

# FEMA / National Exercise Division National Exercise Program

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*Overview of the National Exercise Program (NED)*

*October 12, 2011*



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# Major NED Exercise Programs

- **National Exercise Program (NEP):** Primary focus on developing a consistent framework for the Federal departments and agencies to plan, execute, evaluate, and identify corrective actions in homeland security exercises.
- **National Level Exercise (NLE) Program:** Mandated to conduct national exercises with all levels of government to prevent acts of terrorism and to respond and recover from catastrophic incidents.
- **Senior Officials Exercise (SOE) Program:** Primary focus to exercise Federal department and agency executives to facilitate and inform the homeland security policy development process.
- **Regional Exercise Support Program (RESP):** Established as a formal application-based process to provide SME assistance to state, territorial, local governments for discussion and operations-based exercise design, development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning.
- **Terrorism and Prevention Exercise Program (TPEP):** Designed to enhance national terrorism prevention capabilities through the conduct of prevention-focused exercises to increase cooperation and information sharing among homeland security and law enforcement officials at all levels of government.



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# Creating a Unified Exercise Strategy

In response to presidential and congressional requirements, the National Security Staff-in coordination with DHS and FEMA-created and put into place the National Exercise Program to unify homeland security preparedness exercise strategies

## National Exercise Program (NEP)

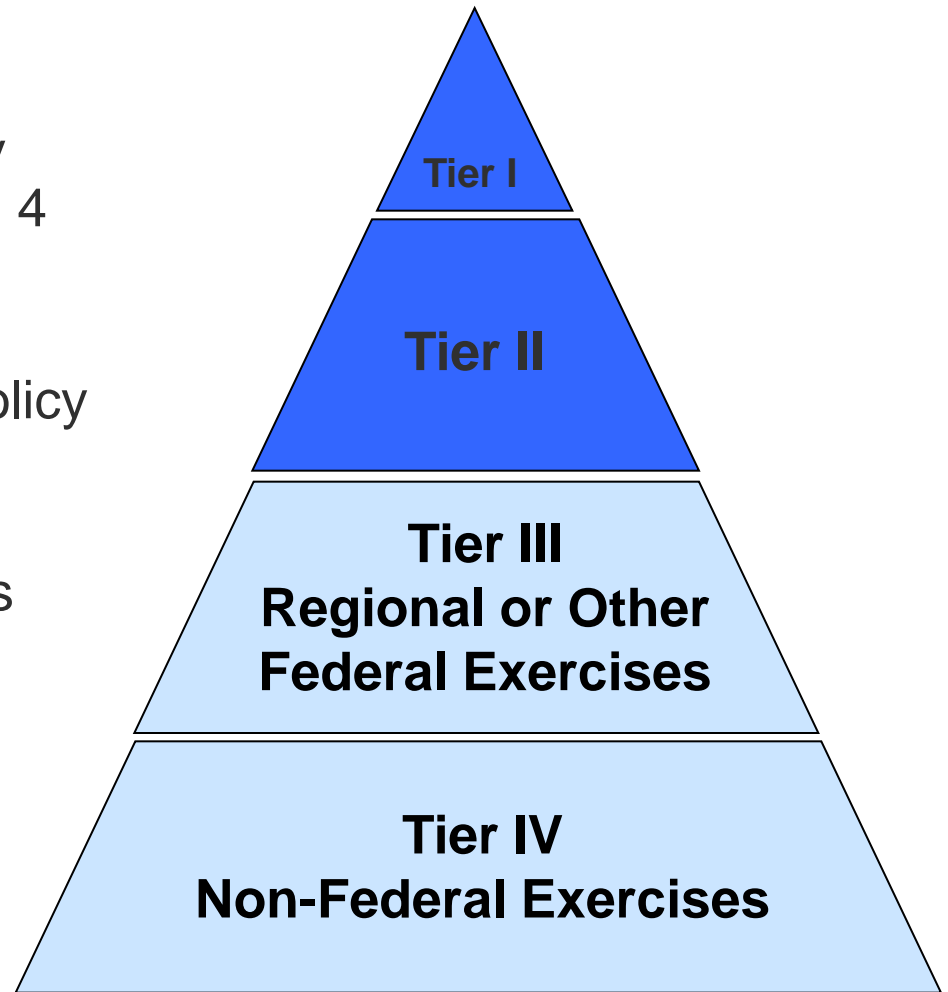
- Provides the U.S. Government (USG) a national, interagency-wide program and a multi-year planning system to focus, coordinate, plan, conduct, execute, evaluate, and prioritize national security and homeland security preparedness-related exercises events
- Will be consistent with Presidential Policy Directive (PPD)-8: *National Preparedness*, United States Code (USC), Title 6, Chapter 2, Subchapter II, Part A, Section 748(b)(1) (Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act), and *The Federal Response to Hurricane Katrina: Lessons Learned*
- Works as the mechanism for delivery of exercise assistance to state and local governments
- Strengthens preparedness capabilities of federal, state, and local entities



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# Old NEP Exercise Tiers

- **Tier I:** White House directed, U.S. Government-wide strategy and policy focused. (1 NLE and 4 PLEs annually)
- **Tier II:** Federal strategy and policy focused. ( $\leq 3$  annually)
- **Tier III:** Other federal exercises operational, tactical or organizational focused
- **Tier IV:** State, territorial, local, tribal or private sector focused



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# National Exercise Program Revised

The new National Exercise Program will actively engage stakeholders from across the homeland security enterprise in a series of realistic exercises that will foster learning and enhance preparedness

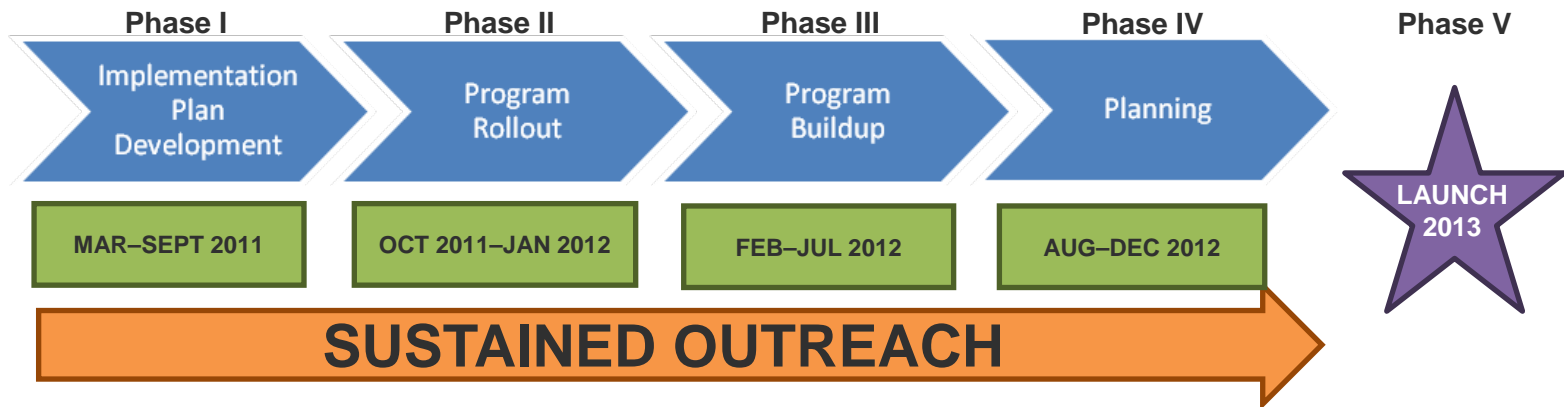
- Scope: Encompass a series of exercises of all types, for participants at all levels, to be conducted over the course of a two-year cycle
- Progressive: Actively engage and involve the participation of multiple stakeholders, feature an increasing level of complexity over time, leveraging existing exercises already scheduled
- Objectives: Will be an objectives-driven program, with the *Principal Objectives* for each two-year cycle set by senior federal interagency principals
- Realism: Feature a heightened degree of limited-notice exercises, with exercise play driven more by player actions than scripted injects, where possible, and the increased use of modeling and simulation into exercises (also a means of reducing costs)
- Readiness: Incorporate a heightened reflection of current risk assessment analysis
- Capstone: Culminates in a biennial comprehensive, intergovernmental, “Whole Community” exercise incorporating the *Principal Objectives* of the given cycle



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# NEP Base Plan & Transition Phases

- Base Plan was signed by Administrator Fugate and submitted to National Security Staff (NSS) on March 18, 2011
- Approved by the Domestic Resilience Group (DRG) and distributed to the DRG Exercise & Evaluation (E&E) sub-Interagency Policy Committee (IPC) as noted in summary of conclusions from March 30, 2011
- Formal launch of new NEP cycle slated for January 2013



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# NEP Implementation Plan

**Purpose:** To develop, in collaboration with the interagency and other key stakeholders, a detailed plan for implementing the NEP concept of operations that is presented in the Base Plan and in alignment with the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)

**Objectives:** The key objectives of the NEP I-Plan include the following:

- Develop a detailed plan that describes the processes, programs, organizational structures, roles, and responsibilities for successfully executing all aspects of the NEP
- Write, review, edit, coordinate, and deliver the NEP I-Plan and associated support documentation, in an open and collaborative environment, by no later than September 30, 2011

**Update:**

- Completed initial draft on June 30<sup>th</sup>; throughout July/August, writing team will be reaching out to the FPCs and REOs for review/comment



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# Impacts of the new NEP

What Is New	Still in Effect	Removed
Progressive cycle ( <i>CY 2013</i> )	Use of National Exercise Schedule (NEXS)	Tier system ( <i>immediate</i> )
Whole community collaborative approach ( <i>immediate</i> )	State, Territorial, local, tribal, nongovernmental organization (NGO) private and public sector participation	Executive Steering Committee (ESC) ( <i>immediate</i> )
Strengthened governance and Exercise Implementation Committee (EIC) ( <i>FY 11</i> )	Exercise types terminology (TTX, Drill, FE, FSE)	Annual NLEs ( <i>CY 2013</i> )
Objectives-driven and capability-based ( <i>immediate</i> )	Exercises should be conducted in accordance with HSEEP guidance	Unrealistic extensive preparation and scripting of exercises ( <i>immediate</i> )
Greater use of limited-notice, less-scripted exercises ( <i>immediate</i> )	Use of lessons learned and Corrective Action Program (CAP) System	NEP Charter dated January 26, 2007, is rescinded ( <i>immediate</i> )
NEP Rolling Summary Reports ( <i>CY 2013</i> )	FEMA/NED facilitate day-to-day operations of NEP	
Biennial national-level exercises (NLEs) ( <i>CY 2013</i> )	FEMA/NED will chair exercise implementation/planning committees	
Structured evaluation metrics for each cycle ( <i>CY 2013</i> )	FEMA/NED will coordinate national- and senior-level exercise participation	
Active incorporation of modeling and simulation technologies ( <i>immediate</i> )	<i>Outlying exercises from May 2011-December 2012 (e.g., Amber Waves)</i>	

# Questions ?



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