



World Bank Institute Distance Learning

Natural Disaster Risk Management Program

THE WORLD BANK INSTITUTE COMPREHENSIVE DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT LEARNING PROGRAM

Introduction

With the increasing impact of disasters worldwide, disaster risk management has become a crucial aspect of national development agendas. In recent years, there has been growing recognition that disaster risk reduction initiatives have the potential to save thousands of lives and are pivotal in reducing the negative impacts of hazards towards the achievement of sustainable development. The World Bank's strategy for disaster risk management recognizes the need to strengthen the capacity and quality of national, state, and local disaster management.

The Program

WBI's Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Learning Program aims to strengthen the institutional capacity of its partners to enable them to provide far-reaching, customized learning based on contemporary knowledge in disaster risk management. The program works to: (1) advance the capacity of training institutions to design and deliver learning activities in the realm of disaster risk management; (2) contribute to better understanding of the role of key stakeholders in reducing the risk of disasters; and, (3) promote proactive risk management practices and approaches for increased capacity.

Program Offerings

The learning products offered by WBI and through partner organizations include online and face to face training focused on the effective management of disasters in countries around the world. WBI offers technical assistance for coordinating and customizing content with partner institutions, provides a platform for knowledge exchange across regions, and builds and maintains partnerships with disaster and development organizations to ensure sustained results in capacity development. Participants of individual courses include policy makers, practitioners, government officials at the central and local levels, NGOs, the private sector, trainers, academics, representatives from the international donor community, and World Bank Group staff.

The program includes a series of web-based training courses offered both by the Institute and partner organizations:

Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management

An introductory course, Comprehensive Natural Disaster Risk Management, gives an overview of major disaster risk management issues that are explored in more details in specialization courses. This course targets general development practitioners to raise their awareness and sensitivity in prevention of natural disasters.

Financial Strategies for Managing the Economic Impacts of Natural Disasters

This course focuses on financial, economic and development impacts of disasters, and trade-offs involved in disaster risk financing providing policy makers with tools and institutional designs for improved planning, budgeting processes, and national macroeconomic projections.

Safe Cities

The Safe Cities course addresses particular concerns of urban managers and planners and reviews processes, regulations, enforcement issues and methods essential to reducing exposure to hazards and limiting the physical vulnerability of high-density settlements.

Community Based Disaster Risk Management

This course focuses on prevention, mitigation and the need to active participation of local actors in design, development, implementation and monitoring of activities related to phases of disaster cycle.

Damage and Reconstruction Needs Assessment

The Assessment course enhances the participants' understanding of the social, economic and environmental effects of natural disasters. It introduces instruments for quantifying direct damages, indirect losses, and the overall macroeconomic effects of catastrophic events in order to arrive to accurate estimates of resources needed for recovery and reconstruction.

Earthquake Risk Reduction

This course links the science and engineering of earthquakes to structural and non-structural risk reduction practices. The course introduces the basic approaches to earthquake risk reduction, discussing the effectiveness of each in various regions of the world.

Climate & Disaster Risk Management

This course provides an introduction to the science of climate change, reviews the climate change impacts on natural hazards, and the trends in magnitude and frequency of climatic extremes and changes in average climatic conditions. It explores the inter-linkages between disaster risk management and climate change adaptation and outlines strategies, methods and tools for integrated climate risk management.

ToT in Delivery of Disaster Management On-line Courses

The course is offered to faculty of WBI program partners to create a pool of disaster management content experts who are knowledgeable in distance learning tools and methods. The course provides training in web-based course administration and facilitation. The course is an important part of institutional support provided to partner organizations. It also contributes to achieving the program objective in scaling up the learning opportunities by involving local institutions in offering disaster risk management on-line activities.

For more information,
Please contact
Katalin Demeter
World Bank Institute
kdemeter@worldbank.org
www.wbidrm.org

Program Highlights

- The program has organized more than 60 learning events worldwide reaching over 3000 participants since its inception in 2004
- The program is cross-cutting, enhancing World Bank support to countries in many sectors
- The courses offer targeted disaster management courses for civil service personnel at the national, state, and local levels, academics, policy and development practitioners, members of the private sector, NGOs, and community-based organizations
- The program attains high multiplier effects by aiming at the learning infrastructure of disaster management professionals and policy makers