

**DRAFT
ACTION PLAN
HUD DISASTER RECOVERY INITIATIVE GRANT**

A. BACKGROUND:

The State of West Virginia is eligible to receive a \$3,127,935 HUD Disaster Recovery Initiative (DRI) Grant to help communities recover from severe storms, tornadoes, flooding, mudslides, and landslides (FEMA-1769-DR). The objective of this Action Plan is to assist local units of government in areas covered by a declaration of major disaster under Title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act with expenses related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure, and housing and economic restoration projects related to the covered disasters.

B. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

The State expects to receive \$3,127,935 from the HUD Disaster Recovery Initiative Grant 2008 appropriation to be distributed as follows:

Projected Use of Fiscal Year 2008 DRI Funds:

1.	State Administration	\$ 156,396.75
2.	DRI Projects	\$ 2,971,538.25

Program income is defined in 24 CFR 570.489(e) as gross income received by a local unit of government that was generated from the use of DRI funds. If less than \$25,000 is received in a single year by a local unit of government, those funds may be treated as miscellaneous income and will not be subject to the requirements of the DRI program. If \$25,000 or more in program income is received in a single year by a local unit of government, that generated program income will be treated as additional DRI funds and is subject to all requirements of the DRI program. This program income will be used to continue the same activity from which it was derived or be subject to recapture by the State.

C. STATE'S METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION:

1. Allocation of HUD Disaster Recovery Grant Funds

The West Virginia Development Office will distribute funds on a competitive basis within the declared boundaries of FEMA-1769-DR. The Regional Planning and Development Councils within the affected areas have been active in assisting local units of government with flood recovery efforts and must be consulted prior to the submission of the application. Projects in the State Disaster Recovery Action Plan for use of HUD Disaster Recovery Initiative funds must be located within the local units of government listed in Section 2. All local units of government within these

boundaries are eligible to apply. **ALL LOCAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT WITHIN THESE BOUNDARIES WILL BE DIRECTLY NOTIFIED ON OR ABOUT MARCH 2, 2009.**

2. Method of Distribution

- (a) General local units of government must identify disaster recovery needs and prioritize potential projects. Citizen participation is required but has been streamlined to require a minimum 7-day comment period for citizens within the local unit of government's jurisdiction, as well as ongoing information about the use of Grant funds. The State of West Virginia will publish the Final Action Plan on the WVDO website under <http://www.wvdo.org/community/appforms.html> Disaster Recovery Initiative Program. The final version that is to be submitted to HUD on March 13, 2009, will include all comments received during the specified comment period, as well as the responses. The State is accepting the Hazard Mitigation Plans approved by the West Virginia Office of Emergency Services as noted in the local citizen participation plan.
- (b) This Action Plan has been forwarded to all local units of government in the declared disaster areas and to all Regional Planning and Development Councils for review and approval.
- (c) The State will review all applications based on the following criteria:
 - (1) All proposed activities must meet one of the HUD-required national objectives as detailed below:
 - Benefit to low- and moderate-income families (**priority will be given to projects that meet this national objective**);
 - Aid in the elimination of slums or blight; or
 - Urgent need (eliminate a condition that poses a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community).
 - (2) Degree to which the project will correct identified deficiencies or achieve compliance with required standards.
 - (3) Degree to which the project will promote sound short- and long-term recovery planning, especially land-use decisions that reflect responsible floodplain management, removal of regulatory barriers to reconstruction, and prior coordination with planning of other state and federal programs and entities.

