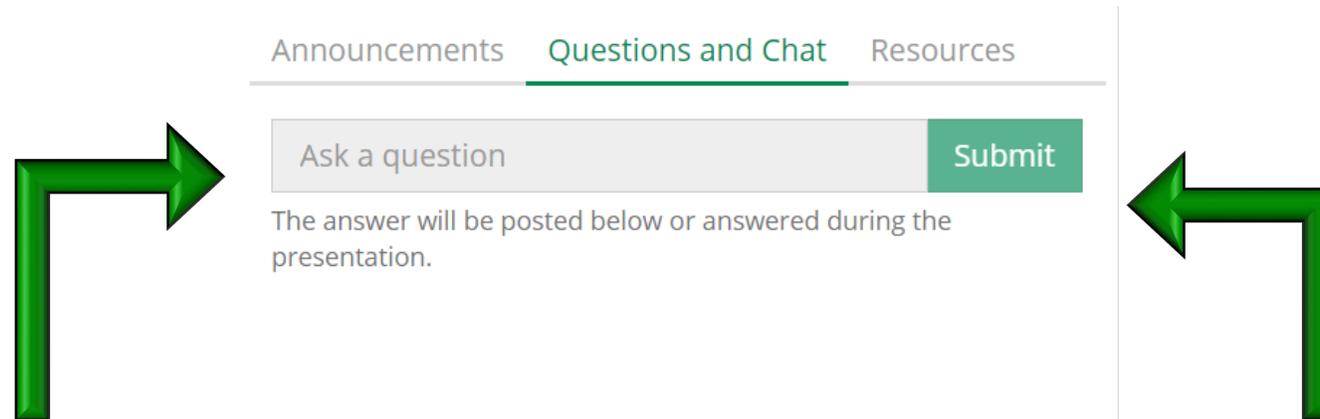


Understanding FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) Program

Contact Technical Support

- For immediate help, call Freestone at (866) 702-3278 or +1 (770) 805-6292.

Submit Your Questions



Announcements Questions and Chat Resources

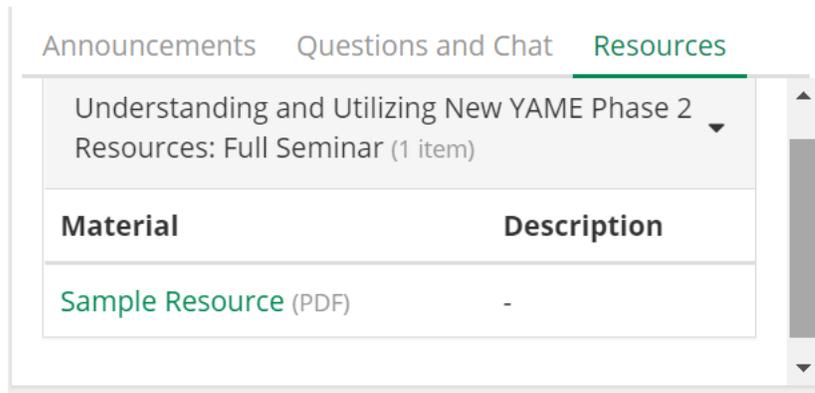
Ask a question Submit

The answer will be posted below or answered during the presentation.

Step 1: Type in your question.

Step 2: Click the Submit button.

Download Today's Files



← 1. Click here in the Resources box to open the presentation slides or handout.



2. Click on an icon to print or save the file.

FEMA Mitigation Programs

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
 - Eligible as a PNP
- Building Resilient Infrastructures & Communities (BRIC)
 - NOT Eligible as a PNP unless sponsored by an eligible entity



What is BRIC?

All-Hazards Mitigation Plan



- Annual non-disaster grant program that provides federal funds for mitigation activities that address risks and vulnerabilities to natural hazards
- Eligible Applicants – States, federally recognized Tribes, & territories with major disaster declarations in the past 7 years
 - Must have FEMA-approved HM Plan at time of application & award

BRIC Priorities

- **Incentivize** natural hazard risk reduction activities that mitigate risk to public infrastructure
- **Prioritize** benefits to disadvantaged communities
- **Mitigate** risk to one or more community lifelines
- **Incorporate** nature-based solutions
- **Enhance** climate resilience and adaptation
- **Increase** funding to activities that facilitate the adoption and enforcement of the latest published editions of building codes

BRIC Guiding Principles

- Support Community Capability & Capacity Building
- Encourage and Enable Innovation
- Promote Partnerships
- **Enable Large Infrastructure Projects**
- Maintain Flexibility
- Provide Consistency

Examples of Possible Co-op Projects

- Underground conversions (note: FEMA loves these)
- Backfeed loops
- Line/pole hardening or strengthening
- Wildfire defensible space
- Relocation/elevation/floodproofing of infrastructure located in a floodplain
- Emergency power for critical co-op systems (i.e., communications, outage management)
- Safe rooms for critical/essential services personnel



BRIC Funding & Uses



Funding Mechanisms

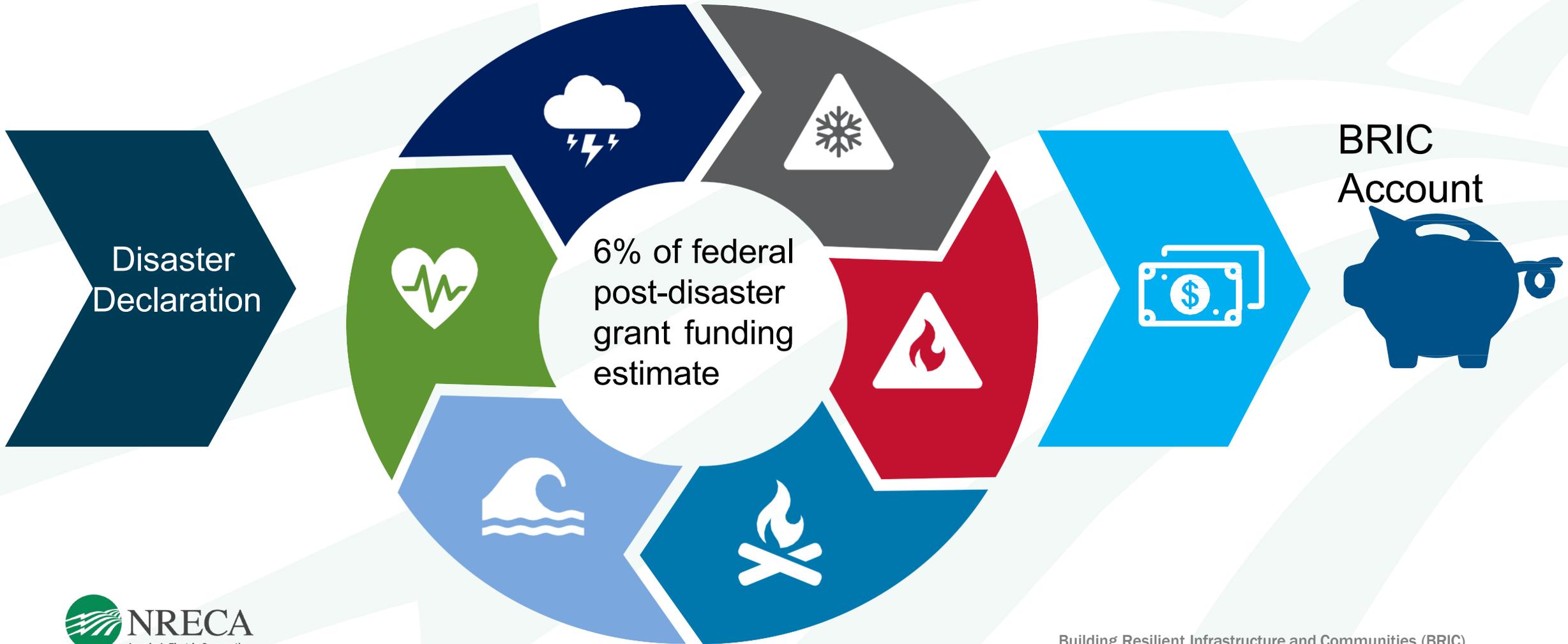
State & Territory Allocation
Tribal Set-Aside
Project Competition



Uses of Assistance

Technical Assistance
Capability & Capacity Building (C&CB)
Mitigation Projects
Management Costs

BRIC Funding



BRIC Funding Caps (FY-21)

State & Territory Allocation (\$56M)

- \$1m each – up to \$500k may be used for planning and planning-related activities per applicant

Tribal Set-Aside (\$25M)

- Combined costs of applicant's capability and capacity building must not exceed \$1m

National Project Competition (\$919+M)

- \$50m per subapplication
- Unlimited number of subapplications by an applicant

BRIC Cost Share

75% federal / 25% non-federal

- Economically disadvantaged rural communities eligible for an increase up to 90% federal / 10% non-federal

Required for all subapplications

May consist of cash, donated or third-party-in-kind-services, materials, or any combination thereof

100% federal funding for management costs

BRIC Application & Deadlines

* Dates for Fiscal Year 2022 cycle are anticipated to be similar to FY21

- Application Opening: Sept 30, 2021
 - Submitted using FEMA Grants Outcome (FEMA GO)
- Deadline: Jan 28, 2022 (3pm EST)
 - States often have a deadline to submit to them in advance of this date, usually at least 30-45 days in advance
- Pre-award Selection Notice – early Summer 2022
- Period of Performance
 - State: Date of Recipient’s federal award
 - End: 36 months from state
 - Can submit request for longer POP in subapplication



Uses of Assistance – Technical Assistance

- Improve resiliency to natural hazards
- Ensures stakeholders are capable of building and sustaining successful mitigation programs
- Submitting high-quality applications
- Implement new and innovating projects that reduce risk from wide range of hazards

Uses of Assistance – C&CB



Submitted under State/Territory & Tribal Set-Aside



Activities that enhance knowledge, skills, and expertise of current workforce – expand or improve admin of mitigation assistance



4 types of activities:

- Building Codes
- Partnerships
- Project Scoping
- Mitigation Planning & Planning-Related Activities

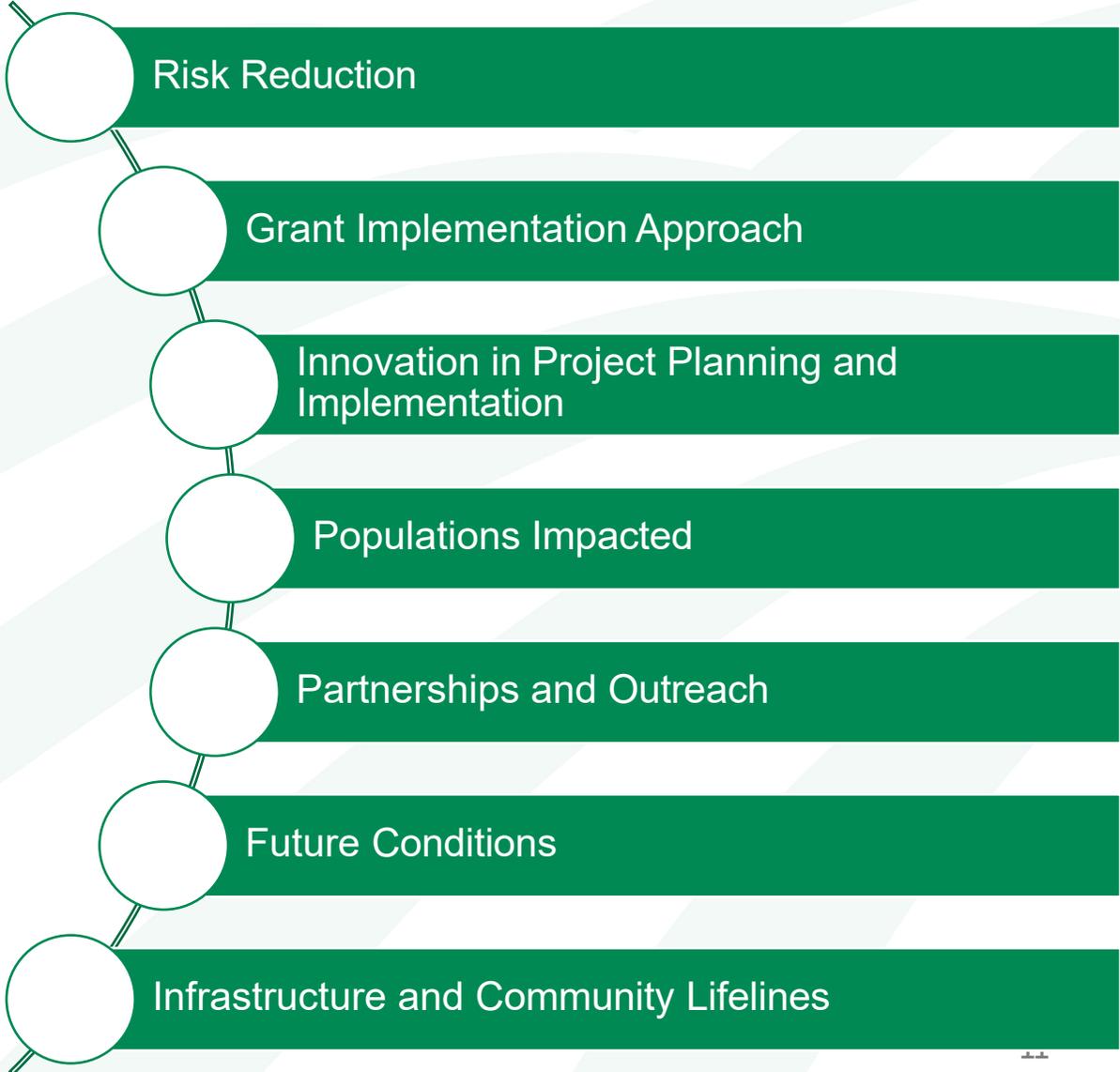
Uses of Assistance – Management Costs

- Submitted under State/Territory, Trial Set-Aside, and National Competition
- Financial assistance to reimburse recipient & subrecipient for eligible and reasonable indirect costs, direct admin costs, and other admin expenses associated with a specific mitigation project or C&CB activity
- Subapplicants may submit up to 5% of the total budget for that subapplication
- Applicants may submit up to 10% of the application budget
 - To administer and manage award and subaward activities



Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe Microgrid

Elements of Good Mitigation Projects



FEMA Community Lifelines

- Safety & Security
- Food, Water, Shelter
- Health & Medical
- Energy (Power & Fuel)
- Communications
- Transportation
- Hazardous Materials

Eligible Project Scoping Activities

- Engineering design and feasibility studies for larger or complex projects
- Hydrologic & Hydraulic (H&H) studies
- Obtain staff or resources to develop cost-share strategy and identify potential match funding
- Evaluate facilities or areas to determine appropriate mitigation actions
- Collect data for BCA, EHP compliance, & other program requirements
- Evaluation of potential solutions (i.e. alternative analysis)
- Scoping across a wide variety of programs to incorporate sustainability, resilience, and renewable building concepts

Eligible Project Type Examples

Acquisition &
Demo/Relocation

Safe Room
Construction

Structure
Elevation

Wind Retrofit

Mitigation
Reconstruction

Infrastructure
Retrofit

Dry
Floodproofing

Soil Stabilization

Generators

Wildfire
Mitigation

Localized and
Non-Localized
Flood Reduction

Post-Disaster
Code
Enforcement

Environmental & Historic Preservation

- HMA programs & grants must comply with all applicable EHP laws
 - There's no such thing as emergency or exigent circumstance waivers for HMA-funded projects
- Time and cost implications for a project – can be extensive
- Require subapplications to consider alternatives and possibly modify a desired project
- Compliance with law, regulations, and EOs including, but not limited to: NEPA, Endangered Species Act, EO 11988 (Floodplain Management), EO 11990 (Protection of Wetlands) & EO 12898 (Environmental Justice)



Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA)

Eligibility
Requirement of a
BCR of 1.01 or above

Quantifies the
benefits of a project
compared to the
costs ($B / C = BCR$)

FEMA has “pre-
calculated benefits”
for some project
types

BCA is built into the
FEMA BCA software

FEMA has a BCA
Help-Desk and Online
Toolkit for assistance
& questions

National Technical Review

- Once the Region deems project eligible, it moves to NTR
- Score projects based on the following criteria:

Infrastructure Project	20 pts
Mitigating Risk to 1 or more Lifelines	15 pts
Incorporates nature-based solutions	10 pts
Applicant has BC adoption requirements	10 pts
Subapplicant has BCEGS Rating of 1 to 5	20 pts
App generated from previous AA / PS	10 pts
Non-fed cost share of at least 30%	5 pts
Economically Disadvantaged Rural Comm.	15 pts

National Review Panel – Qualitative Review

- Qualitative criteria are narrative submissions to fully explain strengths of proposed project, with graded scales of the following:

Risk Reduction / Resiliency Effectiveness	Detail how project reduces risk & increases resiliency	35 pts
Climate Change & Future Conditions	Describe how responsive to effects of future conditions	20 pts
Implementation Measures	How costs & schedule will be managed & implemented	15 pts
Population Impacted	Demonstrate community wide benefits, pop. Impacted	25 pts
Outreach Activities	Describe outreach strategy	5 pts
Leveraging Partnerships	Incorporates partnerships to meet community needs	15 pts

FY20 Selections

- [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities FY 2020 Subapplication Status | FEMA.gov](#)
- **Total FY 2020 BRIC program funding: \$500 million**
- **Selected FY 2020 projects: Over \$377 million**

PRINCEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA: Town of Princeville Relocation Project – \$10.97 Million

- Benefits: Alleviates repetitive flood loss to critical lifeline utilities and emergency support services
- the oldest community chartered by African Americans in the U.S..
- Located in the 100-year floodplain of the Tar River.
- Project will mitigate repetitive loss of infrastructure by relocating critical lifeline utilities, emergency support services, and 54 units of affordable housing outside of the Special Flood Hazard Area.
- This project will also create over five acres of green open space in perpetuity - making this a nature-based solution that utilizes vegetation and permeable soils to assist detention basins to better hold stormwater runoff.



WASHINGTON, D.C.: Saint Elizabeth's Hospital Campus & D.C. Emergency Communications Microgrid Project - \$19.95 Million

- Benefits: Safeguards access to health care and emergency services during severe storms and disasters
- This project will construct a microgrid at the Saint Elizabeth's Hospital Campus to provide resilient power to the Unified Communications Center—other essential loads on the campus.
- The microgrid will provide a redundant and resilient power source and reliable access to health care and emergency services for D.C. residents, including disadvantaged populations.



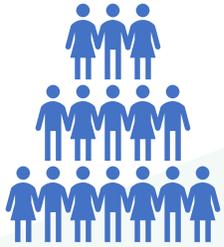
Timeline Management

- All elements in the SOW must be reflected in the schedule
- POP = 36 months (can request more time for large projects)
- Often looked over items:
 - Issuance of agreement
 - Procurement
 - EHP / NEPA Compliance Review
 - Seasonal impacts
 - Project Closeout
- Extensions are not guaranteed and will add additional time to the project's implementation timeline

Sample Timeline

Task Name	Start Month	Duration	Description
Contract Award	1	2 m	Award and execution of grant agreement
Procurement of Professional Services	2	3 m	Procurement of Engineer/Architect Services Professional Services, & Grant Administration / Environmental Services Provider
Contract Award	4	1 m	Selection of vendors and contract execution
Engineering Design	4	6 m	Initial surveys, H&H, and design
Environmental Review & Contract Award	10	1 m	Broad environment review of all required environmental laws. Select contractor and execution of contract.
Construction	12	12 m	Construction NTP and Begin of Construction based on Scope.
Construction Completion	24	10 m	Final inspections and final activities
Project Closeout	33	3 m	Final activities and project closeout
Start: 4/1/22	End: 3/31/25	36 m	

How to be Successful



What is SHMO? - Who is your SHMO or Recovery Manager?



Leverage partnerships get additional points - support at local & state level is crucial - meet, establish relationship with



Attend local meetings regarding mitigation efforts



Share own mitigation efforts and plans going forward



Provide meaningful data to eligible entity how a project is mutually beneficial



Consider participating in HM Plan update

Questions?

Kelly George, CFM

Senior Hazard Mitigation Manager

DCMC Partners

kgeorge@dcmcpartners.com



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