

PLANNING ASSISTANCE TO STATES & FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICES WORKSHOP: LEVERAGING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO ENGAGE AND UNDERSTAND COMMUNITY NEEDS

26 – 28 April 2022



US Army Corps
of Engineers®



WORKSHOP PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES



Purpose: Enhance District understanding and implementation of USACE technical assistance (TA) programs, focusing on Floodplain Management Services (FPMS) and Planning Assistance to States (PAS).

Objectives:

- Ensure common understanding of the foundational policies and purposes of the FPMS and PAS programs.
- Explore outreach strategies to reach and engage key audiences and increase internal and external collaboration.
- Increase awareness of enterprise strategies for executing PAS and FPMS funding from regular and supplemental appropriations.
- Identify areas where Headquarters, national PAS and FPMS program managers, and MSC and District leadership may further support program execution.



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WORKSHOP

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POLICY UPDATES



There are several important policy updates to be aware of before we move through the next 3 days:

- Planning Guidance Notebook
- ASA(CW) Environmental Justice Interim Guidance
- Tribal Partnership Program
- WRDA 2020 Implementation Guidance



PLANNING GUIDANCE NOTEBOOK



Progress continues on updates:

- Chapters 1-3.
 - ✓ Coordinated with ASA(CW)
 - ✓ They have asked for addition of guidance from WRDA 2020 and other changes.
 - ✓ Currently being revised.
- Appendix E.
 - ✓ This lays out the process for each business line.
 - ✓ Under Development by PCXs.
 - ✓ Internal Reviews this summer.
- Appendices C, G, and H are undergoing final review at ASA(CW)



WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE?



“The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin or income regarding the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies, with no group bearing a disproportionate burden of environmental harms and risks.”

- *Memorandum from the Assistance Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA(CW)), Subject: Implementation of Environmental Justice and the Justice40 Initiative, March 15, 2022.*



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE – ASA(CW) MEMORANDUM



- USACE must consider environmental justice and disproportionate impacts to disadvantaged communities throughout its Civil Works programs and in all phases of project planning and decision-making, consistent with the goals and objectives of various Administration policies.
- USACE must work to meet the needs of disadvantaged communities by reducing disparate environmental burdens, removing barriers to participation in decision-making, and increasing access to benefits provided by Civil Works programs to disadvantaged communities within USACE authorities.
- In the instance that USACE identifies any adverse effects that are occurring within its Civil Works programs or services, then appropriate steps will be taken to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to the greatest extent reasonable.
- Lastly, USACE will not work to achieve these goals alone but rather will work collaboratively with other federal, state and local governments, Indian Tribes, and disadvantaged communities to ensure the Civil Works program delivers benefits to all citizens in impacted communities.



TRIBAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



- Comprehensive TPP Guidance being developed.
- Due date is 1 Sept 2022 to ASA(CW).
- Will consolidate policies for TPP and will provide clear programmatic guidance across the board.
- Will be a Real Estate section to deal with those issues that have come up.
- Protection of natural and cultural resources will also be addressed.
- Drafted a policy paper for inclusion of erosion control. Still needs to be briefed to leadership before being include in comprehensive guidance.



WRDA 2020 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROVISIONS



Section 117: FEDERAL INTEREST DETERMINATION.

Brings back unlimited Recons for studies that will benefit an economically-disadvantaged community and up to 3 Recons per year for “covered” communities. Federal Interest Determination will be 100% federally funded up to \$200,000

Section 118: PILOT PROGRAMS ON THE FORMULATION OF CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROJECTS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES.

Projects would include studies, in both rural and economically disadvantaged communities, that investigate the feasibility of FRM and CSR projects. Studies would be 100% Federally funded.

Section 160: DEFINITION OF ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY.

Definitions for Economically Disadvantaged communities. May also include Indian Tribes, economically-distressed community, etc. Must undergo 60-day public comment period before finalization.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OUTREACH STRATEGY OVERVIEW

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HQ Flood Risk Management
Business Line Manager



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IMPORTANCE OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



- FPMS and PAS are two programs within the Investigations Remaining Items category
- Investigations Remaining \neq SLUSH FUND
- Offer access to USACE's planning and technical assistance
- Recent increases in annual budgets





JUSTICE40 INITIATIVE



- EO 13985 *Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government* - Promotes **racial equity** and support for **underserved communities**. Promotes allocation of resources to address the historic failure to invest sufficiently, justly, and equally in underserved communities, as well as individuals from those communities. Signed January 20, 2021
- Commits to delivering at least 40% of the overall benefits from Federal investments in climate and clean energy to disadvantaged communities
- Each agency has identified programs that could support this effort, for USACE: FPMS and PAS





NEED FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OUTREACH STRATEGY



- 15 March 2022: ASA signed IG for environmental justice and the Justice40 Initiative
- **Section 8-** Directs USACE to:
 - Conduct an analysis of how to target benefits to disadvantaged communities for FPMS and PAS- including Investment Analysis and Strategy
 - Host internal nationwide meeting for managers of these programs (**this meeting**)
 - Engage the state-level POCs to assist with overall investment strategy
 - Identify outreach methods at the district level to ensure disadvantaged communities are engaged & broaden awareness of FPMS and PAS services
 - **Strategy due 29 April 2022 (will be draft)**
- Will be an appendix to the Overarching Outreach Strategy



RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT DISTRICT OUTREACH



Funding

- FPMS Unit
- PAS Coordination Funds

Public Engagement Specialists

- One in each district that can support District Outreach Strategy Development

SJ Teams

- Existing established relationships at the state-level POCs

Handouts

- HQUSACE developing handouts to assist in identifying which authority might best meet the problems communities identify

Authorities

- PAS, FPMS, CAP, Investigations
- WRDA Sec 117 & 118b



FEEDBACK



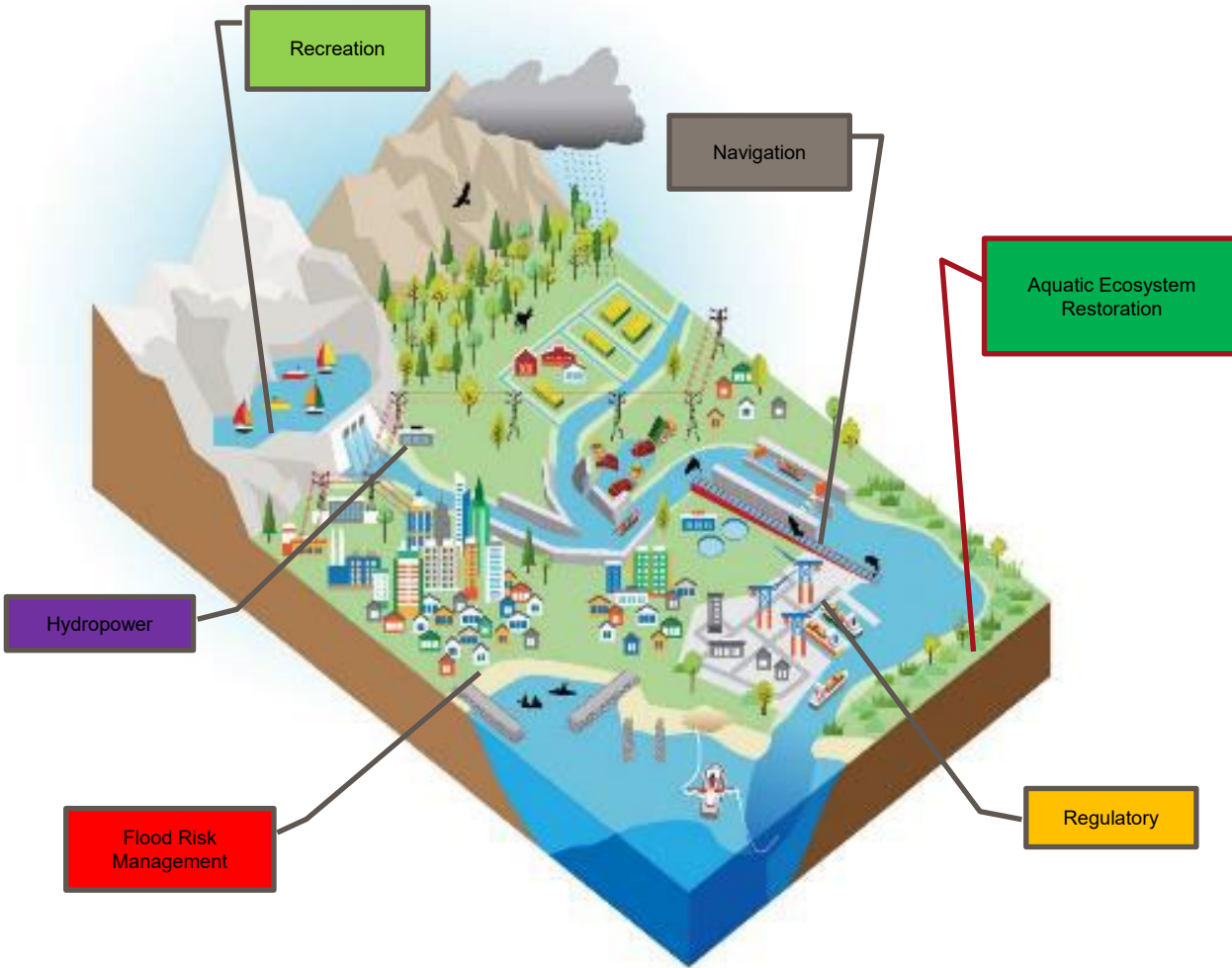
What resources do you need??

Thursday going to be breaking into MSC teams really want to hear how HQ can better support you?





Supplemental Program



Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018: \$17.4B
(signed into law 9 Feb 2018)

Disaster Relief Act of 2019: \$3.25B
(signed into law 6 Jun 2019)

Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act, 2022: \$17.1B
(signed into law 15 Nov 2021)

Disaster Relief Supplemental Approps Act, 2022: \$5.7B
(signed into law 30 Sep 2021)

Total Supplemental Program - ~\$43.45 Billion



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 Role in the Infrastructure
 Investment and Jobs Act



USACE ROLE IN THE
 IJA
 MG GRAHAM
\$17.1 BILLION
INVESTMENT

For Civil Works projects that address water resources and infrastructure needs for the Nation.



\$40 MILLION
 Program Oversight



\$11.615 BILLION
 Construction, Rehabilitation
 & Restoration



\$4 BILLION
 Operations &
 Maintenance



\$75 MILLION
 Water Infrastructure
 Finance Innovation Act




\$808 MILLION
 Mississippi River &
 Tributaries Program



\$150 MILLION
 Feasibility Studies
 & Investigations



\$160 MILLION
 Regulatory Program



\$251 MILLION
 Flood Control &
 Coastal Emergencies

