



THE **CUSEC** JOURNAL

A PUBLICATION OF
THE CENTRAL UNITED STATES
EARTHQUAKE CONSORTIUM

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 3, WINTER 1998

REJUVENATING THE EARTHQUAKE PROGRAM THROUGH PROJECT IMPACT

Back in the early nineties, Don Geis, formerly with the International City and County Management Association, introduced the term “disaster resistant community.” Since that time much has been said and done that builds on the idea. Several organizations, including CUSEC and the Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS), have developed models that promote the disaster resistant community. The latest addition to this list is the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s *Project Impact* (“PI”). Over the last three years the focus on PI has intensified as more communities begin to participate and the overall goals and expectations for this initiative become more defined.

Now that PI is moving along in its development, it is time to step back and begin looking at each of the components of PI. What are they? How do they differ from one community to the next? In the central U.S. and in all other areas of the country that have a seismic hazard one component stands out - the earthquake program.

This issue of the *CUSEC Journal* takes a look at the how the earthquake program can complement the new initiatives and at the same time build a stronger earthquake program.

What does *Project Impact* mean for the earthquake community?

In the absence of an earthquake, which focuses everyone’s attention on the hazard itself, we can use *Project Impact* as a way to unify the earthquake programs while complementing the PI initiative. By

working within the auspices of *Project Impact*, we are carrying out our mission to lessen the impact of an earthquake on our communities, but we are doing it as part of an orchestrated effort.

Project Impact can be viewed as a “framework” for how mitigation is carried out in a given community. This framework will differ from one community to the next, depending on what issues the community feels are most important, such as education, health, economic development, etc. Also defining the framework for each community are the different hazards they may face, e.g., floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, etc. In order for PI to succeed, all the different elements which make up a *Project Impact* initiative need to be



clearly defined and the groups must be able to interact as one. What does this mean for the earthquake program? For the purposes of this discussion, the earthquake program includes everything

— Inside this issue

Corps of Engineers Conducts Emergency Power Survey	2	The Role of the Association of CUSEC State Geologists in Project Impact	8
Community Based Work Slated by the Mid America Earthquake Cooperative New Madrid Seismic Network: Saint Louis University	2	Center for Earthquake Studies, Southeast Missouri State University	9
Expected Seismic Damage to Memphis Highway Systems	3	Community and Business Leaders Announce Disaster Resistant Partnership in Clay County, AR	10
Mid-America Highway Seismic Conference	4	Two Southwestern Indiana Hospitals Receive Grants for Seismic Non-Structural Mitigation Projects	12
Arkansas Center for Earthquake Education and Technology Transfer, The University of Arkansas Little Rock	6	Evansville Signs Project Impact Memorandum of Understanding	12