











Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency & FEMA Region III

Pennsylvania Internship Program



Agenda

- Introductions
- Purpose
- Hazard Mitigation Planning Overview
- Role of Students and Required Skills
- Hazard Mitigation Planning Tasks
- Internship Program Expectations
- Questions



Purpose

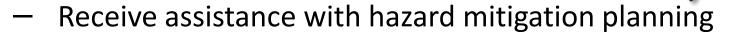
 Discuss the potential of academic institutions and students to help counties and/or communities with their hazard mitigation and/or disaster recovery plans and efforts through an internship program





Program Benefits

- For Counties and/or Communities
 - Develop relationships with universities



- For Universities
 - Develop relationships with counties and/or communities
 - Enhance career development opportunities for students
- For Students
 - Networking
 - Career development
 - Learning opportunity



What is Hazard Mitigation?

- The effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters
- By considering historic, cultural, and natural resources, hazard mitigation can also help to preserve community character and "place"



















Resiliency, Hazard Mitigation, and Recovery

Resiliency: The ability of the Commonwealth, it's communities, organizations, and citizens to prepare for and rebound from shocks and stresses, recover quickly, and be able to sustain and enhance our strength

- Hazard Mitigation: Activities to reduce risk and impacts of disasters
- Recovery: Activities to restore services and systems impacted by disasters
- Partners:
 - Federal FEMA
 - State PEMA, PHMC, DCED
 - Local Municipalities, Counties, Private, Non-governmental, Public



Hazard Mitigation Planning Overview

- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000
 - Establishes eligibility for certain FEMA programs
 - Requires tribal, state, and local governments to submit plans to FEMA for review
- Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 201.6
 - Establishes FEMA's requirements for approval of a local mitigation plan
- Plans include:
 - Risk assessment
 - A prioritized action plan to address all identified hazards
 - A strategy to implement those actions
- Goals and objectives of local HMPs should be consistent with the goals of the PA State Standard All-Hazard Mitigation Plan



Hazard Mitigation Plan Contents

- Introduction
- 2. Community Profile
 - Describe Geography and Environment
 - Describe Community
 - Summarize Demographics
 - Growth Trends and Land Use
- 3. Planning Process
- 4. Risk Assessment
 - Identify Geographic Location
 - Define the Extent
 - Identify Past Hazard Occurrences
 - Establish Probability of Future
 Occurrence

- Assess Vulnerability
- Estimate Losses
- 5. Capability Assessment
 - Existing Planning Mechanisms
 - Other Existing Planning Capabilities
- 6. Mitigation Strategy
 - Actions: What, where, who, why, and how.
 - Priorities
- 7. Plan Maintenance
- 8. Adoption



Benefits of Hazard Mitigation Planning

- Prevents injury and loss of life
- Prevents damage to assets (existing and future),
 including natural and historic and/or cultural resources
- Reduces costs of disaster response and/or recovery
- Advances other community initiatives
- Provides long-term savings
- Required by FEMA to be eligible for hazard mitigation grants, including:
 - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
 - Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)
 - Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)





Plan Integration

- A two-way exchange of information between hazard mitigation plan and other community plans
 - Incorporation of risk reduction concepts in community plans
 - Consistent information and goals between all plans
- Planning Benefits:
 - Promotes consistency between plans
 - Increases visibility of risk reduction principles
 - Promotes the prioritization of mitigation as a policy across elements
 - Promotes the prioritization of mitigation as a policy across elements
 - Guides safe future development
 - Increases likelihood of risk reduction project implementation
 - Leverages available resources
 - Improves coordination
 - Reduces conflicting outcomes and facilitates holistic solutions



Plan Integration

- Building Codes
- Capital Improvement Programs and Budgets
- Comprehensive Plans
- Continuity of Operations Plans
- Emergency Operations Plans
- Floodplain Ordinances
- Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Historic Preservation Plans

- Parks, Open Space, Greenways, and/or Recreation Plans
- Post-Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Plans
- Stormwater Management Plans
- Subdivision and Land Development Ordinances
- Transportation Plans
- Zoning Ordinances



Challenges

- Each county must update its Hazard Mitigation Plan every five years
- Most counties do not have the capability or capacity to update the plan in-house
- Most counties do not have the funding to pay a consultant
- PEMA does not have the funding to hire consultants to update the required 10 to 20 plans each year
- Post-disaster recovery planning usually happens in times where counties have less capacity



University Capability and Student Skills

- Research and Data Collection
- Writing
- Data Analysis
- Preparation of Tables and Charts
- GIS Analysis and Mapping





Community Profile

- Describe Geography and the Environment (natural and historic)
- Describe Community
- SummarizeDemographics
- Discuss Trends in Growth and Land Use







Risk Assessment



- Identify the Geographic Location
- Define the Extent
- Identify Past Hazard Occurrences
- Establish Probability of Future Occurrences
- Assess Vulnerability
- Estimate Losses



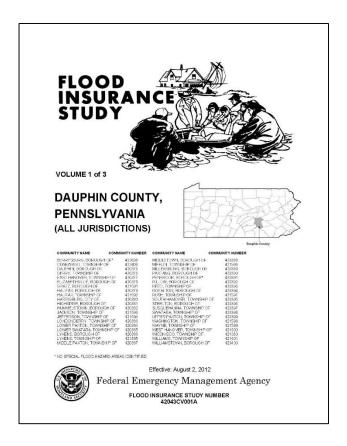
Capability Assessment

Existing Planning Mechanisms

- Comprehensive Plans
- Zoning Ordinances
- Floodplain Ordinances
- Flood Insurance Studies
- Building Codes

Other Existing Capabilities

- Administrative
- Technical
- Financial
- Education and Outreach





Mid-Cycle HM Planning Activities

- Pre- and post-disaster recovery efforts
- GIS data clean-up (structures, critical facilities, utilities, roads)
- Community Rating System (CRS) requirements
- Implementing Mitigation Actions
 - Develop educational materials
 - Assist with grant applications
 - Complete activities to participate in StormReady or CRS
 - Revise other planning documents to incorporate hazard mitigation planning principles

Program Assumptions

- Identifying hazards to the profile is **not** the responsibility of the students
- Students who are completing GIS analysis and mapping will have a background in GIS, but may receive additional training



County and/or Community Responsibilities

Supervisor

- Establish expectations and responsibilities
- Communicate expectations, policies, and procedures
- Provide positive and supportive learning environment

Guidance

- Review tasks and assignments
- Provide necessary documents, resources, tools, etc.
- Coordination with University
 - Appoint a liaison
 - Complete documentation for academic credit



Student Responsibilities

- Demonstrate professionalism
- Communicate with and report to supervisor
- Complete time logs and other necessary documentation for academic credit



Professor/University Responsibilities

- Work with students to submit internship applications
- Assist with matching students to counties and communities
- Act as faculty advisor to student
- Review and offer feedback on evaluations
- Ensure that necessary documentation is submitted to receive academic credit















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