



COOPERATING TECHNICAL PARTNERS (CTP) COLLABORATION MONTHLY

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Need help with ND Grants? Visit [FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov). For assistance, please reach out to your FEMA Region CTP Lead.

Best Practice Templates are located in the [Best Practices](#) section on the CTP Collaboration Center.

[Register for Access to the CTP Collaboration Center](#)

Click the link below to register for access to the CTP

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Program Updates

CTP Summer Course Recap: Virtual Setting Expands Participation While Maintaining Engagement

The CTP Summer Course was held virtually via Zoom on August 3-5, 2020. The course focused on Communication and Outreach Topics, with a special focus on the emerging field of Community-Based Social Marketing (CBSM). The CBSM plenary and workshop was led by the CBSM founder and world-renowned psychologist, Dr. McKenzie-Mohr. These sessions focused on innovative approaches to overcoming barriers to increase mitigation at the local level. The course also included four CTP Peer Presentations, allowing presenters to share best practices and knowledge with their fellow CTPs.

The course was highly successful, with an average participation of 80-85 students per day representing every FEMA Region and HQ. There was continuous active discussion and information exchanged both verbally and virtually, and the chat window allowed presenters and participants to share resources and ask questions. Virtual "break-out rooms" were used successfully for the CBSM Workshop exercises. Students submitted highly positive feedback about the course, including insights for RMD Communications and CTP leadership. Many attendees expressed an interest in having a similar course offering and format in the future to supplement the in-person courses at EMI that are traditionally offered on a biannual basis.

All course materials, including recordings and presentations, are saved [on the CTP Collaboration Center](#).

Dates and topics of the upcoming 2021 CTP Special Topics Courses are listed below. Additional guidance about in-person versus virtual delivery will be released in the coming weeks, in addition to the registration link.

Technical Focus Course

- April 19-21, 2021
- Aligned to the Risk MAP mapping lifecycle, this course will focus on the technical components of a study, such as data collection, modeling techniques, 1D versus 2D studies, FIRM production, flood risk products, Guidelines & Standards, and more.

Communications and Outreach Focus Course

- August 23-26, 2021
- Agenda details are forthcoming in future CTP Monthly communications

Ready.gov Celebrates September as National Preparedness Month

FEMA aims to build a culture of preparedness by sharing resources, building awareness, and educating families and communities on the importance of being prepared should a disaster strike. Each September, Ready.gov acknowledges National Preparedness Month to encourage family and community disaster planning.



The 2020 National Preparedness Month theme is: "Disasters Don't Wait. Make Your Plan Today"

Throughout National Preparedness Month, each week is broken down into key themes to help families and communities build a foundation of preparedness. This year, as COVID-19 continues to impact communities across the country, there is no better time to learn more and help educate communities on how they can prepare for the next disaster.

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Week 1 September 1-5: [Make A Plan](#)

The first week of National Preparedness Month highlights the importance of friends and families discussing how they will communicate before, during, and after a disaster. Week one also emphasizes the importance of ensuring that personal

NAFSMA Goes Virtual for August 2020 Conference

More than 145 participants, including representatives from many of RMD's Cooperating Technical Partners Program, attended the National Association of Flood & Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA) 2020 Virtual Flood and Stormwater Conference. The two-day conference, held August 11-12, included virtual skills workshops, policy updates, panel discussions, and presentations from representatives across RMD and FIMA.



On August 12, Deputy Associate Administrator for FIMA David Maurstad led a session featuring several presentations from FIMA. First, Engineering and Modeling Director Luis Rodriguez kicked off the panel with an update on the Future of Flood Risk Data (FFRD) initiative. Then National CTP Program Coordinator Laura Algeo provided an update on the CTP program and CTPs' contributions to FFRD, and Deputy Assistant Administrator for Risk Management Angie Gladwell discussed the role CTPs play in the National Mitigation Investment Strategy. The panel closed with a presentation from Assistant Administrator for Mitigation Katherine Fox on the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program, and she was followed by a dynamic virtual question and answer session moderated by Mr. Maurstad.

The conference also featured a workshop by RMD Communications Lead Peter Herrick on the power of experiential storytelling and the role that behavioral science plays in risk communications. Peter also gave an overview of community-based social marketing and shared new tools in RMD's CERC Playbook that aim to equip FEMA staff, CTPs, and providers with the knowledge necessary to empower communities to use this powerful and effective methodology.

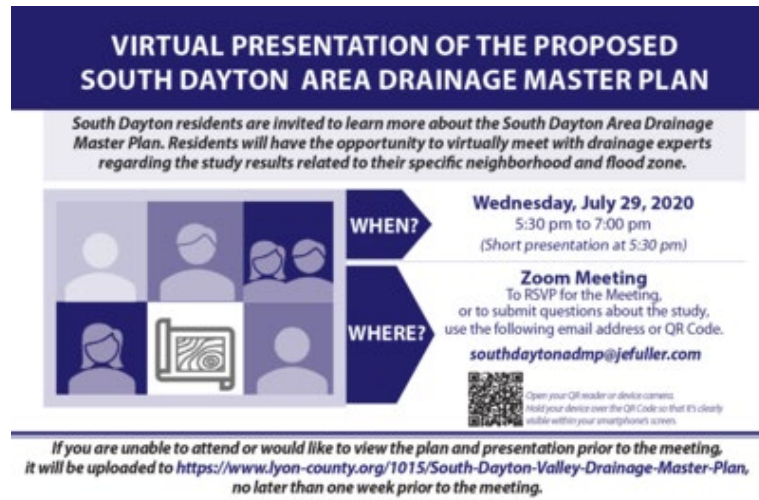
Both sessions were fantastic and had some great questions and feedback, showing once again that virtual meetings and conversations can be wonderful opportunities for sharing and relationship building!

For more information, please reach out to Vince Brown at Vincent.Brown@fema.dhs.gov.

Carson Water Subconservancy District Hosts Successful Virtual Public Meeting

In the context of social distancing, virtual conferences, and teleworking due to COVID-19, the Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD) has tackled the challenge of holding virtual public meetings. CWSD recently held a public meeting over Zoom to present the results of the [South Dayton Valley Area Drainage Master Plan](#) to residents in Lyon County, Nevada. Their experience resulted in positive take-aways as well as insights for future virtual engagement.

Zoom was chosen as the platform to conduct the virtual public meeting because its webinar format allowed the host to control the meeting, other team members to post comments so panelists could respond, and residents attend and post questions. Once the platform was chosen, postcard invitations were mailed to residents two weeks prior to the meeting. The postcards, shown below, included links to the study and instructions for signing up to attend and posting questions ahead of time.



Postcard Invitation to the Virtual Public Meeting on the South Dayton Valley Area Drainage Master Plan

The presentation team, which included Lyon County planners, its contract engineers, JE Fuller and Lumos & Associates contractors and CWSD staff, prepared carefully ahead of time. Critical preparation steps included being well versed in the study results and identifying potential concerns of residents. It was also essential to assign clear roles before the meeting, including who would welcome attendees, introduce panelists, control muting/unmuting attendees, monitor questions posted in the chat box, and record the meeting and save the chat log. A trial run was conducted a week before the public meeting so any glitches could be identified.

The team's thorough preparation allowed the meeting to run smoothly. The table below includes details on what went particularly well, and what could be improved upon.

What CWSD did well:	What could be improved:
Preparation: data tour, planning meeting & practice run contributed to a well-run meeting.	Preregistration that includes first and last name, email, and zip code.
Residents were able to preview study and submit questions prior to meeting.	Consider social equity: how to engage residents who are not tech-savvy or do not have computer access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include call-in phone number on postcard so residents can listen by phone. • Advertise that tech support is available to assist attendees who may have trouble logging onto Zoom. Provide the tech support phone number on postcards and at the start of the meeting. • Make sure a team member is assigned to answer tech support questions in the chat window.
Reply to registrants confirming they were	Ice breaker poll question to be answered in chat.

registered with links to study and other pertinent information.	
Digital housekeeping: letting attendees know the format of the meeting, and how their questions will be received and answered.	Consider whether resident questions should be anonymous to protect privacy.
	Follow up with an email thanking participants, reminding of future public meetings and providing contact information and links to the study and presentation.

While the virtual format added a layer of complexity and required more preparation by CWSD, it was widely considered to be a success. More than 30 people attended, which was a similar rate of attendance to past in-person meetings. Providing a space for public outreach and an opportunity for residents to ask questions and receive timely answers is critical for a project to succeed. With social distancing, the venues and means of providing this space is altered, but with technology and thorough planning a successful public meeting can be accomplished.

For more information, please contact Deborah Neddenriep at debbie@cwsd.org.

Training Opportunities

Sept 9th CERC Webinar: Pursuing Innovative Partnerships to Link Risks to Community Concerns

Can you use “mitigation” and “arts” in the same sentence? How about “mitigation” and “public health” or “mitigation” and “agriculture”? Yes, it can be done. FEMA Regions are building innovative partnerships with industry sectors, bringing hazard mitigation to life by linking it to everyday concerns.

Join this 1-hour **Community Engagement and Risk Communication (CERC) webinar** to hear how:

- FEMA Region II is initiating conversations with non-traditional groups in the arts, public health, and other sectors to make investments in mitigation relevant and risk information accessible to communities;
- Enterprise Community Partners, a nationwide nonprofit and FEMA Region II partner, is assisting communities to develop housing that can sustain impacts of natural hazards and incorporate innovative resiliency ideas into post-event reconstruction; and
- FEMA Region II’s Guide to Expanding Mitigation series encourages others to explore innovative and emerging partnerships for mitigation.

Presenters will include Jack Heide (FEMA Region II), Kelly Pflücke (FEMA Region II), Laurie Schoeman (Enterprise Community Partners), and Jenny Gutierrez (Resilience Action Partners).

Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2020

Time: 1 pm ET

Call Details:

- Participate via [this WebEx Link](#) on September 9 at 1 pm ET
- Audio Connection: We suggest using the WebEx “call me” feature when you log in. Inbound phone lines may be limited. You can also try to connect by dialing 571-209-6390 and entering access code 991 501 822#.

This course has been approved for one ASFPM CEC. For additional information, please see the full [announcement and attachments on the CTP Collaboration Center](#).

FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute (EMI): COVID-19 Update

COVID-19 Update

Emergency Management Institute training at the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) and at field locations is cancelled through at least October 1, 2020. This suspension supports CDC social distancing recommendations and allows EMI students to focus on their families and communities. If you were scheduled for a class at NETC, the Admissions Office will contact you to reschedule. EMI will work to reschedule courses for later in the year to the maximum extent possible.

Training Opportunities

Despite some delays and cancellations due to COVID-19, EMI is still offering many courses. For information on EMI classes and webinars, please visit the [EMI website](#).

Online Training: The Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) 101 Overview Course



The [CTP 101 eLearning course](#) is available on the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) training website. This course is designed for communities and Regional and State agencies that are participating in the CTP Programs. The course provides a foundational overview of the CTP Program and addresses specific areas such as funding, resources, eligible activities and Program evolution. The advantages to taking this eLearning course are:

New CTPs (1-3 years): Gain a detailed overview of the Program from funding basics to the future of the Program. New CTPs gain a basic understanding of Program elements, functions, terms, concepts and helpful tools.

Mid-Level CTPs (4-10 years): Review the Program basics, receive clarification of foundational concepts, explore available tools and resources and be introduced to evolution and Program direction.

Senior CTPs (>10 years): Review the Program basics and receive clarification of concepts, Program evolution details and direction.

Other Stakeholders: This course is also valuable to organizations who desire to become CTPs, FEMA Risk MAP Staff and providers. These audiences can build foundational program knowledge, an overview of programmatic processes and program history.

Students receive 0.2 CEUs.

The course is also available via mobile technology. You can take course via smart phone, tablet or computer. Compatible systems include iOS and Android. [Click here to take the course](#).

Training Hotlinks

The CTP Program offers a number of training opportunities. Some of our top training resources are:

1. [The Self-Assessment Tool](#)
2. [In-Person Training at the Emergency Management Institute](#)
3. [The CTP 101 Course](#)
4. [Various CTP Program Webinars](#)
5. [The CTP Collaboration Center Discussion Board](#)

General Announcements

Have a CTP Best Practice to Share?

Over the past year, the CTP Program has been capturing best practices and developed a template to share those practices across the program. To expand that information sharing and education, the Program is collecting new best practice examples.

To share a best practice created by your CTP organization, download and complete the "[Best Practices Template](#)" and send it to CTPAdmin@riskmapcds.com for review. If accepted, the best practice will be included on the CTP Collaboration Center and featured in the Collaboration Monthly.

For more information, a CTP Program Webinar Series titled **Show Your Work - Creating CTP Program Best Practices** was given at the CTP CoP General Committee Meeting. The [webinar](#) can be found on the CTP Collaboration Center. Click [here](#) to see past CTP Best Practices.

Have Questions? Need Answers? Check out the CTP Program Discussion Board!

CTPs and FEMA staff, particularly if they are new to the program, often have questions. A great way to find answers is to post a question to the [CTP Program Discussion Room](#) on the CTP Collaboration Center. There are several ways we can help get your questions answered:

1. **Mentoring Needs:** If you need mentoring in a topic, we can find someone to work with you.
2. **CTP Program Process Questions:** If you need help with the grants process or other CTP Program-related process questions, we can work with you to answer your questions directly.
3. **CTP-CTP Collaboration:** CTPs can post questions broadly throughout our CTP Program network.
4. **CTP-FEMA Collaboration:** CTPs can pose questions for FEMA and we'll reach out to the appropriate person to answer your query.
5. **Need Tools and Resources:** If you cannot find something you may post a question asking for a resource or where to find it. We'll get back to you personally to help you find it!

Use this Discussion Board to your advantage. Ask questions! Get answers!

CTP Program Volunteer Opportunities

There are several ways to get more involved in the CTP Program!

1. Talk to your Region about participating in the CoP Steering Committee. The CoP Steering Committee meetings quarterly to discuss the CTP Program's operational goals and objectives
2. Join the CTP Training and Mentoring Working Group
 - Volunteer to be a webinar subject matter expert
 - Sign up to be a Mentor
3. Join the CTP Recognition Program Ops Plan Working Group
4. Join the Performance Measures Ops Plan Working Group
5. Join the Communications Products and Outreach Ops Plan Working Group
6. Join the LOMR Review Partners Program Ops Plan Working Group!

Contact CTPAdmin@riskmapcds.com if you are interested in participating in any of these opportunities.

CTP Collaboration Monthly and RMD News Flash: Send Us Your Article Ideas!

The CTP Program is always looking for CTPs to submit topics or articles for the CTP Collaboration Monthly and the Risk Management National News Flash. If you have a topic or article to submit, or if you or your colleagues are not on the email distribution list for the Collaboration Monthly or News Flash, please contact CTPAdmin@riskmapcds.com



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