

NDRF Spotlight: The Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function
Collette Linder, FEMA Region 7 CPCB Regional Coordinator

Recovery planning in the pre- and post-disaster environment empowers local leaders and stakeholders, improves recovery outcomes at the individual and community levels, and builds short- and long-term community resilience. The Community Planning and Capacity Building (CPCB) Recovery Support Function (RSF) supports state, local and tribal governments in the post-disaster period to quickly build their capacity to carry out community-based recovery planning and recovery management effectively and efficiently.

In the August issue of the Region 7 Ready and Resilient Newsletter, we featured an overview of the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) and indicated that future issues would include introductions to the six RSFs outlined in the NDRF, beginning with Community Planning and Capacity Building or CPCB. As stated in the [NDRE](#), the Community Planning and Capacity Building RSF unifies and coordinates expertise and assistance programs from across the Federal Government as well as nongovernmental partners to aid local and tribal governments in building their local capabilities to effectively plan for and manage recovery and engage the whole community in the recovery planning process. FEMA is the Coordinating Agency for CPCB, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is identified as a primary agency for this RSF. There are several federal governmental and national-level non-governmental agencies and organizations identified as CPCB supporting agencies outlined in the NDRF including:

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| ▪ American Red Cross; Corporation for National and Community Service | ▪ Department of Health and Human Services |
| ▪ Department of Agriculture | ▪ Delta Regional Authority |
| ▪ Department of Education | ▪ Department of Commerce |
| ▪ Department of Homeland Security | ▪ Department of the Interior |
| ▪ Department of Justice; Department of Transportation | ▪ National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster |
| ▪ General Services Administration | ▪ Environmental Protection Agency |
| ▪ Small Business Administration | ▪ U.S. Access Board |
| ▪ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers | |

When the CPCB RSF is activated after a disaster, the designated CPCB Field Coordinator works with state, territorial, and tribal counterparts and other governmental and nongovernmental partners from every level to leverage capacity building and planning support and opportunities for higher impact, underserved, or low-capacity local and tribal governments. CPCB does this with the aim to enable these communities to organize themselves, engage their stakeholders, and effectively manage as they embark on their recovery journeys. Critical tasks of the CPCB RSF during a disaster operation include:

- Conducting the Community Conditions Assessment (CCA) process in collaboration with our many partners. This assessment evaluates and compares levels of impact, vulnerabilities, and capacity factors to help FEMA and partners identify communities of concern and potential scope of initial CPCB and partner support.
- Initiating delivery of Just-in-Time Local Recovery Management Training where needed: a series of three standard short courses that are delivered to localities in collaboration with the State.
- Recommending and delivering, as appropriate, FEMA community recovery technical assistance. FEMA can provide recovery planning assistance to higher impact/low capacity jurisdictions.

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Other technical assistance is also possible including targeted planning support, community engagement support, peer to peer, and workshops.

- Coordinating the collaborative development of local capacity and planning support strategies and actions among CPCB partners. This includes things like EPA Smart Growth assistance, NOAA Sea Grant program support, arranging CNCS Vista Volunteers to support local recovery management needs, or American Planning Association Community Planning Assistance Teams.

You can find resources for local, tribal and state governments for recovery planning as well as grants management and alternative public service solutions at [Community Recovery Management Toolkit](#). Additional information about the CPCB RSF, and the National Disaster Recovery Framework can be found at [Community Planning and Capacity Building Recovery Support Function \(fema.gov\)](#) and in the [NDRF](#), respectively; or reach out to Collette Linder, the Region 7 CPCB Regional Coordinator at collette.linder@fema.dhs.gov.