

REGIONAL RESILIENCE TOOLKIT

5 STEPS TO BUILD
LARGE SCALE
RESILIENCE TO
NATURAL DISASTERS

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Toolkit is online at:

www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/regional-resilience-toolkit

Resilience is about building the capacity of the community, at various scales, to prepare for, withstand, recover, and maintain its identity in the face of actual or anticipated hazard occurrences, allowing for continuity of community and quick recovery if a disaster occurs.

Partnership between EPA & FEMA



FEMA

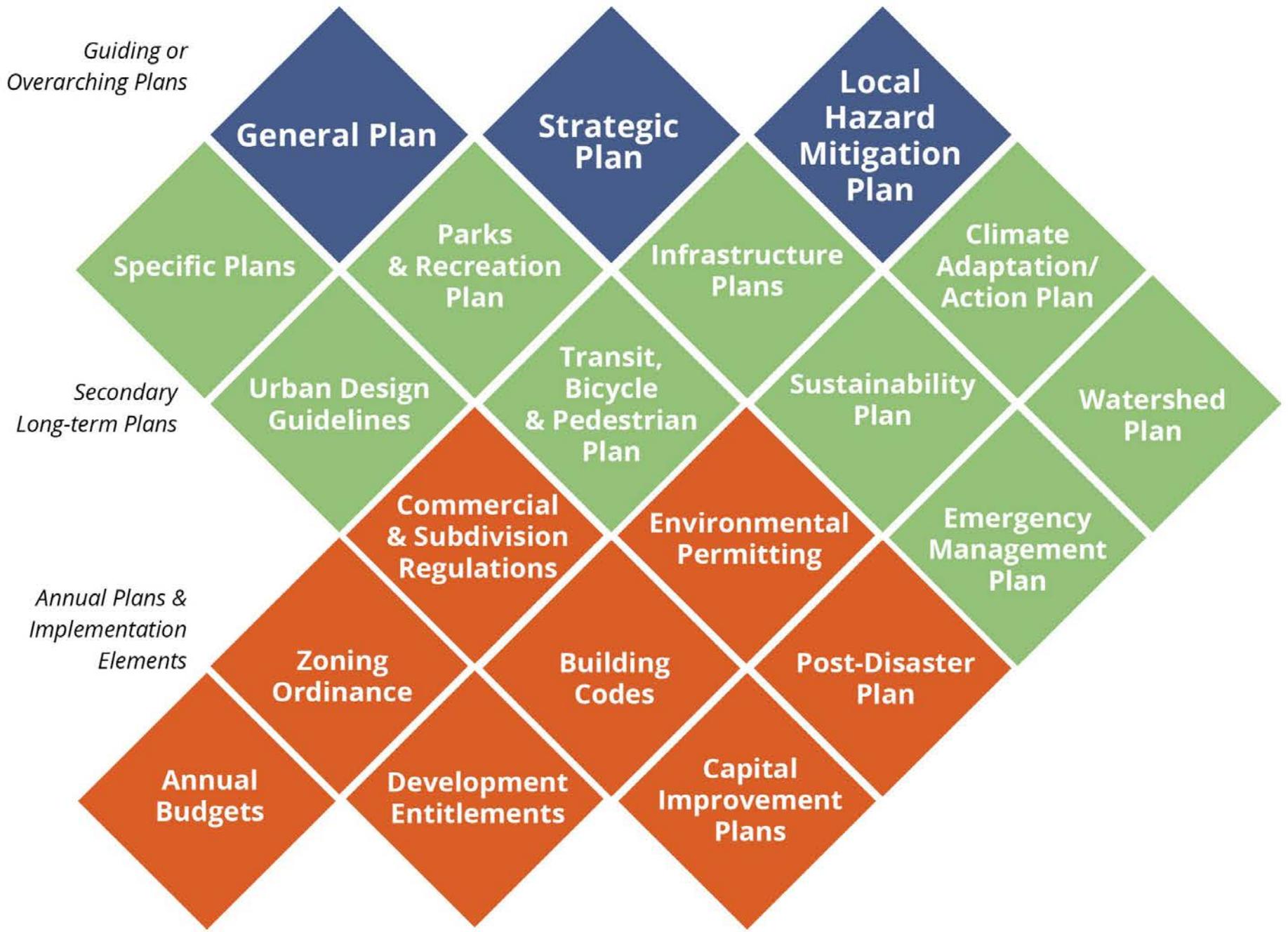
- Sets up **coordination** of activities between EPA's sustainable communities, smart growth, environmental, and community technical assistance programs and FEMA's disaster recovery planning and hazard mitigation programs.
- Seeks to provide lessons learned for EPA, FEMA, and other federal agencies that can be used to **build a stronger federal framework** for mitigation planning as well as pre- and post-disaster recovery planning and operations.
- Seeks to provide a collaborative framework for **policy work** related to both hazard mitigation planning and climate change adaptation **to create more resilient communities**.

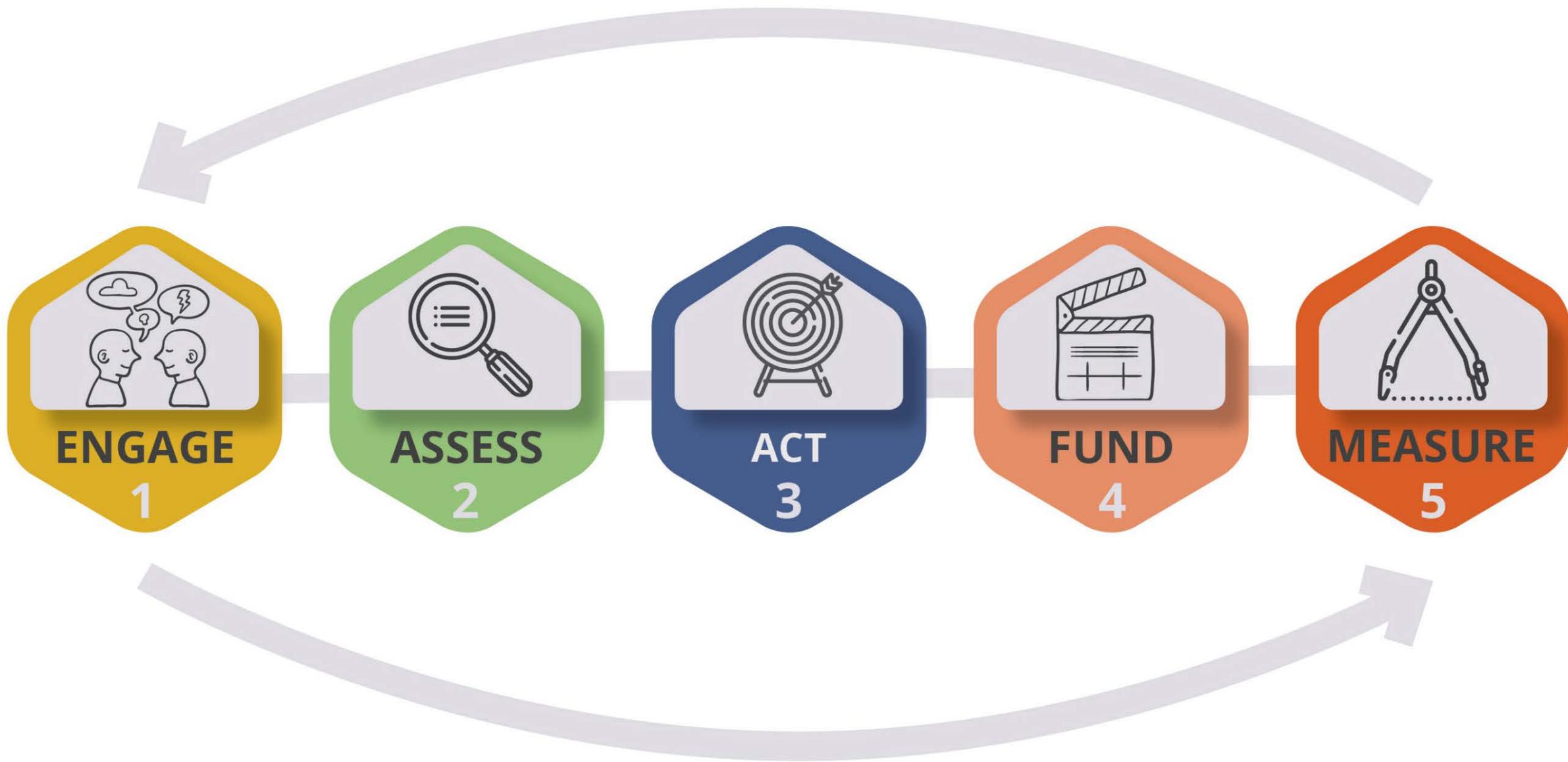
Goals of the Toolkit

- Emphasize the need for **action, not process**, to move the needle on resilience-building (including a whole step on funding).
- Helps cities, regions and other partners integrate various planning processes **into a single process to create a common action plan**.
- Coordinates local action to **amplify disaster resilience** within a regional context.

Quick Overview of the Toolkit

- Regional scale is key. Works across multiple cities over a **large geographic region**
- Recognizes **local authority** for implementing plans and spending funds
- Aligns with **different plan requirements**
 - FEMA Local Hazard Mitigation Plan requirements
- Addresses **different hazards**
- Applies to **different assets**



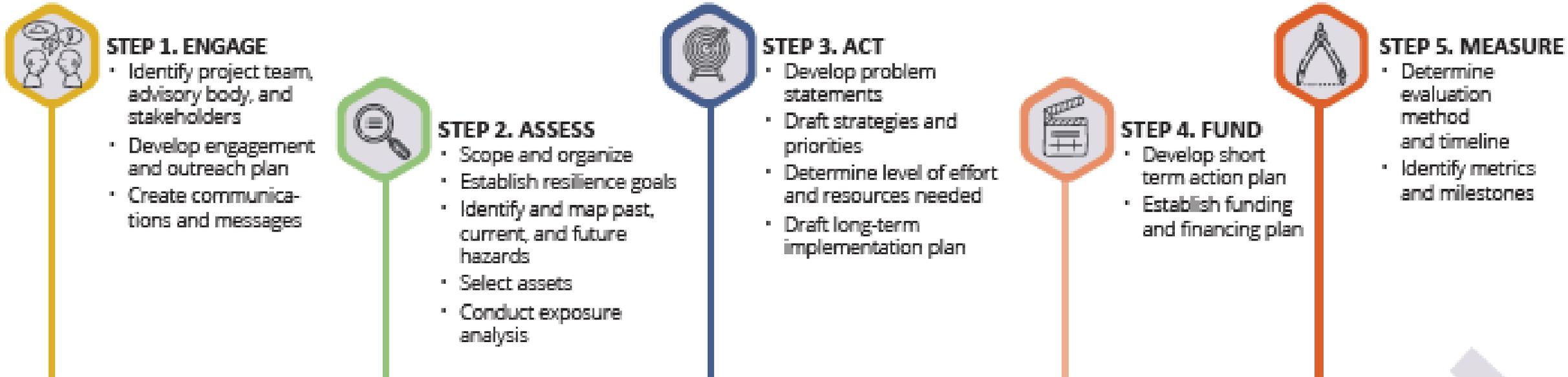




STEP 1: ENGAGE

- Best Practices for Building Trust
- Importance of Equity
- Establish a Common Vocabulary
- Stakeholder Mapping
- Engagement & Outreach Plans
- Meeting Roadmap





- Advisory Group #1: Kickoff**
- Review overall process, purpose, and need
 - Define resilience
 - Discuss vision and goals
 - Discuss community hazards and assets



- Advisory Group #2: Vulnerability assessment**
- Confirm vision and goals
 - Review initial vulnerability assessment
 - Plan for workshop



- Advisory Group #3: Prioritize strategies**
- Review and prioritize strategies
 - Implementation planning actions, roles, and responsibilities
 - Plan for workshop



- Advisory Group #4: Implementation**
- Review implementation, initial actions and projects
 - Discuss funding and financing
 - Identify potential metrics
 - Create stakeholder groups and determine roles for implementation



Public
workshop #1:
Community-wide
vision and vulnerability



Public
workshop #2:
Strategies for a
resilience community

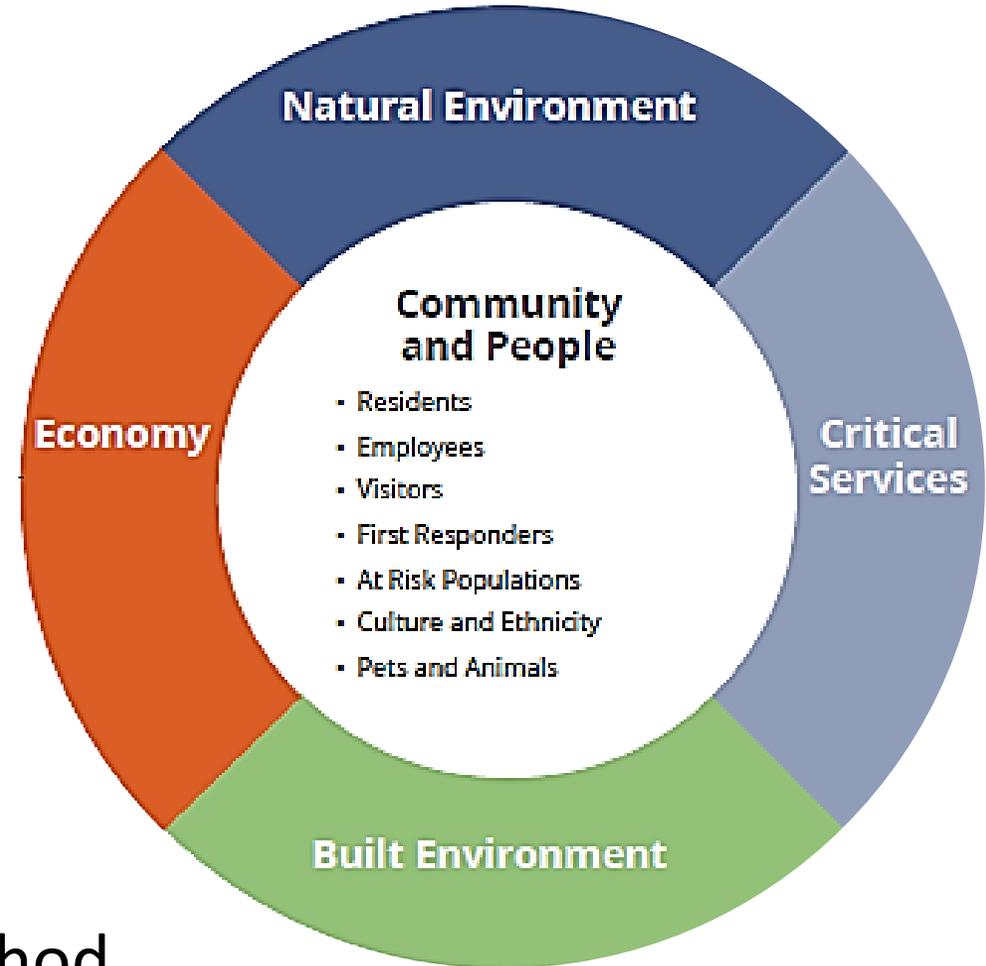


Public
workshop #3:
Open House:
Launch initial actions



STEP 2: ASSESS

- Figure Out Your “Trigger”
- Set Resilience Goals
- Describe Hazards
- Develop Hazard Impact Statements
- Prioritize Hazards
- Select Assets
- Determine Assessment Method
- Create Profile Sheets





STEP 3: ACT

- Summarize Vulnerability
- Develop Strategies
- Evaluate & Prioritize Strategies
- Identify Catalysts for Implementation
 - Political Buy-In
- Develop Implementation Plans

STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION							
Problem statement	<i>This is the problem statement that the strategy is responding to. This should come out of the vulnerability assessment and should include community goals.</i>						
Strategy name	<i>This is the name of the strategy – try to keep it to a few words.</i>						
Strategy summary	<i>This is a short description of what the strategy does.</i>						
Hazard(s) addressed	<i>Identify which hazard this strategy responds to.</i>						
Strategy type	<p>Operational <i>(Strategies to enact operational and governance related improvements)</i></p>	<p>Programmatic <i>(Strategies to expand or create new programs, activities, and initiatives)</i></p>	<p>Plans, Regulations, and Policy Development <i>(Strategies to develop or revise policies, plans, regulations, and guidelines)</i></p>	<p>Capital Improvement/ Infrastructure Projects <i>(Strategies designed to address physical and functional deficiencies and needs in the built environment)</i></p>	<p>Education/ Outreach/ Coordination <i>(Strategies related to initiating or expanding partnerships and relationships, communicating and sharing information, and building awareness)</i></p>	<p>Evaluation <i>(Strategies to improve feedback, input, data and information or conduct further or new analysis)</i></p>	
Process/ implementation mechanism	<p>Long Range Planning <i>(e.g., master plan)</i></p>	<p>Land Use Planning <i>(e.g., general plan)</i></p>	<p>Capital Planning <i>(e.g., capital budget)</i></p>	<p>Operations <i>(e.g., annual budget)</i></p>	<p>Emergency & Hazards Planning <i>(e.g., emergency plan)</i></p>	<p>Project Planning and Design <i>(e.g., project plan)</i></p>	<p>New Initiatives <i>(e.g., pilot project)</i></p>



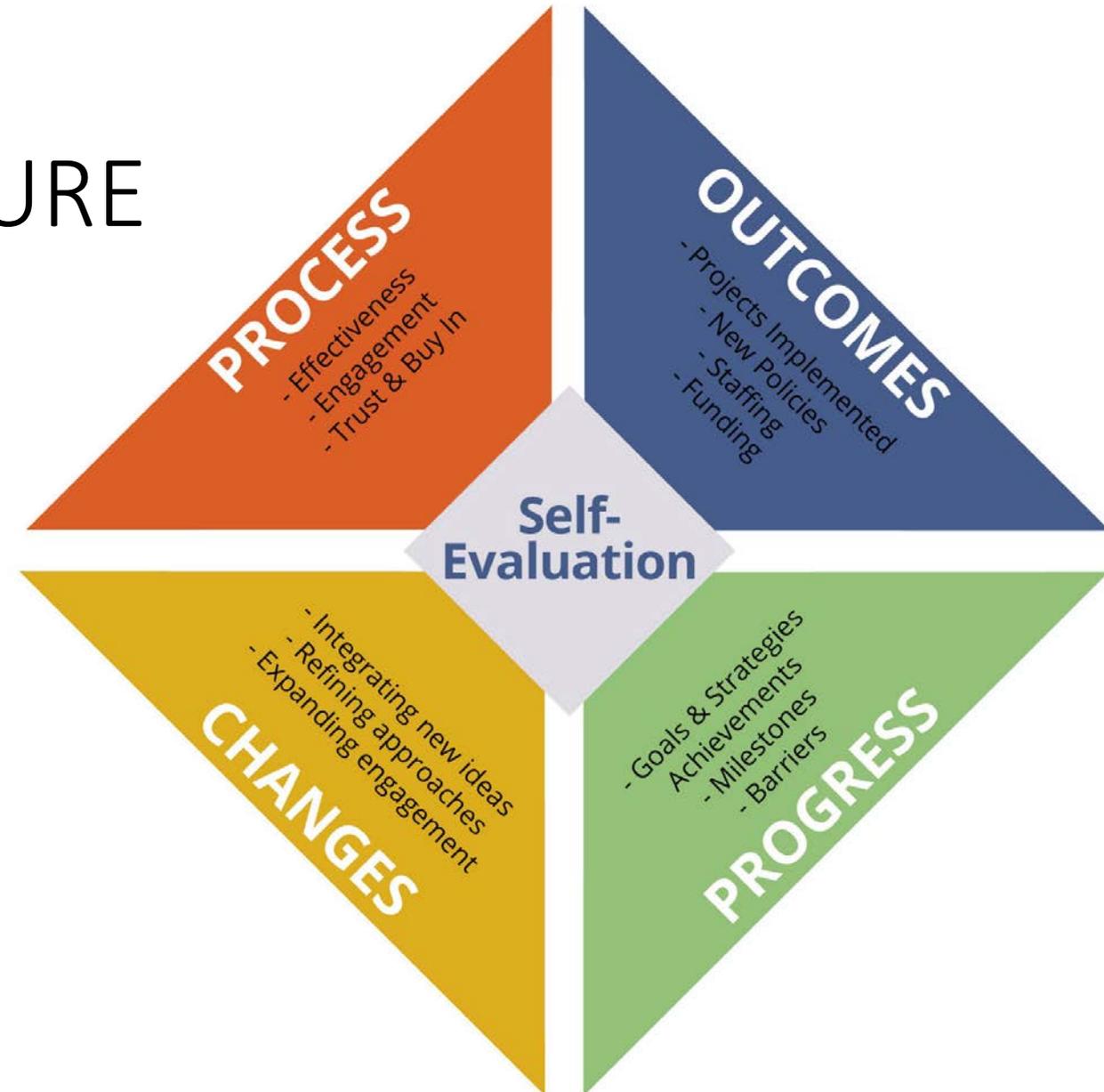
STEP 4: FUND

- Make the Business Case for Resilience
- Build Your Funding Network
- Identify Self-Reliant Financing
- Set Up a Resilience Finance Menu
 - Public-private financing
 - Philanthropic and corporate grants
 - Regional funding programs
 - Federal and state grants



STEP 5: MEASURE

- What to Measure and Why
- Outputs vs. Outcomes
- Self-Evaluation
- Measure and Refine



Two Appendices



- Appendix A has a list of specific outcomes to expect and other groups' [resources for each step](#).



- Appendix B has [worksheets](#) to walk project teams through the five steps.

How to Use the Toolkit

- This Toolkit can be used by **regional partnerships and local jurisdictions** just starting to plan for resilience, or by those ready to move from planning to action.
- **States** may want to use the Toolkit across several regions to take on large-scale disaster risk.
- EPA & FEMA (and other feds) could provide **direct support and attend workshops** with regional teams.

Next Steps

- Toolkit is online at www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/regional-resilience-toolkit
- If interested in using this toolkit in your state or region, contact Abby Hall at EPA about setting up a meeting with your EPA and FEMA Regions to talk about next steps.



Abby Hall

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