



National Mitigation Framework

We cannot control when or where a tornado strikes—but we can save lives and reduce property damage by understanding the risks and taking action to address those risks. In the process, we help our families and increase resilience in our community, environment and economy.

Fostering a culture of preparedness—centered on risk and resilience—is what the **National Mitigation Framework** is all about. The document provides context for how the whole community works together and how mitigation efforts relate to all other parts of national preparedness.

It is one of the five documents in the suite of National Planning Frameworks. Each covers one preparedness mission area: Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response or Recovery.

Focus on Resilient Communities

The Mitigation Framework covers the capabilities necessary to reduce the loss of life and property by lessening the effects of disasters.

The Framework focuses on understanding and reducing the risks we face, as well as empowering communities to take actions that put them in the best position to bounce back quickly and effectively when disasters occur. This focus on risk and resilience is why the Mitigation Framework permeates all other areas of national preparedness—from prevention to recovery.

The Mitigation and Protection Frameworks both focus on activities we can do every day, not just during disasters. Protection, however, focuses on security and deterrence of threats, while Mitigation is about creating resiliency by addressing risk and creating a culture of preparedness.

Mitigation Core Capabilities

Core capabilities are the distinct elements needed to achieve the National Preparedness Goal. The Mitigation Framework describes each of its seven core capabilities and lists critical tasks for each one. The capabilities, followed by a critical task example, are listed below.

To see all critical tasks, download the Framework at <http://www.fema.gov/national-planning-frameworks>.

- **Threats and Hazard Identification.** Gather required data in a timely and accurate manner in order to effectively identify threats and hazards.
- **Risk and Disaster Resilience Assessment.** Perform credible risk assessments using scientifically valid and widely used risk assessment techniques.
- **Planning.** Incorporate the findings from assessment of risk and disaster resilience into the planning process.
- **Community Resilience.** Recognize the interdependent nature of the economy, health and social services, housing infrastructure, and natural and cultural resources within a community.
- **Public Information and Warning.** Warn people of the risks in their community and the actions they can take to mitigate those risks.
- **Long-Term Vulnerability Reduction.** Adopt and enforce a suitable building code to ensure resilient construction.
- **Operational Coordination.** Capitalize on opportunities for mitigation actions following disasters and incidents.

The Mitigation Framework emphasizes the valuable role of local leadership, collaboration among various parts of the whole community and education—to ensure the capabilities continually develop.

About the Frameworks

The National Planning Frameworks, one for each preparedness mission area, describe how the whole community works together to achieve the National Preparedness Goal. The Goal is: “A secure and resilient nation with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk.”

The Frameworks foster a shared understanding of our roles and responsibilities from the fire house to the White House. They help us understand how we, as a nation, coordinate, share information and work together—which ultimately results in a more secure and resilient nation.

The National Disaster Recovery Framework was released in September 2011. The National Prevention Framework, National Mitigation Framework and a second edition of the National Response Framework were released in May 2013. The National Protection Framework is under development.

Each of the Frameworks:

- Explains the purpose of the document, including the guiding principles, scope of mission area and application of risk
- Summarizes the roles and responsibilities of each part of the whole community
- Defines the mission area’s core capabilities, along with examples of critical tasks for each capability
- Lists a sampling of coordinating structures—either new or existing—that enable the effective delivery of the core capabilities
- Describes the relationships between the Frameworks and mission areas

- Identifies relevant planning assumptions required to inform the development of interagency operational plans and department level plans
- Provides information that state, local, tribal and territorial governments and private sector partners can use to develop or revise their plans
- Applies concepts from existing national doctrine, such as the National Incident Management System, whenever possible.

Whole Community Approach

The Frameworks follow the whole community approach to preparedness, which recognizes that everyone can contribute to and benefit from national preparedness efforts. This includes individuals and families (including those with disabilities and others with access and functional needs), businesses, community and faith-based groups, nonprofit organizations and all levels of government.

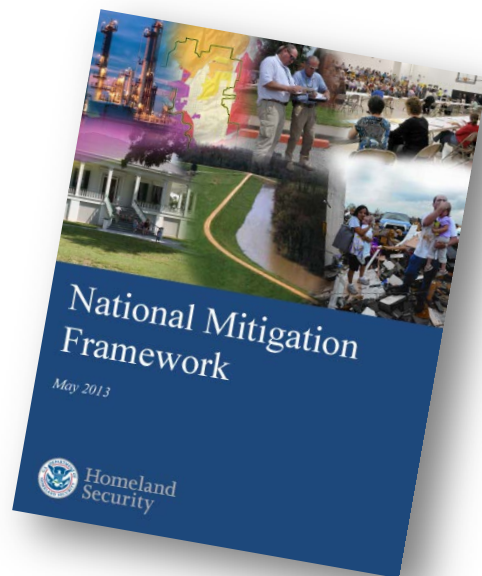


Exhibit 1: Cover of the National Mitigation Framework

Visit us at <http://www.fema.gov/nationalpreparedness>

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