



Annual Report 2020



Message from our Executive Director

In addition to the pandemic, 2020 included record setting hurricanes, flooding, wildfires and other natural hazards for which additional preparedness, training, and education can support effective response and recovery. NDPTC is committed to building strong communities of practice, as well as leveraging research and new technologies to increase efficiencies and effectiveness towards our programmatic goals. The Center has made significant progress in increasing both the quantity and quality of its training courses, expanding meaningful engagement of partners, and continuing to be a learning, adaptive organization. The annual report describes the changes and transformations brought on by the pandemic and our efforts to better manage and implement resilient, sustainable practices. I am profoundly grateful for our dedicated staff and committed partners. It is through the strength of community, collaboration and engagement that we will successfully continue to weather the pandemic and learn from disasters.

We look forward to continued service, virtual meetings, with a return to normalcy in the not so distant future. If you have ideas about how we can better serve you, please let us know. With best wishes for a healthy, safe and resilient new year.

Karl Kim, PhD
Executive Director, NDPTC
University of Hawaii



Our story so far

NDPTC is a member of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC) authorized to develop and deliver training and educational programs related to homeland security and disaster management, with a specific focus on natural hazards, coastal communities, and the special needs and opportunities of islands and territories. The NDPTC actively engages internally with FEMA and the University of Hawai'i, as well as with external partners across the region to integrate the delivery of its trainings, products, and services

Our Mission

Work collaboratively to develop and deliver training and education on disaster preparedness, response, and recovery to governmental, tribal, territorial, not-for-profit, and private partners, integrating land use, infrastructure, urban planning, environmental management, and emerging technologies to build and sustain resilient communities.

Our Vision

To be the premier, trusted provider of risk-based natural hazards training focused on underserved, vulnerable populations living in hazardous, coastal, and island communities.

Our 2020 goals



Increase quality, quantity, and efficiency of course development and delivery.

- Develop courses with appropriate content and instructional design, targeted to the relevant learners in the emergency management community.
- Adapt content to changing hazard occurrences and severity.
- Identify and expand markets for training to increase resilience in underrepresented, minority, and remote communities.
- Increase accessibility of NDPTC training.



Deepen meaningful and consequential engagement with stakeholders.

- Build partnerships with academic, governmental, professional, and private organizations.
- Integrate and amplify NDPTC and partner training and education opportunities.
- Support FEMA doctrine related to education, training, and exercises.
- Solicit feedback from stakeholders to improve NDPTC products, operations and outcomes.



Sustain NDPTC as a trusted, resilient, learning organization.

- Provide subject matter expertise to partners, emergency management organizations and the whole community.
- Develop science-based mitigation and adaptation training.
- Disseminate timely information on natural hazard risks through traditional and social media outlets.
- Research and integrate the latest hazards, knowledge and technologies into training.
- Support a culture of preparedness for the whole community.

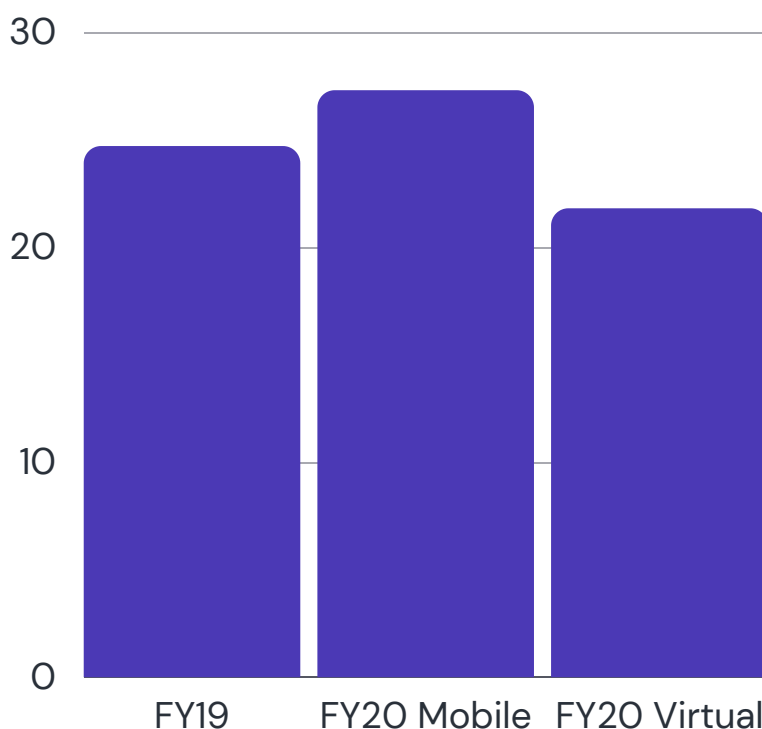
Our 2020 strategy

PROJECTS	OBJECTIVES	HIGHLIGHTS
Course Development	Certifying, updating, and recertifying courses with relevant and timely information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certified two new courses in the Coastal Hazards series• Updated and recertified Tornado and Social Media courses• Integrated COVID-19 information into courses
Course Delivery	Expand delivery modalities, efficiencies, and instructor expertise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quickly pivoted to virtual deliveries• Streamlined contracting process• Expanded instructor development
Partnerships and Outreach	Conduct outreach to increase and strengthen partnerships and ensure routine communications with stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased partnerships• Released regular updates• Increased reach across all communication platforms• Adapted outreach strategy to fit pandemic environment
Academic Initiative	Implement curriculum, courses, and programs with academic institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expanded virtual training offerings to college programs• Supported graduate student work on pandemic issues

Our 2020 accomplishments

Keeping the focus on training during COVID restrictions

NDPTC's virtual classes averaged 22 participants, near its averages for FY20 mobile courses (27) and FY19 (25).



49,855

Participants trained to date

76

Deliveries using virtual platform

23

Certified Courses in Catalog

- At the end of 2020, NDPTC's course offerings included 23 FEMA-certified courses and six courses in development or recertification.
- In 2020, NDPTC delivered 33 face-to-face instructor-led trainings and 76 remote/virtual instructor-led trainings to over 2,600 participants in the United States and its Territories.
- NDPTC has trained participants from all 10 FEMA regions and across 20 disciplines.



NDPTC Training in the COVID-19 Environment

March 11, 2020

World Health Organization declares a **global pandemic**



10/1/19-3/31/20

2,509 participants trained in 92 mobile courses



April 8, 2020

First virtual course delivered (Caregivers)



4/8-12/31/20

NDPTC trains **1,725** participants in 76 virtual courses



March 12, 2020

Last mobile course delivery in FL (Debris Mgmt)



3/13-4/7/20

NDPTC converts to **virtual** training



June 2020

FEMA releases pandemic guidance for hurricane season



Zoom Meeting | You are viewing NDPTC Allison Hardin's screen | View Options

Speaker View

Hurricane Awareness

Structure of a Hurricane

2-10

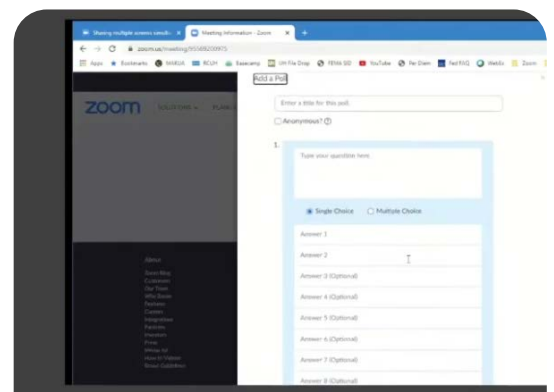
Participants: Lenora, Mel, NDPTC - CHERY..., Doug, Kay, Daniel, NDPTC Alliso..., John, Phillip, Marvalin K, Dennis, Kenny

Unmute | Start Video | Security | Participants (22) | Polls | Chat | Share Screen | Record | Reactions | Leave

Aligning with FEMA and the NDPC

NDPTC's efforts were aligned with and supported the *FEMA 2018-22* and *NDPC 2020-25* strategic plans:

- We pivoted quickly in April to deliver much-needed online training as hurricane season approached, then ramped up to cover other hazards, **supporting our SLTT stakeholders** despite the challenges posed by the pandemic (NDPC Goals 1 and 2).
- We **developed partnerships** to assist local stakeholders impacted by the pandemic, particularly in the area of supporting senior caregiving organizations to more efficiently screen their employees and share critical information (NDPC Goal 3).
- We **supported FEMA/NTED** efforts to disseminate best practices and lessons learned to facilitate training partners' adoption of online training, by developing short train-the-trainer modules based on our online course delivery (FEMA Strategic Goal 1).



test polling

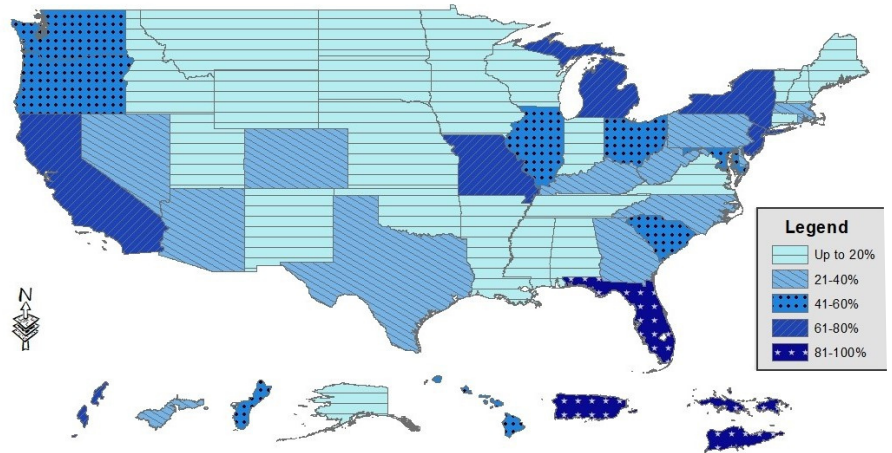
- Create beforehand or during
- Only host can create poll questions
- Co-host can launch polls

Responding to the Pandemic

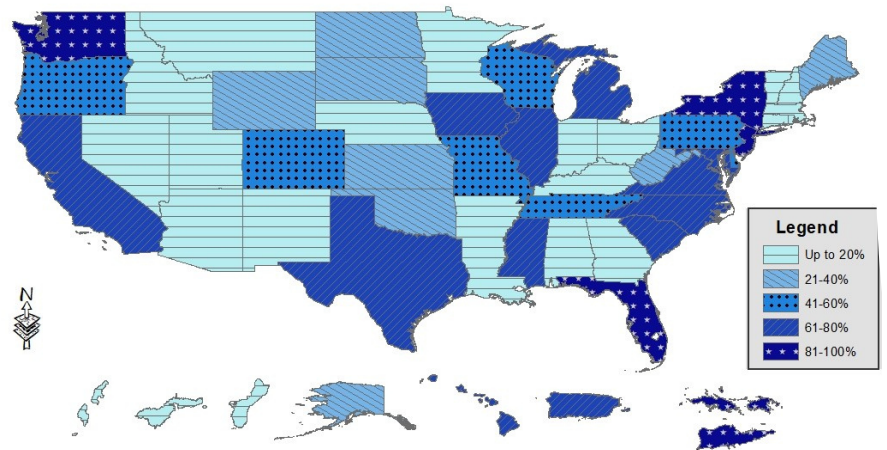
As a natural disaster, the COVID-19 pandemic triggered rapid, targeted responses by NDPTC:

- AWR-308 Natural Disaster Awareness for Caregivers, AWR-356 Community Planning for Disaster Recovery, AWR-377 Disaster Resilience for Small Business, and other courses, were quickly updated to provide pandemic-related information.
- NDPTC partnered with two technology companies to support development and adoption of employee screening, contact tracing, and HR management tools to improve the reach and efficiency of safety measures.
- NDPTC trained its instructors to deliver high-quality virtual courses that expanded the geographic reach of critical training (see adjacent maps).

2019 Percentage of Participants by State



2020 Percentage of Participants by State



1,694

Participants trained on virtual platforms

6

Weeks to stand up new virtual training program

51

Home States/Territories of Participants Trained

Looking Ahead

NDPTC is working on a number of new projects to help improve the resilience of our stakeholders and the whole community. These include:



Developing the third course in our **Coastal Hazards series**, focusing on planning and management utilizing the recently codified NOAA Digital Coast tools and other resources.



Developing a course on **green infrastructure and other nature-based hazard mitigation solutions**, in response to stakeholder requests for additional courses to build on our Community Planning for Disaster Recovery and Climate Adaptation courses.



Updating and expanding our courses and establishing partnerships to support **new findings and guidance on climate change**, including the recent U.S. Senate report (The Case for Climate Action: Building a Clean Economy for the American People) and its call for investments in "climate-smart communities."



Exploring the development of **new courses** on topics that the ongoing pandemic has demonstrated are critical to resilience planning for natural hazards, such as supply chain management and food security.

97%

Participants said the course attended met their needs and expectations and would recommend the course to peers

Testimonials

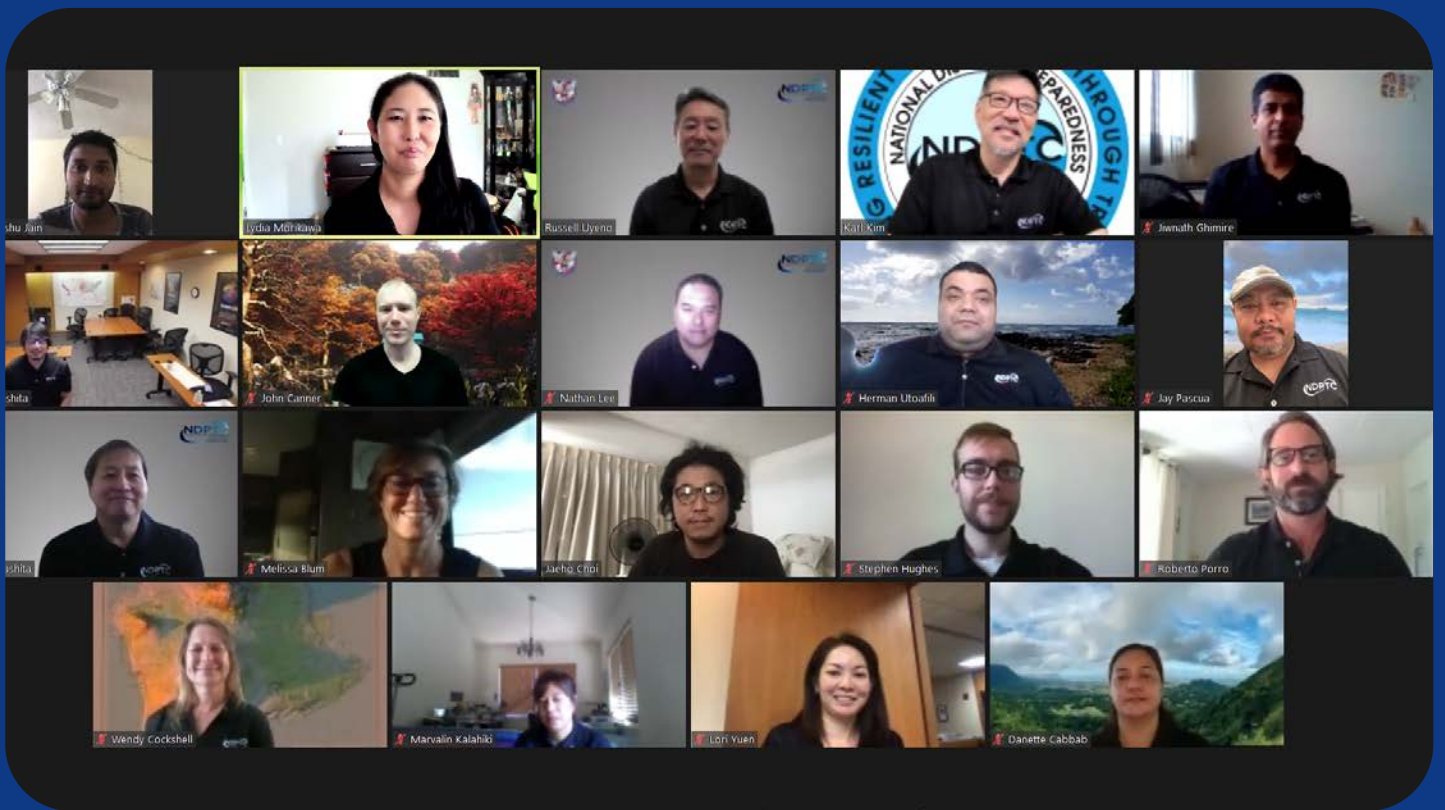
"The only thing I can suggest to improve this course is to maintain the virtual component. I felt more connected to my classmates than I believe I would have had this course been in person. I believe people shine when they are in their element and the breakout sessions worked out amazingly, better than anything I've participated in, in person, in a long time."

"Each of the 3 key areas (hazards, disaster assistance programs, and supply chain mgmt) were all very valuable and had practical content that can be applied. It was also VERY valuable for this course to be offered virtually. In rural East Texas and being a caregiver no longer allows me to go to EMI or take classes face-to-face. Please consider the value of offering virtual training such as this in remote and rural areas in our country. It would need to be easily marketable for those with part-time or adjunct responsibilities in preparedness to understand how to tap into this resource. So appreciate this opportunity!"

"Course was well structured and suitable to be delivered in the virtual format. Instructors did a fantastic job to keep students engaged. As an Instructor currently using virtual platforms to teach, they did wonderful in keeping interest and presenting the material. They did such a good job that I called in on my mobile app to keep up while on scene of a fire incident as I didn't want to miss anything. How often will you hear of a firefighter preferring a Zoom class to seeing fire and smoke?"

"Probably the best FEMA-ish course I've had virtually!"

We thank you for your ongoing support of our Center



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