Climate Ready: Empowering Emergency Managers for Tomorrow's Challenges

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Poster Showcase
#IAEM24

Competitive Division - Practitioner

Why Care About Climate as an Emergency Manager?

Climate change is an urgent issue that requires a multidisciplinary approach to solve. Understanding the complexities of the climate system is imperative for emergency managers, given its cascading impacts threaten the whole community, economy, public health, infrastructure, water resources, and agriculture among others. By identifying risks, reducing vulnerabilities, and strategically investing in climate resilience and adaptation measures, emergency managers can make climate-informed decisions before, during, and after a disaster strikes.

There is a critical need for a climate-literate workforce that understand the climate system, trends, and potential impacts of climate change. Building a climate-literate workforce will strengthen capacity to effectively manage disasters impacted by climate change.

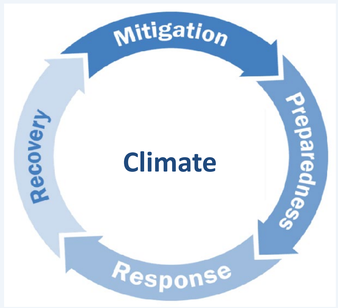
Applying Climate to Phases of Emergency Management

Mitigation

Climate mitigation is the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere to reduce the severity of human-caused climate changes. Effective hazard mitigation requires climate adaptation approaches and proper planning to define climate-related risks and validate anticipated impacts.

Recovery

Recovery provides an opportunity to work with stakeholders to build communities back better after extreme climate-related disasters. Long-term recovery considerations also include building resilience and integrating adaptation practices into risk assessments, future planning and resource considerations.



Preparedness

Climate change is a long-term, gradually worsening situation and is a risk multiplier to response activities. Build literacy about current and emerging risks through trainings and exercises.

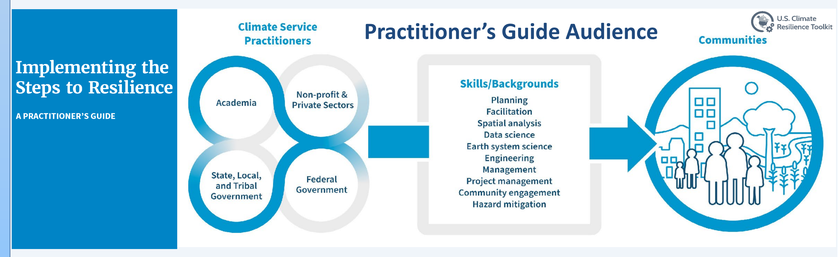
Response

Prepare responders with resource requirements to support their community using real-time climate data, threat/hazard profiles, compounding effects of climate change threats, and by collaborating with federal, regional, state, local and territorial partners.

NOAA Climate Engagement, Tools, and Resources for Emergency Management

The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Program Office (CPO) developed the U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit (CRT), Steps to Resilience (StR), and Implementing the Steps to Resilience: A Practitioner's Guide (Practitioner's Guide).

The StR incorporates climate-informed risk assessments and puts climate data and services in context. The StR framework and Practitioner's Guide are built upon emergency management core principles.



Trainings for Emergency Managers

	Climate 101: Science, Impacts, and Society	Climate 101 for Federal Agencies	Steps to Resilience
Climate Terminology	✓	✓	✓
Climate Mechanics	✓	✓	✗
Observations and Projections	✓	✓	✓
Climate Impacts	✓	✓	✓
Justice and Equity	✓	✓	✓
Climate Adaptation	✓	✓	✓
Specific EM focus	✓	✓	✓
Time	1.5 hours	1 hour	10 or 15 hour full trainings
Format	Virtual, self-paced	Virtual, live	Virtual, live

Emergency managers can use this training information to further engage partners and communities in climate adaptation planning.

Full listing of tools and training resources

Outside of the CRT, NOAA and FEMA engagement activities include NOAA climate information which is being incorporated in the FEMA plans, guides, and reports shown below.

Test Your Knowledge

We designed a knowledge assessment to test your climate literacy. By participating in this assessment, you are helping NOAA CPO identify areas where we can help the emergency management community strengthen its climate knowledge in order to continue effectively managing disasters impacted by climate change.

Knowledge assessment

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