

OVERVIEW: Interagency Economic Recovery Support Function Working Group

The [Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration](#) (EDA) leads the [Economic Recovery Support Function \(ERSF\)](#) under the [National Disaster Recovery Framework](#). The ERSF integrates Federal Government expertise and resources after large scale and catastrophic disasters. This assistance, provided to State, Local, Tribal and Territorial (SLTT) governments and the private sector, sustains and rebuilds businesses and employment, develops new economic opportunities, and achieves more economically sustainable and resilient communities.

ERSF Interagency partnership Goals/Objectives

1. Showcase innovative economic recovery/resiliency funding, research, and practices - to enable cross-promotion of economic recovery assistance and to remove barriers that impede access to federal economic recovery resources
2. Promote successful collaborations— to scale up innovation and impact by helping to align and leverage federal resources
3. Identify program/policy barriers and proposed solutions – to prevent duplication of benefits and coordination challenges
4. Increase opportunities to advance equity in disaster activities.

ERSF Working Group Activities/Deliverables

- Develop and deepen interagency relationships that help identify resources to assist heavily impacted industries and sectors
- Cross-promote federal assistance programs to stakeholders at the regional and national levels
- Develop and disseminate crosswalks to coordinate resources
- Identify and mitigate barriers to accessing resources
- Coordinate program or policy solutions
- Document successful federal interagency collaboration, including any resulting co-investment of multiple federal resources.

Recent Collaboration Successes

Hurricanes Laura and Delta (Southwest LA, Winter 2021). ERSF's first fully virtual mission assignment brought timely support to a regional economy crippled by storm damage and compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic. USDA served alongside EDA, under the ERSF banner, bringing deep information about on-the ground impacts to the agricultural industry. ERSF partners, SBA, NOAA, NTIA, ITA contributed expertise and assistance on small businesses, fisheries, tourism, broadband, and disaster resilience, helping the beleaguered counties build back better. A series of ERSF-led workshops connected local organizations to federal program specialists, and guided communities to funding streams best suited to priority issues, preparing them to complete applications for recovery funding, including the federal American Rescue Plan Act funding, as it becomes available.

Arts and Culture Industry Recovery (Northeast Region, COVID-19) – Given the severe impacts caused by the pandemic to the arts and culture industry, EDA invited the National Cultural Resources RSF to join the Economic Recovery Working Group, and quickly began working together on a jointly hosted, EDA-NEA Arts Industry Listening Session that brought 18 state arts agencies together with regional Economic Development Districts and the Heritage Emergency National Task Force, to share needs and to learn about arts-related funding. NEA continues to be a valued contributor to economic recovery solutions, presenting at regional Tribal Roundtables and sharing resources available to promote diversified, entrepreneurial local economies through cultural arts, tourism and creative placemaking.

ERSF Working Group Members (Primary)

- [Small Business Administration](#) (SBA)
- [US Department of Agriculture](#) (USDA)
- [Federal Emergency Management Administration](#) (FEMA)
-Department of Homeland Security
-CISA
- [Department of Labor](#) (DOL)
[Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) (BLS)
- [Treasury/Internal Revenue Service](#) (IRS)
- [Health and Human Services](#) (HHS)
-Health and Social Services (HSS)

Support Agencies

- [Housing and Urban Development](#) (HUD)
- [Department of the Interior](#) (DOI)
-[Bureau of Indian Affairs](#) (BIA)
- [National Endowment for the Arts](#) (NEA)
- [Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA)
- [AmeriCorps](#)
- [Department of Transportation](#) (DOT)
- [Delta Regional Authority](#)
- [US Department of State](#)

Other DOC Bureaus

- [Bureau of Economic Analysis](#) (BEA)
- [Census \(Census COVID Portal\)](#)
- [International Trade Administration](#) (ITA)
[National Travel and Tourism Office](#)
- [Minority Business Development Administration](#) (MBDA)
- [National Institute of Standards and Technology](#) (NIST)
- [National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration](#) (NOAA)
- [National Telecommunications and Information Agency](#) (NTIA)

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