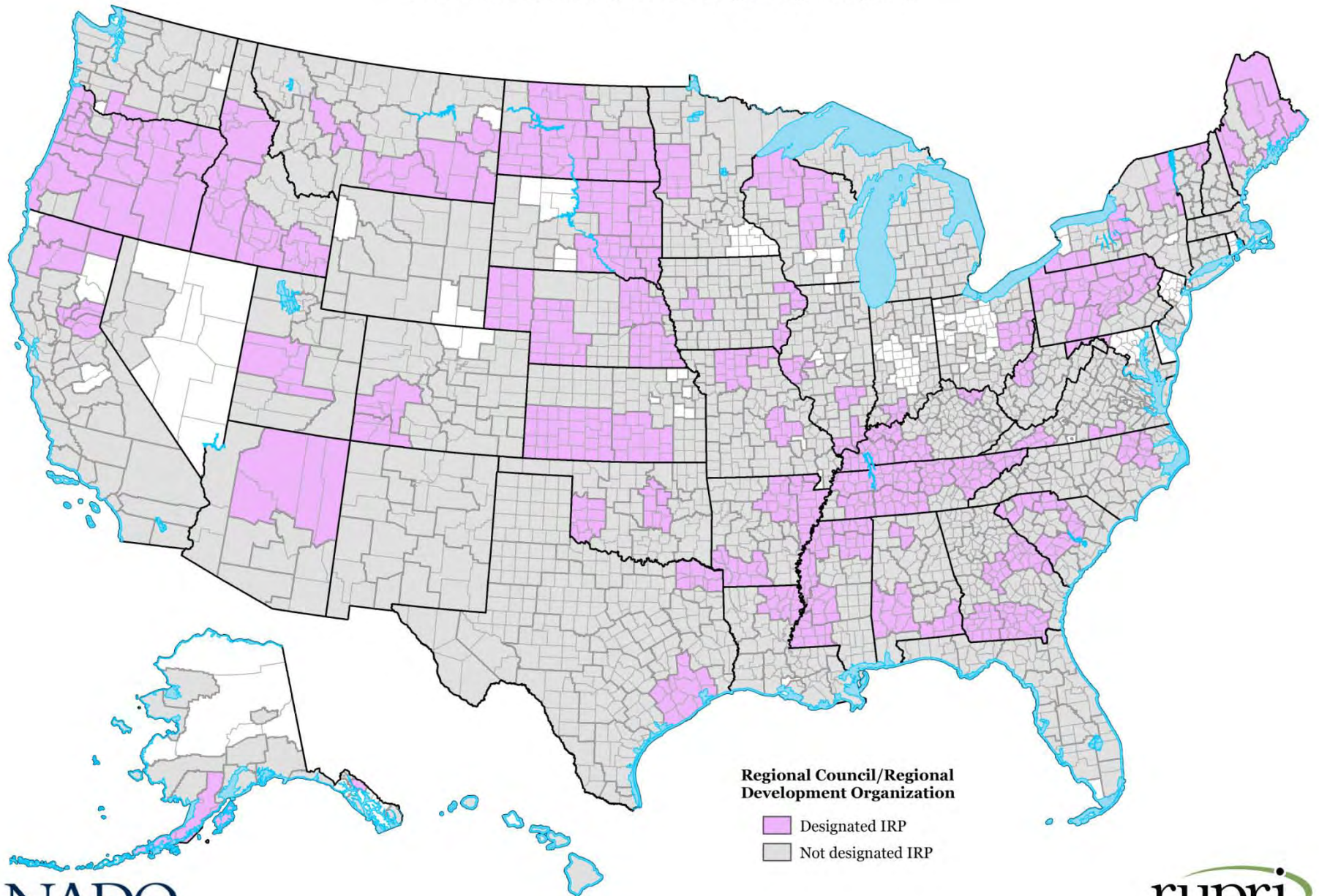


## SBA 504 Certified Development Company



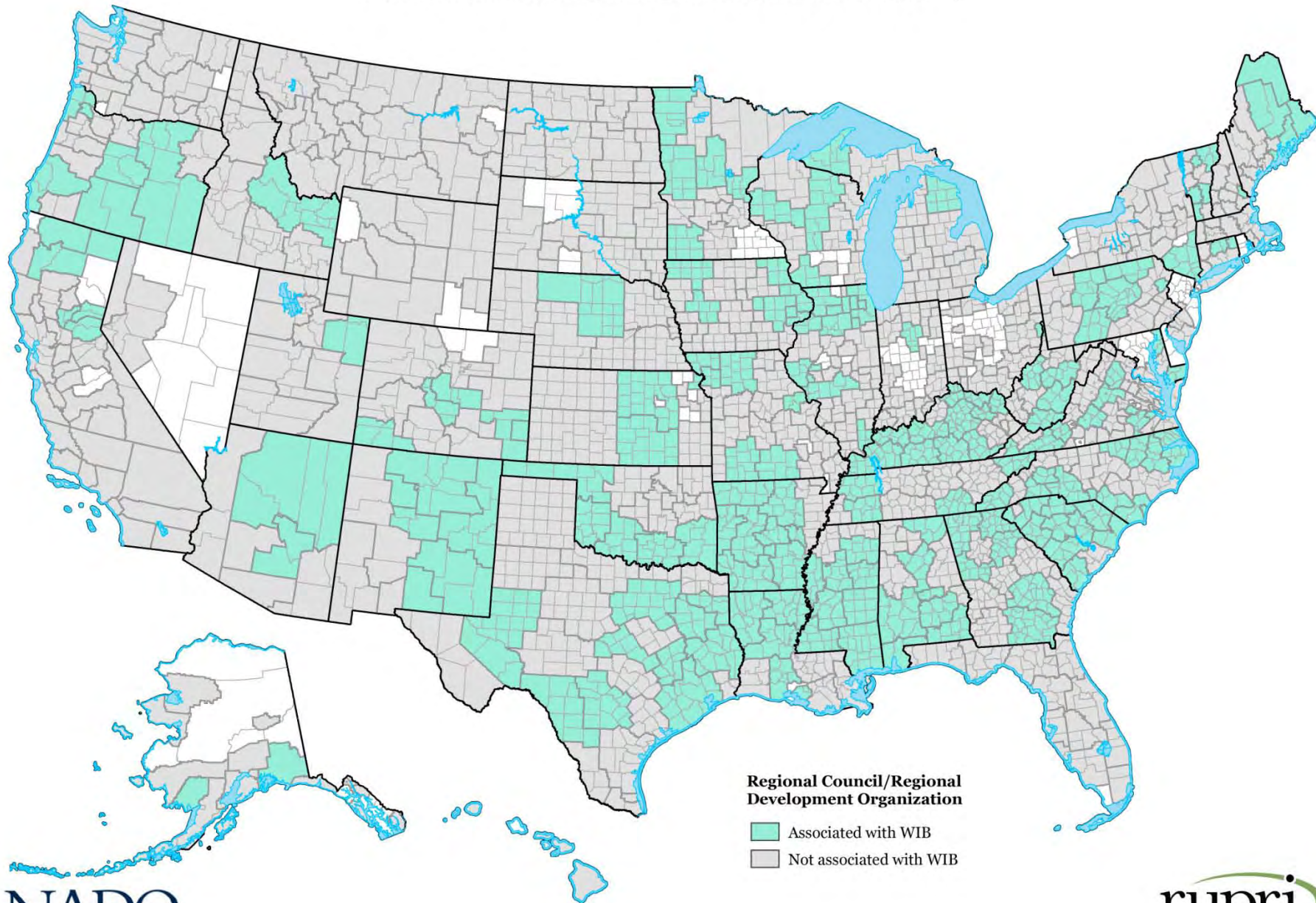


## USDA Intermediary Relending Program (IRP)



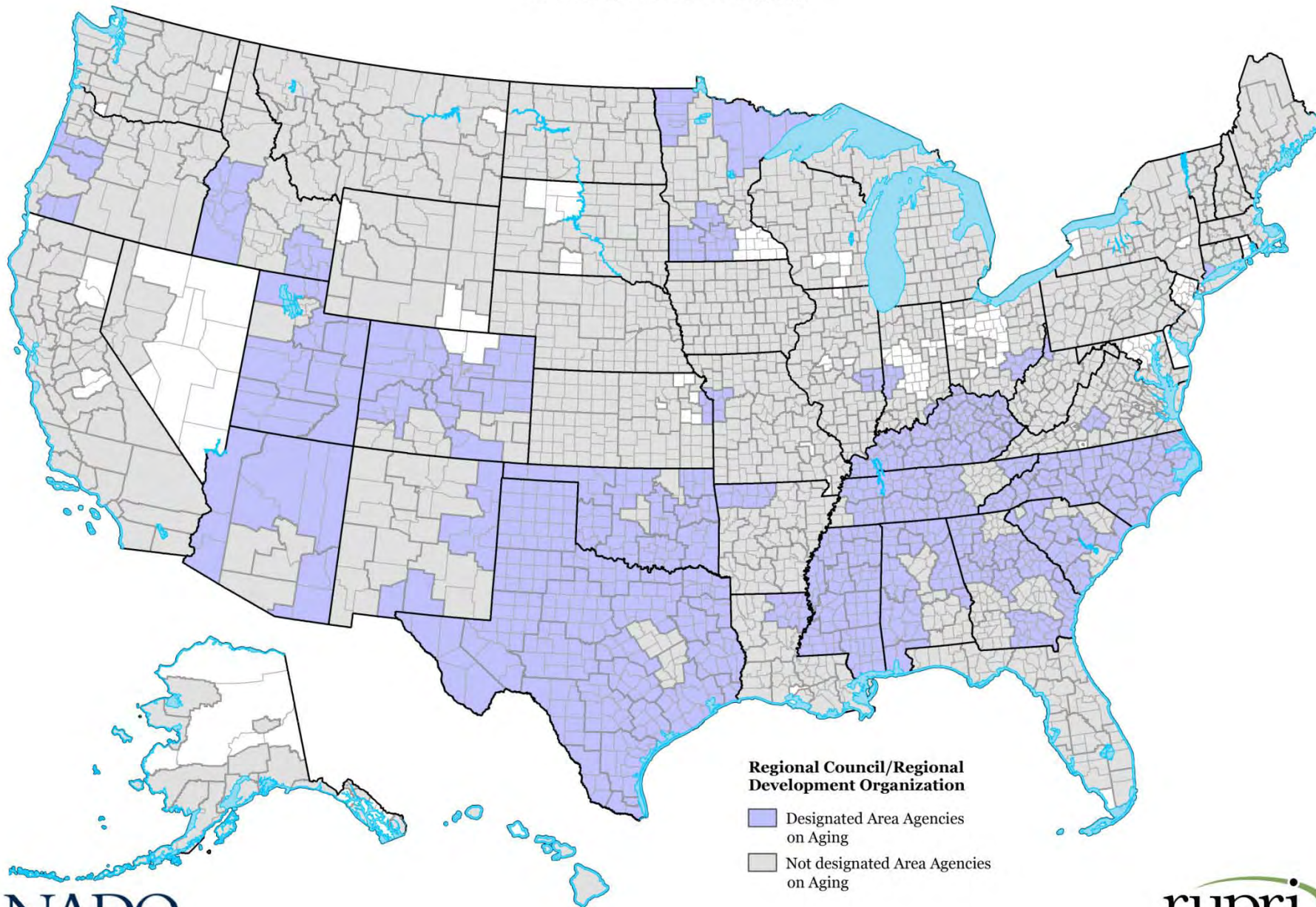


## Associated with Workforce Investment Board (WIB)





## Area Agencies on Aging



# Additional Coverage

- Brownfields clean up, redevelopment and assessments
- Community and social services, especially HHS programs
- Community policing and other Justice programs
- Emergency management and homeland security
- Energy (i.e. Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant)
- Environmental and Water Resource Planning
- Head Start
- Transit (i.e., urban and rural planning and operations)
- Weatherization





# Land-of-Sky Regional Council

- Land-of-Sky Regional Council is one of 16 regional councils in North Carolina, which bring together programs, issues and solutions that affect neighboring counties and municipalities.
- The Council's mission is to assist local governments in the region by solving problems and administering programs that reach across county and municipal borders.
- Region B includes Buncombe, Henderson, Madison and Transylvania counties.





# Local Energy Assurance Project (LEAP)

- ◆ The Local Assurance Project (LEAP) is a project for building regional energy assurance capability to allow cities and counties in our region to better prepare for a fuel shortage or disaster.
- ◆ The governments in this region have agreed to work together to secure fuel supply during times of shortage, which may result from a disaster such as tropical storms or hurricanes.
- ◆ LEAP project member coordinate and communicate state-wide and with one another on energy security, reliability, and emergency response issues.
- ◆ Funding provided by the U.S. Department of Energy.





# Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

- ◆ Overarching Theme: Regional Cooperation - Development Strategy (2007 – 2012)
- ◆ CEDS Tier 1 Initiatives:
  - Regional Growth Management Planning
  - Transportation and Air Quality
  - Housing
  - Regional Brownfields Initiative
  - Clean Energy Planning and Entrepreneurship
- ◆ Funding provided annually by the Economic Development Administration.
- ◆ CEDS serves as a work plan for the agency's Planning and Economic Development section.



# Waste Reduction Partners (WRP)

- ◆ Since 1992, Waste Reduction Partners (WRP) has provided Western North Carolina clients with waste reduction assessments, energy efficiency surveys, and assistance to enhance environmental sustainability programs. The program provides confidential, no-cost on-site assessments to industries, businesses, local governments, and institutions.
- ◆ Since 2000, WRP engineers scientist have helped over 1,300 clients save \$36 million in utility costs while greatly enhancing environmental and energy management programs.
- ◆ WRP is uniquely staffed with retired engineers, scientists, and staff who share their expertise with businesses and communities across North Carolina.







# Forest Service Project



- ◆ In 2009, the USDA Forest Service – Southern Research Station received nearly \$2 million of federal stimulus funds to support forest product businesses in Western North Carolina. Land-of-Sky Regional Council was awarded this funding through a competitive process to implement the WNC Forest Products Cooperative Marketing Project.
- ◆ As a result of the project, 15 Western North Carolina businesses received grants through a competitive process to expand into new product lines, improve marketing, and provide workforce training while providing over 160 jobs. Funding these businesses directly contributed to job growth in WNC, but also to the overall supply chain of forest products. Each of these businesses currently purchases timber and non-timber forest products directly from landowners, handcrafters, local sawyers, artisans, and gleaners.



# Rural & Metropolitan Planning Organizations (RPO & MPO)

- ◆ The Land-of-Sky Rural Planning Organization (RPO) is a voluntary organization of local governments working cooperatively with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and local officials to enhance transportation planning opportunities for rural areas in our region.
- ◆ The French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization (FBRMPO) is a partnership between local and state government that makes decisions about transportation planning in urbanized areas and meets planning requirements established by federal authorizing legislation for transportation funding.





# Regional Brownfields Initiative

- ◆ A Brownfield is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.
- ◆ In 2002, Land-of-Sky Regional Council began a long-term program to address the assessment, cleanup and redevelopment of the region's Brownfields. Under the guidance of economic development professionals, environmental consultants, financial institutions and community leaders, the Regional Brownfields Initiative (RBI) promotes the "utilization of existing industrial sites" a primary strategy in the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).
- ◆ 32 properties have been adopted into the program and \$1,944,991 has been invested since 2002.







# Livable Communities Initiative

- ◆ The Western North Carolina Livable Communities Initiative is a 3-year project to develop a regional vision for sustainable development. A consortium of local governments, residents, and organizations in Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison and Transylvania Counties will draw on existing plans and strategies to develop a plan to foster economic prosperity through a regional vision that identifies implementable projects and actions.
- ◆ Project funding is provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).







# Mountain Area Workforce Development

- Mountain Area Workforce Investment Act Programs
- Earnings of WIA Exiters during 9 months Post Program Compared to Program Expenditures: Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs

	<u>2008-09</u>	<u>2009-10*</u>	<u>2010-11</u>
Program Expenditures	\$1,171,981	\$2,141,468	\$1,480,680
9 Month Post Program Earnings	\$2,695,707	\$2,631,783	\$3,566,829
<b>Exiters' Earnings / Expenditures</b>	<b>230%</b>	<b>123%</b>	<b>241%</b>
Number of Exiters	309	237	363*
Number of Exiters Employed	252	242	304*
Percentage Employed	82%	102%**	84%

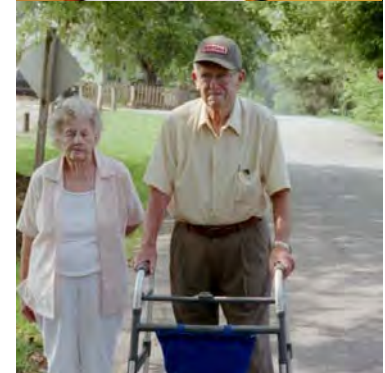
\*American Reinvestment & Recovery Act

\*\*Exiters from a previous year often find employment and are counted in the year that they obtain employment (must be employed within 9 months of exit.)



# Volunteer Services Department

- ◆ The Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) connects volunteers age 55 and over with children and young people with exceptional needs. Volunteers mentor, support and help some of the most vulnerable children in the United States.
- ◆ The Senior Companion Program (SCP) brings together volunteers age 55 and over with adults in their community who have difficulty with the simple task of day-to-day living.
- ◆ The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) connects volunteers age 55 and over with service opportunities in their communities that match their skills and availability.
- ◆ The Volunteer Services Department is a program of the Corporation for National and Community Service, an independent federal agency to connect Americans of all ages and backgrounds with opportunities to give back to their communities and their nation.





**National Association of Development Organizations (NADO)  
and the NADO Research Foundation**

400 North Capitol Street, NW | Suite 390 | Washington, DC 20001

[NADO.org](http://NADO.org) | [Ruraltransportation.org](http://Ruraltransportation.org) | [Knowyourregion.org](http://Knowyourregion.org)

202.624.7806 | [Info@nado.org](mailto:Info@nado.org)

*Regional Strategies. Solutions. Partnerships.*