

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Direct Technical Assistance

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Direct Technical Assistance (BRIC DTA) offers non-financial direct technical assistance to help communities, territories, and Tribal Nations become more resilient. BRIC DTA provides support for wide-ranging activities to advance climate resilience planning and project design, including, but not limited to, assessing climate risk, engaging residents, building partnerships, scoping mitigation projects, identifying opportunities for nature-based solutions, and applying for and managing grants. BRIC DTA is available at various stages, from pre-application activities to closing out a grant.

Types of Available Assistance

Eligible entities can request different types of assistance through BRIC DTA. Examples include:

- **Hazard Mitigation Plan Development/Updates:** Assistance with planning-related activities, including the creation of a new plan or the update of an existing plan. Mitigation plans are strategic documents, updated every five years, to guide hazard mitigation programs to reduce risk over the long term, such as over the lifespan of a community asset ([Hazard Mitigation Program and Policy Guide](#), 2024, p. [227](#)).
- **Risk Assessments:** Assistance with identifying the characteristics and potential consequences of natural hazards, such as hazard identification, hazard profiles, and asset inventory, and an estimation of potential losses based on the exposure and vulnerability of people, infrastructure, and other community assets to current and future risks ([Hazard Mitigation Program and Policy Guide](#), 2024, p. [229-230](#)).
- **Community Outreach and Partnership Development:** Assistance in outreach strategies and engagement as well as partner identification or partnership development activities. Partners include, but are not limited to, all levels of government, the private sector, non-profit organizations, and educational institutions.
- **General Hazard Mitigation Capacity Building Workshops:** Assistance in planning, developing, and holding workshops to build a resource, strategy or tangible hazard mitigation product that will reduce or eliminate risk and damage from future natural hazards, increase resilience and public safety, and promote a culture of preparedness ([Hazard Mitigation Program and Policy Guide](#), 2024, p. [211](#)).
- **Project Identification and Scoping:** Assistance with developing mitigation strategies and obtaining data to prioritize, select, and develop, in a timely manner, complete applications that result in either an improvement in



FEMA

the capability to identify appropriate mitigation projects or in the development of an application-ready mitigation project.

- **Potential Funding Sources Identification:** Assistance in identifying funding opportunities from a variety of sources, including other federal agencies, private sector partners, financial institutions, philanthropic institutions, and other potential partners, to support hazard mitigation projects.
- **Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA):** Assistance with completing a quantitative analysis that assesses the cost-effectiveness of a hazard mitigation measure by taking a long-term view of avoided future damage compared to the cost of a project ([Hazard Mitigation Program and Policy Guide](#), 2024, p. 558). Applicants and subapplicants applying for BRIC must provide a BCA or other documentation that validates cost-effectiveness of a hazard mitigation project.
- **Grant Writing Assistance or Training:** Assistance or training in the grant writing process and developing strong grant applications or subapplications, prioritizing applications to submit, understanding BRIC scoring criteria, and writing an eligible and complete BRIC grant application or subapplication. Applicants and subapplicants applying for BRIC must demonstrate eligibility for BRIC funding and submit a complete application or subapplication.
- **Grant Management Assistance or Training:** Assistance or training for efficient and effective grants management for recipients, which may include quarterly progress and financial reporting, grant extensions, closing an award, and complying with terms and conditions of an award ([Hazard Mitigation Program and Policy Guide](#), 2024, p. 130).

How Support Is Provided

Through BRIC DTA, FEMA will:

- **Become a partner to a BRIC DTA recipient.** Work with the community, territory, and Tribal Nation for up to 36 months (from the date of the agreement). Help the community, territory and Tribal Nation identify mitigation needs, build partnerships, and deliver wide-ranging services.
- **Approach BRIC DTA as a joint effort.** Recognize the inherent expertise of the community, territory, or Tribal Nation. Be open to learning and growing together.
- **Recognize that BRIC DTA is driven by the community, territory, or Tribal Nation.** Be aware that technical assistance does not follow a “one-size fits all” model. Technical assistance could include, but is not limited to, creating a custom and local approach to reduce risk, planning for climate resilience, and building local capacity. Make it flexible and adaptable while still respecting cultural norms and traditions.
- **Assist the BRIC DTA recipient to conduct and/or use a Community Needs Assessment.** Develop a vision for resilience and note any gaps/needs within the community, territory, or Tribal Nation.

- **Support and advise the recipient to develop a BRIC DTA Action Plan.** See that the plan has specific strategies and actions to build capacity and advance any future projects, programs, and partnerships.
- **Consult with experts to support the local vision for resilience.** Develop specific strategies to address a BRIC DTA recipient's needs for technical assistance or partnerships.
- **Create access to the best available science and knowledge about risk and climate change.** Include access to community and traditional knowledge of the ecology and help integrate both into project designs.
- **Consider non-profit, foundation, and private partners.** Identify and help establish new partnerships that are best suited to meet the needs of the community, territory, or Tribal Nation.
- **Foster outreach and engagement with the community.** Use tailored tools and approaches to find shared goals and projects that meet the resilience priorities of the whole community, territory, or Tribal Nation, and help ensure all relevant stakeholders are engaged.
- **Support projects that have co-benefits.** Help to identify and plan for projects that provide the greatest value to the community, territory, or Tribal Nation by addressing multiple hazards.

Eligibility Information

Eligible recipients of non-financial direct technical assistance provided through BRIC DTA include:

- Federally recognized tribal governments
- Territorial governments
- Local government entities, as defined in Section 102(8) of the Stafford Act (42 § U.S.C. 5122(8)), including, but not limited to:
 - Tribal governments
 - Cities, towns, townships, parishes, boroughs, or counties
 - Special district governments
 - Metropolitan or regional planning organizations
 - Other political subdivisions of state governments

To be eligible for BRIC DTA, entities must make a timely request for assistance. A hazard mitigation plan is not required, and entities do not need to have a BRIC grant subapplication or award.

Individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations are not eligible to apply; however, an eligible entity listed above may apply on behalf of individuals, businesses, and nonprofit organizations.

How to Request BRIC DTA

Any eligible entities can request BRIC DTA by submitting a request. FEMA will accept BRIC DTA requests from Jan. 6, 2025, through 3 p.m. ET on April 18, 2025. Eligible entities can complete a request online or download the BRIC Direct Technical Assistance Request Form and email the completed form to the [BRIC Direct Technical Assistance inbox](#). The form will be available on the [BRIC DTA web page](#) once the request period opens.

Are you an eligible entity without access to a computer or the internet? Do you need assistance with submitting a request? Please contact your [State Hazard Mitigation Officer](#), [FEMA Regional Office](#), or [FEMA Tribal Affairs](#).