



Virginia Tech University Center

Virginia Tech's Center for Economic and Community Engagement (CECE), in partnership with Virginia State University (VSU) is currently implementing the Virginia i3 Regional Resilience Project (i3), as a multi-institution EDA University Centers (UC) Program.

The i3 Project enhances regional economic ecosystems through support for **Innovation**, economic **Inclusiveness**, and **Industry** competitiveness. The project stimulates private sector job creation and capital investment, with a goal to create or retain over **2,500 jobs** and generate over **\$27 million** of new investment in the largest areas of the state experiencing economic distress.

The i3 service area targets three Virginia regions: western Virginia, southern Virginia, and eastern Virginia, including Hampton Roads.

The project leverages public and private investment and resources to enhance regional competitiveness, connectivity and economic diversification by focusing on:

- **Commercialization (25 %):** The i3 project is devoted to applying cutting-edge research and faculty expertise to promote technology, business development, and innovative practices.
- **Cultivating a high-skilled workforce (25%):** The i3 project workforce activities engage faculty with industry, education, and workforce development leaders, creating and supporting regional workforce and sector-focused collaborations.
- **Supporting entrepreneurship (25 %):** The i3 project assists regions in strengthening their entrepreneur ecosystem and designs and evaluates business development programs and facilities that support entrepreneurship and small business.
- **Advancing regional resiliency (25 %):** The i3 project strengthens resiliency and inclusiveness through support for industry and economic diversification activities; recovery-focused planning and technical assistance, and anchor institution/wealth building collaborative activities and strategies, with a particular focus on serving under-resourced areas or populations.

UNIVERSITY

Virginia Polytechnic
Institute and State University

CENTER DIRECTOR

Scott Tate

CENTER LOCATION

Outreach unit

Center since the 1980s

CENTER ACTIVITIES

- Assisting companies and entrepreneurs
- Conducting applied research and analysis projects
- Designing and implementing collaborative programs and initiatives

CLIENTS

- Companies and entrepreneurs
- University faculty
- Communities and organizations

CONTACT INFO

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WEBSITE

[https://cece.vt.edu/
EconomicRecovery.html](https://cece.vt.edu/EconomicRecovery.html)