Unitar Online Catalogue

Checklist on Scaling Up Disaster Risk Reduction in Humanitarian Action

People

Deadline: 31 Dec 2026

Type:	Course
Location:	Web-based
Date:	1 Jan 2026 to 31 Dec 2026
Duration:	1 Months
Thematic Area:	Decentralize Cooperation Programme
Website:	https://www.unitar.org/
Price:	$0.00
Event Focal Point Email:	disaster@unitar.org
Partnership:	Global Education and Training Institute (GETI), , United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), , UNDRR ONEA

BACKGROUND

Conducting risk analysis during strategic planning exercises a) expands humanitarian focus from acute and urgent needs to chronic vulnerabilities and exposure to future risks, stress, and shocks, and b) helps integrate reduction of extreme vulnerability into planning to facilitate recovery, and therefore aims at

preventing new and reducing existing risk, all of which contributes decrease future risks and strengthening community resilience.

Managing the negative effects of a crisis through humanitarian assistance and peacekeeping is costly. In the Pathway for Peace study, the United Nations and World Bank produced a business case to show that conflict prevention, besides saving millions of lives, is also economically beneficial: preventing outbreaks of violence would create net savings close to USD 5 billion per year. Similarly, a study commissioned by USAID looking at Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia, Economics of Resilience to Drought, quantified the savings from earlier responses: investing in more proactive responses to avert humanitarian crises could reduce the cost to international donors by 30%, as well as also protecting billions of dollars of income and assets for those most affected.

Ensuring the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) is risk-sensitive is therefore beneficial and essential for both the population and the overall humanitarian community. Although humanitarian crises cannot always be prevented, the suffering associated with the impacts of various shocks, crises, and disasters can be greatly reduced through strong, proactive, and collaborative risk-informed programming.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

This training is designed to assist relevant actors in adopting a risk-sensitive approach when preparing Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNOs) and subsequent Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) as part of the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC). It outlines key steps for analyzing potential hazards and their risk levels, determining how humanitarian situations might evolve over a given period of time, and informing contingency planning, preparedness measures, and early actions ahead of possible developments to reduce risk. It also helps to ensure strategies and programs are sufficiently robust to withstand changes in the operational environment.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Define the concepts of humanitarian action and disaster risk reduction and explain their importance in reducing the impact of disasters on communities.

- Analyze the causes and consequences of disasters and assess the factors contributing to vulnerability and resilience.
- Evaluate the different approaches to disaster risk reduction, including prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery, and identify the best practices and lessons learned.
- Be familiar with the *Checklist on Scaling up DRR in Humanitarian Action: Supporting Risk-Informed Programming and Humanitarian-Development-Peace Collaboration.*
- Identify the key actors involved in humanitarian action and disaster risk reduction and describe their roles and responsibilities.
- Understand the urgency and importance of strengthening cooperation between humanitarian, development, and peace actors to enable long-term reduction of vulnerabilities.
- Apply the principles of humanitarian action and disaster risk reduction to real-life situations using case studies.
- Design and implement effective disaster risk reduction strategies and programs, considering the needs and perspectives of different stakeholders and the local context.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Module 1: Fundamentals of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

Module 2: Disaster Risk Reduction Frameworks - Understanding Inter-connected and Systemic Risk.

Module 3: The Checklist on Scaling Up DRR in Humanitarian Action: Supporting Risk-Informed Programming and Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Collaboration.

Module 4: Entry Points: Integrating DRR into the Humanitarian Programme Cycle.

Module 5: Foundations for HDP Collaboration on DRR.

Module 6: DRR and Humanitarian Enablers.

METHODOLOGY

This is a self-paced, interactive course. The modules contain the following components:

1. Interactive Lessons: It is the core mandatory learning component, as they provide the integral content of the modules.
2. Evaluation Quizzes: For each module, an activity will assess your comprehension of the lessons learned in the module.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

This course is targeted toward persons, government agencies, and advocates who seek to understand the urgency and importance of strengthening cooperation between humanitarian, development, and peace actors to enable long-term reduction of vulnerabilities.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This course takes approximately 10 hours to complete.