National Preparedness Goal, Second Edition - What's New

Preparedness is the shared responsibility of our entire nation. With so many people involved and so much at stake, it is important to establish a common preparedness goal. The first edition of the National Preparedness Goal, released in September 2011, set the vision for preparedness nationwide and identified the core capabilities necessary to achieve that vision across the five mission areas-Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response and Recovery. The second edition of the National Preparedness Goal incorporates critical edits identified through real world events, lessons learned and implementation of the National Preparedness System.

The Goal

The National Preparedness Goal continues to define what it means for the whole community to be prepared for all types of disasters and emergencies. The goal itself remains:

"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."

These risks include natural hazards such as hurricanes and pandemic influenza, accidental hazards such as dam failures and chemical spills, and manmade threats such as acts of terrorism and cyber attacks.

Changes within the Goal

The refresh of the National Preparedness Goal centered on discrete, critical content updates based on lessons learned, real world events and the results of the National Preparedness Report. In working towards development of the second edition of the Goal, FEMA and its whole community partners focused on assessing the existing core capabilities. Resulting updates to the core capabilities include changes to select titles and definitions and the addition of one new core capability – Fire Management and Suppression. Other changes to the National Preparedness Goal include:

- **Introduction:** Revised for clarity and added language to stress the importance of community preparedness and resilience.
- **Risk and the Core Capabilities:** Enhanced narrative on cybersecurity and climate change.
- **Preliminary Targets:** Refined references to targets within the core capabilities section and updated preliminary targets.
- **New Core Capability:** Added a new core capability entitled Fire Management and Suppression.
- **Core Capability Titles:** Revised the following core capability titles:

  - Threats and Hazard Identification (Mitigation) – revised to Threats and Hazards Identification;
  - Public and Private Services and Resources (Response) – revised to Logistics and Supply Chain Management;
  - On-scene Security and Protection (Response) – revised to On-scene Security, Protection, and Law Enforcement; and
  - Public Health and Medical Services (Response) – revised to Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services.

- **Core Capability Definitions:** Revised and/or expanded language within several of the core capability definitions.

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- **Mission Area Descriptions:** Developed new or refined existing language to better define the five mission areas; including:

    o Prevention – further emphasized focus on imminent terrorist threats;
    o Protection – simplified introductory narrative;
    o Mitigation – clarified language and emphasized community preparedness and resilience;
    o Response – simplified introductory narrative; and
    o Recovery – developed new language to clarify functions and capabilities of Recovery mission area.

- **Conclusion and Next Steps:** Developed new language and revised content to focus on steps applicable in 2015, including revisions to the National Planning System.
- **Appendix:** Added relevant terms and definitions and updated existing definitions where necessary.

Prevention	Protection	Mitigation	Response	Recovery
Planning				
Public Information and Warning				
Operational Coordination				
Intelligence and Information Sharing		Community Resilience	Infrastructure Systems	
Interdiction and Disruption		Long-term Vulnerability Reduction	Critical Transportation	Economic Recovery
Screening, Search, and Detection		Risk and Disaster Resilience Assessment	Environmental Response/Health and Safety	Health and Social Services
Forensics and Attribution	Access Control and Identity Verification	Threats and Hazards Identification	Fatality Management Services	Housing
	Cybersecurity		Fire Management and Suppression	Natural and Cultural Resources
	Physical Protective Measures		Logistics and Supply Chain Management	
	Risk Management for Protection Programs and Activities		Mass Care Services	
	Supply Chain Integrity and Security		Mass Search and Rescue Operations	
			On-scene Security, Protection, and Law Enforcement	
			Operational Communications	
			Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services	
			Situational Assessment	

Core Capabilities by Mission Area

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"FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate all hazards."

A lifeline provides indispensable service that enables the continuous operation of critical business and government functions, and is critical to human health and safety, or economic security.

Why a lifelines construct?

Decision-makers must rapidly determine the scope, complexity, and interdependent impacts of a disaster. Applying the lifelines construct allows decision-makers to:

- Prioritize, sequence, and focus response efforts towards maintaining or restoring the most critical services and infrastructure
- Utilize a common lexicon to facilitate unity of purpose across all stakeholders
- Promote a response that facilitates unity of purpose and better communication amongst the whole community (Federal, state, tribal, territorial, and local governments, and private sector and non-governmental entities)
- Clarify which components of the disaster are complex (multifaceted) and/or complicated (difficult), requiring cross-sector coordination

How will lifelines be used?

- Enhance the ability to gain, maintain, and communicate situational awareness for the whole community in responding to disasters
- Analyze impacts to the various lifelines and develop priority focus areas for each operational period during response
- Identify and communicate complex interdependencies to identify major limiting factors hindering stabilization
- Update the National Response Framework to reflect use of lifelines in response planning

What are the opportunities of lifelines?

- Enable a true unity of effort between government, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector, including infrastructure owners and operators
- Integrate preparedness efforts, existing plans, and identify unmet needs to better anticipate response requirements
- Refine reporting sources and products to enhance situational awareness, best determine capability gaps, and demonstrate progress towards stabilization

Lifelines

Safety and Security

Communications

Food, Water, Sheltering

Transportation

Health and Medical

Hazardous Material

Energy (Power & Fuel)

National Response Framework Update (Fourth Edition)

Background

The National Response Framework (NRF), first released in 2008, is a guide for how our Nation responds to all types of disasters and emergencies. Built on the scalable, flexible, and adaptable concepts identified in the National Incident Management System, 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.

Why Update the NRF?

When disaster strikes, everyone has a role to play. Government resources alone cannot meet all community needs. As part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) renewed effort to build a national culture of preparedness, the NRF is being updated to incorporate lessons learned from the unprecedented 2017 hurricane and wildfire season.

The 2017 Hurricane Season FEMA After-Action Report specifically called for a revision of the NRF to emphasize stabilization of critical lifelines and coordination across the critical infrastructure sectors. As a Nation, closer partnerships with the private sector are crucial in providing commodities and support to survivors.

What Will Change?

The fourth edition of the NRF will reflect the relationship between business, industry, and infrastructure and will better align the Protection and Response Frameworks. Likely updates include:

- Additional emphasis on non-governmental capabilities to include the role of individuals and private sector/industry partners in responding to disasters
- A new Emergency Support Function to leverage existing coordination mechanisms between the government and infrastructure owners/operators
- Focus on outcomes-based response through the prioritization of the rapid stabilization of life-saving and life sustaining lifelines

Community Lifelines

A lifelines construct, focused on outcomes-based stabilization efforts, will be included in the NRF update.

Lifelines definition

A lifeline provides indispensable service that enables the continuous operation of critical business and government functions, and is critical to human health and safety or economic security (i.e., safety and security; food, water, sheltering; health and medical; energy [power and fuel]; communications; transportation; and hazardous material).

Why a lifelines construct?

Decision-makers must rapidly determine the scope, complexity, and interdependent impacts of a disaster. Applying the lifelines construct will allow decision-makers to:

- Prioritize, sequence, and focus response efforts towards maintaining or restoring the most critical services and infrastructure
- Utilize a common lexicon across various stakeholders
- Promote a response that facilitates unity of purpose and better communication amongst the whole community
- Clarify which components of the disaster require cross-sector coordination

What Will Not Change?

The updated NRF will continue to focus on the capabilities necessary to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs during disasters. The NRF will continue to be scalable, flexible and adaptable, using the core capabilities identified in the National Preparedness Goal.

For More Information

For the latest information on the update, please visit http://www.fema.gov/national-planning-frameworks and email NRF@fema.dhs.gov to be informed of opportunities to provide feedback.

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