

Rapid Needs Assessment Planning



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Objectives

At the end of this unit participants will be able to:

- Explain the purpose of a Rapid Needs Assessment
- Describe the starting point for planning for a Rapid Needs Assessment



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Importance

Why is a Rapid Needs Assessment important?



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Importance

The ability of local governments to perform a Rapid Needs Assessment accurately and within the first few hours after an incident or emergency is critical to providing a response designed to save lives and support life sustaining actions.



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Benefits

Rapid Needs Assessments provide:

- Effective life-saving and life-sustaining measures
- Tools for response prioritization
- Effective resource requests
- Disaster Public Information



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Requirements

To be effective, Rapid Needs Assessments must be:

- Planned
- Effectively and rapidly initiated
- Effectively analyzed and prioritized



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Coordination and Involvement

Planning and response involves participation from:

- Law Enforcement
- Fire, EMS, Hospitals and medical providers
- Public Works
- Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters
- Emergency Management Agencies



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Assessment

Assessment *must* focus on:

- Issues directly related to life-saving or life-sustaining needs
- On areas that are known to be problematic
- Data collection on information that is essential for analysis



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Remember

Prioritization is a *must*

- You *must* understand what is important to assess
- You *must* understand the cause and effect relationship of what you are assessing
- The assessment *must* look beyond the obvious



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Starting Point

- Review the hazard analysis
- Review the risk analysis
- Determine vulnerability
- Determine effects
- Determine consequences



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History

- Does the hazard analysis identify areas more likely to be impacted?
- Have past events impacted some areas more than others?



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Planning and Resources

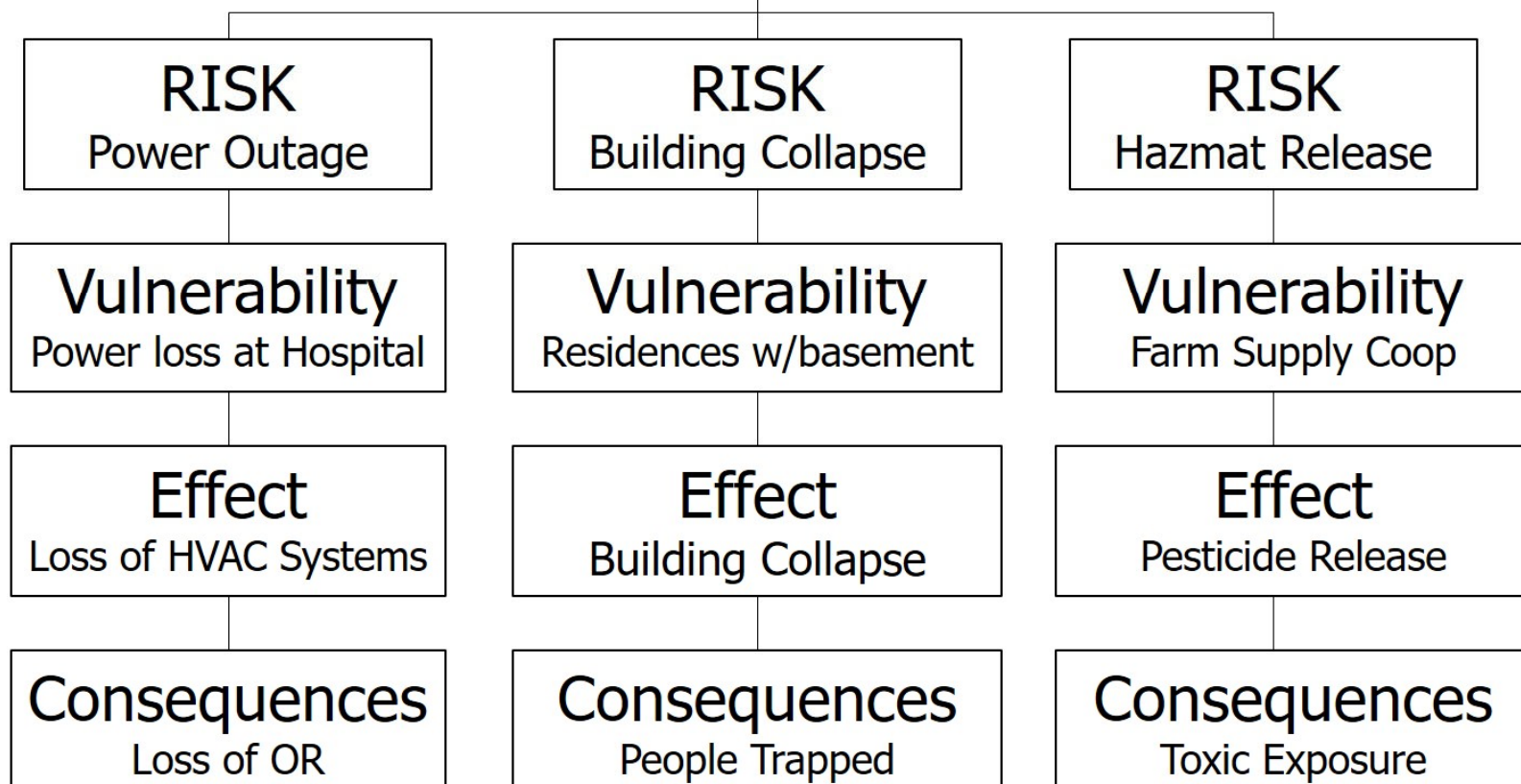
Reviewing the Hazard Analysis for the community can help set priorities and resource needs for the rapid needs assessment



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HAZARDS

High Winds, Tornado

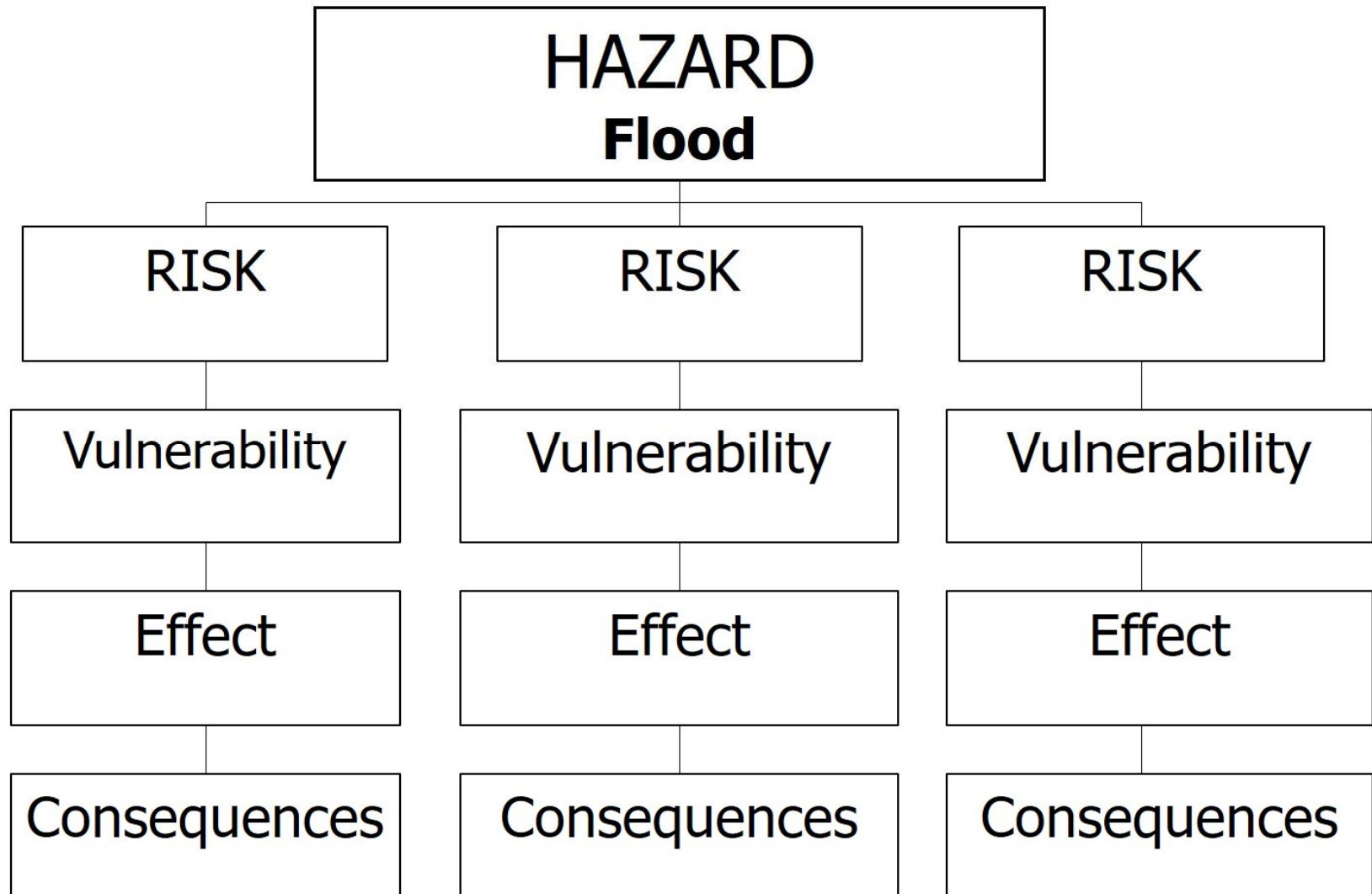


Group Activity 1

- Form groups of 35 people
- Pick a spokesperson for the group
- Using the next visual as an example discuss a **FLOOD** Hazard and identify at least three Risks associated with a flood
- Be prepared to report your findings to the class
- You have 15 minutes for this activity



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Group Activity 3

Report Out Time!



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Review

At the end of this unit participants will be able to:

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And now

Take a 10 minute break!



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