The Planning Assistance to States Playbook
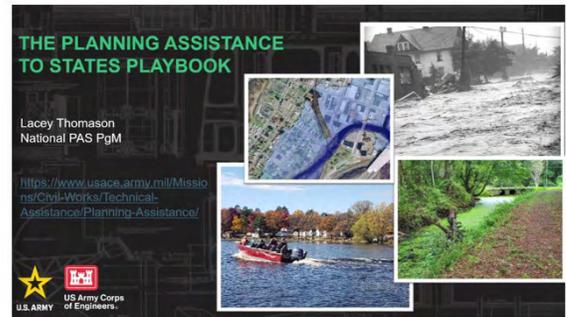15 January 2026
Q&A Summary

This webinar provided an overview of how to effectively utilize the Planning Assistance to States (PAS) Program. It covered a general overview of the program, recent updates such as new model agreements, and a look to the future. Lacey Thomason (PAS National Program Manager, Institute for Water Resources) presented the webinar.

This summary of the Question/Answer session of the webinar is not a transcription; questions and responses have been edited and reordered for clarity.

Key Resources:
- *[HQUSACE Planning Assistance to States Webpage](#)*
- *[Planning Assistance to States Project Partnership Agreements](#) (See Section 22 under Other Templates and Agreements)*
- *[FRM-Silver Jackets-FPMS-PAS Financial Points of Contacts](#)*
- FRM-CSRM CoP Portal – *[Partner Outreach and Technical Assistance Resources](#)*

Is the Baltimore District viewer available for review by others working on PAS projects?
Baltimore District has developed a viewer that contains US Census data that can be utilized to determine if a community qualifies for a section 8119 cost share waiver for PAS. [Section 8119 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2022](#) does not require a PAS agreement.

The Baltimore District viewer is available on the [USACE UCoP platform](#); all that is needed is access to the UCoP platform. If you need access to this viewer, please coordinate with your district GIS staff.

What are the limitations on how PAS funds can be used to support data collection?
Data collection is permitted only if it supports the work of the PAS project and must be explicitly tied to the approved scope of work. Typical uses of data collection are gap analysis, watershed planning, flood risk screening, and evaluating management alternatives. PAS funds may not be used for data collection outside of these purposes, such as supporting design, permitting, construction, and long-term data collection/monitoring. Data collection is subject to cost-share requirements. Contact Lacey Thomason or Kaely Megaro (PAS Deputy National Program Manager) with any specific questions.

Is there a way to query PAS proposals to find examples of specific types of projects?
PAS proposals can be searched within USACE's [RI-TACO database](#). If you do not have access to the database, contact your district's PAS manager, and they will be able to get you this data. RI-TACO contains all project and scoping documents.

My team recently completed a PAS study with a report co-written by USACE and other entities. What is the process and appropriate venue for sharing this type of report publicly?
We do not have a location on the National PAS website for sharing project report-type information. Since things are regularly changing, please coordinate with your PAO office as to what is appropriate in terms of sharing project reports. Historically, project reports have been shared by the non-federal sponsor to the public when warranted.