



STIMULUS DISBURSEMENT DIAGRAM

Product Description:

In early March 2009, a group of MIT students, faculty and CoLab staff worked together to deeply understand how the disbursement of the American Recovery Reinvestment Act (STIMULUS) was taking place. This Stimulus Disbursement Diagram is one of the products of their collaboration.

This diagram allowed the group to track the disbursement of funds from the federal to the municipal level. Different groups of students tackled various federal funding pipelines, such as those stemming from the Department of Energy and the Department of Health and Human Services. Under CoLab's direction, the group focused additional attention on the disbursement of the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) to specific cities and states. After the completion of the diagrams and accompanying descriptive matrices, students worked directly with community based organizations to support the planning and implementation of STIMULUS projects in a variety of cities and towns.

Several versions of this diagram were created as the group gathered more information. The latest version of this diagram was created on May 11th, 2009 and was presented to more than a dozen community leaders from across the US in a meeting hosted by the Nathan Cummings Foundation in New York City.

Even though this diagram is now (October 26th, 2009) outdated, it served as a crucial product for knowledge generation and sharing among students, faculty, CoLab staff and partners. This diagram also helped generate additional products such as disbursement matrices and a Plan Model for energy retrofits for US cities.

Project: Leveraging The Stimulus

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