Mitigation Planning Resource List

This list provides resources for hazard mitigation planning. These tools help state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments develop hazard mitigation plans and reduce risk.

Mitigation plans help to reduce the risk and impact of natural disasters. SLTT governments create these plans, and FEMA approves them. The first step is to identify natural hazard risks. Then, planners form long-term strategies to protect people and property from natural hazards. FEMA has fact sheets that explain mitigation planning for SLTT governments. You can find these fact sheets on FEMA's <u>Create a Hazard Mitigation Plan</u> webpage. The American Planning Association (APA) also has resources to help with mitigation planning. APA surveyed legislation from all 50 states for laws that relate to local natural hazard mitigation. APA used a Cooperating Technical Partners grant from FEMA to do this. To learn more about this project, see the Survey of State Land-Use and Natural Hazards Planning Laws at the American Planning Association.

Need to know the requirements? Start with the regulations and policies.

Many resources explain the laws, regulations, and policies you need to know to create an approved hazard mitigation plan. You can find them on FEMA's <u>Regulations and Guidance</u> webpage. Key policies include the <u>Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide</u> (April 2022) and the <u>State Mitigation Planning Policy Guide</u> (April 2022). They also include the <u>Tribal Mitigation Plan Review Guide</u> (December 2017). The 2022 state and local policies take effect in April 2023. For more information, visit the <u>Policy Updates</u> webpage.

Ready to develop or update your plan? Browse the plan development resources.

FEMA helps SLTT partners build their skills to plan for natural hazards and reduce their risk. These resources can help you <u>create a hazard mitigation plan</u>. Other resources help you build and carry out mitigation plans.



The Local Mitigation Planning Handbook is for local governments. This guide helps them write, update, and carry out local mitigation plans. It is also available in Spanish.



The Tribal Mitigation Planning Handbook helps tribal governments write their plans.





State Mitigation Planning Key Topics Bulletins are a series of short documents. They share methods and resources that state officials can use to update their mitigation plans.

SLTTs can use Mitigation Ideas to identify and assess a range of potential mitigation actions. It includes ideas for reducing risk to 16 types of natural hazards.



Ready to use your plan to reduce risks? Learn how to "bake in" mitigation.

Mitigation works better when it is "baked in" to other community planning processes. It should be a part of other local regulations and policies. FEMA has four resources to help communities add hazard mitigation to other planning efforts. You can find them on FEMA's Implement, Integrate, and Maintain Planning Activities webpage under "Integrating Mitigation with Related Planning Objectives."



Integrating Hazard Mitigation into Local Planning: Case Studies and Tools for Community Officials (2013) can help you work risk reduction into local plans, policies, codes, and programs.



Plan Integration: Linking Local Planning Efforts (2015) is a step-by-step guide. It helps communities integrate local plans. It also helps them coordinate between agencies.



Using the Hazard Mitigation Plan to Prepare Successful Mitigation Projects (2008) shows how to move from hazard mitigation plans to projects. Then, FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance may fund these projects.



Mitigation Planning and the Community Rating System (2018) shows how communities can align their Community Rating System floodplain management plans with their mitigation plan. It shows how to do this in a single process that meets both programs' requirements.

Interested in learning more? FEMA offers trainings.

The Local Mitigation Planning Training (L/K-318) and State Hazard Mitigation Planning Training (L-329) cover how to develop mitigation plans. These interactive workshops can be virtual or in-person. FEMA also has an instructor-led Tribal Mitigation Planning Workshop. This workshop is available upon request. IS-318 and IS-329 are online, independent study courses. IS-318 is for local plans, and IS-329 is for state plans. Planning for Resilient Communities is a four-hour workshop. It explains what community planners do to reduce disaster risk. To learn more, visit FEMA's Mitigation Planning Training webpage or contact your FEMA regional office.

Need funding assistance? Learn about Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grants.

FEMA's HMA gives grants that fund mitigation and risk reduction. These grants support mitigation plans and projects that reduce disaster losses and protect life and property. If you would like this funding, FEMA has resources to help you prepare your grant subapplication. See Considerations for Local Mitigation Planning Grant Subapplications and The Tribal Mitigation Planning Grant Application Development Job Aid. Another useful resource is Planning-Related Activities Using Hazard Mitigation Grant Program 7-Percent Funding. This guide explains how to use post-disaster mitigation funding for planning activities. To learn more, visit the Hazard Mitigation Grants webpage.

State, tribal, and territorial officials should contact the lead mitigation planner at their FEMA regional office for questions. FEMA encourages local planners to contact their state or tribal officials for help. The best person for them to speak to is the hazard mitigation officer. They may also contact their FEMA regional office. Visit FEMA's website for contact information for the FEMA regional offices and mitigation officers.