



# 2015 Interagency Flood Risk Management Workshop Agenda December 2-4, 2015 Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center



## Workshop Objectives

- Discuss and identify the role of flood risk management role in ongoing national policy initiatives.
- Explore *resilience* as an organizing framework to develop and implement whole community strategies with a focus on flood risk management.
- Solicit feedback on future direction and guidance to further develop the USACE Flood Risk Management program.

## Post Workshop Outcomes

- Improved project delivery resulting in measurable flood risk management and resilience.
- Incorporation of flood risk management concepts in future national policy initiatives.
- Improved integration of USACE Flood Risk Management related activities.
- Improved ability of participants to work with new and existing partners to identify, design and implement projects that flood risk reduction and risk management outcomes.

**Theme of the Workshop:** Explore *resilience* as an organizing framework. What do the broader developing principles and specific initiatives associated with resilience offer for improving flood risk management generally and interagency flood risk management projects specifically? What achievements can flood risk management offer that support and further resilience?

During the workshop, each participating state will be able to develop interagency project ideas through a series of three exercises, with each exercise building on the previous one. Each small group will include a state representative, a USACE flood risk manager or Silver Jackets Coordinator, and other available experts including those from other agencies. Small group exercises will integrate opportunities drawn from a resilience framework into their project ideas; each group will also receive feedback from other selected small groups on their work. By the end of the linked exercises, each state's original idea will be more fully developed and documented, useful for future funding opportunities and strengthened partnership approaches.

Note: Sessions denoted by an asterisk (\*) will also be available via webinar for virtual participants.

## **Tuesday December 1, 2015**

**6:00–8:00 pm      Sign-In / Registration**

**Poster Session Opens**

## **Wednesday December 2, 2015**

**7:00–8:00 am      Sign-In / Registration**

**Poster Session Open**

**\*8:00–8:15 am      Welcome and Leadership Opening Remarks**  
*Ms. Karen Durham-Aguilera, USACE Director of Contingency Operations and Homeland Security*

**\*8:15–9:00 am      Resilience: An Organizing Principle to Help You Get More Out of Your Flood Risk Management Program**  
*Dr. Gerald Galloway, Research Professor, University of Maryland*

This session will discuss national resilience initiatives, beyond government, including the Resilient America Program of the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Math and the Rockefeller Foundation 100 Resilient Cities and the National Disaster Resilience Competition partnership with HUD.

**\*9:00–9:45 am      Federal and State Agency Panel on Resilience Programs**  
*Moderator: Ms. Sheri Moore, USACE Resilience Program Manager*

Panelists will discuss the incorporation of resilience into agency programs and activities and offer insights into what advantages the resilience approaches may offer for flood risk management. Q&A session will follow.

- Ms. Sheri Moore, USACE Resilience Program, will discuss the agency's Resilience Program and scope of Resilience efforts.
- Mr. Robert Shumeyko, HUD, will discuss efforts to incorporate concepts of Resilience into HUD's housing and community development mission, such as projects developed under the Rebuild by Design competition in areas affected by Super Storm Sandy and the National Disaster Resilience Competition.
- Mr. Dave Bollinger, FEMA, will discuss the Community Resilience Indicators initiative as well as other FEMA resilience efforts.
- Ms. Jennifer Nelson, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, MN HSEM, will provide feedback from the state perspective on federally-led resilience programs, specifically focusing on opportunities for federal programs to better support state needs.

**9:45–10:15 am      Break**

*2015 Interagency Flood Risk Management Workshop*

**\*10:15–11:15 am Exploring Nonstructural Activities**

***Moderator: Ms. Lisa Bourget, USACE***

Ms. Lisa Bourget, USACE, will first provide an overview of an initiative to support natural, nature-based, and nonstructural approaches to flood risk management. Panel members will present on a variety of nonstructural activities and approaches supported by interagency efforts.

- Ms. Trish Garrigan, EPA Region 1, will discuss contributions to community resilience through the use of green infrastructure, low impact development, stormwater management and flood resilience tools
- Mr. Kim Gavigan, USACE National Nonstructural Flood Proofing Committee (NFPC) Executive Secretary, will discuss assistance the NFPC can bring to project teams including Nonstructural Workshops
- Nonstructural project examples and lessons learned
  - Mr. Nick Sims, USACE New Orleans District – Terrebonne Living Mitigation (the “bioshield”), Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana
  - Mr. Tony Krause, USACE Omaha District – Outreach Efforts for Two Nebraska Silver Jackets Nonstructural Efforts

**11:15am –12:15pm Project Development Exercise 1: Assessing and Articulating Your Project’s Flood Risk and Resilience Outcomes**

Mr. Brian Rast will summarize key elements from USACE discussions regarding the Flood Risk Management program and its alignment with resiliency efforts. Small groups will break out to review project ideas, identify the flood risk management objectives to be achieved by the project and co-benefits of the project (social, environmental, economic). Small groups should be prepared to share highlights and questions from this discussion for feedback with other groups after lunch.

**12:15–1:15pm Lunch**

**1:15–2:00 pm Feedback Session: Exercise 1**

Small groups will come together with available expertise and a select number of other small groups. Each group will present their project concept and projected co-benefits and pose questions for feedback.

**\*2:00–3:00 pm      Developing Meaningful Measurements**  
*Mr. Matt Chadsey, Earth Economics*  
*Moderator: Mr. Tom Morey, Kansas NFIP Coordinator, Kansas*  
*Department of Agriculture*

Mr. Chadsey will present on Earth Economics’ work to develop meaningful measurements for typically non-monetized benefits as well as their attempts to quantify and monetize those benefits. Work to identify meaningful measurements from interagency projects will also be highlighted, with specific reference to how those measurements are useful in project proposal, execution and documentation. Q&A to follow session.

Examples of projects measuring and documenting benefits and outcomes will include:

- Mr. Ryan Cahill, USACE Portland District – Oregon’s Rapid Assessment of Flooding Tool (RAFT)
- Mr. Tom Morey, Kansas State NFIP Coordinator – Kansas’s Wildcat Creek, Big Blue River, and Little Apple Nonstructural Assessment interagency projects

**3:00–3:30 pm      Break**

**3:30–4:45 pm      Project Development Exercise #2: Developing Project-Oriented Meaningful Measurements**

Small groups will consider how their project’s anticipated impacts and co-benefits identified in Exercise 1 can be described, tracked and evaluated. Groups will discuss quantifying meaningful measures for co-benefits when possible and ways to capture more qualitative benefits.

**4:45–5:15 pm      Small Project Group Report Out and Q&A Session**

A couple of small groups will be asked share a key point or two about their project in order to highlight creative approaches or unique aspects. Flood Risk Management Program personnel and workshop presenters will respond to written questions provided prior to the afternoon break, followed by opportunity for verbal questions and responses.

**5:15 pm      Adjourn**

*Dinner on your own. The Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center provides shuttles to nearby restaurants.*

## **Thursday, December 3, 2015**

**\*8:00–8:45 am      Intersection of Resiliency and Flood Risk Management**  
*Ms. Karen Durham-Aguilera, Director of Contingency Operations and Homeland Security*  
*Mr. Roy Wright, Deputy Associate Administrator for Insurance & Mitigation, FEMA*

Ms. Durham-Aguilera will discuss overarching resilience and flood risk management objectives, in particular those that involve interagency coordination. Mr. Wright will discuss FEMA's efforts to include community resilience in FEMA programs, including development of resilience indicators, participation with the Department of Housing and Urban Development in the National Resilience Competition, and FEMA's support for Silver Jacket's teams. A Q&A session will follow.

**\*8:45–9:30 am      Policy Changes in Support of Flood Risk Management**  
*Moderator: Mr. Jeff Jensen, Deputy Director USACE National Flood Risk Management Program*

Key themes for this panel will include updates to USACE policies to apply risk-informed decision making, promoting a more holistic and community approach to flood risk management in leveed communities and building in resilience concepts.

- Mr. Eric Halpin, Acting USACE Administrator, National Levee Safety Program, will discuss evolving Levee Safety policies and the National Levee Safety Program
- Dr. Stephanie Bray, Emergency Management Specialist, will discuss USACE guidance on Federal Flood Risk Management Standard
- Mr. Jeff Jensen, Deputy Director, USACE National Flood Risk Management Program, will discuss updates to USACE guidance on the Civil Emergency Management Program (ER 500-1-1)

**9:30–10:00 am      Break**

**\*10:00–11:15 am      Connecting Science to Action and Adaptation**  
*Moderator: Ms. Marie Pepler, Flood Inundation Mapping Coordinator, USGS*

Panelists will discuss several efforts to use scientific data and information to promote action and adaptation. Panelists will explore resources available to assist communities in addressing challenges including water resources planning, evacuation planning, and response to warnings, focusing on how to use science to inform and motivate action. Q&A session to follow panel.

- Dr. Kate White, USACE Institute for Water Resources, will discuss resources and opportunities to assist communities in enhancing their climate change preparedness and resilience with respect water resource planning and management.
- Ms. Adrienne Harrison, NOAA-Office for Coastal Management, NH Regional Office, will share examples of actions that coastal communities have taken to increase resilience to coastal flooding and erosion and highlight the data, tools, and techniques that supported their ability to take action.

- Mr. Jason Needham, USACE Risk Management Center, will describe research conducted by social scientists to assess key components of evacuation effectiveness and what the results say about evacuation planning, exercising and implementation.
- Ms. Rachel Carr, Nurture Nature Center, will present the Center’s Coastal Flood Forecast Response study *“They had the facts, Why didn’t they act?: Understanding and improving public response to the National Weather Service’s coastal flood forecasts.”*
- Mr. Terry Zien, USACE St. Paul District, will present the Emergency Action Plan Guide, an example of connecting science to action.

**\*11:15am–12:15pm Funding a More Holistic Effort - Bringing In New Partners and Resources**

***Moderator: Mr. Scott Whitney, MVD Regional Flood Risk Manager, USACE***

This session will explore the link between project benefits, partners, and partner resources, including funding. Mr. Whitney will discuss how the session connects to and builds on values and measurable benefits and outline how the session will contribute to developing interagency projects.

- Mr. Derek Gardels, AAAS Fellow with USACE IWR, will discuss public-private partnerships in the context of flood risk management.
- Ms. Molly King, Center for Disaster Philanthropy, will present on the opportunities for and potential benefits of partnering with philanthropy.
- Examples of innovative partnering will include:
  - Mr. Phetmano Phannavong, DC Department of Energy and Environment – Flood Fighting Exercise, Washington, DC
  - Mr. Craig Conner, USACE San Francisco District – San Mateo County Vulnerability Analysis, CA
  - Ms. Ronda Oberlin, City of Lansing Office of Emergency Management – Early Flood Warning System, Lansing Area, MI

**12:15–1:15 pm Lunch**

**1:15–2:30 pm Project Development Exercise #3: Funding a More Holistic Effort: Bringing In New Partners and Resources**

Small groups will discuss their proposal/project in more specificity and explore key project collaborators, their roles, resources they can contribute to the project and strategies for engaging broader partners.

**2:30–3:00 pm Break**

**3:00–4:00 pm Project Presentations & Inter-Project Feedback on Measuring Project Benefits**

Small groups will come together with available expertise and a select number of other small groups. Each group will present highlights from their exercise discussions, pose questions for feedback, and discuss challenges and opportunities.

**4:00–4:30 pm            Presentation and Feedback Session on Future USACE Flood Risk Management Program**

***Mr. Doug Bellomo, Special Assistant for Flood Risk Management***

Mr. Bellomo will make a brief presentation regarding future direction of the FRM and Silver Jackets Programs. Participants will be asked to provide feedback on overall direction. Feedback will be used to inform program guidance updates.

**4:30–5:00 pm            Small Project Group Report Out and Q&A Session**

A couple of small groups will be asked share a key point or two about their project in order to highlight creative approaches or unique aspects. Flood Risk Management Program personnel and workshop speakers will respond to written questions provided prior to the afternoon break, followed by opportunity for verbal questions and responses.

**5:00–5:30 pm            Workshop Debrief and Closing Plenary**

***Mr. Mark Roupas, Deputy for Homeland Security and Director of the Flood Risk Management Program***

Mr. Roupas will highlight outstanding activities in the Flood Risk Management and Silver Jackets programs and summarize key workshop take-aways and action items.

**5:30 pm            Adjourn**

*Dinner on your own. The Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center provides shuttles to nearby restaurants.*

## **Friday, December 4, 2015**

**7:45–8:00 am** Participants attending the **Hartford Levee System Field Trip** planning to be dropped off at the Hartford Airport should load luggage on the bus.

**8:00–8:30 am** **Keeping Momentum: 10 Years of Success**  
*The Indiana Silver Jackets Team*

The Indiana Silver Jackets will share their model for keeping up momentum in state Silver Jackets teams. The Indiana team, now nearing their 10-year anniversary, continues to grow and has become a well-respected organization and authority on flood risk in their state.

**8:30–10:30 am** **Participant-Directed Meeting Time**

Participants will have the option to:

1. Meet in state-specific small groups to further refine interagency project ideas.
2. Meet with available expertise for additional support and feedback.
3. Meet as regional teams to discuss how the knowledge developed at the workshop will be implemented at home.

**8:40 am–1:00 pm** **Hartford Levee System Field Trip**

Field trip participants will join USACE New England District, State of Connecticut, and the city of Hartford (local levee sponsor), touring the Hartford Levee System and exploring interim risk reduction measures and risk communication opportunities and challenges.

Space is limited on this field trip. If you have signed up, we hope you will join us. If you haven't signed up and would like to be on the wait-list, please sign-up at the registration desk.

Please note: Participants will arrive at Hartford airport ~12:00pm or return to Southbridge ~1:00pm. *Note: Field Trip participants will not be able to use the complementary shuttle to Boston/Logan Airport and should have alternative transportation.*

**10:45 am** **Direct Airport Shuttles Departures** from Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center to Hartford (BDL) and Boston (BOS) airports

**11:00 am** **Poster Session Closes**