

STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY COORDINATORS (SWICs)

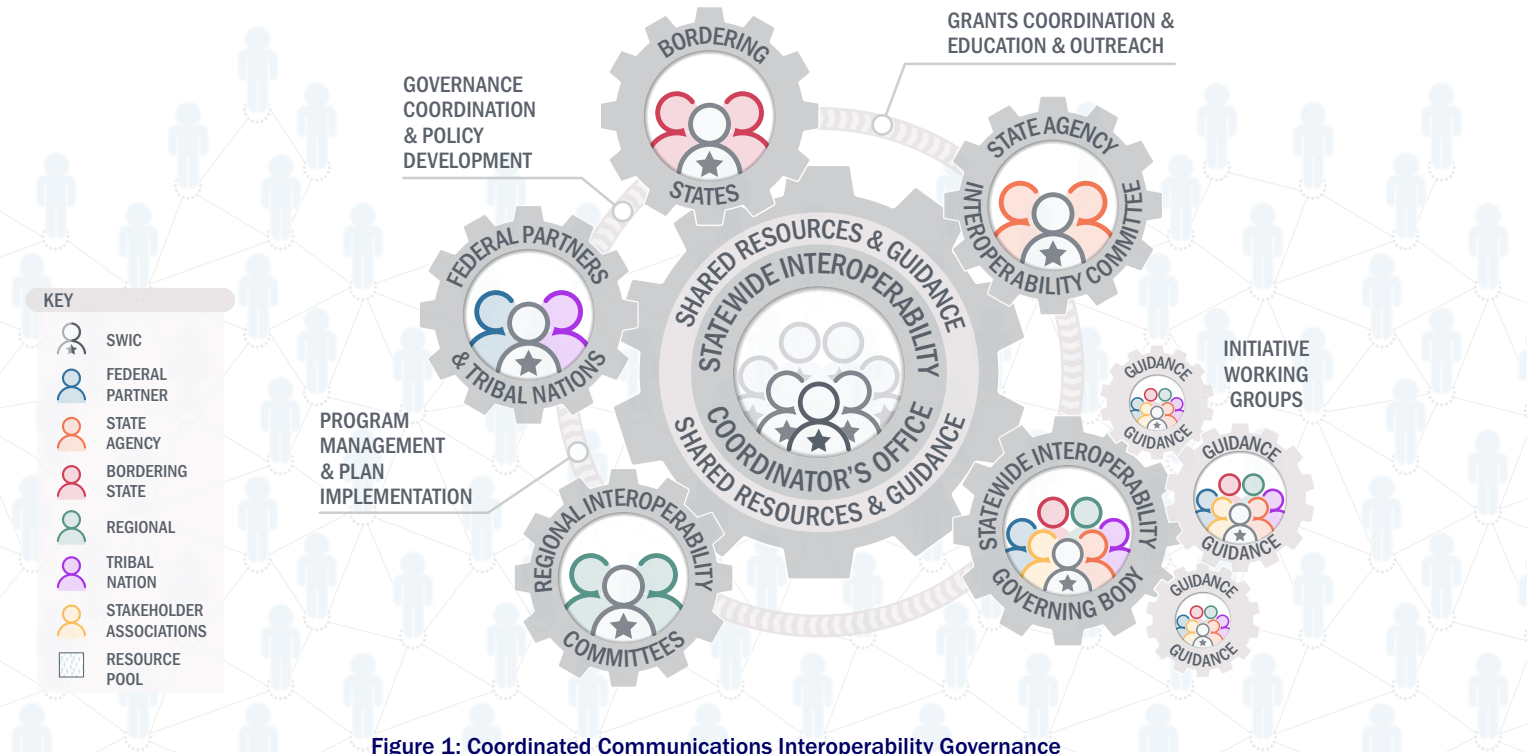


Figure 1: Coordinated Communications Interoperability Governance

STATE-LEVEL ROLE

- ✓ Plan and implement the statewide interoperability program, guided by initiatives outlined in the National Emergency Communication Plan (NECP) and Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP)
- ✓ Collaborate with state, local, tribal, territorial, and federal governments and emergency response groups in long-term strategic planning
- ✓ Communicate regularly with all interoperability stakeholders and partners to ensure transparency and information sharing
- ✓ Coordinate governing body activities to maximize integration and collaboration across the emergency communications landscape
- ✓ Coordinate interstate, intrastate, and regional public safety communications interoperability

NATIONAL LEVEL ROLE

- ✓ Serve as members of the National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators (NCSWIC), a national governance body established to assist interoperability coordinators with promoting the critical importance of interoperable communications and best practices within their states and nationally¹
- ✓ Serve as the point of contact for the federal government and industry on issues concerning statewide interoperable communications
- ✓ Help to ensure federal funding for emergency communications initiatives are coordinated, align to the NECP and SCIP, and are compatible with surrounding systems
- ✓ Share success stories that are instrumental in developing products and strategies to advocate and secure funding for interoperability solutions within their respective states and at the federal level
- ✓ Lead participation in annual interoperability markers review

¹ The **Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency** (CISA) facilitates various in-person **NCSWIC** meetings to build partnerships, discuss pressing issues impacting emergency communications interoperability, and share best practices and lessons learned. Additionally, NCSWIC meetings are an opportunity for the Regional Interoperability Councils (RIC), a subcomponent of the NCSWIC, to discuss and address regional interoperability challenges.

SWIC KEY CAPABILITIES

GOVERNANCE

- ✔ Advise the Governor, legislatures, and other appointed officials on statewide interoperability policies and funding matters
- ✔ Manage the establishment and sustainment of a statewide governing body
- ✔ Serve as an unbiased advocate/coordinator to enhance interoperability
- ✔ Serve as an active member on all communications related governance bodies and work with state public safety answering points and emergency managers to ensure cooperation and bridge communication gaps
- ✔ Coordinate with statewide governance bodies seeking guidance from governance members, state agencies, and regional entities
- ✔ Ensure the voices of all state agencies are heard and recognized
- ✔ Review grants and emergency communications projects

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

- ✔ Oversee interoperability and communications projects in the state and provide regular updates to senior government executives
- ✔ Manage support for interoperable project implementation
- ✔ Oversee program management support, including staffing, contracting, budgeting, technical resources, and other administrative tasks
- ✔ Establish state and local needs for federal Technical Assistance and coordinate with federal partners
- ✔ Promote efficient management of essential statewide, regional, and local systems
- ✔ Manage the Communications Unit Leader and Communications Technician training programs
- ✔ Advise the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that state needs are reflected in federal funding and policy directives

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

- ✔ Provide direction, guidance, and assistance for public safety communications
- ✔ Assist in drafting and reviewing public safety communications-related legislation
- ✔ Coordinate the planning and deployment of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network
- ✔ Coordinate with the Statewide 911 Coordinator in planning and implementing Next Generation 911 initiatives
- ✔ Ensure a comprehensive approach to public safety communications and cybersecurity across all technologies

OPERATIONAL

- ✔ Support operational communications by leading a state's Emergency Support Function 2 (ESF-2) role
- ✔ Coordinate with ESF-2 planners for disaster planning

TECHNOLOGY

- ✔ Facilitate information-sharing among potential users, promote asset-sharing between entities, and ensure coordination of ongoing initiatives to support the deployment of new and emerging technologies
- ✔ Develop strategic plans for cyber and physical security
- ✔ Advocate for standards adoption
- ✔ Promote the interoperability of voice and data technologies

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

- ✔ Oversee the maintenance of a database of stakeholders and resources
- ✔ Build partnerships across different levels of government
- ✔ Serve as the point of contact to the federal government and industry on statewide interoperable communications issues
- ✔ Develop standard operating procedures (SOPs) to manage state use of federal frequency channels
- ✔ Support state governance outreach and training
- ✔ Communicate information regularly with stakeholders to ensure transparency
- ✔ Participate in national interoperability conferences, workshops, and organizations
- ✔ Participate in the NCSWIC and committee(s) of interest

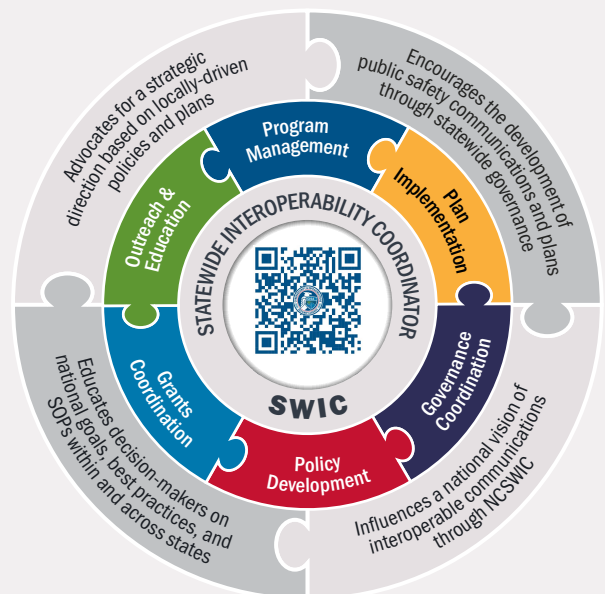


Figure 2: SWIC Coordinator Roles