



The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness (SLGCP) is the federal government's lead agency responsible for preparing the nation against terrorism by assisting states, local and tribal jurisdictions, and regional authorities as they prevent, deter, and respond to terrorist acts. SLGCP provides a broad array of assistance to America's first responders through funding, coordinated training, exercises, equipment acquisition, and technical assistance.

HOMELAND SECURITY PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE-8

One of SLGCP's major responsibilities is implementing Homeland Security Presidential Directive-8 (HSPD-8). Under HSPD-8, President George W. Bush directed DHS to establish a National Preparedness Goal. Spearheaded by SLGCP, this effort brings together experts from federal, state, and local government, as well as the private and non-profit sectors, to set National Preparedness Priorities and to integrate federal preparedness programs into a more coordinated system to achieve the goal of a better prepared America. The National Preparedness Goal will enable members of the homeland security community to compare current capabilities to national targets, identify needs, establish priorities and, ultimately, focus our collective efforts to ensure that our homeland is secure.

SLGCP's major components are working to assist state, local, tribal, and regional efforts to implement the NPG and its priorities. SLGCP's major components are:

OFFICE FOR DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS (ODP)

Grants and Technical Support

ODP distributes grants to 56 states and territories, as well as to firefighters, ports, transit authorities, and other homeland security stakeholders. In FY04, ODP disbursed over \$4 billion in grants for emergency preparedness personnel to protect and defend our nation's security against the threat posed by terrorism. Through its streamlined grant process, ODP awards funds under the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), which consolidates applications and funding for six grant programs. These are:

- ***State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP):*** SHSGP provides funds to enhance the capability of state and local units of government to prevent, deter, respond to, and recover from incidents of terrorism involving the use of chemical, biological, radioactive, nuclear, and explosive (CBRNE) weapons and cyber attacks.
- ***Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI):*** UASI addresses the unique equipment, training, planning, and exercise needs of large, high-threat urban areas. Funding is provided for select urban areas and nonprofit organizations.
- ***Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP):*** LETPP provides support to state and local law enforcement agencies to help detect, deter, disrupt, and prevent terrorism. Funds may be used to enhance terrorism prevention activities in the following areas: information sharing; target hardening; threat recognition; intervention to interdict terrorists; and interoperable communications.

- ***Citizen Corps***: Citizen Corps is a grassroots initiative that encourages citizens to play a role in hometown security through personal preparedness and community-based action. Funding helps support over 1,200 local Citizen Corps Councils that coordinate Citizen Corps programs nationwide.
- ***Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG)***: The EMPG program supports comprehensive emergency management at the state and local levels and encourages the improvement of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities for all hazards.
- ***Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS)***: MMRS provides funds to designated localities to plan, train, conduct exercises, and purchase equipment and pharmaceuticals to improve readiness to respond to catastrophic incidents, both terrorist acts and natural disasters.

Other ODP grant programs include:

- ***Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFGP)***: AFGP provides funds to local fire departments to purchase firefighting equipment, fund firefighter health and safety programs, enhance emergency medical services programs, and conduct fire education and prevention programs.
- ***Competitive Training Grants Program (CTGP)***: CTGP provides funding for training initiatives to further ODP's mission of preparing the nation in the event of a terrorist incident.
- ***Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP)***: CEDAP provides equipment to enhance communications interoperability, information sharing, operations, and safety in smaller law enforcement and emergency response agencies. Jurisdictions can apply for equipment in four categories: personal protective equipment, detection and sensor devices, information sharing software for law enforcement operations, and communications interoperability systems.
- ***Port Security Grant Program (PSGP)***: PSGP funds projects to improve dockside and perimeter security vital to securing our critical national seaports. PSGP supports security upgrades such as surveillance equipment, access controls to restricted areas, communications equipment, and construction of new command and control facilities.
- ***Operation Safe Commerce (OSC)***: OSC serves as a test-bed at the three largest load centers in the country: Los Angeles/Long Beach, Seattle/Tacoma, and New York/New Jersey. OSC examines methods to increase supply chain security, protect the global supply chain, and facilitate the flow of commerce.
- ***Highway Watch® Program (HWP)***: HWP trains highway professionals to identify and report safety and security concerns on our nation's roads and provides training and communications infrastructure to prepare hundreds of thousands of transportation professionals to respond in the event of a terrorist attack.
- ***Intercity Bus Security Program***: Funding through this program augments the investments of system owners and operators in driver protection, tracking and communication systems, security assessments, development of security plans, and training for transportation personnel to recognize and respond to criminal attacks and terrorist threats.

Technical Assistance

ODP's Homeland Security Preparedness Technical Assistance (TA) Program provides direct assistance to state and local jurisdictions to improve their ability to prevent, respond to, and recover from threats or acts of terrorism involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or explosive (CBRNE) weapons. Areas of assistance include: assessment and strategy development; equipment procurement and operation; information analysis; interoperable communications; port and mass transit planning; prevention; and plans and planning synchronization. All TA services are available to eligible recipients at no charge.

Training

ODP draws upon a coalition of "training partners" in the development and delivery of state-of-the-art training programs. This coalition is composed of government facilities, academic institutions, and private organizations, all of which are committed to providing a variety of specialized training for emergency responders across the country.

ODP's major training partner is the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC), through which ODP identifies, develops, tests, and delivers training to state and local emergency responders. The NDPC includes:

- ***ODP's Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP)***: CDP is ODP's all-hazards training facility. It provides advanced, hands-on training to members of the emergency response community in the areas of command, advanced hazmat, and tactical operations. CDP is the only WMD training facility that provides hands-on training to civilian emergency responders in a toxic chemical agent environment.
- ***New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (NMIMT)***: NMIMT, a world leader in explosives research, serves as the lead NDPC partner for explosives, firearms, and incendiary devices training. New Mexico Tech also delivers a program on suicide bombing prevention.
- ***Louisiana State University (LSU)***: LSU provides training and expertise in the areas of law enforcement, bioterrorism, agricultural terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, and mass casualty incidents.
- ***Texas A&M University System, Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)***: TEEX develops and conducts national WMD preparedness training for all emergency response disciplines, as well as courses in incident management/unified command, threat and risk assessments, operations for public works, and WMD operations for emergency medical services. TEEX also conducts a structural collapse technician course to build state capabilities for urban search and rescue operations.
- ***Department of Energy's Nevada Test Site (NTS)***: NTS conducts radiological and nuclear training at NTS and via mobile training teams. It also develops and delivers radiological/nuclear mobile training at the awareness and operations levels and conducts train-the-trainer courses for first responders across the country.

ODP also partners with the United States Fire Administration (USFA) to provide preparedness training to emergency response and management leaders. For more information regarding ODP training programs, or to obtain a copy of the *ODP Weapons of Mass Destruction Training Programs Course Catalog*, contact ODP at 1-800/368-6498.

Exercises

ODP exercises train first responders so that they can practice prevention, reduce vulnerabilities, and hone recovery capabilities in a risk-free environment. The goal is to help states and localities gain an objective assessment of their capacity to prevent, respond to, and recover from a disaster so that changes can be made before a real incident occurs. ODP exercise programs include:

- ***National Exercise Program (NEP)***: NEP serves as the primary vehicle for training national leaders and agency staff members, and for promoting collaboration among partners at all levels of government for assigned homeland security missions. These national-level exercises provide the means to conduct full-scale, full-system tests of collective preparedness, improve

interoperability, build strong teams across all levels of government and the private sector, and strengthen international partnerships.

- ***Top Officials Exercise (TOPOFF)***: TOPOFF is the cornerstone of the national performance-based exercises. TOPOFF is a biennial program that includes a functional exercise in the first year and a full-scale exercise in the second, with continuity provided by a series of seminars.
- ***Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)***: HSEEP is a threat and performance-based program designed to enhance and assess terrorism prevention, response, and recovery capabilities at the federal, state, and local levels.

System Assessment

ODP's SAVER—System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders—initiative works to ensure the safety and quality of technology and equipment used by our nation's first responders. SAVER tests the effectiveness of new, commercially available technologies and their utility for first responders. The SAVER initiative has examined a wide range of products, from hardware that can saw through concrete in minutes, to location information technology, mobile communications, and GIS mapping tools. For additional information about SAVER, see the Web site at <http://saver.tamu.edu/forum/commerce.php?p=about>.

Evaluation and National Assessment

ODP reviews and assesses the execution of state strategies against the supporting threat, vulnerability, and needs assessment data. In addition, ODP gathers, analyzes, and interprets national and program-specific data to identify best practices and to identify and bridge knowledge gaps.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS (OCP)

SLGCP's Office of Community Preparedness works to encourage Americans to participate in making their communities safer, stronger, and better prepared for a terrorist event. OCP supports the DHS Ready Campaign, Citizen Corps, and other efforts aimed at engaging citizens in grassroots efforts to prepare our communities to prevent and respond to terrorism and other catastrophic incidents.

OFFICE OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COORDINATION (SLGC)

The Office of State and Local Government Coordination serves as a single point of contact for facilitation and coordination of DHS programs that impact state, local, territorial, and tribal governments. SLGC facilitates the coordination of DHS-wide programs that impact state, local, territorial, and tribal governments; serves as the primary point-of-contact within DHS for exchanging information with state, local, territorial, and tribal homeland security personnel; identifies homeland security-related activities, best practices, and processes that are most efficiently accomplished at the federal, state, local, or regional levels; and utilizes this information to ensure that opportunities for improvement are provided to our state, territorial, tribal, and local counterparts.

For additional information about SLGCP, see the Web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/>.