



EXTENSION DISASTER EDUCATION NETWORK (EDEN)

Authorized by the Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative (FADI)

NARETPA of 1977, 7 U.S.C. 3318 Sect 1477 and Homeland Security NARETPA, 7 U.S.C 3351 Sect 1484.

MISSION

The Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) strives to reduce the impact of disasters through research-based education. This mission is carried out through the achievement of these strategic goals:

- » Serve as a national source for research-based disaster education.
- » Strengthen extension's capacity and commitment to address disaster issues.
- » Strengthen EDEN's capacity to provide research-based disaster education.
- » Enhance the abilities of individuals, families, organizations, agencies, and businesses to prepare for, prevent, mitigate, and recover from disasters.

FUNCTION

EDEN is among the USDA-NIFA's tactical sciences programs that assist in protecting the integrity, reliability, sustainability, and profitability of the U.S. food and agricultural system against threats from pests, diseases, contaminants, and disasters. EDEN links extension professionals in various disciplines from across the U.S., enabling them to share science-based educational resources to reduce the impact of both natural and human-made disasters. Extension professionals in communities across all U.S. states, districts, and territories are often the first line of defense in reporting new pest and disease threats to the public and implementing solutions.

CUSTOMERS AND COLLABORATORS

Clientele

Extension professionals delivering disaster programming or working in communities affected by or potentially affected by disasters.

Stakeholders

Producers

Production and commodity organizations

Non-governmental organizations

Emergency management agencies and first responders

State and federal agencies

Individuals and families

Small businesses

Local governments

Faith-based organizations

Partners

EDEN is a trusted partner with federal, state, and local agencies and organizations. Extension professionals are valuable partners at every level. EDEN is more successful due to formal and informal partnerships with a variety of agencies and organizations. National partners include, but are not limited to:

National Animal Health Laboratory Network

National Plant Diagnostic Network.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Department of Health and Human Services.

Federal Emergency Management Agency.

National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster.

National Integrated Drought Information System.

International Association of Emergency Managers.



TACTICAL
SCIENCES
NETWORK

Because the impact of all disasters is local, the network gives county-based extension educators the tools they need to help communities and individuals become more resilient by enhancing their ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made disasters.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- » National leadership of EDEN improved coordination among the state programs and coordinated with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and FEMA to improve local disaster response and increase resource awareness.
- » In 2023, The Ohio State University EDEN team trained hundreds of state and local extension staff, fire, EMS, and state police on emergency response planning for train derailments, natural disasters, summer storms and tornadoes, agricultural structure fires, and Bovine Emergency Response Programs.
- » EDEN programs directly supported outreach efforts in six states affected by Hurricane Helene. EDEN provided timely and relevant information and resources to extension staff in those states.
- » After the March bomb cyclone, Oklahoma Extension educators supported communities through information distribution, sharing emergency management notices, and helping staff organize donation centers. EDEN members in Texas, Mississippi, and Florida provided important support and resources to Oklahoma.
- » Over the last several months, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension has provided a continuing response to wildfires across the state, including specialists embedded in the Texas Division of Emergency Management Incident Management Team.

IMPACTS

- » The Ohio State University team implemented lessons learned from the train derailment in Palestine, OH, for new training materials that are now available nationally.
- » The University of Maryland team developed and implemented “Biosecurity Enhancement and Assessment Tool” (BEAT-HPAI), an online self-assessment/audit tool for growers to evaluate and improve biosecurity plans for avian influenza, addressing the 14 biosecurity principles, audit preparation, and improving the preparedness of Maryland poultry producers.

CUSTOMERS AND COLLABORATORS

Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS).

Animal Disease Biosecurity Coordinated Agricultural Project.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

Members

More than 300 EDEN delegates from member institutions with expertise in more than 75 different disciplines at 77 state extension programs in all 50 states and 3 U.S. territories from land-grant and sea-grant universities. EDEN is an alliance of land-grant extension services with membership open to 1862, 1890, 1994, Hispanic-serving institutions, and NOAA sea-grant programs. EDEN delegates contribute to network discussions on disaster needs and issues from their institutions’ perspectives. EDEN delegates enhance Extension’s overall capacity to serve in a disaster education-related role by providing and promoting resources in four program areas: Agro-security, community development, family and consumer science, and 4-H and youth development.

AUTHORIZATION AND FUNDING

Support for EDEN’s national support comes exclusively from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, with additional variable support for state activity from individual land-grant institutions.

Overall Total Funding

\$383,340 annually

NIFA Funding: \$383,340 annually

NIFA Indirect cost recovery rate: 10%

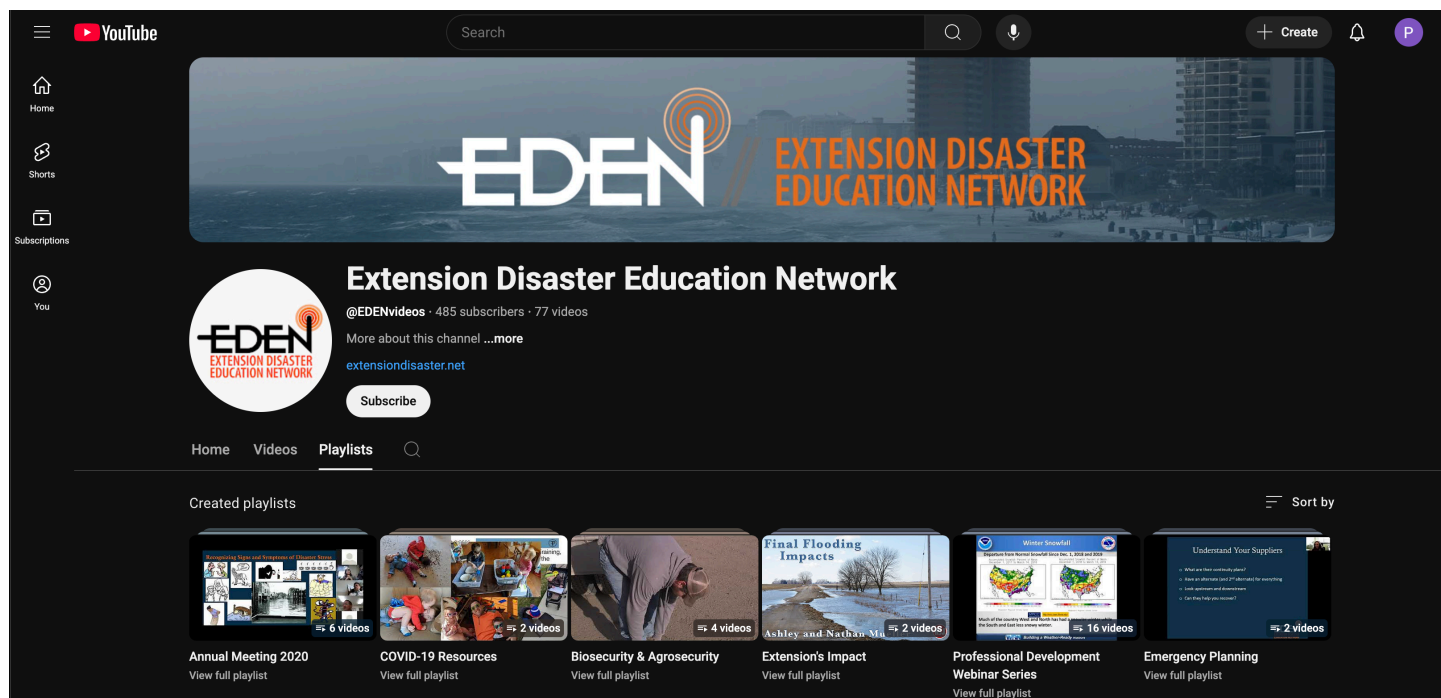
Other Sources

Variable and may not be available to all sites.

- » Oregon State University EDEN's preparedness and smoke resiliency publications were used in 50 states and territories, as well as 67 countries.

CHALLENGES

- » USDA-NIFA EDEN funding largely addresses national coordination with little additional support for state programs.
- » The EDEN network could be better utilized as a messaging outlet to and through the entire land-grant university system with greater resources.



EDEN has [online training videos](https://www.youtube.com/@EDENvideos) available to the public via their YouTube channel ([youtube.com/@EDENvideos](https://www.youtube.com/@EDENvideos)).



TACTICAL SCIENCES NETWORK

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