



What is New in 2020

FEMA updated the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) Doctrine this year with input from the whole community. The 2020 revision summarizes critical exercise information in an easier-to-reference format which will include updated templates and the HSEEP course at some point. The 2020 revision includes the following key changes:

Introduction

Whole Community: HSEEP was revised to be inclusive of the whole community to ensure better exercise outcomes by building multi-stakeholder consideration into every phase of exercise development.

Capabilities: Refers to whole community preparedness goals and not just the Core Capabilities mentioned in the National Preparedness Goal.

Senior Leaders: Involves all decision makers, not just “appointed and elected officials”.

Acronyms: Spells out all acronyms throughout the document to assist new users to adapt to exercise specific terminology.

Tools and Training: Includes references to available FEMA tools and training to make the reader aware of the entire family of support options when designing and developing an effective exercise.

Program Management

Integrated Preparedness Cycle: A continuous process of planning, organizing/equipping, training, exercising, and evaluating/improving that ensures the regular examination of ever-changing threats, hazards, and risks. Preparedness priorities are developed to ensure that the needed preparedness elements are incorporated through this continual and reliable approach to achieve whole community preparedness.

Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop: A meeting that establishes the strategy and structure for an exercise program and preparedness efforts while setting the foundation for the planning, conduct and evaluation of individual exercises.

Integrated Preparedness Plan: A document for combining efforts across components of the Integrated Preparedness Cycle to make sure that a jurisdiction/ organization has the capabilities to handle threats and hazards. The IPP allows for a more deliberate approach to multi-year preparedness activity planning.

HSEEP Fundamental Principles

The following principles frame the common approach to HSEEP:

- Guided by senior leaders;
- Informed by risk;
- Capability-based, objective-driven;
- Progressive exercise planning approach;
- Common methodology; and
- Whole Community integration.

Exercise Design and Development

Tables: Condenses the descriptions of planning meetings, exercise types, exercise documents, and tabular formats to provide easier access.

Organizational Charts: Provided to show examples of planning teams, conduct, evaluation, and exercise control structures. Removes the Incident Command System structure as a planning framework to allow for greater flexibility in whole community staffing.

Exercise Conduct

Discussion-Based and Operations-Based Exercises: Clarifies the important distinction between discussion-based vs operations-based exercises by describing each in separate sections.

Evaluation

Data Analysis: Includes a greater variety of analysis techniques to include Data Synthesis, Event Reconstruction, Trend Analysis, and Root Cause Analysis.

Improvement Planning

SMART Corrective Actions: Applies the SMART concept to post-exercise activities. SMART ensures that corrective actions are developed to be *Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound*.