

## **“STRAWMAN” DISASTER RESILIENCE STANDARD FOR COMMUNITY- AND FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS**

1. The organization has defined its disaster mission and it is embraced by the organization leadership.
2. The organization has identified the hazards it faces and has assessed the impacts on the organization’s operations.
3. The organization’s facility(ies) and operations are disaster resilient.
4. The organization has developed and maintains Disaster Operations Plans which will enable the organization to safeguard employees and clients, carry out its disaster mission, and resume essential operations.
5. The organization has entered into formal agreements necessary to carry out the Disaster Operations Plans.
6. The organization has plans in place to accept donations and utilize volunteers, as necessary, to carry out the Disaster Operations Plans.
7. The organization trains employees and volunteers on the Disaster Operations Plans and exercises the Plans on a regular basis.
8. The organization conducts client education on disaster preparedness and its disaster mission.
9. The organization has a strategy for post-disaster financial stability and sustainment of operations.

### **Potential indicators for the standard elements**

#### *1) Disaster mission*

- a) The organization has defined its mission in a collaborative, coordinated process
- b) The mission is formally adopted by the organization’s governing body
- c) The mission is part of the organization’s strategic plan
- d) Staff, clients and other key stakeholders are aware of the disaster mission



- 2) *Hazard identification and assessment*
  - a) The organization understands the risks facing its host community and the impacts on the community
  - b) The organization understands the implications of those risks for their own facilities, operations, and clients
  - c) The organization has identified structural and non-structural hazards
  - d) Potential hazards arising from neighboring facilities are understood and considered
  - e) Workplace hazards are identified
  
- 3) *Facility resilience*
  - a) The organization has a Facility Resilience Strategy
  - b) The organization addresses structural and non-structural mitigation
  - c) The organization addresses hazards from the immediate environment (such as adjacent structures, building security, or within the workplace)
  - d) The organization has identified critical resources and back-up resource providers
  - e) The organization has identified alternative operating locations and facilities for delivering critical services if the primary site is unusable
  
- 4) *Disaster Operations Plans (including facility, continuity of operations/business continuity [COOP/BCP] and emergency operations/response plans)*
  - a) The organization has a building evacuation plan
  - b) There is a written plan to carry out the organization's disaster mission, identifying roles and responsibilities, developed with the organization's stakeholders
  - c) The organization has a COOP/BCP
  - d) The plan outlines a "command structure" and assigns roles and responsibilities for carrying out plan steps (how, when, and by whom)
  - e) The plan includes primary and alternate procedures for notifying critical staff and key partners
  - f) The plan includes procedures for communicating with local government, including providing situation assessment information
  - g) The plan identifies critical resources and how additional resources are obtained
  - h) The plan is supported by checklists and similar tools
  - i) The plan identifies an "operations center" and locations where services will be delivered
  
- 5) *Disaster-specific agreements for collaborations and support (local government, suppliers, etc.)*
  - a) The organization has identified opportunities for collaboration
  - b) The organization has agreements with local government
  - c) The organization has agreements with partner organizations, critical suppliers, and other cooperating organizations for post disaster support and resupply
  
- 6) *Donations and volunteers management*
  - a) The organization has plans in place to communicate disaster resource needs
  - b) The organization has procedures for accepting/using donated goods
  - c) The organization has procedures for recruiting and using volunteers
  - d) The organization has procedures for accepting donated funds



- 7) *Training, exercises and continuous improvement*
  - a) The organization conducts training for staff/volunteers on the plans
  - b) The organization conducts exercises of its plans
  - c) The organization participates in local exercises
  - d) The organization conducts general preparedness training for staff, volunteers, and clients
  
- 8) *Client and community education*
  - a) The organization provides preparedness information to clients
  - b) The organization communicates its disaster mission to clients and the public
  
- 9) *Financial resilience, stability and planning*
  - a) The organization’s role in long term community recovery is identified
  - b) The organization participates in collaborative post-disaster fundraising
  - c) There are procedures to track disaster expenditures
  - d) The organization has MOUs and procedures in place to recover disaster-related costs from local, state and federal governments
  - e) The organization has considered the need for an Emergency Reserve Fund

**Grouping of Elements (using letter/number from prior section) by Preparedness Dimensions**

Preparedness Dimensions (Sutton/Tierney <sup>i</sup> )							
Hazard Knowledge	Management, Direction, Coordination	Formal & Informal Plans	Supportive Resources	Life Safety Protection	Property Protection	Coping & Restore Functions	Initiate Recovery
2a	1a	4b	3a	4a	3a	4c	9a
2b	4b	4d	3c	7d	4c		9b
	7a	4e	4e	8a			
	7b	4f	4g	8b			
	7c	5a	4i				
			5b				
			6a				
			6b				
			6c				
			6d				
			9c				
			9d				

<sup>i</sup> Jeanette Sutton and Kathleen Tierney, *Disaster Preparedness: Concepts, Guidance, and Research*, 2006, Natural Hazards Center, University of Colorado ([www.colorado.edu/hazards](http://www.colorado.edu/hazards))