Strategies for Multifamily Building Resilience

June 28, 2023







Building Resilient Futures

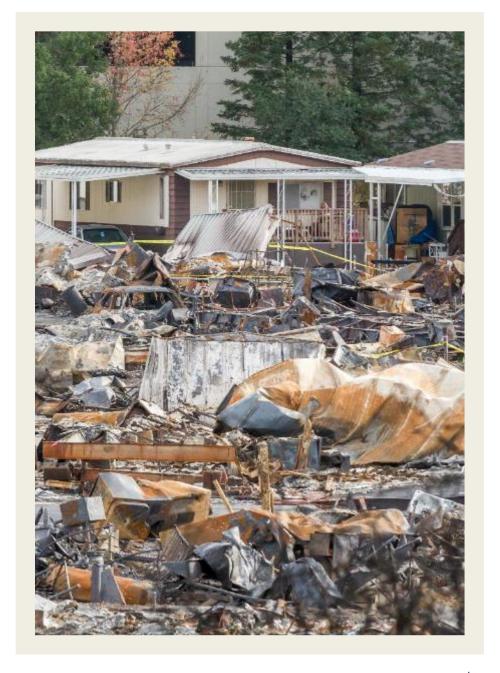
The challenges are bigger than any one of us can solve alone.

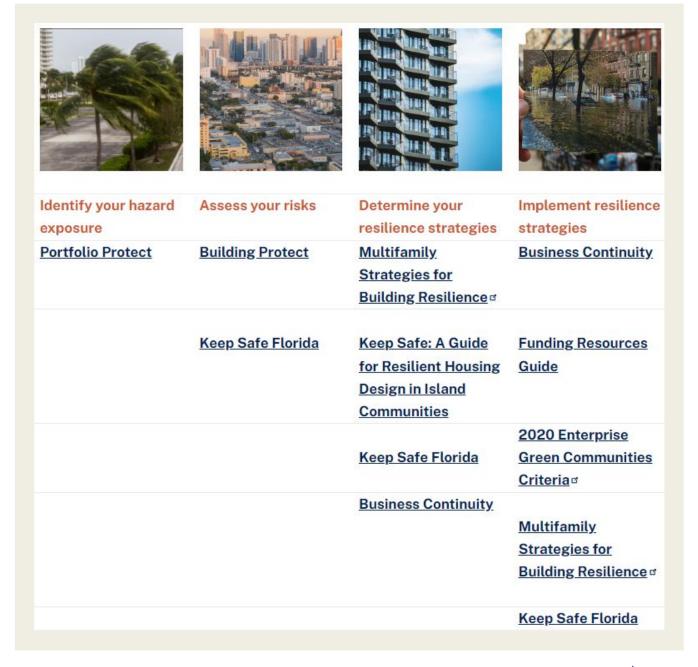
That's why we're leading the way to protect people and protect their homes. And why we're working with all our partners to create solutions that leave no one behind.

We believe resilience isn't just about being able to bounce back or rebuild after a disaster - it's about drawing from the inherent strength in communities and helping everyone prepare for and move forward in the face of our new climate future. And when we build more resilient communities, we build a better future for everyone.

Key Challenges

- Due to its age, physical conditions, and maintenance needs, most of the country's affordable housing stock cannot withstand our changing climate.
- According to IPCC consensus, we must decarbonize by 2050 to avoid irreversible loss of ecosystems and crisis for vulnerable people.
- The pace, and expense, of disasters has increased dramatically in the U.S. and across the globe.
- Post-disaster government assistance is well-intentioned, but slow and inequitable; resources lack coordination.
- As temperatures and sea levels rise, so do the number of low-income households that are at risk.
- BIPOC and low-income communities are at higher risk of climate-related health impacts including asthma, cardiovascular disease, and increased rates of mortality.





Strategies for Multifamily Building Resilience

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Protection

Strategies to reduce a building's vulnerability to extreme weather

- Wet Floodproofing
- 2 Dry Floodproofing
- Site Perimeter Floodproofing
- **Resilient Elevators**
- **Backwater Valves**
- Sump Pumps



Adaptation

Strategies that improve a facility's ability to adapt to changing climate conditions

- **Envelope Efficiency**
- **Elevated Equipment**
- **Elevated Living Space**
- Surface Stormwater
- Window Shading
- Distributed Heating and Cooling



Backup

Strategies that provide critical needs for when a facility loses power or other services

- Maintaining Backup Power to Critical Systems
- **Emergency Lighting**
- Access to Potable Water



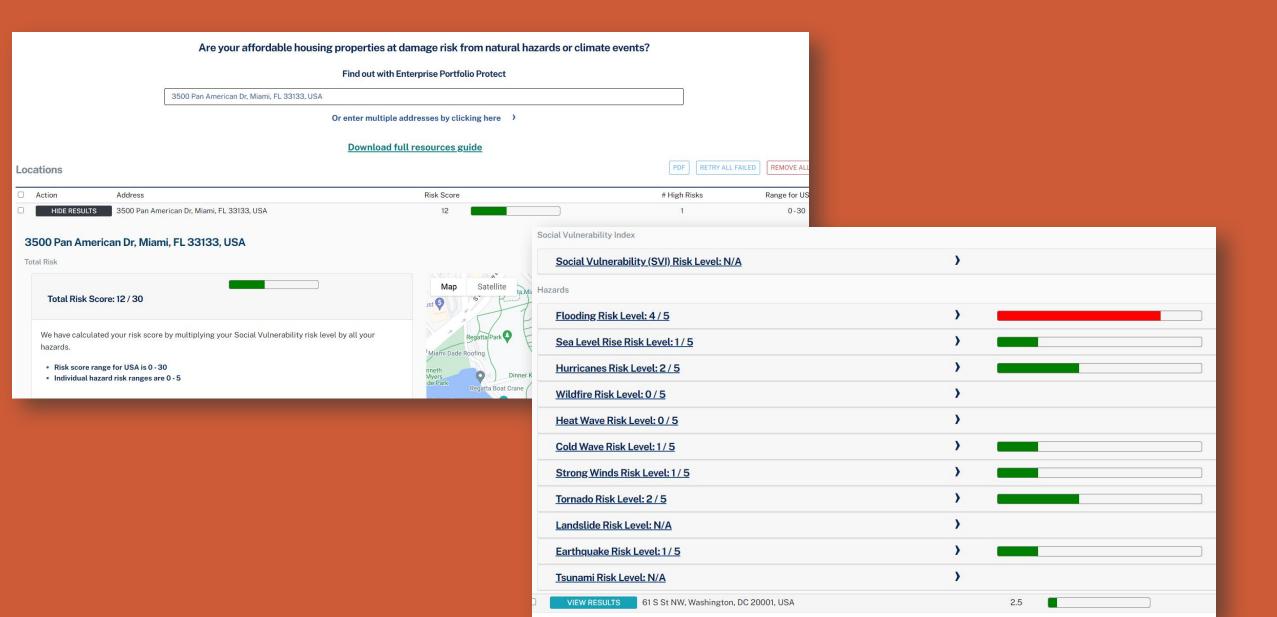
Community

Strategies that encourage behavior which enhances resilience

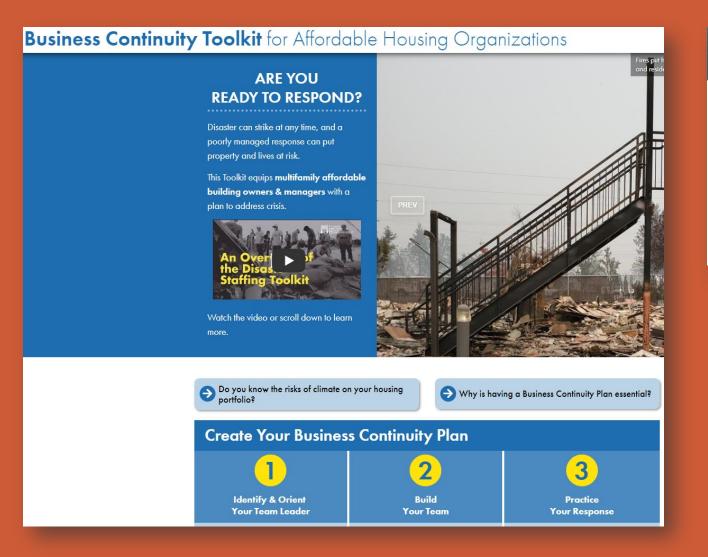
- **Building Community Ties**
- **Creating Community** Resilience Spaces
- Developing an Emergency Management Manual
- Organizing for Community Resilience



Portfolio Protect



Business Continuity





READY TO RESPOND

Strategies for Multifamily Building Resilience







Disaster Preparedness for Affordable **Housing Organizations**



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READY TO RESPOND

Strategies for Multifamily Building Resilience







Disaster Preparedness for Affordable **Housing Organizations**



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Protection

Strategies to reduce a building's vulnerability to extreme weather.

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During Superstorm Sandy, Hoboken, NJ suffered heavy damage to its buildings and infrastructure, including this six unit multifamily building, 132 Jackson St., located in the AE flood zone. After the storm, the property faced escalating insurance costs.

Strategy

To mitigate future risk and reduce insurance premiums, the owner chose a wet floodproofing strategy, which added nine Smart Vents on the first floor and used 9 inches of gravel and concrete fill to raise the floor to ground level. To minimize heat loss during cold weather, the owner chose insulated Smart Vents.





Images: www.yourfloodrisk.com

Wet Floodproofing	
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Strategies to reduce a building's vulnerability to extreme weather.

Wet Floodproofing	1
2 Dry Floodproofing	2
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Cost

Total cost of the renovation, including installation of Smart Vents and the first floor fill, was \$25,000. The one-panel Smart Vents cost \$200 to \$250 each. the retrofit, the building experienced an 83 percent reduction in the cost of its flood insurance policy. Originally, the owner paid \$12,000 for \$300,000 worth of coverage; after the retrofit, their premium fell to \$2,000 and coverage rose to \$820,000. The owner experienced a return on investment in just two and a half years.







Adaptation

Strategies that improve a facility's ability to adapt to changing climate conditions.

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Surface Stormwater Management

Stormwater is a major cause of urban flooding, especially in cities with combined sewer and stormwater systems. Many combined municipal water treatment systems are working at maximum capacity and can't handle additional volume during a large storm. Infiltrating water into the ground on-site reduces the need for large infrastructure projects and can ease flooding, speed recovery after a storm and reduce sewer backups.

