



ENHANCING
TERRORISM PREVENTION EXERCISE PROGRAM

TPEP

ENSURING
PREPAREDNESS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

WHAT IS TPEP?

The Terrorism Prevention Exercise Program (TPEP) is a U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) exercise program designed to provide homeland security exercises focused on the prevention mission area. These exercises assess pre-incident capabilities such as intelligence fusion and information sharing, and enhance federal, state, local and tribal participants' ability to detect, deter and prevent criminal and terrorism-related activity.

WHAT ARE THE MISSION AND GOALS OF TPEP?

The primary mission of TPEP is to enhance the nation's overall terrorism prevention capabilities through prevention-focused exercises and support activities that increase levels of awareness and cooperation, and improve horizontal and vertical information sharing among homeland security and law enforcement officials at all levels of government.

TPEP goals are to:

- Evaluate prevention capabilities across the nation;
- Support fusion center development and Information Sharing Environment implementation; and
- Refine and validate the best models/methods for exercising prevention capabilities.

HOW WILL TPEP HELP MY JURISDICTION?

TPEP creates a realistic exercise environment in which participants conduct full intelligence/investigative functions. Exercises are based on participant objectives to allow participants to learn, demonstrate and/or validate critical prevention tasks and capabilities. Exercising the systems, processes and policies used to facilitate the flow of information and intelligence provides the opportunity for prevention

stakeholders to become more knowledgeable, responsive and comfortable with the tools used to anticipate and preempt threats to the homeland.

WHAT ARE THE INTENDED OUTCOMES OF A TPEP EXERCISE?

Capitalizing on training and technical assistance efforts and using threat-based scenarios, TPEP exercises are designed to produce a comprehensive analysis of prevention capabilities. Exercise evaluation identifies capability strengths and gaps, and provides corrective actions which allow for better informed and supported funding requests and investment justifications.

DOES TPEP OFFER ASSISTANCE IN FUNDING AN EXERCISE IN MY JURISDICTION?

Yes. TPEP offers an exercise support team that is fully funded by DHS-FEMA to plan and conduct your exercise from start to finish.

WHAT KIND OF EXERCISES DOES TPEP SUPPORT?

TPEP can provide both discussion-based (workshop, seminar or tabletop) and operations-based (functional or full-scale) exercises. The participating jurisdiction(s) determine the scope, goals and objectives of the exercise. The TPEP team will provide all necessary support to develop these elements. For all exercises, TPEP will design a realistic and tailored scenario based upon jurisdiction-specific threats and the particular needs and priorities of the participating agencies.



FEMA

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) CONT.

WHAT CAPABILITIES DOES TPEP EXERCISE?

TPEP exercises help participants build and validate prevention- and fusion-related capabilities. They directly evaluate the prevention and protection capabilities as described in the DHS Target Capabilities List, which define the specific equipment, personnel, training and planning tools necessary to prevent acts of terrorism.

For fusion center participants, TPEP exercises assess and validate the baseline capabilities as found in Baseline Capabilities for State and Major Urban Area Fusion Centers. Specifically, TPEP directly meets the requirement that fusion centers participate in exercises to assess their capabilities (Capability I.A.10), and the program can provide support for the overall implementation and evaluation of all the baseline capabilities.

WHAT TYPES OF ACTIVITIES ARE CONDUCTED IN A TPEP EXERCISE?

Exercises can be designed to assess players' abilities to:

- Implement Suspicious Activity Reporting processes
- Detect and identify terrorist activities among daily flow of "white noise"
- Employ predictive analysis to determine potential future activities

- Engage in information sharing with other agencies and communities to identify patterns locally, regionally and nationally
- Develop and disseminate appropriate notifications and alerts, resulting in operations that disrupt terrorist activities

DOES TPEP COMPLY WITH THE HOMELAND SECURITY EXERCISE AND EVALUATION PROGRAM (HSEEP)?

Yes. TPEP follows HSEEP exercise policy and methodology.

WHAT GUIDANCE EXISTS TO ASSIST MY JURISDICTION IN PLANNING A PREVENTION EXERCISE?

HSEEP helps federal, state, local and tribal jurisdictions establish exercise programs and provides guidance on the design, development, conduct and evaluation of exercises (see www.hseep.dhs.gov). However, while the standard HSEEP methodology is used to plan prevention-focused exercises, they require some additional tools and methodologies due to the unique nature of these exercises and their distinctly different look than traditional incident response exercises. The HSEEP Prevention Exercises volume provides more specific guidance on how to conduct a prevention-focused exercise and describes various prevention exercise models and tools.

For more information on TPEP or to receive assistance in planning, conducting and evaluating a prevention exercise, please contact TPEP@dhs.gov or visit the TPEP partner page hosted on www.llis.gov

TERRORISM PREVENTION EXERCISE PROGRAM

TPEP



FEMA