

Auditing the Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation System

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Briefing Coverage

- Preparedness context
 - How prepared should government be?
 - How prepared is government?
- Mitigation context
 - What can government do to mitigate the effects of a disaster?
 - What should government do?

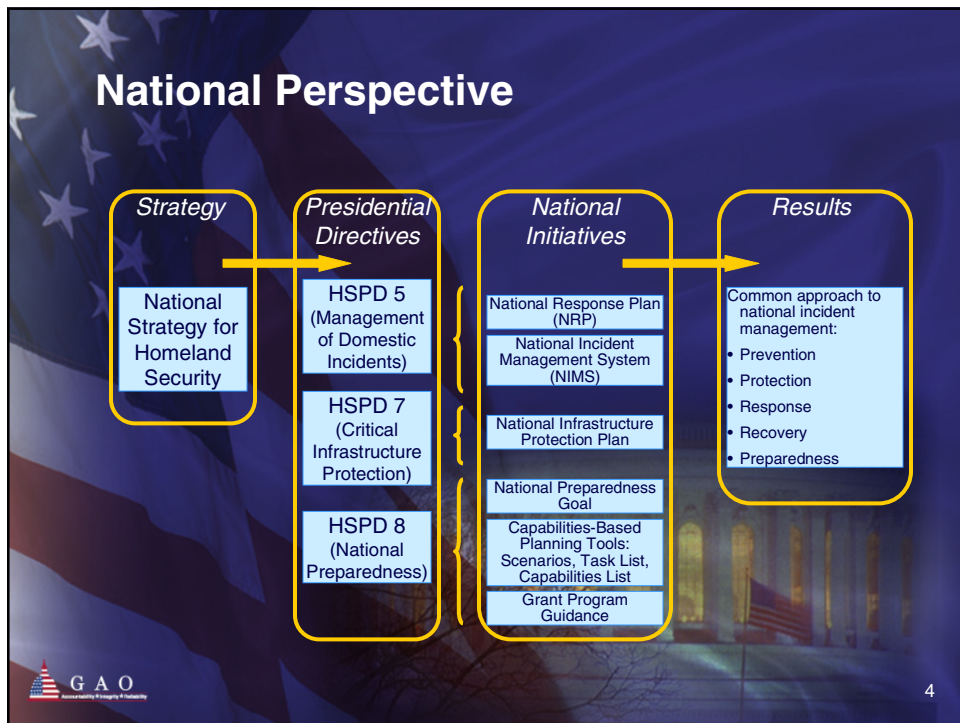


Preparedness Issues

- National Perspective
- DHS Target Capabilities
- Audit Questions




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DHS Target Capabilities

37 Target Capabilities

<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Common</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Communications • Risk management • Community preparedness and participation 	<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Respond Mission Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Onsite incident management • Emergency operations center management • Critical resource logistics and distribution • Volunteer management and donations • Responder safety and health • Public safety and security response • Animal health emergency support • Environmental health • Explosive device response operations • Firefighting operations/support • WMD/HazMat response and decontamination • Citizen protection: evacuation and/or in-place protection • Isolation & quarantine • Urban search & rescue • Emergency public information & warning • Triage & pre-hospital treatment • Medical surge • Medical supplies management & distribution • Mass prophylaxis • Mass care (sheltering, feeding, & related services) • Fatality management
<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Prevent Mission Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information gathering & recognition of indications & warnings • Intelligence analysis and production • Intelligence/information sharing & dissemination • Law enforcement investigation and operations • CBRNE detection 	
<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Protect Mission Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical infrastructure protection • Food & agriculture safety & defense • Epidemiological surveillance & investigation • Public health laboratory testing 	
<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Recover Mission Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural damage & mitigation assessment • Restoration of lifelines • Economic & community recovery 	


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Audit Questions

- What is the criteria for how prepared our first responders should be?
- Do our first responders have adequate assets?
- Are our first responders adequately trained?
- Have our first responders exercised and learned lessons from the exercises?


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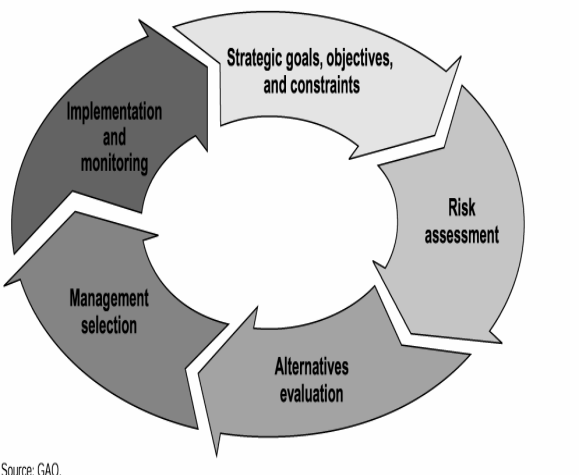
Mitigation Issues

- Risk Management Framework
 - Strategic Goals
 - Risk Assessment
 - Alternatives Evaluation
 - Management Selection
 - Implementation and Monitoring
- Audit questions




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Risk Management Framework



Source: GAO.



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Strategic Goals, Objectives, and Constraints

- What does organization want to achieve (strategic mission)?
- How does it expect to achieve the mission?
- What are key performance measures?
- What are key constraints – legislation, policy, fiscal?

Risk Assessment

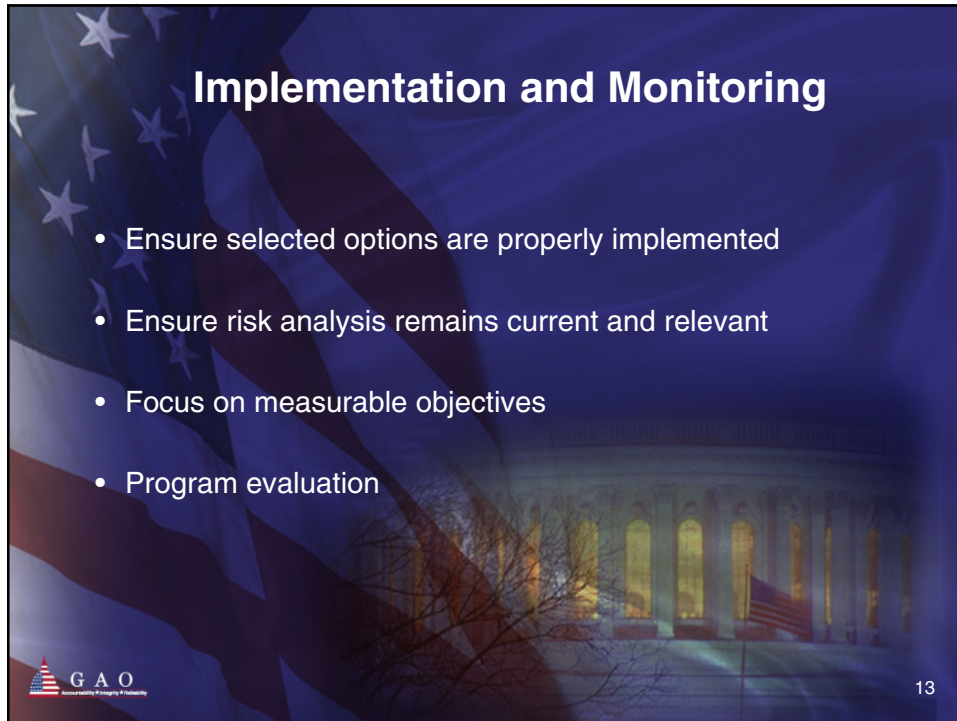
- Threat assessment
 - Probability of an event happening
 - Sources of threat – scientific, intelligence, law enforcement
- Vulnerability assessment
 - Probability that the event will cause harm
 - Consider defense, mitigations
- Consequence assessment
 - Worse case adverse impact
 - Loss of lives, economic cost, impact on security

Alternatives Evaluation

- Identify realistic alternatives to counter the threat, decrease the vulnerabilities, or mitigate the consequences
- Use of cost-benefit and similar analyses


Management Selection

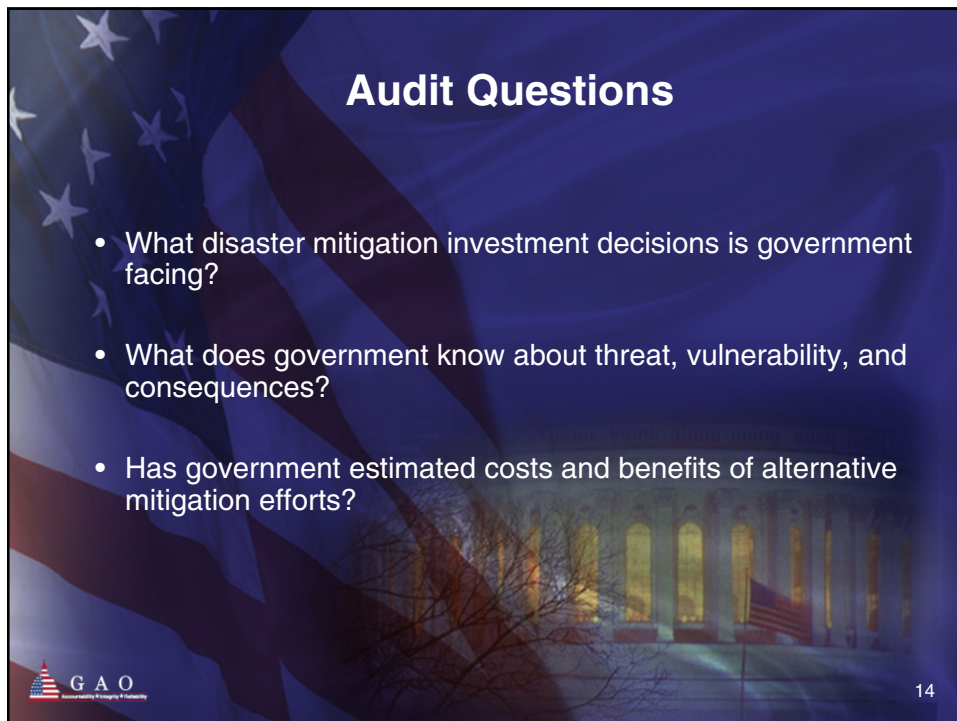
- Based on prior inputs, management selects a blend of intervention strategies
- Greatest risk reduction in terms of costs
- Short- and long-term solutions
- Influenced by preferences and value judgments
- Documented



Implementation and Monitoring


- Ensure selected options are properly implemented
- Ensure risk analysis remains current and relevant
- Focus on measurable objectives
- Program evaluation

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Audit Questions

- What disaster mitigation investment decisions is government facing?
- What does government know about threat, vulnerability, and consequences?
- Has government estimated costs and benefits of alternative mitigation efforts?

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Questions? Comments?



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