

Disaster Assistance Improvement Program (DAIP)

Reducing the burden for disaster survivors through inter-agency information sharing.

THE CHALLENGE

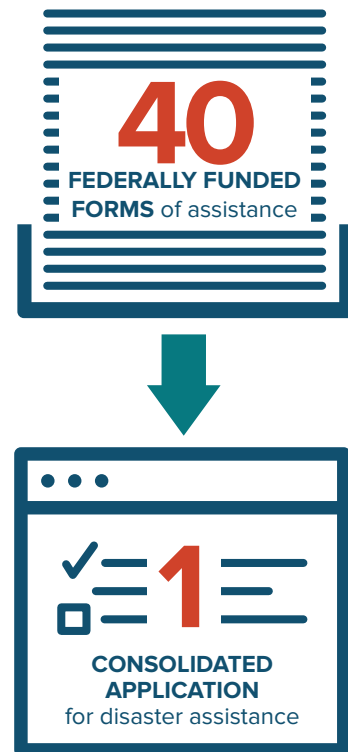
Each year, presidentially declared disasters result in injury and death, destroy homes and businesses, and disrupt the lives of hundreds of thousands of people across the nation. In the past, disaster survivors had to fill out paper forms from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to apply for disaster relief benefits or loans. This process was time consuming and often required the survivor to fill out multiple forms requesting the same or similar information.

THE SOLUTION

In 2009, FEMA created DAIP to provide a single access point for more than 40 federally funded forms of assistance (FOA). Using NIEM as the data layer foundation, DAIP connects partner agencies that provide disaster assistance to survivors, including the Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Social Security Administration (SSA). By consolidating benefit information, application intake, and status information into a unified system, survivors can apply for assistance from 17 US government agencies with a single, online application.

THE RESULTS

- Eases the burden on disaster survivors and increases their access to relief with a continually updated information clearinghouse.
- Reduces the time needed to apply for aid and check the status of claims.
- Saves FEMA and SBA/SSA time and money and allows for the addition of new partner agencies by reusing the IEPD for future system integrations.



NIEM'S IMPACT

Using NIEM, FEMA and its partner agencies were able to:

- Create real-time or near-real-time exchanges between partner agencies
- More quickly and efficiently provide disaster relief to survivors by eliminating redundancy and paperwork
- Allow for program growth and future integrations with new partner agencies, as NIEM is a common standard