Overview

The Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) Strengthening Community Agrosecurity Preparedness (S-CAP) program provides a foundation for local jurisdictions to address agricultural emergencies and disasters. The program began with planning workshops and evolved to include a train-the-trainer program, tabletop exercise, planning tools, and virtual and face-to-face stakeholder forums.

Workshops

The two-day workshops empower local Extension personnel and other community partners to:

- build capacity to handle agricultural issues during an emergency or disaster;
- improve networking among stakeholders who can plan for and respond to emergencies; and
- develop Community Agrosecurity Planning teams to establish or enhance agrosecurity components within existing local emergency operations plans.

Whole community emergency planning teams' participation in the two-day workshops and their sustained efforts enhance the agricultural components of their local emergency operations plans. Forty-eight (48) S-CAP workshops have been conducted, which represent:

- 24 states
- 285 counties
- 23.7 million residents

The workshop is approved by the FEMA National Training and Education Division.

Multi-disciplinary stakeholders add value to local emergency managers’ activities to enhance the agricultural portion of their local emergency operations plan. Workshop participants represent the whole community:
The S-CAP Train-the-Trainer Program was created to expand dissemination of the workshops. To date, 63 subject matter experts from 21 states are active members of the S-CAP training team.

The complementary tabletop exercise program has been conducted in three states: Utah, Indiana and Montana. Using planning based scenarios, participants assess the adequacy of local emergency operations plan to address agricultural emergency-related capabilities.

**Crosswalk:** A crosswalk was developed to help agricultural emergency management stakeholders recognize how preparedness activities correlate to Federal guidelines. [http://eden.lsu.edu/s-cap](http://eden.lsu.edu/s-cap)

**Agrosecurity Symposium:** The Symposium was designed to build relationships to synchronize disaster preparedness efforts affecting the food and agriculture sector. Important challenges and proposed strategies were developed to address gaps identified by participant stakeholders. [http://eden.lsu.edu/Conferences/SCAP/Pages/AgrosecuritySymposium.aspx](http://eden.lsu.edu/Conferences/SCAP/Pages/AgrosecuritySymposium.aspx)

**Superstorm Sandy Virtual Forum:** A webinar was conducted to share experiences from those involved in animal and agriculture response during Superstorm Sandy. Dialogue addressed how lessons learned from response efforts can be applied to preparedness activities to mitigate impacts of future disasters. [http://eden.lsu.edu/Conferences/SCAP/Pages/VirtualForum.aspx](http://eden.lsu.edu/Conferences/SCAP/Pages/VirtualForum.aspx)

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