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IEPR Commissioner Workshop: Local and Community Engagement

*Delivering Better Community Outcomes
By Building Local Government Capacity*

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2026

ABOUT ILG

- **Non-profit, non-partisan** and committed to supporting **Local Government**
- Serving all **2,500+ local agencies** – cities, counties and special districts
- Delivering **practical training and easy-to-use resources** so local agencies can effectively implement policies on the ground



TURNING POLICY & COMMUNITY PRIORITIES INTO ON-THE-GROUND RESULTS

Program Areas

Leadership &
Governance

Workforce
Development &
Civics Education

Public
Engagement

Sustainability



Services

Education &
Training

Technical
Assistance

Capacity
Building

Convening

Our mission is to help local government leaders
navigate complexity, increase capacity
& **build trust** in their communities

MAKING THE CONNECTION

Understanding the Linkage Between Local
Government Effectiveness and Community
Resilience



BOOST IMPERIAL VALLEY: FLEXIBLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BUILDS CAPACITY

Closing the Capacity Gap:

Making an Impact in Imperial Valley



2,500+

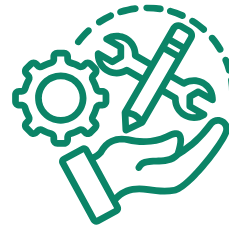
Hours of embedded technical assistance to local governments



\$33 million

In grant applications

\$6.5M secured to date, with more in pipeline



50+ staff

and electeds trained in governance, community engagement, and grant writing

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES & GOV'T CAPACITY ARE INTERDEPENDENT



Community-based organizations play a critical role in shaping priorities



Local governments are responsible for implementation and delivery

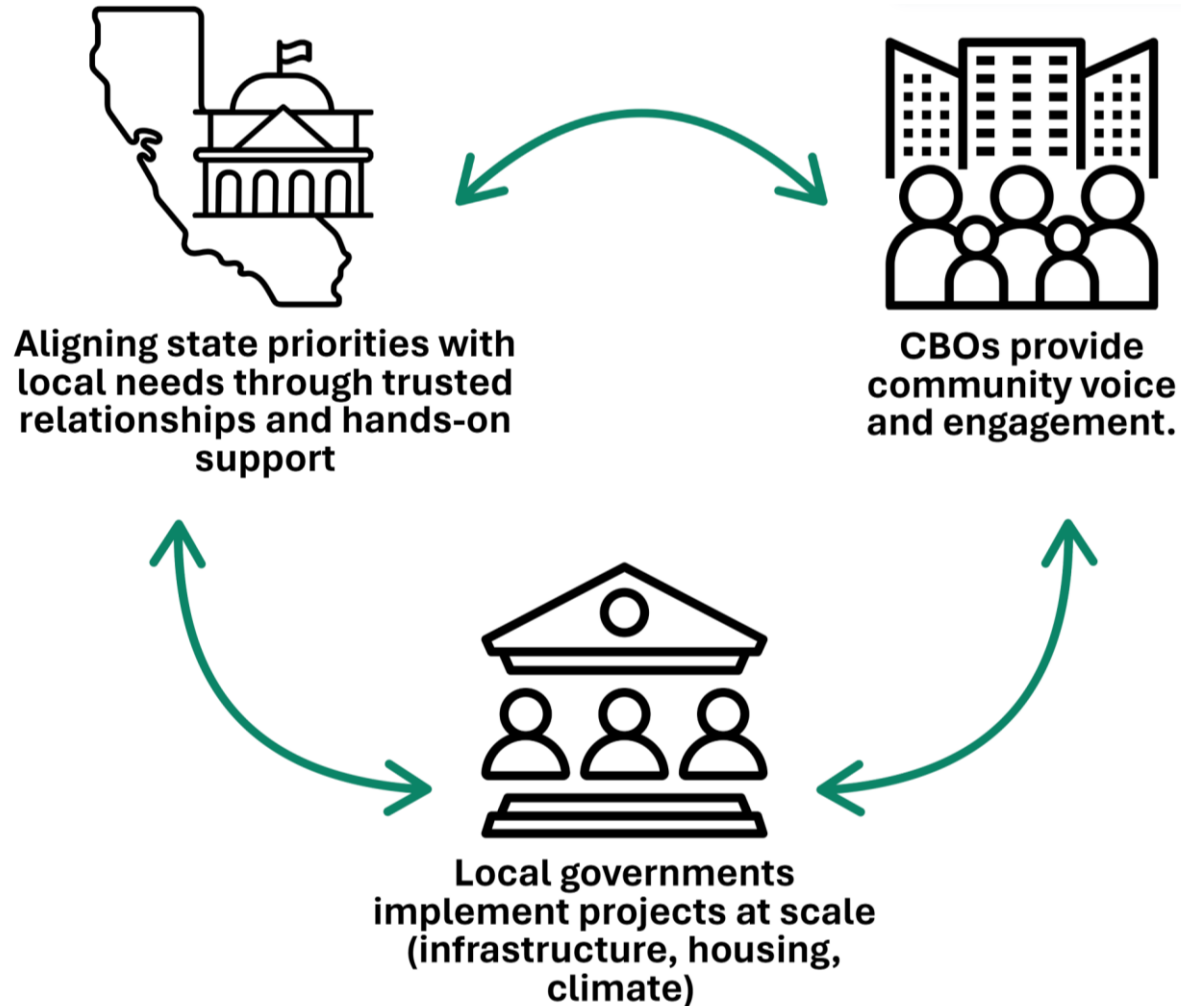


Outcomes depend on alignment between community voice and public systems



Gaps between the two can slow or limit meaningful impact

WHY THE BOOST MODEL WORKS



CBOs are essential—but **local governments** control land use, infrastructure, and public funding

Facilitating shared learning, regional alignment, and cross-jurisdictional coordination, and **elevating underrepresented voices**

Creating a **replicable model** for capacity-building partnerships in underserved regions

WHAT WE'RE HEARING IN THE FIELD: IMPLEMENTATION IS THE CONSTRAINT



Agencies are prioritizing what is feasible, not just what is needed



Engagement and trust challenges are compounding delivery efforts



Limited staff capacity is slowing implementation across priorities



Even well-funded initiatives struggle to move without internal capacity

WHY CAPACITY BUILDING FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS CRITICAL



Strengthens Leadership & Decision-Making – Equips local officials with tools, knowledge, and confidence to govern effectively.



Promotes Equity & Community Trust – Ensures more inclusive engagement and responsive services.



Builds Long-Term Resilience – Helps agencies adapt to evolving economic, environmental, and social challenges.



Advances Climate Readiness – Prepares communities to address climate impacts and build sustainability into local planning.



Supports Infrastructure Investment – Ensures governments can plan, fund, and maintain critical infrastructure that serves residents.



Drives Sustainable Change – Creates lasting systems and practices that outlive individual leaders or political cycles.

THANK YOU!



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