

Next Generation Disaster Proofing Project Area



Science and Technology

PROTECTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

The costs of both man-made and natural disasters continue to rise on an annual basis in the United States and around the globe. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and state and local communities need access to new technologies and innovations that reduce risk, improve protective measures, and optimize mitigation investments, while lowering damage, disruption, and costs related to disaster recovery.

New mechanisms for alerting the public about wildfire and other events will better protect our citizens and communities from active hazards, route commodity deliveries around incidents, and further protect critical infrastructure. As a result of enhanced alerting solutions, local first responders will have improved access to incident information and can plan rapidly and better allocate limited resources.

NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND STANDARDS BOOST RESILIENCE

To assist FEMA and the public, the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate launched its Next Generation Disaster Proofing Project. This project's research and development (R&D) will pursue new technologies and standards to streamline FEMA disaster resilience investments in insurance, mitigation, and recovery operations. It will also simplify assistance programs that enable the states, local communities, and the private sector to help disaster survivors recover more efficiently and effectively. Other examples of targeted research and development outcomes will be to develop new approaches to optimizing resilience investments to reduce disaster risk and losses, measuring community resilience, and monitoring program effectiveness.

FIRST RESPONDER AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

This program supports FEMA operations, pre- and post-disaster assistance programs, and approximately 20,000 communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program, as well as numerous state and local partners and critical infrastructure operators.



PROJECT IMPACT

- The associated R&D activities will develop new technologies and standards, enable resiliency activities, and support future mitigation efforts
- Efforts conducted under the Next Generation Disaster Proofing Project will reduce damage to structures, public assets, and critical infrastructure, thereby greatly reducing loss of life and the financial impacts of future disaster events

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Wireless Emergency Alert Development, Test & Evaluation
- Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Alerting Demonstration

UPCOMING MILESTONES

- Advanced Communications Exercise (ACE) Initiation (Q2 FY24)
- Collaborate with FEMA to determine next-level Prize Competitions for natural disaster mitigation (Q1 FY24)

PERFORMERS/PARTNERS

- Corner Alliance, Washington, DC
- HAAS Alert, Chicago, IL
- Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Arlington, VA
- FEMA, Washington, DC

