

# Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

FY 2022 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

August 24, 2022

[www.caloes.gov](http://www.caloes.gov)



**Cal OES**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

# Webinar Overview



Place yourself on mute



During the presentation,  
use the chat feature to  
ask questions



This presentation is being  
recorded, slides will be  
provided after the  
presentation



Q and A will occur at the  
end

# Administrative Slide for UEI and SAM

- Effective April 4, 2022, the Federal Government transitioned from using the Data Universal Numbering System or DUNS number, to a new, non-proprietary identifier known as a Unique Entity Identifier or UEI.
- For entities that had an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) prior to this date, the UEI has automatically been assigned and no action is necessary.
- For all entities filing a new registration in SAM.gov on or after April 4, 2022, the UEI will be assigned to that entity as part of the SAM.gov registration process.
- UEI registration information is available on GSA.gov at: <https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/organization/federal-acquisition-service/office-of-systems-management/integrated-award-environment-iae/iae-systems-information-kit/unique-entity-identifier-update>
- Grants.gov registration information can be found at: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>.
- Detailed information regarding UEI and SAM is also provided in Section D of the FEMA BRIC NOFO, [https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema\\_fy22-bric-nofo\\_08052022.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_fy22-bric-nofo_08052022.pdf)

## **BRIC Timeline**

BRIC Overview

BRIC NOFO Overview

Key Changes in the NOFO

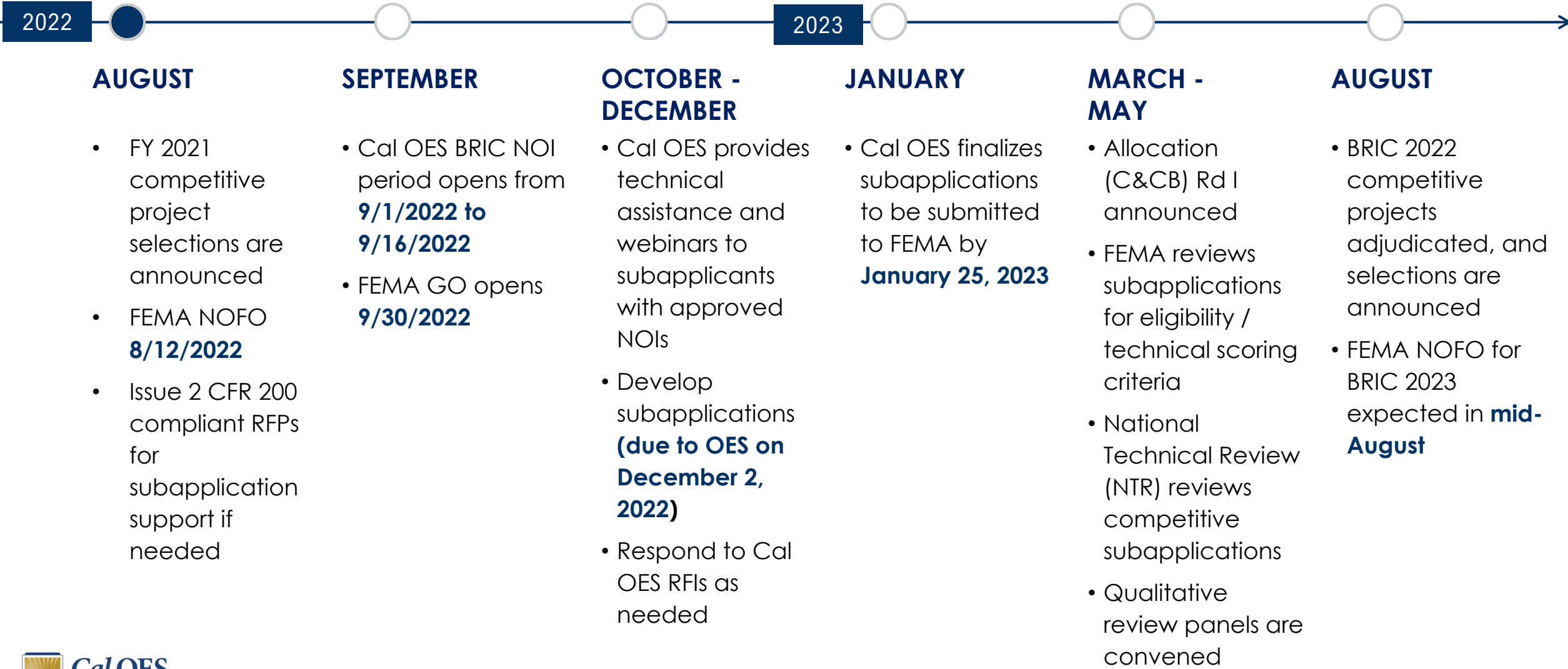
Win Themes for BRIC 2022

Prepare California Match Eligibility

Next Steps

Q/A

# BRIC Timeline 2022-2023



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Win Themes for BRIC 2022

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Next Steps

Q/A

# Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grants

BRIC funding:

## FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE (FMA)

**Purpose:** FEMA funded, State administered program and not directly tied to a disaster declaration; reduce NFIP claims

**Cycle:** Annual

**Local Match:** 0%, 10%, or 25%

**FY 2022 Funding\*:** \$800M - nationally competitive program

## BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITIES (BRIC)

**Purpose:** FEMA funded, State administered program and **not** directly tied to a disaster declaration; high-impact, neighborhood scale projects

**Cycle:** Annual

**Local Match:** At least 25% or 10% for economically disadvantaged rural communities (EDRC)

**FY 2022 Funding\*:** ~\$2.3B - nationally competitive program

## HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP)

**Purpose:** FEMA funded, State administered program and directly tied to a disaster declaration; break cycle of repetitive losses

**Cycle:** Post-Disaster

**Local Match:** 25%

**FY 2022 Funding\*:** Varies year to year - competitive within each state

\* Federal Share

# Building Blocks of BRIC

- 1 Eligible subapplicant
- 2 FEMA approved mitigation plan
- 3 No construction or groundbreaking before grant award
- 4 Approved Notice of Interest (NOI)
- 5 Scope of Work with a clear level of protection increase
- 6 Benefit Costs Analysis (BCA)
- 7 Local Match and/or overmatch
- 8 Period of Performance (POP) of 36 months (or longer with reasonable justification)
- 9 Not dependent on other projects or funding sources (standalone mitigation solution)
- 10 Must comply with 2 CRF 200 and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- 11 Reimbursement based grant with eligible grant management costs and pre-award costs

## **Eligible:**

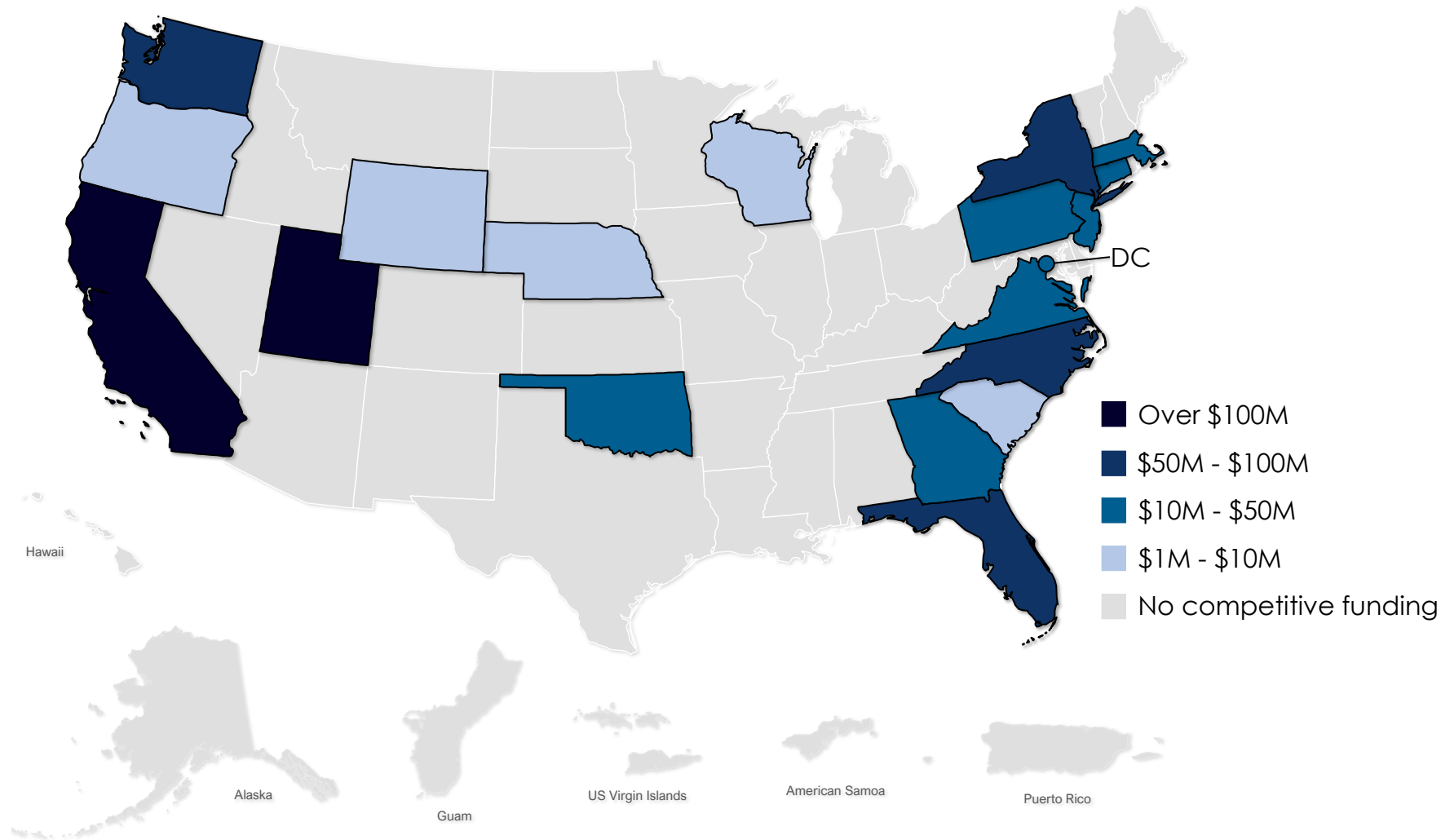
Local governments, State agencies, cities and townships, counties, special districts, and tribal governments

## **Not Eligible:**

Businesses, individuals, and Private Non-Profits (PNPs)



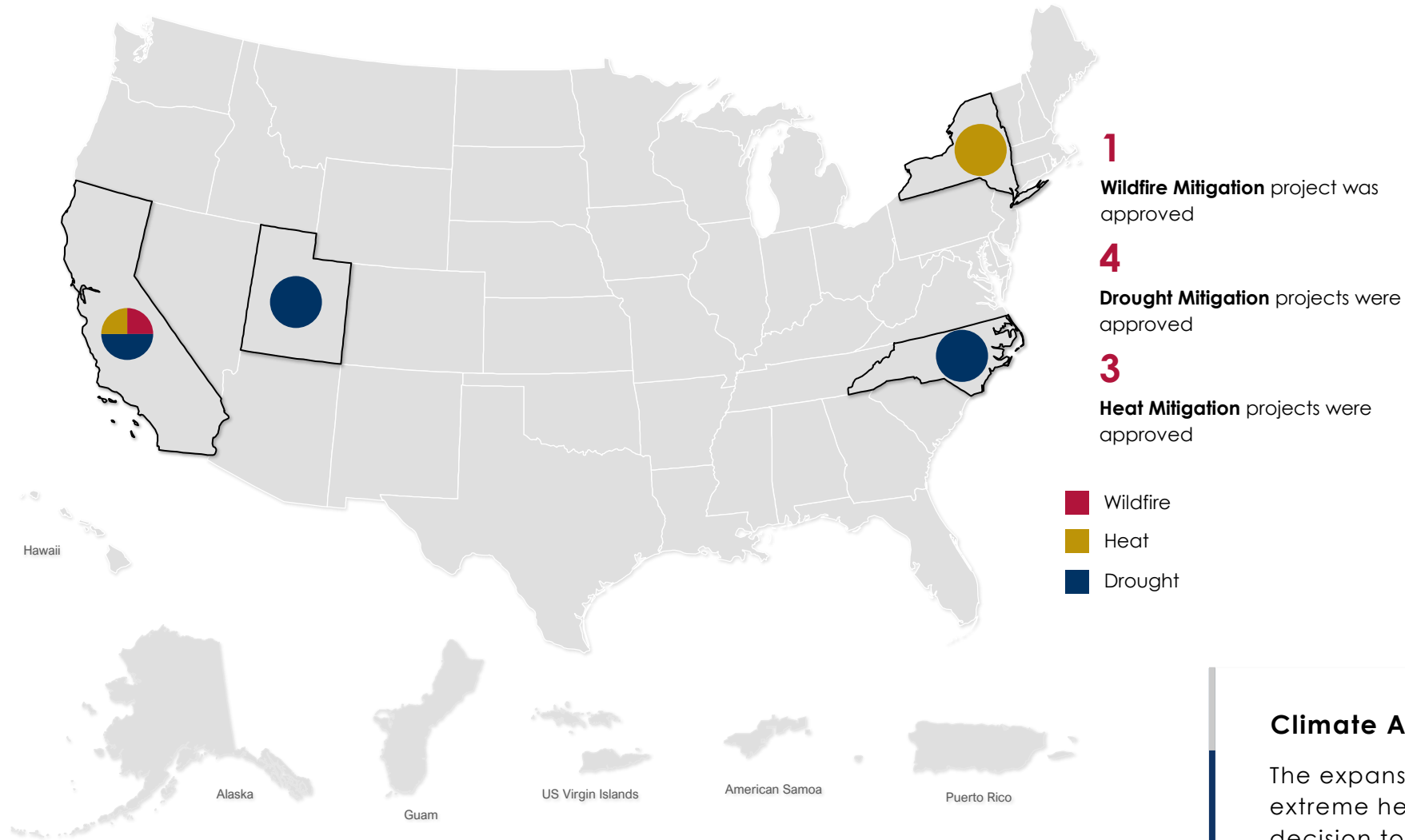
# BRIC 2021 – National Competitive Mitigation Projects



## National BRIC 2021 Numbers:

- **53** competitive projects selected
  - 19 selected applicants, all FEMA Regions received at least one competitive mitigation project this year
- The average project dollar amount is **\$15M** (smallest is \$189K and the largest is the program max at \$50M)
- **49%** of selected projects meet one or more of the Justice40 interim criteria
- Success rate of **14%** in 2021 – compared to 4% in 2020

# BRIC 2021 – Wildfire, Drought, Heat Mitigation



## 2020 vs 2021:

- The first year of BRIC included **one** competitive wildfire project funded and there were **no** heat or drought projects selected
- This year, **one** wildfire, **three** heat, and **four** drought competitive projects were selected
- California**
  - 1 Wildfire
  - 1 Heat
  - 2 Drought
- New York**
  - 2 Heat
- North Carolina**
  - 1 Drought
- Utah**
  - 1 Drought

## Climate Adaptation

The expansion of funding to drought and extreme heat hazards in BRIC is a deliberate decision to make communities more resilient to climate change and extreme weather events.

BRIC Timeline

BRIC Overview

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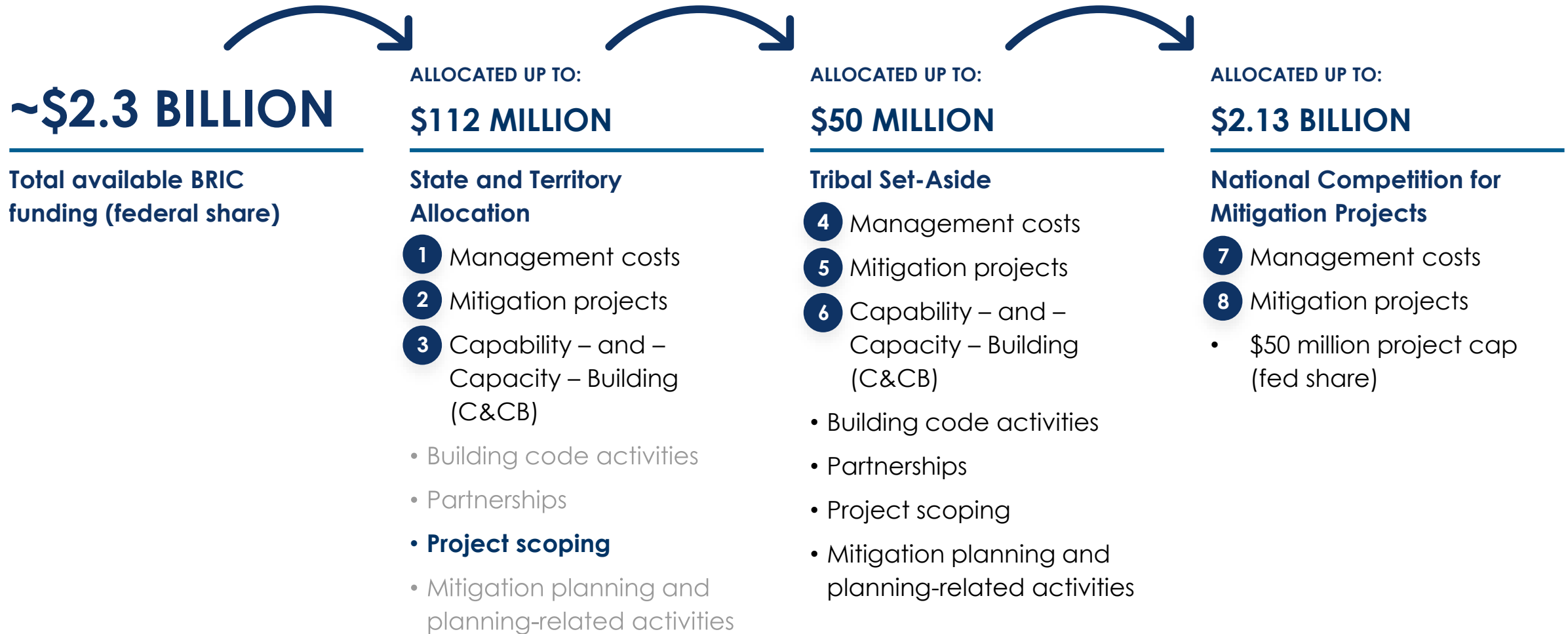
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Next Steps

Q/A

# YR 2022 BRIC NOFO Overview



# State Allocation: Capability & Capacity Building (C&CB) Activities








- For the allocation funding, Cal OES will **prioritize** **project scoping** activities (up to \$2M including management costs)
- Project scoping, are activities (“seed funding”) that help to build a pipeline of future shovel ready mitigation projects
- Project scoping should be used when the mitigation problem and solution are not known and the subapplicant needs to more fully evaluate a potential intervention
- Project scoping should include an alternative analysis, selection of a preferred alternative, project design, CEQA, and a future project subapplication
- **Priorities for Cal OES for 2022 – project scoping for nature-based solutions, heat, drought, and utility protection projects (undergrounding or microgrid)**



Refer to Technical and Qualitative Scoring Rubrics for Additional Competitiveness Factors

# Revised Technical Evaluation Criteria (115 Max)



Technical points are allocated in a “all or nothing approach” highlighting importance of each criteria (reviewed by FEMA):

 <div>20 POINTS</div> <p>Infrastructure project</p>	 <div>10 POINTS</div> <p>Incorporation of Nature-based Solutions</p>	 <div>20 POINTS</div> <p>Applicant has mandatory building code requirement (<b>CA has 2018</b>)</p>
 <div>10 POINTS</div> <p>Subapplication generated from a previous qualifying award or past BRIC non-financial direct TA</p>	 <div>5 POINTS</div> <p>Increased non-federal cost share (30% for subapplicants / 12% for EDRC)</p>	 <div>30 OR 15 POINTS</div> <p>Designation as underserved and/or disadvantaged, including Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community (EDRC)</p>
 <div>20 POINTS</div> <p>Subapplicant has Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule Rating of 1 to 5</p>		

**2022 Updates:**  
Removal of Community Lifelines  
15 / 30 points for disadvantaged communities (.6 or .8)

# Revised Qualitative Evaluation Criteria (115 Max)

Scored on a gradient scale for qualitative evaluation criteria (performed by a panel of reviewers)

 <div>35 POINTS</div> <p>Risk reduction / resilience effectiveness</p>	 <div>20 POINTS</div> <p>Climate change and other future conditions</p>	 <div>15 POINTS</div> <p>Implementation measures</p>
 <div>25 POINTS</div> <p>Population impacted</p>	 <div>5 POINTS</div> <p>Community engagement and other outreach activities</p>	 <div>15 POINTS</div> <p>Leveraging partners</p>

**Future Conditions Include:**

Climate changes

Demographic changes

Population changes

Land use changes

BRIC Timeline

BRIC Overview

BRIC NOFO Overview

**Key Changes in the NOFO**

Win Themes for BRIC 2022

Prepare California Match Eligibility

Next Steps

Q/A



# BRIC Changes for FY 2022

## Technical Evaluation Criteria and Increasing Equity:

- Using the [CDC SVI](#) to determine which communities are disadvantaged
- Expands EDRC criteria to incorporate a community with SVI of 0.6 or higher
- Entities may, in collaboration with the EDRC, submit a subapplication on **behalf** of an EDRC
- EDRC community with an SVI greater than or equal to 0.8 that cannot calculate a BCR may receive assistance from FEMA (phased projects)
- Community Lifelines were removed
- Expands qualifying awards (previous qualifying awards – any Federal award)

## Qualitative Evaluation Criteria:

- Expanded outreach activities criteria to emphasize community engagement
- Expanded implementation measures to incorporate strong labor standards (project labor agreements - PLAs)

## Other Considerations:

- Reducing carbon emissions and environmentally friendly construction practices
- Utilizing climate change data and conditions (heat, drought, wildfire, high wind, sea level rise, extreme precipitation)
- Build America, Buy America Act (new reporting requirements)

## Funding:

### Total Funding:

Increased by ~\$1.3B

### State / Territory Allocation:

Increased from \$1 Million to \$2 Million

## Cybersecurity:

[Activities](#) that enable greater community resilience through cybersecurity are allowed as eligible costs (information technology component of larger project)

# Disadvantaged Communities

## Communities:

Either a group of individuals living in geographic proximity to one another, or a geographically dispersed set of individuals, where either type of group experiences common conditions.



## Disadvantaged Communities:

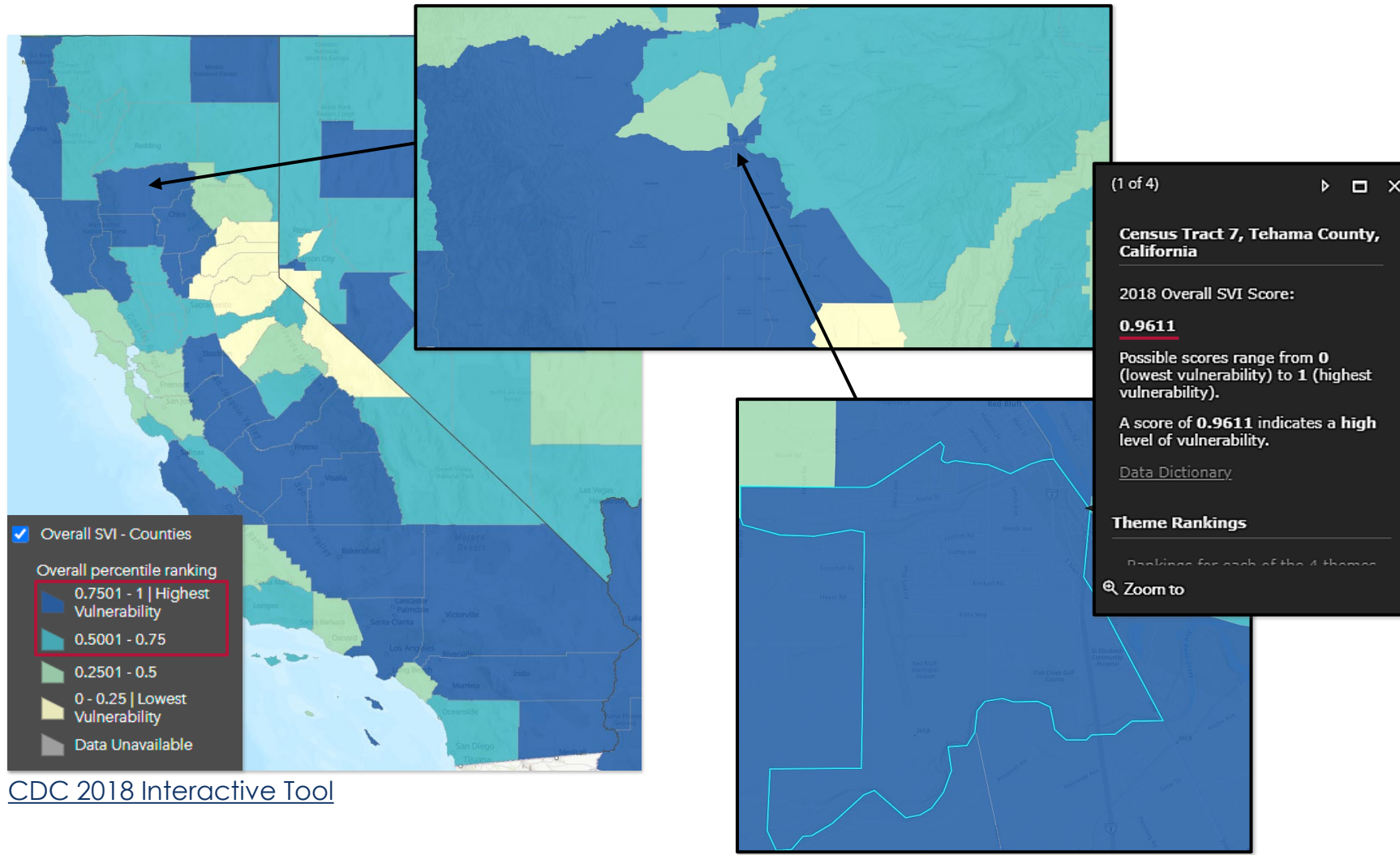
Agencies should consider appropriate data, indices, and screening tools to determine whether a specific community is disadvantaged based on a combination of variables.



## Variables:

- Low income, high and/or persistent poverty
- High unemployment and underemployment
- Racial and ethnic residential segregation, particularly where the segregation stems from discrimination by government entities
- Linguistic isolation
- High housing cost burden and substandard housing
- Distressed neighborhoods
- High transportation cost burden / low transportation access
- Limited water and sanitation access
- Disproportionate impacts from climate change
- High energy cost burden and low energy access
- Job lost through the energy transition
- Access to healthcare

# CDC Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)



CDC 2018 Interactive Tool

## Key 2022 Updates:

- Any community with CDC SVI of 0.60 to 0.79 = 15 technical points
- EDRC or community with SVI of 0.80 or higher = 30 technical points
- Communities with SVI 0.8 or higher may receive FEMA support in completing their BCA for Phased Projects (pending additional guidance from FEMA)

## Keep In Mind:

- FY21, nearly 50% of the grant funding benefited disadvantaged communities.

# Additional FEMA Guidance

## Build America, Buy America Act

- All projects requiring the use of iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials must be products of the United States.
  - Requirements for awards made on or after May 14, 2022
  - Page 40 of the [NOFO](#), Additional references [here](#)

## BCA Support to EDRCs and Communities $\geq 0.8$ CDC SVI

- EDRCs or communities with an SVI greater than or equal to 0.8 that cannot calculate a BCR may receive assistance from FEMA
  - Additional information to be provided from FEMA
  - Page 7 and 57 of the [NOFO](#)

BRIC Timeline

BRIC Overview

BRIC NOFO Overview

Key Changes in the NOFO

**Win Themes for BRIC 2022**

Prepare California Match Eligibility

Next Steps

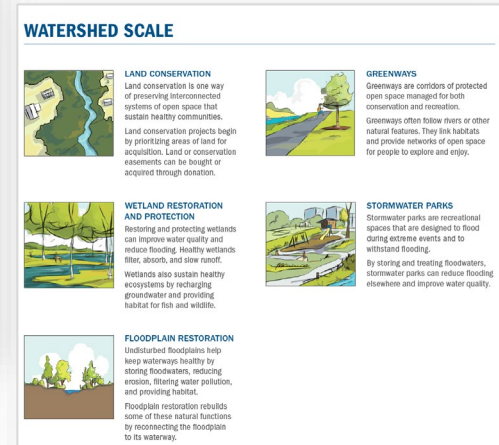
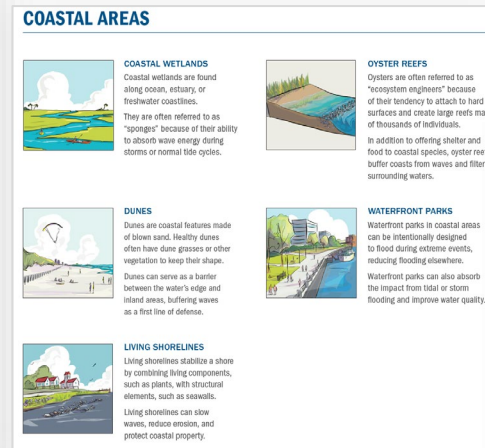
Q/A

# Nature-Based Solutions (NBS)

- The subapplication must describe how the project incorporates one or more nature-based solutions
- NBS are sustainable environmental management practices that restore, mimic, and/or enhance nature and natural systems and support natural hazard risk mitigation as well as economic, environmental, and social resilience efforts
  - Detention basin pools provide salmonid species with a low-flow sanctuary
  - Enhance approximately 5 acres of western snowy plover breeding habitat by placing oyster shells or pea gravel to enhance the breeding habitat of endangered bird species

## Remember

Nature-based solutions are approaches that include, but are not limited to, restoration of grasslands, rivers, floodplains, wetlands, dunes, and reefs; living shorelines; soil stabilization; aquifer storage and recovery; and bioretention systems.





# Inclusion of Justice40 Initiative (Using CDC SVI)

BRIC is prioritizing assistance that benefits disadvantaged communities as referenced in Executive Order 14008 – Tackling the Climate Crisis Home and Abroad (2021)

Four of the six BRIC qualitative evaluation criteria reflect the need for the subapplication to address how the project will benefit disadvantaged communities:

- ➡ Risk Reduction / Resilience Effectiveness
- ➡ Population Impacted
- ➡ Community Engagement / Outreach Activities
- ➡ Leveraging Partners

## Keep In Mind:

**Subapplicants will need to quantify this information in the subapplication but also it is recommended to include supporting materials like maps and data that demonstrates how the disadvantaged community benefits from the project.**

# The Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)

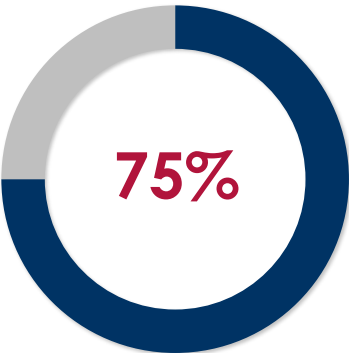
- The BCEGS program assesses the building codes in effect in a particular community and how the community enforces its building codes
  - Building code, plan review and inspection, and training for code enforcement personnel
- The BCEGS program will assign each graded municipality a BCEGS grade of 1 (best) to 10 (no recognized building code enforcement)
  - Communities intending to apply for BRIC funding are encouraged to initiate the process as soon as possible
- The BCEGS is evaluated at the subapplicant level (not at the State – applicant level)
- BCEGS ratings are confidential, so it is important that the subapplicant provide the rating to Cal OES in the BRIC subapplication (need commercial and residential ratings)
- Check with your local Dept. of Buildings to ascertain if you have a rating. If you cannot determine if you have a rating, contact the Insurance Services Offices (ISO) POC at [dale.thomure@verisk.com](mailto:dale.thomure@verisk.com)
- If you do not have a rating, ISO can most likely assist before the BRIC subapplication period closes. This would require the subapplicant to complete a building code survey for ISO
- There is no cost to obtain a BCEGS rating
- A regrade is every five years – ISO can regrade a jurisdiction sooner if needed



# Phased Projects

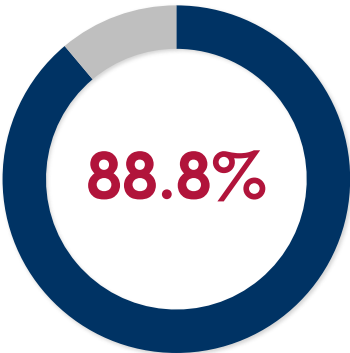
## BRIC 2020

3 / 4 – selected competitive projects submitted as Phased



## BRIC 2021

8 / 9 – selected competitive projects submitted as Phased



### Phased Projects:

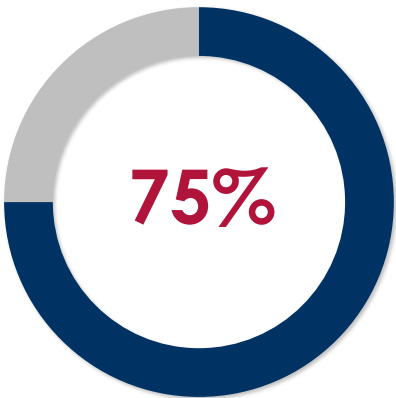
A conceptual scope of work that meets FEMA eligibility requirements, but whose complexity requires additional studies and design development to get the subapplication to the point where all eligibility determination can be made.



# Overmatched Projects (Increased Non-Federal Share)

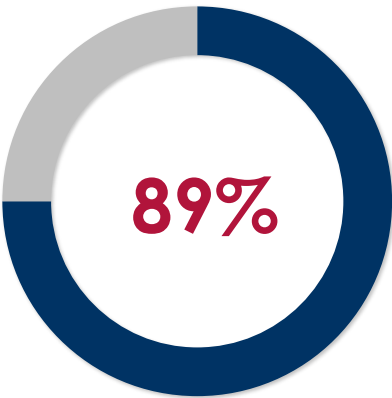
## BRIC 2020

3 / 4 – selected competitive projects overmatched



## BRIC 2021

8 / 9 – selected competitive projects overmatched



## Technical Scoring Criteria:

- Overmatch (>25%)
  - Local match (non-Federal cost share) 30% or more obtains an additional 5 points (technical scoring rubric)
- EDRC (>10%)
  - Local match 12% or more obtains an additional 5 points

### EDRC Defined:

Community of 3,000 or fewer individuals with residents having an average per capita annual income not exceeding 80% of the national per capita income based on best available data.

# Public-Private Partnerships (P3)

- Subapplications should include partnerships that ensure the project meets the community needs, an explanation of how these partnerships benefit disadvantaged communities, and the anticipated outcome of the partnerships
  - The partnership can also contribute to the non-federal cost share resulting in an overmatch (more than 25% required)
- Partnerships:
    - Private utility
    - Local business
    - Disadvantaged community
    - Government entity
    - Private non-profit (PNP)
    - Community-based organization
    - University or educational organization



# BRIC Project Attributes

## NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

- 55% of the selected California competitive projects included NBS
- One or more NBS should be included as a functional component of the project's scope



## CLIMATE CHANGE

- Sea level rise, more precipitation, more frequent storms, and drought
- Climate adaptive projects that address climate change impacts
- The project should make the community resilient against climate change



## FUTURE CONDITIONS

- 100% of selected projects included future conditions
- Climate, demographic, population, and land use changes
- Anticipate and respond to future conditions
- Address in planning, design, and operational phases
- Help communities respond to these conditions

ELIGIBLE



FEASIBLE



COST-EFFECTIVE



COMPETITIVE



BRIC PROJECT

# BRIC Project Overview

- Level of protection **increase**
- **Natural** hazard mitigation (not manmade hazard)
- Must **reduce risk** as a primary benefit
- Clearly explain how the project protects **critical infrastructure**
- Note how the project addresses **ancillary benefits** like improvement to air/water quality, public health, and the economic opportunity
- Relevant **changing/future** conditions and how the project will protect the community now and in 20-50 years
- Call out new and **innovative** ideas
- Use **reliable** data sources and assumptions (cite this data)
- Ensure to include **Management Costs**
- Include **CEQA** if applicable
- Impact **socially vulnerable** and **disadvantaged communities**



# BRIC Project Overview (Con't)

- **Large-scale** community (neighborhood) impact and benefit
- Include a **nature-based solution** (NBS)
- **Phase projects** in preliminary design and/or with no EHP completed
- Look for a **public private partnership** (PPP) opportunity
- Address all aspects of the **technical and qualitative** evaluation criteria
- Address **future conditions and climate impacts** (climate impacts include sea level rise, drought, more precipitation, more frequent storms)
- Target project areas that have a **BCEGS rating** of 5/5 or lower (1/1)
- **Overmatch** for the local match (non-federal share)
- Include a **well-defined implementation plan** (manage the project)
- Target **disadvantaged communities** ([Justice40](#))
- Must have a **Hazard mitigation plan** approved / adopted at time of subapplication submission (December 2022) and grant award
- Include two Go / No-Go milestones

BRIC Timeline

BRIC Overview

BRIC NOFO Overview

Key Changes in the NOFO

Win Themes for BRIC 2022

**Prepare California Match Eligibility**

Next Steps

Q/A

# Prepare California Match Initiative Eligibility

- BRIC subapplicants may be eligible to receive [Prepare California Match](#), which provides local match (25% non-federal cost share) to qualified entities for competitive and project scoping activities
- Scoping activities need to include:
  - Nature-Based Solutions or activities involving heat, drought, or utility protection (i.e., undergrounding or microgrids)
- Competitive projects must incorporate:
  - Community engagement, partnership building, or other outreach activities
  - Demonstrates effective risk reduction and resiliency, community wide
  - Nature-based solutions, future conditions, ancillary benefits, innovation, and climate adaption
  - BCEGS rating for residential and commercial of 5 or less (1-5)
  - Well-defined implementation plan
  - Maximize the FEMA BRIC technical and qualitative scoring rubrics

## Cal OES Funding Priorities:

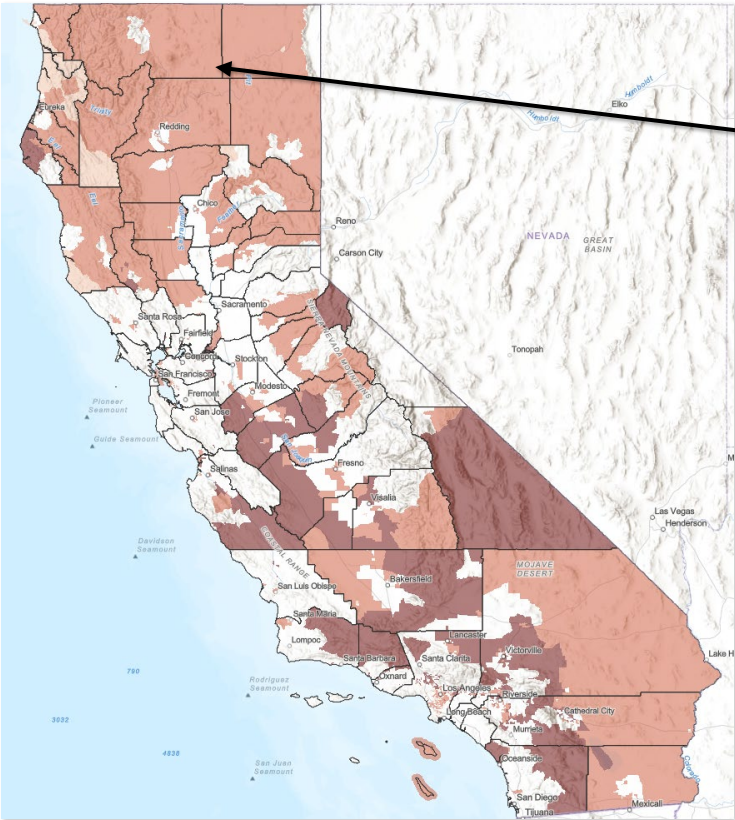
- Demonstrate a significant level of protection increase and benefits to eligible socially vulnerable and high hazard risk communities.
- Demonstrate effective risk reduction and resiliency on a community wide scale.
- Use nature-based solutions, advance climate adaptation goals, and/or have other defined ancillary benefits.
- Consider future conditions in project planning and design.

### Keep In Mind:

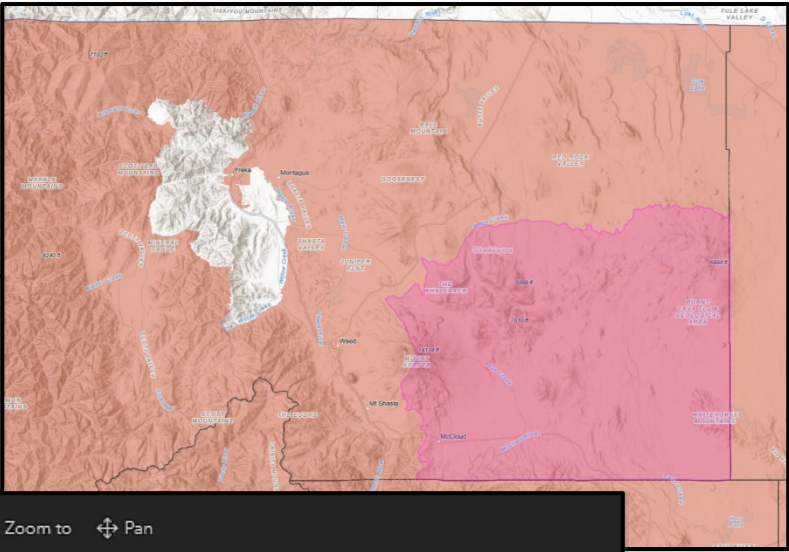
BRIC subapplicants that do not meet the criteria for Prepare California Match, are still able to apply for BRIC, but will be responsible for the non-federal cost share



# Prepare California Match Map



Cal OES Hazard Exposure and Social Vulnerability Heat Map



Zoom to Pan

OES Multiple Hazards Master Layer (Update)

GEOID	Census Tract 12, Siskiyou County, California
Fire percentile	0.97
Flood percentile	0.54
Drought percentile	0.32
Heat percentile	0.43
Earthquake percentile	0.02
Total hazard percentile	0.45
SVI percentile	0.48
Shake potential flag	0
Ratio of median household income to state median	0.49

## Eligibility Criteria

- Above 0.70 in the SVI percentile
- or -
- Less than 0.80 in the “ratio of median household income to state median”
- and -
- Above 0.85 in any of the five hazard categories,
- or -
- Above 0.70 in overall hazard exposure,
- or -
- Have 1g or higher in the shake potential flag category

# Prepare California Match Considerations

- To be most competitive, the **hazard and project should align** – meaning, if the high hazard is flooding (70<sup>th</sup> percentile or above), that the project submitted for Prepare California consideration should be a flood project.
- The **project's benefiting area** must be eligible – this can sometimes differ from the project's location.
- Only **subapplicants eligible for BRIC** (FEMA's criteria) are eligible for the Prepare California Match.
  - Per FEMA, PNPs, businesses, and individuals are not eligible
  - Must apply as a subapplicant through Cal OES to be eligible for the Prepare California Match
- The eligible subapplicant **MUST** have a **hazard mitigation plan** approved and adopted by 12/2/22. There are no exceptions.
- To be most competitive for BRIC, subapplicants should consider **overmatching** (if awarded Prepare California Matching funds) - subapplicants should provide an additional 5% (or 2% EDRC) non-federal share to receive the additional 5 points in the technical evaluation criteria.

# Prepare California Match Notice of Interest (NOI)

- Title your NOI as follows, **Prepare California Match: BRIC 2022 - Subapplicant name and activity**. Example – Prepare California Match BRIC 2022 Muccio County Floodplain Restoration & Levee Resiliency Project
- In the brief summary, note the area that will benefit from the project. Include the **census tract** number(s) for the project benefiting area in this summary
- For the **lat / long**, note the project's benefiting area. This will be checked against the Prepare California Match map to verify eligibility for the Match program
- For the NOI's source of non-federal cost share, write in “**State Funding through Prepare California Match**” – Note if you intend to also overmatch with the additional 5% / 2% (EDRC) non-federal cost share
- Include **Prepare California Match criteria and priorities in the NOI** (BCEGS, NBS, climate adaptive, etc.) – utilize the **what is the mitigation action** field
- If the NOI is approved, Cal OES will give further instructions on how / where to include the Prepare California Match information in the FEMA GO subapplication

Prepare California Match - BRIC subapplicants should clearly describe in the NOI<sup>2</sup> how their mitigation action fulfills both the above mentioned program criteria **and** one or more of the funding priorities (as applicable). NOIs also need to describe how the mitigation action will directly and primarily benefit a specific eligible socially vulnerable and high hazard risk community.

BRIC Timeline

BRIC Overview

BRIC NOFO Overview

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**Next Steps**

Q/A

# Get Ready for BRIC 2022

- Go to the Cal OES BRIC [website](#)
- Cal OES will offer a NOI webinar on 8/31/2022
- Complete a NOI (period opens on 9/1/2022 and closes on 9/16/2022)
- Attend the FEMA BRIC [webinars](#)
- Attend any State Cal OES sponsored [BRIC webinars](#)
- Read the [FEMA BRIC NOFO](#)
- Obtain your [BCEGS rating](#)
- Obtain Unique Entity Identifier ([UEI](#))
- Register in the System for Award Management ([SAM](#))
  - SAM can take up to 4 weeks
  - Entities registering in SAM.gov are assigned a Unique Entity ID as a part of the registration process
  - Existing SAM account holders, ensure account is **ACTIVE**
- Register for a [FEMA GO account](#)

BRIC Timeline

BRIC Overview

BRIC NOFO Overview

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Win Themes for BRIC 2022

Prepare California Match Eligibility

Next Steps

**Q/A**



# Q&A

Send all additional project scoping, TA, and other questions to Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Assistance at:  
**[HMA@caloes.ca.gov](mailto:HMA@caloes.ca.gov)**

[www.caloes.gov](http://www.caloes.gov)



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