

Host:



International Institute of Humanitarian Law
Institut International de Droit Humanitaire
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Conveners:

BROOKINGS



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies



International Course on Law and Legal Protection in Natural Disasters 3-7 December 2012 Summary Report



Acknowledgements

The course conveners would like to thank the International Institute of Humanitarian Law for hosting the event and the following donors whose contributions made it possible:

- Commonwealth of Australia acting through the Australian Civil-Military Centre
- Government and National Red Cross Society of Finland
- Government and National Red Cross Society of Switzerland
- United Kingdom Department for International Development
- United States Agency for International Development

Background

The International Course on Law and Legal Protection in Natural Disasters was organized by the Brookings-London School of Economics Project on Internal Displacement (Brookings), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and hosted by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL) in San Remo.

The course gathered 26 participants from 23 countries, representing officials from national disaster management and civil protection agencies (with priority given to countries in the process of drafting or reviewing disaster legislation and policies), representatives from regional organizations and institutions working on regional disaster management issues, representatives of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, international NGOs and UN agencies.

The course included lectures and expert presentations on existing international norms and regulatory problem areas in disaster response, recovery from disasters and disaster risk reduction. These were followed by intensive work in small groups to apply the relevant tools and normative frameworks to a disaster scenario in a fictitious country. This in turn was followed by participants' assessment of their own laws and policies through questionnaires designed to look at the ways in which existing national legal frameworks incorporated human rights standards and best practices. At the end of the course, the participants were encouraged to develop personal plans for follow-up work.

Day 1. Introduction and key tools

Following the opening of the course by Stefania Baldini, Director of the IIHL, David Fisher, Global Coordinator of the IFRC's Disaster Law Programme and Daniel Petz, Senior Research Assistant at Brookings, the morning of the first day focused on providing participants with background on the latest trends in natural hazards and vulnerabilities.

Global trends in hazards and vulnerability

After providing some basic context on hazards, risk and exposure, **Mr. Petz** highlighted the fact that recent decades have witnessed a steep increase in the number of natural disasters. He underscored some of the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which has attributed at least some of the rise in extreme events to the effects of man-made climate change. Participants

observed that data on slow-onset disasters is much weaker in comparison with sudden-onset disasters.

Pankaj Mishra, Senior Officer in Response Preparedness, Disaster and Crisis Management at the IFRC, then provided an overview on global trends in disaster vulnerability. He pointed out that, while disasters affect everyone, the poor and vulnerable are impacted most, as evidenced by the fact that low-income countries account for 9% of the world's disasters but 48% of disaster-related fatalities. Drawing on the example of the Global Risk Index, he highlighted the difference between exposure and vulnerability and identified the factors that contribute to high vulnerability of human societies. He also discussed some important global trends that impact vulnerability such as urbanization, climate change, migration, and population growth.

Building blocks in law and disaster management

In the following session, **Mr. Mishra** provided an overview of disaster management, explaining key concepts and definitions in the field. Following the introduction of the concepts of the disaster cycle and integrated disaster management he placed special focus on exploring the concepts of risk reduction and resilience. Participants noted the importance of clear definitions for law at the national and international levels. It was also pointed out that there is an emerging demand from donor governments to see a clear business process of disaster management. The "product" of that business process, it was asserted, should be seen as resilience.

Mr. Fisher then provided an overview of international law relevant to natural disasters, with a specific focus on public international law, in which the main actors are states. He spelled out the differences between "hard law" (such as treaties and customary international law) and "soft law" (such as resolutions and guidelines). Mr. Fisher then described some of the global and regional treaties referring to disaster management. While there are more of these than many disaster management professionals are aware, their impact has been limited. Much more important have been "soft law" instruments such as UN General Assembly resolutions, codes of conduct and guidelines. In addition, while not generally making direct reference to disaster management, international human rights instruments are relevant to disaster situations in a number of ways.

Participants then discussed in small groups the importance that national legislation has for different areas of disaster management. There was a strong consensus among participants that having dedicated legislation on emergency response coordination and financing of disaster risk management activities is critical. In other areas there was a wider range of opinion as to whether legislation is indispensable. Overall, however, most participants saw an important role for domestic law in most areas of disaster management.

International norms and domestic response

In the final session of the day, **Mr. Petz** discussed issues of rights protection in natural disasters. He highlighted the primary responsibility of states in protecting the rights of their citizens, as evidenced by the fact that most countries have ratified the main international human rights treaties. He noted that rights violations often happen in disaster situations because of bad policies, inadequate

planning and neglect. He made the point that applying a human rights lens to disaster management can assure that the rights of all, but especially vulnerable groups, are protected in situations of disasters. As a concrete example of how a rights-based approach to disaster management can work, he introduced the IASC *Operational Guidelines on the Protection of Rights in Situations of Natural Disasters*, which includes concrete steps that humanitarian actors can take to protect the human rights of affected populations in four different areas.

Mr. Fisher then provided an overview about international norms specific to the Red Cross and Red Crescent related to disaster management. These include the special role accorded to National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies under international and national law as “auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field,” the special international status accorded to the IFRC and the International Committee of the Red Cross, and specific principles and resolutions adopted by the state parties to the Geneva Conventions at the with quadrennial International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent with regard to the disaster management role of the Movement.

Day 2. Disaster response

Legal protection of internally displaced persons

Elizabeth Ferris, Co-Director of the Brookings-LSE Project on Internal Displacement began her presentation by noting the scope of displacement and the history of the emergence of the issue on to the international agenda. She explained the development of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, emphasizing that while in themselves they are not binding international law, they are all based on existing human rights and international humanitarian law. As such, they offer useful guidance to governments and to humanitarian and development actors to prevent displacement, to uphold the rights of people who are displaced and to support solutions to displacement. In the discussion, participants talked about the difficulties of defining internally displaced persons (IDPs) in natural disaster situations.

Legal issues in domestic disaster response

Josef Reiterer, Staff Development Officer in the Surge Capacity Section of OCHA, then talked about some of the legal issues involved in domestic response to disasters, noting that many countries developed their domestic laws in a civil protection framework. He pointed out that many countries rely on their military forces to respond to major disasters, though this is not always reflected in disaster management laws. Many countries also have provisions for declaring a state of emergency in the event of disasters, but it is can often be unclear what constitutes a disaster. The level of centralization and decentralization of decision-making, combined with availability of resources, can have a key impact on the success or failure of a disaster management system. Some of the gaps observed in the legal frameworks of many countries include the absence of provisions on humanitarian access, status of relief workers, coordination and land rights of affected persons.

In the following discussion, there was considerable interest in the advantages and disadvantages of de-centralized models of response. Questions were also raised about how best to ensure quick access to funds, and the protection of volunteers who respond to disasters, both in terms of their liability and job security.

Participants then engaged in a scenario exercise using key international instruments to address dilemmas related to evacuation and relocation, potential discrimination, violence, and the protection concerns of children, women and the elderly.

Day 3. Disaster response

Following work in groups in which participants assessed their own laws on domestic response, discussion turned to tools available to assess and monitor protection concerns in natural disaster response.

Protection assessments, monitoring and tools

Ms. Ferris provided an overview of some of the many tools available to support governments and disaster responders to ensure that the rights of those affected by disasters are upheld. In particular, she highlighted several protection checklists which remind responders of particular issues and the needs of specific vulnerable groups.

International disaster response

Mr. Fisher then provided an overview of legal issues and international norms for international response. While there is no comprehensive international legal regime governing international disaster assistance, Fisher identified the relevant legal instruments, including sectoral treaties, a growing number of regional treaties, and soft law instruments. While there are quite a lot of relevant international instruments, their collective impact on improving cooperation in international disaster response operations has been disappointing. At the same time, few countries have clear rules and procedures for managing international assistance of their own. The result in many recent operations has been unnecessary chaos, delays, costs, and quality problems.

To address this, the IFRC helped lead negotiations on the Guidelines on domestic facilitation and regulation of international disaster relief and initial recovery assistance (also known as the "IDRL Guidelines"), which were adopted by the state parties to the Geneva Conventions in 2007. The IDRL Guidelines set out recommendations for domestic procedures on issues such as the entry of personnel, goods and equipment, the domestic legal personality of external relief agencies, and the standards they should be expected to meet. To date, 11 countries have incorporated aspects of the Guidelines in their legislation and approximately a dozen more have pending bills. A model act was developed in 2011 to further assist states to use the IDRL Guidelines and both the IFRC and its members provide technical assistance to interested governments.

Mr. Reiterer then provided an overview of existing coordination structures for international assistance, highlighting the key role played at the country level by the resident/humanitarian coordinator and the coordination role of clusters. He then turned to principles governing the use of military assets in disasters, noting that they can be deployed bilaterally or under regional arrangements or as part of a UN response. He noted that military assets are usually better accepted and most useful when used to support infrastructure and indirect assistance (such as delivering relief items to NGOs for their direct distribution.) This is a primary recommendation of the key international reference in the area, the Oslo Guidelines on the Use of Military and Civil Defense Assets in Disaster Relief.

In the afternoon, participants engaged in a second scenario exercise, looking to how international instruments address the initiation of international relief, the facilitation of visas and customs clearance of relief personnel and items, and the management of responders with varying levels of expertise and competence.

Day 4. Disaster recovery

Legal issues in disaster recovery

Mary Picard, Senior Disaster Law Officer at the IFRC, began her presentation on legal issues in recovery by recounting some of the regulatory barriers to emergency and transitional shelter, such as unclear procedures to assign property for temporary shelters and preventing occupancy in high-risk areas. She then turned to some of the longer-term issues around housing, land and property that complicated recovery efforts. A theme running through her presentation was the tension between acting quickly and doing things right. It's important, for example, to avoid rebuilding unsafely and to respect property rights even if it takes longer to do so. She highlighted some positive examples where governments have reduced regulatory barriers; for example in Chile a new law was adopted that reduced the time required to get land titles from two years to six months. She also reported that IFRC is carrying out research in a number of countries on regulatory barriers to recovery. In the discussion, participants shared examples from their own countries about some of the issues around land and property that hindered recovery.

International norms on recovery

Ms. Ferris then provided an overview of international norms on recovery, highlighting the particular challenges of determining when displacement ends. The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement spell out three possible durable solutions for IDPs, including return, local integration and settlement elsewhere in the country. The IASC Framework for Durable Solutions states that a durable solution is achieved when IDPs no longer have specific protection and assistance needs related to their displacement and when they are able to enjoy their rights without discrimination because they were displaced. She also briefly touched on the United Nations Principles on Housing and Property Restitution for Refugees and Displaced Persons (also known as the "Pinheiro Principles"), which provide specific guidance in dealing with land and property restitution issues for those displaced.

Participants then engaged in a further scenario exercise comparing the approaches of international instruments with common dilemmas in post-disaster recovery such as differential treatment of land owners and tenants, and for how long "special treatment" should be accorded to persons affected by disasters in contexts where there is much general social and economic vulnerability. They also worked in groups to assess their own existing laws related to recovery and share experiences with each other.

Day 5. Disaster risk reduction and action plan development

Domestic legal issues in disaster risk reduction

The final day of the course focused on legal issues around disaster risk reduction. **Ms. Picard** began by providing an overview of disaster risk reduction (DRR) in domestic law. While most attention focuses on the role of building codes in minimizing risk of future natural disasters, she noted that in fact the legal implications are far broader. For example, there is often a need to revise laws around water management, land use planning and environmental management and to engage with authorities on the national, provincial and local levels. Sometimes it is more effective to have simple standards rather than comprehensive ones that cannot be implemented. There are particular challenges around informal settlements or slums. In the discussion, one participant noted the difficulty of acquiring funding to retrofit buildings while another highlighted governments' responsibility for the safety of schools and other government buildings. One participant noted that the distribution of DRR activities in many different ministries made the mainstreaming of DRR difficult in his country.

International law and norms and disaster risk reduction

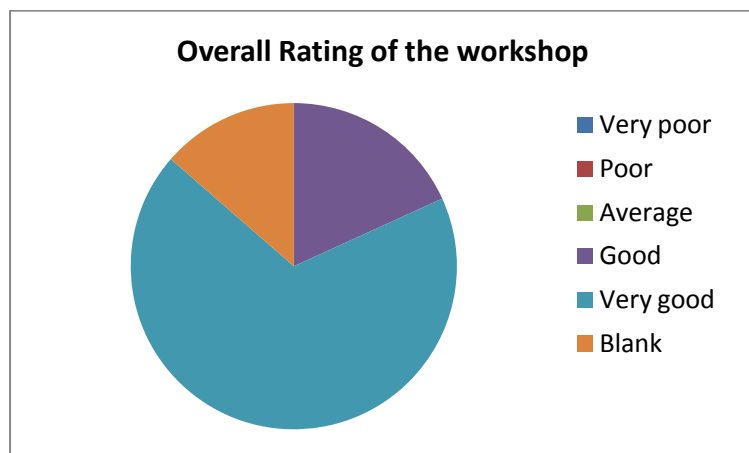
Mr. Fisher then looked at international law and norms related to DRR, beginning with the Hyogo Framework for Action, which, although non-binding, has had a major impact. The mid-term review of Hyogo found a large gap between national and community level engagement in disaster risk reduction. He also reviewed some of the other relevant international norms, including the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, other environmental treaties and human rights law. He noted that the European Court of Human Rights has heard several cases in which governments were found to have violated human rights because they failed to prevent disasters from occurring.

In their final scenario exercise, participants examined the legal responsibility of governments to provide adequate warning and to seek to prevent natural disasters. They then developed individual action plans for follow-up activities after the course. The detailed action plans can be seen in annex to this report. The course was then closed with the awarding of certificates by Dr. Baldini.

Course evaluation

Each participant was asked to provide an evaluation of the course and its various elements. The following table and chart summarizes their responses. A more extensive report of comments made is available separately.

	Very poor	Poor	Avg	Good	Very good	Blank	Total
Presentations (in general)	0%	0%	0%	27%	73%	0%	100%
Scenario/working groups	0%	0%	0%	36%	64%	0%	100%
Assessment of own laws	0%	0%	23%	14%	64%	0%	100%
Sessions on domestic response	0%	0%	14%	32%	50%	5%	100%
Sessions on international response	0%	0%	0%	23%	73%	5%	100%
Sessions on recovery	0%	0%	5%	32%	59%	5%	100%
Sessions on DRR	0%	0%	5%	41%	46%	9%	100%
Logistics, venue	0%	0%	5%	18%	73%	5%	100%
Materials	0%	0%	0%	14%	86%	0%	100%
Overall rating	0%	0%	0%	18%	68%	14%	100%



ANNEX 1: ACTION PLANS

Country/ Regional Organization	Short term plan	Medium term plan	With more resources . . .	Support from organizers
Armenia	We will open a new crisis management centre in one month.	We can look to making improvements in our disaster management arrangements with regard to IDPs.		
Bhutan	<p>Sensitize colleagues in the DM department on the importance of international law and our own DM laws</p> <p>Because IFRC is the lead agency in disaster response – we will explore the benefit we might receive from cooperating with it</p>	<p>DM bill now in parliament – hope it will be enacted.</p> <p>If so – come up with rules, regulations and bylaws – to incorporate the missing elements – including about citizens’ rights. Give importance to DRR as well as response.</p>	<p>Once the bylaws and rules and regulations are complete – sensitize the communities and districts about them.</p> <p>Focus more on DRR implementation.</p>	<p>Financial resources and expertise on disaster management.</p> <p>Continue to provide trainings like this one for more personnel.</p>
Botswana	Assess the DM legislation and arrangements in light of the applicable norms and guidelines	Share the findings with the relevant stakeholders	Determine whether Botswana requires legislation on disaster management or should just rely on a DM policy	Provide technical expertise

CEPREDENAC	Propose to incorporate protection issues in the support CEPREDENAC gives to member states (training, etc)	Organize regional and national workshops on protection issues		Provide knowledge and resources for workshops Provide ongoing training for Central American personnel
Chile	Currently working on new law to create a civil protection agency – will now review it with key ideas from the workshop Research on existing treaties and bring them to life	Gather in one document all the legislation we have on disasters. Currently it is dispersed. Organize workshops with other public institutions Work on guidelines	Improve our regional response system	Send information constantly, especially on civil protection Help develop an efficient procedure for donations Provide models of different laws and procedures Organize workshops in South America – where it is easier to send more representatives
Cook Islands (Govt & RC)	Report back to boss CI Red Cross will develop SOPs on disaster assistance (will integrate IDPs)	Liaise with key actors – mainstreaming Take stock of loopholes and shortcomings in existing laws and regulations CIRCS has been in discussion with EMCI to review the DRM arrangement EMCI is also looking at reviewing the DRM Act soon.		Technical assistance to coordinate stocktaking Provide advocacy training – how to convince political superiors to act on principles discussed in this course Assistance (technical and financial) in the review of the DRM Arrangement and the DRM Act

<p>Georgia</p>	<p>Share the materials with the Red Cross, local government, emergency officials</p> <p>Continue to develop draft legislation – check for gaps based on information here</p>	<p>Prepare jointly with the Emergency Management Department a simulation and practical trainings</p> <p>Organize a workshop for civil society to build awareness and a training for government officials</p>	<p>Materials for the workshops</p>
<p>Guatemala</p>	<p>Working now with the RC to do an analysis tailored to our culture</p> <p>Inform the Vice Presidency about workshop</p>	<p>Develop a law to facilitate international assistance in a disaster – often difficulties in entering the country</p>	<p>More courses like this one</p> <p>Open an office in Guatemala</p> <p>Share knowledge</p>
<p>Honduras</p>	<p>Share information from workshop with COPECO</p> <p>Review positive and negative points of existing legal framework</p> <p>Review IDPs and reconstruction and recovery policies</p>	<p>Study amendments that might be made to law along with legal team of institution and related institutions</p> <p>Implementation of IDP Guiding Principles</p>	<p>Information and advice</p> <p>Participation in a training</p>
<p>Jamaica</p>	<p>Brief for permanent secretary – with recommendations for the draft DM bill</p> <p>Copy to OPDEM and meet with them</p>	<p>Cabinet submission and then bill to go to parliament</p>	<p>Disaster managers especially at the local level to be trained on</p> <p>Send specialists to do training on human rights with Jamaican RC</p> <p>Courses on environmental law</p>

			human rights	and climate change – invite us to such workshops
Kenya	Review DM policy and IDP policy to ensure they comply with international practice	Push the adoption of IDP bill	Cooperative audit of all national legislation on disaster management Develop national DM legislation	Capacity building to support drafting legislation Experts to assist local drafters
Kuwait	Publication for public awareness	Finish survey of Kuwait legislation on DRR Workshop for Kuwait legislators on recovery plans, international response		
Maldives	Draft DM bill still open for comment – will incorporate information from this course	Try to get the bill passed.	Organize awareness programmes and workshops for concerned authorities on the importance of DM.	Provide expertise. Provide funds to support activities
Pakistan	Go through relevant laws to check for gaps Meeting with IFRC and UNHCR to look into their	Suggest required changes in existing laws Circulate those amendments to organizations for comments	Enhanced capacity building, CBDRR, inspections of existing buildings	Provide expert advice

	entry problems in relief operations		against codes	
Romania	Start amending national DM system	Work more on prevention and reconstruction plans		Provide expert advice to ILC and advocate for binding international law in the area
SAARC	<p>Preparatory planning on work on human rights trainings for next period</p> <p>Comprehensive awareness programme on making building codes binding for policy-makers</p> <p>Steps to involve civil society through MOU between SAARC and civil society.</p>	<p>Advocate for building code as binding law</p> <p>Implementation of IDP Guiding Principles and human rights in the existing DM activities of member states</p>	<p>Effective EWS implementation – state of the art technology and social networks</p> <p>Application of standard building codes for schools, hospitals and prisons (at least pilot project)</p>	<p>Provide resource person for training programme for SAARC member states – ToT programmes</p> <p>Help states to develop policies on IDPs and human rights – give information to convince member states to do this</p> <p>Provide support for protection work – and legislation on support to needy people</p>
Samoa	<p>Include in our DM law – compulsory education. Mainstream DM to all sectors. Ensure that the DM law refers to human rights.</p>	Address customs procedures for incoming disaster assistance		<p>Funding</p> <p>Train our facilitators for awareness programmes</p>
Senegal RC	<p>Organize a workshop for the National Society to share the experience from the workshop</p> <p>Assess gaps in existing law</p>	<p>Meet civil protection officials and advocate to develop a DM bill</p> <p>Advocate for other ministries to ratify relevant treaties</p>	Organize a workshop for civil society and governmental officials on DM in Senegal	<p>Provide information to support the advocacy</p> <p>Facilitate a workshop as experts</p>

			Follow-up on regional workshop from September (ECOWAS/IFRC)
Seychelles	<p>Disseminate results from the course using the questionnaires to highlight gaps in the existing draft law</p> <p>Look also to include issues that do not need to be in law in a disaster policy</p> <p>Check our implementation of conventions that have already been signed</p>	<p>Develop an early warning system</p> <p>Develop more awareness on disasters</p>	Bring OCHA to Seychelles to evaluate our DM plans
Trinidad and Tobago	<p>Include the key elements of the course on the agenda of national platform</p> <p>Workshop discussing some of the key elements</p> <p>As part of current consultation on DM legislation – expert seminar</p>	Develop a course for legislative drafters on this issue in Trinidad	Participate in seminars and courses to be organized in Trinidad

Vietnam (Govt & RC)	Continue to study draft DM law	Submit draft law in May	Provide guidance on a national plan for IDPs and migration issues
	Review our measures in disaster management in accord with international standards	Set up action plan on migration and IDP issues for Vietnam RC	Support a small project in those fields to raise awareness of policymakers and RC staff
			Help set up a national action plan

ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Armenia	1. Ms Linda ABRAHAMYAN , First Class Specialist, Ministry of Emergency Situations
Bhutan	2. Mr. Pema WANGYEL , Chief Program Officer, Department of Disaster Management
Botswana	3. Mr. Stephen Basi TIROYAKGOSI , Deputy Secretary, International & Commercial Services, Attorney-General's Chambers
Chile	4. Ms Fernanda UNDURRAGA JERIA , Lawyer, National Emergency Office, Ministry of Interior
Cook Islands	5. Ms Martha HENRY , Crown Counsel, Crown Law Office 6. Ms Fine TUITUPOU , IHL Officer, Cook Islands Red Cross Society
Georgia	7. Ms Medea MARGANIA-AVALIANI , Secretary General, Georgia Red Cross Society
Guatemala	8. Mr. Allan CASTRO , General Secretary, Guatemala's Vice-Presidency
Honduras	9. Ms Yolanda del Carmen PEREZ MOLINA , Director of National Centre for Research and Training Disasters Response, COPECO (Permanent Contingency Commission) 10. Ms Lidia SANDOVAL , Legal Assistant (International Cooperation), COPECO (Permanent Contingency Commission)
SAARC	11. Dr. O.P. MISHRA , Head, SAARC (South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation), Disaster Management Centre
Jamaica	12. Ms Paula ROBINSON RUSSELL , Legal Officer, Ministry of Local Governments
Kenya	13. Mr. Joash DACHE , Secretary, CEO, Chief Legal Officer, Kenya Law Reform Commission

Kuwait	14. Ms Iman HAIDAR , Coordinator, Disaster Management, Kuwait Red Crescent Society
Maldives	15. Lt. Ibrahim NASEEM , Maldives National Defence Force
Pakistan	16. Mr. Nadeem Ahmed ABRO , Deputy Director, National Disaster Management Authority
Romania	17. Ms Alina ALEXE , Diplomat, Second Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Samoa	18. Mr. James ME , Disaster Management Officer–Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Senegal	19. Mr. Ibrahima Laye THIOME (Maralaye) , Head of Operations and Logistic Department, Disaster Management Coordinator–Senegalese Red Cross
Seychelles	20. Mr. Victor POOL , Legal Draft Person State Counsel, President Office, Legal Affairs Department, Attorney General Chambers
Trinidad and Tobago	21. Dr. Stephen RAMROOP , Chief Executive Officer, National Disaster Office, Ministry of National Security
Vietnam	22. Assoc. Prof. Dr. An BUI THI , Director of the Institute for Resources, Environment and Community Development (RECO) 23. Mr. Thai DOAN VAN , Vice President, Secretary General, Vietnam Red Cross Society
CEPREDENAC	24. Gerardo QUIROS CUADRA , Regional Advisor, CEPREDENAC (Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disaster in Central America) Costa Rica
Oxfam	25. Ms Pilar DUCH , Protection and Advocacy Adviser, Oxfam, Spain

IOM	26. Ms Simona MOSCARELLI , Migration Law Expert and Project Manager, IOM Rome
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TEACHING STAFF

Coordinator	Mr. David FISHER , Coordinator, Disaster Law Programme, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
	Mr. Daniel PETZ , Senior Research Assistant on Natural Disasters, Brookings–LSE Project on Internal Displacement, Brookings Institution
	Mr. Max VERDULT , Researcher on Refugee and IDP Law Courses, International Institute of Humanitarian Law
BROOKINGS	Dr. Elizabeth FERRIS , Co-Director, Brookings–LSE Project on Internal Displacement, Brookings Institution
IFRC	Mr. Pankaj MISHRA , Senior Officer, Response Preparedness, Disaster and Crisis Management, IFRC Ms Mary PICARD , Senior Disaster Law Officer, Disaster Law Programme, IFRC
UN OCHA	Mr. Josef REITERER , Surge Capacity Section (SCS), Surge Staff Development Office, Emergency Service Branch (ESB), OCHA Geneva
UNHCR	Ms Kimberly ROBERSON , Chief, Field Information Coordination Support

ANNEX 3: COURSE AGENDA

Monday, December 3: Introduction and key tools				
Time	#	Topic	Duration (min.)	Resource Person/ Presenter
Session 1			90	
09.00-09.30	1.1	Welcoming remarks	30	Stefania Baldini (President, International Institute of Humanitarian Law) David Fisher (IFRC) Daniel Petz (Brookings Institution)
09.30-10.00	1.2	Group icebreaker exercise	30	
10.00-10.30	1.3	Course Introduction. objectives, methodology, tools	30	
10.30-11.00		Coffee break	30	
Session 2			60	
11.00-11.30	2.1	Global hazard trends	30	Daniel Petz (Brookings Institution)
11.30-12.00	2.2	Global trends in vulnerability	30	Pankaj Mishra
12.00-13:30		Lunch Break	90	
Session 3			90	
13.30-14.00	3.1	Overview of disaster management	30	Pankaj Mishra
14.00-14.30	3.2	Overview of international law (including human rights)	30	David Fisher
14.30-15.00	3.3	Discussion. the role of national law in DM	30	David Fisher
15.00-15.30		Coffee Break	30	
Session 4			90	
15.30-16.15	4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of international norms for domestic response; Rights protection and vulnerable groups Operational Guidelines on the Protection of Persons in Situations of Natural Disasters 	45	Daniel Petz
16.15-16.30	4.2	The auxiliary role of National Societies and domestic response	15	David Fisher
16.30-17.00	4.3	Discussion	30	

Tuesday, December 4: Disaster response				
Time	#	Topic	Duration (min.)	Resource Person/Presenter
Session 5			60	
08.30-09.15	5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The legal protection of IDPs. origins, concepts and challenges, The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, National IDP laws and policies, regional IDP mechanisms and displacement from natural disasters 	45	Elizabeth Ferris (Brookings Institution)
09.15-09.30	5.2	Q & A	15	
Session 6			60	
09.30-10.15	6.1	Overview of legal issues in domestic response	45	Josef Reiterer (UN OCHA)
10.15-10.30	6.2	Discussion	15	
10.30-11.00		Coffee break	30	
Session 7			150	
11.00-11.20	7.1	Introduction to scenario and group work	20	Course facilitators
11.20-12.30	7.2	Group work domestic response I	70	
12.30-13.30		Lunch break	60	
13.30-14.00	7.3	Group work domestic response II	30	Course facilitators
14.00-14.30	7.4	Report to plenary and discussion	30	
		Excursion to Monaco		
Wednesday, December 5: Disaster response				
Time	#	Topic	Duration (min.)	Resource Person/Presenter
Session 8			60	
09.00-10.00	8.1	Assessment of own laws on domestic response	60	Course facilitators

Session 9		Protection assessments, monitoring and tools	60	
10.00-10.30	9.1	Protection assessment, monitoring and tools	30	Elizabeth Ferris
10.30-10.45	9.2	Discussion	15	
10.45-11.15		Coffee Break	30	
Session 10		International disaster response	90	
11.15-11.45	10.1	Overview of legal issues and international norms for international response (IDRL)	30	David Fisher (IFRC)
11.45-12.15	10.2	International disaster assistance and assistance coordination (including civil-military)	30	Josef Reiterer (UN OCHA)
12.15-12.45	10.3	Discussion	30	
12.45-13.45		Lunch	60	
Session 11		Exercise on international response	105	
13.45-14.00	11.1	Introduction to the group exercise	15	Course facilitators
14.00-15.30	11.2	Group work	90	
15.30-16.00		Coffee break	30	
16.00-16.15	11.3	Discussion in plenary	15	
Session 12		Synthesis and Assessment of laws	75	
16.15-17.15	12.1	Assessment of own laws on international response	45	Course facilitators
17.15-17.30	12.2	Report to plenary and discussion	30	
Thursday, December 6: Disaster recovery				
Time	#	Topic	Duration (min.)	Resource Person/Presenter
Session 13		Legal issues in disaster recovery	90	
09.00-10.00	13.1	Legal issues in recovery (especially housing, land and property)	30	Mary Picard (IFRC)
10.00-10.30	13.2	Discussion	30	

10.30-11.00		Coffee break	30	
Session 14		International norms on recovery	45	
11.00-11.30	14.1	Overview of international norms on recovery	30	Elizabeth Ferris (Brookings Institution)
11.30-11.45	14.2	Discussion	15	
Session 15		Group exercise on disaster recovery	75	
11.45-12.00	15.1	Introduction to the group exercise	15	
12.00-13.15		Lunch break	75	
13.15-14.00	15.2	Group work on disaster recovery	45	
14.00-14.45	15.3	Report to plenary and discussion	15	
15.00-15.30		Coffee break		
Session 16		Assessment of laws on recovery	90	
15.30-16.00	16.1	Assessment of own laws on DRR	60	Course facilitators
16.00-16.30	16.2	Report to plenary and discussion	30	
Friday December 7: DRR and action plan development				
Time	#	Topic	Duration (min.)	Resource Person/Presenter
Session 17		Domestic legal issues in DRR	70	
09.00-09.40	17.1	Key legal issues in disaster risk reduction	40	Mary Picard
09.40-10.10	17.3	Discussion	30	
10.10-10.40		Coffee break	30	
Session 18		International law and norms and DRR	90	
10.40-11.20	18.1	Overview of international law and norms on DRR	40	David Fisher
11.20-11.50	18.3	Discussion	30	
Session 19		Exercise on DRR	85	
11.50-12.00	19.1	Introduction to the small group exercise/scenario	10	Mary Picard
12.00-13.00		Lunch	60	

13.00-14.00	19.2	Small group exercise on DRR	60	
14.00-14.15	19.3	Discussion in plenary	15	
Session 20		Assessment of own laws	60	
14.15-15.00	20.1	Assessment of own laws on DRR	45	
15.05-15.30		Coffee Break	25	
15.30-15.45	20.2	Report back to plenum, debrief	15	
Session 21		Moving forward	75	
15.45-16.30	21.1	Action plan development	45	Course facilitators
16.30-17.00	21.2	Report to plenary and final discussion	30	
Session 22		Closing	30	
17.00-17.30	22.1	Award of certificates and closing remarks, course evaluation	30	Course organizers