RESTORE YOUR ECONOMY.ORG
Disaster Preparedness and Economic Recovery

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Economic Recovery and Resiliency Programs

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WHO WE ARE

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is the world's largest organization dedicated to helping economic developers do their job more effectively while raising the profile of the profession. When we succeed, our members create high-quality jobs, develop more vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions.

OUR MISSION

Provide leadership and excellence in economic development for our communities, members, and partners.

OUR EXPERIENCE

Since Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast in 2005, IEDC has been working to promote economic recovery and long-term resiliency in disaster-impacted communities. IEDC offers various economic recovery services including:

- The Economic Recovery Volunteer Program
- Technical Assistance Panels
- Courses and workshops
- Webinars
- Publications

Economic Recovery Volunteer Program

Economic Recovery After Disasters

Tapping into its international network of economic development professionals, IEDC deploys volunteers for short and long-term recovery assignments. The volunteers are experienced economic development professionals, many of whom have hands-on experience with post-disaster economic recovery.

How does it work?

An economic development organization or governmental entity in a disaster-impacted community identifies an economic recovery project → IEDC drafts a scope of work and identifies volunteers with matching skills → The volunteers work in the community for one week to provide expertise and additional capacity on the project

Projects volunteers have conducted:

- Identifying economic recovery priorities
- Action plans for economic recovery
- Business assessments
- Advice and direction for business retention programs
- Economic diversification strategies
- Assisting businesses with continuity planning
- Communication and marketing strategies
- Analyzing barriers to and opportunities for downtown revitalization
- Stakeholder engagement for economic recovery

Technical Assistance Panels

Economic Recovery After Disasters

IEDC's Technical Assistance Panels provide in-depth guidance to organizations and communities on projects that impact long-term recovery.

How does it work?

Scope of work identified and background research report to familiarize expert team on the community and region → A panel of 2-4 volunteers is identified. IEDC staff collaborates with the panel and local officials to prepare for a visit → The panel travels to the community for a site visit of 3-4 days, conducting interviews with stakeholder groups and providing preliminary recommendations → The expert panel finalizes its recommendations in a writen report that is delivered to the client organization

Projects volunteers have conducted

- Economic resiliency planning
- Revitalization assessments and planning
- Assessment of economic development opportunities
- Strategic planning
- Economic diversification strategies
- Developing governance and funding models for economic development organizations
- Reuse opportunities of abandoned property
- Entrepreneurship and Small Business Delivery Service Action Plans
- Developing Coastal Tourism as an Economic Driver
- Marketing Plan for Technology Corridor

Courses and Workshops

In addition to volunteer programs, IEDC offers customized workshops and courses for disaster-impacted communities. Here are just a few examples of topics offered in the past.

Economic Recovery and Resiliency Topics

- Introduction to Economic Resilience
- Small Business Financing for Economic Recovery
- Economic Diversification & Building Capacity for Recovery
- Post-Disaster Revitalization and Building Back Better
- Business Assistance Strategies
- Crisis Communications
- The Federal Government Response After a Disaster
- Strategies for Long-term Recovery

Economic Development Topics

- Introduction to Economic Development
- Workforce Development
- Business Retention and Expansion
- Economic Development Marketing and Attraction
- Small Business and Entrepreneurship
- Real Estate Redevelopment and Reuse
- Economic Development Strategic Planning
- Managing Economic Development Organizations

Resources

Funded by the U.S. Economic Development Administration and created by IEDC, RestoreYourEconomy.org provides free resources and best practice information for stakeholders seeking to plan for resiliency and rebuild their local economies after a disaster.

Webinar Recordings

- Staying on the Ready: Strategies for Communities Welcoming Evacuees
- Revolving Loan Funds for Disaster Recovery
- Creative Financing for Small Businesses Post-Disaster
- Fostering an Entrepreneurial Environment in Small & Rural Communities
- Reinvigorating Downtown: Strategies to Drive Traffic Post-Disaster
- Bolstering Your Economy with Tourism
- Federal and State Tools for Economic Development
- Best Practices for Dealing with Dilapidated and Abandoned Properties

Leadership in Times of Crisis Toolkit

'Leadership in Times of Crisis' provides strategies and tactics to help community leaders plan for economic resiliency and recover after a disaster. It includes information on convening stakeholders to identify strategies, retaining businesses, navigating federal resources, and building back better

Publications

- An Improved Federal Response to Post-Disaster Economic Recovery
- Building Resilient Coastal Communities: Counties and the Digital Coast
- Canadian Resource: Recovery and Resiliency Roadmap: A Toolkit for Economic Preparedness
- Case Studies in Addressing Neighborhood Vacancy and Blight
- Case Studies in Small Business Finance Following a Disaster
- Case Studies: The Role of Public-Private Partnerships in Economic Disaster Recovery and Economic Resiliency
- Resources for Rebuilding the Tourism and Fisheries Industries

Words from Participants

The experience was beyond my expectation. The volunteer and project manager were very attentive, highly committed and devoted to assist us. Certainly, it is a valuable experience and contribution for the City of Manati. We are deeply grateful and look forward to working with IEDC in the near future.

-City of Manatí, Puerto Rico

We are very thankful to IEDC for reaching out and explaining the program. The insight the volunteer gave will benefit our organization for years to come.

-Greater Zephyrhills, Florida Chamber of Commerce

Outstanding presenters and perfectly designed workshop! Presentations were fun & informative.

-Webinar participant

The presenters provided information that was relevant and timely. They delivered the material in a way that was easily understood. These webinars are always informative.

-Webinar participant

This is a great program. The IEDC administers it well and I was proud to be part of it and share the fact that I was representing IEDC.

-Economic Recovery Volunteer

CONTACT US

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