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Mitigation Planning 101

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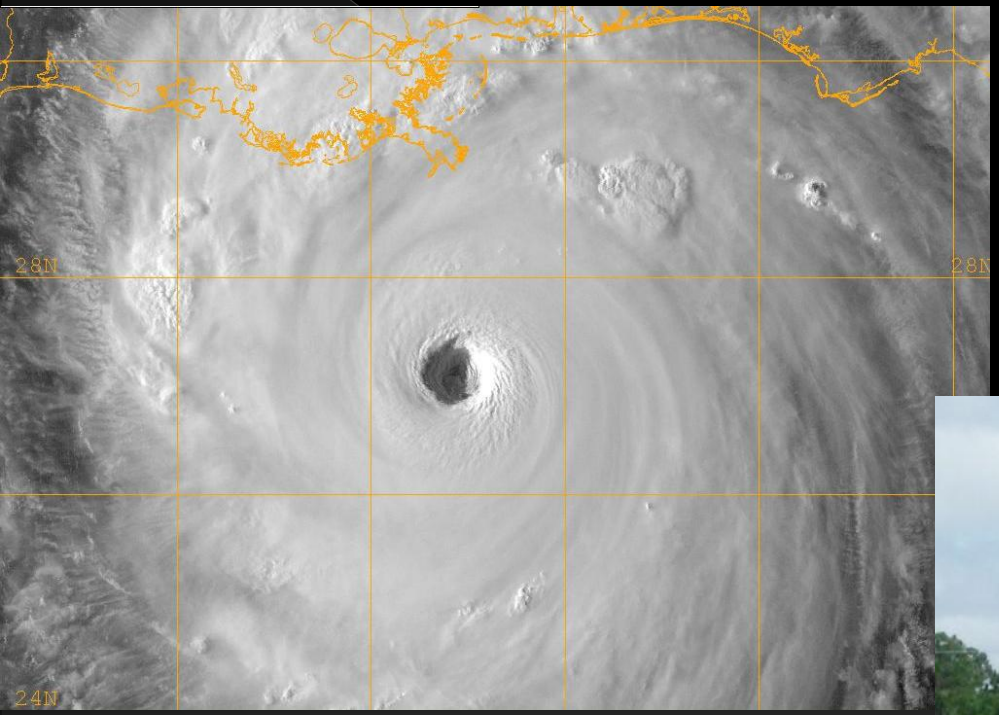
HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING 101

Hazard Mitigation Defined:

Hazard Mitigation is any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the loss of life or property from the effects of hazards.

What does a Mitigation Plan tell us?



What hazards present the ***greatest risk*** to the jurisdiction and its citizens?

What are the most ***effective ways*** to reduce those risks?

Why Does My University Need A Plan?

IT'S NOT IF

BUT WHEN

THE NEXT DISASTER STRIKES

Regulatory Requirement

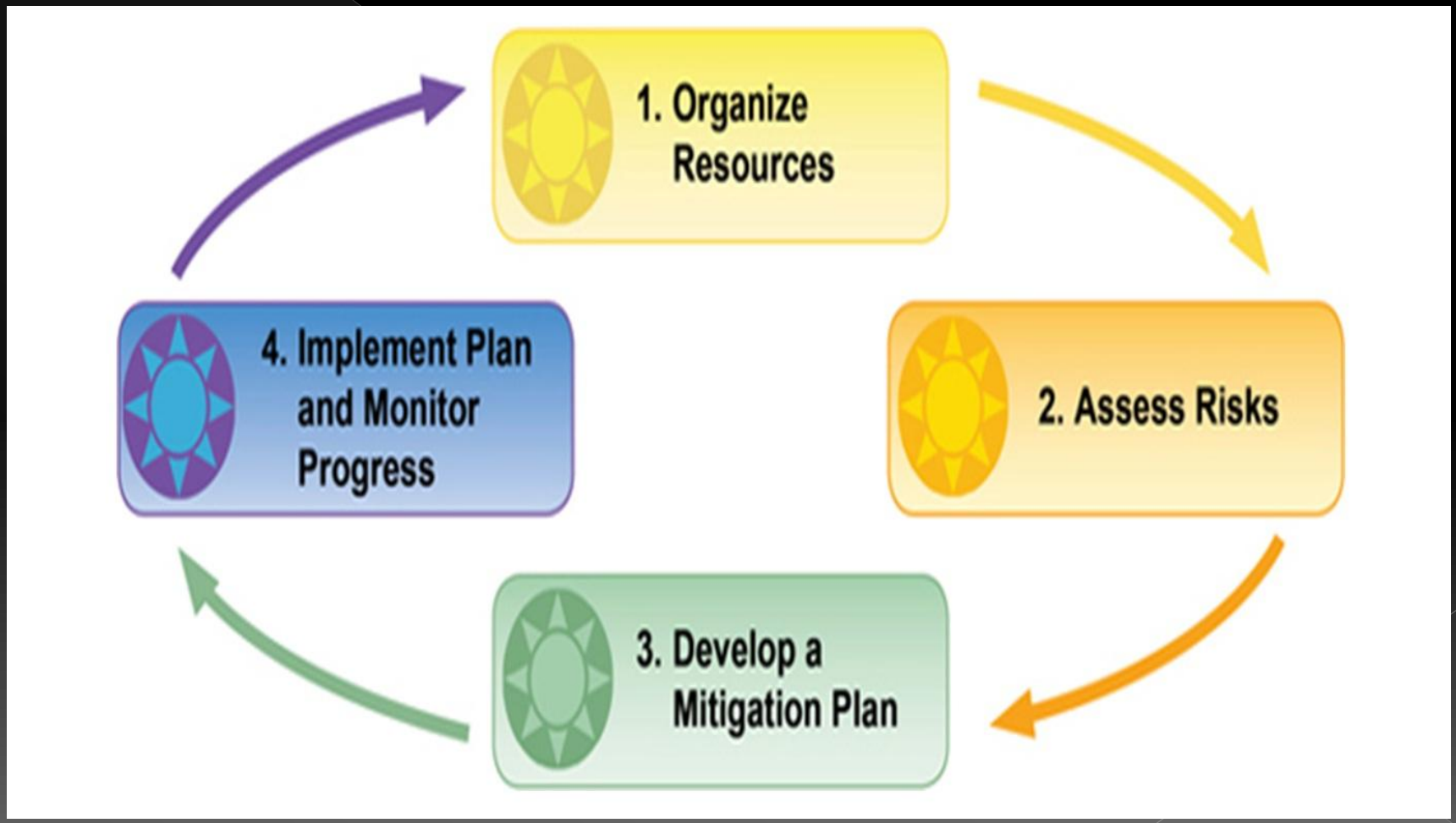
Per 44 CFR 201.4 (a) (1)- For all disasters declared on or after November 1, 2004, all states, local governments and tribes must have a FEMA approved plan in order to become eligible for all types of FEMA funding.

Hazard Mitigation Planning

If a local jurisdiction (in this case - a college or university) does not ***have*** or ***participate*** in a FEMA APPROVED Hazard Mitigation Plan, they are not eligible for funding under these programs:

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)
- Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC)
- Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL)

The Hazard Mitigation Planning Cycle



Plan Basics

Required Elements in a Hazard Mitigation Plan

- Step 1 - Organize University Resources (Planning Process)
- Step 2 - Risk Assessment
- Step 3 - University Capability Assessment
- Step 4 - Mitigation Strategy
- Step 5 - Plan Adoption
- Step 6 - Plan Implementation

Step 1: Organize Resources

- Assessing support for planning activity
- Build a planning team
- Engage the public

University Specific Issue: Organize Resources

Are the students the public?

No, the public is the public.

Step 2: Risk Assessment

The Risk Assessment has 4 basic tasks:

Task 1 - Identify the hazards
Task 2 - Profile the hazards
Task 3 - Inventory assets
Task 4 - Estimate potential losses

Task 1 - Identify the Hazards

- Types of Natural Hazards:
  - Hurricanes
  - Tornadoes
  - Floods
  - Ice Storms
  - Storm Surge
  - Wildfires
  - Subsidence
  - Dam & Levee Failure

Task 2 - Profiling the Hazards

- Steps to follow to Profile Hazards
  - Description
  - Location
  - Extent (magnitude or severity)
  - Previous Occurrences
  - Probability of Future Events

University Specific Issue: Previous Occurrences

Fail

- There have been 12 rain events that resulted in more than 6 inches of rain falling in one day somewhere in the Parish. Since 1991, four of these events resulted in more than 11 inches of rain falling in one day somewhere in the Parish.

University Specific Issue: Previous Occurrences

Pass

- ✓ April 11, 1967: 11.3”of rain falls in an April shower causing flooding on campus and putting the university’s printing office out of commission.
- ✓ January 31, 1988: 8” of rain falls in a single day causing major flooding to the parking lot and leading to campus closing at noon.

Task 3 - Inventory the Assets

- Inventory of the Assets
  - Population (students)
  - Buildings (facilities)
  - Infrastructure
  - Critical Facilities
  - Research Activities

Task 4 - Estimate Potential Losses

- Determine extent of damages based on hazard
- Calculate potential losses from each hazard

Step 3: Capability Assessment

- Existing Plans
- Studies
- Reports
- Ordinances
- Personnel

Step 4: Mitigation Strategy

- Mitigation Strategy

  44 CFR Section 201.6 describes mitigation strategy as providing:

"... the jurisdiction's blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based upon existing authorities, policies, programs, and resources, and its ability to expand on and improve these existing tools."

Developing a Mitigation Strategy

Phase 1: Identify Goals

Phase 2: Develop Mitigation Actions

Phase 3: Evaluate the Actions

Phase 4: Prioritize the Actions

Phase 1: Identify Goals

Goals are general guidelines and long-term representations of what the university wants to achieve and are based on the risk assessment findings.

Phase 2: Develop Mitigation Actions

- Prevention
- Protect Property
- Public Education & Awareness
- Natural Resources Protection
- Emergency Services Protection
- Structural Projects

Examples of Actions

- Natural Resource Protection

  Erosion control, wetland protection

- Emergency Services Protection

  Protect Critical Facilities, Infrastructure

- Structural Projects

  Retrofits, Floodwalls, Diversions

University Specific: Mitigation Actions

- ✓ Educate students on local hazards and evacuation procedures during orientation.
- ✓ Campus wide Public Announcement System
- ✓ Conduct study to reduce the effects of _____ hazard on critical facilities.
- ✓ Develop offsite/remote instruction plan to insure student retention.
- ✓ Develop graduation policies for prolonged campus closure.
- ✓ Develop mutual aid agreements between campuses or other universities.

Phase 3: Evaluate the Actions

Social - socially acceptable

Technical – acceptable & feasible

Administrative – capable of administering

Political – politically acceptable

Legal – authority to implement

Economic – cost effective

Environmental – meet environmental standards

Phase 4: Prioritize the Actions

- Establish a Ranking Criteria
- Rank the Actions

Step 5: Adoption

- The Plan must be adopted by the legal process of the University

Step 6: Implementation

- The Implementation Strategy will serve as a road map for achieving the goals outlined in the plan.
- This strategy should include Maintenance & Monitoring Plan Updating

Maintenance & Monitoring

- Continue Public Participation
- Incorporate into other Planning Efforts
- Plan Evaluation Criteria

Plan Update

- The Plan should contain a strategy for updating:
  - Every Five Years
  - After Major Disasters

QUESTIONS ?