



New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania
Regional Catastrophic Planning Team (NY-NJ-CT-PA RCPT)

SITE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Catastrophes are different.

A catastrophe is not a large version of a routine emergency and the response cannot be managed merely with more personnel and equipment. Catastrophes create an enormous demand for effective coordination and communication. This is the job of the emergency manager.

The New York / Northern New Jersey Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) Project Site coordinated the grant funds received by its two UASI regions to form the Regional Catastrophic Planning Team to oversee

the work done in the four-state, 30-county project site. Regional stakeholders worked together to build NIMS/ICS-based tools and systems that enable emergency managers to manage the information and logistical burdens that catastrophes bring.

The Regional Integration Center (RIC) served as the operational arm for the RCPT and provided a vehicle for regional collaboration.

As an outcome of the RCPGP, the NY-NJ-CT-PA Project Site has created new relationships and helped strengthen existing ones throughout the region, resulting in numerous collaborative planning efforts.

OVERALL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Planning Across Core Competencies

The RCPT has developed dozens of plans, tools, assessment papers and other documents that span emergency management's core competencies and improves the ability of the region to plan and respond to catastrophic events. These plans and tools are outlined throughout this document.

Whole Community

The RCPT has made it a priority to incorporate FEMA's "Whole Community" approach to planning by leveraging the knowledge and resources from all levels of government, the non-profit and private sector and other community groups in preparedness, response and recovery.

Partnerships And Community Building

The RCPT established diverse planning communities across the region for plan development and input. Over 700 participants were involved in the development of the RCPT plans across the four states and 30 counties in the Project Site and from all levels of government, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations.

Support To Jurisdictions

The staff at the RIC has provided support to multiple jurisdictions in the region during actual events and emergencies, trainings and exercises, offering technical assistance and planning resources.

PLANS

Critical Infrastructure Resiliency Project (CIRP)

Focuses on improving planning and preparedness for large scale power outage incidents through collaborative engagement with critical system operators and emergency service agencies.

Phase One

The Infrastructure Protection Plan for Electric Power Restoration provides a coordination strategy and tools for jurisdictions to support the electric power restoration work of utilities. The plan identifies the roles of relevant entities and lays out the stages of electric power restoration and system recovery.

Phase Two

Focuses on the cascading impacts of power outages and building cross-sector resiliency by providing outage modeling and impact assessments for water/wastewater facilities as well as communication system assessments for emergency service facilities.

Phase Three

Leverages previous studies and partner agency technology to strengthen cross-sector planning by assessing resiliency at thirty facilities representing four critical sectors. A data-driven decision support tool provides scenario-based regional impact reports with recommendations for how public agencies can better prepare to support restoration of critical systems.

Debris Management

Describes the essential steps of debris management planning and response, defining roles and responsibilities and a strategy for communication and coordination. Provides local and regional level CONOPS, identifies key decision points and organizes the debris response mission into four ITFs: Cost Tracking, Environmental Health, Transportation, and

Utilities /CIKR. Response tools include sample forms, checklists and annexes containing detailed guidance on aspects of planning, contracting and response management.

Evacuation Coordination

Supports the evacuation decision making process by creating a timeline and framework for regional coordination during both forewarned and no-notice events for executives and operating agencies.

Housing Recovery

Includes step-by-step procedures to identify, assess and rebuild damaged and destroyed housing following a catastrophe. Divides the housing mission into eight ITFs: Disaster Housing Group, Information Management, Housing Finance, Construction, Land Use Planning, Interim Housing, Housing Stock Assessment, and Housing Recovery Services.

Housing Recovery Center

Includes the CONOPS for a Housing Recovery Center, a one-stop-shop for people who need housing assistance and other related services. Outlines a flexible and scalable administrative and management system essential to coordinated and consistent operations. Day-to-day working guidance, facility requirements, and space configurations are included.

Mass Fatality

Creates a mechanism that allows jurisdictions to work together toward the common mass fatality management (MFM) goal—to document, recover, investigate, store, mitigate any hazards, and process remains for the purpose of facilitating the accurate identification and return of decedents to their legal next of kin, when possible, for appropriate final disposition.

Nuclear Response

Focuses on the tools that are used to handle chaos: coordination, communication and effective management. Gives emergency managers a framework to handle the complexity of an IND response by defining seven key actions for the response and developing procedures and objectives to execute each of these actions to bring order from chaos.

Private Sector Integration

Addresses some of the private sector requirements and challenges after a catastrophe in better managing resources and ensuring greater resiliency. Includes two main components that bridge the gaps between the private sector and the government: guidelines for establishing a Business Coordination Center and a Business Recovery Center.

Radiological Dispersal Device (RDD)

Focuses on how regional executives communicate in the aftermath of an RDD detonation. Calls for the formation of a Science and Technology Advisory Committee (STAC) to provide regional executives with recommendations concerning radiological contamination, public health consequences and environmental effects. Also provides local jurisdictions with a template that they can use to build a comprehensive RDD response plan tailored to their jurisdiction's resources and needs. Sample Incident Action Plans for early, intermediate and late phases are also included.

Sheltering

Divides the sheltering mission into four Interagency Task Forces (ITFs): Shelter Operations, Functional Needs, Children's Needs and Household Pets & Service Animals. Provides toolsets with mission statements, members and agendas.

Volunteer Coordination

Creates a mechanism to coordinate actions with voluntary organizations during a catastrophe. Establishes a framework to understand the scope of volunteers and create matches between requests for volunteers and organizations who can fill the requests. Includes Job Action Sheets and a Service Matrix.



NYC Skyline in the aftermath of Super Storm Sandy 2012

REGIONAL LOGISTICS PROGRAM

The plans, guides, and training courses produced by the RLP are intended to promote the implementation of a universal standard in disaster logistics. The Universal Logistics Standard (ULS) is a foundation upon which local, state, and federal stakeholders can build a comprehensive disaster logistics program. Over 500 planning partners and subject matter experts from around the region and the country contributed to the RLP planning effort. The result is a suite of documents that can be used to guide or supplement any jurisdiction's disaster logistics preparedness and response activities. This suite of documents helps jurisdictions address the key strategies of any logistics operation: resource management, movement control and distribution management.

For more information visit: www.EmergencyLogistics.org



STRATEGIC PLANS

CAPSTONE DOCUMENT: Introduces the RLP and provides a comprehensive overview of the ULS and the various strategies, components and tools that comprise it.

CONOPS: An executive-level overview of the ULS and general concept of operations.

LOGISTICS CENTER PLAN: Provides guidance on expanding the Logistics Section in the EOC.

C-POD PLAN: Provides guidance on activating, running and demobilizing Commodity Points of Distribution (C-POD) from the EOC.

RDC PLAN: Provides guidance on activating, running and demobilizing a Receiving and Distribution Center (RDC) from the EOC.

VDM PLAN: Provides guidance on managing spontaneous volunteers and unsolicited donations from the EOC.

ALERT IMPLEMENTATION DOCUMENT: Provides guidance on joining and utilizing the Area Logistics Emergency Response Team (ALERT).

TACTICAL FIELD GUIDANCE

ALERT FIELD OPERATIONS GUIDE (FOG): Provides tactical guidance to ALERT members who may be deployed to support local logistics operations during a response.

C-POD FOG: Provides tactical field guidance on running a C-POD.

RDC FOG: Provides tactical field guidance on running an RDC.

VDM FIELD GUIDANCE: Provides tactical guidance to support the management of spontaneous volunteers and unsolicited donations.

INTERMODAL FREIGHT GUIDE: SUPPORTS THE TRANSPORTATION decision-making process in the field when ready access to critical information may not be available.

ASSESSMENT PAPERS, TOOLS & TEMPLATES

REGIONAL DATA INTEROPERABILITY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT PAPER: Summarizes the objectives and presents the findings and conclusions of the Regional Resource Management Solution (RRMS) initiative.

RADP ASSESSMENT PAPER: Summarizes the objectives and presents the findings of the Regional Asset Database Project while providing guidance to assist jurisdictions in cataloging common data points about their resources.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIP: Provides guidance and useful information related to partnering with the private sector.

VDM TOOLKIT: Provides supplemental forms and templates to support volunteer and donations management.

CREDENTIALING DOCUMENT: Provides information and credentialing policies and best practices around the region.

INTERMODAL ANALYSIS

The RLP commissioned studies to identify and assess the capabilities and limitations of intermodal infrastructure facilities around the region.

- Freight Rail Infrastructure & Facilities Report
- Air Cargo Infrastructure & Facilities Report
- Waterway Cargo Infrastructure & Facilities Report
- Regional Site Assessment Report

TRAINING

The RLP has developed four training courses which are available as self-paced web trainings or as instructor-led sessions, as well as Just-in-Time training and information videos to help support implementation of the ULS and provide instruction on some of its key components.

LOG 101—THE DISASTER LOGISTICIAN: A 60 minute web-based introductory course that provides a basic overview of the mission and principles of disaster logistics.

LOG 200—THE LOGISTICS CENTER: Broken into two modules, this 90 minute web-based course introduces the purpose and functions of the Logistics Center to individuals who may be tasked with supporting it, regardless of whether they have previous logistics experience.

LOG 201—RDC: A 60 minute web-based course that introduces the concept of an RDC. The course is intended for individuals who may be tasked with supporting RDC operations in the local or state EOC.

LOG 202—C-POD: A 60 minute web-based course that introduces the concept of a C-POD. The course is intended for individuals who may be tasked with supporting C-POD operations in the local or state EOC.

DISASTER LOGISTICS FOR LEADERS: An informational video intended for the decision makers and elected officials who will make the decisions to develop a more robust logistics capability in their jurisdiction.

DISASTER LOGISTICS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL LOGISTICIAN: An informational video intended for the private sector supply chain managers who manage logistics daily. This video demonstrates how private sector partners can support disaster logistics operations at their local EOC.

TOOLS & PLAYBOOKS

GUIDE & SUPPORT TOOLS

ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

Provides planning considerations and guidance documents to assist emergency managers with meeting the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidance and accommodations for people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs in four specific areas: 1)Evacuation/Transportation, 2)Public Information and Notification 3)Sheltering/Mass Care and 4) Whole Community Planning. Products include: i) Promising Practices & Guidebook for AFN Integration in Emergency Management; ii) Plan Review Support Tool; and iii) EOC AFN Tool Kit.

COORDINATION TOOLS

BUILDING BLOCKS

Defines the Unified Area Coordination Group (UACG), the Forward Operating Base (FOB) and the EOC as the building blocks of catastrophic emergency management that allow jurisdictions to accept and organize outside assistance quickly and efficiently. Three tools have been developed: a UACG Playbook, an EOC Primer and a FOB FOG.

PLAYBOOK AND DASHBOARD

CATASTROPHIC INCIDENT EXECUTIVE (CAT-X)

Provides a mechanism and dashboard for essential information to flow from the field to the EOC to executive decision makers.

TOOL

COMMUNICATIONS RESILIENCY SELF-ASSESSMENT

Provides emergency service facilities with a self-scoring resiliency tool for measuring communications systems and procedures against industry best practices.

PLAYBOOK

COMMUNITY RECOVERY

Assists federal, state and local emergency managers,

non-profit organizations and other public sector entities involved in community recovery and post-disaster housing to implement Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) eligible programs in an efficient and timely manner.

RESILIENCY TOOLKIT

CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS (COOP)

Provides assistance to the COOP and communications planning process to increase preparedness for an all-hazards response. It is scalable, from a single-site event within one jurisdiction to a large-scale regional emergency. It also provides a template to internally develop a COOP plan and a Request for Proposal (RFP) template for an entity to solicit proposals to develop a COOP plan.

ELECTRONIC PLANNING TOOL

DOZER DEBRIS MANAGEMENT

Guides users through the compilation and organization of essential information to produce a debris response action document. DOZER is a stand-alone software application designed for use either prior to or during a debris mission. Contains guidance for new users along with references to more comprehensive sources of information and assistance.

AIDS

ESF JOB AIDS

Includes mission, first steps, key and supporting agencies, plans, and tools for each of the 15 federal Emergency Support Functions (ESFs). Tips for success in performing the EOC's three missions of information management, resource management and consequence management are also included.

TOOLKIT

EVACUATION BEST PRACTICES

Supports local, state and regional evacuation planning by providing best practices, case studies and actionable



Aerial | Entrance to the NY-NJ Harbor

tools on using different modes of transportation in evacuation scenarios.

PRIMERS

EXECUTIVE LEVEL POWER OUTAGE PRIMERS

Provides decision makers with a summary of the key concepts and challenges involved in power restoration.

PLAYBOOK

FEDERAL INTEGRATION

Focuses on the coordination and integration of federal assets following a catastrophic incident. Federal Integration Plans (FIPs) were developed for most regional catastrophic plans through a series of executive level and federal partner facilitated discussions.

DATABASE

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

Working with local data providers throughout the region, the database catalogs existing geospatial data to support a regional response to a catastrophic event.

ANALYSIS

HAZARD ANALYSIS

Models five scenarios that could impact the region: a 10kT IND detonation, a major hurricane, multiple Improvised Explosive Device (IED) detonations, a biological disease outbreak and an RDD detonation. Lists assumptions and considerations for each hazard and includes summaries for all 30 counties in the region.

BID SPECIFICATION AND PLAN

HOUSING RECOVERY & RAPID REPAIR (H3R)

Focuses on developing an actionable plan for rapid housing repair to help residents return home as quickly as possible following a catastrophic incident. The Program Plan outlines how to enable rapid mobilization of coordinated construction efforts across the region and the Bid Specification helps in procuring appropriately qualified contractors quickly.

PLAYBOOKS

JOINT FIELD OFFICE (JFO)

Pre-identifies facilities for a JFO to support a catastrophic response. Includes playbooks for six different sites, including a virtual JFO and a soft-sided location, and references logistics requirements and floor plans. Emergency managers can also use the Site Requirements Plan and Facility Checklist to identify additional locations for JFOs.

FIELD OPERATIONS GUIDES

MASS FATALITY

Focuses on three specific operations established in the MFM Response System: Scene, Postmortem (Morgue), and Antemortem (Victim Information Centers) operations. Serves as tools to assist medicolegal jurisdictions in the establishment and management of MFM operations by utilizing checklists, flowcharts, and Job Action Sheets.

TOOLS & PLAYBOOKS (continued)

PROTOCOL / CAPABILITY

MFM REGIONAL CATASTROPHIC ASSESSMENT TEAM (RCAT)

Deploys following a mass fatality incident (MFI) at the request of a local medical examiner/coroner to support the completion of an incident characterization and assessment, determine resource requests, and identify regional assets that are able to support the medicolegal response to the MFI. The team is comprised of specially trained personnel representing various medicolegal jurisdictions in the region.

WHOLE COMMUNITY TOOLKIT

PARTICIPATORY URBAN PLANNING

Addresses long-term planning and recovery challenges by promoting effective coordination between the government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (CBOs), faith-based organizations (FBOs) and the public at large. Includes five steps for the government and the community to work together following a disaster: activate, assess, envision, plan and implement.

SNAPSHOTS

PLAN OVERVIEW

Pulls out the critical concepts included in the RCPT plans for users to access during an emergency. It is intended to be used either as a large wall chart, printed as a reference guide or used electronically with direct links to PDF versions of the RCPT plans.

MATRIX

POWER OUTAGE PERMITS AND REGULATIONS

Details permits and regulations for which exemptions may be required to expedite power restoration.

ANALYSIS

PUBLIC HEALTH VULNERABILITY

Establishes a process for determining exposures to various hazards, the cause of the vulnerability and the location of those at risk, generating hazard-specific vulnerability indicators that help emergency managers allocate resources and prioritize outreach activities. Three tools support the analysis: i) a Risk Assessment tool enabling public health departments to identify and prioritize potential hazards; ii) a Vulnerability Analysis tool that identifies populations vulnerable to specific hazards, and iii) the Decision Support System, a web-based Geographic Information System assisting health departments in locating and connecting with vulnerable populations.

PLAN APP

QUICK TOUCH EOC

Provides a one-stop-EOC-shop for users to access and navigate RCPT developed plans and tools. Through a mobile device application, users can easily access plans and quick sheets.

SYSTEM

REGIONAL CORPORATE EMERGENCY ACCESS SYSTEM

Allows businesses rapid entry for critical employees to restricted areas following a disaster to help them mitigate damage and loss. The RCPT built system spans jurisdictional boundaries by providing a commonly accessible web-based portal to authenticate credentials.

GUIDE

REGIONAL EMERGENCY CONFERENCE CALL

Provides guidance for organizing regional partners across the public and private sectors through conference calls.

GUIDE

ROLLING BLACKOUTS

Includes guidance and operations-level tools for public agencies to prepare for strategic, rotating power outages.

OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

SAHANA

A shelter management system that tracks shelterees and allows jurisdictions to create staffing assignments using pre-identified staff and facilities. The Sahana Emergency Management System is a free web-based program accessible to jurisdictions across the country. Included in the Whole Product Solution is the software needed to install the program, user-friendly instructions and training that describes how to install and use.

PLAYBOOK AND RISK CARD DECK

STRATEGIC RISK

REVIEW

Identifies inherent and emergent risks facing the region, overarching challenges to effective risk management, specific barriers faced by the region and methods to increase risk capacity. Research findings provide a framework for leaders to learn from “near misses” and prioritize risk reduction. The Playbook and Risk Card Deck detail a

process for local risk review and tie risk management concepts to national planning scenarios.

SYSTEM

SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

The system provides templates and protocols that state and local health departments can use to share information in real-time in order to detect disease outbreaks, gathers data on disease occurrence and communicate situational awareness during a catastrophic health event. A syndromic model that provides synthesized data analyses and visualization to decision makers is also included.

MASS FATALITY DATABASE SYSTEM

UNIFIED VICTIM IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (UVIS)

Uses an internet-enabled database system to facilitate the accurate identification and return of decedents to their legal next of kin (NOK) for appropriate final disposition. UVIS is available to municipalities, counties, states and other governmental agencies without charge, under license from NYC.

PROTOTYPE

URBAN POST DISASTER HOUSING

Includes information on the building and testing of an interim housing prototype based on a shipping container-style modular system in NYC.

DATABASE MODEL TOOL

WATERWAYS TRANSIT

Provides emergency managers with a better understanding of the passenger capacity of water-based transportation during an emergency. It allows users to view data on vessels and landings, select passenger origin and destination points and calculate passenger throughput.



TRAINING

ONLINE AND CLASSROOM

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COLLOQUIUM (EMC)

A series of five courses that integrates the core principles of emergency management and the plans and tools developed by the RCPT. These courses help to build specific skill sets for emergency managers, executives and agency representatives that will support a catastrophic response.

- RCPT Primer—online
- EOC and Catastrophic Emergencies—online
- Just-in-Time EOC—online
- EOC and Catastrophic Emergencies—classroom
- EOC Leadership Development Lab—classroom

ONLINE

HAM RADIO TRAINING

Assists first responders in preparing for the FCC Amateur Radio Technician's Class license, which allows users to communicate using amateur radios.

TRAINING VIDEOS

VIDEO SERIES

Five short videos that answer key questions about the role of emergency managers and preparedness in a catastrophic response:

- The Essential Emergency Manager: What They Do and How They Do It
- Stronger Community, Better Response: Connecting Community Organizations During Disaster
- Managing Consequences During a Disaster: Solving Problems Together
- Business Preparedness for Community Resiliency
- Strategic Risk in Disaster Planning

Videos can be viewed on www.youtube.com/user/regionalcatplanning

TRAINING IN THE REGION

EOC TRAINING

The RCPT has introduced two classroom EOC trainings — EOC and Catastrophic Emergencies and the EOC Leadership Development Lab — to jurisdictions in the region interested in building their EOC capabilities and leadership skills. Several counties and municipalities throughout the region have already taken advantage of the training.

DISASTER LOGISTICS TRAINING PROGRAM

The RLP rolled out its Training Program in February 2013 and since then has trained over 300 people in the knowledge and skills needed to support a disaster logistics operation. Trainees include local personnel, CERT and other VOAD members. The RLP's Disaster Training Program consists of web-based modules, Just-in-Time videos and instructor-led sessions and will help to increase the logistics capability in any jurisdiction.

MFM RESPONSE SYSTEM TRAINING

Hosted annually since 2010, the week-long program assembles representatives from a number of regional medical examiner/coroner offices and emergency management offices, and representatives from state, federal, private and military entities. Attendees participate in didactic training, facilitated discussions and field training related to command and control, scene investigation and recovery, as well as disaster morgue operations

OPERATIONALIZATION

Super Storm Sandy made landfall in New Jersey on October 29, 2012. Highlighted below are some of the tools, plans and emergency management experience created through the RCPT that were leveraged across the region leading up to the storm and during the response and recovery efforts.

HOUSING

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs adopted the Disaster Housing Recovery Plan to structure the State's housing recovery strategy. A majority of the ITFs outlined in the Plan were activated to support the State of New Jersey's response. The Community Recovery Playbook was used as guidance in several jurisdictions in creating Action Plans for spending CDBG-DR funding.

LOGISTICS

New York City used the RDC FOG developed as part of the RLP, to guide staging area operations at Citi Field in Queens, New York. The FOG details how to activate, operate and demobilize a staging area and outlines assigned responsibilities and job functions for staff members. The FOG was requested by and provided to Incident Management Teams deployed to Citi Field to run staging operations.

MASS FATALITY MANAGEMENT

The Mass Fatality Management (MFM) Response System Plan was activated to an Alert level in preparation for Super Storm Sandy, and remained activated through the duration of the storm. After landfall, the Regional Catastrophic Assessment Team deployed to the New Jersey Coast to assess the impacts to medical examiner operations and continuity of operations issues.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Staff at the RIC supported jurisdictions in the region leading up to, during and in the months after the storm. The RIC Team brought their planning experience and technical assistance to EOCs, shelters and logistics operations. Staff helped planning partners unpack plans and tools for immediate use. Taking both leadership and supporting roles, the RIC staff augmented the number of emergency managers coordinating response and recovery efforts. The RIC team was also activated during the response to Tropical Storm Irene in 2011, supporting NYC OEM in the following operations: sheltering, evacuation, transportation, debris management, critical infrastructure, logistics and health and medical. In the aftermath of Irene, RIC staff also assisted NJ OEM with shelter operations.

NYC Skyline during Tropical Storm Irene 2011



EXERCISE

EXERCISE-IN-A-BOX

Emergency Management Catastrophic Exercise Program (EMCEP)
Combines three exercise modules with three exercise scenarios for a total combination of nine possible exercise-in-a-box deliverables. Exercise modules are at the strategic, operational and tactical levels. Exercise scenarios include an IND detonation, major hurricane and cyber attack. Exercise goals are focused around regional coordination and communication.

EOC SIMULATION

Lightning Bolt
Provides a total immersion exercise that puts emergency managers in the center of a catastrophic response, challenging their EOC skills. The simulation focuses on breaking down silos, managing resource requests, and processing information. Players are also challenged to identify and solve emerging and cascading problems.

EXERCISES IN THE REGION

TRINITY REGIONAL FUNCTIONAL EXERCISE

On October 22, 2014 the RCPT conducted Trinity, a Regional Functional Exercise using the EMCEP Toolkit, the exercise focused on the emergency management mission of bringing resources from a variety of sources into a common management structure to provide logistical and information support to a catastrophic response. The exercise validated regional coordination, communication, and information sharing among regional organizations during a one day, IND exercise event. Five EOCs were activated in the Region: NYCEM, NJ State Police ROIC, NJ county OEMs (Morris County, Union County, Hudson County), along with a FOB location in Bergen County, NJ and the UACG (virtual) for exercise play.

CATEX 2014

CATEX 2014 was the continuation of a regional public-private exercise series begun in the National Capitol Region and built on the public-private “regional integrated planning” underway with the East Coast Corridor Coalition (EC 3) and the Multi-State Fleet Response Working Group. Having brought together public agencies and the lifeline sectors of electric, food and fuel, these public-private dialogues have developed solutions for private sector response challenges in large scale disasters, and the CATEX 2014 drill tested communication protocols for essential elements of information for those lifeline sectors.

LIGHTNING BOLT

Following the successful implementation of three Lightning Bolt Pilot tests, the RCPT has supported stakeholders to bring this EOC simulation to their jurisdictions. Support includes providing planning milestones, advice on customizing the MSEL, SimCell training, and logistics. More than a dozen successful Lightning Bolts have been conducted since its introduction.

EMCEP PILOTS

Leading up to the Trinity Regional Functional Exercise, the RCPT hosted three pilots to test the concepts and injects in the EMCEP Exercise-in-a-Box product. Morris County, NJ hosted an EOC exercise with a hurricane scenario, Hudson County, NJ hosted a FOB exercise using an IND scenario, and the RCPT executives participated in a virtual UACG focused on a cyber threat.

Workshops + Events

2014-2015

ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (AFN TA)

The RCPT provided individualized TA to 13 jurisdictions in the Region to integrate AFN recommendations and considerations into their local disaster plans. Jurisdictions worked with their local stakeholders to implement the AFN recommendations made by the RCPT team.

2014

PARTICIPATORY URBAN PLANNING (PUP) SESSIONS

The RCPT hosted five PUP sessions in the region, which brought together 30-40 representatives from all levels of government, local NGOs, academia, and the private sector to strategize interim housing for the gap between short term shelters closing and the return home after a disaster.

2014

LIFELINE SECTORS RESPONSE COORDINATION WORKSHOP

The Lifeline Sectors Response Coordination Workshop brought together representatives of the electric, food and fuel sectors, along with public agencies, to compare practices in disaster preparations and response, to identify operational chokepoints, and to identify essential elements of information. Sector working groups were formed to continue exploring potential solutions to operational challenges and information sharing strategies to expedite private sector response and recovery across the Northeast. The CATEX 2014 drill drew on the workshop and working group findings to test information exchange between public and private sectors during regional disasters.

2014

STRATEGIC RISK REVIEW WORKSHOPS

The Risk Review Workshops for public sector leadership were conducted as part of the Strategic Risk Review project to increase awareness of major strategic and emergent risks in the region and produce a framework for leaders to learn from “near misses” and prioritize risk reduction. The sessions examined the barriers to effective risk management and methods to mitigate those barriers, giving participants specific tools to aid decision making, increase organizational risk capacity and decrease the probability of a preventable catastrophic failure.

2013

ENERGY DEPENDENCIES WEBINAR SERIES

The Critical Infrastructure Resiliency Project hosted a web-based discussion series on cross-sector resiliency strategies, private and public sector perspectives, solutions and best practices. Videos are archived on HSIN and a report of panelist recommendations and audience surveys was distributed to over 300 participants representing public and private entities around the country.

Workshops + Events (cont.)

2012

DISASTER LOGISTICS WORKSHOP

The RLP hosted the Disaster Logistics Workshop in Newark, NJ to discuss the ULS. Sixteen documents designed for use in the EOC or out in the field were presented to stakeholders. Documents presented include: strategic plans, tactical field operations guides, assessment papers, tools and templates that can be used to guide or supplement any jurisdiction's disaster logistics preparedness and response activities.

2012

INTERNATIONAL MASS FATALITY CONFERENCE

This conference brought together domestic and international experts and leaders in mass fatality management to explore past incident management, discuss lessons learned and define best practices to enhance future responses and coordination. The three day conference focused on MFM and disaster victim identification post-9/11, MFM and the international response community and MFM operational issues and perspectives on the future. Best practices, lessons learned and the latest developments in regional planning were shared among participants.

2011-2012

RCPGP NATIONAL PLANNING WORKSHOPS

The first annual workshop brought together planners from all ten national RCPGP Sites to participate in a series of experiential working sessions over two days in NYC. The event was planned and staffed by the RIC and included an EOC facilitated discussion. The second annual workshop was hosted by the Puget Sound Region.

2011

ROLLING BLACKOUTS WORKSHOP

A collaborative workshop with the energy sector and emergency response agencies to explore the emergency response requirements of a disaster scenario involving rationing of electricity (rolling blackouts). Representatives from more than twenty public agencies and companies participated in a facilitated discussion, resulting in an improved understanding of public agency needs and priorities and highlighting the importance of coordinated planning. Workshop findings informed the Rolling Blackouts Guide for Public Agencies.

2010-2011

DISASTER HOUSING SUMMIT

The Summit, hosted in 2010 and again in 2011, brought together professionals from across the country to address post-disaster housing recovery challenges, including housing finance and land use planning. Panel discussions and facilitated discussions were used for information sharing and to gather critical feedback and comments from stakeholders. Lessons learned from each Summit were included in the final Housing Recovery Plan.

2011

LOGCON

The RLP gathered over 225 attendees and speakers from over 100 agencies around the country. This meeting allowed emergency management professionals in local, state, and the federal government and the private and non-profit sectors to come together to share best practices and work towards achieving a universal approach to disaster logistics planning.

2011

HOUSING TTX

The Fault Line Post-Disaster Housing TTX focused on a catastrophic earthquake in Northern NJ. The exercise provided emergency management and housing agencies throughout FEMA Region II the opportunity to examine some of the challenges of conducting a housing mission following a catastrophic disaster.

2010

ELECTRIC POWER RESTORATION WORKSHOPS

Three collaborative workshops brought together representatives from industry and public agencies for scenario-based discussions focused on 1) restoration operations, 2) recovery & supply chains and 3) governance. The workshops produced a set of baseline priorities for improving readiness and resiliency in the region's electricity network and informed the Infrastructure Protection Plan for Electric Power Restoration.

2009-2010

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

The RCPT and the RIC Planners hosted eight stakeholder meetings to meet planning partners, discuss concepts and solicit comments and feedback. Meetings were held in Albany, Connecticut, New Jersey and NYC.