

Typhoon Mawar Resilience Project

The Mawar Resilience Project (MRP) is a comprehensive effort to enhance Guam's critical infrastructure resilience following Typhoon Mawar. The project will enhance the safety and well-being of Guam's residents, businesses and economy.

Purpose

Disasters show that effective mitigation measures save lives and money and reduce the impacts of natural and other disasters. As examples, Guam's replacement of wooden power poles with concrete and composite poles aided in the restoration of power after Typhoon Mawar. Buildings constructed to modern codes experienced less damage and disruption. Generators installed before Mawar ensured essential functions continued despite widespread power disruptions. The MRP identifies opportunities for the public and private sectors to rebuild stronger as it recovers from Typhoon Mawar.

Strategy and Process

This project focuses on building resilience in the following critical infrastructure areas:

- Communication systems
- Transportation networks
- Government facilities
- Energy infrastructure
- Health and medical systems
- Water and wastewater facilities
- Emergency services

Interagency and interdisciplinary teams will work with community partners to identify possible mitigation measures and help identify options to fund resiliency efforts. The interagency teams consist of staff from:

- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- U.S. Department of Transportation
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Department of Energy
- Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency
- U.S Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. General Services Administration
- Federal Bureau of Investigation

The goal is to complete work by late 2024 through three phases:

Inspection – During this phase, interagency and interdisciplinary staff with subject matter expertise in critical infrastructure will join FEMA and Guam government staff to inspect Mawar infrastructure damage. An assessment of potential improvements to infrastructure will be documented. The inspection phase is scheduled to be completed by September 30, 2023.

Deliberation – During the deliberation phase, representatives from the interagency teams will identify potential sources of funding within their respective organizations.



FEMA

Implementation – During this phase, the Guam government will consider the recommendations of the interagency teams as they rebuild Guam’s infrastructure.

As recovery from Typhoon Mawar continues, FEMA and its federal partners will collaborate closely with government, private sector and non-profit partners to address broader resilience priorities in Guam. By diligently investing in and embracing mitigation measures, we can ensure Guam reaps the benefits of these investments for many years to come.