

NATIONAL EXERCISE PROGRAM

Validating our nation's preparedness

The National Exercise Program (NEP) is a two year cycle of selected exercises across the nation that examine and validate capabilities in all preparedness mission areas: Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery.

Benefits of Participating in the NEP



Receive technical assistance and support for your exercises from experienced exercise specialists.



Access exercise templates, tools, and other resources to help you design, conduct, and evaluate your exercises.



Pursue new exercise ideas and broaden the impact of your exercises to a wider group of stakeholders.



Influence national preparedness policy and resource allocation decisions at all levels by contributing exercise findings.

How the NEP Works

- Local, state, tribal, territorial, and Federal Government agencies, private sector organizations, non-profit organizations, and other community partners can nominate exercises to the NEP.
- Exercises can be discussion-based (seminars, workshops, tabletop exercises, games) or operations-based (drills, functional exercises, full-scale exercises).
- Exercises are selected for inclusion in the NEP based on their alignment to strategic objectives called "Principals' Objectives" for each NEP cycle. The 2017-2018 Principals' Objectives are listed on the back of this page.
- Exercises in the NEP contribute evaluation data to the National Preparedness System to provide a clearer picture of the nation's readiness.

How to Participate in the NEP

Visit www.fema.gov/nep to learn more about the 2017-2018 cycle

Download and complete the Exercise Nomination Form

Work with your FEMA Regional Exercise Officer and submit the Exercise Nomination Form to nep@fema.dhs.gov

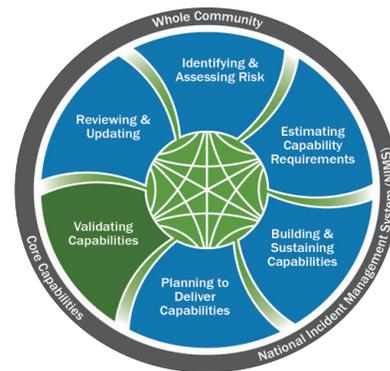
The National Exercise Division at FEMA will respond to discuss your exercise

NATIONAL EXERCISE PROGRAM PRINCIPALS' OBJECTIVES

The two-year NEP cycle is guided by Principals' Objectives, established by the Principals Committee of the National Security Council and informed by preparedness data from jurisdictions across the nation.

The 2017-2018 cycle is guided by seven Principals' Objectives. These objectives are driven by data through the National Preparedness System, including the National Preparedness Report (NPR), State Preparedness Reports (SPRs), Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessments (THIRAs), After-Action Reports (AARs), and other preparedness data.

For more information about the National Preparedness System, visit fema.gov/national-preparedness-system.



Principals' Objectives for 2017-2018

Highlights

1

Intelligence and Information Sharing

Examine and validate core capabilities and processes to rapidly exchange and analyze appropriate information (classified and unclassified) among federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, private sector, and international partners prior to and during an incident that threatens the security of the nation.



85% of states and territories identify the intelligence and information sharing core capability as a "high priority."

2

Lead Federal Agency Coordination

Examine the ability of departments and agencies to identify and validate appropriate authorities and roles, lead federal agency responsibilities, incident management resources, and organizational operational structure to prepare for, respond to, and recover from incidents where there is no clear lead federal agency identified in statute or regulation.



Past exercises highlighted command, control, and coordination and establishing a common operating picture as significant challenges.

3

Multidisciplinary Response Operations

Examine the ability of federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial jurisdictions to conduct integrated multi-jurisdictional and multi-disciplinary response planning, and to coordinate operations among law enforcement, fire and medical services, emergency management, and other whole community stakeholders for incidents with crisis and consequence management components such as complex terrorist attacks.



London, Paris, San Bernadino, and Boston attacks emphasize the growing challenge coordinated terrorist attacks pose for an integrated response across the whole community.

4

Cyber Coordination

Examine the ability of whole community stakeholders to implement national policy, frameworks, and guidance, and to apply relevant authorities, plans, procedures, and available resources to achieve a coordinated response to significant cyber incidents.



In 2016, cyber-attacks compromised the information of more than 100 million individuals.

5

Recovery Coordination

Demonstrate the ability of the whole community, especially state, territorial, tribal, and local governments, to perform effective recovery coordination and planning in parallel with response operations to achieve long-term community recovery objectives.



The NPR identified economic recovery, housing, and infrastructure systems as national areas for improvement.

6

Infectious Disease and Biological Incidents

Examine the ability of federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial jurisdictions to implement coordinated, integrated response structures and strategies; detect and categorize disease threats; address domestic and international public health implications; control and contain disease outbreaks; deliver public health and medical services; and communicate with external partners and the public during infectious disease pandemics and biological incidents.



63% of states and territories included human pandemics or biological attacks as a threat of primary concern.

7

Catastrophic Incidents

Examine the ability of the whole community to deliver life-saving and life-sustaining capabilities to survivors following a catastrophic incident that severely affects communities and critical infrastructure.



25.8 million people were affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, receiving over \$2 billion in disaster assistance, underscoring the impact of large-scale disasters.