

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

I. Purpose

This Directive establishes the Department of Homeland Security (DHS or the Department) authorities, responsibilities, policies, and requirements for climate resilience to support the Department's operations, missions, and infrastructure.

II. Scope

This Directive applies Department-wide.

III. Authorities

- A. Executive Order 13693, "Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade," March 25, 2015
- B. Executive Order 13690, "Establishing a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and a Process for Further Soliciting and Considering Stakeholder Input," January 30, 2015
- C. Executive Order 13689, "Enhancing Coordination of National Efforts in the Arctic," January 26, 2015
- D. Executive Order 13653, "Preparing the United States for the Impacts of Climate Change," November 6, 2013
- E. "The President's Climate Action Plan," June 2013
- F. Executive Order 13547, "Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes," July 19, 2010
- G. Presidential Policy Directive-21, "Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience," February 12, 2013
- H. Presidential Policy Directive-8, "National Preparedness," March 30, 2011
- I. National Security Presidential Directive 51/ Homeland Security Presidential Directive 20, "National Continuity Policy," May 9, 2007
- J. "The President's National Strategy for the Arctic Region," May 10, 2013

- K. Federal Continuity Directive 1, "Federal Executive Branch National Continuity Program and Requirements", October 2012
- L. Federal Continuity Directive 2, "Federal Executive Branch Mission Essential Functions and Candidate Primary Mission Essential Functions Identification and Submission Process," July 2013
- M. DHS Directive 008-03, "Continuity Programs," June 10, 2015
- N. DHS National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP 2013), "Partnering for Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience"
- O. DHS Quadrennial Homeland Security Review, June 18, 2014
- P. DHS Climate Action Plan, September 2013
- Q. DHS National Mitigation Framework, May 2013
- R. DHS Delegation 0002, "Delegation to the Under Secretary for Management," May 29, 2012

IV. Definitions

- A. Adaptation – adjustment of natural or human systems to a new or changing environment
- B. Climate – The mean and variability of weather conditions (e.g., temperature, humidity, precipitation, wind, storm events) of a region averaged over long time scales, typically of 30 years or more.
- C. Climate resilience – The ability to anticipate, prepare for, and adapt to changing conditions and withstand, respond to, and recover rapidly from climate-related disruptions, challenges, and risks through adaptability, innovation, and preparedness.
- D. Climate-resilient design – To design assets to prepare for, withstand, respond to, or quickly recover from disruptions due to extreme weather events and climate change for the intended life of the asset.
- E. Continuity – An uninterrupted ability to provide services and support, while maintaining organizational viability, before, during, and after an event.
- F. Essential Functions – Essential functions are a subset of government functions that are determined to be critical activities. These essential functions are then used to identify supporting tasks and resources that are included in the organization's continuity planning process. Essential functions refer to those

functions an organization must continue in a continuity situation, whether the functions are Mission Essential Functions, Primary Mission Essential Functions, or Essential Supporting Activities.

G. Government Functions – Government functions are the collective functions of organizations, as defined by the Constitution, statute, regulation, presidential direction or other legal authorities, and the functions of the legislative and judicial branches. These functions are activities that are conducted to accomplish an organization’s mission and serve its stakeholders.

H. Preparedness – Actions taken to plan, organize, equip, train, and exercise to build, apply, and sustain the capabilities necessary to prevent, protect against, mitigate the effects of, respond to, and recover from climate related damages to life, health, property, livelihoods, ecosystems, and national security.

I. Risk Assessment – A product or process which collects information and assigns values to risks for the purpose of informing priorities, developing or comparing courses of action, and informing decision making.

J. Vulnerability – The degree to which geophysical, biological, and socio-economic systems are susceptible to, and unable to cope with, adverse impacts of climate change.

V. Responsibilities

A. The **Under Secretary for Management (USM)** is responsible for execution of this Directive. The **Chief Readiness Support Officer** is responsible for ensuring departmental oversight on the implementation of the policy and requirements of this Directive.

B. The **Climate Resilience Executive Steering Committee (CR ESC)** comprised of DHS senior leadership, implements the policies and requirements of this Directive within their respective business lines.

C. Per Continuity Programs Directive 008-03, the **Director of the Office of Operations Coordination (OPS)**, in coordination with the Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate, the USM and other Component Heads, ensures plans and procedures are in place for identifying, prioritizing, assessing, protecting, and restoring the Department’s internal critical infrastructure and key resources.

D. Per Continuity Programs Directive 008-03, the **Under Secretary for the National Protection and Programs Directorate** in coordination with Director, OPS and USM, ensures the incorporation of integrated risk management in regards to the identification, protection, and resilience of the Department’s critical infrastructure required for the performance of essential functions.

E. The **Office of the General Counsel** provides advice concerning the applicability of Federal, State, and local legal requirements.

F. The **Component Heads** are required to implement climate change adaptation and resilience programs relative to areas of responsibility and in support of the missions.

VI. Policy and Requirements

A. **Policy**

The Department recognizes sea-level rise, extreme weather events, drought, workforce health, and other challenges due to climate change as key strategic drivers that affect the homeland security enterprise and the Nation's preparedness over the long-term. Additionally, the Department recognizes a direct link between actions related to climate resilience and national security. Therefore, it is the Department's policy to integrate climate resilience into strategic planning, risk management frameworks, and continuity programs, to better manage the effects of climate change on operations, missions, and infrastructure.

Planning for a future that includes climate change and implementation of a comprehensive suite of resilience activities and initiatives is a Department-wide responsibility. The Department assesses projected impacts of changing climatic conditions "to lifeline functions of critical infrastructure: water, energy, communication, and transportation, as well as, employee and community health needs, and manages risks to homeland security Government functions and essential functions as part of the overall programmatic and financial decision-making processes."

This Directive also supports the Department's homeland security missions responsible for external engagement with Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial communities, private sector, non-governmental organizations, and academic partners, in promoting climate resilience and security of critical infrastructure based on a whole of community approach. External engagement is undertaken in accordance with applicable DHS directives and guidance.

B. **Requirements**

The Department integrates climate resilience into strategies, plans, business processes, and programs. Furthermore, the Department incorporates climate-resilient design and management elements into the development, operation, and renovation of existing and new Federal facilities and siting. The renovation value thresholds may be determined by the Federal Guiding Principles for High Performance and Sustainable Buildings and future climate-resilient design criteria.

The Department considers the effects of climate change as a part of the evaluation of proposed Federal actions in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and the Council on Environmental Quality guidance.

The Department performs vulnerability and risk assessments of assets supporting Government functions and internal critical infrastructure supporting essential functions (owned and leased) and incorporates climate-resilient strategies (or strategic divestment of infrastructure) into its risk management processes

Consistent with the release of the DHS Quadrennial Homeland Security Review, the CR ESC:

- Establishes and updates annually, climate resilience priority programs and efforts of high importance and/or special interest subject to the Secretary's oversight and Federal and departmental acquisition and program management guidance.
- Publishes, for signature by the Secretary, an update to the DHS Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan hereafter known as, the DHS Action Plan for Climate Resilience.
- Facilitates the annual submission of the Department's climate preparedness and resilience progress to the Council on Environmental Quality, and Office of Management and Budget.
- Issues, to the Secretary of Homeland Security, an annual climate resilience status report.

Consistent with the release of the U.S. Global Change Research Program's quadrennial National Climate Assessment Report, the CR ESC incorporates best available climate-informed science into the DHS Action Plan for Climate Resilience and annual CR ESC agendas, in compliance with Executive Order(s). Best available climate science, includes but is not limited to, data from the U.S. Global Change Research Program's quadrennial National Climate Assessment, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, and official Federal source of scientific information.

VII. Questions

For questions, please contact the Chief Readiness Support Officer.



Russell Deyo
Under Secretary for Management



Date