FEMA Structure and Activities

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June 2017
**Mission:**
To support our citizens and first responders to ensure that, as a nation, we work together to build, sustain and improve our ability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

- **Permanent Full-Time Employees:** 5,000 PFTs/TFTs in 10 Regions + FEMA HQ’s
- **Cadre of On-Call Response Employees:** 3600+ COREs nationwide
- **FEMA Reservists:** 5,200+ reserve employees
- **FEMA Corps:** 1600 members of AmeriCorps’ Nat’l Civilian Community Corps
- **DHS Surge Capacity Force (SCF):** 3,800 volunteers from other Federal agencies
- **3 National / 13 Regional Incident Management Assistance Teams (IMATs)**
- **6 Mobile Emergency Response Support (MERS) detachments**
- **28 Urban Search and Rescue (USR) teams**


Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (PKEMRA): Gives FEMA the authority to lean forward and leverage the entire emergency management team in disaster response and recovery efforts.

PKEMRA also requires that each federal agency with responsibilities under the National Response Framework (NRF) develop operational plans to ensure a coordinated federal response.

Sandy Recovery Improvement Act: The law authorizes several significant changes to the way FEMA may deliver federal disaster assistance to survivors.

PPD-8: defines five preparedness mission areas, including: prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery. It mandates the development of policy and planning documents to guide the nation’s approach for ensuring and enhancing national preparedness.

The National Planning Frameworks, which are part of the National Preparedness System, set the strategy and doctrine for building, sustaining, and delivering the core capabilities identified in the National Preparedness Goal.

NRF: a guide to how the nation responds to all types of disasters and emergencies. It is built on scalable, flexible and adaptable concepts identified in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) to align key roles and responsibilities across the nation.
Emergency Support Functions

1. Transportation
   (Dept. of Transportation)

2. Communications
   (Dept. of Homeland Security - National Communications System)

3. Public Works and Engineering
   (Dept. of Defense US Army Corps of Engineers)

4. Firefighting
   (Dept. of Agriculture)

5. Information and Planning
   (Dept. of Homeland Security – FEMA)

6. Mass Care, Emergency Assist., Housing & Human Services
   (Dept. of Homeland Security FEMA)

7. Logistics Mgmt. & Resource Support
   (GSA and FEMA)

8. Public Health and Medical Services
   (Dept. of Health and Human Services)

9. Search and Rescue
   (Dept. of Homeland Security FEMA)

10. Oil & Hazardous Materials Response
    (Environmental Protection Agency)

11. Agriculture & Natural Resources
    (Dept. of Agriculture)

12. Energy
    (Dept. of Energy)

13. Public Safety & Security
    (Dept. of Justice)

15. External Affairs
    (Dept. of Homeland Security)
Triggers

- Identify and Alert
  - Network of ten Regional Watch Centers, connected to State and Local EOCs and partner agencies
  - Coordinated through National Watch, National Operations Center

- Stabilize
  - Assemble and deliver the necessary resources
  - Organic, Assigned or Contracted

- Recover
  - Individual Assistance
  - Public Assistance
Types of Federal Disaster Declarations

Emergency (EM):
Supplements state/local/tribal emergency response efforts, such as mass evacuations and emergency sheltering, designed to lessen or avert the impacts of a disaster.

Can be issued prior to, or immediately after an incident.

Not to exceed $5 million (without congressional notification).

Major Disaster (DR):
Supplements available response and long-term recovery capabilities of the state/local/tribal governments, disaster relief organizations, and insurance companies.

Quantitative – Based on ability to pay.

Must be requested within 30 days of the incident.

Cost Share: 75% federal 25% non-federal
Summary

- Saving and sustaining lives is our number one priority, no matter the scale and magnitude of the crisis. **We must stabilize the incident within the first 72 hours.**
- A catastrophic incident requires that we are prepared to respond in non-traditional ways, well beyond current Federal and State planning. **Objectives must be focused on outcomes versus outputs.**
- **Time is our biggest enemy**, and our approach must focus on preparing and fully empowering impacted emergency managers communities, survivors, and all of society-NGOs, FBOs, social & fraternal organizations.
- It is the coordinated actions of the entire response community, not the effects of any single organization, that determine the success or failure of response operations.

Think Smart...Think Big...Go Big...Go Fast