

Recovery Support Functions: Where does Ag fit in?

Presented by Venessa Sims Georgia Department of Agriculture/SAADRA Multi-State Meeting, New Orleans April 29, 2013-May 2, 2013

Recovery Support Functions

- <u>http://www.fema.gov/recovery-support-</u> <u>functions</u>
- 1. Community Planning & Capacity Building
- 2. Economic Recovery
- 3. Health & Social Services
- 4. Housing Recovery
- 5. Infrastructure Systems
- 6. Natural & Cultural Resources
- 7. Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (GA)

RSF Objectives

 "Facilitate the identification, coordination and delivery of Federal assistance needed to supplement recovery resources and efforts by local, State, Tribal and Territorial governments, as well as private and nonprofit sectors"

In Georgia

 Ordered that each Recovery Support Function coordination agency shall appoint a Recovery Coordinator and Alternate to serve in the recovery phase after a natural or manmade disaster has occurred and as a planning liaison to the GEMA/Homeland Security

In Georgia

 Ordered that each RSF with coordinator responsibilities shall assign personnel to serve in the SOC, JFO and or other state command and control facilities as necessary to support recovery operations, participate in training and exercises, prepare updates to the Georgia Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plan....

RSF Objectives cont.

 "Encourage and complement investments and contributions by the business community, individuals and voluntary, faith-based and community organizations"

*Based upon PPD8 and utilizing the "Whole Community" Approach

Focus on Community Recovery Needs

• Important to define your community

- In Georgia as in many states, AGRICULTURE is driving engine to economy
- How are Departments of Ag/Food Agencies incorporated into the state planning & recovery efforts?
- Varies by state & local entities

Recovery Support Functions

- In most states, RSFs not provided for in law or policy
- Read as, "pay for the Recovery Coordinating Officer (RCO) in their budget"

State & Local Team approach

- "relevant stakeholders and experts are brought together during steady-state planning and when activated postdisaster to identify and resolve recovery challenges"
- "organize and request assistance and/or contribute resources and solutions"
 From FEMA website

Recovery Responsibilities at the Local Level

No standards on what it looks like
Local Disaster Recovery Manager (LDRM)
My questions was what is the difference in

• My questions was what is the difference in their role and the VOAD/COAD (long term recovery efforts)?

Recovery Activities

- Stafford Act funding cannot be used to pay for recovery activities
- Sub-grantees can claim under Public Assistance for specific projects

Additional Questions

- Contact your State Emergency Management Agency for further guidance & direction
- FEMA Recovery Key Documents: http://www.fema.gov/resources-1#1
- FEMA Recovery Useful Links: <u>http://www.fema.gov/resources-1#3</u>

Ag States Participating in Recovery Planning

• Part of State Recovery Plan:

- North Carolina: Appendix 9 to Annex A of the NC Recovery Plan
- West Virginia: involved on limited basis
- Participate in State Recovery Task Force:
 - South Carolina

Will build on this list as a result of our conversation today to share with multi-state partnership groups.

Next Steps

- Need to document participating states in State Recovery programs and their roles
- Are you included in the State Plan or are you part of the Recovery Planning Team, or both?

 Action Items moving forward to ensure, AG has a voice & is at the table in state & local recovery efforts