

COVID-19 Planning Considerations Webinar

Overview | June 2020

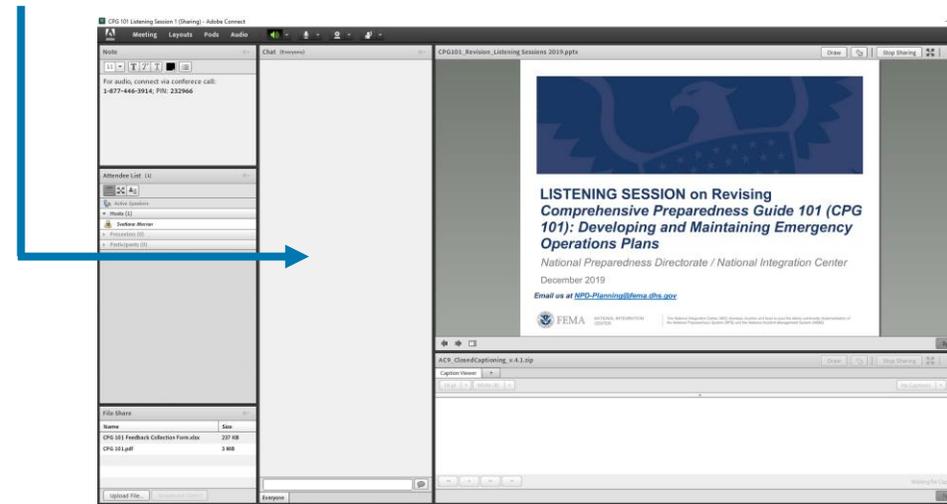


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Housekeeping and Agenda

Housekeeping

- Audio issues? Press *0 to connect with an operator.
- During the presentation, participant lines will be placed on mute to limit background noise.
- Questions during the presentation? Use the Adobe Chat Function.
 - Click “Everyone” to send to the whole group.
 - Click “Host” to send only to the speakers.



Agenda



Welcome and Housekeeping
(5 minutes)



Planning Principles Overview
(5 minutes)



Checklist and Resources Overview
(10 minutes)



Exercise Starter Kits Overview
(5 minutes)



Open Dialogue
(30 minutes)



Concluding Comments/Adjourn
(5 minutes)



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Polling Questions

Planning Principles Overview

Planning Principles Overview – Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101

Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101 (CPG 101): Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans is the foundational planning document for the Nation.

- Published in 2010, CPG 101 provides methods for planners to:
 - Conduct **community-based planning** that engages the whole community
 - Support plan development and execution for **any threat or hazard**
 - **Integrate and synchronize** planning efforts
- CPG 101 incorporates key concepts from national preparedness policies and doctrine, as well as lessons learned from disasters, major incidents, national assessments, and grant programs.
- FEMA has developed additional guidance via the *COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance (CPOG)* to help guide jurisdictions in their review of existing plans to account for COVID-19 limitations and constraints.
- Please visit <https://www.fema.gov/plan> for additional information on strategic and operational planning.



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Planning Considerations During a Pandemic



Background

- On March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared the ongoing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic to be of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant **a nationwide emergency declaration for all states, tribes, and territories.**
- During the 2020 Hurricane Season and for emergent incidents, emergency managers should:
 - Anticipate **added complexities for response and recovery operations**
 - Prepare preventative measures to **protect the health and safety** of disaster survivors and the workforce
 - Continue to operate under a framework of a **locally executed, state managed, and federally supported response**

Overview

The *COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance (CPOG) for the 2020 Hurricane Season*:

- Describes anticipated challenges to disaster operations posed by COVID-19 and offers planning considerations for emergency managers;
- Outlines how FEMA plans to adapt response and recovery operations to:
 - Ensure prioritization for life safety, life sustainment, and workforce protection, and
 - Maintain the delivery of FEMA's programs and help solve complex problems by using whole-of-community disaster assistance to the highest level possible;
- Allows SLTT emergency managers to prepare and plan accordingly based on FEMA's operational posture and create a shared understanding of expectations between FEMA and SLTTs prior to hurricane season; and
- Provides guidance, checklists, and resources to enable emergency managers to adapt response and recovery plans.



Response Planning - FEMA's Posture

- SLTTs should be prepared to lead scalable and flexible response operations and adapt to how FEMA implements disaster assistance and delivers programs.
 - In partnership between FEMA Regional Administrators, Field Leadership, and HQ, operational decisions are made at the lowest possible level, with considerations for local health guidance and phase of reopening.
 - This includes decisions for deployments to the field, safety requirements, and new FEMA disaster facilities.
 - FEMA's national personnel assets remain prioritized and ready for deployments for life-saving and life-sustaining response operations.
 - FEMA is aligning resources, awarding contracts, and readying Logistics personnel for rapid response operations.



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Response Planning - SLTT Planning

- Leverage efforts underway for COVID-19 response, including maintaining current command and control roles and responsibilities.
- Emphasize stabilization of the Communications Lifeline.
- Review existing plans for protective measures to support deployed personnel, survivors, and associated disaster facilities, including Point of Distribution (POD) sites.
- Evacuation planning should consider community demographics, stay-at-home orders, individuals at higher risk of serious disease, individuals with disabilities, and others with access and functional needs.



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Response Considerations

- Do you have a plan to prioritize resources to stabilize the Communications Lifeline?
- Do hospitals in evacuation zones have a plan to not only evacuate patients, but also ventilators, dialysis machines, and stockpiled PPE?
- Have you considered the extra time it may take to evacuate given the need for social distancing that increased mass transit modes may require?
- Have you considered updating your vendor contracts and agreements to procure and deliver supplies and equipment in case of a shortage?

Recovery Planning - FEMA's Posture

- FEMA will adapt its traditional field operations and program delivery models to expedite services and assistance to SLTT partners.
 - Adjusted approach for congregate sheltering, including standards for occupancy rates, equipment requirements, and assessment of vulnerable populations.
 - Provide greater flexibility for the eligibility of both congregate and non-congregate options for reimbursement under the Public Assistance program.
 - Use of Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) or Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) teams in alignment with local public health guidance and the phased reopening of impacted areas.
 - Virtual program delivery and remote support for:
 - Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA)
 - Individual and Household Program (IHP)
 - Direct Housing
 - Community Services
 - Public Assistance (PA)
 - Hazard Mitigation (HM)
 - Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP)
 - Interagency Recovery Coordination



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Recovery Planning - SLTT Planning

- Reassess plans to ensure they can effectively execute sheltering and other mass care activities in coordination with public health officials and updated guidance.
- Review and revalidate emergency operations and sheltering plans; proactively preparing accessible and multi-lingual messaging; and modifying resource acquisition and allocation plans.
- Account for FEMA's virtual work for IA, PA, and HM programs and ensure communities are aware of registration processes.
- Modify existing recovery plans and structures to not only support current COVID-19 recovery operations and outcomes, but also accommodate potential future disasters.



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Recovery Considerations

- ❑ Do you have a plan to support virtual PDAs and inspections?
- ❑ How will you manage building and housing inspections and re-occupancy procedures given constraints and impacts of COVID-19?
- ❑ How will you maximize community input and buy-in for your recovery efforts with considerations for all members of the community, including vulnerable populations?
- ❑ Do you have access to associations that can support disaster-related projects?

Checklists and Resources

The *COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance for the 2020 Hurricane Season* contains checklists and resources on additional COVID-19 related guidance to help emergency managers prepare, including:

- Resources and links for more information from FEMA and other organizations, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Planning consideration checklists for preparedness, response, and recovery
- Public messaging guidance that can be used by SLTTs to communicate hurricane preparedness actions to individuals and community organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic



Exercise Starter Kits

What is the “Preparedness in a Pandemic Exercise Starter Kit?”

- Short-term, discussion-based exercise
- Focuses discussion of pandemic preparedness on critical topics and considerations
- Available to state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) partners
- Flexible, scalable, and adaptable to jurisdictions’ needs
- Can be found at:
 - <https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus/>
 - <https://sso.preptoolkit.fema.gov/> (Preparedness Toolkit for account holders)



What are the Objectives?

- Discuss the challenges of conducting response and recovery operations during a pandemic.
- Determine if current preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities are sufficient to support simultaneous disasters, one being a pandemic.
- Identify how plans, policies, and practices may need to be adapted to support scalable and flexible operations.
- Develop an action plan that defines the next steps required to adapt response and recovery plans.



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Open Dialogue

Concluding Comments

Contacts and Useful Links

- To download the *COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance (CPOG) for the 2020 Hurricane Season* or register for future webinars, please visit: <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/188203>
- To sign up for NIMS Alerts, please visit: <https://www.fema.gov/national-incident-management-system-alerts>
- To access FEMA planning resources, please visit: <https://www.fema.gov/plan>
- For additional government resources related to COVID-19, please visit: www.fema.gov/coronavirus or www.coronavirus.gov
- For Exercise Starter Kit Questions, please email: NEP@fema.dhs.gov
- For any additional questions, comments, or concerns, please email: NPD-Planning@fema.dhs.gov



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