

DR-4263-LA/DR-4277-LA ECONOMIC RECOVERY ECONOMIC RECOVERY SUPPORT FUNCTION (ERSF)

COORDINATING FEDERAL AGENCY:

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA)**

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NATIONAL DISASTER RECOVERY FRAMEWORK

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ECONOMIC RECOVERY SUPPORT FUNCTION RECOVERY SUPPORT STRATEGIES PROCESS

- The Economic Recovery Support Function is tasked with providing three deliverables:
 - 1. An assessment of impacts (Mission Scoping Assessment)
 - 2. Strategies to address them (Recovery Support Strategy)
 - 3. Support for implementation by state/regional/local partners
- This presentation states seven recovery issues and:
 - 1. The challenge presented by each issue
 - 2. The opportunity to address the challenge
 - 3. Actions taken to implement the opportunity
- Two additional issues post-strategy are addressed, as is ongoing support for long-term recovery efforts

ECONOMIC RECOVERY ISSUE 1

- Challenge: Adverse impacts on businesses including uninsured losses
- Opportunity: Help the 26,000+/- businesses impacted by 2016 floods become more resilient
- Actions: Supported Louisiana Economic Development and Office of Community Development in implementing recovery loan and technical assistance programs

ECONOMIC RECOVERY ISSUE 2

- Challenge:
 - \$367 Million in Impacts to Agriculture and Related Industries
- Opportunity:
 - Several Louisiana Communities have Local Food Movements, highlighting those and adding high-value specialty crops
- Actions:
 - Held two Agriculture, Business, and Community forums and a Recovery Summit to highlight available resources; form statewide resilient food network

ECONOMIC RECOVERY ISSUE 3

- Challenge
 - A history of disasters that negatively impact the movement of commerce
- Opportunity
 - Create a Statewide Supply Chain/Transportation Council, a public-private partnership (PPP) for resilience
- Actions
 - Assisted the State in identifying/recruiting key players
 - Supported development of committees, priority actions
 - Council leadership introduced/passed concurrent resolution by legislature-authorized input from Council

ECONOMIC RECOVERY ISSUE 4

- Challenge
 - Address employment and shortages in demand occupations
- Opportunity
 - Address acute shortage in workforce affordable housing, provide training in high demand skills, while using Louisiana products in a highly impacted industry (wood products)
- Actions
 - Partnering with Housing Recovery Support Function to identify a system based on temporary-to-permanent housing coined RAPIDO, successfully implemented in Texas, and recommend pilot projects that would train workers in construction skills, using Louisiana products

ECONOMIC RECOVERY ISSUE 5

- Challenge
 - Adverse impacts to economies and tax base of communities
- Opportunity
 - Diversify the economic base of communities already impacted by natural resource prices through cultural economy development—tourism and creative industries
- Actions
 - Partnered with Natural and Cultural Resources to access National Park Service comprehensive planning resources for parks in impacted areas including Poverty Point, a UNESCO world heritage area, all of from which cultural economy assets could develop

ECONOMIC RECOVERY ISSUE 6

- Challenge
 - Need to access Louisiana Higher Education Institutions' recovery and resilience assets and resources
- Opportunity
 - Create a searchable database of recovery and resilience projects, programs, and people categorized by the six recovery support functions and three advisory functions
- Actions
 - Created and categorized comprehensive datasets, seeking funding for implementation

ECONOMIC RECOVERY ISSUE 7

- Challenge
 - Need for regional ongoing recovery capacity and enhanced resilience through public-private partnerships
- Opportunity
 - Funding to enable five regional Planning and Development Districts to hire Local Disaster Recovery Managers and establish regional business/community networks in each
- Actions
 - EDA has approved five grants, matched by the Office of Community Development, to hire Managers in Northwest, Northeast, Central, Capitol Area, and Acadiana Regions

ADDITIONAL RECOVERY ISSUES

- 1. Need for long-term recovery planning capacity
 - Opportunity: To form a partnership between Louisiana Economic Development and Office of Community Development to utilize an established planning framework
 - Action: Worked with Office of Community Development Consultant to produce first draft of a planning guide, now being finalized with oversight of Community Development
- 2. Need for timely activation of funding for recovery
 - Opportunity: Utilize Community Development Financial Institutions Fund resources dedicated to disaster recovery
 - Action: Developed position paper for PPP combining existing program with voluntary contributions from financial institutions

ONGOING RECOVERY SUPPORT

- The Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function is leading five long-term recovery planning efforts
 - Baton Rouge City/Parish, Baker, Denham Springs, Livingston Parish, and Tangipahoa Parish
 - ERSF is providing support to economic components
- Louisiana, supported by FEMA, is undertaking three regional watershed resilience pilot projects
 - Vermilion, Lower Ouachita, and Amite Watersheds
 - ERSF will provide support for economic issues

SUMMARY

- It has been said that “the economy leads the recovery”—businesses=jobs=tax base=well-being
- The Economic Recovery Support Function brings 10 federal agencies to provide resources and assistance
- Planning and Development/Economic Development Districts are excellent regional recovery partners
- State Partner Louisiana Economic Development first ever to embed a senior official; Office of Community Development is a very valuable partner, as are all
- National Recovery Framework brings it all together