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The International Economic Development Council Re-Launches RestoreYourEconomy.org Website to Assist in Disaster Recovery

WASHINGTON, DC (September 26, 2012) – To coincide with National Preparedness Month, sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is launching the newly redesigned RestoreYourEconomy.org website today. RestoreYourEconomy.org provides resources and best practice information for economic development organizations and chambers of commerce seeking to rebuild their local economies and assist businesses after a disaster. The website also features disaster preparedness advice about how communities can encourage resiliency efforts among local businesses in the event of a major catastrophe.

“After a disaster, economic developers are often the first line of defense in helping local communities to recover economically and bring back jobs,” says Jay Moon, Chair of IEDC. “When overwhelmed with this task, it would be helpful to know what other impacted communities have done to recover and what resources are available to guide their next steps. RestoreYourEconomy.org helps to fill that knowledge gap.”

As a one-stop shop of disaster preparedness and economic recovery resources, RestoreYourEconomy.org provides guidance to economic development leaders in rebuilding their local economies after a disaster strikes. The new site features a redesigned look and enhanced functionality including the following sections:

- **Learn:** additional case studies, and improved navigation;
- **Suggest a Resource:** allows users to submit ideas on resources, news items, and publications;
- **Preparedness:** advice on action steps that organizations and communities can take in advance of a disaster to become better prepared and more resilient;
- **Recovery:** suggestions on how to deliver financial and technical assistance to impacted businesses, the process for developing an economic recovery plan, and advice on navigating the vast resources within the federal government; and
- **Resources:** case studies on impacted communities, publications, and reports with practical advice, links to valuable websites, and free training resources.

The most exciting new feature is the [2012 Disaster Preparedness and Economic Recovery Webinar Series](#). Each free webinar features communities that have turned their local economies around, rebuilt, and emerged stronger and better prepared for future disasters.

With the slogan “Don’t Have Time to Prepare for a Disaster? It Has Time for You!”, IEDC is encouraging economic development and chamber of commerce leaders to set time aside to complete preparedness steps so that they can better assist local businesses in the event of a disaster. RestoreYourEconomy.org will be featured prominently at IEDC’s upcoming [Annual Conference](#) in Houston, September 30 to October 3.

The RestoreYourEconomy.org project is funded in part by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

About the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA)

The mission of the U.S. Economic Development Administration is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth, and success in the worldwide economy.

About the International Economic Development Council (IEDC)

The [International Economic Development Council](http://InternationalEconomicDevelopmentCouncil.org) is the premier independent non-profit membership and research organization dedicated to helping economic development professionals create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. Serving more than 4,100 members, IEDC represents the largest network of economic development professionals in the world. IEDC provides a diverse range of services including conferences, certification, professional development, publications, research, advisory services, and legislative tracking. Visit www.iedconline.org to learn more.

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