



FEMA

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Office of External Affairs
Private Sector Division

Frequently Asked Questions

Draft National Mitigation Investment Strategy

Q1. What is the Mitigation Framework Leadership Group (MitFLG)?

A1. The Mitigation Framework Leadership Group (MitFLG) coordinates mitigation policies across the federal government. Membership includes federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial representatives. The MitFLG also assesses the effectiveness of mitigation capabilities as they are developed and deployed across the nation. For more information, visit, www.fema.gov/national-mitigation-framework.

Q2. Why do we need a National Mitigation Investment Strategy?

A2. Major disasters like Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, EF-5 tornadoes in Oklahoma, and extreme weather events in Colorado and Louisiana persistently test our nation's capacity to adapt and recover. Federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, non-profit, and private sector organizations have accepted the challenge to make communities and critical infrastructure less susceptible to these hazards. However, each organization has different approaches, funding sources, mandates, and requirements for investing in efforts to mitigate disaster risk. This disparity has created a complicated mix of priorities and pathways through which communities must navigate if they want to build back better.

In July 2015, the [Government Accountability Office](#) recognized this challenge and suggested the federal government develop a National Mitigation Investment Strategy to support the alignment of pre- and post-disaster mitigation investments.¹ A National Mitigation Investment Strategy (Investment Strategy) would increase the effectiveness of investments in reducing disaster losses and increasing resilience, and provide strategic planning considerations for the federal government, as well as state local, tribal and territorial entities and the private sector in making resource allocation decisions. The MitFLG took on this challenging effort.

The MitFLG has assembled a working group of federal, state, local, tribal and territorial representatives to develop the Investment Strategy. The working group will focus on stakeholder engagement, review of relevant research and data, and recommendation development. A Draft Investment Strategy for public comment will be released in January 2018 to promote additional feedback through both the MitFLG and public engagement. The final Investment Strategy will be complete in 2018. It is expected that the Investment Strategy will continue to evolve in future years.

¹ Government Accountability Office. *Hurricane Sandy: An Investment Strategy Could Help the Federal Government Enhance National Resilience for Future Disasters*. July 2015. Available online at: <https://www.gao.gov/assets/680/671796.pdf>.

Q3. What are the Proposed Investment Strategy Outcomes?

A3. The Investment Strategy will provide a national approach to investments in mitigation activities and risk management across the United States for federal departments and agencies; state, local, tribal and territorial governments (SLTTs); and private and non-profit sector entities such as businesses, philanthropies, foundations, universities, and other non-governmental organizations. The Investment Strategy will be grounded in three fundamental principles: (1) empower and facilitate private and non-profit sector mitigation investments and innovation; (2) improve collaboration between the federal government and SLTTs respecting local expertise in mitigation investing; and (3) make data- and risk-informed decisions that include lifetime costs and risks. The Investment Strategy's overarching goal is to improve the coordination and effectiveness of "mitigation investments," defined as risk management actions taken to avoid, reduce, or transfer risks from natural hazards, including severe weather.

To achieve this goal, and consistent with the fundamental principles, the Investment Strategy will provide recommendations, organized by the following six outcomes:

1. Coordination of risk mitigation and management improves between and among public, private, and non-profit sector entities.
2. The private and non-profit sectors increase their investments in and innovations related to mitigation.
3. State, local, tribal and territorial governments increasingly share fiscal responsibility and accountability for risk reduction with the federal government.
4. Public, private, and non-profit sector entities provide more of the data and tools needed to make risk-informed mitigation investments.
5. Public, private, and non-profit sector entities improve risk communication, leading to more risk-informed mitigation investments by individuals and communities.
6. The built environment — whether grey or nature-based infrastructure, and including lifeline infrastructure, buildings, and homes — becomes more resilient.

Q4. What does the group need at this time?

A4. It is vital that the Investment Strategy be inclusive and reflective of the perspectives of diverse public and private partners. The MitFLG invites ideas about investment from all levels of government and key stakeholders including private businesses, citizens, vulnerable and at-risk populations, critical infrastructure sectors, and non-profit, academic, and philanthropic organizations. We encourage these stakeholders to provide feedback related to the six proposed outcomes and how as a nation we can deliver those outcomes.

Your input in this process is critical. For more information and opportunities to provide input, please visit our website at www.fema.gov/national-mitigation-framework. You can also share your ideas, thoughts, and concerns at fema-nmis@fema.dhs.gov. The email address is case sensitive; please use all lower case letters.