



# Mitigation Action Through Communication

ASFPM 2017 | George Riedel

resilience**action**  
partners | A JOINT VENTURE OF  
OGILVY PUBLIC RELATIONS &  
MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL



# Course Objectives

At the conclusion of the training, attendees will understand:

- Mitigation Action Measures
- FEMA Region VII – Mitigation Action Tracker User Group

# What is Hazard Mitigation Action?



- Any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards
- Action is at the core of the definition.
- How do we sustain action?



# Why We Advance Mitigation Action

- Creates safer communities by reducing loss of life and damage to property and the environment
- Minimizes post-disaster disruption, allowing communities to recover more quickly
- Allows communities to respond and adapt to changing conditions



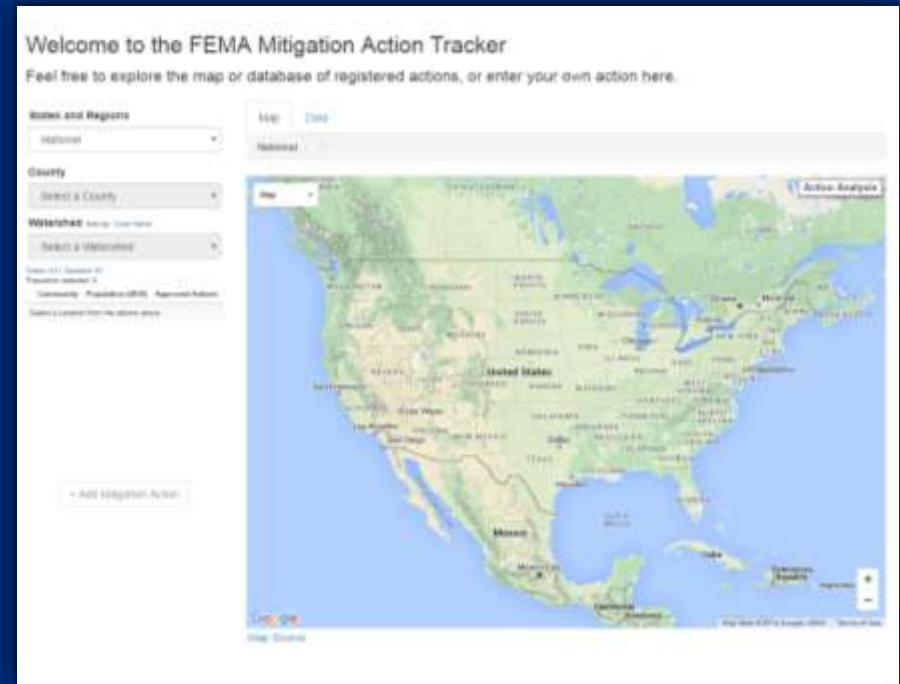
# Why We Advance Mitigation Action

- Generates secondary economic, environmental, and public health benefits
- Empowers individuals to act as agents of change in their communities
- Lessens financial impacts on individuals, communities, and society as a whole



# Mitigation Action Tracker

- A Web-based tool used to capture, store, organize, and track mitigation actions
- Designed to provide:
  - An inventory of actions;
  - A searchable database;
  - Geographic Information System (GIS) capabilities
  - Mitigation ideas; and
  - A resource for tracking actions credited to Risk MAP.





# Mitigation Action Tracker

## National uses

- Documents program progress
- Provides an overview of actions throughout the U.S.
- Creates accountability through metrics
- Targets resources



# Thinking About Actions

- Action is at the core of community resilience.
- Advancing action is key to the Risk MAP vision.
- Long-lasting mitigation actions do not occur in isolation.





# Risk MAP Mitigation Measures

## Plans and Regulations

Government authorities, policies, or codes that influence the way land and buildings are developed.



## Natural Systems Protection

Actions that minimize damage and losses and also preserve or restore the functions of natural systems.



## Structure and Infrastructure Projects

Modifying existing structures or infrastructure to remove them from a hazard area or construction of new structures to reduce impacts of hazards.



## Measuring Success

- The Risk MAP program must demonstrate success in order to continue its stated goal of risk reduction in the local community.
- To monitor Risk MAP's success, FEMA measures:
  - Increases in awareness of flood risk; and
  - Actions taken to reduce risk.



## Risk MAP Mitigation Action Measures

- Action Measure 1 (AM-1)
  - Communities where Risk MAP helped identify or improve mitigation strategies
- Action Measure 2 (AM-2)
  - Communities that have advanced or begun implementing actions
    - Scoped
    - In Progress
    - Completed







# Criteria for Metrics

## Eligibility Criteria for Action Metrics

- **Deployment**
  - A community within a Risk MAP project area where resources are being expended to conduct a study.
- **Mitigation**
  - Actions that directly reduce long-term risk to life and property.
- **Risk MAP Delivered**
  - A Risk MAP project was used to identify or advance an action.
  - Risk MAP technical assistance was used to identify or advance an action.
  - Risk MAP communication or engagement products were used to identify or advance a mitigation action.

# Action Measure Targets

- Regional and National targets

FY16 Metric Performance	
Region	AM-2
	Expected
1	23
2	16
3	22
4	15
5	12
6	42
7	19
8	34
9	6
10	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>

Mitigation Action User Group

**FEMA Region VII  
Mitigation Action User  
Group**





# Mitigation Action User Group

## Purpose

- Coordination
- Transparency
- Technical Assistance
- Consistency



# Mitigation Action User Group

## Participants

- FEMA Staff
- Cooperative Technical Partners (CTPs)
- State Hazard Mitigation Officers (SHMOs)
- Contractors



# Mitigation Action User Group Results

- Effective Coordination
- Better Communication
- Higher Quality of Actions
- Thinking Outside the Box





Questions?

