Fiscal Year 2023 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) and Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Notices of Funding Opportunities For Tribal Governments

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants | November 2, 2023





Agenda

- Fiscal Year 2023 Flood Mitigation
 Assistance (FMA) and Building Resilient
 Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
 Funding Opportunities
- FMA-Specific Changes
- BRIC-Specific Changes
- How to Apply: FEMA Grants Outcomes (FEMA GO)
- Program Support Materials and Resources





FMA and BRIC FY 2023 Funding Opportunities

Overview





View Eligible Activities:



Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post Fire, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities, and Flood Mitigation Assistance

March 23, 2023

Federal Enterprise Architecture (FEA) Number: FP-206-21-0001





Projects Must:

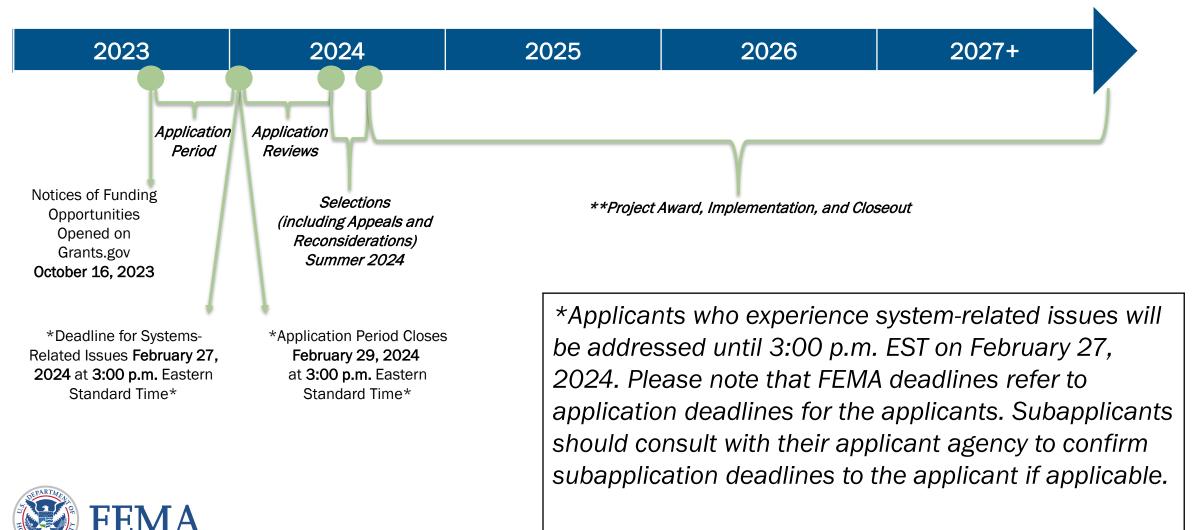
- Be cost-effective.
- Reduce/eliminate risk and damage from future natural disasters.
- Meet the latest consensus codes (i.e., 2018 or 2021 international building code).
- Align with the hazard mitigation plan.
- Meet all environmental and historic preservation requirements.

Considerations When Applying to Either Program

- Justice40 Initiative Executive Order (EO) 14008
- Community Disaster Resilience Zones
- Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA)
- Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA)
- Phased Projects
- Eligible Activities
- Key Program Changes for FMA and BRIC in Fiscal Year 2023

Consider Applying to Both Programs to Maximize Success

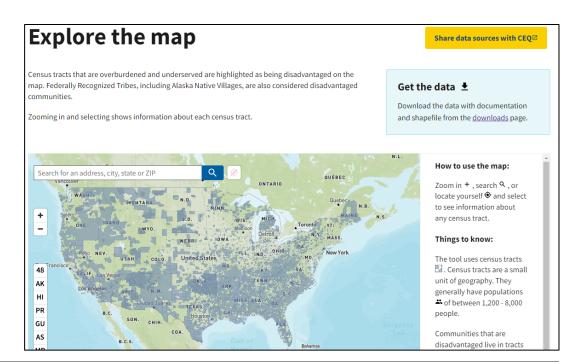




**This timeline may vary by project type

Justice40 Initiative - Executive Order (EO) 14008

- The Justice40 Initiative will aim to deliver at least 40% of the overall benefits of climate, clean energy, affordable and sustainable housing, clean water and other investments to disadvantaged communities.
- A disadvantaged community, also referred to as a Justice40 Community, will be identified using version 1.0 of the <u>Climate and Economic Justice Screening</u> <u>Tool (CEJST)</u>.



Justice40 Communities are considered disadvantaged if they are in census tracts that meet the thresholds for at least one of the tool's categories of burden, or if they are on lands within the boundaries of a federally recognized tribal government. In addition, census tracts that are completely surrounded by disadvantaged communities are also considered disadvantaged if they meet an adjusted low- income threshold (at or above the 50th percentile). Justice40 Communities have been marginalized by society, overburdened by pollution, and/or underserved by infrastructure and other basic services.



- The Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act will build disaster resilience across the nation by creating and designating resilience zones which identifies disadvantaged communities most at-risk to natural hazards.
- Community Disaster Resilience Zones will build disaster resilience across the nation by driving federal, public and private resources to the most at-risk and in-need jurisdictions.
- For a complete listing of FEMA identified Community Disaster Resilience Zones, refer to <u>Community Disaster Resilience Zones | FEMA.gov</u>.



Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA)

- Recipients and subrecipients must comply with the Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA).
 None of the funds provided may be used for a project for infrastructure unless the iron and steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in that infrastructure are produced in the United States.
- FEMA's Buy America Preference in FEMA Financial Assistance Programs for Infrastructure -<u>FEMA Interim Policy #207-22-0001</u> discusses domestic preference.
- Please note: BABAA requirements apply to new awards made on or after January 1, 2023, as well as new funding FEMA obligates to existing awards or through renewal awards where the new funding is obligated on or after January 1, 2023.

FEMA requires all hazard mitigation projects to be cost-effective. Applicants and subapplicants may use one of three standard approaches:

- Streamlined Determination Method:
 - For projects with a total cost of less than \$1,000,000 the subapplicant may provide a narrative that includes qualitative and quantitative data demonstrating the benefits and cost-effectiveness of the project.
 - Pre-calculated benefits are available for some project types, including acquisitions, elevations, wind retrofits, tornado safe rooms, hospital generators, and post-wildfire mitigation.
 - Applicants and subapplicants may still opt to use a BCA to show cost-effectiveness of a project.



Assistance:

- FEMA will review hazard mitigation project subapplications during the pre-award process that are competitive and otherwise eligible for selection.
 - For *BRIC*, a BCA or Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) of at least 1.0 is not required at time of application for Federally Recognized Tribes, Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities, and projects primarily benefitting Community Disaster Resilience Zones.
 - For *FMA*, Federally Recognized Tribes, small and improvised communities and communities in Community Disaster Resilience Zones can submit subapplications without completing a BCA.

Discount Rate Adjustment:

 If a streamlined cost-effectiveness determination method does not apply, a BCA is required to validate cost-effectiveness. FEMA has established a set discount rate of 3% to be used in a BCA for hazard mitigation projects for the FY 2023 BRIC and FMA cycles.



Phased Projects



Who should apply?

- Communities requesting federal funding for developing and evaluating projects without assuming the risk of not being selected.
- This is beneficial for communities that do not have the upfront capital needed to start project development. (Hydrologic and Hydraulic [H&H] studies, Benefit-Cost Analysis [BCA] etc.)

What is the benefit?

- Focuses on breaking down complex projects into manageable phases.
- Allows for the development of all the technical and environmental information, including design, engineering studies and permitting, before issuing a full construction approval.



Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

Flood Mitigation Assistance

Legislative Authorities

- National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994
- Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021

(FMA)

FMA Program Highlights:

- The program educes or eliminates the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and within NFIP participating communities
- Is Nationally competitive; offered on an annual application cycle.
- Appropriated annually with \$175 million since 2016.
- IIJA more commonly known as the **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides** \$3.5 billion over 5 years, or \$700 million per year for Fiscal Year 2022-2026.

Flood Mitigation Assistance Eligibility Requirements

- Subapplicants must participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). They cannot be on probation or suspended.
- All structures included in the project subapplications must be insured under the NFIP (before, during, and after the mitigation).
- Mitigation Reconstruction
 - Structures listed in the subapplication must have a National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policy in effect at the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) application start date.
 - It must be maintained for the life of the structure regardless of the flood zone.
- Acquisition/Demolition
 - Structures listed in the subapplication must have an NFIP policy in effect at the FMA application start date.
 - It must be maintained until the transfer of property occurs regardless of flood zone.



Verify at Community Status Book | FEMA.gov

Flood Mitigation Assistance Key Changes for Fiscal Year 2023

- Funding allocations increase in Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects.
- Mitigation Reconstruction cap of \$220,000 federal share per structure, previously \$150,000.
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law federal cost share using the following three CDC Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) themes: Socioeconomic Status, Household Characteristics, and Housing Type and Transportation.
- Changes to Final Priority Scoring Criterion, tiebreakers, and Individual Flood Mitigation Projects prioritization and thresholds.
 - Properties meeting FMA and NFIP definition of Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) and Repetitive Loss (RL) will also be recognized for project prioritization.
 - Individual Flood Mitigation Project prioritization shifted to 75% FMA and NFIP SRL and RL, previously 50%.
 - Equity data measure shift from CDC Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) to <u>Climate and Economic Justice</u> <u>Screening Tool (CEJST)</u>/Justice40 Communities & Community Disaster Resilience Zones.



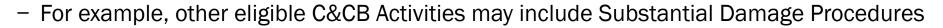


Note: Allocated funding amounts may be reduced by up to 10 percent due to the funding of state, tribal, and local managment costs.



Capability and Capacity Building Activities - Up to \$60 million

- Up to \$60 million that support Capability and Capacity Building (C&CB) Activities efforts to develop future Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects and/or Individual Flood Mitigation Projects that will subsequently reduce flood claims against the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- Activity cap per subapplication:
 - \$100,000 for Mitigation Plans per Applicant with maximums of:
 - \$50,000 for state mitigation planning
 - \$25,000 for local mitigation planning
 - **\$50,000** for Technical Assistance by States to Communities
 - \$900,000 for Project Scoping
 - \$300,000 for Additional C&CB Activities (Partnership Development to Conduct Eligible Mitigation Activities, Enhancing Local Floodplain Management, Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL)/Repetitive Loss (RL) Strategy Development, and other eligible C&CB Activities





Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects - Up to \$520 million

- Up to \$520 million of Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects that address community flood risk for the purpose of reducing NFIP flood claim payments.
 - **\$50 million** activity cap per subapplication.



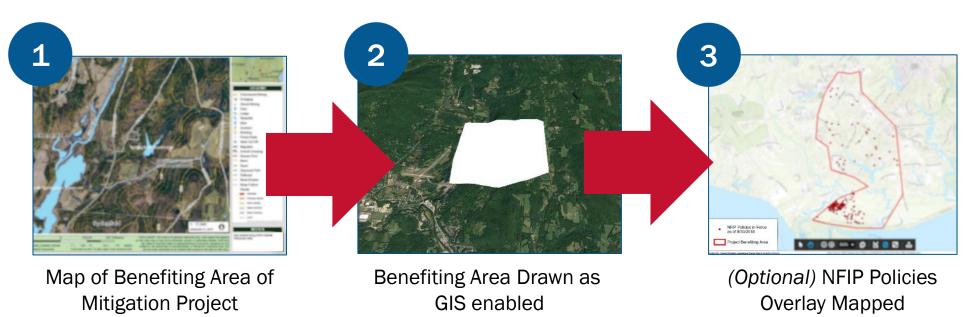
Eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Floodwater storage and diversion.
- Floodplain, wetland, marsh, riverine and coastal restoration and protection.
- Stormwater management.
- Localized flood control projects with co-benefits to other hazards, as well as social and environmental benefits.



Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects - Benefitting Area Maps

 Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects must demonstrate that the proposed project benefits NFIP insured properties. Applications should include a map with associated geospatial file(s) delineating: the proposed project area or footprint boundary, and the benefiting area which is aligned with flood modeling such as a Hydrologic and Hydraulic study.



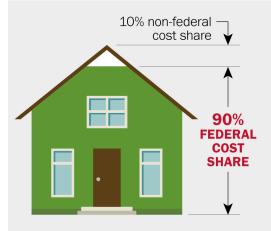


Federal Emergency Management Agency21

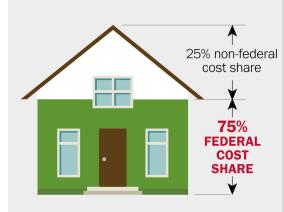
C&CB and Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects – Federal Cost Shares

Capability and Capacity Building (C&CB) Activities Federal Cost Shares

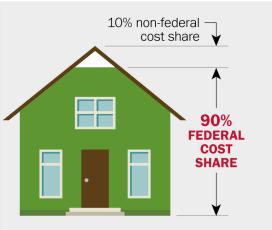
Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects Federal Cost Shares



Up to 90 percent federal cost share funding if the **average Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) is not less than 0.5001 for the benefitting area(s)*** substantiated by a benefitting area map, and the activity is funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)



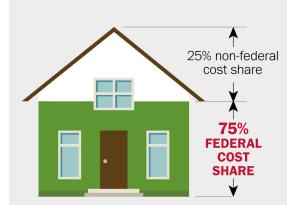
Up to 75 percent federal cost share funding if a higher federal cost share is not available (for NFIP-insured properties that do not meet the conditions for the BIL cost share)



Up to 90 percent federal cost share funding if the **average Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) is not less than 0.5001 for the project benefitting area containing NFIPinsured*** properties, and the activity is funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

BIL

Federal Cost Share



Up to 75 percent federal cost share funding if a higher federal cost share is not available (for NFIP-insured properties that do not meet the conditions for the BIL cost share)

General

Federal Cost Share

BIL Federal Cost Share

General Federal Cost Share

* FEMA will determine the CDC SVI score using the following three SVI themes: Socioeconomic Status, Household Characteristics, and Housing Type and Transportation. * FEMA will determine the CDC SVI score using the following three SVI themes: Socioeconomic Status, Household Characteristics, and Housing Type and Transportation.

Individual Flood Mitigation Projects – at least \$220 million

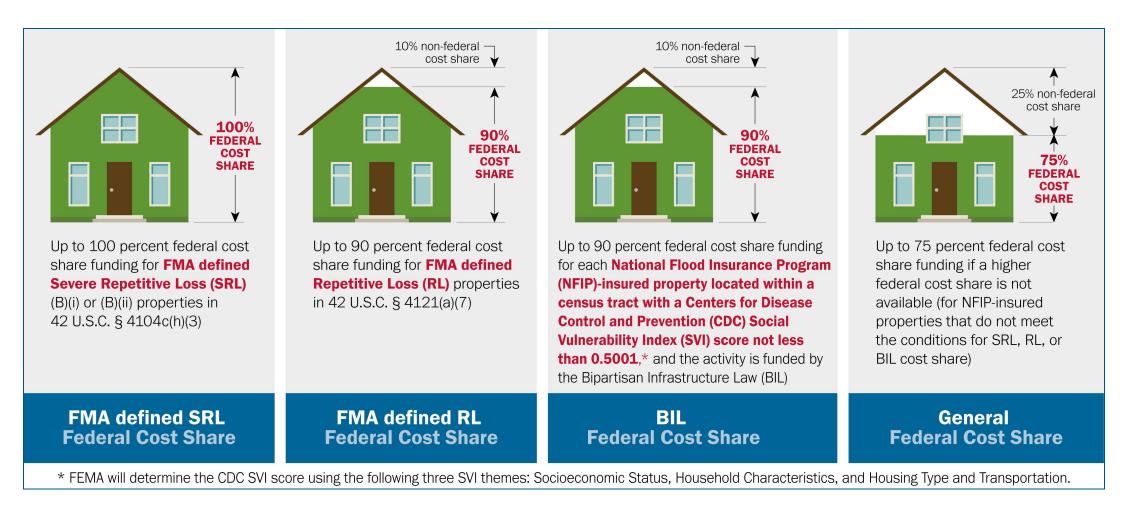
- At least \$220 million of Individual Flood Mitigation Projects that mitigate the risk of flooding to individual NFIP-insured structures and buildings.
 - $\circ~$ No activity cap per subapplication.



Eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

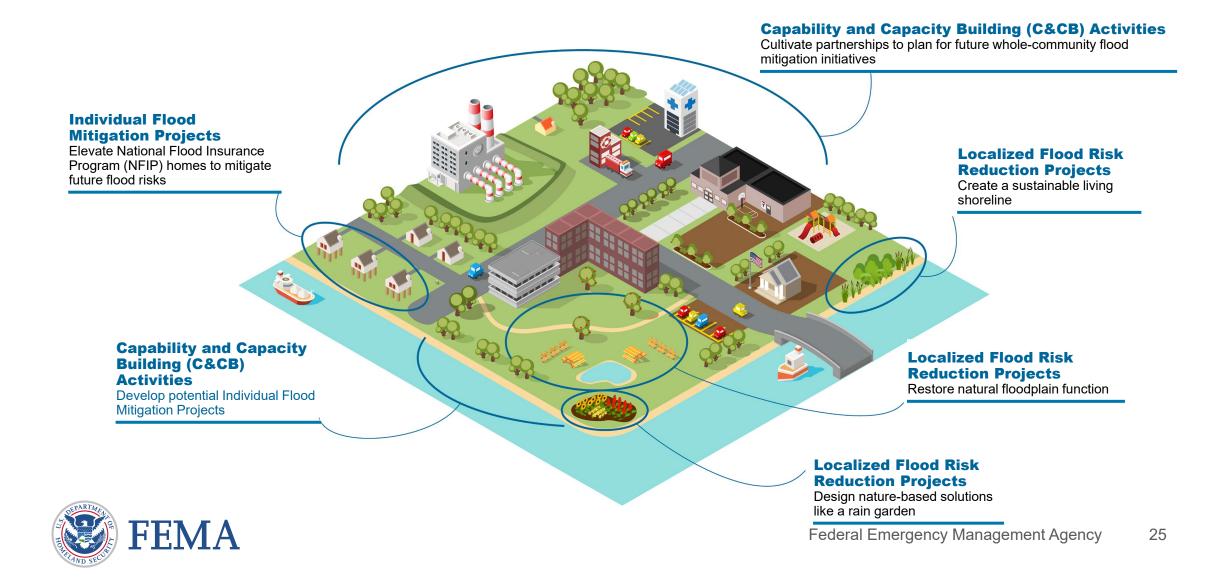
- Acquisition and Structure Demolition/Relocation
- Structure Elevation
- Mitigation Reconstruction (up to \$220,000 federal share)
- Wet Floodproofing of Non-Residential Structures
- Dry Floodproofing of Non-Residential Structures
- Dry Floodproofing of Historic Residential Structures







Fiscal Year 2023 Project and Activity Types



Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

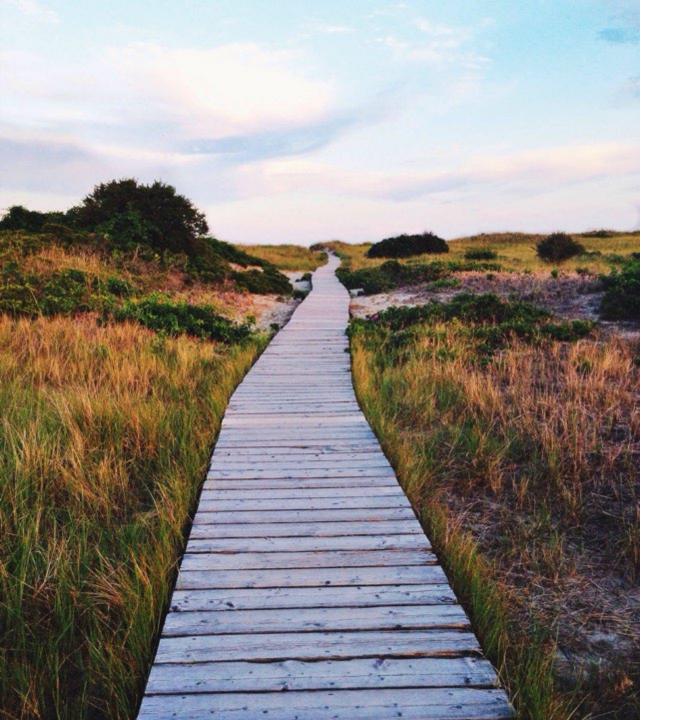
- $\checkmark\,$ Develop an application and subapplication
- ✓ BRIC Tribal Set-Aside
- ✓ *New* Tribal Building Code Plus-Up
- ✓ Disaster declaration requirement
- ✓ Management costs (subapplication and application)
- Potentially eligible for Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community or Community Disaster Resilience Zone designation
- Must have a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan by the application deadline and at the time of obligation of grant funds for mitigation projects



✓ Develop a subapplication

- ✓ State/Territory Allocation and Building Code Plus-Up, National Competition
- ✓ Management costs (subapplication)
- ✓ Potentially eligible for Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community designation
- Must have a FEMA-approved Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan by the application deadline and at the time of obligation of grant funds for mitigation projects other than:
 - \checkmark 1) mitigation planning and planning related activities,
 - \checkmark 2) partnerships, and
 - \checkmark 3) building codes





Fiscal Year 2023 BRIC Priorities

- Incentivize natural hazard risk reduction activities that mitigate multi-hazard risks to public infrastructure and disadvantaged communities as referenced in EO 14008.
- Incorporate nature-based solutions. This includes those designed to reduce carbon emissions.
- Enhance climate resilience and adaptation.
- Increase funding to applicants that facilitate the adoption and enforcement of the newest editions of building codes.
- BRIC encourages mitigation projects that meet multiple program priorities.

Available Funding

\$1 billion is available for the BRIC program in FY 2023.

- State/Territory Allocation: \$112 million (up to \$2 million per applicant).
 - A total of \$1.5 million must be used for capability- and capacity-building activities per applicant.
 - A minimum of \$400,000 must be used on any combination of capability- and capacity-building activities and projects primarily benefiting Community Disaster Resilience Zones.

Building Code Plus-Ups Added

- State/Territory Building Code Plus-Up: \$112 million (up to \$2 million per applicant).
- Tribal Building Code Plus-Up: \$25 million

Tribal Set-Aside: \$50 million

- The combined cost of the applicant's capability- and capacity-building activities under the Tribal Set-Aside must not exceed \$2 million per applicant.
- \circ Up to \$1 million may be used for hazard mitigation planning and planning-related activities per applicant.
- National Competition for Hazard Mitigation Projects: \$701 million (\$50 million per subapplication)



State or Territory and Tribal Building Codes Plus-Ups

- \$112M State or Territory
- \$25M Tribal
- Incentivize building code adoption and enforcement



Evaluate adoption and/or implementation of codes that reduce risk.

Enhance existing adopted codes to incorporate more current requirements or higher standards.

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Develop professional workforce capabilities through technical assistance and training.



Total Available BRIC Funding in Fiscal Year 2023 - \$1 Billion					
Uses of Assistance	\$112M State/Territory Allocation	\$50M Tribal Set-Aside	\$112M State/Territory Building Code Plus-Up	\$25M Tribal Building Code Plus-Up	\$701M National Competition for Mitigation Projects
Management Costs	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
Capability- and Capacity-Building Activities	\checkmark	\checkmark			
Hazard Mitigation Projects		\checkmark			
Building Code Adoption and Enforcement	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	



Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Key Changes for Fiscal Year 2023

- Building Code Plus-Ups (Tribal and State or Territory)
- Equity data measure shift from CDC SVI to CEJST and Community Disaster Resilience Zones
- State/Territory Allocation includes a minimum of \$400,000 for any combination of capability- and capacity-building activities and projects primarily benefiting Community Disaster Resilience Zones
- Benefiting area maps
- Streamlined cost-effectiveness determination methods and benefit-cost analysis assistance
- Rescoring evaluation criteria
 - Project alignment with top mitigation hazard
 - Building code adoption and enforcement or alternative higher standard
 - o Removal of non-federal cost share



- Generally, the cost share for the BRIC grant program is 75% federal cost share and 25% non-federal cost share.
- However:
 - Up to 90% for Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities
 - Up to 90% for Community Disaster Resilience Zones
 - Up to 100% of Management Costs
- For insular areas, including American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, FEMA automatically waives the non-federal cost share for the recipient when the non-federal cost share for the entire award is under \$200,000.







BRIC Direct Technical Assistance (BRIC DTA) – Goals & Eligible Activities

Needs of community or Tribal Nation drive BRIC DTA Action Plan Holistic hazard mitigating planning and project support from the earliest stages, tailored to the needs and priorities of communities and Tribal Nations interested in FEMA partnership.

Activities can include:

- Broad planning and capacitybuilding support
- Community engagement
- Strategic communications
- Partnership building
- Hazard mitigation plan development
- Benefit-cost analysis

- Mitigation alternatives development
- Project scoping
- Project design
- Project implementation for BRICfunded projects
- Grant applications and grants management



- Cities
- Towns/Townships
- Municipalities
- Counties
- Parishes
- Special District Governments
- Territories
- Federally Recognized Tribal Governments
- Groups of two or more communities that fit the above criteria



NOT REQUIRED!

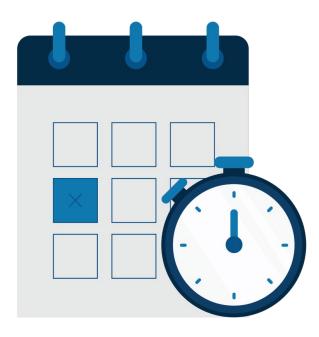
X A BRIC grant subapplication or award under the State/Territory Allocation, Tribal Set-Aside, or National Competition.

X An approved hazard mitigation plan



BRIC DTA Request Submission Period

- Submission period opened October 16, 2023.
- Complete <u>FEMA Form FF-206-FY-22-155</u>, <u>BRIC Direct</u>
 <u>Technical Assistance Request Form</u> found on BRIC DTA website.
- Send request form to BRIC DTA Submission Inbox: <u>fema-bric-dta-submission@fema.dhs.gov</u> before or by February 29, 2024, 3 p.m. Eastern Time.





BRIC Fiscal Year 2022 Tribal Selection Examples



Annette Island, AK

- Utility and Infrastructure Protection
 - Metlakatla Indian Community will raise a dam to increase water capture within the Chester Lake drainage basin during drought years, improving water security for the community.

- Project Scoping
 - Karuk Tribe Housing Authority (KTHA) will
 conduct community scoping and electrical grid
 feasibility assessments that will provide a cost
 effective, safe, green energy microgrid design
 that may be used to apply for FEMA funds to
 provide a reliable microgrid infrastructure.
- Saferoom
 - Citizen Potawatomi Nation will build a saferoom where the shelter's size will be adequate to house and protect all residents of the expanding, low-income tribal housing community, Citizen Place.



How to Apply: FEMA Grants Outcomes (FEMA GO)

Application Development Best Practices

Do

- Use clear and consistent naming conventions for attachments
- Provide supporting documentation
- Consider project scoping or phasing for larger complex projects
- Match project or activities with program and Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) priorities

Don't

- Include inaccurate information
- Forget to attach key documents
- Provide unclear descriptions of the intended level of protection
- Fail to connect natural hazards to the project



How to Apply

- Eligible applicants must apply for funding using FEMA Grants Outcomes (FEMA GO) at the <u>FEMA GO Portal.</u>
- Visit <u>FEMA GO for Hazard Mitigation</u>
 <u>Assistance Grants</u> to view the technical user manuals and support materials.

Consider Applying to Both Programs to Maximize Success

Application Deadlines

- The application period opens on October 16, 2023.
- Applicants who experience systemrelated issues will be addressed until
 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on
 February 27, 2024.
- Applications must be received in FEMA
 GO by February 29, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.
 Eastern Standard Time.



Program Support Materials and Resources

Program Support Materials

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- FMA Website
- FY 2023 FMA Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
 - FY 2023 FMA NOFO Fact Sheet
- FMA Resources Program Support Materials
 - FMA Capability & Capacity Building Activities
 - o FMA Localized Flood Risk Reduction Project
 - FMA Individual Flood Mitigation Project

BRIC and FMA

- BRIC & FMA Benefiting Area Map
- BRIC & FMA Cybersecurity
- BRIC & FMA Cost-Effectiveness and Benefit-Cost Analysis
- Mitigation Action Portfolio
- Submitting Phased Projects for BRIC or FMA Funding

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

- BRIC Website
- FY 2023 BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
 - FY 2023 BRIC NOFO Fact Sheet
- <u>BRIC Resources</u> Program Support Materials
 - BRIC Building Codes Activities
 - BRIC Hazard Mitigation Planning Activities
 - BRIC Direct Technical Assistance
 - o BRIC Partnership Activities
 - BRIC Project Scoping Activities
 - BRIC Project Subapplicant Tips
 - o BRIC Qualitative Evaluation Criteria
 - o BRIC System-Based Mitigation
 - BRIC Technical Evaluation Criteria
 - BRIC Tribal Information

- Benefit-Cost Analysis Toolkit
- <u>Building Community Resilience with Nature</u>
 <u>Based Solutions: A Guide for Local Communities</u>
- <u>Building Community Resilience With Nature-</u>
 <u>Based Solutions: Strategies for Success</u>
- <u>Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool</u> (<u>CEJST</u>)
- FEMA GO system
- HMA Cost Share Guide
- Property Elevation and Acquisition Job Aids:
 - o <u>Elevation Job Aid</u>



- o <u>Acquisition & Demolition Job Aid</u>
- o Acquisition & Relocation
- State Floodplain Managers List
- State Hazard Mitigation Officers List
- Substantial Damage determinations:
 - o Substantial Improvement/Substantial
 - Damage Desk Reference
 - o Substantial Damage Estimator Tool
- <u>2023 Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program</u> and Policy Guide

Helplines

- General questions about the BRIC and FMA programs can be directed to:
 - For Applicants: FEMA Regional Offices at <u>www.fema.gov/about/contact</u>.
 - For Subapplicants: State Hazard Mitigation Officers at <u>www.fema.gov/state-hazard-mitigation-officers</u>.
 - For immediate assistance, you may also contact the HMA Helpline: 1-866-222-3580
- For technical assistance with the FEMA GO system, contact the FEMA GO Helpline:
 - o <u>femago@fema.dhs.gov</u>
 - 1-877-611-4700 (Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM 6:00 PM ET.)
- For questions about cost-effectiveness and FEMA's Benefit-Cost Analysis software, contact the BC Helpline:
 - o <u>BCHelpline@fema.dhs.gov</u>
 - o **1-855-540-6744**
- For questions about the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) or Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) requirements, contact the EHP Helpline:
 - <u>FEMA-EHPHELPLINE@fema.dhs.gov</u>
 - o **1-866-222-3580**
- For questions about FEMA's Building Science publications, contact: <u>FEMA-BuildingScienceHelp@fema.dhs.gov</u>
- For questions about FEMA's Safe Room publications, contact: <u>Saferoomp@fema.dhs.gov</u>

