Agenda

Technology Platform Briefing **(5 minutes)**

Interactive Polling Exercise **(5 minutes)**

2021 CPOG Overview **(20 minutes)**

Exercise Starter Kits Update **(5 minutes)**

Q/A and Open Dialogue **(20 minutes)**
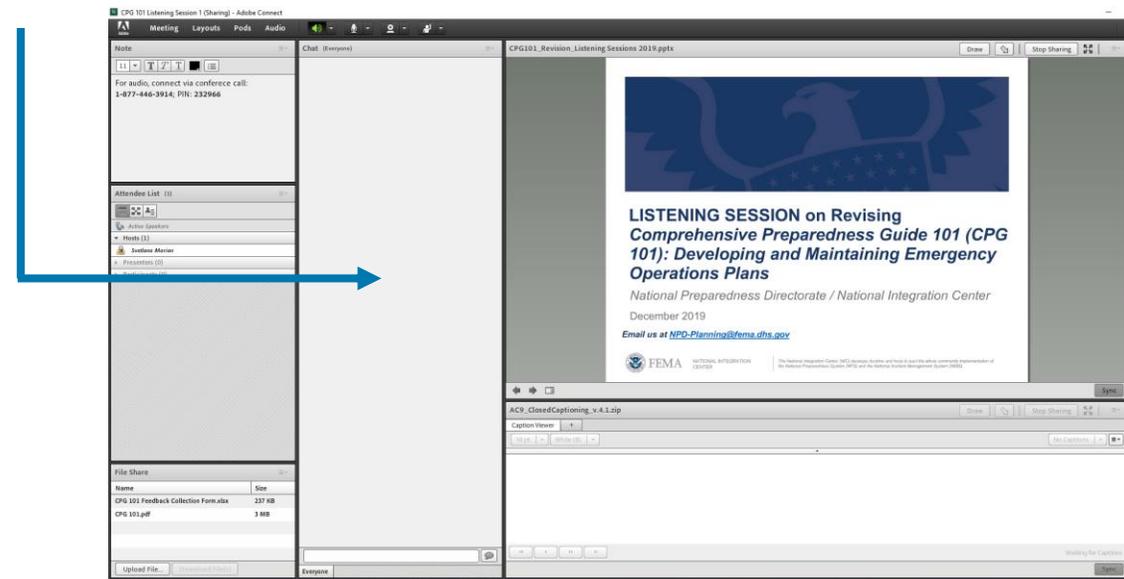
Concluding Comments **(5 minutes)**

Technology Platform Briefing

Using the Technology

- Audio issues? Press *0 to connect with an operator.

- During the presentation, <u>participant lines will be placed on mute</u> to limit background noise.

- Questions during the presentation? Use the Adobe Chat Function.

  - Click "Everyone" to send to the whole group.
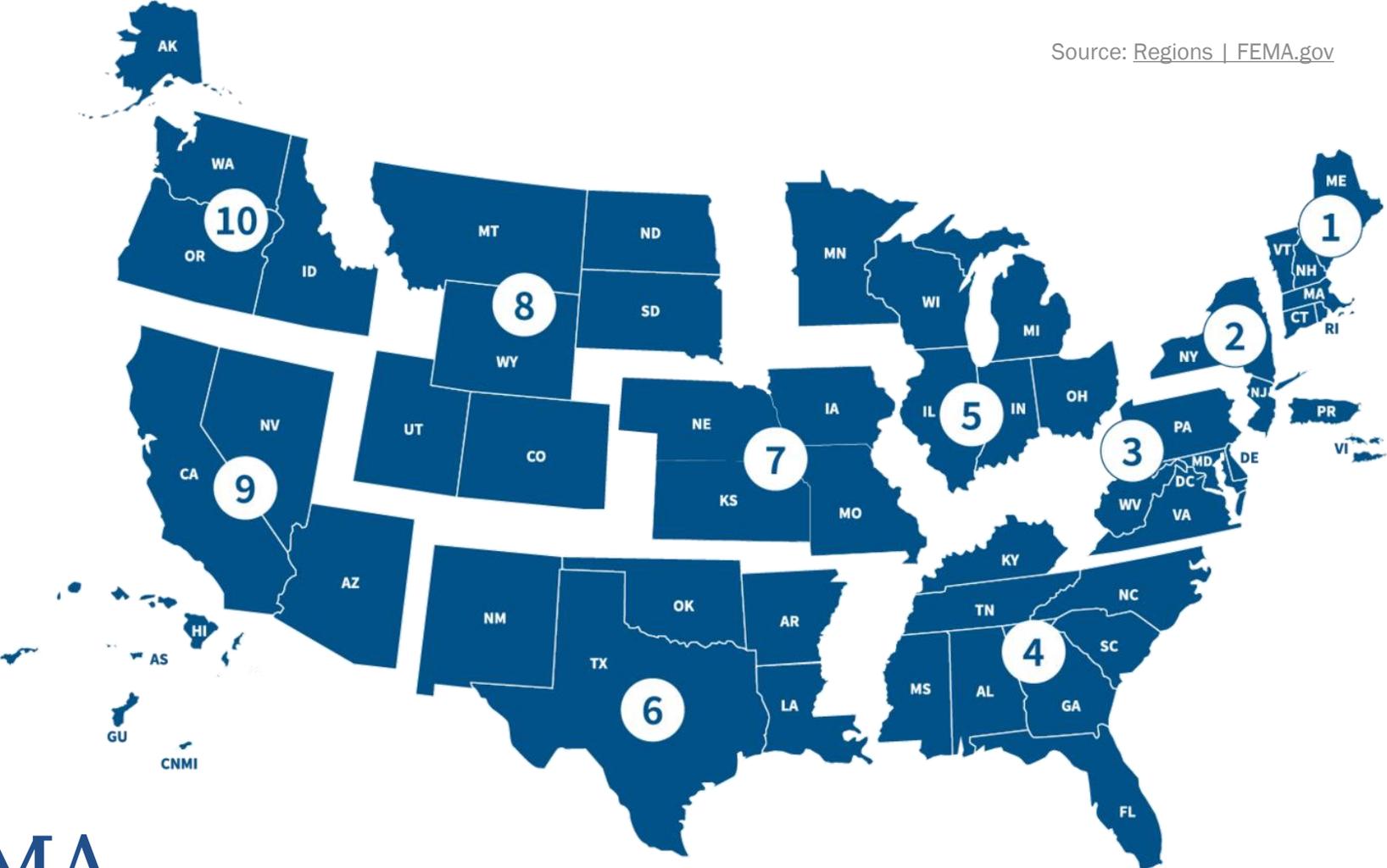
  - Click "Host" to send only to the speakers.

Interactive Polling Exercise

FEMA Regions Map

Interactive Polling Exercise

2021 CPOG Overview

Background

- In May 2020, FEMA released the *COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance for the 2020 Hurricane Season*.

- This document provided actionable guidance to SLTT officials to prepare for response and recovery operations and encourage preparedness measures amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The *COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance: All-Hazards Incident Response and Recovery* is an update to last year's document, illustrating how the emergency management community has operated in a pandemic environment over the past year and how we continue to adapt, apply best practices, and address current challenges.

COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance

All-Hazards Incident Response and Recovery

May 2021

FEMA

What Did NOT Change

- Provides **actionable guidance for SLTT officials** to prepare for response and recovery operations amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Maintains an all-hazards focus** as the nation enters the 2021 Atlantic and Pacific hurricane seasons and the peak Western wildfire season.

- Explains how FEMA plans to continue to adapt response and recovery operations to **ensure prioritization for life safety, life sustainment, and workforce protection,** and maintain the delivery of FEMA programs in a pandemic environment.

- Keeps the **foundational emergency management concepts** relatively unchanged from last year.

- Offers **resource checklists for SLTT jurisdictions** to use based on their most critical needs.
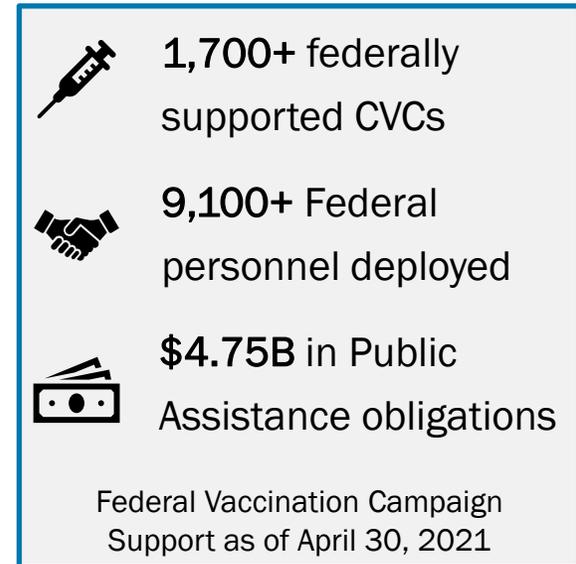
What DID Change

- Describes **continued challenges to disaster operations posed by COVID-19** and updated **planning considerations for emergency managers** that are based on the best available data.

- Outlines **considerations for SLTT governments related to planning COVID-19 testing and vaccination operations** – this includes providing an overview of **how FEMA supports SLTTs** in establishing and operating testing facilities and vaccination sites that **ensure the fair and equitable distribution of vaccines to all individuals who want one.**

- Provides **updated resources reflecting current lessons learned** for operating in a pandemic environment to **enable emergency managers to best adapt** response and recovery plans.

Vaccination Campaign Support and Equitable Response and Recovery Operations

- FEMA continues to support SLTT partners in a vaccination campaign to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to facilitate other response and recovery efforts following an incident.

- Equity remains a key priority for the Agency:

  □ FEMA requires Recipients and Subrecipients to focus the use of FEMA funding on the highest-risk and underserved populations, and to prioritize limited resources to ensure an equitable pandemic response.

  □ FEMA has developed resources to support SLTT partners in safe and equitable distribution of vaccines through resources such as the Civil Rights Checklist and Data Collection Advisory.

1,700+ federally supported CVCs

9,100+ Federal personnel deployed

$4.75B in Public Assistance obligations

Federal Vaccination Campaign Support as of April 30, 2021

FEMA's Posture

- FEMA continues to **support ongoing disaster operations in all 10 FEMA regions.**

- FEMA's regions continue to **provide technical assistance and coordination** for a range of program areas across response and recovery operations with their respective SLTT partners.

- For disaster operations in the COVID-19 environment, **FEMA has adapted its traditional field operations and program delivery model to expedite services, support, and assistance to SLTT partners** while protecting the health and safety of employees. This includes:

  - Adjusting in-person and virtual deployments to meet the needs of disaster survivors;

  - Establishing document drop off centers in place of disaster recovery centers (DRC);

  - Utilizing public messaging to encourage online and phone registrations;

  - Providing for non-congregate sheltering support; and

  - Implementing a Virtual Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) process.

Response Planning - SLTT Planning

- **Review response plans and guidance** to align and synchronize community response actions with Federal planning efforts.

- **Ensure adequate protective measures are in place for the disaster workforce and survivors**, including maximizing vaccinations of all community members who want one – especially emergency managers, critical infrastructure workers, volunteer organizations, and any other personnel critical to conducting rapid, effective disaster operations.

- **Track vaccination rates** in potentially impacted communities, especially among the most socially vulnerable, and **adjust planning, response operations, and protective measures accordingly.**

Response Considerations for SLTT Partners

- ❑ Have you reviewed lessons learned from response operations conducted in the COVID-19 environment and incorporated best practices or recommendations into current plans?

- ❑ Do you have a plan to maximize vaccination efforts in advance of disaster activity periods? Have you established a system to track progress in vaccinating potentially impacted communities?

- ❑ Do you have plans in place to temporarily suspend operations at fixed or mobile vaccination or testing sites due to severe weather?

- ❑ Do you have a plan to determine which personnel will be physically deployed to the field and how they will be protected?

- ❑ Are you using data, such as the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index (SVI), to drive response planning and decision-making?

Recovery Planning - SLTT Planning

- Many **SLTT jurisdictions have successfully and effectively adapted** their recovery operational plans, long-term recovery objectives, and pre-disaster recovery plans to account for this new operating environment.

- SLTT partners should **continue to coordinate with FEMA regions** if they have questions about implementing new policies or delivery methods for recovery programs.

- SLTT partners should continue to **explore how to modify existing recovery and reconstitution plans and structures** to support current COVID-19 recovery operations and accommodate for potential future disasters.

Recovery Considerations for SLTT Partners

- ❑ Have you reviewed lessons learned from recovery operations conducted in the COVID-19 environment and incorporated best practices into current plans?

- ❑ Have you identified sufficient congregate shelter space to safely implement social distancing as well as sufficient non-congregate shelter space?

- ❑ Have you reviewed and incorporated guidance from Federal departments and agencies into sheltering plans and strategies?

- ❑ Have you planned for providing Personal Assistance Services and other support for populations seeking shelter?

- ❑ Can you hold effective public meetings while maintaining social distancing? Do you have mechanisms to reach isolated or underserved communities?

Checklists and Resources

The *COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance: All-Hazards Incident Response and Recovery* contains <u>updated</u> checklists and resources on additional COVID-19 related guidance to help emergency managers prepare, including:

- Resources and links for more information from FEMA, the CDC, and other sources;

- Planning consideration checklists for preparedness, response, and recovery; and

- Enhanced focus on equity and inclusion.

Exercise Starter Kits Update

What is the "Preparedness in a Pandemic Exercise Starter Kit?"

- Discussion-based workshop.

- Provides SLTT partners with discussion questions organized around three themes:

  □ Preparedness, Response and Recovery Considerations while operating amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Designed to be flexible, scalable and adaptable to meet needs.

- Can be found at:

  □ https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/best-practices/exercise-starter-kit-preparedness-pandemic

  □ https://preptoolkit.fema.gov/web/em-toolkits/operational-coordination-and-communications
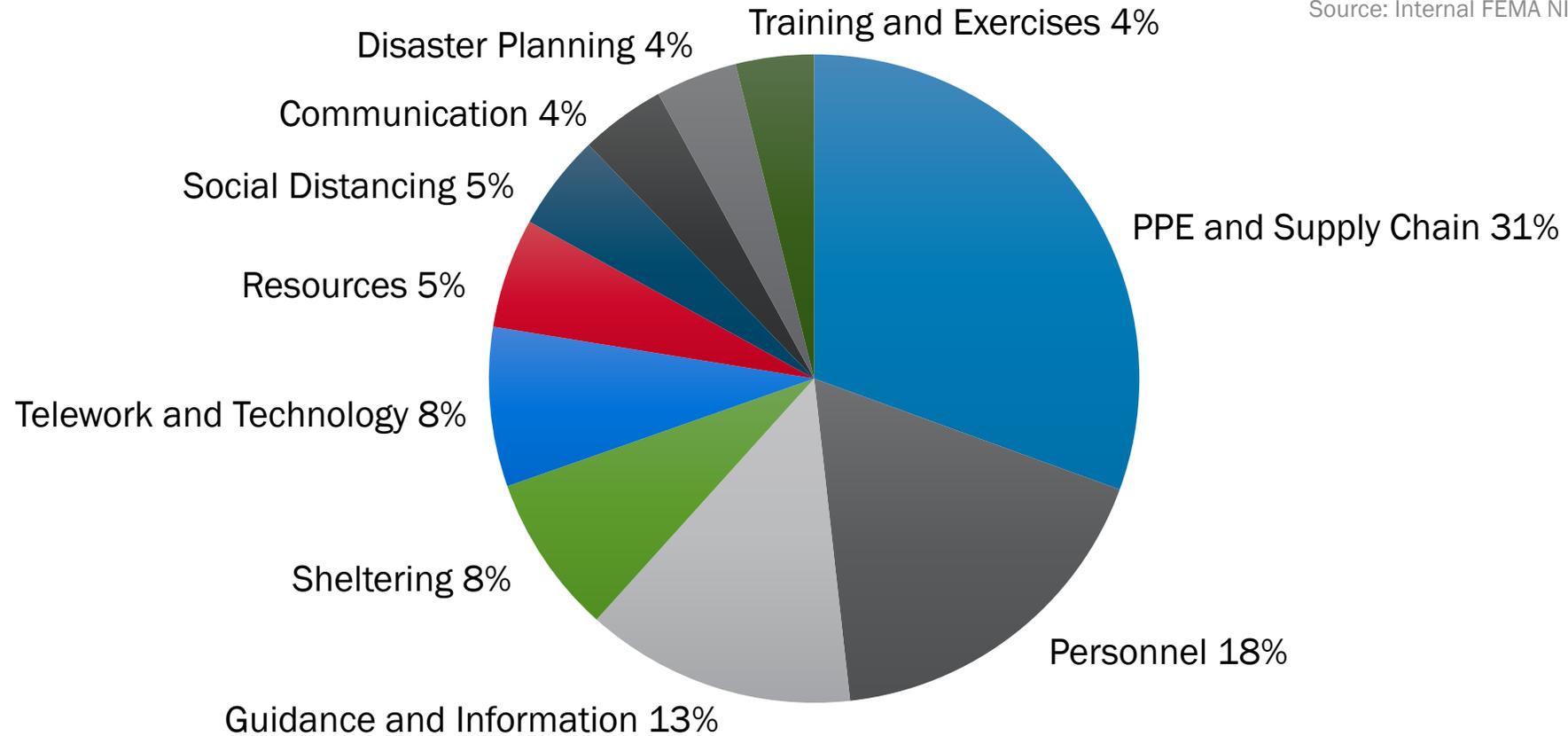
What are the Objectives?

- Discuss the challenges of conducting response and recovery operations during COVID-19.

- Determine if current preparedness, response and recovery capabilities are sufficient to support simultaneous disasters, one being COVID-19.

- Identify how you may need to adapt plans, policies and practices to support scalable and flexible operations.

- Develop an action plan that defines the next steps required to adapt response and recovery plans.

Q/A and Open Dialogue

Top 10 Planning Challenges Identified by 2020 CPOG Webinar Participants

Source: Internal FEMA NIC analysis

Disaster Planning 4%

Training and Exercises 4%

Communication 4%

Social Distancing 5%

PPE and Supply Chain 31%

Resources 5%

Telework and Technology 8%

Sheltering 8%

Personnel 18%

Guidance and Information 13%

Q/A and Open Dialogue

Concluding Comments

Contacts and Useful Links

- To download the *COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance: All-Hazards Incident Response and Recovery*, please visit: https://www.fema.gov/event/covid-19-pandemic-operational-guidance-webinars

- To sign up for NIMS Alerts, please visit: https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/nims

- To access FEMA planning resources, please visit: https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/national-preparedness/plan

- For additional government resources related to COVID-19, please visit: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html or https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus

- For Exercise Starter Kit Questions, please email: HSEEP@fema.dhs.gov

- For any additional questions, comments, or concerns, please email: NPD-Planning@fema.dhs.gov