



2014 Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment and State Preparedness Report

Overview for the Office of Disability Integration and Coordination

October 2015



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Overview

- Background on the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and State Preparedness Report (SPR)
- Guidance on Using THIRA/SPR Data
- The SPR Objective Measures Project
 - Overview
 - Sample Objective Measures



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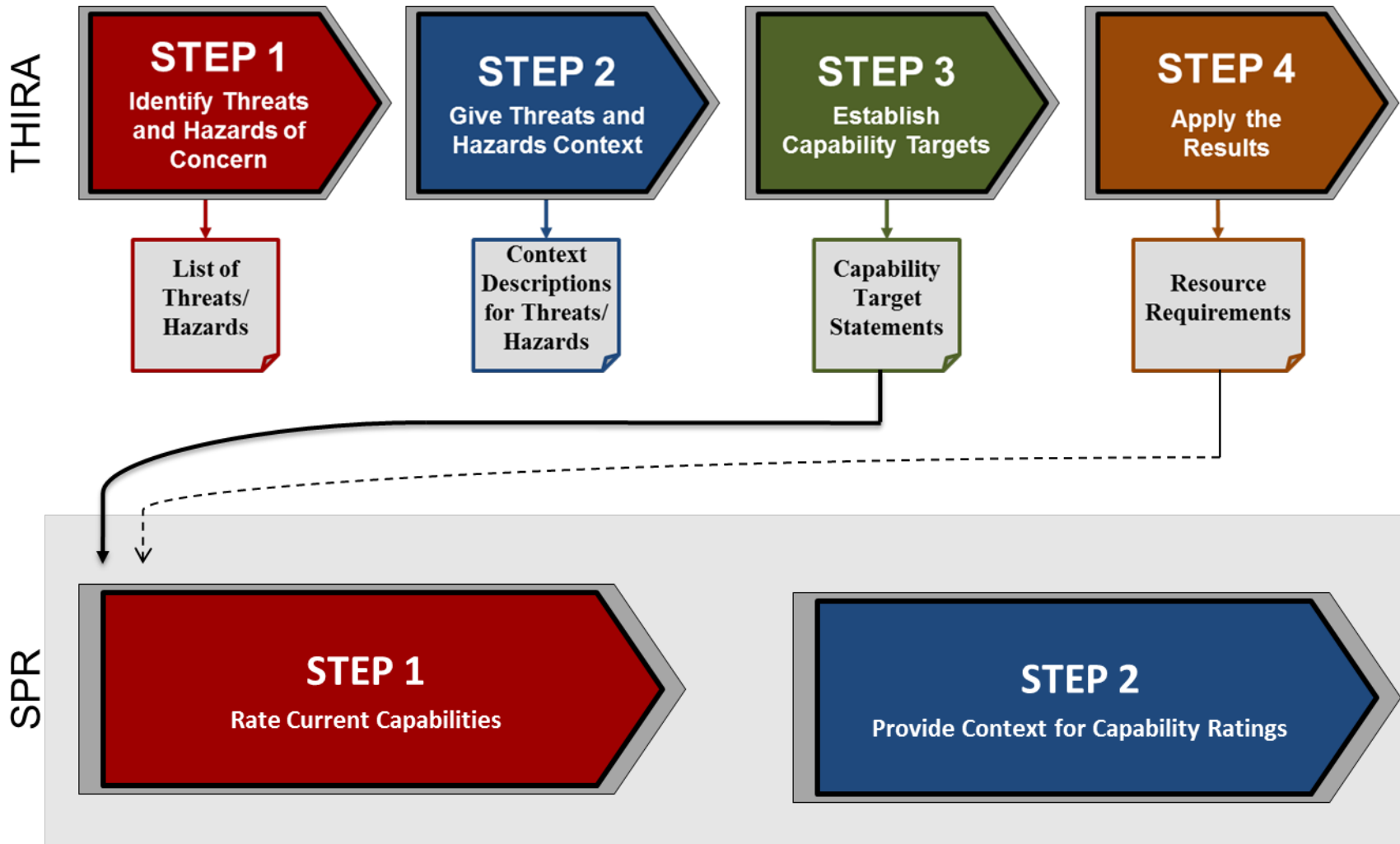
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THIRA Steps and Outputs



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The THIRA/SPR Methodology



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Step 1: Current Capability Ratings

Respondents assess their current capabilities relative to their THIRA targets for the 31 core capabilities across the five POETE elements: **Planning, Organization, Equipment, Training, and Exercises**

5 POETE Internal Ratings
X 31 core capabilities =

155 separate ratings per state

Capability Assessment				
Reset Selection	Priority			Add 2013 response to assessment
<input type="radio"/> High Priority	Relative to the other core capabilities, efforts to build and/or sustain this core capability are of high importance to my jurisdiction's preparedness activities.			
<input type="radio"/> Medium Priority	Relative to the other core capabilities, efforts to build and/or sustain this core capability are of medium importance to my jurisdiction's preparedness activities.			
<input type="radio"/> Low Priority	Relative to the other core capabilities, efforts to build and/or sustain this core capability are of low importance to my jurisdiction's preparedness activities.			
Planning	Rating Internal Capability	Rating (optional) Internal Capability + Mutual Aid	Gap Description (optional)	Recent Advances (optional)
	Add 2013 response	Add 2013 response	Add 2013 response	Add 2013 response
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		
	No selection made	No selection made		
<i>Into which functional area(s) does your community's planning gaps fall?</i>				Reset Selection
<input type="checkbox"/> Evaluating and updating plans <input type="checkbox"/> Including individuals with disabilities or access/functional needs <input type="checkbox"/> Incorporating risk analyses <input type="checkbox"/> Integrating different plans <input type="checkbox"/> Operational planning <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-incident planning <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic planning <input type="checkbox"/> Whole community involvement and coordination <input type="checkbox"/> Other Functional Area(s):				



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Step 2: Context for Capability Ratings

- Assign priority levels
- Describe their capability gaps through a free text option and Frameworks-based standardized gap descriptions
- Respondents also report their views on Federal gap responsibility and validate their assessment through real-world events or exercises

Capability Assessment				
Reset Selection	Priority			Add 2013 response to assessment
<input type="radio"/> High Priority	Relative to the other core capabilities, efforts to build and/or sustain this core capability are of high importance to my jurisdiction's preparedness activities.			
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Planning	Rating Internal Capability Add 2013 response <input type="text"/>	Rating (optional) Internal Capability + Mutual Aid Add 2013 response <input type="text"/>	Gap Description (optional) Add 2013 response <input type="text"/>	Recent Advances (optional) Add 2013 response <input type="text"/>
	No selection made	No selection made		
	<i>Into which functional area(s) does your community's planning gaps fall?</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Evaluating and updating plans <input type="checkbox"/> Including individuals with disabilities or access/functional needs <input type="checkbox"/> Incorporating risk analyses <input type="checkbox"/> Integrating different plans <input type="checkbox"/> Operational planning <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-incident planning <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic planning <input type="checkbox"/> Whole community involvement and coordination <input type="checkbox"/> Other Functional Area(s):				



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How the THIRA and SPR Work Together

- The SPR is an annual self-assessment of each state and territory's preparedness capabilities
- Based on targets set during the preceding THIRA process, states and territories assess their preparedness across all 31 core capabilities outlined in the *National Preparedness Goal*
- The SPR also provides information on state and territory:
 - Priorities across core capabilities
 - Recent advances and core capabilities in greatest danger of decline
 - Descriptions of capability gaps and views on the expected roles of themselves and the Federal Government for addressing those gaps
- The SPR's consistent methodology enables trend analysis since 2012
- FEMA shares THIRA/SPR results across the Federal Government to promote data-driven decision making



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Why Adjust SPR Methodology?

NPAD continually looks for opportunities to make the SPR more objective while balancing the reporting burden for jurisdictions

- Challenges with the current methodology
 - Capability ratings cannot be verified independently
 - States and territories determine their 1-5 ratings using various methodologies and likely have different interpretations the ratings scale
 - Because jurisdictions evaluate themselves against their own THIRAs, FEMA cannot compare SPR ratings across jurisdictions
- States and territories have expressed interest in identifying a means of comparing their preparedness capabilities to similar jurisdictions
- FEMA and other Federal agencies desire more specific information on state and territory capabilities to support decision making
- Congress and the Government Accountability Office are encouraging FEMA to develop less subjective indicators of state preparedness



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SPR Objective Measures Project Overview

- Introduce a set of “objective measures” that are more specific than the 1-5 ratings and rely on verifiable facts
 - Jurisdictions will be able to point to specific evidence to verify responses
 - Measures will be based on existing national-level doctrine and best practices in assessing preparedness across the country
 - Measures will be nationally applicable, unlike performance standards that may be tailored to the unique requirements of an individual jurisdiction
- NPAD is developing measures for each of the common core capabilities and those within the Response and Recovery mission areas for implementation in the 2016 SPR
- The SPR will remain a self-assessment of state and territorial capabilities and NPAD will maintain the 1-5 capability ratings

Measures will highlight a few key elements of each core capability, they will not comprehensively cover all relevant activities



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Illustrative Example

- Current SPR asks for broad, capability ratings on a 1-5 scale, for example:

Critical Transportation - Planning				
1	2	3	4	5
No plans/annexes exist	Some plans/annexes exist	Plans/annexes are complete but require an update	Plans/annexes are complete and updated within the past 5 years	Plans/annexes are complete, up-to-date, and verified

- SPR objective measures will focus on narrow aspects of a capability, for example:

Have the state/territory and all applicable jurisdictions pre-identified transportation assembly points that will be used during evacuations?					
N/A	No	Few Elements	Some Elements	Most Elements	Yes



Criteria for Inclusion

1. **Importance:** Does the measure usefully inform a jurisdiction's understanding of its level of ability in the core capability?
2. **Understandable:** Is the measure easy for emergency managers and homeland security practitioners to understand and does the measure have one clear interpretation?
3. **Targeted:** Does responding to the measure lead the jurisdiction to identify objective, real-world evidence (that can be verified) to support its answer?
4. **Scalable:** Does the measure provide useful indicators for state and territorial governments of varying size and complexity?
5. **Authoritative:** Is the measure derived from national doctrine, policies, plans, or guidance or a widely accepted authoritative source?
6. **Simple:** Is the measure functionally simple to answer?
7. **Actionable:** Can state and territorial governments use the answer to the measure to inform leadership's decision making? Can FEMA?



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