



AROUND THE REGION IN HOMELAND SECURITY

The Northwest Regional Technology Center (NWRTC) is a virtual resource center, operated by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), to support regional preparedness, resilience, response, and recovery. The center enables homeland security solutions for emergency responder communities and federal, state, and local stakeholders in the Northwest.

VISUALIZATION TOOL EXPLORES NATIONAL RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

When a disaster strikes, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's [National Response Framework](#) outlines an organized process for response. To navigate the framework more easily, PNNL designed the [National Response Framework Policy Landscape Analysis Tool \(NRF-PLAT\)](#) to visually capture the document's more than 470 requirements, recommendations, and other elements.



"The declaration of an emergency triggers a complex set of interactions among federal, state, local, tribal, and nongovernment organizations as well as individuals. Our tool was designed to make those complexities—and ultimately our nation's response processes—easier to understand," said Kristin Omberg, co-creator of the tool.

PNNL scientists and engineers analyzed the intricacies of the framework and translated its structure—nearly 100 pages of text—into a user-friendly, no-cost visualization tool. Users can view and visually parse the framework's many elements in the form of icicle and sunburst charts.



The tool is free to use and available to scientists, government officials, and others interested in national response. [Click here](#) to access NRF-PLAT or see the [web feature](#) to learn more.

OPPORTUNITIES

Events current at time of publication. Have a virtual resource or event to share? Email us!

- March 17 – [Ten Years after Fukushima: Commemoration and Lessons for the Future](#)
- April 6-7 – [2021 Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference](#)
- April 13-15 – [2021 Preparedness Summit](#)
- April 22 – [PISCES 3rd Annual Academic Workshop](#)
- May 17-19 – [2021 International Association of Chiefs of Police Technology Conference](#)
- August 15-19 – [Pacific NorthWest Economic Region Annual Summit](#)

CONTACT

- Want to know more? Visit us at pnnl.gov/projects/nwrtc.
- Contact the NWRTC with questions and comments at nwrtc@pnnl.gov.

CYBERSECURITY MATURITY MODEL HELPS SECURE GRID TECHNOLOGIES

Rapid development and deployment of new technologies in the energy delivery systems marketplace make the power grid a hotbed for innovation—and an attractive target for cybercriminals. PNNL cybersecurity researchers are working to change that by building next-generation tools for hardening the power grid and other critical infrastructure against attack.

The Secure Design and Development Maturity Model, or SD2M2, is being used to evaluate the cybersecurity practices of suppliers developing and building products specifically for the power grid. SD2M2 is based on the Cybersecurity Capability Maturity Model framework. A cybersecurity maturity model enables organizations of all sizes to evaluate, prioritize, and improve their cybersecurity practices.

SD2M2 is part of PNNL's [commercialization portfolio](#) and is available for use and licensing. For more information, see the [web feature](#) or contact [Peter Christensen](#).

COMMUNITY DIALOGUES EXPLORE REGIONAL PANDEMIC RESPONSE



support to its neighbors in the Mid-Columbia region and across Washington State.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, PNNL is not only turning to long-standing collaborators to identify [scientific solutions](#), it is also providing information and

PNNL and the Washington State Academy of Sciences co-hosted a webinar with Tri-Cities community leaders to explore the role of COVID-19 testing in helping businesses stay open while keeping their employees and customers safe. The intent was to help business leaders learn more about how to address both the health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional information about the event, including a recording of the discussion "[Science in Support of Local Decision Making for COVID-19: A dialogue with the Tri-Cities business community](#)," is available on the academy's website.

PNNL also launched COVID-19 community seminars held each Tuesday from 5-6 p.m. during March 2021. For details, visit the [series webpage](#) or see the [web feature](#).

LESPERANCE JOINS HAZARD MITIGATION, RESILIENCE COMMITTEE

NWRTC Director Ann Lesperance was invited to join the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAEM) [Committee on Applied Research Topics for Hazard Mitigation and Resilience](#). The committee identifies applied research topics, information, and expertise to inform the science of natural hazard mitigation and resilience and enables applications of science, data, and technology.



"This is a great opportunity to share our expertise in hazard response across the chemical, biological, and nuclear realms and to build our network with the first responder, emergency management, and public health and safety communities," Lesperance said. She most recently completed an assignment on the NAEM Resilient America Roundtable where she worked on programs regarding risk, resilience, and extreme events. To learn more, see the [web feature](#).

For more information, contact Director Ann Lesperance (ann.lesperance@pnnl.gov | (206) 528-3223), or Deputy Directors Ryan Eddy (ryan.eddy@pnnl.gov | (509) 372-6622) and Rob Jasper (robert.jasper@pnnl.gov | (509) 371-6430), or visit pnnl.gov/projects/nwrtc.

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