


# Lessons Learned from International Engagement

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## International Affairs Mission

- ▶ **Serve as the hub for FEMA's engagement with the international emergency management community.**
- ▶ **Serve as the lead agency for the U.S. government on NATO civil emergency planning issues.**
- ▶ **Support the International Assistance System.**



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## Outreach

- ▶ Over 700 visitors annually
- ▶ International participation in training classes and exercises
- ▶ Respond to the needs of foreign press corps
- ▶ Provide consulates with disaster information
- ▶ Gather and share lessons learned



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## Study tours

- ▶ Australia, Japan, New Zealand
- ▶ Community Preparedness
- ▶ Alert and warning systems
- ▶ Major fire incident response

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## Mexico & Canada

Under existing Bi-Lateral agreements, FEMA develops, supports, trains and exercises cross-border emergency management initiatives

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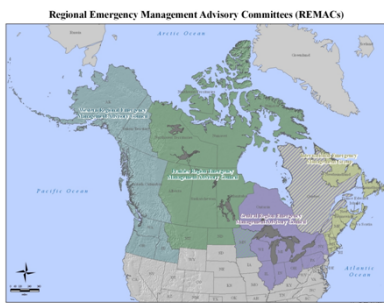
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## NORTHERN BORDER COMPACTS

- WREMAC
- PREMAC
- CREMAC
- IEMG



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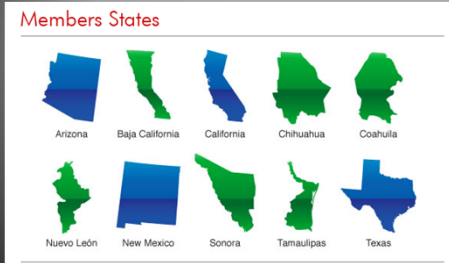
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SOUTHERN BORDER COMPACT (Proposed)  
INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE  
COMPACT



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### International Partners

- › Russia White House Commission
- › Israel
- › Sweden
- › Australia
- › Chile
- › New Zealand
- › China/Asia Foundation
- › Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation

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### International Assistance System

- Policy and Procedures to:
- › Accept or decline offers of assistance
  - › Receive and distribute donated commodities
  - › Procure resources not domestically available in required quantity or time

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## The Best Offer

- ▶ The best way to support survivors of disaster in the United States is through a cash donation to a voluntary relief agency operating in the affected region.

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## American Samoa

- Challenges of time and distance
- Limited communication infrastructure
- Confusion about A/S vice Samoa
- Good relationship with all levels
- Partnering with NFL and players

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## A Vision of Hope



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## Lessons Learned in Haiti

- First time FEMA responded internationally
- Lives can be saved after 72 hours.
- Consistency of messaging – one message, many voices
- Reaching all levels of audiences

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## Incorporate Technology

- Meeting with Tech Sector
- New mobile-phone based web site
- Partnering with Google Maps
- Focus on GIS databases
- Use of social media in ops

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## Geomagnetic Storm

- Workshop with EU and Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency.
- Work collaboratively to close gaps.
- Share lessons learned internationally.

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## International Affairs

- ▶ Working to strengthen and create international partnerships to build both foreign and domestic mutual preparedness capabilities.



• Questions?

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