
7 U.S. Code § 2008m

National Rural Development Partnership

(a) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Agency with rural responsibilities

The term “agency with rural responsibilities” means any executive agency (as defined in section 105 of title 5) that implements a Federal law, or administers a program, targeted at or having a significant impact on rural areas.

(2) Coordinating Committee

The term “Coordinating Committee” means the National Rural Development Coordinating Committee established by subsection (c).

(3) Partnership

The term “Partnership” means the National Rural Development Partnership continued by subsection (b).

(4) State rural development council

The term “State rural development council” means a State rural development council that meets the requirements of subsection (d).

(b) Partnership

(1) In general

The Secretary shall continue the National Rural Development Partnership composed of—

- (A) the Coordinating Committee; and
- (B) State rural development councils.

(2) Purposes

The purposes of the Partnership are to empower and build the capacity of States and rural communities to design flexible and innovative responses to their own special rural development needs, with local determinations of progress and selection of projects and activities.

(3) Governing panel

(A) In general

A panel consisting of representatives of the Coordinating Committee and State rural development councils shall be established to lead and coordinate the strategic operation, policies, and practices of the Partnership.

(B) Annual reports

In conjunction with the Coordinating Committee and State rural development councils, the panel shall prepare and submit to Congress an annual report on the activities of the Partnership.

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