

# National Disaster Housing Strategy

*Charting a New Direction to Better Meet the Needs of Disaster Victims and Communities*

July 21, 2008



National Disaster  
Housing Strategy



July 21, 2008

# *Agenda*

- Overview of the Strategy
- Disaster Housing: Current Practices and Future Directions
- Implementing the Strategy
- Review Process



# Overview

- Purpose
  - Describes how the Nation provides housing to those affected by disasters
  - Charts new direction to better meet the needs of disaster victims and communities
- Key Concepts
  - Establishes a National vision and goals
  - Describes broad array of organizations that are involved
  - Provides overview of sheltering and housing efforts
  - Articulates key principles and current practices that guide disaster housing



# Overview

## Charting a New Course

### Vision

*A national housing effort that engages all levels of government and the nonprofit and private sectors so that when a disaster threatens or strikes our Nation:*

- We collectively meet the urgent housing needs of disaster victims and
- Enable individuals, households, and communities to rebuild and restore their way of life

### National Goals

- Support individuals, households, and communities in returning to self-sufficiency
- Affirm and fulfill fundamental disaster housing responsibilities and roles
- Increase our collective understanding and ability to meet the complex needs of disaster victims and affected communities
- Build capabilities to provide a broad range of flexible housing options
- Better integrate disaster housing assistance with related community support services and long-term recovery efforts
- Improve planning to better recover from disasters, including catastrophic events



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# Overview

## Charting a New Course



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# *Disaster Housing* **Responsibilities and Roles**

- Individuals and Households
- Local Government
- State and Tribal Government
- Federal Government
- Nongovernmental Organizations
- Private Sector



# *Disaster Housing*

## Current Practices and Future Directions

- Three Key Sections
  - Sheltering
  - Interim Housing
  - Permanent Housing
- Overview
  - Key Principles
  - Roles and Responsibilities
  - Current Practices
  - Future Directions



# *Disaster Housing*

## **Examples of Key Principles**

- Shelters are primarily conducted at the local level
- Shelters can appear deceptively simple but are extraordinarily complex
- Interim housing extends well beyond simply providing a structure
- Interim housing must be safe, secure, and accessible
- Rebuilding usually takes more time than people would like, and individuals need to prepare for this eventuality
- Catastrophic incidents require extra coordination and resources to achieve permanent housing



# *Disaster Housing*

## Current Practices

- Sheltering
  - Includes self-sheltering, emergency shelters, spontaneous shelters, nonconventional shelters, and shelter needs of institutions
- Interim housing
  - Using available housing resources, traditional and innovative interim housing, and permanent construction
- Permanent Housing
  - Approaches to meet the needs of renters, homeowners, landlords, the homeless, and the community



# *Disaster Housing*

## **Examples of Future Directions**

- Develop innovative approaches to meet diverse needs of disaster victims
- Reduce shelter demands by improving resilience and accelerating repairs
- Move toward State-managed, federally supported interim housing programs
- Provide broader range of interim housing options to meet diverse needs
- Institute a nationwide case management approach to meet the needs disaster victims
- Identify ways to rapidly move disaster victims from interim housing to permanent housing
- Identify approaches to stimulate permanent housing recovery after a catastrophe



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# *Implementing the Strategy*

## **National Disaster Housing Task Force**

- Key Concepts
  - Focus full-time attention on disaster housing
  - Foster development of operational plans to support disaster housing
  - Build local, tribal, State, and Federal disaster housing baseline capabilities
  - Expand and improve national disaster housing resources
  - Work collectively to achieve the vision and goals within the Strategy
  
- National Disaster Housing Task Force
  - Jointly led by FEMA, HUD, and the American Red Cross
  - Includes experts from all levels of government, the private sector, and NGOs
  - Advises the FEMA Administrator and the Secretaries of DHS and HUD
  - Fulfills a deliberative role normally and crisis action role during disasters



# *Implementing the Strategy*

## **Short and Long Term Tasks**

### ■ Short-term Tasks

- Develop Implementation Plan (6 months)
- Improve planning through a National Concept of Operations Plan (9 months)
- Address the challenges of catastrophic events through Catastrophic Concept of Operations Plans

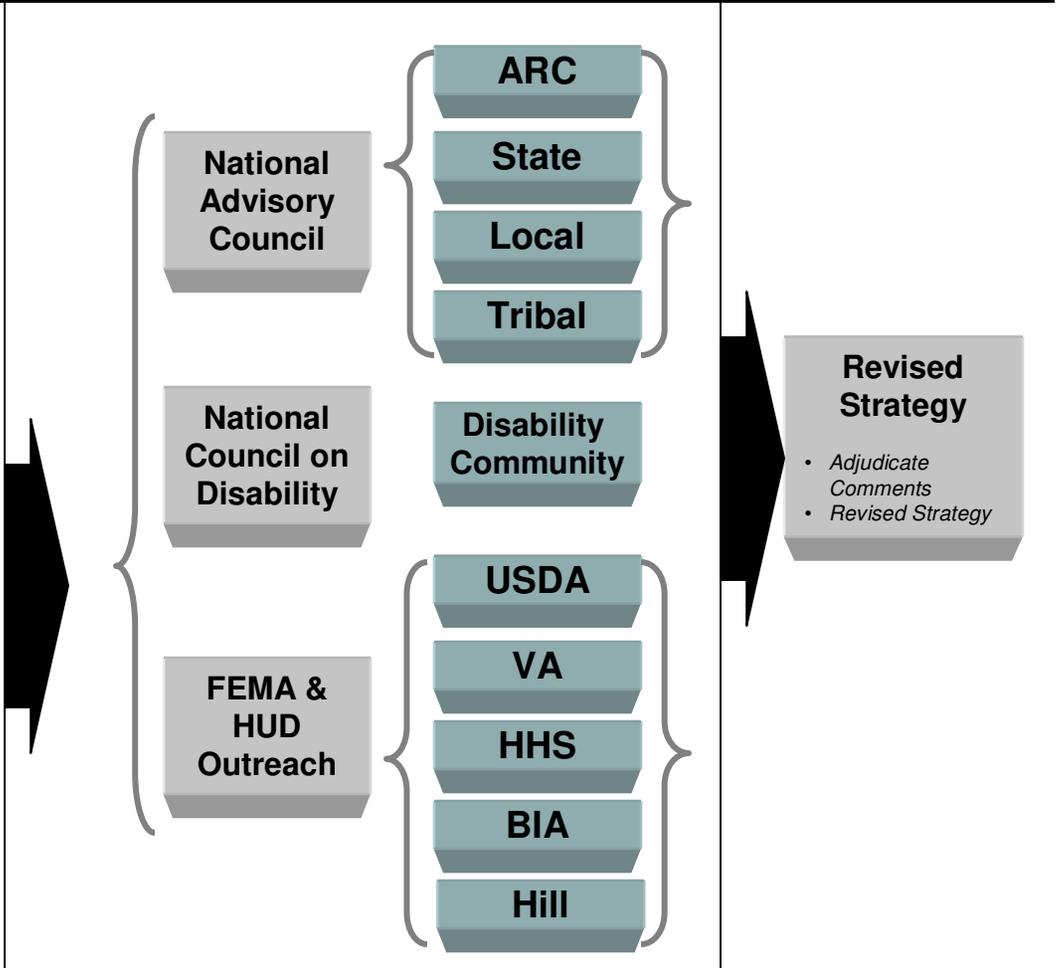
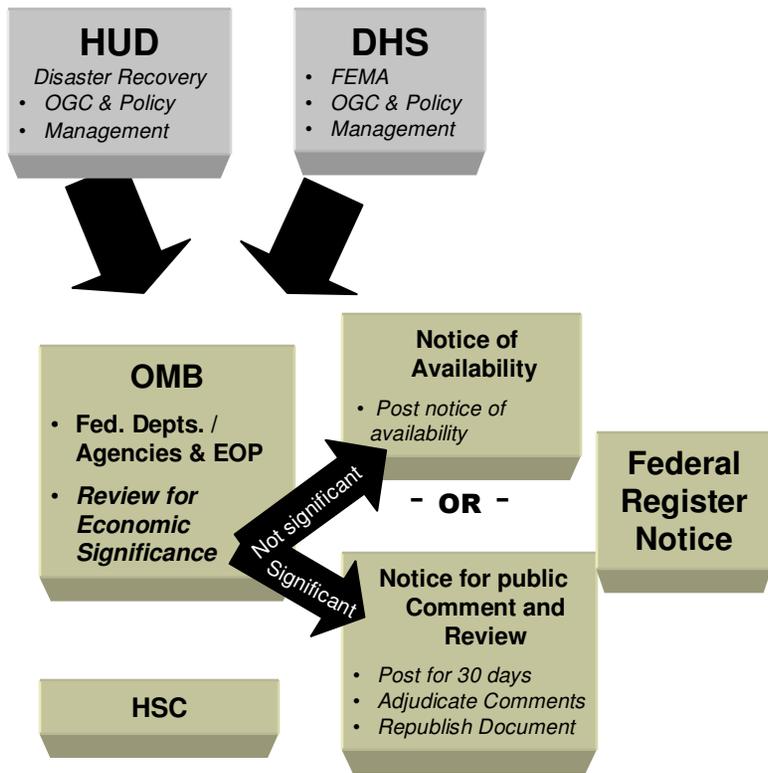
### ■ Long-term Tasks

- Build capabilities across all levels of government, NGOs, & private sector
- Expand national resources to support preparedness



# Review Process

## 1. Preliminary Policy Review      2. Coordination & Outreach      3. Revisions



## 1-2 Weeks      60 days      2 Weeks