

Leveraging Efforts of Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP)

Cooperating Technical Partners Program

The Cooperating Technical Partner (CTP) Program was developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for State, local, regional, territory, tribal nations, universities, and nonprofits that have the interest, capability, and resources to be active partners with FEMA. By becoming a CTP, partners formalize their contribution and commitment to help ensure better overall risk identification through reliable, up-to-date flood maps that reflect local conditions. These contributions of CTPs aid in reaching the goals of Risk MAP.

What is Leverage?

Leverage is the value of all funds contributed by any State, local, regional, territory tribal nation, university or non-profit to support the development, revision, or maintenance of activities related to hazard and risk identification. Leverage is not limited to funds, data, or work performed by CTPs and considers all sources outside of Federal dollars. Leverage can include in-kind services or products such as topographic data, field surveys, engineering analyses, and Geographic Information System (GIS) projects, translated to dollars contributed by non-Federal sources.

Outside the CTP Program, Leverage can be documented through different forms of scoping agreements. As work is completed, the actual Leverage contribution is reported through the Mapping Information Platform (MIP), regardless of the source.

A Mapping Activity Statement (MAS) or Statement of Work (SOW) is developed, in coordination with FEMA, for each project undertaken by a CTP. The MAS or SOW defines the project scope and the roles and responsibilities of all partners engaging in a CTP project. In the MAS or SOW, both the CTP partner and FEMA contribute data and units of work to maximize the extent, accuracy, and usability of data and activities while minimizing costs for all parties. In summary, the MAS or SOW identifies the activities, the entity responsible for them, how the activities will be funded, and the nature of the working relationship between FEMA and its CTP partner. To view the MAS and SOW templates, please visit <https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/cooperating-technical-partners/eligibility/statements-work>.

Promoting Leverage

Through CTPs and other partnerships, leveraged mapping funds have steadily increased since the program began. Because CTP participation continues to grow and more stakeholders contribute to the map update process, all mapping update efforts and contributions are tracked and reported. These efforts greatly magnify FEMA's ability to update the Nation's flood hazard maps and create tremendous value nationwide. During Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP), FEMA continues to leverage data received from non-Federal sources.



FEMA

Blue Book

FEMA has been tracking the extent to which its mapping funds have been leveraged through the CTP Program since the first partnership agreements were signed in 1999. To estimate each partner's contribution, FEMA uses a series of unit costs that are derived from FEMA's average cost per mapping component to produce a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). These unit costs are contained within the publication, Estimating the Value of Partner Contributions to Flood Mapping Projects "Blue Book" (Blue Book). In 2023, FEMA released its most recent update to the Blue Book: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_ctp-blue-book_2023.pdf.

The unit costs were developed to ensure that the value of each map product reflected only the costs typically incurred by FEMA to produce them. By updating the unit costs, the value given to partner contributions is more consistent. Under no circumstances should these unit costs be used to estimate the cost of individual projects. These figures are intended to provide an estimate of the value to FEMA and not the actual cost for the activity.

During Risk MAP, FEMA will continue to leverage data and dollars. New Risk MAP Products are included within the realm of leverageable products and should be valued using the Blue Book.

Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning Program (Risk MAP) Program

FEMA's Risk MAP vision is to deliver quality data that increases public awareness and leads to action that reduces risk to life and property. Risk MAP builds on flood hazard data and maps produced during the Flood Map Modernization program. For more information on the Risk MAP program, please visit <https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/tools-resources/risk-map>.

Through FEMA's Risk MAP Program, CTPs will continue to be involved with the creation of flood hazard data as well as the risk assessment and planning activities within Risk MAP. CTPs are encouraged to create partnerships and relationships within their organization, especially with groups responsible for risk assessment and planning activities. These strategic partnerships at the State or local level will enable FEMA and its partners to accomplish Risk MAP's goals.

Where can I get more information?

Is the CTP Program right for your organization?

- For more information on the CTP Program visit <https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/cooperating-technical-partners>
- For further information, contact the CTP Coordinator at your FEMA Regional Office at <https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/cooperating-technical-partners/about/contacts>
- The MIP is available online at <https://hazards.fema.gov/femportal/wps/portal>