

SC RECOVERY PLAN - ANNEX 2
ECONOMIC RECOVERY SUPPORT FUNCTION

COORDINATING: SC Department of Commerce

PRIMARY: Clemson University Livestock Poultry Health; SC Department of Agriculture; SC Department of Employment and Workforce; SC Department of Insurance; SC Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism; SC Emergency Management Division

SUPPORTING: SC Department of Revenue; SC Forestry Commission; SC Manufacturers and Commerce; SC Office of the Commissioner of Banking; SC Port Authority; SC Retail Association; SC Small Business Development Centers; SC Technical College System

I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Economic Recovery Support Function (RSF) is to return economic and business activities to a healthy state and develop new business and employment opportunities that result in an economically viable community.

South Carolina’s RSF framework is designed to foster coordination between stakeholders and improve access to resources during short-term, intermediate, and long-term recovery. The Economic RSF annex outlines processes for supporting local recovery priorities and completing critical tasks identified in the South Carolina Recovery Plan. This annex is not intended to replace or supersede recovery activities, roles and responsibilities, or program rules of Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) described in the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan (SCEOP) or individual agencies.

II. PURPOSE

- A. Describe processes through which RSF members coordinate to identify state recovery priorities and implement solutions to support local recovery efforts.
- B. Identify resources available for economic recovery and outline processes for coordinating recovery resources across federal, state, non-governmental, and private sector organizations.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. The Economic RSF is active in all phases of disaster to prepare for and execute the recovery mission.
- B. SC Department of Commerce (SCDOC) is the coordinating agency of the Economic RSF. SCDOC also is the coordinating agency of ESF-24, which has similar priorities and stakeholders.

C. Mobilization

1. Immediately following most disasters, South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) in its role as the coordinating agency of ESF-14 schedules a SC Recovery Task Force conference call to establish a common operating picture, discuss emerging local needs, and identify key recovery resources.
2. During response and short-term recovery, ESF-14 coordinates with the State Coordinating Officer (SCO) and SCDOC to mobilize the Economic RSF. State RSFs are generally mobilized when it becomes apparent recovery activities will require enhanced coordination among state agencies. Circumstances that may warrant mobilizing the Economic RSF include:
 - a. Damages to a significant number of businesses and residences.
 - b. Damages to agriculture, forestry, fisheries and other natural resources significant to the economy.
 - c. Damages to critical infrastructure serving businesses.
 - d. Sustained interruptions to supply chains.
3. When the Economic RSF mobilizes, SCDOC leads communication among the RSF coordinating, primary, and supporting agencies. RSF members collaborate to share information, identify economic recovery priorities, coordinate resources and program delivery, and support solutions to local recovery needs.
4. Throughout recovery, SCEMD supports State RSFs and organizes SC Recovery Task Force meetings to facilitate communication among RSFs.
5. If the event requires, SCEMD leads the Advance Evaluation Team (AET) with support from State RSF coordinating agencies. SCEMD supports subsequent Mission Scoping Assessment (MSA) and Recovery Support Strategy (RSS) development if Federal RSFs are activated.
6. As recovery progresses, SCDOC determines when the Economic RSF demobilizes. Demobilization occurs when interagency recovery coordination is sufficiently covered by steady state activities and regularly scheduled SC Recovery Task Force meetings.

D. Information collection and analysis

1. Following a disaster, the Economic RSF gathers information from multiple sources including but not limited to ESFs (e.g., ESF-14, ESF-17, ESF-24), SC Recovery Task Force members, federal partners (e.g., the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Small Business

Administration (SBA), U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC)), and local networks of business leaders and economic development partners.

2. Once mobilized, the RSF shares information among participating organizations via conference calls, email or other platforms under the direction of SCDOC.
3. The RSF prioritizes collecting the following Essential Elements of Information (EEI), which may be adjusted to fit the needs of the incident.
 - a. Cash flow and access to capital for individuals and businesses.
 - b. Impacts to the workforce, major employers, and supply chains.
 - c. Barriers to business resumption, including structural damages and inventory loss.
 - d. Insurance coverage and availability of state and federal assistance.
 - e. Opportunities to enhance marketing and improve communications with the business community throughout recovery.
 - f. Opportunities to create jobs, diversify the economy, and build economic resilience throughout recovery.
4. State RSF members work collaboratively to analyze the information and develop state economic recovery priorities. The recovery priorities developed by the RSF are shared with the Recovery Executive Group, which helps refine priorities, develop strategic objectives, and identify metrics for measuring success.
5. RSF members work collaboratively, as needed, to request and deliver recovery resources that address identified priorities. Resources include those described in Attachment A and additional resources that may become available following a disaster.
6. The RSF may need to provide information to the public about economic recovery. Potential public information topics include the availability of federal recovery resources and assistance programs. Public information related to a disaster is coordinated through ESF-15 and the Joint Information Center (JIC), if activated. ESF-24 also establishes contact with FEMA Region IV External Affairs (private sector element) as needed. Information also is shared through [the S.C. Emergency Business Resource dashboard](#).

- E. Coordination with federal partners
 - 1. Federal Economic RSF
 - a. The Federal Economic RSF, coordinated by the EDA on behalf of USDOC, may provide financial and technical assistance to impacted communities. The State Economic RSF integrates vertically with the Federal Economic RSF, if activated.
 - b. Resources available from federal and state partners are found in Attachment A.
- F. Coordination with local partners
 - 1. Recovery is locally driven. Recovery activities begin and end at the local level.
 - 2. If a community does not have a local Economic RSF or equivalent coordinating body, the State Economic RSF works with local partners to support economic recovery efforts. Partners may include local emergency managers, Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs), local economic development professionals, local and state chambers of commerce, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), local manufacturing or other councils, and trade associations to assess damages, identify priorities, and develop strategies for recovery.

IV. RSF ACTIONS

- A. Preparedness
 - 1. Support plans and projects to maintain a healthy economy for businesses and workers in South Carolina.
 - 2. Support ESF-24 preparedness actions, including registering businesses for post-disaster reentry.
 - 3. Engage in pre-disaster recovery planning. Actions include:
 - a. Identify and maintain contact information for RSF coordinating, primary, and supporting agencies.
 - b. Identify resources (funding, technical assistance, data, etc.) to assist with economic recovery.
 - c. Identify strategies that may be used during response and recovery, such as workforce development programs, business retention programs, and incentives to stabilize the tax base.
 - 4. Provide methods for communicating with the public and business community that are interoperable, redundant, and appropriate for

diverse communities.

B. Response

1. Support ESF-24 response actions.
2. Coordinate with ESF-14 (Initial Recovery and Mitigation) and support additional ESFs in response activities as needed.

C. Short-Term Recovery

1. Support ESF-24 recovery activities, including sharing damage reports, monitoring deployments of insurance claims adjusters, and conducting business registration for post-disaster reentry.
2. Coordinate with ESF-14 to mobilize the Economic RSF. Synchronize economic recovery activities with other RSFs.
3. Conduct and assist in preliminary impact assessments for state and local economies.
4. Work with local governments and affected communities to assess and address capacity gaps for economic recovery.
5. Facilitate the extension of expertise to communities so that government, businesses, and residents are provided with knowledge and available resources to maintain vital procurements and operations.
6. Develop an approach for evaluating and prioritizing the recovery of economically important community assets.

D. Intermediate Recovery

1. Support development of the state's Recovery Support Strategy to establish priorities for RSF activities. Update as required.
2. Conduct intermediate recovery support activities, including:
 - a. Monitor unmet financial needs.
 - b. Determine opportunities for tax and regulatory relief for governments, businesses, and individuals.
 - c. Provide technical and financial support for temporary relocation of government operations, businesses, individuals, and families.
 - d. Provide technical support and financial incentives for community occupation or re-occupation by businesses, individuals, and families.

- e. Develop and implement strategies to re-establish self-maintaining supply chains.
 - f. Restore private sector capacity through permanent repairs and improvements to buildings, as well as transportation and utility infrastructure.
 - g. Promote and facilitate outside investment.
 - h. Facilitate timely distribution of direct financial assistance.
- E. Long-Term Recovery
- 1. Continue assessing progress on intermediate recovery activities. Update recovery strategies as needed.
 - 2. Continue providing technical assistance to local communities.
 - 3. Transition RSF activities back to responsible departments to manage through routine operations.
- F. Mitigation
- 1. Integrate strategies to mitigate against adverse impacts from future disasters into recovery strategies.
 - 2. Review, evaluate, and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. General
- 1. Facilitate communication and collaboration between RSF agencies and other members of the South Carolina Recovery Task Force.
 - 2. Coordinate efforts to implement economic recovery activities.
 - 3. Assist with developing and updating economic recovery priorities and strategies in the South Carolina Recovery Support Strategy.
 - 4. Provide technical assistance and available resources to support local and tribal recovery activities.
- B. SC Department of Commerce
- 1. Coordinate Economic RSF administrative, management, planning, training, preparedness/mitigation, response, and recovery activities.
 - 2. Provide technical assistance and coordinate preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation activities.

3. Notify Economic RSF primary and supporting agencies upon activation.
4. Coordinate with Economic RSF partners and allies to provide information on known available business and industry assets and impacts.
5. Provide input on operational needs for restoration of business and industry during the emergency.
6. Assist in the identification of businesses and industry needing immediate assistance.
7. Develop and maintain listings of commercial and industrial suppliers of services and products to include points of contact associated with business and industry related functions.
8. During preparedness, response and initial recovery, conduct business registration for post-disaster reentry; promote and maintain the automated business reentry system.

C. SC Emergency Management Division

1. Convene the SC Recovery Task Force and facilitate communication across State RSFs throughout recovery.
2. Work with State RSF coordinating agencies to mobilize RSFs, gather, analyze and disseminate recovery information, identify recovery priorities, and implement solutions to help local communities.
3. Share Local Initial Damage Assessment (LIDA), Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment (JPDA), and Small Business Administration (SBA) Damage Survey information relevant to economic recovery with State RSF members.
4. Coordinate with State RSFs and federal partners to activate Federal RSFs, communicate state recovery priorities, and channel federal resources to South Carolina's communities throughout recovery.
5. Request and administer the Public Assistance (PA) program and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) through FEMA.
6. Request and support delivery of Individual Assistance (IA) programs through FEMA and loan assistance through SBA.

D. Clemson University Livestock Poultry Health

1. Act as a liaison with Clemson University Regulatory and Public Services Programs, Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service, agricultural stakeholders, and agricultural private industries to collect and report emergency-related information pertaining to economic impacts to agriculture, agribusiness, and agricultural trade.

E. SC Department of Agriculture

1. Monitor and provide damage assessments as provided by the state's agribusiness industry.
2. Develop estimates for losses of agricultural products including losses for agribusiness operations.
3. Provide agricultural data as requested by federal and state partners.
4. Work with USDA's Farm Service Agency to understand and communicate about federal agricultural disaster declarations and industry-specific aid.
5. Coordinate industry related post-disaster marketing efforts.

F. SC Department of Employment and Workforce

1. Coordinate with businesses requesting volunteers to augment their workforce or those providing volunteer workers.
2. Partner with local public-private partnerships and workforce development areas to assist affected customers and businesses in impacted areas.
3. Coordinate employment opportunities with the business community to facilitate disaster recovery efforts.
4. Coordinate employment opportunities with businesses and affected customers in need of temporary employment.
5. Provide post-incident Disaster Unemployment Assistance as required.
6. Request U.S Department of Labor Dislocated Worker Grant (DOL DWG) provisions for displaced workforces as required.
7. During response and initial recovery, assist SCDOC in conducting business registration for post-disaster reentry.

G. SC Department of Insurance

1. Coordinate the permitting of emergency adjusters according to SC Department of Insurance current processes.
2. Maintain capability for monitoring and coordinating the deployment and activities of insurance claims adjusters working within the area of operations.
3. Assist in expediting the claim handling process.
4. Provide technical assistance and coordinate preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities to include state and federally funded mitigation grants.

5. Share emergency management and incident information with insurance carriers and adjuster staff.
 6. During response and initial recovery, assist SCDOC in conducting business registration for post-disaster reentry.
- H. SC Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
1. Provide tourist occupancy data and visitor volume estimates as requested.
 2. Provide tourism business disruption estimates following a disaster.
 3. Provide technical assistance and coordinate preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities.
 4. Coordinate post-event marketing efforts to recover tourism business.
 5. During response and initial recovery, assist SCDOC in conducting business registration for post-disaster reentry.
- I. SC Department of Revenue
1. Assist with the facilitation of donated goods.
 2. Assist with the facilitation of volunteers.
- J. SC Forestry Commission
1. Assess extent of damage to forests.
 2. Coordinate damage reporting.
- K. SC Manufacturers and Commerce
1. Provide technical assistance and coordinate preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities by assisting in economic recovery efforts between local chambers of commerce and the SC Emergency Management Division and by gathering damage assessment from SCMC membership, as requested.
 2. Disseminate disaster-related information to constituents as provided by SCEMD through ESF-24 and serve as conduit for private sector issues to be relayed to state government.
- L. SC Office of the Commissioner of Banking
1. Provide assistance and coordination for delivery of cash and other resources to State-chartered financial institutions to facilitate the flow of commerce through member institutions by ensuring cash availability and the institutions' ability to perform financial transaction processing for goods and services exchange.

2. Provide information collected from State-chartered financial institutions related to the status of operations, as requested.
3. Gather information from other financial institution regulatory agencies for assessment of damage and impact to the financial industry.
4. Provide disaster related information to regulated financial institutions during incident periods.
5. Represent State-chartered financial institutions during incidents.

M. SC Ports Authority

1. Assess and communicate Port Authority terminal conditions and Port of Charleston operational status.
2. Identify critical cargo for SC businesses while developing and communicating timeline for availability.
3. Identify available yards that could assist SCDOT or other agencies in mobilizing assets.

N. SC Retail Association

1. Provide technical assistance and coordinate preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities by assisting support agencies in gathering damage assessments to private retail businesses.
2. Represent private businesses during emergencies and serve as a conduit to state government.

O. SC Small Business Development Centers

1. Help disseminate information to small/medium sized businesses regarding preparedness, response, and recovery efforts/procedures.
2. Promote business reentry both before and post disaster.
3. Provide technical assistance (confidential counseling) to help small/medium sized businesses address financial and operational issues post-disaster.
4. Assist with connecting businesses to other response and recovery resources as appropriate.

P. SC Technical College System

1. Assist with the dissemination of information to state technical colleges.
2. If a federal grant is received, they would administer grant funds for emergency workforce training.

VI. ATTACHMENTS

A. Federal and State Resources

**SC RECOVERY PLAN - ANNEX 6
ATTACHMENT A: STATE AND FEDERAL RESOURCES**

Program	Eligibility/Stipulations	Action	Cost Share Information	State Agency	Contact
<u>Small Business Administration (SBA) Physical Damage Loans</u>	Requires SBA disaster declaration. Declaration thresholds are based on uninsured damages to homes and businesses.	The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) offers low-interest loans to businesses, nonprofits, homeowners, and renters to cover repairs and replacement of physical assets damaged during a disaster.	N/A	<u>SCEMD</u>	<u>disastercustomerservice@sba.gov</u>
<u>Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program</u>	Requires presidential disaster declaration for PA.	The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) PA grant program reimburses a portion of money eligible applicants spend on debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the repair/restoration of public infrastructure damaged during a disaster. Eligible applicants include state and local governments, and certain private non-profit (PNP) organizations that serve essential public functions.	75% federal, 25% non-federal	<u>SCEMD</u>	PA Mailbox <u>PA@emd.sc.gov</u>
<u>Fire Management Assistance Grant Program (FMAG)</u>	Requires federal Fire Management Assistance declaration.	FEMA's FMAG program is available to states, local and tribal governments, for the mitigation, management, and control of fires on publicly or privately owned forests or grasslands, which threaten such destruction as would constitute a major disaster.	75% federal, 25% non-federal	<u>SCEMD</u>	PA Mailbox <u>PA@emd.sc.gov</u>

Program	Eligibility/Stipulations	Action	Cost Share Information	State Agency	Contact
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)	Requires presidential disaster declaration. Funding amount is typically 15% of total estimated federal assistance for the disaster.	FEMA’s HMGP program is intended to reduce the risk of loss of life and property from future disasters. Applicants do not need to have sustained disaster related damage to apply for HMGP.	75% federal, 25% non-federal (90% federal, 10% non-federal for Small Impoverished Communities)	SCEMD	Mitigation Mailbox Mitigation@emd.sc.gov
Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)					

Additional Resources:

- The [Virtual Business Emergency Operations Center](#) provides information on business re-entry, business continuity planning, financing, and other topics to help businesses prepare for and recover from disasters.