



# **EDA and EDDs: Partners in Strengthening Regional Economic Development**

*Building Connections, Aligning Resources to Advance  
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies*

*NADO/DDAA 2023 Washington Conference*

03/13/23

# Window of Opportunity

New resources to help communities achieve new levels of regional competitiveness innovation, resilience and economic inclusion.

- EDA's FY23 Appropriation - \$1.6B, includes:
  - \$500 M for **Tech Hubs**
  - \$200 M for **Recompete Pilot**
  - \$500M for **Disaster Recovery and Resilience**
  - Flexible suite of core programs with rolling applications
- CARES and ARPA Recovery Funding
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL/IIJA) Programs
- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Programs
- CHIPS and Science Act Programs

**Equity, Resilience, Quality Jobs, Strong Partnerships**



# Engaging with EDA and Federal Partners

- CEDS process is a crucial forum for scanning, prioritizing and coordinating a strategic, regional approach for the integrated use of myriad local, state and federal funds.



**Did you know?** Under its [Strategic Economic and Community Development Program](#), USDA provides priority access to set aside funds in several of its rural development programs for projects that are aligned to a regional CEDS. Ask your local USDA RD Office about it!

- Volume and complexity of federal support for economic development can be difficult to navigate.
  - New funding and programs from an array of agencies
  - Eligibility, timing, procedures vary
  - Capacity required to assess, compete, implement
- EDDs are convenors, curators, connectors, networkers, facilitators and implementors.

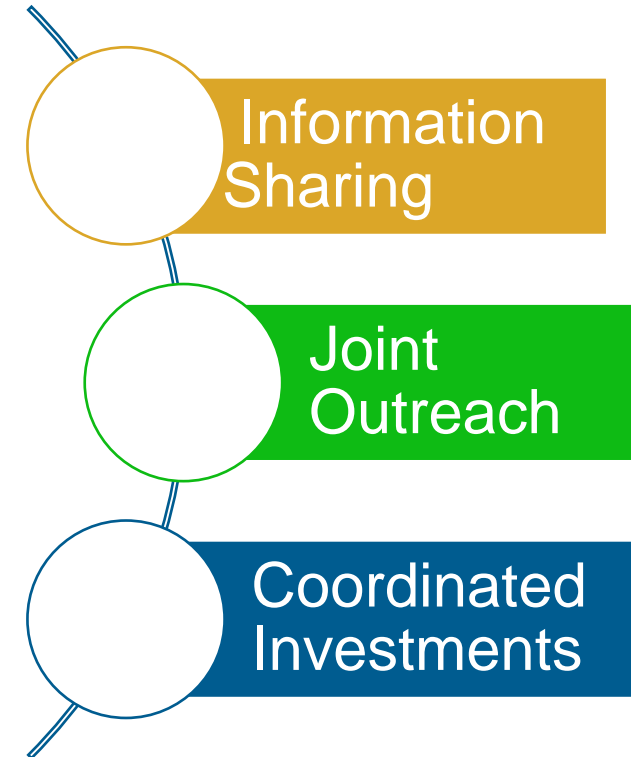


**But you don't have to go it alone!**



# EDA Can Help Connect You!

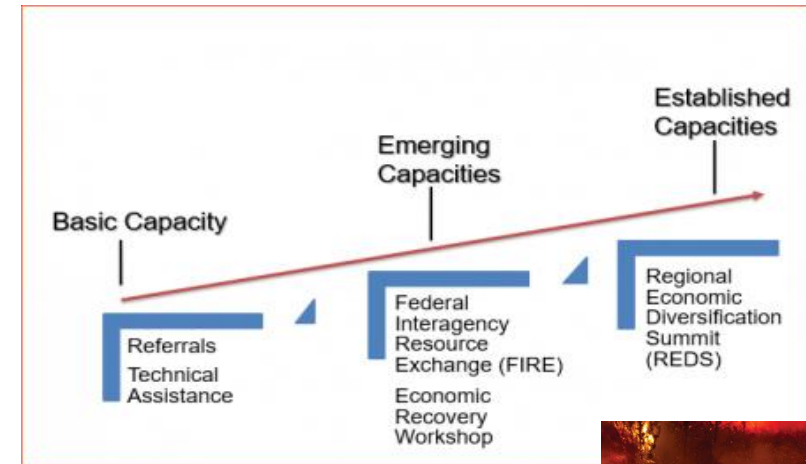
- **Economic Development Representatives**
  - Provide technical guidance on EDA programs, start to finish
    - Program Experts
    - Close to the community
    - Project pitch person
    - Find your EDR contact at <https://eda.gov/contact/>
- **Economic Development Integrators**
  - Network of interagency partners
  - Collaborate on interagency initiatives
  - Strategic referrals and convening capacity
  - Disaster recovery support
  - Contact EDI HQ at: [EDI@eda.gov](mailto:EDI@eda.gov)
- **Native American and Tribal Engagement Coordinator**
- **Communities of Practice**
  - Peer learning and support to scale promising practices
- **Economic Recovery Corps**
  - Closing the gap between planning and implementation
- **Equity Investment Initiative**
  - Strengthening collaboration between EDOs and CBOs



# Economic Development Integration

*Standing capacity within EDA for Interagency Collaboration, Knowledge Exchange and Resource Coordination to extend the reach and impact of our investments.*

- Active Network of Federal Partners
- HQ and Regional Technical Assistance
  - Strategic convening and program referrals
  - Leading interagency coordination for disaster recovery
- Resources for EDA Stakeholders
  - Matrix of Federal Economic Development Programs
  - Current Federal Funding Opportunities at other agencies
  - Guides to help align plans and stack complementary resources, including:
    - EDA and USDA Rural Development Programs
    - CEDS and Hazard Mitigation Planning



Contact us: [EDI@eda.gov](mailto:EDI@eda.gov)



# Additional resources to help communities find, prepare for and optimize federal programs and assistance include:

- Infrastructure and Workforce
  - [Internet for All](#) broadband resources and programs listing
  - [State and Local Broadband Leaders Network](#) (NTIA)
  - [Federal Workforce Development Programs](#) playbook
  - [Build America Bureau and online Navigator](#) (DOT)
  - [Build.gov](#) listing of infrastructure opportunities across agencies.
- Equity and Inclusion
  - [HUD Thriving Communities Technical Assistance](#)
  - DOE Community Benefits Plans and [CBA Toolkit](#)
  - [DOC-DOL Job Quality Toolkit](#)
- Climate Resilience & Clean Energy
  - Interagency Working Group on Energy Communities [TA Directory](#) and Rapid Response Teams
  - EPA [Environmental Justice Thriving Communities TA Centers](#)
- Rural Prosperity
  - [Rural Playbook](#) summary of recently funded federal programs.
  - Rural Prosperity Network [Community Liaisons](#)
  - ARC [READY Appalachia](#) Technical Assistance
  - USDA RD [Innovation Center](#) resource guides and networks
- Innovation and Business Development
  - [MBDA Business Centers](#)
  - Manufacturing Extension Partnership [\(MEP\) Network](#)
  - [Manufacturing USA Institutes](#)
  - SBA Small Business Development Centers [\(SBDCs\)](#)



Use this [Stronger Together](#) guide when consulting with EDA or USDA staff, to explore ways to stack complementary programs for rural development.



# Networks: Leveraging the power of networks to accelerate economic development and reach the communities that need it the most.

- EDA's growing Communities of Practice (CoPs), Economic Recovery Corps, and Equity Impact Investments initiatives bolster the capacity of economic development organizations from all angles.



## PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING

Our **Communities of Practice** partners facilitate peer learning and connections among economic developers confronting similar challenges across different places. Each community captures, organizes, and scales promising practices at a national level.



## ON THE GROUND SUPPORT

The new **Economic Recovery Corps** will promote national connectivity by placing over 65 Fellows within local economic development organizations. The **Equity Impact Investments** program will build capacity in over 120 community development organizations supporting underserved populations.



## KNOWLEDGE & INSIGHTS

All EDA Networks programs and efforts will capture information and data real-time at a local level to scale future-focused and equitable economic development practices across the industry.



# Communities of Practice span a range of issues, regions, and stakeholders

Participants benefit from **peer learning and mentorship, issue-specific trainings, targeted one-on-one coaching and technical assistance.**

Through these communities, EDA ensures that grantees and other stakeholders will **learn about, share, and implement best practices** to help strengthen their regional economies.



**Building Better Regions  
(BBBRC Finalists)**



**Indigenous  
Communities**



**Building Resilient  
Economies in Coal  
Communities**



**Manufacturing  
Communities**



**Economic Development  
Districts (EDDs)**



**Revolving Loan  
Funds (RLF)**



**Good Jobs Challenge  
(GJC Awardees)**



**Technology-Based  
Economic Development  
(T-BED)**

Questions? [Networks@eda.gov](mailto:Networks@eda.gov)

[www.eda.gov/strategic-initiatives/communities-of-practice](http://www.eda.gov/strategic-initiatives/communities-of-practice)





# EDD Community of Practice

Led by the **National Association of Development Organizations Research Foundation (NADO RF)**, in partnership with *National Association of Regional Councils (NARC)*, *First Nations Development Institute*, and the *University Economic Development Association (UEDA)*

- Creates new pathways for Regional Planning Organizations, especially EDA's 400+ Economic Development Districts (EDDs), to **build relationships**, and explore and adopt new practices for advancing local and regional economic development strategies.
- Promotes **innovative** idea exchange and peer-to-peer learning, plus one-on-one TA for participating EDDs.
- Builds off previous CEDS training to focus on **resilient** and **inclusive** economic development strategies that bolster underserved communities. Includes new research into **emerging needs and trends** surfacing across districts.



Learn more: <https://www.nado.org/eddcop/>



# Contact

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Please visit these pages at [EDA.gov](https://www.eda.gov) to learn more about:

- [Economic Development Integration \(EDI\)](#)
- [Disaster Recovery Support \(ERSF\)](#)
- [Communities of Practice \(CoPs\)](#)
- [Economic Recovery Corps \(ERC\)](#)
- [Equity Impact Investments \(EII\)](#)
- [EDA Funding](#)
- [EDA Contacts](#)

Thank You!

