



# FAQ.

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*“Disaster recovery rebuilds the past, mitigation builds the future”*

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## What is Mitigation?

The ongoing process of taking long-term steps to reduce or eliminate the risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects, making communities more resilient to disasters by preventing future loss of life, injury, and property damage.

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## Why is Mitigation important for Guam?

To proactively reduce the future impact and damage from disasters by increasing community and property resilience, thereby lowering long-term risks to life, injury, and property.

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## What is the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)?

A framework developed by the government and stakeholders to reduce the long-term risk to human life, property, and infrastructure from natural, man-made, and technological disasters by identifying hazards, assessing vulnerabilities, and outlining specific mitigation strategies.

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## How does the HMP connect to Disaster Recovery (DR) funds?

The HMP identifies potential risks and needs, which directly inform the development of the CDBG-DR Action Plan, ensuring funds are used for disaster mitigation activities that strengthen the community.

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## How much DR funding is dedicated to mitigation?

Out of Guam’s \$500.8M CDBG-DR allocation, at least \$52.26M(10.5%) is set aside exclusively for mitigation. But beyond that, GHURA integrates mitigation into housing and infrastructure programs to ensure resilience.





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## What types of mitigation projects can be funded?

Safer housing reconstruction (stronger roofs, storm-resistant materials), new tier II emergency shelters, upgraded water, power, and sewage systems, flood and stormwater management, coastal protection and erosion control. Projects will be selected based on the recommendation of the Office of Civil Defense.

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## Who manages mitigation and recovery programs in Guam?

The Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority (GHURA) is the lead agency for managing CDBG-DR funds. Mitigation planning and strategy come from Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense (GHS-OCD) through the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Both agencies coordinate with FEMA, HUD, and local stakeholders.

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## What is a national objective?

A National Objective is a federal requirement under the CDBG-DR program that ensures all funded activities provide a clear public benefit. The three objectives are: to benefit low-and moderate-income (LMI) persons, to prevent or eliminate slums or blight, and to address urgent needs that pose a serious threat to health and safety.

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## What is a subrecipient?

A subrecipient is a government agency, nonprofit, or other eligible entity that GHURA designates to carry out mitigation projects such as resilient housing, stormwater systems, or new Tier II shelters.

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## What is the long-term goal of tying mitigation into DR?

To “build back stronger” not just repair what was lost, but create safer communities. This reduces the cycle of repeated damage and recovery costs, protecting both people and public investments.

