

Emergency Support Function #5 – Information And Planning Annex

ESF Coordinator:

Department of Homeland Security/
Federal Emergency Management Agency

Support Agencies:

All Departments and Agencies

Primary Agency:

Department of Homeland Security/
Federal Emergency Management Agency

INTRODUCTION

Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) #5 — Information and Planning collects, analyzes, processes, and disseminates information about a potential or actual incident and conducts planning activities to facilitate the overall activities in providing assistance to the whole community.

Scope

ESF #5 coordinates the development of overall incident situational awareness and the development of Federal plans to manage and support incident activities. Departments and agencies participate in the planning processes coordinated by the planning entity at each incident command or multiagency coordination center.

ESF #5 activities include functions that are critical to support and facilitate multiagency planning and coordination for operations involving incidents requiring Federal coordination. This includes crisis and incident action planning; information collection, analysis, and management; and other support as required.

ESF #5 is organized in accordance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). ESF #5 supports the general staff functions contained in the NIMS for all the Federal multiagency coordination centers and incident operations (e.g., National Response Coordination Center, Regional Response Coordination Centers, Joint Field Offices).

RELATIONSHIP TO WHOLE COMMUNITY

This section describes how ESF #5 relates to other elements of the whole community. Basic concepts that apply to all members of the whole community include:

- Effective incident response activities rely on information and planning systems that provide a common operating picture to all members of the whole community engaged in a response
- Information needs should be defined by the jurisdiction/organization. These needs are often met at the local, state, tribal, territorial, insular area, and Federal levels, in concert with nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector, and primarily through preparedness organizations

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- Procedures and protocols for the release of warnings, incident notifications, public communications, and other critical information are disseminated through a defined combination of networks used by emergency operations centers. Notifications are made to the appropriate jurisdictional levels and to NGOs and the private sector through defined mechanisms specified in emergency operations plans and incident action plans
- Appropriate auxiliary aids and services are used to effectively communicate information, warnings, notifications, and other critical information for individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs.

Local, State, Tribal, Territorial, Insular Area, and Governments

Local, state, tribal, territorial, insular area, and governments government elements engage in incident planning and collaborate with Federal planning elements as part of unified response efforts.

Private Sector/Nongovernmental Organizations

The private sector and NGOs are important sources of critical incident information. Many members of the private sector and NGOs with a role in response participate in planning efforts, as well as conduct their own.

Federal Government

Specific information on Federal Government actions are described in the following sections.

CORE CAPABILITES AND ACTIONS

ESF Roles Aligned to Core Capabilities

The following table lists the Response core capabilities that ESF #5 most directly support along with the related ESF #5 actions. All ESFs support the core capabilities of Planning, Operational Coordination, and Public Information and Warning.

Core Capability	ESF #5 – Information and Planning
Planning	During an actual or potential incident, coordinates and conducts planning activities.
Situational Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintains situational awareness of an incident.• Provides an informational link to members of the whole community.• Serves as the centralized conduit for situation reports, geospatial data, and other decision support tools.• Provides decision relevant information regarding the nature and extent of an incident, and well as cascading effects, in support of a potential or actual coordinated Federal response.
Public Information and Warning	Provides information for the development of credible, culturally appropriate, and accessible messages to inform ongoing emergency services and the public about protective measures and other life-sustaining actions and facilitate the transition to recovery.

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Agency Actions

Primary Agency	Actions
Department of Homeland Security	Federal Emergency Management Agency <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Works with all partners to develop coordinated interagency operational plans.• Ensures a common operating picture and shared situational awareness for the whole community through effective planning and information management.• Develops reports and other products for incident situational awareness.• Coordinates and manages the development of interagency remote sensing and geospatial information used in support of a potential or actual Federal response to an incident
Support Agency	Actions
All Support Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides accurate and timely information related to an actual or potential incident.• Develops and executes plans related to an actual or potential incident.
Department of Justice	The Attorney General is responsible for the release, dissemination, use, and publication of information on any matter related to grand juries, prosecutions, and ongoing Federal investigations, including terrorism; espionage, and other criminal matters where Federal prosecution is expected.

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