What is the Mitigation Framework Leadership Group (MitFLG)?

Overview
The Mitigation Framework Leadership Group (MitFLG) provides a coordinating structure for mitigation across the Federal government and with partners in mitigation nationally. The MitFLG operates according to the National Mitigation Framework (NMF), one of the five frameworks under Presidential Policy Directive 8 on National Preparedness and the National Preparedness Goal (NPG). The MitFLG’s mission is to strengthen the nation’s disaster resilience by expanding mitigation awareness, coordination, and action. Mitigation is a cornerstone of a culture of preparedness against disasters.

The MitFLG’s areas of responsibility include the following:
- Promoting and facilitating the coordination of mitigation efforts across the Federal government and with State, local, tribal, and territorial governments (SLTTs) and the private sector
- Assessing the effectiveness of mitigation core capabilities as they are deployed nationally
- Getting information about mitigation opportunities, programs, and benefits, into the hands of local decision-makers
- Coordinating policy recommendations on national-level issues
- Overseeing the maintenance and successful implementation of the NMF, the National Mitigation Investment Strategy, and the Mitigation Federal Interagency Operational Plan (FIOP)
- Coordinating interagency efforts to inform the annual National Preparedness Report

More about the National Mitigation Framework and Mitigation Core Capabilities
Focusing on the mitigation aspect of preparedness, the NMF addresses how the nation will develop, deploy, and coordinate mitigation core capabilities to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters.

Core capabilities are the distinct elements needed to achieve the NPG. The NMF describes each of its seven core capabilities, depicted in Figure 1, and lists critical tasks for each one. These capabilities are necessary to reduce the loss of life and property by lessening the effects of disasters.

Figure 1: Mitigation Core Capabilities

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1 Mitigation is defined in the National Preparedness Goal as “the capabilities necessary to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters”
Composition of the MitFLG
The MitFLG includes representatives from the Federal government and state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments. It is chaired by FEMA in consultation with Department of Homeland Security leadership. Consistent with Presidential Policy Directive 1: Organization of the National Security Council System, the MitFLG coordinates with the relevant National Security Council Interagency Policy Committees. The current chair, by designation, is the Associate Administrator of the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration. The MitFLG’s SLTT representation is nominated by Federal membership on staggered two-year terms to ensure that the MitFLG is informed of state, local, tribal and territorial issues that affect the national as a whole. Private industry coordination with the MitFLG occurs through coordinating structures, such as the Government and Sector Coordinating Councils (GCCs and SCCs), that have a mitigation-focused mission.

The MitFLG membership includes Federal department and agency senior officials who can speak authoritatively on behalf of their respective government organizations. Federal membership includes, but is not limited to:

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Defense
- Department of Energy
- Environmental Protection Agency
- General Services Administration
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of the Interior
- Department of Justice
- Small Business Administration
- Department of Transportation
- Department of the Treasury

Current Non-Federal representation includes:
- Catawba County, North Carolina
- State of Tennessee
- State of Utah
- State of Wisconsin

Key Accomplishments
The following list provides a sample of the endeavors and activities of the MitFLG and its members:

- Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Implementing Guidelines (E.O. 13728)
- Building Code Adoption & Enforcement Strategy (established to address Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Strategy Recommendation #25)
- Community Resilience Indicators and National-Level Measures: A Draft Interagency Concept
- Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (E.O. 13690)
- Federal Seismic Risk Management Standard (E.O. 13717)
- National Preparedness Goal – 2015 Refresh
- National Planning Frameworks – 2015 Refresh
- Federal Interagency Operational Plans – 2015 Refresh
- National Preparedness Reports – Annual Input Process
- National Mitigation Investment Strategy (GAO 15-515)

MitFLG Priorities
The National Mitigation Investment Strategy (“Investment Strategy” or “NMIS”) was released in August 2019. This document is a single national strategy for advancing mitigation investment to reduce risks posed by natural hazard (for example, floods, hurricanes, tornados, wildfires, earthquakes) and
increasing the nation’s resilience to natural hazards. The MitFLG is responsible for guiding implementation of this strategy, which will involve the whole community. In order to support implementation, the MitFLG has created an NMIS Implementation Team.

The Implementation Team serves as a catalyst to identify and promote investments in mitigation that are effective in achieving the Investment Strategy goals based on criteria established by the Implementation Team Leads. The Implementation Team uses the Investment Strategy as a guiding document, focusing its efforts on achieving the three goals and their supporting recommendations.

More than 50 individuals from 18 agencies, as well as SLTT members, serve on the Implementation Team. The Implementation Team consists of five Working Groups focused on specific aspects of NMIS implementation. These Working Groups are expected to focus on their particular area of expertise, while also working together where opportunities overlap.

- Non-Governmental Organizations/Private Sector Partnerships Working Group;
- SLTT Initiatives Working Group;
- Interagency Cooperation Working Group;
- Data Collection and Substantiation Working Group; and
- Communications Working Group.

The Implementation Team is tasked with identifying key priorities each year that support the implementation of the Investment Strategy. The MitFLG reviews and approves these priorities, supports Implementation Team activities, and determines progress toward achieving success.