

# Hazard Mitigation Assistance External Stakeholder Working Group

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An overview of the Hazard Mitigation Assistance External Stakeholder Working Group (pages 1-2) and an expression of interest submission outline (pages 3-4) for interested complete and submit for consideration as a representative on the working group

## External Stakeholder Working Group Overview

The External Stakeholder Working Group (ESWG) provides an opportunity for FEMA staff to increase engagement and transparency with non-federal partners in the Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) programs at the state, territory, federally recognized tribe, local, and regional levels. The four HMA programs consist of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), HMGP Post-Fire, the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), and the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) programs. The HMA programs collectively provide pre- and post-disaster funding to implement mitigation actions in communities across the country.

The intent of the ESWG is to:

- Maintain open channels of communication between FEMA and state, territory, federally recognized tribe, local, and regional mitigation staff.
- Gather insight into mitigation and/or HMA program issues from the state, territory, tribal, local, or regional perspectives.
- Increase transparency in HMA goals, program priorities, and policy development; and
- Help HMA provide a consistent, predictable experience for external stakeholders.

The ESWG supports FEMA in its efforts to streamline and strengthen HMA program delivery overall, provide better customer service to external stakeholders, and facilitate effective and expedient mitigation assistance.

## ESWG Membership Selection Process

FEMA accepts applications on a rolling basis. When a seat is open, FEMA will review the applications and reach out directly to candidates.

## ESWG Membership Composition

The ESWG includes:

- One (1) FEMA HQ HMA Branch Chief, Chair
- Two (2) FEMA Regional HMA staff representatives



# FEMA

## ESWG OVERVIEW AND EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

- Three (3) State / Territory representatives
- Three (3) Local / Regional representatives – includes representatives from single- or multi-jurisdictional bodies (e.g., counties, regional planning commissions, council of governments)
- Three (3) Federally Recognized Tribal representatives

## ESWG Membership Expectations

Members will be expected to:

- Provide insight and external perspectives on HMA priorities, issues, and program resources.
- Bring a unique perspective on HMA communications, potentially being asked to offer insight into or helping craft communications-related resources.
- Act as a conduit of information to FEMA from other external stakeholders, to include gathering input, requests, ideas, and suggestions for ESWG meetings.
- Participate in one ESWG meeting per quarter: two virtual meetings and two in-person meetings per year. In-person meetings will be hosted either at FEMA headquarters in Washington, DC, a FEMA regional office, or at a location non-FEMA ESWG member's community.
- Attend the annual Hazard Mitigation Assistance Stakeholder Workshop.

## General Notes

FEMA Headquarters will fund travel for all in-person ESWG meetings. In addition, FEMA encourages stakeholders with all levels of experience to apply for a position on the ESWG.

# ESWG Membership Expression of Interest Submission

To be considered for a position on the ESWG, please complete this expression of interest and submit the completed document via email to [FEMA-HMA-ESWG@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-HMA-ESWG@fema.dhs.gov).

## Instructions

Complete all fields and submit via email to [FEMA-HMA-ESWG@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-HMA-ESWG@fema.dhs.gov).

## Jurisdiction & Community Info

First & Last Name:

Name of Community/Jurisdiction Represented:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Type of Community/Jurisdiction: *(Select one)*

Extension:

State / Territory

Position/Title:

Local / Regional

Federally Recognized Tribe

## Community Characteristics

For each statement below, please indicate the option or options that best describe the community/jurisdiction you represent. Note that the second and third statements include descriptions of possible options in italics.

The primary hazard(s) my community/jurisdiction faces include... *(Select all that apply)*

Flood (coastal)

Wildfire

Drought

Flood (riverine)

Hurricane

Winter Storm

Flood (flash)

Wind

Other (please specify)

Earthquake

Extreme Precipitation

## ESWG OVERVIEW AND EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The relative size and location of my community/jurisdiction could be characterized as... *(Select all that apply)*

Big City – *My community is a heavily-developed, high-density urban jurisdiction*

Medium to Small City – *My community is a developed, medium-density jurisdiction*

Suburban – *My community is a moderately-developed, lower-density jurisdiction close to an urban area*

Small Town / Rural – *My community consists mostly of low-density, low-development jurisdictions, and is likely to cover a large geographic area with few residents*

Other – *Please describe*

My community's experience with HMA could be described as... *(Select one)*

Moderately to Very Experienced with HMA – *Historically, my community/jurisdiction has received a lot of HMA program funding and is very experienced with at least one HMA program.*

Limited to No Experience with HMA – *Historically, my community/jurisdiction has received less HMA program funding, especially due to fewer disaster declarations, and our experience has centered around one HMA program.*

## Individual Experience

Indicate your individual level of experience (in number of years) working with HMA. *(Select one)*

0-2 years of experience

3-5 years of experience

6-9 years of experience

10+ years of experience

## Professional Bio

Please provide a brief professional bio of yourself in a short paragraph (3-4 sentences).

## Goals

Please provide a statement (150-200 words total) that explores possible idea(s) for increasing investments in mitigation in your community/jurisdiction, more broadly across the nation, or both.

## About Me

Please provide a statement (200-300 words) that discusses your interest in being part of the ESWG. Your statement should also address the following information:

- How does your community/jurisdiction consider HMA in developing a mitigation strategy?
- What do you hope to learn, do, or accomplish while working with the HMA ESWG?
- What does hazard mitigation look like in your community/jurisdiction and why is it important?