

Catastrophic Incident Response Annex

Planning for the Worst
and Hoping for the Best

- 
- Created in response to a **post-Katrina federal call to prepare for catastrophic incidents.**
 - **PRIMARY AGENCY:** Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA)
 - **SUPPORT AGENCIES:** All Ohio Emergency Operations Plan Primary and Support Agencies, **dependent on the activation of individual Emergency Support Functions**



Strategy

- Ohio's Catastrophic Incident Annex establishes the State's strategy for implementing and coordinating an **accelerated, pro-active state response to in-state and out-of-state catastrophic incidents.**
- A catastrophic incident is:

“Any natural or manmade incident, including terrorism, that results in **extraordinary levels** of mass casualties, damage, or disruption severely affecting the population, infrastructure, environment, economy, national morale, and/or government functions.”



Planning Basis

- Developed incorporating planning elements from the **New Madrid Seismic Zone Catastrophic Earthquake Response Planning initiative** that coordinates catastrophic earthquake planning actions at the local, State, regional, and Federal levels.

Scalability

- The determination of whether an incident is or is not catastrophic in nature may be **relative to the available resources** in the area where the incident occurs.
- This determination will be made by the **State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Executive Group** in consultation with state and local partners.



Not Your Normal Disaster

- A catastrophic incident could result in sustained national impacts over a **prolonged period of time**, and may almost immediately **exceed resources** that are normally available to State, local, and private-sector authorities in the impacted area
- May significantly **interrupt governmental operations and emergency services** to such an extent that national and local security could be threatened.

Catastrophic Incidents that Could affect Ohio Could Include

- Widespread, prolonged flooding
- Widespread high wind events
- Widespread and/or prolonged winter storms, blizzard conditions, extreme cold and ice storms
- Prolonged high heat and/or drought
- Severe earthquake
- Widespread, prolonged utility outages and/or interruptions.
- Significant nuclear and radiation emergency incidents (explosions and power plant incidents)
- Significant radioactive material releases (transportation accidents, intentional and/or accidental detonations of a radiological dispersion device, or an accidental or intentional incident at a fixed facility)
- Significant chemical/hazmat spills and/or release
- Widespread and/or significant cyber incidents (attacks and unintentional incidents)
- Widespread debilitation and/or interruption of electronic communication and control systems
- Pandemics and epidemics
- Widespread biological infection or exposure to toxin

Catastrophic-level Impacts that Could Result from these Incidents Could Include

- Disruptions to commerce and health and lifesaving systems.
- Extraordinary numbers of human and/or animal casualties and/or fatalities.
- Extraordinary damage/impacts to utility distribution and/or delivery infrastructure and/or systems.
- Extraordinary damage/impacts to transportation infrastructure and/or routes.
- Extraordinary damage/impacts to communication infrastructure and/or systems.
- Extraordinary and/or significant damage/impacts to crops and/or soils.
- Extraordinary numbers of human radiation exposures and/or radioactive contaminations and/or casualties and/or fatalities.
- Extraordinary amounts of prolonged infrastructure, property and/or critical facilities being left uninhabitable and/or unusable.
- Extraordinary numbers of short- and/or long-term human, business, and/or critical facility displacements.
- Extraordinary increases to the response time of public safety and other critical resources and/or services, and/or interruptions of the application and/or availability of resources.



Not Just In-State Incidents

Ohio may be impacted by **catastrophic incidents that occur outside the borders of the state**, but necessitate the application/employment of Ohio-based response resources.

Hurricanes, tsunamis, terrorism incidents in other states, etc. could necessitate the application of Ohio-based response resources either in Ohio or in another state (**EMAC**).

Out-of-state catastrophic incidents could result in a large number of persons from other states/countries being **evacuated to, or through, the State of Ohio**.



Impact on Infrastructure and Resources

A catastrophic incident may cause significant **disruption of the State's or an impacted area's critical infrastructure**, such as energy, transportation, telecommunications, law enforcement and public health and healthcare systems and/or services.

The **response capabilities** and resources of the State and the federal government, including mutual aid from surrounding states, **may be unavailable and/or insufficient** and may be quickly overwhelmed, which could result in a prioritization of response.

The unavailability and/or scarcity of resources may result in the establishment of **adjusted standards of care**.



Evacuation and Displacement

Large-scale evacuations, organized or self-directed, may occur.

More people initially are likely to flee and seek shelter for attacks involving chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear agents than for natural events.

Large numbers of people may be left **temporarily or permanently homeless** and may require **prolonged temporary housing**.



Mass Evacuation

The initial stages of mass evacuation planning are underway in the State of Ohio.

Ohio's Mass Evacuation Support Plan will be focused on providing support to those who need to evacuate from **one part of the state of Ohio to another**; from **within Ohio to another state**; from **another state to Ohio**; or from **another state through Ohio to another destination**.



Ensuring Continuity

Following a catastrophic incident, jurisdictions within the State of Ohio may be severely compromised.

The State of Ohio and the federal government and its national partners may take measures to **fill gaps** to ensure **continuity** of local-level government and public- and private-sector operations.

Upon the occurrence of a **catastrophic incident**, or in advance of one if determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Federal Government might, in accordance with the NRF-CIS and in coordination with the affected State and incident command structure, deploy **Federal resources**.



Incident Management Teams

If local authorities are **unable to establish or maintain an effective incident command** structure due to catastrophic conditions, the State might, **in consultation with remaining elements of local government**, establish a unified command structure or implement the use of an **Incident Management Team**.

If all available local and regional command and control mutual aid resources have been exhausted, an IMT may be assigned to an incident and **supplemental resources may be assembled** to assist local authorities who are unable to establish or maintain an effective incident command structure due to catastrophic conditions.



Incident Management Team

- An IMT is a **scalable group of specially trained individuals** who work closely in **support of the locally-elected jurisdictional authority/officials** to provide for the **command, control, coordination, and support** of the incident organization and available resources to address the needs of an incident.
- The State would **transition back** to its normal coordination and support functions **once impacted local jurisdictions are capable** of reestablishing their incident command.



IMT Purpose and Goals

Assist in:

Saving lives

Protecting property

Securing critical infrastructure/key resources

Containing the event

Initial Goals:

Establish and/or enhance **situational awareness**

Facilitate resource management and accountability

Address incident span of control issues

Establish and/or enhance **communications capabilities**

Support and enhance **responder health and safety**

Establish and/or enhance the **incident planning** process

Phased Response

If necessary, the State of Ohio may employ a Phased Response Framework

Response Phases

- Phase I: **Life Saving** – Notification, situational awareness, damage assessment, and State emergency response force activation, mobilization, and deployment with a priority on life saving.
- Phase II: **Life Sustaining** – Continued priority on life saving, as well as life-sustainment operations. Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) and Federal resources activated, mobilized, and deployed.
- Phase III: **Emergency Repair and Services** – Continue life-sustaining operations, as required, and focus on essential emergency repairs to critical infrastructure.

Recovery Phases

- Phase IV: **Basic Restoration and Human Services** – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) disaster assistance programs begin implementation, debris management, and repair/restoration of critical infrastructure.
- Phase V: **Initial Recovery** – Continue housing assistance, FEMA assistance programs, and initiation of long-term recovery strategy/programs.
- Phase VI: **Sustained Recovery** – Fully implement long-term recovery programs.



Tiered Response

In order to implement a coordinated response, if the character of an incident permits it, and if it is feasible to do so, the state may be divided into response tiers: **Affected Tier, Initial Response Tier, and Support Tier.**

Affected Tier - jurisdictions that have been identified as the most likely to be impacted by the incident.

Initial Response Tier - jurisdictions that are designated as potential sources of immediate response assets for impacted areas.

Support Tier - jurisdictions that have been identified as potential sources of support and replenishment of assets, including sheltering, medical surge, and staging areas.

The application of a Tiered Response approach would be **flexible and fluid to an incident's ongoing development and needs.**



General Response Concept

We're Going to Continue to do What We Can for as Long as We Can

- Ohio's local- and state-level **emergency response resources have been proven to be able to adequately and effectively respond to a wide range of emergencies and disasters.**
- Although **resources that are available within the state of Ohio may not be adequate** to effectively respond to a catastrophic incident, these resources will be employed, coordinated and facilitated via local- and state-level emergency operation centers for as **long as they are available and/or effective.**
- When it is determined that available in-state resources will no longer be able to effectively respond to the needs that arise from a catastrophic incident, **resources from outside the state will be requested** to aid in response.
- The State of Ohio will continue to employ, coordinate and facilitate locally-available resources in response to a catastrophic incident **until doing so is no longer an effective means of response.**



State Area Coordination Center

Area Coordination Centers may be established at **state-run facilities** in order to facilitate the state's response and recovery actions.

Once established, these Area Coordination Centers may **coordinate response** in their respective areas between local emergency operation centers and the SEOC.

Incident Support Teams (IST) may be deployed by the state to assist state area coordination operations and to facilitate ICS organization.

Additional area coordination centers may be established as the situation warrants.



Points of Distribution

Points of Distribution are **temporary locations at which commodities are distributed** to disaster victims.

It is the responsibility of local jurisdictions to **identify and operate PODs** in their jurisdiction.

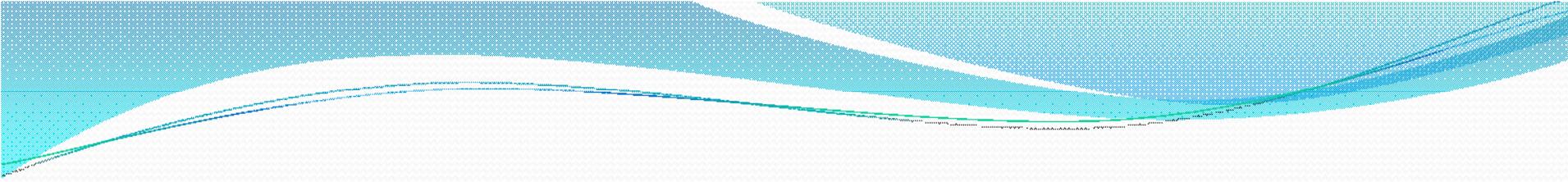
If local jurisdictions do not have the resources to identify and operate PODs, state-level or out-of-state resources will be employed to perform these operations.



Mass Evacuation Support

Local- and state-level resources will be employed within the state to coordinate with impacted areas to:

- Facilitate the **evacuation, arrival and debarkation** of evacuees
- Provide **shelter, food, and medical care**
- Support evacuees with **household pets** through regional animal response teams
- Assist in the **return of evacuees** to their home area or assist them with **resettlement within Ohio.**



Questions?