

Emergency Support Functions (ESF)

The Emergency Support Function Annexes describe the 15 most likely activities needed to support an incident or planned event. Not all ESF's will be activated at any one time. Only those most useful to the response and management of the incident will be activated.

Each ESF will be assigned a Primary Agency which will be responsible for the administration and response activities associated with that function. Support Agencies will be identified that have a jurisdictional or operations interest to support the implementation of the plan. Following is a very brief description of the typical activities performed within each ESF.

NOTE; these are for illustration only at this point. The actual functions performed under each ESF will be determined through the planning process.

ESF 1 – Transportation -This ESF will coordinate and manage the movement [or restriction of movement] of traffic, people, and maintain transportation routes to access critical areas etc. This function will manage all modes of transportation.

ESF 2 – Communications – This ESF may also be combined with ESF #15 – Public Information

- Public Communications / Warning

Provides for the dissemination and coordination of emergency information for the public, provides for the identification of warning methods, utilization of systems etc.

- Public Safety

Develops and coordinates a communication plan for responding agencies, maintains communications infrastructure critical to response.

ESF 3 – Public Works and Engineering - This ESF will typically provide for:

- Damage Assessment
- Debris removal
- Water and wastewater systems
- Building inspection and condemnation
- Coordination of road crews / Bridge inspection etc.

ESF 4 – Firefighting - Coordinates all areas of fire suppression efforts

ESF 5 – Emergency Management - Typical functions under this ESF include;

- ICS – Facilitates the development of Field Command and Emergency Operations Center Coordination
- EOC Operation and coordination
- Intelligence gathering

ESF 6 – Mass Care, Housing, and Human Services - This function coordinates the assistance in sheltering, feeding, and caring for victims of a disaster. This group will also assist with;

- Special Needs Population

- Identification and coordination of Disaster Victim Services

ESF 7 - Resource Support - This group is responsible for the acquisition of all types of resources that are identified as "needed" following a disaster. Also coordinates the use of persons and organizations who volunteer their services following a disaster. This includes medical and other emergency response personnel, public works crews, private charitable groups, etc.

ESF 8 – Public Health and Medical Services - There are two functional groups within ESF 8:

Medical – The EMS function coordinates the provision of EMS assistance following a disaster, including the movement of medical resources into disaster areas. The Hospital function coordinates the provision of hospital-based emergency care, resource management and allocation amongst area hospitals, etc.

Public Health - This function addresses the public health ramifications associated with a particular emergency. This includes manning shelters, first aid/clinic operations, restoring public health functions, defining the epidemiology of the disaster (including the collection and maintenance of statistical data), the administration of vaccinations and immunizations, the determination of potential health effects associated with debris accumulation, pollution, hazmat releases, etc.

In addition the implementation of the following will be coordinated under this ESF

- Mass Fatality Plan
- Mass Casualty Plan
- Biological Emergency Response Plan

ESF 9 - Search and Rescue - There are 2 functional groups within this ESF;

- Building Debris / collapse - This includes urban search and rescue problems generated as the result of a building collapse
- Missing Persons -This group coordinates the assistance in locating persons missing as a result of any one or more of a number of reasons.

ESF 10 – Hazardous Materials - This function is responsible for coordinating the technical response to hazardous materials incidents.

ESF 11 – Agriculture, Environmental, and Animal Care - This function is responsible for assisting local authorities in coordinating;

- Animal and Plant disease / pest response
- Livestock care and sheltering
- Pet care and sheltering

ESF 12 – Utilities - This function is concerned with the restoration of the utility (electrical and gas) infrastructure following a disaster, as well as the provision of temporary emergency power capabilities to critical facilities. Coordination of the restoration of telecommunications is also included in this ESF

ESF 13 – Public Safety and Security

- Traffic Control - This function works closely with the ESF 1 group to affect the orderly flow of traffic into, out of, and around areas affected by a disaster.
- Security/Crime Control - This function addresses the provision of security in disaster areas, as well as the actual policing functions normally associated with law enforcement activities, including riot control, explosive ordinance removal, etc.
- Institutions/Jails - This group is responsible for coordinating prisoner recapture, the utilization of prisons and facilities following disasters, and the moving of prisoners from damaged facilities to undamaged ones.
- Evacuation/Movement - This group is responsible for coordinating the assistance to local governments in carrying out evacuations.

ESF 14 – Community Recovery and Mitigation - This function addresses the long-term economic impact of disasters upon local communities and assists the communities in developing plans for reconstruction. Grant and low-interest loan programs are identified and targeted for application by the community. Significant attention is given to the mitigation of future potential hazards when developing local recovery plans.

ESF 15 – Public Information - This group is responsible for the provision of information (both general and that which conveys emergency instructions to the public) concerning an actual or impending disaster. This function may be merged with ESF #2

Support Annexes

The Support Annexes are developed to support the operations of specific Emergency Support Functions [ESF's] and may be used across a wide spectrum of events or incidents. An example of a Support Annex could be 'Public and Media Affairs' designed to support ESF # 15 - Public Information. However this Support Annex could be used in conjunction with any of the ESF's as needed.

Incident Annexes

Incident Annexes are used to describe the responsibilities and actions for specific events or incidents. An example of an Incident Annex may be 'Mass Casualty Plan' or a response to specific weather related events such as an ice storm or flooding.

Appendices

Appendices are used to attach relevant information that is not already addressed in the Basic Plan, ESF's or Incident Annexes. Examples may include common information such as a glossary, guidelines for Plan exercise and maintenance, or forms used for incident management.