Building Regional Common Operating Picture for Disaster Resilience

The Challenge:
This project will enhance public/private operational communication, coordination, sensitive information sharing, and decision making during disaster response.

Regional storms, accidents and disasters expose persistent challenges and gaps with public and private sector information sharing and coordination. These gaps can negatively impact community, business, and overall economic resilience as well as the public trust and confidence in current organizational leadership.

Our Approach:
Our approach will leverage existing organizations, relationships, investments, technologies and information to further develop a private sector trusted regional “operational information” sharing mechanism that provides a common operating picture to support public and private decision makers before, during and after a regional natural or man-made disaster.

The project leverages past investments, organizes public and private operations professionals to construct real world “use cases”, incorporates legal, policy, business processes and technology to vette user identities and share appropriate information in a visual and collaborative format.

This project will involve stakeholders from around the United States and will be facilities and managed by the All Hazards Consortium, headquartered in the Washington, D.C. metro area.

Next Steps:
- Work Groups are formed w/planning underway;
- Initial technology platform is active online;
- Use Cases are being framed;
- Meetings/Workshops planned for Oct 2016 and Jan 2017;
- Testing will be in the Dec/Jan 2016 timeframe;
- Operational use is planned for Jan 2017.

Project success metrics will include:
- Development of sector use cases in food, electric and transportation sectors;
- Proper alignment of date with use cases and user;
- Streamlining “identity vetting” process;
- Total number of users;
- Data analytics to monitor usage;
- User feedback on the effectiveness of the project education, processes and technology;
- User recommendations to go forward.

Users of this capability will be from government, industry and non-profit organizations.

To learn more about this project, contact: Jay Robinson, Program Manager, at Jay.Robinson@dhs.gov or Ewell Balltrip, NIHS, CEO at eballtrip@thenihs.org