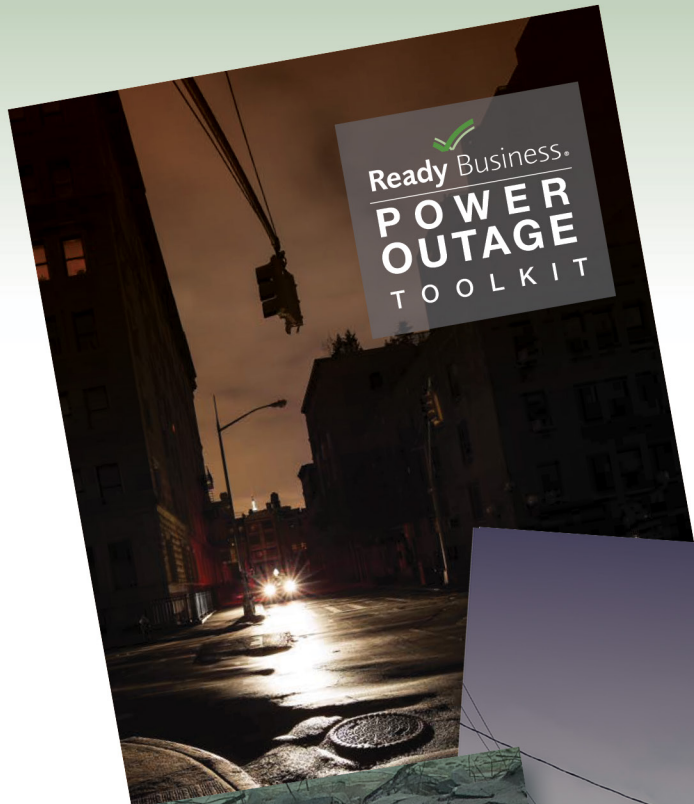




Ready Business.®

HOW-TO GUIDE



Ready Business.
**POWER
OUTAGE**
TOOLKIT



Ready Business.
HURRICANE
TOOLKIT



Ready Business.
**INLAND
FLOODING**
TOOLKIT



Ready Business.
QUAKESMART
TOOLKIT



Ready Business.
**SEVERE WIND
TORNADO**
TOOLKIT

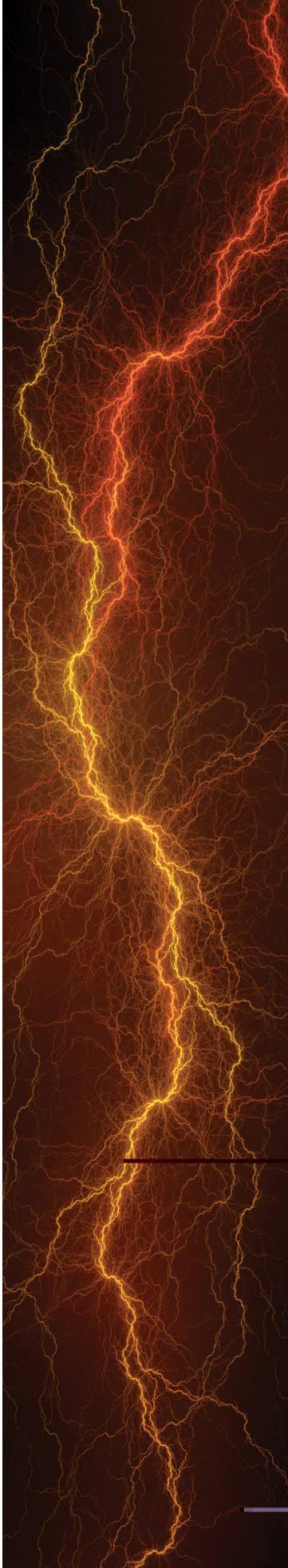


Table of Contents

- INTRODUCTION 2**
 - Program Background..... 2
 - Purpose of the “How-To” Guide..... 5
 - Workshop Overview 5
 - Workshop Implementation 8

- 1 | PREPARE FOR A READY BUSINESS WORKSHOP 9**

- 2 | DELIVER A READY BUSINESS WORKSHOP..... 14**

- 3 | CONDUCT READY BUSINESS WORKSHOP FOLLOW-UP 14**
 - Appendix A | Sample Agenda..... 15
 - Appendix B | Description of Speaker/Presenter Roles..... 16
 - Appendix C | Invitation and Marketing Email Template 17
 - Appendix D | Sample News Media Advisory 19
 - Appendix E | Sample Attendee Email 20
 - Appendix F | Sample Feedback Form 22



Introduction

Program Background

The goal of the FEMA *Ready Business Program* is to help businesses and organizations develop effective preparedness and mitigation programs. The *Ready Business Program* accomplishes this goal by providing tools to create business continuity and Preparedness and Mitigation Project Plans with a focus on the impact of relevant, local hazards.

THE READY BUSINESS PROGRAM COMBINES LEADING PRACTICES ALONG WITH PRESENTATIONS, PANEL DISCUSSIONS, AND A SCENARIO-BASED TABLETOP DISCUSSION TO MOVE ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS THROUGH A STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS TO:

✓	Identify Your Risk
✓	Develop a Plan
✓	Take Action
✓	Be Recognized and Inspire Others

The two components of the *Ready Business Program* are a series of hazard-specific *Ready Business Toolkits* and in-person *Ready Business Workshops*.

The first program component, the *Ready Business Toolkit* series, focuses on earthquakes, hurricanes, inland flooding, power outage, and severe wind/tornado events. Toolkits provide organizations with information needed to develop a business continuity plan and *Preparedness and Mitigation Project Plans*, and provide an application for recognition of participating organizations.

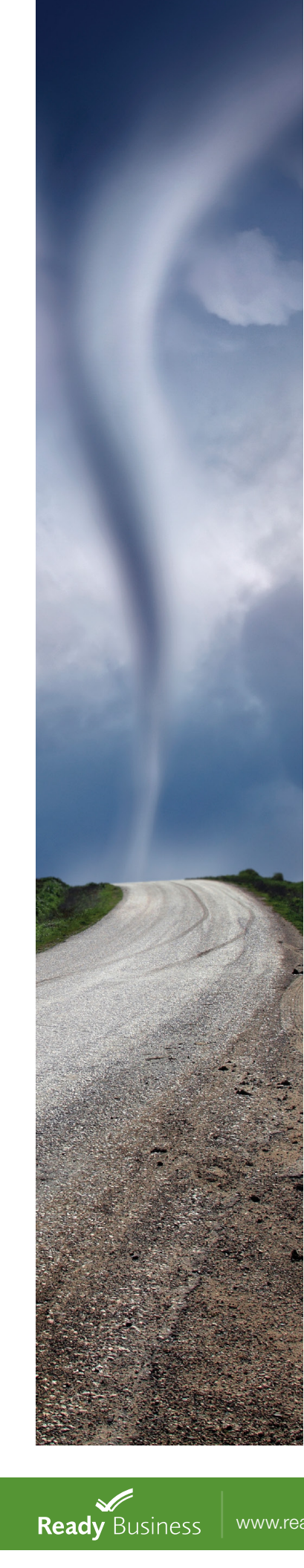
Toolkits are available for download [here](#) on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) website.

The second program component is the *Ready Business Workshop*. Workshops provide participants with information from subject matter experts and facilitates collaboration with local leaders.

Fundamentals for a successful *Ready Business Workshop* include:

- A dedicated, integrated host committee
- Strong support from state, local, tribal, and territorial governments and regional management and associations
- Centrally located venue that allows for ease of attendance
- Meeting room layout that fosters interactive discussion
- Participation from local leadership to inspire attendees
- Knowledgeable and articulate disaster preparedness and mitigation subject matter experts
- Participation by a skilled, experienced, scenario-based discussion leader
- Broad-based business and organization participation





Benefits to planning and executing a *Ready Business Workshop* in your community include:

Advancement and integration of business continuity preparedness and mitigation planning into daily operations of the business community;

Introduction of new organizations to the benefits of the *Ready Business Program* and public-private partnerships to enhance disaster resilience; and

Organizations that possess, **understand, and leverage** available resources for disaster preparedness and mitigation.

“After participating in an earthquake version of the ***Ready Business Workshop***, one attendee commented, “I have many opportunities to attend high-profile emergency conferences, but this workshop provided more practical, useful information than any of those other events.”

Purpose of the “How-To” Guide

This “How-To” Guide is designed to support those that wish to organize and implement a *Ready Business Workshop* in their community. The protocol in this guide is based on a successful workshop model that has attracted more than 450 U.S. private and public sector participants, including small, medium, and large companies; nonprofit and faith-based organizations; and independent and public schools.

Once you select a *Ready Business Toolkit* as the basis for a workshop, this guide will assist you and your planning team by providing insight to the process to plan and execute a *Ready Business Workshop*. Depending on the needs of your community, you may wish to combine one or more hazards within a workshop. Past workshops have combined multiple hazards and addressed the interrelation between them. The guide provides recommendations from inception to post-workshop evaluation.

If you are interested in hosting a *Ready Business Workshop* and need technical assistance, please contact the *Ready Business Program* at FEMA-Private-Sector@fema.dhs.gov for more information.

Introduction: Workshop Overview

The *Ready Business Workshop* contains five sections that align with the *Ready Business Toolkit*.

The first three sections outline the step-by-step process in the toolkit: *Identify Your Risk*, *Develop a Plan*, *Take Action*, and *Be Recognized and Inspire Others*. The next section, a scenario-based discussion which reinforces workshop topics through a simulated disaster response, is integrated into the workshop either during the *Identify Your Risk* step or after all the steps have been covered.

Finally, an optional *Partnership Showcase* may be organized and added to the workshop agenda to provide opportunities for service organizations, vendors, and community groups to network with participants and share preparedness and mitigation information.

IDENTIFY YOUR RISK

This section of the workshop outlines the risk to the organization through two presentations.

1. The first presentation outlines the risk through science. Typically, a local disaster risk expert discusses the level of local risk for the hazard topic and recaps impacts of previous disasters that have occurred in the region.
2. The local risk presentation is followed by a business continuity presentation by an expert who covers the *Back-to-Business Self-Assessment* in the toolkit. The *Back-to-Business Self-Assessment* allows the participating business or organization leader to think through a scenario, answer questions, and record the insights regarding how the local disaster would impact their organization.

The answers to their questions will provide them the specific information needed to participate in the scenario-based discussion and move into the next section of the workshop, *Develop a Plan*. This questionnaire can be downloaded [here](#) and should be completed in advance of the workshop so that participants can fully participate in the discussions.

DEVELOP A PLAN

An interactive panel will discuss the elements necessary to create a *Business Continuity Plan* or a *Preparedness and Mitigation Plan*.

During the *Develop a Plan* interactive panel, subject matter experts will review the toolkit and present information about each pertinent area. Depending on the hazard, the following areas will be included in the interactive panel:

STAFF	Planning and preparedness activities for the protection of staff.
SURROUNDINGS	Nonstructural elements outside the building that potentially pose a threat during an event.
SPACE	Nonstructural workplace surroundings on the interior of the building.
SYSTEM	Systems that support the operation of the building.
STRUCTURE	Architectural and structural elements of the building.
SERVICE	Opportunities for an organization to engage and serve the community following an event.

A dialogue between presenters and participants is encouraged, and time for questions is reserved at the end of each panel to ensure engagement.

TAKE ACTION

This section of the workshop emphasizes that developing a plan is not enough and the organization needs to follow through by taking action and reviewing the process to gain recognition as a Ready Business.

BE RECOGNIZED AND INSPIRE OTHERS

The *Ready Business Program* is intended to recognize and reward businesses and organizations that complete preparedness and mitigation actions to protect employees, customers, and business continuity. *Be Recognized and Inspire Others* highlights the benefits to organizations that become a Ready Business.

SCENARIO-BASED DISCUSSION

The scenario-based discussion can occur at any point during the workshop. Ideally, it should be integrated in the *Identify Your Risk* section and use the already completed *Back-to-Business Self-Assessment* completed by the attendees. Another option is to have the scenario-based discussion as the final activity in the workshop and review all three steps of the *Ready Business Program*. In either form, a facilitator walks participants through a predetermined disaster scenario tailored to the local community and the risks it faces. A scenario-based exercise template is available for download [here](#) on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) website.

The scenario-based discussion is typically led by an experienced exercise facilitator that is adept at involving all the organizations in the room and keeping the discussion moving forward. Please contact your local emergency management office to identify an exercise facilitator.

PARTNERSHIP SHOWCASE

Organizers can consider adding tables or booth space to allow for businesses, organizations, and service providers to showcase information, network, and facilitate additional conversation between the hosts and attendees during breaks and lunch.

The *Partnership Showcase* should allow for planning committee members and key partners (often from the presenter's organizations) to display their information when relevant. Further, workshop organizers should carefully consider, evaluate, and possibly limit showcase participants to ensure the workshop focus remains consistent with preparedness, mitigation, and public-private partnerships.



Workshop Implementation:

1

PREPARE FOR A READY BUSINESS WORKSHOP

This section of the toolkit outlines the steps necessary to prepare for a *Ready Business Workshop*. This includes information regarding establishing partnerships, choosing a venue, developing the agenda, and selecting presenters. It is important to note that the examples provided are best practices and may be modified to fit the host community.

Templates to assist with the development of the workshop are available for each *Ready Business Toolkit* and may be downloaded [here](#) on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) website. *Ready Business Workshop* downloads include:

- *Back-to-Business Self-Assessment*
- Sample Feedback Form
- Invitation and E-Invite Language
- Sample News Media Advisory
- Presentation Format for Each Hazard
- Programs for Each Hazard
- Sample Agenda
- Scenario-Based Discussion Template
- Workshop Signage Template

2

DELIVER A READY BUSINESS WORKSHOP

This section of the toolkit provides logistics details for the day of the event, including reminders for the workshop host and strategies for ensuring that the scenario-based discussion is successful.

The majority of workshop preparation should be completed well in advance of the workshop day. However, organizers should be prepared to adjust and adapt to last minute changes due to weather, travel, or other contingencies.

3

READY BUSINESS WORKSHOP FOLLOW-UP

This section of the toolkit provides suggestions on outreach and workshop follow-up. Examples include suggestions to share all presentations and the attendee list, as well as securing feedback for future improvements.

1 | Prepare For a Ready Business Workshop

Follow these steps to prepare for a *Ready Business Workshop*.

Identify a Workshop Planning Team Leader: _____

Record the date of the first Planning Team Meeting: _____

TASK	TASK	INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATIONS	ASSIGNED TO	
Four Months in Advance				
Identify, Recruit and Build a Team for Workshop Planning	One Month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partners should include FEMA Regional Public Information Officers (PIOs) and private-sector liaison, state and local emergency management officer or hazard mitigation officer, and area chamber of commerce representatives. Important to secure upfront commitments from partners to actively promote the workshop through eBlasts, newsletter articles, organizational calendars, and/or social media. 		
Three Months in Advance				
Convene Initial Meeting of the Planning Team	Ongoing	Schedule these meetings to occur every two weeks from this point until the workshop.		
Determine Workshop Date	Two Weeks	Cross-reference date against known conferences/workshops, holidays, and/or anniversaries of significant events.		
Develop a Budget	Two Weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the expense of the venue, bear in mind potential public venues like universities and libraries that may be free of cost. Consider the expense of stipends for subject matter experts to present. Consider lunch and break expenses (this could be done through a private partner contribution as well). Consider the expense of audio/visual needs. Consider the expense of parking fees for participants. 		

TASK	TASK DURATION	INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATIONS	ASSIGNED TO	COMPLETION DATE
Three Months in Advance (cont.)				
Secure Venue	Two Weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider exhibition space. Locate space that accommodates up to 100 attendees. Look for a venue that includes audio/visual equipment, so this will not become an additional expense for the workshop. Ensure space allows for adequate room to conduct the scenario-based discussion. Ensure space allows for people with disabilities and access and functional needs, for example accomodating those with wheelchairs, service animals, and providing an ASL interpreter for those who are deaf or hard of hearing. 		
Ten to Twelve Weeks in Advance				
Develop an Agenda and Secure Presenters	Four Weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix A - Sample agenda can be used as the starting point. Appendix B - Description of speaker/presenter roles. Recruit/secure FEMA regional and local representatives along with technical speakers. Confirm hands-on activities/exhibit space. 		
Eight to Ten Weeks in Advance				
Name the Table-Top Exercise Coordinator	One Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinator is responsible for developing a draft table-top exercise for review. Reference the exercise template at (website for download). 		
Develop Online Registration System	One Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop online registration portal to gather attendee information. Develop confirmation email that includes instructions for completing <i>Back-To-Business Self-Assessment</i> before the workshop. 		
Start Marketing/Promotion	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and distribute invitation (Appendix C - Invitation and Marketing Email template). Develop media advisory and news release (Attachment D - Sample News Media Advisory). 		

TASK	TASK DURATION	INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATIONS	ASSIGNED TO	COMPLETION DATE
Eight to Ten Weeks in Advance (cont.)				
Start Marketing/Promotion	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start targeted outreach to local business/community calendar reporters. Contact local chambers of commerce and neighborhood business associations and ask them to promote the workshop to their membership. Request that partners engage in promotion and follow up individually with materials needed to promote and a reminder of who and when they promised to reach out to. 		
Six Weeks in Advance				
Review Table-Top Exercise with Coordinator	One Week	Coordinator to review table-top exercise during planning team meeting and then route for review.		
Four Weeks in Advance				
Finalize Table-Top Exercise	One Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinator to review comments from the planning team and incorporate into exercise. Review the exercise with the planning committee. Finalize exercise and send to the workshop lead for incorporation into the presentation. 		
Order Audio Visual Support and Equipment	One Week	Baseline equipment should include projector, screen, podium microphone, table top microphone(s) for four-person panel, and two wireless microphones for audience questions.		
Reminder to Registered Attendees and Email Blast to Garner Registrations	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feature information about one of the speakers/presentations. Include reminder to complete <i>Back-to-Business Self-Assessment</i>. 		
Media Pitching	One Week	Use media advisory to pitch by phone to local media as well as to promote workshop attendance.		
Meet with all Presenters to Discuss Material and Workshop Logistics	One Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule meetings with each presenter to discuss their presentation and address logistical needs, such as headshot and bio. Inform presenters that their presentations will be shared following the workshop. 		

TASK	TASK DURATION	INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATIONS	ASSIGNED TO	COMPLETION DATE
Confirm Exhibitors (if Applicable)	Two Weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider private-sector partners whose services and/or products are relevant to the hazards. Consider nonprofit organizations and government agencies relevant to response and recovery. 		
Three Weeks in Advance				
Receive Speaker Headshots and Bios for Program	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin development of the program. Download a sample workshop program here. 		
Order Food and Beverage for the Workshop	One Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideal to secure private sponsorship of lunch. Consider food allergies and special food requests. 		
Two Weeks in Advance				
Complete Agenda and Program	Two Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide presenters with the agenda. Add the agenda to the workshop program. Send the completed agenda to the registered participants with a workshop reminder. 		
Print Program/ Workshop Guide	Two Days	Includes printing and assembly of workshop program guides.		
One Week in Advance				
Print Signage	One Day	Directional, podium, and partner signs.		
Ship Items to Venue	One Day	Send programs and all directional, podium, and partner signs to venue.		
Name Badges and Holders	One Day	Secure name badges and holders.		
Name Badge Template	One Day	Complete name badge template.		
Ship Workshop Materials	One Day	Shipping time frame dependent upon location of workshop.		
Pitch Media	Ongoing	Pitch media (all outlets and trades) to cover workshop.		

TASK	TASK DURATION	INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATIONS	ASSIGNED TO	COMPLETION DATE
One Week in Advance (cont.)				
Receive Speaker Presentations and Develop Master Presentation	Two Days	Use the appropriate presentation template for the workshop.		
Send Reminder to Registrants Regarding the Workshop and Completing the <i>Back-to-Business Self-Assessment</i>	One Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include address. • Include information regarding cancellation policy. • Include contact name for specific questions. 		
Food and Beverage for Workshop	One Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm final head count with catering provider. 		
One Day Before Travel				
Complete Name Badge Printing	One Day	Assemble name badges.		
Develop Tent Cards to Assign the Exhibitor Tables	One Day	Create tent cards.		
One Day Before Workshop				
Send Reminder Email to All Registered Attendees	One Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include address and lunch information in this email. • Include reminder to complete the <i>Back-to-Business Self-Assessment</i>. 		



2 | *Deliver a Ready Business Workshop*

There are two important items to manage on the day of the workshop: room setup and audio/visual equipment. For room setup, assign a planning team member to oversee the following during the workshop:

- Placement of signs to direct attendees to the proper room
- Location and ease of access to the registration table
 - » This should be located directly outside workshop room
 - » A sign in sheet and nametags should be available at the table
- Layout of the workshop room is conducive for presentations and scenario-based discussion
- Location of fire exits and restrooms are known
- Lunch space has been provided and is easily accessible

For the audio/visual setup, it is important to check the following:

- Computer systems with the projector attached
- Loaded and prepared presentation slides
- Sound and internet connection for any videos
- Microphones for the presenters

Additionally, as the workshop progresses throughout the day, organizers should monitor the workshop environment including basic logistics like room temperature, as well as ways to increase engagement and participation of attendees with the presenter or host.

3 | *Ready Business Workshop Follow-Up*

After the workshop is complete, it is important to follow up with the attendees. Post-event information for workshop attendees may include:

- Attendee roster
- Link to download the presentations and program
- Links to partner websites

Consider adding participants to a list serve with additional information and future events. Follow up 3-6 months after the event with workshop participants to evaluate actions taken.

Additionally, reviewing feedback forms and discussing recommendations with the planning team for future workshops is critical. A feedback form template is available for download [here](#) on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) website.

Share this information with the FEMA Ready Campaign and Individual and Community Preparedness Division. Other FEMA regions hosting workshops in the future will benefit from this feedback.



Valuable Websites

Prepathon

www.ready.gov/prepare

Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH)

www.flash.org

Ready Business

www.ready.gov/business

Ready Business Templates

www.flash.org/readybusiness

Appendix A

Sample Agenda

The following are full day and half-day sample agenda templates you may use to develop your workshop agenda. The panel will consist of only those elements contained in the hazard-specific toolkit. Appendix B provides detailed descriptions of speaker/presenter roles.

Anywhere Ready Business Full-Day Workshop Agenda

Date of Workshop

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Address

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Welcome
9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Introduction to Ready Business – [Insert Toolkit Topic] <i>An overview of the <i>Ready Business Program</i>.</i>

IDENTIFY YOUR RISK

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	The Disaster Threat to Your Businesses <i>An explanation of the science and the risk of [Insert Hazard/s] in your area.</i>
------------------------	--

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Break
-------------------------	-------

10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	<i>Back-to-Business Self-Assessment Scenario-Based Discussion</i> <i>Learn about the impacts a/an [Insert Hazard/s] could have on your organization and fill out the initial Ready Business Back-to-Business Self-Assessment as the first step in your planning process.</i>
-------------------------	---

12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
------------------------	-------

DEVELOP A PLAN

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Ready Business Interactive Panel <i>Learn about the components of preparedness and mitigation that go into developing a Preparedness and Mitigation Plan.</i>
-----------------------	--

TAKE ACTION & BE RECOGNIZED AND INSPIRE OTHERS

2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Ready Business Application and Recognition <i>Learn how to have your business recognized for working towards a more resilient community.</i>
2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	A Service Story <i>A local business shares their disaster and recovery story.</i>

Appendix A *(cont.)*

Anywhere Ready Business Half-Day Workshop Agenda

Date of Workshop

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Address

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Welcome
9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Introduction to Ready Business – <i>[Insert Toolkit Topic]</i> <i>An overview of the Ready Business Program.</i>

IDENTIFY YOUR RISK

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	The Disaster Threat to Your Businesses <i>An explanation of the science and the risk of [Insert Hazard/s] in your area.</i>
-----------------------	--

9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Back-to-Business Self-Assessment Scenario-Based Discussion <i>Learn about the impacts a/an [Insert Hazard/s] could have on your organization and fill out the initial Ready Business Back-to-Business Self-Assessment as the first step in your planning process.</i>
------------------------	--

DEVELOP A PLAN

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Ready Business Interactive Panel <i>Learn about the components of preparedness and mitigation that go into developing a Preparedness and Mitigation Plan.</i>
-------------------------	--

TAKE ACTION & BE RECOGNIZED AND INSPIRE OTHERS

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Ready Business Application & Recognition <i>Learn how to have your business recognized for working towards a more resilient community.</i>
-------------------------	---

Appendix B

Description of Speaker/Presenter Roles

Speaker/Presenter Role	Description
Workshop Lead	The Workshop Lead is responsible for introductions and movement from one session to another throughout the day, and is typically a person from the Workshop Planning Team.
Welcome Speaker(s)	This speaker welcomes the attendees to the workshop and the area, and is usually a local leader or a member of the Workshop Planning Team.
Introduction to Ready Business	The Introduction presenter must be familiar with the <i>Ready Business Program</i> and history of the <i>Ready Business Workshops</i> .
The Disaster Threat to Your Business	This presenter is a subject matter expert that can speak to the science and the history of the disasters in that region.
<i>Back-to-Business Self-Assessment</i> Scenario-Based Discussion	This business continuity expert uses the scenario and questionnaire from the toolkit to assist business leaders with identifying risk to their businesses from disaster to help prioritize preparedness and mitigation actions.
Ready Business Interactive Panel	This panel is comprised of subject matter experts in the fields of preparedness, mitigation, and service before, during, and after a disaster. Ideally a separate speaker addresses each topic within the toolkit. Examples of presenters include academics, mitigation experts, and volunteers.
Ready Business Application and Recognition	This presenter must be familiar with the <i>Ready Business Program</i> and the steps to apply for recognition.
A Service Story	Presenter for this topic is from a business that survived a disaster and has a story to tell about their lessons learned and how they changed their habits moving forward.

Appendix C

Invitation and Marketing Email Template

[Insert Year] WORKSHOP SERIES



JOIN US!

Get Ready®, [Insert Location].

Identify Your Risk

Learn about business continuity, disaster response, and the cost benefit of preparing for [hazard] and other business interruption.

Develop a Plan

Identify preparedness and mitigation actions needed to ensure safety and business continuity. Complete assessments and begin planning for retrofit projects.

Take Action

Learn how to perform preparedness and mitigation activities using Ready Business.

Be Recognized and Inspire Others

Gain recognition for preparing your organization for [Hazard].

WHAT

[Insert Workshop Type]

WHEN

[Insert Date]

[Insert Time]

WHERE

[Insert Workshop Location

Address

City, State Zip Code]

HOW

The Workshop is free, but registration is required. [Insert Registration Link.]

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS



FEMA



FLASH
Strengthening Homes &
Safeguarding Families

[Insert Co-
Presenters/Sponsors]

Appendix C *(cont.)*

Invitation and Marketing Email Template

Dear First and Last Name,

Is your organization prepared for [Hazard]? [Insert sentence about hazard relevant to this location.]

Why is this important? The Small Business Administration (SBA) estimates that 40 percent of small businesses will not reopen after disaster, 25 percent more will close within one year, and 75 percent of businesses without continuity planning will fail within three years of a disaster. Businesses, large and small, are at risk—as are your employees, customers, and the community you serve.

The good news is that the actions to protect your business, employees, and customers are simple, scalable, and many are very low cost to implement. The [Location] *Ready Business Workshop* will provide you with actionable information to protect your people, property, and operations by assisting you to *Identify Your Risk, Develop a Plan, Take Action, and Be Recognized and Inspire Others*.

The Ready Business Workshop will provide:

- Experts to explain [Hazard] risks specific to [Location];
- Information explaining the level of support you can expect from your local emergency management agency if a large-scale disaster occurs;
- Preparedness actions you can take before, during, and after disasters; and
- Provide simple materials and helpful links to additional resources.

Maintaining business continuity is important for you, and when you are able to continue operations after a disaster, you will improve your community's ability to recover as well.

Regardless of your experience level in preparing for disasters, this FREE workshop is for you. Please join us!

Appendix D

Sample News Media Advisory

[Insert Organization Logo]

[Insert Media Point of Contact

Name

Title

Phone Number

Email Address]

[Insert Date]

Ready Business Workshop Set for [Insert Location]

[Insert Toolkit Topic] Toolkit for Businesses Now Available

WHAT: FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Division, FEMA Region [Insert Region Number], [Insert Organization Name], and the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes, (FLASH)[®] welcome businesses and organizations to the *Ready Business – [Insert Toolkit Topic]* workshop in [Insert City, State]. With a focus on the *Ready Business – [Insert Toolkit Topic]* Toolkit, workshop participants will learn to identify their risks, develop a plan, take action, and be recognized and inspire others to mitigate potential impacts. The daylong workshop delivers modules focused on Staff, Surroundings, Space, Systems, Structure, and Service.

WHO: Featured presenters will include:

- [Insert Featured Speaker Name, Title, Organization]
- [Insert Featured Speaker Name, Title, Organization]
- [Insert Featured Speaker Name, Title, Organization]

WHEN: [Insert Workshop Date], 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: [Insert Location and Address of the Workshop]

HOW: The *Ready Business* workshop is free, but registration is required. Please click here [Hyperlink to Registration Page] to register, or contact [Insert Point of Contact and Hyperlink to Email Address] for more information.

Appendix E

Sample Attendee Email

Good Morning [Location] Attendees,

This is a reminder that the [Location] *Ready Business Workshop* is only a week away. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., and the Workshop will start promptly at 9 a.m. on [Insert Workshop Date] at the [Insert Workshop Location]. The address is:

[Insert Address of the Workshop]

The workshop will be located on the ___ floor in room ____. Parking will be complimentary and will be located_____.

A complimentary box lunch will be included for registered, full-day attendees.

If you have any questions, please call [Insert Point of Contact Phone Number and Hyperlink to Email Address].

Appendix F

Sample Feedback Form



[Insert Co-Presenters/Sponsors]

PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK FORM [Insert Toolkit Topic] Ready Business Workshop [Insert Location]

Participant Name (optional): _____ Date: _____

Organization Name: _____

Location: _____

Part I – Participant Evaluation

Section I. Please rate, on a scale of 1 to 5, your overall evaluation of the activities relative to the list provided below, with 1 indicating a rating of **Strongly Disagree** and 5 indicating a rating of **Strongly Agree**.

	<u>Strongly Disagree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Strongly Agree</u>
Introduction to Ready Business	1	2	3	4	5
The Disaster Threat to Your Businesses	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Back-to-Business Self-Assessment</i>	1	2	3	4	5
Ready Business Interactive Panel	1	2	3	4	5
Ready Business Application & Recognition	1	2	3	4	5
A Service Story	1	2	3	4	5
The workshop presentations were relevant to current issues.	1	2	3	4	5
Overall, the workshop was constructive and worthwhile.	1	2	3	4	5

Appendix F (cont.)

Sample Feedback Form

Section II.

In the space provided below, please answer yes or no to the following questions. Please provide a corresponding observation action to enhance the different aspects of the Ready Business Preparedness Workshop e.g., planning, policies, training, personnel, equipment, etc.

- Did you receive the information that you expected today?

Yes or No

Observations:

- Are you more likely to develop a business continuity plan based on the information that you heard today? based on the information that y

Yes or No

Observations:

- Are you more likely to perform mitigation to protect your employees and property based on the information that you heard today?

Yes or No

Observations:

- Will the tools provided in the workshop be helpful in identifying risk, developing a plan, and taking action to perform mitigation?

Yes or No

Appendix F (cont.)

Sample Feedback Form

Observations:

- **Are there additional topics or information that you would like included in the workshop? based on the information that y**

Yes or No

Observations:

Part II – Participant Feedback

Section I. Observations and Recommended Actions

In the space provided below, please record strengths or areas of improvement you are considering as a result of the workshop. Please provide a corresponding recommended action to enhance or correct that observation e.g., planning, policies, training, personnel, equipment, etc.

Observation:

Recommendation:

Recommendation:

Appendix F *(cont.)*
Sample Feedback Form

Observation:

Recommendation:

Section II. Moving Forward. Identify Needs, Identify Resources.

Are additional resources required to move forward with preparedness activities?

Section III. Additional Feedback

Please provide us with any additional feedback regarding the workshop.



FEMA



FLASH
Strengthening Homes &
Safeguarding Families

The Federal Alliance for Safe Homes, Inc. (FLASH)® has prepared the *Ready Business Toolkit* for informational and educational purposes only. Although the information and recommendations are presented in good faith and believed to be correct, the author makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, regarding the information.

Users are advised to seek the assistance of a licensed professional engineer or design professional with any questions about this material as it may apply to their circumstances. If the User is dissatisfied with any information in this toolkit or with any of these Terms and Conditions of Use, the User's sole and exclusive remedy is to discontinue using the *Ready Business Toolkit*.