

EDA Methods and Tools

Strategic Planning

At the early stages of post-disaster recovery, EDA's disaster recovery grants can help eligible organizations create economic recovery and resiliency plans, often through EDA-funded disaster recovery coordinators.

Capital for Alternative Financing

Often in parallel with planning and technical assistance, EDA funding can be used to capitalize or recapitalize revolving loan funds through non-profit and governmental entities to provide below market-rate loans to businesses to help provide gap financing and to support new business development.

Infrastructure Development

As recovery efforts progress, EDA funds can be used to finance construction of new infrastructure, or infrastructure repair, and enhancements to diversify economies and strengthen resilience to future disasters. Examples include business incubators, technology parks, research facilities, access roads, storm drainage, and water treatment facilities to prevent business disruption and retain and create jobs in the impacted region.

Resiliency

Economic resilience depends on the ability of businesses and communities to adapt to changing conditions in order to withstand and quickly recover from disruptive events. EDA funding can help communities develop a more robust, diversified and resilient economy through planning, technical assistance and core capacity building investments that help business, along with state, local, and tribal governments, prepare for and bounce back from disasters.

"The City of Minot experienced a severe and unprecedented flood event in 2011. Recovery from this devastation became an enormous task with a price tag in the billions of dollars. Without assistance from EDA on several projects, the City of Minot would be years behind on its recovery efforts. The project funding from EDA has assisted the City in its resiliency efforts, bringing basic needs to residents across the City, while also creating more than 225 jobs. This would not be possible without EDA's generous assistance."

Lyndsay Ulrickson, Executive Director at the Souris Basin Planning Council on Minot floods of 2011.

"The magnitude of the disasters of 2008 was so great it required significant federal investment in our recovery. EDA's nimbleness set it apart from other federal agencies. EDA representatives worked directly with communities to determine the greatest needs and the most appropriate role for EDA assistance. The flexibility of EDA funding allowed the agency to support a comprehensive approach toward recovery and long-term resiliency, from staffing through recovery coordinators, to business assistance through RLFs, and improvements to infrastructure through public works. Throughout Iowa, and especially in the ECICOG region, the goal was to 'build back better.' EDA was a key partner in bringing that goal to reality."

Doug Elliott, Executive Director, East Central Iowa Council of Governments
on Cedar Rapids floods of 2008.

EDA Regional Offices

Contact your regional EDA office for more information about the agency's disaster recovery and other program resources www.eda.gov/contact

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EDA

U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION



Leading Economic Recovery Efforts in Disaster-Impacted Communities

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EDA's Mission



As the only 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 to help them build capacity for economic development based on local business conditions and needs. EDA's grant investments in infrastructure, strategic planning, 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 and growth.

EDA and Disaster Recovery

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Commerce, EDA is the designated leader of the Economic Recovery Support Function (ERSF) under the Federal Government's Natural Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF). In this role, 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.

Please see: www.eda.gov/disaster for more information.



"EDA investments across Louisiana's Economic Development Districts (EDDs) contribute to the resiliency and economic success of our local communities. Our State has benefited from EDA's public works and economic adjustment assistance construction grants and partnership planning and strategy grants during multiple economic downturns and repeated natural disasters. From ports to base reuse to high tech to workforce development investments, EDA's contributions in our eight EDDs strengthen local capacity as we engage and train Louisiana's citizens and stakeholders, enhance outreach to additional communities, and in times of disaster, stand-up emergency operations quickly. EDA's wide-ranging approach to economic development gives Louisiana the latitude to address the myriad of socio-economic problems in the State. That approach helps support job creation and personal wealth for Louisianans as well as aid in disaster mitigation and resiliency."

**Cheri Soileau, Executive Director, Imperial Calcasieu
Regional Planning and Development Commission**

Fiscal Year 2018 Disaster Supplemental Funds

On April 10, 2018, EDA published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) announcing the availability of \$587 million in grant funds to address economic recovery priorities in areas receiving a major disaster designation as a result of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, and wildfires and other 2017 natural disasters.

Who is eligible to receive disaster recovery grants?

EDA disaster assistance grants are being awarded through its Regional Offices under the agency's Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) Program.

Eligible applicants under the EAA program include a(n): District Organization of an EDA-designated Economic Development District; Indian Tribe or a consortia of Indian Tribes; State, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortia of political subdivisions; institution of higher education or a consortia of institutions of higher education; or public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State.

EDA is not authorized to provide EAA grants to individuals or for-profit entities. Requests from such entities will not be considered for funding.

What specific activities are eligible for Disaster Supplemental funding?

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

When can you apply?

Now. Disaster Supplemental proposals and applications are being accepted and reviewed by EDA on an ongoing basis until the cancellation of the current NOFO or all available funds have been expended.

Where do you apply?

Proposals and applications must be submitted to www.grants.gov or to the appropriate EDA Regional Office. Applicants can locate the funding opportunity which includes program and evaluation criteria, on Grants.gov using Funding Opportunity Number "EDA-2018-DISASTER."

For more information, and to find contact information for the EDA Economic Development Representative (EDR) covering your state, please visit:
www.eda.gov/contact.

A History of Support: EDA and Disaster Recovery

EDA has a long history of successfully supporting locally-led disaster recovery and resiliency efforts.

In fact, since the early 1990s, EDA has received \$1.9 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 addition to EDA's recent \$600 million disaster supplemental:

- In the 1990s and early 2000s, EDA received a series of disaster supplemental appropriations for significant natural disasters impacting communities during this period.
- In FY 2008, EDA received two disaster supplemental appropriations for a total of \$500 million to support the economic recovery of communities significantly impacted by hurricanes, floods, and other natural disasters, including a multi-state flood disaster in the Midwest and Gulf Coast hurricanes Katrina, Ike and Gustav.
- In FY 2010, EDA received \$5 million to support economic recovery from the Gulf Coast Deepwater Horizon oil spill and \$49 million to support economic recovery activities as part of the 2010 Storm and Flood Assistance Disaster Supplemental Appropriation.
- 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.

In response to the unprecedented year of hurricanes in 2017, EDA deployed staff to four disaster locations in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to work in partnership with other federal agencies, state and local organizations, and community leaders to help affected communities recover and rebuild.

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

"The workshop spotlighted the reason why EDA plays a key role in our region's recovery from natural disasters — helping our communities get quick answers about specific projects that will help them become more resilient and restore their local economies. EDA leads the way on convening the entire spectrum of State and Federal funding partners. We had a fantastic turnout — from small towns and rural counties to major cities and our largest counties."

Chuck Wemple, Executive Director Houston-Galveston Area Council referring to an EDA organized economic recovery workshop following Hurricane Harvey.

"This project is vital to sustaining and growing the economic prosperity of southern Minnesota, we are grateful for EDA's support and proud to be a part of a lasting solution to what has been an ongoing problem."

**Nicole Griensewic Mickelson,
Executive Director of
Region Nine Development
Commission** on U.S.
Highway 169 Minnesota
flood restoration project.