

Disaster Planning & Mitigation: Utilizing FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program

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Our Experts



Carlos J. Castillo, CEM

Senior Vice President, Chief Development Officer

40 years of experience as emergency manager and disaster recovery expert. Held several senior roles and led an organization of 1,300

- FEMA – Acting Deputy Administrator, Resilience
- FEMA – Assistant Administrator for Disaster Assistance



José L. Valenzuela, MSEM, CFM

Senior Director, Mitigation

20 years of experience in the areas of government, public policy, planning, regulations, floodplain management, grants management, environmental risk management, among others. Prior to Tidal Basin, José was appointed as the State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) for Puerto Rico after the hurricanes Irma and Maria hit the Island



Jacob Gray

Senior Director, Mitigation

Former State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) with over 17 years of experience in the areas of mitigation planning project management, mitigation grants management, risk identification, and vulnerability assessments in Homeland Security and Emergency Management fields

Agenda

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What is BRIC?

2

Program priorities:
eligibility, risk, usage,
and the like; and
building codes,

3

Past approvals, FEMA's
Justice 40, and Set-
Asides

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities



Set clear priorities

Build Capacity

Increase Flexibility

Streamline Processes

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (cont.)



- + States and territories who have received a major disaster declaration within the last seven years are eligible to apply for BRIC funding
- + Projects should work to mitigate risk to community lifelines.



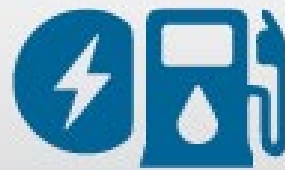
Safety and
Security



Food, Water,
Shelter



Health and
Medical



Energy
(Power & Fuel)



Communications



Transportation



Hazardous
Waste

Program Priorities: Eligibility and usage



Clear priorities

- + National Hazard Risk Reduction activities
- + Mitigating risk to public infrastructure
- + Showing how disadvantaged communities will benefit
- + Mitigate risk to one or more community lifelines
- + Nature-based solution projects

It's important to analyze and understand program initiatives that receive funding prior to investing money.

Applicants should adopt the latest published building codes

Program Priorities: Risks

- + 75% of time spent usually going to application development
- + If communities can accept the risk and have funds available, then proceed any way you wish
 - + ***if not, then apply for direct technical assistance through BRIC and Advanced Assistance application through HMGP or a Capability and Capacity Building activity under BRIC
- + FEMA allows pre-award costs for all application development

There is a level of risk with application development if utilizing contract support.

BRIC is competitive so applications need to be complete and paint a picture for the reviewer and awarding members

Building Codes

- + Applicants who have building codes receive big points for having them
- + Building codes are a pain point for many folks and states
- + Stops funding from going to disadvantaged communities because most do not have building codes as well.
- + Rural Alaska and Native communities are a perfect example

Building codes are an important mitigation activity

Building codes provide significant resilience benefits

Building code requirements are not something that will go away or be limited in the future

Past Approvals



Nature-based
projects

Up-to-date building
codes

Past projects scored
and selected based
on documentation

Must demonstrate
that your facility
requires additional
staff

40%

- + Overall benefits of funding programs to go to economically disadvantaged populations
- + Change in BRIC points going to these populations

Set-Asides

- + Eligible set-aside money is guaranteed if you have an eligible project submitted within NOFO criteria. We saw an increase in this from FY2020
- + If the project fits into FMA and reduces the NFIP insurance losses, you have a better opportunity of being funded under FMA than BRIC since it has been so highly marketed
- + Bottom line: put in your FMA application if you have one that meets eligibility

Resources



[BRIC Sell Sheet](#)

[FEMA's BRIC Resource Page](#)

[FEMA's 2021 BRIC and FMA Webinar Series](#)

[BRIC Nature Based Solutions Guide](#)

[FY 2021 Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants](#)

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Questions?