Singapore Cooperation Programme

Singapore has provided technical assistance to other developing countries since the 1960s. As a country whose only resource is its people, Singapore believes that human resource development is vital for economic and social progress. Singapore itself has benefited from training provided by other countries and international organisations.

In 1992, the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP) was established to bring together under one framework the various technical assistance programmes offered by Singapore. Through the SCP, the range and number of training programmes were increased to share Singapore’s development experience with other developing countries.

To date, over 126,000 officials from more than 170 countries and territories have participated in our courses and study visits. The SCP is managed by the Technical Cooperation Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore.

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

The UN General Assembly adopted the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in December 1999 and established United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). UNDRR is the focal point in the UN system for the coordination of disaster risk reduction (DRR) and supports the implementation, follow-up and review of the international Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030.

Its core areas of work include supporting countries and regions in ensuring DRR is a national priority and increasing investments for DRR.

The UNDRR’s Global Education and Training Institute (GETI), which was established in 2010, has a mandate to develop a new cadre of professionals in DRR and climate change adaptation for disaster resilient societies. To deliver on this mandate, it has focused primarily on national and city leaders and municipal disaster risk managers. Over the years UNDRR has trained over 1,800 government officials on various aspects of DRR, from 73 countries.

Programme Objectives

The course examines key principles of disaster risk reduction and the hardcoding of resilience into policy, infrastructure and human behaviour. Participants will learn about the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and possible applications to their State’s existing plans. The course will also cover Singapore’s experiences in disaster risk reduction and the government’s approach in formulating adaptation measures and building resilience in the community. UNDRR will provide globally accepted tools and help the participants become familiar with the tools, use them and develop draft action plans for integrating DRR and climate change adaptation into development policies. UNDRR will also bring global best practices and encourage sharing of experiences amongst the participants.
Synopsis

The programme will cover the following aspects:

- Vulnerability assessment through economic risk analysis, catastrophe assessment and finance management;
- Setting up early warning systems to avoid or reduce risks;
- Building public health resilience through pandemic preparedness;
- Formulating emergency management plans, evacuation planning & training and implementation;
- Essential and emergency operations;
- Working with public and private stakeholders and strengthening policy and decision-making processes;
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation measures;
- Sustainable urban planning and development;
- Strengthening governance and building capacity;
- Finance for DRR; and
- Integration of DRR and climate change adaptation to development policy. Key sectors covered will include infrastructure, housing, land use planning, environmental protection, to name a few.

Methodology

Using the best mix of training and learning methodologies, this course will be highly interactive and experiential. Besides formal lecturing, activities include open discussions, group work, experiential activities and other learning methodologies. Participants will also have adequate opportunity to share their experiences, learning points and challenges during the programme. Relevant site visits will also be included. Shortlisted candidates may be requested to prepare in advance a country report related to disaster risk reduction and possible application of the UNDRR Post-2015 Framework to their State’s existing plans, which will be presented at the course.

Duration

The course will be held in Singapore from 3 to 6 September 2019.

Application Information

Applicants should be:

- Mid- to senior-level government officials involved in disaster risk reduction policy making and/or national emergency planning and management, and can include officials from planning and finance/budget office;
- Nominated by their respective Governments;
- Proficient in written and spoken English; and
- In good health.

Terms of Award

The course is sponsored by the Government of Singapore under the Singapore Cooperation Programme and the UNDRR.

Under this joint programme arrangement, the Government of Singapore will bear the following expenses for the successful applicants (thereafter known as “participants”) during their training in Singapore. These expenses include:

- A daily training allowance from first day to last day of the course to cover meals and daily expenses. [Complimentary breakfast is provided in the hotel from the first day to one day after the course];
- Transportation to course venue and site visits;
- Medical insurance for participants to cover accident and hospitalisation during their stay in Singapore in accordance with the policy of a local insurance company; and
- Accommodation for the entire duration of the course.

Note:

(a) The nominating Government will be responsible for its participants’ round-trip airfares;
(b) Participants are to bear their personal miscellaneous expenses that may be incurred prior to receiving the allowance.
(b) Any expenses for out-patient medical/dental treatment are to be borne by the participants themselves.
Regulations

Participants are required to comply with the following:

(a) Strictly observe course schedules and not miss training sessions;
(b) Not bring any member of their family and/or aide for the duration of the course;
(c) Carry out instructions and abide by conditions as may be stipulated by the nominating Government or the Government of Singapore with respect to the course;
(d) Refrain from engaging in political activities, or any form of employment for profit or gain while in Singapore;
(e) Discontinue the course, in the event that they (i) fall seriously ill and are considered unable to continue the training, or (ii) commit an improper act; and
(f) Return to their respective home countries upon completion of the course.

Application Procedure

(Closing date for nomination: 19 July 2019)

The Government of Singapore and the UNDRR are pleased to invite the respective National Focal Point for Technical Assistance to nominate one (1) suitable applicant. Selection of candidates will be based on merit. Should there be more applicants than training places, the Government of Singapore and the UNDRR seeks the understanding of the respective National Focal Point for Technical Assistance in the event that its nominee(s) is not selected.

All nominees are to submit their applications online at https://scpcatalog.wixsite.com/scp2019/disaster-risk-reduction by Friday, 19 July 2019. All application forms must also be endorsed by the respective Ministry of Foreign Affairs or National Focal Point for Technical Assistance.

Note:

- All applications should be completed in full. Incomplete application forms or forms which are not endorsed will not be considered. Please contact mfa_scp@mfa.gov.sg if you encounter technical issues during application.

- Applicants should refrain from making telephone and email inquiries on the status of their applications.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore will inform all applicants of the outcome of their applications. The National Focal Point will also be informed directly or through Singapore’s diplomatic representations in the nominating country.

- Flight arrangements are to be made only upon receipt of the Letter of Acceptance to the course.

Information on Singapore

For more information about Singapore, you may wish to visit the Singapore Tourism Board website at www.visitsingapore.com