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This paper will examine the importance of the national preparedness system to the Department of Homeland security (DHS) mission. The establishment of National preparedness system (NPS) and National Preparedness Report (NPR) was aimed to ensure that the nation's preparations for the occurrence of calamities are evaluated. Therefore, the mission of DHS is to provide security to American citizens and American soil. Similarly, NPS aims to provide the tools a country can utilize to develop, manage and offer the essential proficiencies to attain the goals of a protected and resilient country. The directives, plans, procedures and structures that sustain every element of the NPS allow a collective individual's method to countries preparedness involving people, communities and organizations. The paper will also discuss how the national preparedness goal (NPG) is a comprehensive system allowing flexibility and when disseminating resources as well as can be changed to fit the ever-changing world. The information will be provided after data has been collected from different peer-reviewed sources and hence provide an accurate conclusion to the research question and make reasonable recommendations on how to improve the NPG on achieving its goals.

Keywords: Emergency preparedness, Homeland security, Interconnected risks, Resilience

Introduction, Research Question and Hypothesis

DHS was established as one of the federal agencies working towards enhancing the protection of the United States. Due to increased threats and natural disasters, DHS was established to counteract and secure the United States citizens and their soil. Safety of Americans is an enormous task that requires a lot of effort and resources. Coincidentally, national security is a matter that everyone can get behind and those resources are abundantly provided. According to Doty (2015), being part of the DHS's aim in providing security for American citizens, the National Preparedness System was established. The national preparedness goal comprises thirty-one varied abilities that have been recognized as essential resources that are required. Moreover, some of the resources mentioned are information sharing, border control, risk management, cybersecurity and public health. While the mission of the DHS is to protect the American individuals, their land and values, these resources operate independently but they all work towards improving homeland security mission. Fjäder, (2016) argues that as technology continues to advance so does the need for new countermeasures. The framework for a national preparedness system helps ensure national security by providing security and resources in every area and implementing procedures on how security and resources should be implemented. The paper will focus on how the ¹ national preparedness system/goal and the national preparedness report contribute to improving DHS mission in securing the United States national security.

Review of the Literature

The main purpose of this part is to analyze and review several pieces of literature demonstrating how the NPG relates to the DHS mission. Therefore, through analyzing the existing knowledge on the focus of the research, the gaps will be identified. Similarly, by analyzing different themes and theories concerning the topic from the summaries of existing

literature, theories concerning this research will be identified. Considering that the NPG is a comprehensive system that allows flexibility when disseminating resources as well as a system that can be altered to fit the need for an ever-changing world, different capabilities will be described focusing on how they have enhanced DHS's mission on securing the United States national security.

Homeland Security (2015), reflects on the understandings and teachings obtained from the last four years of applications of the NPS. The implementation of NPG has not been straightforward and thus is accompanied by several challenges. Considering that the NPG goals are to ensure the United States is a protected and resilient country with the capacity needed with the whole community to stop, defends, alleviate, respond and recuperate from dangers and risks. Homeland Security (2015), emphasized that NP is a common obligation that requires all individuals, communities as well as private organizations and religious institutions. DHS's mission is related to the NPG because they aim to protect American individuals, their soil as well as honor their standards and integrity. However, since the dangers that alter the safety and security of American individuals are continuously evolving then it will necessitate constant risk evaluation and adaptive tactics to address the risks efficiently hence the need for NPG.

According to Painter (2019), individuals in DHS have portrayed suppleness and enthusiasm to their mission through defending the country from dangers and risks by land, cyber, sea and air. DHS is faced with significant criminal activities including dealing with cyber-terrorists, transnational criminal organizations as well as smugglers who create more challenges and future risks to Americans' way of life. This makes the DHS mission substantial in protecting the United States. However, NPG will play a significant role in ensuring the success of the DHS mission because they utilize fundamental capabilities to realize the NPG. One of the ways of

realizing the NPG is through stopping and evading a terrorism event, safeguarding American individuals, properties, networks and systems from pressures and risks in a way that promotes the progress of Americans welfares, ambitions and way of life. Also, the NPG is achieved through alleviation of the loss of lives and assets by reducing the effects of future tragedies as well as reacting swiftly to save lives, safeguard assets and the ecosystem and provide the basic needs after a disastrous event. Finally, is through recuperating on calamities by an appropriate rebuilding, establishment and renaissance of structures, housing, the economy and individuals affected by the calamity.

Clovis (2006), focused on the national preparedness and DHS in the creation of public safety. Clovis stated that the establishment of the DHS was due to the event which occurred in 2001 concerning the 911 incident in New York. Therefore, the main aim of the formation was to secure the nation from threats. Moreover, the different divisions of the administration have focused on the methods of how they can easily evaluate the national preparedness that will enhance the making of suitable resource decisions to promote the countries ³ capacity to avert, defend against, respond to and recover from disastrous events (Clovis, 2006). Furthermore, in almost all national divisions' policy brochures focusing on homeland security, they were involving the value of federalism as the basis of American administration and governance. Thus security issue is a national issue that requires national involvement in providing solutions, and for that reason, the development of national preparedness goal was delivered to ensure that the homeland security can obtain the best preparation by focusing on the five different missions including the anticipation, fortification, ⁷ mitigation, response and recovery as well as the thirty-two essential capabilities that discourse the highest ¹ risk to the security of the nation.

Prevention is one of the missions of NPG and is comprised of the competencies essential to evade and avert a susceptible event such as terrorism. Reese (2016), argued that the mission of prevention is different from other four missions of NPG because it is mainly attentive to certain forthcoming terrorist attacks such as already happening occurrences or ending looming consequent attacks. Stopping an impending attack will initiate a vigorous counterterrorism response hence achieving the success of DHS mission. A healthy response plan will be linked with the proper allocation of resources for national power that will lead to determining the dangers and save American lives (Homeland Security, 2011). NPG anticipation mission utilizes several actions including homeland defense and law enforcement to discourse and determine dangers. Also, due to rapid technological advancement and changes in terrorist strategies, DHS will require to utilize intelligence to ensure the United States is secure.

Terrorists have developed diverse administrations, making their activities energetic and intricate. The obligation of fighting terrorism is not an individual's duty but it requires a whole nation. Therefore, to safeguard a nation there is a need for terrorism stoppage through widespread association with the administration and nongovernmental organizations, international NPG as well as private institutions. Through NPG, DHS will be able to support a hasty, corresponding and operative terrorism deterrence determination that focuses on a complete series of competencies essential to avert and prevent occurrences of terrorism in the United States. Furthermore, the inhibition mission part depends on the current sustenance events from different NPG missions that prepare the nation to implement the essential competencies for stopping a forthcoming terrorist attack. Some of these events are the provision of information expected to straightforwardly sustain communities in thwarting terrorist attacks and other events that indicate the occurrence of the threat.

Homeland Security (2015), explained protection as another mission for NPG. The defense comprises of the aptitude to protect the nation from events and occurrences of terrorism and other natural calamities. Therefore, it emphasizes activities that will safeguard United States citizens, their critical welfares and means of life. Defence fundamental competency is the creation of diverse events because protection is done to deal with safeguarding farming and foods, defending significant leadership and activities, transportation safety, cybersecurity and essential infrastructure. DHS will benefit from the protection mission by creating defence strategies that will realize essential objectives founded on planning necessities. They will also get a full and cohesive view of the arrangement and possibility of the activities to accomplish the arrangement and execute them within the required time while utilizing the existing resources for protection.

On the other hand, mitigation comprises of the abilities essential in decreasing the destruction of assets and loss of life by reducing the effects of calamities. Therefore, the extenuation mission is interested in the foundation that people, communities and other organizations and institutions are resilient in case of the effects of disasters as well as the nation is capable to react and recover from antagonistic occurrences. Kahan (2015), focused on how the term resilience has been of significance in the field of homeland security. With an increase in the utilization of the term, resilience is because it is one of the results obtained using the preparedness security strategy. The term resilient does not have an agreed definition and its utilization in the field of DHS is significant. According to Homeland Security (2011), the usage of the term in the DHS is due to the definition brought about the President Barack Obama and was referred to as the capacity to adjust to the changing situations and endure and quickly recuperate from distractions due to emergencies. Hence, to ensure the DHS mission on national

security is obtained they must have resilient national preparedness systems that are elastic and adaptable.

According to Homeland Security (2015), response is a very critical mission of NPG because it comprises of the abilities essential to safeguard assets and the ecosystem as well as save individuals' lives. The response also ensures that individuals get the basic needs required after the attacks and threats have happened. While DHS is working on ensuring there are security and resilience in the country, the NPG mission of response is interested in making the country able to efficiently react to the dangers and risks regardless of how cascading they are. This ensures that DHS will stress saving and supporting lives, alleviating the risks, swiftly providing the basic requirements to individuals and communities, developing a harmless and protected ecosystem and sustaining a shift to recovery.

The final mission of the NPG is recovery which comprises of the competencies helpful to communities affected by the risks and occurrences of catastrophic events to recuperate efficiently. According to Homeland Security (2015), sustenance for recuperation guarantees a variety of upkeep to people in order to preserve and reinstate protection, well-being, autonomy and livelihoods particularly to individuals involved in monetary, sensitive and physical challenges. Effective recovery plans should guarantee that the country will arise from the vulnerabilities and risks and situated in a position of providing the requirements in the future. Recuperation competencies sustain well planned, clear and appropriate rebuilding, establishment and renaissance of structures, retaining economic stability and social systems. Similarly, such systems must be able to engross instabilities, reduce elegantly and restore their roles because they are less vulnerable to disturbances such as terrorisms. Also, national security requires a more resilient system that can continue in operation as well as safeguard United States citizens

regardless of the disturbances that are happening. Moreover, the system must be in a position to endure the effects and reestablish its services to the existing disruptions.

Homeland security (2019) provided the national preparedness annual report for 2019 which gave a summary of the improvement done and challenges encountered in developing and supporting the competencies required to stop, safeguard, defend, alleviate, respond and recuperate from dangers, and events which are risky to the United States. Since the report has focused on reviewing the five mission areas of NPG, they found out that the prevention mission has enhanced the federal provisions, a local and for-profit organization in stopping the attacks from occurring. Also, the union centers are gradually involved in activities at the state and local stages surpassing performance values. Under the safeguarding mission, the report concluded that the administration is executing novel, cybersecurity interests-controlled structures and involved in collective enterprises to assist safeguard essential infrastructures from malevolent cyber events. Homeland security (2019) added that the mitigation mission is supported by the newly approved disaster recovery reform act of 2018, which accentuates the significance of extenuation by altering changes in mitigation plan and money primacies. Response mission findings indicated appraises to nationwide response policy and organization procedure imitate and encourage the significance of public-private corporations and cross-sector association in response processes. Finally, the recovery mission indicated that the catastrophe associated costs and insurance entitlements intensify hence the insurance companies are creating advanced methods of sustaining the country recovery. Similarly, there is the development of user-driven recovery strategies that will assist communities to attain certain objectives.

Methodology and Research Strategy

The research will be part of the study to determine the success of the national preparedness goal and national preparedness report in contributing to the DHS of protecting the United States. Therefore, the information contained in this research paper will be obtained from published works including peer-reviewed sources. Moreover, using peer-reviewed sources provides access to better-vetted information and cultivates collective ideas that get concentrated into one piece of work. Furthermore, information collected concerning the importance of the national preparedness system on national security is difficult to verify because limited research is done regarding the topic. With the increase in disasters and events that might cause a threat to national security, the DHS developed the NPG which is required to provide them with strategies and ways of implementing them to prevent, protect, mitigating, responding and recovering from a disaster.

The different peer-reviewed sources were obtained online and the search criteria were on the national preparedness systems and national security. The technique used to analyze data was simply weights and measures type evaluation. After factual data is received it will be evaluated against the impact that it has on the current situation in regards to national security to determine what category it would go into, positive or negative impacts. Data collection and analysis can be time-consuming; to accurately conclude the hypothesis was correct there will be a need to be a continuing evaluation because the significance of the national preparedness system and the report would change due to changing activities. As people move from one place to another, change their normal activities and the development in technology results in increased risks hence the need for DHS to up their game and reassess the national preparedness goals and report to deal with the dangers of national security. Furthermore, these changes could come over a short period or take a long time to be recognized. Information will continue to be collected during creating

this paper to ensure that accurate and up to date information is being used to provide the most accurate results.

Analysis and Findings

Based on the information gathered the national and preparedness system and the report has contributed a lot to the achievement of the department of homeland mission on securing national security. Although the emergence of events and catastrophe have been changing based on the information especially due to the human-induced factors that lead to changing in ecological seasons and events as well as technology advancement which has resulted in increased threats to national security, the NPG has provided an opportunity for the DHS to develop strategies on how they can prevent and mitigate the risks as well as recover from them when they happen (National Preparedness Goal, 2017).

Technology advancement is a very critical aspect as it allows people to interact and share more information and infrastructures that might interfere with national security. This has led to the increased population using the internet and development of new software and devices which may result in increased chances of crimes such as human trafficking and terrorism which might lead to risking Americans' lives. The NPG developed by the DHS will help enhance national security because most of the individuals are involved in security matters (Nelson & Wise, 2013). DHS has realized that the problem of national security cannot be handled with the department alone and other levels of defence departments, but it is a joint responsibility which will require the incorporation of all individuals and community to allow sharing of information and allocation of resources hence enhancing national security.

According to National Preparedness Goal (2017), the process of preparedness is a collective responsibility of the whole nation hence requiring all citizens of the United States to be involved. Citizens and organizations required to participate in the success of national security are the communities, religious institutions, for-profit and nonprofit organizations and all administrations including the state, federal and local governments. Moreover, the NPG defines the security and resilience position using the essential capabilities that are needed to pact with the risks encountered. Furthermore, the goals are based on the incorporation of the security team and the society in developing and sustaining the fundamental capabilities and preparing to deliver them efficiently.

² The main aim of the national preparedness goal is to maintain a secure and resilient country with the capacity needed in the whole society to avert, defend, alleviate, respond and recuperate from intimidations and dangers that result in highest risks. Resilience plays a critical role in the success of the company having the ability to recover from the risks. Resilient systems can deal with unpredicted disasters through suppleness and resourcefulness (Homeland Security, 2011). Similarly, the systems use more determination or utilize adaptive arrangements that moves past the integral capacity of an organization to endure antagonistic occurrences. Furthermore, they can go through modification, study from tragedies and enhance their resilience due to experiences obtained from major interferences.

The increased human-induced factors such as the rise of population and the use of other methods of farming have altered the prediction of climatic conditions leading to more climatic dangers. The calamities can now result in making people homeless and loss of lives. However, through the core capabilities in the national preparedness system, the DHS can enhance national security by protecting United States individuals and visitors against the risks and dangers in a

way that permits the welfare, ambitions and the methods of life properly (National Preparedness Goal, 2017).

The different values that are associated with the national preparedness system including the federalism system are also crucial in ensuring the DHS mission of ensuring national security is achieved in the United States. The fundamental capabilities confined in the goal are the discrete vital elements required for the achievement of the national security in the country. Therefore, they are extremely inter-reliant and necessitates DHS to utilize prevailing preparedness systems and events, organize and merge energies, enhance training and exercise plans as well as encourage innovation, influence and augment technology abilities (Homeland Security, 2011). Similarly, with the increase in the incorporation of people from diverse backgrounds in the preparedness program, DHS needs to guarantee organizational, monetary and logistic schemes are available to promote the competences. The fundamental proficiencies act as both readiness paraphernalia and as a method of organized enactment. Therefore, every type of prevalence in the country has demonstrated the effectiveness of the fundamental proficiencies and the managing edifices that manage and distribute them.

The field of technology and terrorism is among the most hit and progressing due to sophisticated devices being utilized. Thus, specific intricate strategies, and countering precise strategies could demonstrate operative at avoiding an identified enemy. Again, being considerate of certain coercions is essential in certifying that programmatic choices being made below a comprehensive fundamental capability are knowledgeable of developing pressures and threats (Homeland Security, 2011). Moreover, being ready for people's strategies only leads to less convenient assistances for primary responders, when the strategies are recognized and realized to be explicit to ISIL, then the national preparedness goal and report that supports is planned to

enhance the capability of initial responders and emergency managers to train and be ready for any eventualities.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The NPG was developed as the foundation of the execution of president policy directive 8, as recognized beneath it are the essential capabilities across the ⁶prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery. Similarly, the national preparedness system is a tool the country will utilize to develop, withstand and offer the essential proficiencies to attain the goals of a protected and resilient country. Therefore, the direction, plans, procedures and schemes that sustains every element of the national preparedness system allows a concerted, and all community methods to national preparedness that involves people, families, administrations and organizations. Consequently, the DHS's mission on securing the United States national security is attained through the NPG and report. However, more research concerning the importance of the national preparedness system to DHS mission needs to be performed due to the variations in threats and calamities.

NPG will promote the achievement of the DHS mission concerning the safeguard of national security because it focuses on people and community preparations as essential to national achievement. Therefore, through the implementation of the fundamental proficiencies people and communities will have relevant information and resources in dealing with emergencies that may interfere with their lives. Ecological calamities have been significant which results in disruptions in people's lives as well as operations providing individuals with the required resources can protect themselves through anticipation, defence, extenuation, respond and recuperate rapidly from the disaster. Furthermore, through the providence of resources problems emanating from cyber issues will be handled easily as individuals will have the skills

required to counter cybercriminals and link up with DHS professionals for actions to be taken hence reducing such criminals from happening again. As indicated in catastrophic occurrences, every person can engage in protecting the country from destruction, thus, the national resilience can be increased for instance by creating awareness of the strategies that protect other individuals through essentials such as preventing excessive bleeding. Furthermore, by issuing the required acquittance and skills, individuals can benefit from NPG.

With the increase in the use of sophisticated technologies, DHS needs to put more effort into developing more measures on how they can mitigate the risks associated with it. For instance, although they can utilize internet of things there are other risks related to it that might interfere with national security. Another recommendation is to increase funds that will cater for more resources available in training and exercise that will increase their expertise within nations in the capacity of prohibition and interruptions as well as physical protective measures. Improving the capabilities to ensure they contribute to DHS mission accomplishment individuals need to be proficient in identifying the risk factors to national security.

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