



Educating for Action - GFDRR Capacity Building and Learning Strategy

About the Strategy

1. GFDRR supports the country owned and country led implementation of Hyogo Framework of Action. Central to this support is the capacity building of national institutions to develop and implement disaster risk reduction policies and strategies. This sentiment forms the backbone of GFDRR Capacity Building and Learning Strategy.
2. Derived from GFDRR newly developed Results Framework, the strategy outlines the future directions for systematic and predictable assistance to clients in strengthening their ability to address the growing risk of disasters.
3. The strategy and its implementation are rooted in four complementary and mutually-reinforcing principles. First, the strategy is based on partnership and implemented with partner organizations. Second, it relies on a well designed and state of the art core curriculum with focused thematic coverage. Third, the capacity development approach is scalable and allows the increase in outreach. Last but not least, it provides a platform for sharing good practices and workable solutions across countries and regions.

GFDRR Partnership Learning Series

4. GFDRR with partner organizations is developing a disaster risk management core curriculum for professionals from client countries, development partners as well as for Bank staff working in disaster prone countries. The Partnership Learning Series incorporates GFDRR knowledge products from all tracks in addition to cutting edge knowledge offered by development partners and leading academic institutions. A thorough peer review process ensures high quality and pedagogically sound learning courses.
5. The Partnership Learning Series (PLS) intends to establish basic competencies in DRM and set a baseline for continuous education of disaster practitioners. It also provides a predictable career development path for professionals engaged in different aspects of risk reduction.
6. Training activities designed for staff of the World Bank, donor agencies and regional IFIs create a cadre of professionals within these institutions to

spearhead the mainstreaming of risk reduction, including climate change adaptation, within policy and operational support to client countries. Joint training events with development partners will contribute to the harmonization of approaches in donor assistance to implement risk reduction and post disaster reconstruction strategies

Business Plan

7. GFDRR Knowledge and Learning team within Track 3 coordinates the development of the Partnership Learning Series. The team is supported by extended community of DRM specialists, including regional DRM focal points, practitioner's networks and academics.
8. The Partnership Learning Series will be offered by regional organizations and entities mandated to improve the capacity of national DRM institutions. GFDRR provides to regional partners technical assistance to start up the program. GFDRR is reaching out to regional intergovernmental entities, global centers of excellence, to development partners for implementation.
9. Needs-based training and policy workshops offered to governments in times of crucial policy decisions to share cutting-edge knowledge and bring best practices from relevant areas of DRM. The Global Expert Team stands by to offer these types

Initial Results

10. Between 2008 and 2010 the number of trainings offered by GFDRR increased by 266%. During the 45 learning events more than 2200 development practitioners were trained.
11. During the last year GFDRR with partners offered 37 online courses with three to five weeks duration. Over 2500 participants completed successfully the courses and received certificates signed by GFDRR and the partner organization.
12. PLS 308 course on Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment (DaLA) was developed and supported by the recently published Guidance Notes on assessment methodology. Both products accessible from GFDRR website.



GFDRR Disaster Risk Management On-line Program

Ten on-line courses capturing the theoretical and empirical aspects of disaster risk management offered by national and regional entities as part of GFDRR capacity building program in DRM



Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management

An introductory course for development practitioners, gives an overview of the major disaster risk management issues. It raises awareness of the growing risk of natural disasters and promotes a culture of prevention.



Financial Strategies for Managing the Economic Impacts of Natural Disasters

A course for policy makers addressing the financial, economic, and development impact of disasters, and the trade-offs involved in disaster risk financing. It provides tools for planning, budgeting, and improving national macroeconomic projections.



Safe Cities

A course for urban managers and planners reviews the processes, regulations, enforcement issues, and methods of reducing exposure to hazards and limiting the physical vulnerability of high-density settlements.



Community Based Disaster Risk Management

A course for community leaders and NGOs focusing on prevention, mitigation, and the need for the participation of local actors in designing, developing, implementing, and monitoring activities related to disaster risk reduction.



Damage and Reconstruction Needs Assessment

Enhancing the participants' understanding of social, economic, and environmental effects of natural disasters the course introduces instruments for quantifying direct damages, indirect losses, and the overall macroeconomic effects of catastrophic events to accurately estimate the resources needed for recovery and reconstruction.



Climate and Disaster Risk Management

An introduction to the science of climate change, including its effect on natural hazards this course reviews the trends in magnitude and frequency of climatic extremes, and the changes in average climatic conditions. This course explores the linkage between disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, and outlines strategies, methods, and tools for integrated climate risk management.



Earthquake Risk Reduction

Linking the science and engineering of earthquakes to structural and non-structural risk reduction practices, this course introduces the basic approaches to earthquake risk reduction by discussing their effectiveness in various regions.



Gender Aspects of Disaster Risk Reduction

Illustrated in this course, how the inclusion of women in disaster management results in more equitable and efficient outcomes during disaster recovery and reconstruction. It reviews those aspects of disaster management in which gender concerns arise, and introduces policies and tools for gender mainstreaming.



Risk Sensitive Land Use Planning

Demonstrating the benefits of incorporating disaster risk reduction objectives in land use planning, the course describes the process of integrating disaster mitigation into local land use management, and gives examples of implementation.



Risk Analysis

An analytical process for identifying disaster risk, and for generating the information and data required to design risk reduction measures is presented in the course. Using examples of earthquakes and floods, it illustrates the different risk analysis approaches, such as risk checklist, risk matrix, scenario analysis, and time-based probabilistic assessment.

For more information please visit our partners' websites:

Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport: <http://www.aast.edu/en/index.php>

Earthquake Megacities Initiative: <http://www.emi-megacities.org/home/training/ndrmp.html>

National Institute of Disaster Management: <http://nidm.gov.in/default.asp>

Middle East Technical University: <http://sem.metu.edu.tr/>