

afterword

The basics of mitigating hazards before they become disasters are similar for both natural and manmade hazards. Whether you are confronting wind, water, seismicity, terrorism, hazardous materials, or sabotage, you can use the same four-phase mitigation planning process to reduce the consequences should these hazards impact the built environment. While communities of all sizes are increasingly aware of their vulnerability to manmade hazards, this awareness is of no value unless it is translated into action.

You may not be able to prevent every accident or deliberate attack, but a well planned and effectively implemented mitigation program will help to reduce the consequences of such incidents. Of course, the reality is that natural hazards may indeed present a much greater risk than terrorism and technological disasters due to their higher frequency of occurrence. By using this guide and the other how-to guides in the series, you will be able to identify, prioritize, and implement mitigation actions across the full spectrum of hazards and maximize the efficient allocation of public resources.





appendices