

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTIONS

The following is the current list of all of the Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), their lead agencies, support agencies and the purpose of each ESF. Please note that due to the ever changing nature of disaster management and response, the information within this document is subject to change.

- ESF 1 – Transportation
- ESF 2 – Communication
- ESF 3 – Public Works And Transport
- ESF 4 - International Assistance
- ESF 5 – Information Management
- ESF 6 - Shelter Services
- ESF 7 – Relief Supplies & Distribution
- ESF 8 – Health & Medical Services
- ESF 9a – Urban Search & Rescue
- Esf 9b - Maritime Search & Rescue
- Esf 10a – Hazardous Materials-Land
- Esf 10 B – Hazardous Materials-Marine
- Esf 10 C – Bioterrorism
- Esf 11 – Food
- Esf 12 - Tourism
- Esf 13 - Volunteers
- Esf 14 - Veterinarian Services And Animal Care

#1 *TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION*

Lead Agency: Ministry of Public Works and Transport

Support Agencies: Department of Civil Aviation
Department of Social Services
Port Department
Road Traffic Department
Royal Bahamas Defence Force
Royal Bahamas Police Force
Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority
Ministry of Transport
Department of Marine Resources
National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
Bahamas Air Sea Rescue Association
Mailboat & Ferry Association
Professional Transport Association of The Bahamas
Other Jitney Association (s)
Bahamas National Geographic Information Services
Nassau Airport Development Co.
Dept. of Correctional Services
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Arawak Port Development (APD)

Purpose: To coordinate transportation services, equipment and personnel used by ESF 1 and other ESFs identified in the National Disaster Plan for The Bahamas.

#2 *COMMUNICATIONS EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION*

Lead Agency: Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF)

Support Agencies: Bahamas Power & Light Co. (BPL)/BEC
Bahamas Telecommunication Corporation (BTC)
Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority
Port Department
Royal Bahamas Defence Force

Purpose: To coordinate emergency communication personnel, equipment and service capabilities used by other ESFs for internal and external departmental communication, and for communication with the various Family Islands and volunteer groups and regional partners.

#3 *PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING*

Lead Agency: Ministry of Public Works and Transport

Support Agencies: Bahamas Power & Light Co. (BPL)/BEC
Bahamas Telecommunication Corporation
BEST Commission
Department of Environmental Health
Water & Sewerage Corporation
BNGIS

Purpose: To coordinate damage assessment activities and provide technical advice and evaluation, engineering services, contracting for construction management and inspection of all public utilities

#4 INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION

Lead Agency : Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Support Agencies: Bahamas Customs
Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority
Port Department
Department of Immigration

Purpose: To coordinate and regulate the donation of emergency supplies, materials, equipment, and funds from foreign governments, international agencies, companies and individuals

#5 INFORMATION MANAGEMENT EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION

Lead Agency: NEMA

Support Agencies: Bahamas Information Services
Department of Meteorology
Ministry of Tourism
BNGIS
Department of Transformation and Digitization

Purpose: To coordinate the collection, analyses, processing, and dissemination of information about a potential or actual disaster.

#6 *SHELTER SERVICES EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION*

Lead Agency: Department of Social Services

Support Agencies: Bahamas Red Cross
 Royal Bahamas Defence Force
 Salvation Army
 Ministry of Public Works
 Royal Bahamas Police Force
 Department of Environmental Health
 Ministry of Health
 NEMA

Purpose: To coordinate efforts to provide sheltering and feeding for the affected population and emergency service personnel. ESF 6 is also responsible for operating a Disaster Welfare Information (DWI) system.

**#7 RELIEF SUPPLIES & DISTRIBUTION EMERGENCY SUPPORT
FUNCTION**

Lead Agency: NEMA

Support Agencies: Central Purchasing Unit (Ministry of Finance)
Department of Social Services
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Agriculture & Marine Resources
Ministry of Transport
Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority
Ministry of Public Works Transport
Public Hospital Authority
Royal Bahamas Defence Force
Department of Local Government

Purpose: to provide operational assistance in the management and coordination of relief supplies during a disaster.

#8 *HEALTH & MEDICAL SERVICES EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION*

Lead Agency: Ministry of Health

Support Agencies: Mental Health Services
 Public Health Department
 Public Hospitals Authorities
 Department of Social Services
 Department of Environmental Health Services
 Ministry of Education
 Royal Bahamas Defence Force

Purpose: To provide coordination of national medical assets to assist local communities in response to public health and medical care needs following a major disaster or emergency.

#9a URBAN SEARCH & RESCUE

Lead Agency: Royal Bahamas Defence Force

Support Agencies: Airport Authority
Bahamas Air Sea Rescue Association
Department of Civil Aviation
Port Department
Royal Bahamas Police Force & Fire Service

Purpose: To coordinate efforts and resources to ensure an effective response to all urban search and rescue operations through a centralized command and control structure.

#9b MARITIME SEARCH & RESCUE

Lead Agency: Royal Bahamas Defence Force

Support Agencies: Port Department
Royal Bahamas Police Force and Fire Services
BASRA
Airport Authority
Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority
Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD)

Purpose: To provide national support and coordinate the use of government and Private resources in Marine Search and Rescue operations in response to actual or potential emergency/disaster events.

#10a HAZARDOUS MATERIALS-LAND

Lead Agency: Department of Environmental Health Services

Support Agencies: Airport Authority
Bahamas Environmental, Scientific &
Technological Commission
Ministry of Public Works
Royal Bahamas Police Force Fire Services
Port Department
Water & Sewerage Corporation

Purpose: To provide national support to local governments and government agencies in response to an actual or potential discharge and/or release of hazardous materials on land.

#10b HAZARDOUS MATERIALS-MARINE

Lead Agency: Port Department
Department of Environmental Health Services

Support Agencies: Royal Bahamas Police Force & Fire Service
Royal Bahamas Defence Force
Water & Sewerage Corporation
Ministry of Public Works

Purpose: To provide national support to local governments and government agencies in response to an actual or potential discharge and/or release of hazardous materials affecting the waters surrounding The Bahamas.

#10c BIOTERRORISM

Lead Agency: Ministry of Health

Support Agencies: Public Hospital Authority
Doctors Hospital
Royal Bahamas Police Force
Department of Social Services
Royal Bahamas Defence Force
Department of Immigration
Bahamas Customs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Tourism
Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD)
Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority
Ministry of Transport
Ministry of Public Works
Department of Environmental Health
BEST Commission
Ministry of Agriculture & Marine Resources
Port Department
Water & Sewerage Corp.
Department of Local Government
Ministry of Finance
Bahamas Information Service
NEMA

Purpose: The purpose is to provide guidance to government and non-government organizations inclusive of Local Government District Offices in throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas response to a Bio-terrorism response (naturally or planned) by applying each agency's applicable role and how each agency will be coordinated.

#11 FOOD EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION

Lead Agency: NEMA

Support Agencies: Department of Social Services
Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources
Ministry of Finance
Royal Bahamas Defence Force
Water & Sewerage Corporation
Dept. of Environmental Health Services
Ministry of Health
Consumer Protection

Purpose: Identifies, secures, and arranges distribution of food assistance to affected areas following a major disaster or emergency or other event requiring a national response.

#12 TOURISM EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION

Lead Agency: Ministry of Tourism

Support Agencies: Airport Authority
Bahamas Broadcasting Corporation
Bahamas Information Services
Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority
Department of Meteorology
Port Department
Bahamas Hotel Association
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Department of Immigration
Nassau Airport Development Company

Purpose: To coordinate activities to ensure that the tourism industry is equipped to effectively respond to and recover from, any disaster impacting the nation.

#13 VOLUNTEERS EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION

Lead Agency: NEMA

Support Agencies Bahamas Red Cross
Salvation Army
BASRA
Tropical Shipping
Kerzner International
Humanitarian Operations (HOPE)
Methodist Habitat
BASH
Rotary
University of The Bahamas
Churches

Purpose: To coordinate volunteer organizations and services in times of disaster to allow for the most effective service delivery and ensure that the citizens of The Bahamas are assisted.

**# 14 VETERINARIAN SERVICES AND ANIMAL CARE EMERGENCY SUPPORT
FUNCTION**

Lead Agency: Department of Agriculture

Support Agencies: Bahamas Humane Society
Department of Environmental Health
Department of Public Health
Bahamas Immigration
Bahamas Customs
Private Boarding Kennels

Private Veterinarian Clinics