

## EDA METHODS AND TOOLS

### Strategic Planning

EDA's disaster recovery grants can help eligible organizations create economic recovery and resiliency plans, sometimes with the assistance of EDA-funded disaster recovery coordinators.

### Capital for Alternative Financing

EDA funding can be used to capitalize or recapitalize Revolving Loan Funds (RLFs) through non-profit and governmental entities. EDA offers below-market rate loans to businesses to help provide gap financing and support new business development.

### Infrastructure Development

EDA funds can be used to finance construction of newer, climate-resilient infrastructure designed to adapt to changing weather conditions. EDA also supports infrastructure repair and enhancements to diversify economies and prepare for future disasters. Examples include business incubators, technology parks, research facilities, access roads, storm drainage, and water treatment facilities designed to prevent business disruption and retain and create jobs in the impacted region.

### Resiliency

EDA funding can help communities develop a more resilient economy through planning, technical assistance, and core capacity building investments that help businesses, along with state, local, and Tribal governments prepare for, withstand, and recover from disasters.

### Equity

EDA's first investment priority is equity. We prioritize economic development planning or implementation projects that directly benefit traditionally underserved populations, including women, African Americans, Tribal communities, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders.



## EDA REGIONAL OFFICES

Contact your regional EDA office for more information about the agency's disaster recovery and other program resources. Full contact information can be found at [www.eda.gov/contact](http://www.eda.gov/contact).

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U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

For information about EDA's disaster recovery work, please e-mail [edi@eda.gov](mailto:edi@eda.gov).

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# Leading Economic Recovery Efforts in Disaster-Impacted Communities



U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

[www.eda.gov](http://www.eda.gov)

## EDA'S MISSION



As the sole federal government agency focused exclusively on economic development, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) plays a critical, national role in supporting regional economic development efforts in economically distressed communities across the nation.

Guided by the basic principle that sustainable economic development should be locally driven, EDA works directly with communities, helping them build capacity for economic development based on local business conditions and needs. EDA's grant investments in infrastructure, strategic planning, and access to capital and technical assistance are designed to leverage existing regional assets to support the implementation of economic development strategies that support business start-up, growth, and job creation.

### EDA and Disaster Recovery

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Commerce, EDA leads the Economic Recovery Support Function (ERSF) under the Federal Government's National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF). EDA facilitates the effective delivery of federal economic development assistance to support long-term economic recovery planning and project implementation, economic diversification, and economic resiliency.

EDA is uniquely positioned to coordinate regional disaster recovery efforts in partnership with its extensive network of Economic Development Districts, University Centers, and other partners in disaster-impacted areas. EDA has led a series of economic recovery missions in response to natural disasters. These include tornadoes in Kentucky; flooding in Missouri and Nebraska; and hurricanes in Florida, Louisiana, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, Texas, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, among others.



Visit EDA's website for more information about the agency's disaster activities and supplemental funding

## A HISTORY OF SUPPORT: EDA AND DISASTER RECOVERY

EDA has a long history of supporting locally led disaster recovery and resiliency efforts. Since the early 1990s, EDA has received a total of \$2.5 billion in supplemental appropriations from Congress to support long-term economic recovery and economic resiliency in the aftermath of disasters.

### Here are some examples:

- In FY 2020, EDA received supplemental funding through both the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (\$1.5 billion) and the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act (\$3 billion). For more information, please visit [www.eda.gov/coronavirus](http://www.eda.gov/coronavirus).
- In FY 2018 and 2019, EDA received a total of \$1.2 billion in supplemental funding to help communities impacted by Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Lane, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and by wildfires, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and other natural disasters.
- In FY 2012, EDA received \$200 million to support disaster relief, long-term recovery, and restoration of infrastructure in areas that received a major disaster designation in 2011.

### Who is Eligible to Receive Disaster Recovery Grants?

Eligible applicants under EDA's Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) program include District Planning Organizations; Tribal, state, county, or city governments; institutions of higher education; and public or private non-profit organizations. EDA is not authorized to provide EAA grants to individuals or for-profit entities and will not consider such requests.

### What Specific Activities are Eligible for Disaster Supplemental Funding?

Through the EAA Program, EDA can support both the development of disaster recovery strategies/plans and the implementation of recovery projects, including construction activities, capitalizing RLFs, entrepreneurship development, and technical assistance. All projects must be consistent with at least one of EDA's Investment Priorities, which can be found at [www.eda.gov/about/investment-priorities](http://www.eda.gov/about/investment-priorities).

### Where do You Apply?

For more information on EDA funding opportunities, please visit [www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/](http://www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/).

[www.eda.gov/disaster-recovery](http://www.eda.gov/disaster-recovery)

## REGIONAL REPORT

"This EDA investment in internal drainage infrastructure will help minimize the impact of heavy rain and flooding events on downtown businesses and residents, long susceptible to flooding, and it compliments a larger Army Corps of Engineers project that will mitigate flooding throughout the area."

Chadwick Hawkins, *City Administrator, Arcadia, Wisconsin*  
→ on EDA's \$4.3 million grant to improve local stormwater management infrastructure.

"The Hub is building wealth in the community, enhancing the surrounding neighborhood, while creating jobs."

Patrick Ezzell, *President, Urban Partnerships Community Development Corporation, Pearland, Texas*  
→ on EDA's \$5 million investment to develop the East End Maker Hub, a 30,000-square foot innovation space for entrepreneurs, created in response to Hurricane Harvey.

"It got to the point where a lack of quality infrastructure was prohibiting people from investing in our downtown and bringing a business down there. Being able to revitalize and reinvest in our downtown with the help of this grant money is going to be a long-term investment in the downtown merchants."

Brian Crane, *City Manager, Moberly, Missouri*  
→ on EDA's \$4.8 million grant to improve water infrastructure after frequent flooding.

"These projects are transformational for the people of the United States Virgin Islands. We are delighted to work with EDA to provide new education and training opportunities through the EDA-funded Medical Simulation Center on St. Croix and the Medical Research and Training Center on St. Thomas."

Haldane Davies, *Vice President, University of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands*  
→ on EDA's \$28.6 million grants for the construction of new medical facilities following Hurricanes Maria and Irma in 2017.

"This project will be transformational for the Northwest Florida region, as it will create more than 270 direct and indirect positions over the next ten years, generate \$9 million in revenues to local entities providing support services for the additional 300,000 tons of cargo projected to move through the Port."

Alex King, *Executive Director of the Panama City Port Authority, Panama City, Florida*  
→ on EDA's \$10 million grant for facility upgrades following Hurricane Michael in 2018.

"EDA came to us and asked, how can we support you? Sometimes federal agencies come in and know how to do everything and stomp their way around. This was completely different."

Chelsea Irvine, *3CORE, Chico, California*  
→ on EDA's \$13.3 million grant to widen a two-mile stretch of road used by first responders.