

# Introduction to Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)



FEMA

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## BRIC Tribal Webinar Schedule

Topic	Date	Time (Pacific)
Introduction to BRIC	September 16	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
<i>Capability and Capacity Building: Planning</i> Application Development	September 23	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
<i>Capability and Capacity Building: Project Scoping</i> Application Development	September 30	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Project Application Development	October 7	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) Basics for Projects	October 14	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
FEMA GO Introduction and Basics	October 21	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
FEMA Grants Management	October 28	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



<https://www.starr-team.com/starr/RegionalWorkspaces/RegionX/mitigationplanning/SitePages/BRIC.aspx>

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## House Keeping

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- **Questions**
  - Everyone will be on mute but welcome questions!
  - Please ask questions in chat box
- **Interactive Knowledge Checks**
  - Anonymous
- **Technical Issues**
  - Please send a direct chat to the host
- **Participant Panel**



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## Intro to BRIC Agenda

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- What is Mitigation?
- BRIC Program Overview
- Application Process and Timelines
- Resources
- Q&A



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# What is Mitigation?

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## What is Mitigation?

- What if buildings were not damaged during an earthquake because community officials required that buildings be constructed or retrofitted to withstand intense shaking?
- What if a river overtopped its banks but nearby schools were protected from flooding because they were built high enough to not flood?
- What if a wildfire burned, but homes were not threatened because landowners trimmed branches and thinned forests to create a large enough defensible space?

This is mitigation in action!  
It is the result of residents, building professionals, engineers, community planners, and elected officials working to provide a safe community for all before a disaster occurs.

You can't remove a hazard, but you can lessen its impact to your community.

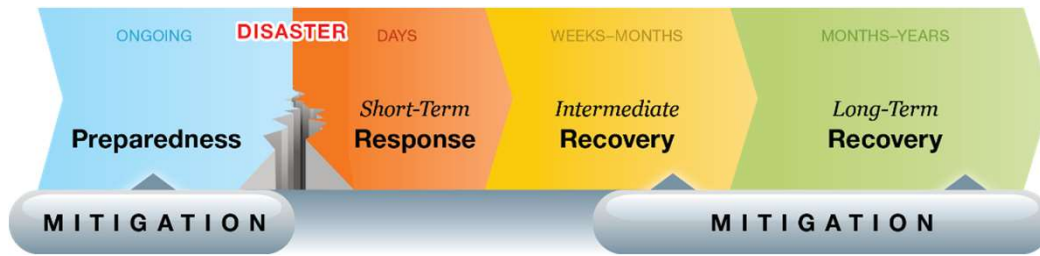


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## Mitigation

- Mitigation is the reduction or elimination of long-term risk to human life and property from hazards and helps create strong, resilient tribal communities.

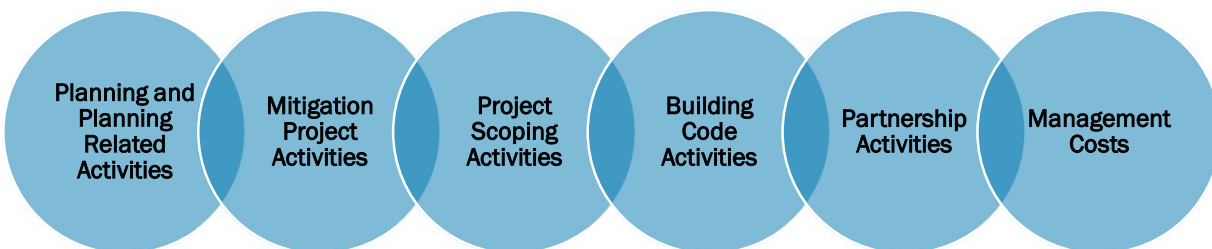


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## Mitigation Activities



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## Mitigation Activities

Eligible Project Activities	
Generators	Wildfire Mitigation
Property Acquisition and Structure Relocation / Demolition	Dry Floodproofing of Historic Residential / Non-residential Structures
Localized and Non-localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects	Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings and Facilities
Structure Elevation	Non-structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings and Facilities
Infrastructure Retrofits	Safe Room Construction
Mitigation Reconstruction	Soil Stabilization

*\*This is not an exhaustive list.*



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## Seismic Retrofits Mitigation Example

- HMA grants can fund structural and non-structural seismic retrofits.
- Example of water reservoir retrofits includes concrete seismic retrofit ring and new hold-downs; flexible connections.



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### Back-up Generators for Critical Facilities Mitigation Example

- HMA grants can fund a generator that is a stand-alone project if the generator protects a critical facility.
- Example: backup generator for wellhead and pumping station to fill reservoir.



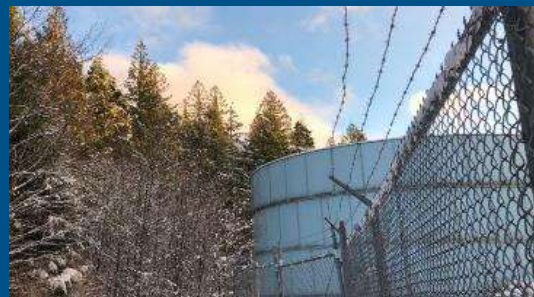
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### Wildfire and Post-Wildfire Mitigation Example

- HMA grants can fund wildfire and post-wildfire mitigation projects such as defensible space initiatives, ignition-resistant construction, flash flooding prevention measures and more.
- Example: defensible space project at a tribal critical facility.



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## Infrastructure Protection Mitigation Example

- Roads, Bridges, Utility Systems, etc.
- HMA grants can fund projects to protect against erosion or flooding of roads, bridges, wastewater treatment and water treatment facilities, pumping stations, etc.



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## Ineligible Activities / Projects

- Projects that do not reduce the risk to people, structures, or infrastructure, i.e. a project must increase the level of protection (e.g. from 10-yr flood to 50-yr flood).
- Projects that are dependent on another phase of a project in order to be effective.
- Projects for which actual physical work has occurred prior to award.
- Projects constructing new buildings or facilities.
- Projects that address operation, deferred or future maintenance, repairs, or replacement.
- Preparedness measures and response equipment.
- Projects that involve land that is contaminated with hazardous waste (unless the site is cleaned up at non-Grant expense and certified clean).

*\*This is not an exhaustive list. Additional information in HMA Guidance.*



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## Knowledge Check



**FEMA**

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## Knowledge Check



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# BRIC Program Overview

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## BRIC Fundamentals

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- **Nationally Competitive Grant program**
  - Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) releases to grants.gov; outlines funding, deadlines, etc.
  - New program authorized under the Disaster Reform Recovery Act of 2018, Section 1234
  - Replaces the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program
- **Eligibility**
  - **A federally recognized tribe can apply directly to FEMA as the grant applicant**
    - Tribe/Village (or the state located in) must have received a major disaster declaration in the past seven years. Can be fully or partially located in state that has had one in past seven years.
    - As of Spring 2020, all states, federally-recognized tribes, and territories satisfy this criteria.



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## BRIC is a pass-through and reimbursement-based grant

- A federally recognized tribe can be the applicant and subapplicant, or can be a subapplicant to the respective state

Applicants	Subapplicants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply directly to FEMA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply through the State</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial Risk Assessment prior to award</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly performance and financial reporting to State</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial Desk Review during grant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit reimbursement requests to State</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly performance and financial reporting to FEMA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subapplications due earlier to State for their review</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit reimbursement requests directly to FEMA payment system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any other State requirements</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applications due by the end of the application period listed in the NOFO</li> </ul>	

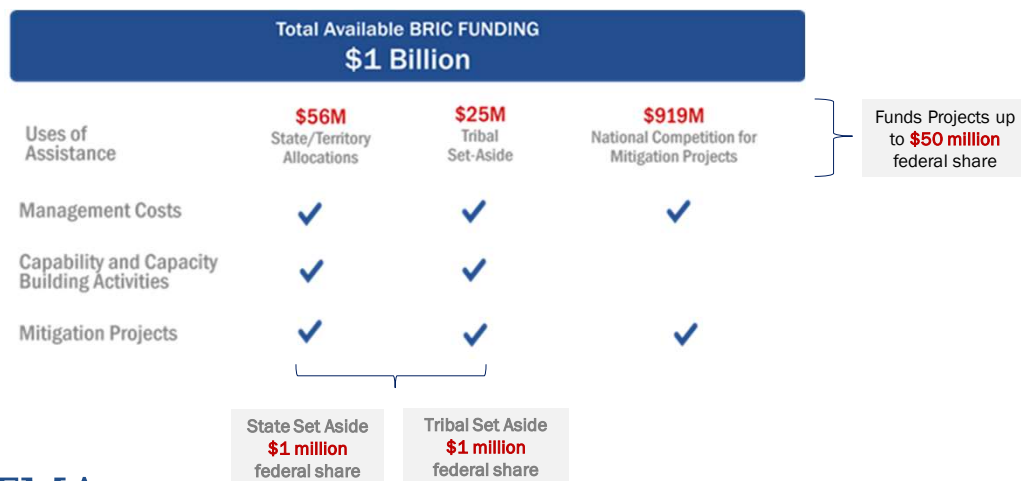


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## Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) FY21



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## What does the Tribal set-aside mean?

### Up to \$1,000,000 federal share per Tribe

- Capability and capacity building (C&CB) activities can only be funded by Tribal Set Aside
- \$500,000 federal share can be used towards mitigation planning or planning related activities
- Can be made up of C&CB activities or projects or a mix of both
- Projects over tribal set aside (\$1,000,000) will go to competition
- Applications must still meet basic criteria and be complete



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## What is a typical GRANT application?

- The grant application holds everything, the subapplications are the projects, plans, project scoping, and management costs.
- You must have a grant application and attach the subapplications to it.



Federal Share: \$990,000  
Local Match: \$110,000  
**GRANT TOTAL: \$1,100,000**

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## Cost Share

### Standard Cost Share

**75% Federal / 25% Local**

Fed Share cannot exceed 75% of the total

### Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities Cost Share

**90% Federal / 10% Local**

Must be requested in application and meet criteria.

### EDRC Criteria

- Be a community of 3,000 or fewer individuals
- Be economically disadvantaged, ([www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov)).

*Best Available Data!*



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## What can BRIC fund?

### ■ Mitigation Projects

- Increase resilience and reduce risk of injuries
- Reduce risk of loss of life
- Reduce damage and destruction of property; including critical services and facilities



### ■ Capability-and Capacity-Building Activities (C&CB)

- Building Codes, Partnerships, Project Scoping and Planning Activities
- Can only be part of the tribal set aside



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## What does Capability-and Capacity-Building Activities (C&CB) include?

### ■ Building codes activities:

- Evaluate adoption and/or implementation of codes that reduce risk
- Enhance existing adopted codes to incorporate more current requirements or higher standards
- Develop professional workforce capabilities through technical assistance and training

### ■ Partnerships:

- Pursuing opportunities for knowledge transfer between partners
- Attending state, local, tribal, territorial, regional, or national conferences to support knowledge sharing and partnership development
- Conducting a capability gap analysis to determine where partnerships could be helpful or where funding matching opportunities can be leveraged



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## What does Capability-and Capacity-Building Activities (C&CB) include?

### ■ Project scoping (formerly known as Advance Assistance):

- Scoping and developing hazard mitigation projects
- Collecting data for benefit-cost analyses, environmental compliance, and other program requirements
- Evaluating facilities or areas to determine appropriate mitigation actions

### ■ Mitigation planning and planning-related activities:

- Preparing a new plan or plan update; Updating or enhancing sections of the current FEMA-approved mitigation plan
- Integrating information from mitigation plans, specifically risk assessment or mitigation strategies, with other planning effort
- Procuring hazard identification or mapping and related equipment for the implementation of mitigation planning-related activities



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## BRIC can fund Management Costs

- Management costs are any indirect costs and administrative expenses in administering an award or subaward.
- Per FEMA's HMA guidance and BRIC FY20 NOFO, indirect costs are only available as management costs.
- Submit for management costs/indirect costs through two options.
- If you are requesting indirect costs, you must include the tribe's negotiated indirect cost rate agreement in the application.

**10% of total grant application budget.**

*This must be a separate management costs subapplication.  
Recommended by Region 10.*

**AND**

**5% of project subapplication budget**



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## BRIC can fund Pre-Award Costs

- Costs **directly related to developing the BRIC grant application or subapplication** that are incurred prior to the date of the grant award.
- **Not guaranteed.** Only funded if grant is selected & funded.
- Examples:
  - Application development
  - Engineering report and conceptual design
  - Development of the Benefit-Cost Analysis
  - Environmental analysis
  - Community outreach and meetings.



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## Other Features

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### Direct Technical Assistance

- Not financial
- Only 20 selected nationally, 1 per region
- Apply thru a letter, see NOFO



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## Knowledge Check



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## Application Process and Timeline

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### Applying for BRIC

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- **A FEMA approved hazard mitigation plan (HMP)**
  - HMP is required to apply for projects; not needed for a planning subgrant and management costs application
  - If your tribe does not have one, apply through BRIC for a hazard mitigation plan
- **Application and subapplication submittal in the FEMA Grant Outcomes (FEMA GO) system**
  - Submit applications by the deadline, listed in the Notice of Funding Opportunity, in FEMA GO (<https://go.fema.gov/>)



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## Application Evaluation Criteria

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- **FEMA will evaluate submitted applications based on:**
  - Programmatic Criteria (see NOFO and HMA guidance)
  - Technical Criteria (see NOFO)
  - Qualitative Criteria (see NOFO)
  - Financial Integrity Criteria (this occurs prior to award)
- **Review the Technical and Qualitative Criteria in the NOFO!** Make sure your application and supporting narratives explain the strengths of the proposed project AND highlights any elements that are listed in the Technical and Qualitative criteria if included.



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## Technical Criteria

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- **Located in the NOFO. Technical Criteria- essentially yes or no scoring**
  - Infrastructure Project
  - Mitigation Risk to One or More Lifelines
  - Incorporation of Nature Based Solutions
  - Mandatory Building Code Adoption
  - BCEGS Rating on 1 to 5 points
  - Application from previous Advanced Assistance award
  - Increased non-federal cost share
  - Designation as a Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities (EDRC)



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## Qualitative Criteria

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- **Qualitative Criteria**
  - Risk Reduction/Resiliency Effectiveness
  - Climate Change and Other Future Conditions
  - Implementation Measures
  - Population Impacted
  - Outreach Activities
  - Leveraging Partners



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## Life Cycle of a BRIC Application

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- Notice of Funding Opportunity is release: **Summer 2021**
- Application period opens: **September 30, 2021**
- Submission deadline for applications: **January 28, 2022**
- Selections / Pre-Award Selection Notice: **Summer 2022**
- Grant Award (directly to the State): **December 2022 and After**
- Period of Performance:
  - **Start Date:** When the recipient accepts the Award
  - **End Date:** All projects are 36 months from the date of the Award
  - **Closeout:** Due 90 days after Period of Performance



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## Reminder! Application Deadline

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- Application Deadline is January 28, 2022, at 3pm Eastern Standard Time
- **We recommend submitting two weeks early.**
- Grant and subgrant applications must be submitted to FEMA via the FEMA GO system:  
<https://go.fema.gov>



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## Resources

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## FEMA GO Resources

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- **FEMA GO Resources:** <https://www.fema.gov/grants/guidance-tools/fema-go/hazard-mitigation-assistance-grants>
  - If you need assistance in registering, please contact [femago@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:femago@fema.dhs.gov) or call 1-877-611-4700



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## Additional Resources

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- **BRIC NOFO and Program Support Materials:**
  - [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities | FEMA.gov](#)
  - [Before You Apply for Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities \(BRIC\) Funds | FEMA.gov](#)
  - [Resources for the Building Resilient Infrastructure Communities Program \(BRIC\) | FEMA.gov](#)
- **BRIC Webinars:**
  - [2021 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities and Flood Mitigation Assistance Webinar Series | FEMA.gov](#)
- **HMA Guidance and Resources:**
  - [Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance | FEMA.gov](#)
- **Region 10 Webinars and Resources:**
  - [Natural Hazards Community Planning - BRIC \(starr-team.com\)](#)



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