

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program Core Principles



The MVP program has 9 core principles that should be incorporated into MVP Action Grant Applications. Communities should also consider these principles when completing the Planning Grant process. They are:

1. **Furthering a community identified priority action to address climate change impacts:** Projects funded under this program must address one (or more) priority implementation action(s) identified and documented within the municipality's MVP plan or similar EEA-approved plan.
2. **Utilizing climate change data for a proactive solution:** Projects funded under this program should fully consider and incorporate climate change projections (where available) and data that align with the anticipated lifespan of the project and the criticality of the asset. Climate data can be found on the resilient MA Climate Change Clearinghouse: ResilientMA.org and/or local-level climate change studies.
3. **Employing Nature-Based Solutions (NBS):** NBS are adaptation measures focused on the protection, restoration, and/or management of ecological systems to safeguard public health, provide clean air and water, increase natural hazard resilience, and sequester carbon. Learn more in the [MVP NBS Toolkit](#).
4. **Increasing equitable outcomes for and supporting strong partnerships with Environmental Justice (EJ) Populations and Climate Vulnerable Populations:** EJ Populations are defined in the [2017 EJ Policy](#). Climate Vulnerable Populations are those who have lower adaptive capacity or higher exposure and sensitivity to climate hazards like flooding or heat stress due to factors such as access to transportation, income level, disability, racial inequity, health status, or age. Learn more in our [MVP EJ & Equity Toolkit](#).
5. **Conducting robust community engagement:** All Action Grant projects are required to submit a Public Involvement and Community Engagement Plan as part of the application. More guidance on these requirements can be found [here](#). Tips for conducting virtual and remote engagement can be found [here](#).
6. **Achieving broad and multiple community benefits:** Projects that maximize resilience and provide other co-benefits (e.g. [public health](#), environmental, social, economic, etc.) for many people are a priority under the MVP program.
7. **Committing to monitoring project success and maintaining the project into the future:** Projects that proactively set in place mechanisms to measure success over time and maintain the proposed project will receive priority.
8. **Utilizing regional solutions toward regional benefit:** Projects that provide regional benefits are prioritized. Regional partnerships of multiple municipalities are eligible and encouraged under the program (provided that the lead applicant is MVP-designated for Action Grants).
9. **Pursuing innovative, transferable approaches:** Innovative projects that seek to address critical issues with widespread relevance for many communities are encouraged.