

From Vision to Implementation: Enhancing the Recovery Process through Integrated Knowledge, Planning, and Project Management

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Abstract

The advent of disaster presents monumental challenges to the community and its governing structure, not only in dealing with the resulting physical damage and destruction, but also in managing the underlying complexities of the recovery environment itself. As such, this article explores a more comprehensive and systems-based framework for enhancing the recovery process, which centers on integrated knowledge, planning, and project management. The acquisition of knowledge regarding the current state and causal processes of the hazard-community interface is paramount to this approach, as it provides the foundation for proper strategy development and intervention planning. In turn, such knowledge must be integrated with the overriding community planning matrix, as a means to expand hazards awareness, cultivate planning-related synergies, and ultimately synchronize community vision and strategic direction. The utilization of project management further strengthens the planning process, while providing a more robust, uniform, and consistent management paradigm for post-disaster project execution and control. Project management, therefore, is examined from both strategic and tactical points of view. The article further illustrates how project management expertise and project portfolio development may be integrated with the pre-disaster recovery planning process.

Biography

Scott Manning is a current doctoral student at Jacksonville State University. His primary research interests include homeland security and disaster policy, community planning and capacity building, hazard mitigation, and urban resilience. Mr. Manning holds a Master of Public Administration and a Master of Science from Jacksonville State University as well.

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