



FY24 OEMHS Hazard
Mitigation Assistance
(HMA)
Grant Application
Virtual Webinar

Agenda

Opening Remarks

Luke J. Hodgson, Director, OEMHS

Solutions for Financing Resilience Hazard Mitigation Measures

Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM)

Marcia Barben, MDEM

Lise Luchsinger, MDEM

Developing a Strong HMA Grant Application

Ehsan Bahador, OEMHS

Q & A

Opening Remarks

Luke J. Hodgson

Director, Office of Emergency Management and
Homeland Security

OEMHS

Solutions for Financing Resilience Hazard Mitigation Measures



Maryland

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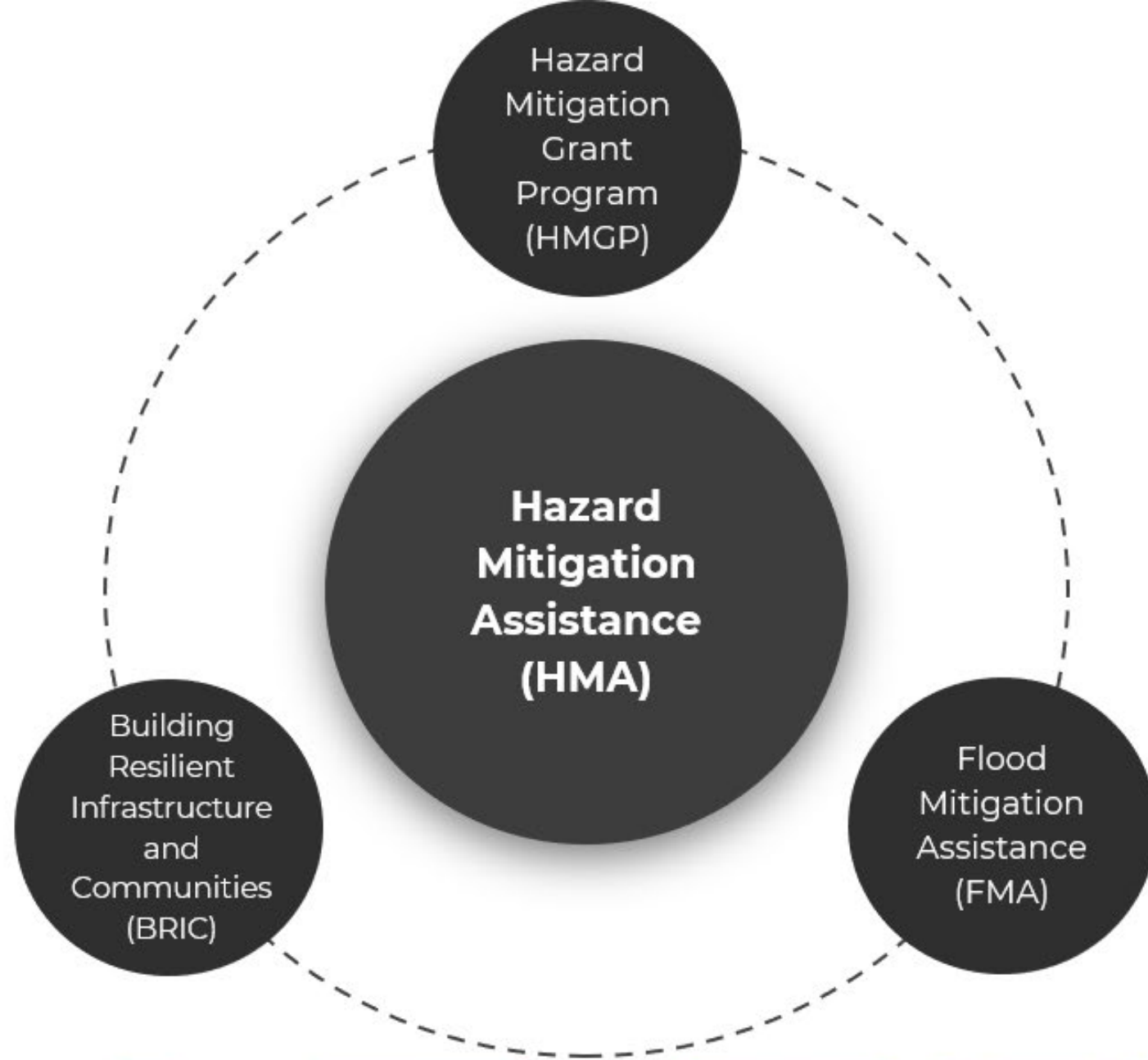
Wes Moore | Governor

Aruna Miller | Lt. Governor

Russell J. Strickland | Secretary

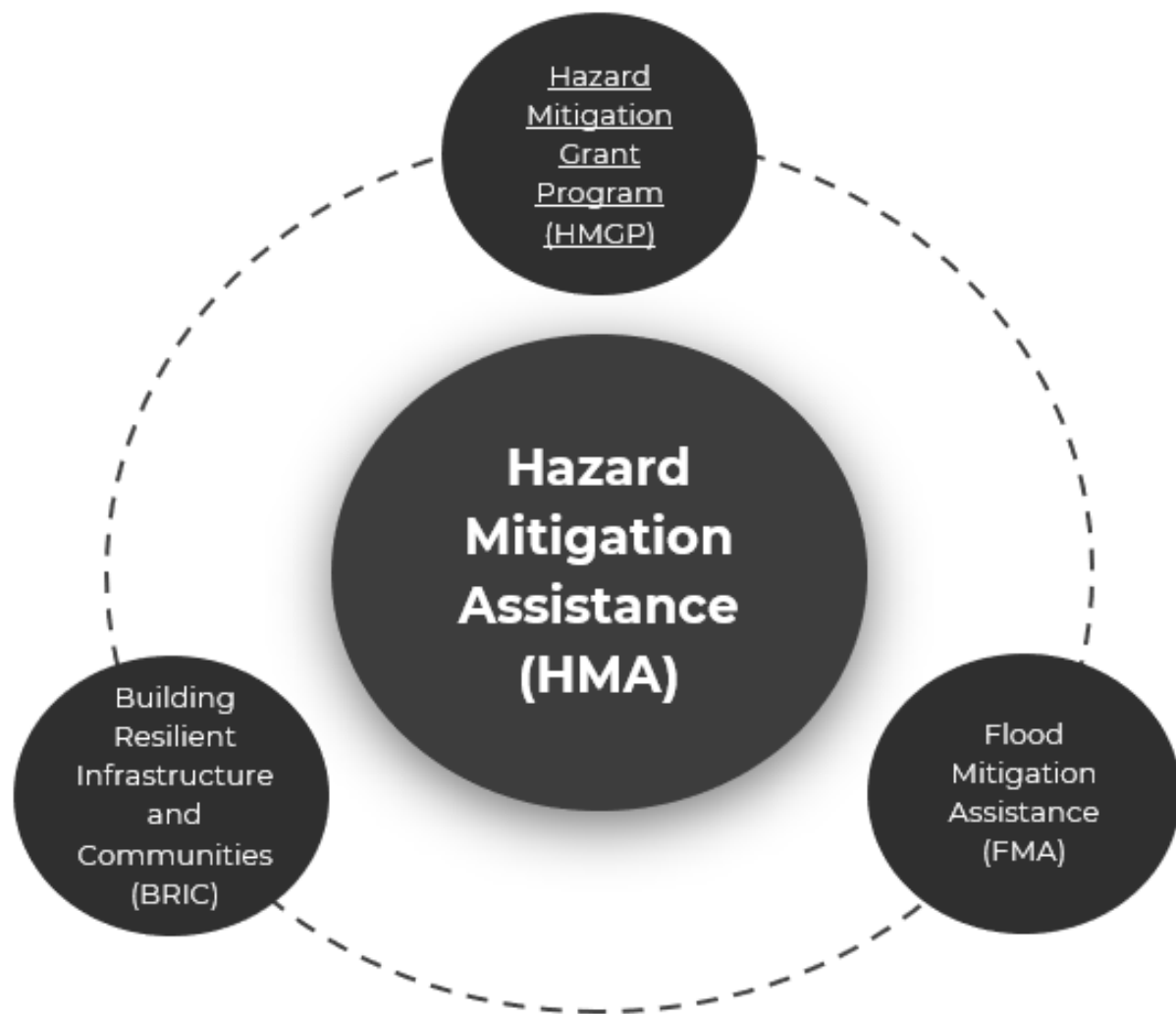
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Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program



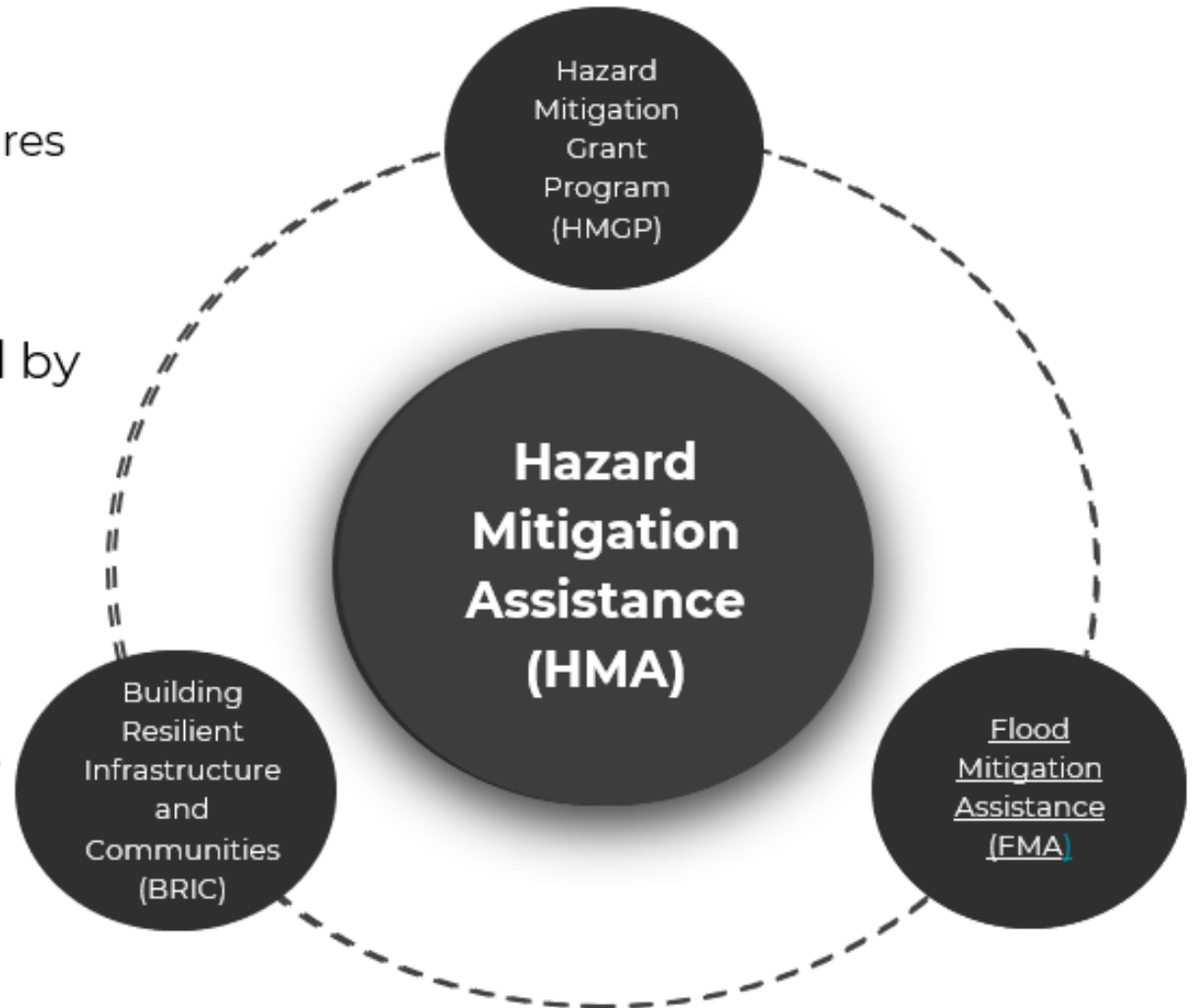
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

- Funds available after a Presidential Disaster Declaration
- Application due approximately 1 year from Declaration date
- Nonprofits can apply directly
- Local HMP must be **adopted and approved** by the date **funds are obligated**
- Cost Share: 75% Federal / 25% Non-Federal



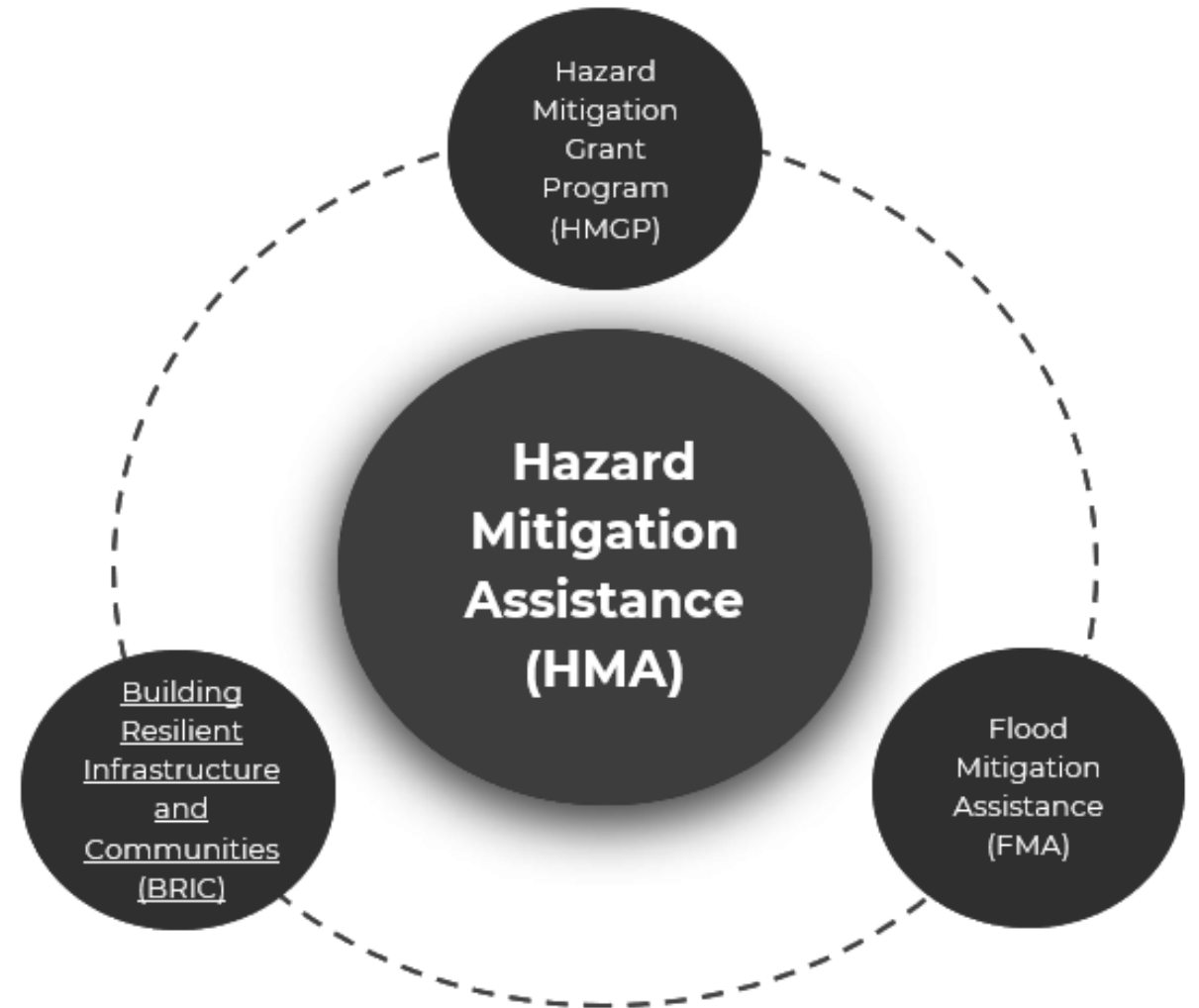
Flood Mitigation Assistance

- Funds available **annually**
- Nationally competitive
- Projects and Plans that reduce flood risk to structures insured by NFIP
 - Participation in NFIP is required
 - Must be in good standing
- Local HMP must be **adopted and approved** by the application **due date and at the time funds are obligated**
- Cost Share
 - 75% Federal / 25% Non-Federal
 - 90% Federal / 10% Non-Federal for small and impoverished communities
 - 90% Federal / 10% Non-Federal for Repetitive Loss
 - 100% Federal / 0% Non-Federal for Severe Repetitive Loss



Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities

- Funds available **annually**
- Nationally competitive
- Local HMP must be **adopted and approved** by the application **due date and at the time funds are obligated**
- Cost Share
 - 75% Federal / 25% Non-Federal
 - 90% Federal / 10% Non-Federal for small and impoverished communities



Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS)

- AKA: Legislative Pre- Disaster Mitigation (L-PDM)
- Funds available annually since 2022
- Submitted on behalf of Congressional Representative
- Local HMP must be **adopted and approved** by the application **due date and at the time funds are obligated**
- Cost share
 - 75% Federal/ 25% Non-federal
 - 90% Federal/ 25% Non-federal for small and impoverished communities
- Subapplication process completed after project selection
- [FY22 Congressional Projects](#)
- [FY23 Congressional Projects](#)

Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund



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Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund

- STORM Act
 - New federal program passed in 2020
 - Emulates drinking water revolving loan
- Maryland enabled Resilient Maryland Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) in 2021 and amended in 2022.
- Local governments may obtain loans at no more than one percent interest to carry out eligible projects that build resilience for homeowners, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and communities.
- \$500 million funding from Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

How Loans May be Used

- Mitigation measures to negate effects of natural hazards
- Non-federal cost share of Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants
- Building code adoption and enforcement
- Zoning and land use planning changes



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Types of Eligible Projects

- Drought and prolonged episodes of intense heat
- Severe storms, including hurricanes, tornados, windstorms, cyclones and severe winter storms
- Wildfires, earthquakes, flooding, shoreline erosion, high water levels, storm surges
- Zoning and land use planning
- Establishing and carrying out building code enforcement



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Advantages

- No more than 1% interest
- Does not require a presidential declaration
- Benefit Cost Analysis is not required
- Does not require participation in the National Flood Insurance Program
- Non-federal cost match for other Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants
- 40% of the overall benefits generated from loan funds will flow to underserved/low-income geographic/socially vulnerable areas.
- Studies have shown that mitigation projects save an average of \$6 in future recovery costs for every \$1 spent.



The mission of the Maryland Department of Emergency Management is to proactively reduce disaster risks and reliably manage consequences through collaborative work with Maryland's communities and partners.

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Developing a Strong HMA Grant Application

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What to be considered before starting an HMA application?

- Applicant and Sub-applicant Eligibility requirement
- Eligible activities and costs
- Eligibility and availability of non-federal cost share
- Project alignment with State, Local, or Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan



Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide

Who is eligible for funding?

Applicants:

- ✓ All 50 States
- ✓ U.S. territories
- ✓ Federally recognized Tribal Governments
- ✓ District of Columbia



Federally recognized Tribal Gov'ts.

District of Columbia

Subapplicants:

- ✓ Local Governments
- ✓ Tribal Governments
- ✓ State Agencies
- ✓ Tribal Agencies

FEMA Review Panels

- **National Technical Review Panel review project sub-applications against the following three criteria:**
 - Conformance to accepted engineering practices (codes, standards, modeling techniques, or best practices) and work schedule, as described in the SOW
 - Effectiveness at mitigating the hazard(s) for which the project was designed
 - Accuracy of the cost estimate
- **National Qualitative Review Panel review project sub-applications against the six qualitative criteria.**



**FEMA BRIC National Review Panel
Panelist Handbook**

Qualitative Criteria

- Risk reduction and resiliency effectiveness
- Climate change and other future conditions
- Implementation measures
- Population impacted
- Community engagement and other outreach activities
- Leveraging partners

Qualitative Scoring



Risk Reduction/
Resilience
Effectiveness



Climate Change
and Other
Future Conditions



Implementation
Measures



Population
Impacted



Community Engagement
and Other
Outreach Activities



Leveraging
Partners

How to develop a quality application?

- Address all qualitative criteria in the **project Scope of Work**
- Include a line-item budget in the project Scope of Work
- Prepare supporting documents such as maps, pictures, Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA), non-federal cost share commitment letter, etc.
- Use a printable application and prepare your answers for each section.
- Coordinate and request technical assistance from your local Office of Emergency Management to review your application draft and scope of work.

How to write a strong
Scope of Work and meet
the qualitative
requirements?

Risk reduction and resiliency effectiveness

- Does the sub-application discuss how the proposed project will improve overall community resilience?
- Does the sub-application describe how the proposed project will reduce community risk(s) and to what level?
- Does the sub-application discuss ancillary project benefits (e.g., benefits related to water/air quality, habitat creation, energy efficiency, economic opportunity, reduced social vulnerability, cultural resources, public health, and mental health)?
- Does the project consider multiple hazards (e.g., wind/storm surge, wildfire/mudslides) to address risks beyond the proposal's primary risk reduction objective?
- Because innovation in one community can look very different from innovation in another community, does the sub-application demonstrate innovation for its unique community?
- What new ideas or approaches, if any, is the project incorporating?

Picture Source:

https://ssir.org/articles/entry/building_resiliency_in_times_of_crisis



Climate change and other future conditions

- What anticipated future conditions are relevant for the project?
- How is the project responsive to any identified anticipated changes? Does the project integrate the consideration of future conditions into design, planning, and operations workflows?
- How was the project informed by, or connected to, plans and planning efforts and their assessment of future conditions?
- What data sources and assumptions are used to guide the project?

Picture source:
<https://penntoday.upenn.edu/news/climate-change-and-atmospheric-dynamics-unveil-future-weather-extremes>

Implementation Measures

- Are strong labor standards incorporated?
- Does the application inspire confidence that the project can be completed successfully as designed, given the stated implementation measures?
- What potential implementation challenges and obstacles are identified (e.g., technical, political, financial, public support, environmental/permitting, constructability), and what implementation solutions are proposed to address these challenges?
- How do project cost estimates and the schedule identify and address potential challenges and obstacles?
- What pre- and post-implementation monitoring strategies are proposed for the project? What specific evaluation elements are proposed to measure progress and ensure the project is executed as designed?
- What technical and managerial staff and resources are available to successfully implement the project? How will anticipated staff and resource gaps be filled?
- Are examples of successfully completed projects included to demonstrate effective implementation measures?

Picture source:

<https://www.dynamicssquare.com/blog/top-kpi-for-success-of-erp-implementation/>



Population Impacted

- Community-wide benefits.
- The proportion of the population that will be impacted, including a description of the disadvantage communities.
- How the project was selected and designed to maximize positive impacts and minimize negative impacts to any disadvantaged populations.
- How the proposed project clearly benefits a disadvantaged community.



Picture source:
<https://www.iberdrola.com/sustainability/world-population-evolution>

Community Engagement and Other Outreach Activities

- To what extent did stakeholders and/or stakeholder groups contribute to this project? What stakeholder collaboration activities occurred?
- What planning processes were leveraged during the development of the project proposal to advance mitigation?
- What information (e.g., resilience goals and outcomes, partnership opportunities, project implementation progress) will be shared with the public?
- What support or conflicts emerged through the project planning process? How will conflicts be resolved as the project is implemented?
- What are the connections between your hazard mitigation plan and local land use requirements, and how does the linkage make your community more resilient?



Picture source: <https://medium.com/changelab-solutions/equitable-community-engagement-34d2542f68fd>

Leveraging Partners

- What partners were involved in the project design? How did partners contribute to the application?
- To what extent were NGOs—including those organizations that represent disadvantaged groups, universities, or other government entities—consulted for advice or assistance?
- To what extent have other federal programs or funding sources been leveraged for the project?
- How have partnerships been used to increase community resilience?



Recommended Tools and Datasets for Climate Change Impact Analysis

- National Climate Assessment Report

<https://nca2023.globalchange.gov/>

- Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation

<https://resilience.climate.gov/>

- Climate Risk and Resilience (ClimRR) Portal

<https://climrr.anl.gov/>

- Climate Explorer

<https://crt-climate-explorer.nemac.org/>

- Weather and Climate Resources

<https://www.noaa.gov/tools-and-resources/weather-and-climate-resources#historic>

Recommended Tools and Datasets for Population Impact Analysis

- Resiliency Analysis and Planning Tool (RAPT)

<https://fema.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=90c0c996a5e242a79345cdb5f758fc6>

- the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey five-year estimates

<https://www.census.gov/data/developers/data-sets/acs-5year.html>

- The U.S. Census Bureau

<https://data.census.gov/profile?q=United%20States&g=010XX00US>

- The Grant Equity Threshold Tool (GETT)

<https://fema.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d1f3c8801ac2403781fd44160e18aa6f>

Recommended Tools and Datasets for Social Vulnerability Analysis

- EPA Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (EJScreen)

<https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>

- The Grant Equity Threshold Tool (GETT)

<https://fema.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d1f3c8801ac2403781fd44160e18aa6f>

- Community Equity Index

<https://community-equity-index-mncppc-mcplanning.hub.arcgis.com/>

- Climate and Justice Equity Screening Tool (CJEST)

<https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#3/33.47/-97.5>

- National Risk Index

<https://hazards.fema.gov/nri/map>

- FEMA Region 3: Mitigation Mapping and Data (Mit Maps)

<https://fema.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=f3bb86e451d74093a0bd46e4501aa9f1>

Questions?

Thank you!

Please visit our Hazard Mitigation webpage for additional information:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OEMHS/Hazard/Mitigation.html>