Strategic Foresight Initiative
Summary Briefing

National Science and Technology Council
Disaster Reduction Subcommittee Meeting
May 3, 2012

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Agenda

• Overview of the Strategic Foresight Initiative (SFI)
• Research and Stakeholder Engagements
• Findings and Insights
• Q&A
SFI Overview

• Understand the factors driving change that will impact emergency and disaster management over a 20-year horizon
• Develop a shared sense of direction and urgency in the emergency management community that enables us to drive to action
• Collectively prepare for the future across multi-sectors
• Plan for and take action to meet the evolving needs
## Community Involvement

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Emergency Management Community</th>
<th>Engaged in:</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Federal, state, local, tribal emergency managers</td>
<td>• Research</td>
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<td>• First responders</td>
<td>• Conference calls and Webinars</td>
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<td>• Business partners</td>
<td>• Workshops and conferences</td>
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<td>• NGOs</td>
<td>• Online engagement</td>
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<td>• Other federal agencies</td>
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<td>• Academia</td>
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SFI Approach

**ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING**
- Initial Research
- Scoping Workshop

**IDENTIFY DRAFT DRIVERS**
- Accelerator/Derailer Workshops
- Expert Outreach
- Topical Webinars/Concalls

**SCENARIO PLANNING**
- Evaluate Existing Scenarios
- Customize Scenarios
- SFI Scenario Workshop
- ID Strategic Needs

**ADVANCING & SUSTAINING FORESIGHT**
- Expand and Share Research
- Apply SFI Findings
- Engage Stakeholders

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Strategic Foresight Initiative
SFI Drivers

- Changing Role of the Individual
- Climate Change
- Critical Infrastructure
- Evolving Terrorist Threat
- Global Interdependencies
- Government Budgets
- Technological Innovation and Dependency
- Universal Access to and Use of Information
- US Demographic Shifts
Select Driver Implications

- Aging infrastructure will challenge response and recovery
- Global interdependencies raise questions about the emergency management community’s role in international events
- Advances in technology (e.g. smartphones, tablets) empower individuals by broadening access to information and promoting a sharing rather than hierarchical information environment
- US demographic shifts – i.e. larger, older, more diverse, and more geographically concentrated – pose challenges to communication, response and recovery efforts, among others
Predictive Planning:

“Most Likely” Future

Master Plan

Today

Scenario Planning:

Multiple Futures

Strategic Needs & Actions

Today
### Scenario Workshop Findings

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<tr>
<th>Strategic Need Theme</th>
<th>Strategic Needs</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Essential Capabilities</strong></td>
<td>- Develop emergency management capabilities to address population and migratory shifts</td>
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<td>- Omni-directional communication</td>
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<td>- Public training and education</td>
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<td>- Leverage volunteer capabilities</td>
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<td>- Futures thinking and planning</td>
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<td><strong>Innovative Models and Tools</strong></td>
<td>- Alternative surge models</td>
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<td>- New risk management tools and processes</td>
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<td>- Influence technology</td>
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<td>- Flexible frameworks</td>
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<td>- Collaborate around shared interests</td>
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<td>- Supply and natural resource vulnerabilities</td>
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<td><strong>Dynamic Relationships and Partnerships</strong></td>
<td>- Empower individuals and communities</td>
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<td>- Engage business community</td>
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<td>- International collaboration</td>
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<td>- Collaboration with military</td>
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Understanding Strategic Needs

• Omni-directional knowledge sharing
• Full public/private involvement in all phases of emergency and disaster management
• Alternative surge models
• Enabling frameworks for cross-sector activity
• New risk management tools and processes
Our Future Landscape

• We will face increasing complexity and decreasing predictability
• Future resource constraints are seemingly unavoidable
• Individuals, families, neighborhoods, communities, and the private sector will likely play an increasingly active role in meeting emergency management needs
• Trust – between the public and government – must be strengthened
Advancing and Sustaining Foresight

Advancing & Sustaining Foresight

- Expand and Share Research
- Apply SFI Findings
- Engage Stakeholders
Get Involved in SFI

• Email FEMA-OPPA-SFI@fema.gov to get involved in SFI and to receive regular updates and information on engagement opportunities

• Engage in the online dialogue: www.fema.ideascale.com

• Visit our Web site: http://www.fema.gov/about/programs/oppa/strategic_foreight_initiative.shtm
Thank You!