

of individuals, communities, and the Nation.

The National Protection Framework's eleven core capabilities include:

- Planning
- Public Information and Warning
- Operational Coordination
- Access Control and Identity Verification
- Cybersecurity
- Intelligence and Information Sharing
- Interdiction and Disruption
- Physical Protective Measures
- Risk Management for Protection Programs and Activities
- Screening, Search, and Detection
- Supply Chain Integrity and Security

The National Protection Framework recognizes, values, and leverages existing coordinating structures, and coordinates protection capabilities through existing partnerships at all levels of government and with the private sector and NGOs

The National Prevention Framework, National Mitigation Framework, and National Response Framework were released in May 2013. **IAJ**

FEMA Issues Federal Interagency Operational Plans

In July 2014, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) released the Federal Interagency Operational Plans (FIOPs). The FIOPs describe how the federal government aligns resources and delivers core capabilities identified in the National Preparedness Goal, which is “A secure and resilient nation with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk.”

FIOPs have been developed to build upon four of FEMA's five mission areas outlined in the National Planning Frameworks – prevention, mitigation, response, and recovery.

- The prevention FIOP is meant to facilitate an effective federal law enforcement, investigative, intelligence, and operational response to threatened or actual acts of terrorism within the United States, and is focused on federal departments' and agencies' use of prevention core capabilities to resolve imminent threats and prevent attacks and follow-on attacks against the United States.
- The mitigation FIOP is directed toward federal agency operations, but is not limited to disaster-focused authorities and capabilities. The FIOP establishes a joint system for supporting local, state, tribal, territorial, and insular area partners and delivers public resources in a coordinated, effective, and proficient manner.

- The response FIOP is built on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and utilizes the whole community concept, which incorporates a full range of stakeholders—including individuals, families, communities, the private and nonprofit sectors, faith-based organizations, and local, state, tribal, territorial, insular area, and federal governments—in national preparedness activities.
- The recovery FIOP provides the overarching interagency coordination structure for the recovery phases of Stafford Act incidents. The recovery FIOP is an all-hazards plan that provides guidance for the implementation of the National Disaster Recovery Framework, and while the FIOP is primarily intended to provide guidance to federal departments and agencies, other governments, NGOs, and public or private sector organizations will also find this recovery FIOP useful.

The fifth FIOP on protection will be released at a later date to ensure it aligns with emerging national protection policy. **IAJ**

DoD Updates Strategy for Countering WMDs

In June 2014 the Department of Defense (DoD) released its strategy for countering weapons of mass destruction (WMD). This new strategy rescinds and replaces the 2006 National Military Strategy for Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction, and seeks to ensure that the United States and its allies and partners are neither attacked nor coerced by hostile actors with WMD.

DoD's WMD strategy lays out four objectives that focus on shaping the environment, cooperating with partners, and prioritizing early action in countering WMD. These objectives are:

- to reduce incentives to pursue, possess, and employ WMD;
- to increase the barriers to WMD acquisition, proliferation, and use;
- to manage WMD risks emanating from hostile, fragile, or failed states and safe havens;
- to deny the effects of current and emerging WMD threats through layered, integrated defenses.

These objectives are achieved through the strategy's three lines of effort, which include preventing the acquisition of WMD, containing and reducing WMD threats, and responding to crises.

The strategy emphasizes the importance of cooperating with DoD partners, including other U.S. government departments and agencies, allies, and international bodies. The strategy recognizes the important role DoD's interagency and international partners play in countering WMD, focusing on cooperative efforts to shape the security environment, and relying on the intellectual capacity of these partners to maintain and expand technical expertise. **IAJ**