

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grant Program Partnership Activities

This Program Support Material (PSM) provides information about partnership activities eligible under the State or Territory Allocation and Tribal Set-Aside of the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program. As outlined in the BRIC funding opportunity, FEMA promotes partnerships and provides financial assistance to build partnerships as an eligible capability- and capacity-building (C&CB) activity.



Figure 1. Capacity and Capability Building - Partnerships

Background

Community resilience cannot be achieved without leveraging a broad network of partners to include all levels of government, the private sector, non-profits, and educational institutions, among others. These partners are key to driving investments in mitigation projects, building capability through training and technical assistance, planning for increased resilience, promoting mitigation activities, and sharing information to build a culture of preparedness. The BRIC grant program is authorized to support partnerships.

To ensure applicants and subapplicants can build partnerships to support their mitigation efforts, partnership activities will be eligible under the BRIC State or Territory Allocation and BRIC Tribal Set-Aside. Partnership activities are not eligible for funding under the BRIC National Competition.



FEMA

Activity Eligibility Criteria

As described in the [BRIC funding opportunity](#):

- Subapplicants are exempt from the hazard mitigation plan requirement for the following C&CB activity types:

- (1) hazard mitigation planning and planning-related activities
- (2) partnerships
- (3) building codes

Federally recognized tribal governments, submitting as subapplicants to a state or territory, are included in this exemption. A hazard mitigation plan is required for project scoping subapplications.

- Applicants and subapplicants must provide a detailed explanation of the proposed partnership activity, expected milestones, budget, and planned deliverables to demonstrate the effectiveness and ultimate benefit of the activity. Applicants and subapplicants must also provide information and materials at closeout to detail the outcomes of the approved activities and deliverables stated in the subapplication.

Eligible Partnership Activities

The following is a non-exhaustive list of potential partnership activities eligible under BRIC to enhance the knowledge, skills, and expertise of applicants and subapplicants in developing and managing partnerships to build whole community resilience:

- Conducting a capability gap analysis (or partner network analysis) to determine where partnerships could be helpful or where funding matching opportunities can be leveraged
- Providing or attending training on evaluating, pursuing, or sustaining partnerships
- Supporting partner identification or partnership development activities (e.g., hosting a partner fair, pursuing initiatives with higher education institutions, engaging with economic development organizations)
- Developing a partner database or online portal to submit and share partnership case studies
- Pursuing opportunities for knowledge transfer between partners (e.g., mentoring or shadowing programs)
- Attending state, local, tribal, territorial, regional, or national conferences to support knowledge sharing and partnership development as part of the overall partnership strategy
- Hosting a forum to share best practices and lessons learned or conducting mitigation-related tabletop exercises to build relationships
- Sustaining existing partnership initiatives or capitalizing on existing networks

- Implementing other innovative partnership approaches identified by the applicant or subapplicant to meet stated needs

These activities may be pursued at the applicant or subapplicant level to support partnership-building efforts or may be provided by applicants to subapplicants to enhance the capability of communities to develop and sustain partnerships.

Partnership Activities in FEMA GO

The [FEMA Grants Outcomes \(FEMA GO\)](#) management system is used for the BRIC program and is where applicants and subapplicants submit, track, and manage all applications. This section provides a brief synopsis on how to submit partnership activity subapplications in FEMA GO, including information on selecting the correct activity type and an overview of the required narrative descriptions.

Submitting an Application in FEMA GO

- To begin a partnership activity subapplication in FEMA GO, select the “Plan” Subapplication Type.
- In the Scope of Work section, select “Partnerships” as the Primary Activity Type.
- Choose a Sub-Activity Type that best describes your partnership activity.
- Implementation Process Description: Describe, in detail, the activity you are performing and how it will be implemented successfully.
- Primary Sources Description: Identify the documents the proposed activity will create or update and the primary sources (e.g., hazard mitigation plans, studies, policies) used to develop or inform the activity.
- Staff and Resources Description: Detail the level of staff used to accomplish the partnership activity, as well as the resources being leveraged to complete the activity.

More information on navigating the FEMA GO system and the full application process can be found on the [FEMA GO webpage](#).

Additional Resources

The resources below provide additional information related to the BRIC program to assist applicants and subapplicants. More information can be found on the [FEMA BRIC webpage](#).

- [Building Private-Public Partnerships](#)
- [BRIC Qualitative Evaluation Criteria Program Support Material](#)
- [BRIC Direct Technical Assurances Program Support Material](#)
- [Building Alliances for Climate Action](#)
- [Building Alliances for Equitable Resilience](#)
- [Building Community Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions: A Guide for Local Communities](#)
- [Building Community Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions: Strategies for Success](#)
- [Hazard Mitigation Assistance Mitigation Action Portfolio](#)
- [2023 Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide](#)