

GUSTAV/IKE ACTION PLAN AMENDMENT 18

**DISASTER RECOVERY INITIATIVE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
CONSOLIDATED SECURITY, DISASTER ASSISTANCE,
AND CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2009
H.R. 2638 / Public Law 110-329**

**Louisiana Office of Community Development/Disaster Recovery Unit
Non-Substantial AMENDMENT No. 18 TO STATE OF LOUISIANA ACTION PLAN
FOR THE UTILIZATION OF CDBG FUNDS IN RESPONSE TO
HURRICANES GUSTAV AND IKE**

- ***Comprehensive Resiliency Program Clarification***
- ***Homelessness Prevention Program Clarification***
- ***Funds Modification and Clarification to the Fishery Recovery Program***

Submitted: January 7, 2013

HUD Approved: January 18, 2013

**Bobby Jindal
Governor**

**Jay Dardenne
Lieutenant Governor**

**Kristy Nichols
Commissioner of Administration**

GUSTAV/IKE ACTION PLAN AMENDMENT 18

Non-Substantial Amendment Number 18 to State of Louisiana Action Plan for Disaster Recovery – Utilizing Funding from the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 110-329).

I. Summary

This non-substantial Action Plan Amendment (APA) Number 18 is submitted to HUD for approval for clarification to:

- **Pilot Comprehensive Resiliency Program** approved in APA 3, clarified in APA 5 and added funds in APA 8.
- **Homelessness Prevention Program** approved in APA 1, revised in APA 7.
- Shift remaining funds (**\$790,907**) from the **Fishery Recovery Programs** (Approved in APA 1, clarified in APA 3, APA 5, and APA 13 and added funds in APA 8) to **Economic Revitalization**. Fishery Recovery is a **\$34,971,179** program. Economic Revitalization is approved for \$60,941,890. New total is: \$61,732,797. This funding shift amounts to a less than 15% change in funds from and to each program; 2% and 1%, respectively.

The program clarifications and reallocation of remaining funds will allow the State to further meet the outstanding recovery needs to provide comprehensive and sustainable assistance to some of our most at-risk communities.

This APA 18 is *non-substantial* in that it does not create new programs, nor change any eligible beneficiaries, and is a less than 15% change in funding levels.

II. Clarification to the approved Gustav/Ike Recovery Programs

A. Pilot Comprehensive Resiliency Program (Resiliency Planning and Code Enforcement Institutional Development)

APA 18 provides clarification to program language noted in APA 3, APA 5 and APA 8 in reference to the *Pilot Comprehensive Resiliency Program*. The state intends to utilize the remaining funds to provide grants to communities to address unmet needs.

The Pilot Comprehensive Resiliency Program was established in APA 3 to “adapt a suite of resiliency elements to provide grants for participating local governments....providing that the state will work with interested communities to determine the appropriate suite of resiliency activities under this program.”

As stated in APA 5, “the State designed the Pilot Comprehensive Resiliency Program as a response to the competitive opportunity provided by HUD under the Disaster Recovery Enhancement Fund (DREF) to provide comprehensive nonstructural recovery to some of our most at-risk communities. Through consultation with Louisiana communities, the State has developed the initial phase as competitive grant program.”

It further states “should funds remain available in this program or should additional funds be made available through the HUD Disaster Recovery Enhancement Fund, the state may undertake a second phase of this program consistent with the design of this Pilot Comprehensive Resiliency Program.”

APA 8 added \$3.3 million in additional funds resulting from the DREF allocation and states that the “program requires additional funds to increase and/or expand resiliency projects and planning capacity. The goals for additional funds invested in comprehensive resiliency are to ensure that in the creation of plans and projects that they are implementable by local governments, and preferably have the force of law, result in outcomes and deliverables that can be easily utilized for pursuance of further funding, and

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that create an exportable pool of knowledge that will encourage the development of resiliency plans and projects within all Louisiana communities.”

This APA clarifies that the state assessed that the limited funds made available for a second phase would best be distributed through an unmet needs review rather than an additional open competitive phase as noted in APA 8. Municipalities incurred high expenses and time to submit applications in the initial phase, resulting in less than 50% of applications awarded.

The state will identify and target, through the *LA Resiliency Assistance Program* and ongoing one-on-one outreach, unmet need based on a) geographic area that did not received proportionate funds in the original round of awards; b) geographic area that demonstrates substantial risk that can be addressed through planning; or c) existing resiliency projects assessed as needing additional funds to complete an innovative project or pilot implementation activity. Projects will be assessed as they meet the stated criteria and will be approved by the Executive Director.

B. Homelessness Prevention Program

This clarification references the program in **APA 1: Section V.B. State-Implemented Programs; 1. Affordable Rental Housing Programs; Amended in APA 7 to add: 2. Homelessness Prevention**

The state would like to clarify the language approved in APA 1 and APA 7 to reflect the broader eligible services the state has intended to administer related to the homelessness prevention objective. The activities are inherent in the intent of the effective implementation of the program, but the previously submitted language can be perceived as limiting as written. The eligible activities remain as originally noted, as well as the eligible populations to be served.

{Original Language}: “Many households, especially rental households, that evacuated or whose homes were damaged by the storms were near the edge of sustainability prior to the storms. The state may provide resources towards households most at risk of homelessness for reasonable rent/utility payments, deposits and arrears, moving and storage expenses, and emergency hotel housing, as necessary.”
{Insert} In addition, the State may also provide resources to prevent homelessness in areas impacted by the storms such as individual case management and funding for homelessness shelters and other eligible homelessness prevention services.

C. Fisheries Industry Modernization Program (Clarifications and funds reallocation of \$790,907 from the \$34,971,179 *Fishery Recovery Program*)

The **Fishery Recovery Program** was detailed in APA 1, APA 3 and APA 5. In APA 5, the state refined the *Fishery Recovery Program* titles into five primary eligible fisheries programs under the \$34,971,179 budget. APA 5 did establish that the individual program budgets were to be estimated and could be redistributed according to program demand within the total Program budget, as needed. The five *Fishery Recovery Program* titles in APA 5 are: **Commercial Fishermen Grant and Loan Program, Wholesale Dealer Broker Grant and Loan Program, Fishing Industry Modernization, Sustainable Coastal Communities Program and Fishing Industry Technical Assistance.**

In APA 8, the state designated \$2,587,882 in funds from the *Disaster Recovery Enhancement Funds (DREF)* allocation to the *Fisheries Industry Modernization Program*. While accurately reflecting the intention to increase funding to fishery recovery, APA 8 was inconsistent with the intention of APA 5, and incorrectly separated the program from the overall *Fishery Recovery Program* funds that was one total allocation in APA 5. This APA 18 would like to clarify that APA 8 should have reflected the increase to the overall *Fishery Recovery Program* budget, not any one individual sub-program, in accordance with APA 5. The allocation of \$2,587,882 increased the total *Fishery Recovery Program* funds to **\$34,971,179.**

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APA 13 provided further clarification to the Fisheries Industry Modernization Program which was originally described in APA 3 and APA 8, specifically noting the Vessel Monitoring System activity. The VMS system will improve the competitiveness and efficiency of the state's fishing industry, which was devastatingly impacted by these storms. The VMS program is moving forward successfully, but after program design and pricing of related equipment, there were funds remaining in excess of the program needs. Since all other Fishery Recovery Programs are completed or near completion, these funds will be shifted to the *Economic Revitalization* program that continues to experience an excess of demand for unmet needs in the state's recovering communities.