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# Disaster Law Programme Annual Report (*advance version*)

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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20 February 2014

**This report covers the  
period  
01/01/2013 to 31/12/2013**



*A disaster law workshop in Vientiane in October. Lao Red Cross and IFRC are engaged in a project to develop the new disaster management law in Lao, together with the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MoNRE) and UNDP.*

**Note: This advance version of the 2013 annual report includes preliminary financial information. A final version with complete financial reporting will be published by May 2014.**

## Highlights

In 2013, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) Disaster Law Programme (DLP) continued to promote legal preparedness for disasters, with the following main goals:

1. Improve legislation and normative instruments on disaster management
2. Establish expanded and permanent capacity of the Red Cross Red Crescent in disaster law
3. Grow the international knowledge base on key disaster law issues
4. Achieve appropriate visibility for disaster law issues.

Top achievements during the reporting period include:

- The adoption of 6 new legal instruments incorporating IDRL elements.
- Offering technical assistance to 28 countries, through country-level projects or comments on draft laws.
- Organising 17 major training workshops at the country level and 8 at the regional level.
- Providing input into 12 major international resolutions and outcomes at the global and regional level.

- Finalizing a new reference tool for states to implement the recommendations of the IDRL Guidelines – the “Model Act for the Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Assistance”
- Advancing a global research project on law and disaster risk reduction, together with the IFRC’s Community Preparedness and Risk Reduction (CPRR) Department and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), including publishing 2 country case studies and a report on preliminary findings.
- Growing the knowledge base on regulatory barriers to post-disaster shelter in collaboration with the IFRC’s Shelter and Settlements Department, including launching two detailed studies of national regulatory frameworks.
- Providing real-time support to disaster operations, including one IFRC emergency deployment and two through the Shelter Cluster.

In 2013, the DLP also commissioned its first external evaluation (see further details below and the full evaluation report [here](#)).

## Financial situation

The following chart summarizes the financial situation of the DLP at the global level and in each of the zones, based on preliminary figures not yet finalized according to internal finance processes. Note that these figures will also be separately reported by the IFRC Zone offices in their own overall reporting on activities in their regions. Figures are listed in Swiss francs.

DLP (level)	2013 Budget (initial)	2013 Budget (as revised)	Funds received (% of revised budget)	Expenditure (% of revised budget)
Geneva (global)	1,026,335	803,670	744,183 (93%)	744,183 (93%)
Africa Zone	749,196	243,536	224,211 (92%)	204,813 (84%)
Americas Zone	988,707	700,849	614,677 (88%)	580,798 (83%)
Asia-Pacific Zone	735,369	676,377	534,951 <sup>1</sup> (79%)	536,409 (79%)

The Africa Zone budget was significantly reduced due to turnover in the coordinator post as well as lower response to the appeal. Financial information from MENA and Europe Zones was still in development at the time of this report.

## Working in partnership

In each of the countries where the DLP engaged in technical assistance projects, it worked with the National Society concerned as well as with the relevant authorities. The DLP also cooperated with several other IFRC departments in research and advocacy, including the Community Preparedness and Risk Reduction Department, the Shelter and Settlements Department, and the International and Movement Relations Unit at headquarters, as well as with a variety of other colleagues in the Zone, regional and country offices.

<sup>1</sup> Note that this figure reflects funding received and allocated for spending in 2013 – it does not include an additional CHF 200,000 in multi-year funding received in 2013 and allocated for spending in 2014.

Externally, the DLP continued to cooperate closely with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), and the World Customs Organization (WCO) and developed stronger links with the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), the World Food Programme (WFP), the Brookings Institution, and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). It also deepened working relationships with a large range of regional organizations, including the African Union (AU), the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), the Association for South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Central American Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Disasters (CEPRENAC), the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Parliamentary Assembly, the East African Community (EAC), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC), among others.

## Progress toward outcomes

The DLP contributes to IFRC Secretariat Business Lines 1, 2, 3 and 4 (raise humanitarian standards; grow services for vulnerable people; strengthen the specific Red Cross Red Crescent contribution to development; heighten Red Cross Red Crescent influence and support for our work).

The following chart sets out the DLP's specific objectives with quantitative targets, as appropriate. Note that the targets are expressed for the two-year period of 2013-14 and were set based on full funding of the original global and zone-level DLP budgets.



IDRL workshop in Kingston, Jamaica examines study conclusions



Exercise in West Sumatra addresses IDRL issues



Tongan cabinet approves IDRL project

Measurement			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Outcome 1: Disaster law support by the IFRC and NSs results in new domestic laws, policies, and/or procedures</b>	# of countries that have adopted new laws, rules or procedures drawing on the IDRL Guidelines	8	6
	# of countries that have adopted new laws, rules or procedures including disaster law suggestions from IFRC/NSs (in addition to IDRL)	7	1
<p>New legal instruments addressing international disaster assistance were adopted by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Bhutan</a>, which now has a chapter on international assistance in its <i>Disaster Management Act of 2013</i></li> <li>• Bosnia Herzegovina, in its <i>Instructions for Interdepartmental Coordination on the Occasion of Receiving, Sending and Transiting of International Assistance for Protection and Rescue Purposes, 2013</i></li> <li>• <a href="#">Colombia</a>, in its <i>Strategic Plan for International Cooperation, Disaster Risk Management, 2013-14</i></li> <li>• Namibia, in regulations implementing its <i>Disaster Risk Management Act, 2012</i></li> <li>• Peru, in a Ministerial Resolution adopting the <i>Directive for International Disaster Assistance in case of disasters of great magnitude, 2013</i></li> <li>• <a href="#">Vietnam</a>, which has a full chapter on international assistance based on the National Society and IFRC's recommendations in its <i>Law on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control, 2013</i></li> </ul> <p>This brings the total number of new laws, rules or procedures drawing on the IDRL Guidelines to 24 instruments in 16 countries (see the complete list <a href="#">here</a>).</p> <p>Draft legislation incorporating elements on international disaster response and drawing on advice from IFRC or National Societies is currently pending in Cambodia, Cook Islands, Haiti, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines, Seychelles and Rwanda.</p> <p>Mexico, which in 2012 adopted new provisions on humanitarian disaster assistance in its Civil Protection Law, is in the process of adopting new standard operating procedures to complement existing regulations.</p> <p>In addition, Vietnam, in its <i>Law on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control</i>, drew on advice from the DLP and Vietnam Red Cross Society on a wider range of disaster management topics, including disaster risk reduction.</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 1.1: Country-level technical assistance projects</b>	# of projects completed (at least through the production of a substantial report and recommendations)	23	13
<p>A major area of activity of the DLP is supporting National Societies to carry out technical assistance projects for their governments to enhance legal preparedness for international disaster relief. Reviews are undertaken to identify strengths and weaknesses of the existing legal frameworks, using the recommendations of the <i>Guidelines for the domestic facilitation and regulation of international disaster relief and initial recovery assistance</i> (also known as the <a href="#">IDRL Guidelines</a>) as a reference.</p> <p>Projects typically include oversight from a government-chaired task force, both desk research and stakeholder interviews, and one or more workshops to validate findings. During the reporting period, 3 such projects were substantially completed in the Americas (<a href="#">Argentina</a>, <a href="#">Ecuador</a> and <a href="#">Jamaica</a>), 1 in Africa (<a href="#">Botswana</a>) and 2 in Asia Pacific (Afghanistan, <a href="#">Cook Islands</a> and ).</p>			

Projects in the following country were completed with reports publicly disseminated:

#### **Botswana**

The Botswana IDRL project was commissioned by the Botswana Red Cross Society with support from the IFRC. It analyses the existing legal and policy frameworks for disaster management and response in Botswana focusing on facilitation and regulation of international disaster assistance. The first national workshop in the project took place in 2012, and [the report](#) was [launched](#) in November 2013. The recommendations of the report and possible follow up were discussed with participants from Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Labour and Home Affairs, Trade, representatives from the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), National Strategy Office (NSO), a member of Parliament, and other stakeholders in disaster management. The National Society and IFRC continue to work with the NDMO and NSO on implementation of the recommendations.

#### **Cook Islands**

The Cook Islands IDRL project was undertaken by a focal point within the Cook Islands Red Cross, in close collaboration with Emergency Management Cook Islands (EMCI). Following the launch of the study in 2012, the National Society has continued to work with EMCI to implement the recommendations contained in the study. The second phase of the project completed in 2013 included the development of a set of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for international assistance and a Prime Minister's Directive, soon to be officially adopted.

#### **Ecuador**

The Ecuador IDRL project was launched in December 2012 and was implemented by the Ecuador Red Cross in close collaboration with the National Secretariat of Risks Management as president of the project steering committee. Representatives of the ministries of foreign affairs, health, and security, as well as the National Assembly, the International Cooperation Secretary and international organizations including WFP, OCHA and OPS also participated. The first national workshop for the project took place in May 2013 and the second in October 2013. The [project's research report](#) was published in December.

#### **Jamaica**

The Jamaica IDRL project was launched in 2012 under the auspices of the Jamaica Red Cross and was conducted in close collaboration with the national Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management as president of the project steering committee. The Disaster Risk Reduction Centre of the University of West Indies and the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development also participated as members of the project steering committee. The findings and recommendations of the report were vetted during a national workshop in January 2013, in which representatives from thirty local and international organisations participated. The [report](#) was published in September.

Substantial reports had been drafted and were pending final stakeholder comments in the following countries as of the end of 2013:

#### **Afghanistan**

The Afghanistan IDRL project commenced in January 2013, in close collaboration with Afghan Red Crescent Society and Afghan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA). A project taskforce was established, consisting of representatives from ARCS, ANDMA, researchers and key focal points from relevant government departments and humanitarian agencies. A set of recommendations were outlined in the study which is now pending an official handover to the government.

#### **Argentina**

The Argentina IDRL study was conducted in collaboration with the Argentinean Red Cross and is based on the findings of an initial desk review and research project on the national legal framework applicable to international disaster relief operations. Preliminary recommendations were provided and more research and consultations are now required to complete the analysis.

### Pakistan

The Pakistan IDRL study is being carried out in close collaboration with the Pakistan Red Crescent Society and the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). IFRC is currently reviewing the draft report to reflect stakeholder comments and to fill gaps in the research.

### Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Poland

The National Societies of these five countries are conducting studies to review implementation of the EU Host Nation Support Guidelines and the IDRL Guidelines in their domestic laws and procedures. The project is coordinated by Icelandic Red Cross with technical support from IFRC and funding from the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection. Following national workshops and finalisation of the country reports, summary findings and recommendations will be presented at a workshop in Brussels in the fall of 2014.

Other similar IDRL projects were underway in **Dominican Republic, Italy, Kenya, Malawi, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland and Tonga** as well as drafting assistance or follow-up on previous projects in the **Cook Islands, Guatemala, Peru and Sierra Leone**.

In addition, the final report from the previous [Kazakhstan](#) IDRL study was published in English.

In [Haiti](#), dedicated DLP staff based in Port-au-Prince is supporting the authorities with technical assistance aimed at the adoption of new laws, regulations and procedures following an earlier IDRL project there. To date, 3 bills have been submitted to the Haitian Parliament (one on medicines, one on communications and another on the registration of NGOs), and an inter-ministerial working group on customs clearance of humanitarian goods during an emergency has been established in cooperation with the Haitian civil protection authority and the World Food Programme.

In [Tajikistan](#), Dushanbe-based staff is assisting the country's government and parliament to implement the IDRL Guidelines. Cooperation continues following an earlier preliminary study (unpublished) and amendments to the Customs and Tax Code in 2012.

The DLP's first 'impact' study was on-going during the reporting period. This study examines [Indonesia's](#) revised legal framework for disaster management and response, and the impact of new laws and regulations on disaster response and international assistance in the response to two recent disasters in Indonesia. In July 2013, a [consultation workshop](#) was held to discuss the findings and seek feedback on the 'impact' study prior to its finalisation. An agreement was also reached for the launch of a new IDRL project in Samoa.

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 1.2: Country-level workshops and presentations</b>	<i># of workshops undertaken at the country level</i>	25	17
	<i># of presentations (short of a full DLP workshop) to governmental stakeholders at the country level</i>	29	18

Country-level disaster law workshops were organized in [Botswana](#), Cook Islands, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, Guatemala, [Haiti](#), [Indonesia](#), Jamaica, [Malawi](#), Malaysia, Nicaragua, [Paraguay](#), Peru, Tonga, and Uganda.

Presentations were delivered to government stakeholders in [Cuba](#), Guyana, Haiti, Kenya, Malawi, Mongolia, Myanmar, Lao PDR, Tajikistan and Trinidad, as well as in disaster simulation exercises in El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, [Honduras](#), Indonesia, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru.

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 1.3: Ad hoc advice provided on draft legislation</b>	# of laws commented on (beyond the scope of the technical assistance projects)	22	8
<p>Working with the relevant National Societies, the DLP offered ad hoc advice on legal preparedness for international disaster assistance on 16 draft disaster bills during the reporting period, including:</p> <p>Four in Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Namibia, <i>Commencement of Disaster Risk Management Act, 2012</i> and its implementing regulations</li> <li>Mauritius, draft National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Bill</li> <li>Seychelles, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Bill</li> <li>East African Legislative Assembly, <i>East African Community Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Bill</i></li> </ul> <p>One in the Americas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paraguay, <i>Decree regulating Law 2615 creating the National Emergency Secretariat</i></li> </ul> <p>and three in Asia Pacific</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vietnam, Chapter VI of the <i>Law on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control, 2013</i></li> <li>Mongolia, draft <i>Disaster Protection Law</i></li> <li>Myanmar, draft <i>Rules relating to Disaster Management</i></li> </ul>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 1.4: Model Act, Model Emergency Decree and regulations on IDRL</b>	<i>Final model act, decree and regulations finalised and disseminated</i>  # model acts and decrees disseminated	See below  340	See below  1062 (printed copies)
<p>In March, the IFRC together with UN OCHA and the IPU <a href="#">launched</a> the "<a href="#">Model Act on the Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance</a>" at the IPU General Assembly in Quito. Since 1062 printed copies have been disseminated, in addition to electronic dissemination by email and web page. The Model Act is a reference tool for states wishing to implement the recommendations of the IDRL Guidelines into their national law. The launch followed a year-long pilot phase, during which additional expert comments were received and the tool was further refined.</p> <p>Based on suggestions raised during consultations on the Model Act, the IFRC and OCHA are now developing a model emergency decree for those situations when, following a major disaster, states find their legal frameworks ill-adapted to handle incoming international assistance. During the reporting period a <a href="#">consultation version</a> of the draft tool was disseminated on-line and in several global and regional meetings. Comments were received, and further consultations will be held in 2014 before the product is finalized.</p>			

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 1.5: Checklist for lawmakers on DRR (for completion in 2015)</b>	<i># of consultation meetings organized</i>	10	4
<p>Following on the recommendations of the 31<sup>st</sup> International Conference, the IFRC is launching a process to develop a “Checklist for lawmakers on Disaster Risk Reduction.” During the reporting period, the concept was introduced in several fora, including to National Society legal advisors at their annual meeting in Geneva as well as the newly-formed disaster law consultative group of Geneva-based missions. Interest was also solicited among National Societies and during the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in May to join a network on law and DRR that will contribute to the development of this tool. The checklist concept was endorsed at a high-level regional expert meeting in Panama in October.</p>			



ASEAN disaster relief exercise addresses IDRL issues



IDRL panel at the EU Parliament in Brussels



Workshop for New York diplomats on IDRL and humanitarian coordination

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Outcome 2: Disaster law advocacy by the IFRC and NSs influences relevant international and regional instruments, organizations and processes</b>	<i># of new/amended instruments (resolutions, guidelines, etc.) that address IDRL issues</i>	10	6
	<i># of new/amended global/regional instruments taking into account DL suggestions by IFRC/NSs</i>	9	6
	<i># of IGOs engaged with DL issues</i>	4	3
	<i># of regional organizations engaged with DL issues</i>	18	20
<p>Global and regional inter-governmental organizations continued to demonstrate a growing interest in disaster law issues. A number of global IGOs (the UN and several of its offices and constituent bodies including OCHA and ECOSOC, as well as WCO and WFP) and 20 regional organizations (ACS, APEC, ASEAN, AU, CAPRADE, CDEMA, CEPREDENAC, CSTO, EAC, ECCAS, ECOWAS, EU, IOC, IPA CIS, NATO, OAS, PIF, SAARC, SADC) are actively engaged on the topic. Among these, several have moved beyond the initial phase of political dialogue to technical training (e.g. WCO and WFP) and development of tools (e.g. ASEAN, CDEMA, EU, NATO), including a <a href="#">revised manual on mutual assistance</a> produced by CAPRADE.</p>			



Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 2.1: DLP contributes to development of Principles and Rules and associated commitments</b>	<p><i>Contribution to drafting of the P &amp; R and associated commitments by states on IDRL-related issues for the Movement.</i></p> <p><i>Contribution to building consensus for the outputs at the 32nd International Conference</i></p>	See below	
<p>The DLP contributed its perspectives and drafting advice for the revision of the “Principles and Rules for Red Cross and Red Crescent Humanitarian Response” as well as its recommendations on how to frame discussions about them with states. These Principles and Rules, which include a provision on National Societies’ role in supporting authorities in legal preparedness for disasters, were endorsed by the IFRC General Assembly in November 2013. It is expected that the Principles and Rules will be presented for adoption by the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2015.</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	
<b>Output 2.2: DLP leads discussions on future directions of IDRL</b>	<p><i>Discussions on potential future directions for IDRL with NSs, states and other stakeholders</i></p>	See below	
<p>In April, IFRC hosted a consultation meeting with National Societies to take stock and chart the future of the IFRC’s work on disaster law. Participants overwhelmingly affirmed that disaster law should be an on-going and increasingly important part of the IFRC’s work over the coming years, and they validated the diversification of topics addressed by the DLP in order to serve the different needs and interests of National Societies. In May, a new consultative group of Geneva-based permanent missions was formed and held its first meeting. Through periodic meetings, the group will help sustain attention to disaster law issues in the years between International Conferences and help shape thinking toward the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2015.</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	
<b>Output 2.3: DLP contributes to dialogue on key global and regional initiatives</b>	<p><i>Contribution on the substance of key global and regional initiatives such as ILC, certification discussions, Hyogo and Kyoto successor instruments</i></p>	See below	
<p>The DLP contributed, as a member of the internal IFRC task forces on resilience and climate change, to messaging for the revised Hyogo Framework and Kyoto successor instrument. It provided <a href="#">its analysis</a> on the most recent articles adopted by the International Law Commission in its project on “draft articles on protection in the event of disasters” to the UN’s Sixth Committee in November.</p> <p>Stemming from a previous session on IDRL, and in the lead up to the 2015 Humanitarian Summit, the <a href="#">2013 Regional Humanitarian Policy Forum for Asia-Pacific</a> recognized stronger legal frameworks at the national and regional level as a key theme for improving humanitarian effectiveness in Asia Pacific. The DLP chaired two sessions at the Regional Humanitarian Partnerships Forum in Thailand in November. These sessions were on the publication “Disaster Response in the Asia Pacific: A Guide to International Tools and Services”, to which the DLP contributed several substantive sections. Discussions are also ongoing with SADC regarding a potential regional IDRL instrument.</p> <p>In the Americas, following the adoption of the format and questionnaire for the Model Regional Compendium of Regulatory Instruments for the Management of International Humanitarian Assistance in Emergencies at the annual “Meeting on Enhancing International Humanitarian Partnerships” (MIAH) in Quito in 2011, a number of governments have compiled relevant information on their respective legal systems (including Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico and Peru) while others have well advanced in this process (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala). At the MIAH meeting in Jamaica in October, the</p>			

IFRC was also asked to lead a government working group tasked to look at ways to stimulate the completion of the Model Regional Compendium.

Drawing on this experience, the IFRC began discussions with the African Union to commence a similar process in Africa. In 2013, work began in the development of a preliminary report compiling existing information on national laws and on the relevant policies of the regional economic cooperation bodies.

The IFRC also contributed to a NATO project addressing the liability of civilian relief personnel. DLP staff joined an ad hoc working group of NATO's Civil Protection Group to produce a "Model Technical Arrangement on the Liability of Relief Personnel". The text, a collection of model liability clauses and implementation guide, is intended to complement the MoU on the Facilitation of Vital Cross Border Transport. It was presented to NATO's Civil Emergency Planning Committee in November 2013 and is currently pending adoption.

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 2.4: DL presentations to international and regional organizations</b>	<i># of presentations provided</i>	27	11

The DLP delivered presentations at 11 inter-governmental meetings and 19 other international or regional events.

Intergovernmental meetings:

- World Customs Organization Permanent Technical Committee, in Brussels in March
- Pacific Islands Forum Regional Security Committee Meeting in Fiji in June
- CEPREDENAC Consultation Forum in San José, Costa Rica in June
- Organization for Security and Co-operation consultation on cross-border issues in crises in Vienna, Austria in June
- Commonwealth of Independent States Inter-Parliamentary Assembly seminar on the regulation of disaster response in Dushanbe, Tajikistan in September (co-hosted by IFRC)
- Meeting of the Special Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction of the ACS, Port of Spain, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in October 2013
- Session of the UN Sixth Committee on the International Law Commission in New York in November
- Third International Conference on the HOPEFOR Initiative, in the Dominican Republic in November
- ACS international workshop on comprehensive disaster risks management in Mexico in November
- Regional Meeting on Customs and Migration (convened by CEPREDENAC and WFP) in Panama in November
- Parliamentary Assembly of the Collective Security Treaty Organization in St Petersburg, Russia in November

Other international or regional events:

- ASEAN Core Group Workshop for the Establishment of a Network of Disaster Management Training Institutes (DMTI), in Singapore in February
- Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme's and Mercy Malaysia's training for ASEAN member states in Kuala Lumpur in February
- Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Quito, Ecuador in March
- RedLAC monthly meeting in Panama City in Panama in April
- Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana (the disaster management authority of

- Indonesia) International Table Top Exercise in Padang, Indonesia in April
- OCHA Regional Humanitarian Policy Forum in Bangkok, Thailand in May
- ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Disaster Relief Exercise ([DiREX](#)) in Cha'am, Thailand in May
- US Pacific Command Military Law and Operations (USPACOM MILOPS) Conference in Bangkok, Thailand in June
- NATO Civil Protection Seminar on Host Nation Support in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina in June
- World Justice Forum in the Hague in July
- Civil-Military workshop in Dominican Republic in August
- Civil-Military Interaction Workshop in Wellington, New Zealand in September/October
- INSARAG regional earthquake response simulation exercise in Lima, Peru in October
- Meeting on the International Mechanisms for Humanitarian Assistance in Latin America and the Caribbean in Kingston, Jamaica in October
- SADC DRR workshop in Johannesburg, South Africa in October
- Asia Pacific Housing Forum in Manila, Philippines in October
- ECOWAS DRR platform in Niamey, Niger in November
- AU meeting of the Sub-Cluster on Emergency Preparedness and Response in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in June
- OCHA Regional Humanitarian Partnerships Forum in Phuket, Thailand in November

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 2.5: Dedicated DLP workshops organized for states at the global and regional levels</b>	<i># of workshops and seminars organized (may overlap with the workshops described in Output 3.4)</i>	10	9

The IFRC organized dedicated disaster law workshops/sessions during the reporting period:

- On 24 March, the IFRC collaborated with OCHA and IPU to organize a launch event for the “Model Act on the Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance” at the IPU General Assembly in Quito.
- On 23 April, the IFRC collaborated with ACS and the Governments of Mexico and Haiti to convene a [side event on IDRL](#) with the participation of the Haitian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Religion among others, on the occasion of the ACS Summit in Pétion-Ville, Haiti.
- Also on 23 April, the IFRC convened a dedicated session on regulatory barriers to post-disaster shelter at the [Europe and Central Asia Housing Forum](#) in Geneva.
- On 6-8 May, the IFRC collaborated with CEPREDENAC and WFP to organize a [workshop for Central American officials](#) on legal issues in the entry of international humanitarian assistance in Panama City, which led to recommendations subsequently taken up by heads of state at the SICA summit (as noted in Sections 2.4 above and 2.7 below).
- On 20 May, the IFRC collaborated with UNISDR in the development of a [governmental consultation](#) on “Effective normative frameworks for disaster risk reduction” at the Fourth Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva.
- On 5 June, the IFRC collaborated with the Special Rapporteur of the European Parliament to organize a [dedicated panel session at the European Parliament on IDRL](#), with the participation of ECHO Director-General Claus Sorensen among others, in Brussels.
- On 28 June, the IFRC collaborated with the Norwegian Refugee Council and the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing to organize a [roundtable on security of tenure in humanitarian shelter](#) attended by representatives of permanent missions, donor agencies and humanitarian organisations active in the shelter sector in Geneva.
- On 28-29 October, the IFRC collaborated with the World Customs Organization and OCHA in

<p>the organization of a Regional Seminar on the Role of Customs in Disaster Response in Astana, Kazakhstan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 4 October, the IFRC co-hosted a seminar on the regulation of disaster response with the CIS Inter-Parliamentary Assembly's Permanent Commission for Social Policy and Human Rights in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.</li> </ul>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 2.6: Dedicated training events for permanent missions</b>	<i># trainings for permanent missions in Gva, Brussels, NY and Addis</i>	8	2
<p>Following the positive feedback on the first training workshop on legal and institutional frameworks for international disaster assistance for representatives of permanent missions, held in Geneva in 2012, the IFRC contributed to two workshops for missions in <a href="#">New York</a> and <a href="#">Brussels</a>. Both workshops were organized under the mantle of the "<a href="#">Disaster Response Dialogue</a>," a joint initiative of the Swiss government, IFRC, OCHA and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies.</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 2.7: DL messages proposed for resolutions, agreements and other instruments</b>	<i># of resolutions/instruments for which suggestions are provided</i>	20	12
<p>The DLP influenced several international and regional resolutions or guidance documents, including nine addressing IDRL-related topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <a href="#">Pétion-Ville Declaration</a>, adopted by the 5th Summit of the Heads of State and/or Government of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS)</li> <li>The <a href="#">Declaration of San Jose</a>, adopted by the 41st Summit of Heads of State and Government of the member states of the Central American Integration System (SICA)</li> <li><a href="#">UN General Assembly resolutions</a> on Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, and International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development</li> <li><a href="#">ECOSOC resolution</a> on Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations</li> <li>The outcome document of the June meeting of the <a href="#">Pacific Islands Forum Regional Security Committee</a> (FRSC)</li> <li>OSCE Draft Self-assessment tool for nations to increase preparedness for cross-border implications of crisis</li> <li>AU Humanitarian Policy (adoption expected in March 2014)</li> <li>AU Disaster Management Policy (adoption expected in March 2014)</li> <li>ASEAN Regional Forum DiREX Outcome report includes recommendation for states to develop national legislation to coordinate and facilitate international assistance</li> <li>The Plan of Action for the <a href="#">Kingston Declaration</a> from the VI Regional Meeting on International Mechanisms for Humanitarian Assistance in Latin America and the Caribbean (MIAH)</li> </ul> <p>And two addressing other areas of disaster law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <a href="#">Chair's Summary</a> of the Fourth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction</li> </ul>			

- [Guiding principles](#) on security of tenure for the urban poor (presented by the UN Special Rapporteur for adequate housing for adoption by the Human Rights Council)

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 2.8: Global tools on regulatory barriers to post-disaster shelter</b>	<i>Global tools developed and widely consulted with shelter practitioners</i>	See below	

During the reporting period, the DLP and the IFRC Shelter and Settlements Department launched a joint study on participatory land mapping in post-disaster contexts, with the support of the Global Shelter Cluster working group on regulatory barriers in the provision of shelter. The aim of the study is to cull from the number of existing tools a set of “minimum elements” land mapping tailored for the post-disaster context. The minimum elements will facilitate a common approach among humanitarian actors, provide assurances in respect of rigour and equity – and could eventually serve as a basis for legal recognition by states as an interim measure. Aspects of this work were discussed at the Global Shelter Cluster’s shelter coordination workshop, the roundtable on security of tenure in humanitarian shelter, the Europe and Central Asia Housing Forum as well as at the UK and Australian shelter forums.

Initial consultation was also had on the potential value of developing a collection of country snap-shots on housing, land and property and related legal issues in shelter response. This included a discussion session at the shelter coordination workshop mentioned above.



First Lady of Paraguay addresses participants at an IDRL workshop.



Simulation exercise in Honduras to test the effectiveness of regional mechanisms disaster assistance.



Participants of a disaster law workshop in the Cook Islands.

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Outcome 3: National Societies, the IFRC, and key partners achieve greater capacity for their work in disaster law</b>	<i># of NS whose staff/volunteers have increased their skills in legislative advocacy</i>	70	46
	<i># of NS that have participated in legislative advocacy in disaster law</i>	22	27
	<i># of partner organizations taking part in trainings</i>	26	17
	<i># of persons taking the IDRL e-module in the period</i>	220	765

The staff and volunteers of 46 National Societies increased their skills in advocacy related to disaster law in 15 country-level workshops, 8 regional workshops and the annual disaster law course. Twenty-seven National Societies were directly engaged in legislative advocacy on disaster law during the

reporting period, either in connection with technical assistance projects or providing input on draft legislation (with technical support provided by IFRC where requested).

In addition, representatives from 17 partner organisations participated in disaster law training events, including the African Union, Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Organization, Brookings Institution, CEPREDENAC, European Union, ICRC, ICVA, Arab League, NATO, Norwegian Refugee Council's Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), OCHA, Oxfam, SADC, UNDP, UNHCR, WCO, WFP.

Seven-hundred sixty-five new individuals registered for the introductory online e-training module on IDRL, which is available on the IFRC's learning platform. This brought the overall number of persons who have registered since the module was developed to 3,469. Of these, 1,574 successfully completed the module exam.

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 3.1: Disaster law focal points and peer groups developed</b>	<i># of NSs designating a focal point with substantial expertise in disaster law</i>	21	17
	<i># of active NS disaster law peer groups</i>	6	4
	<i>Support for short term disaster law advisor positions</i>	4	2

The DLP supported and contributed to the discussions of the Advocacy Network on Disaster Law in the Americas, the Asia-Pacific Legal Network, African National Societies Legal Network and the European Legal Support Group. As reflected above, at least 26 National Societies were engaged in disaster law advocacy activities, 17 of which have designated a disaster law focal point among their staff or volunteers with substantial expertise in disaster law.

Training in disaster law advocacy was provided for disaster law focal points and others involved in disaster law advocacy in the National Societies of Botswana, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia and Tanzania. In Botswana the disaster law focal point delivered a presentation to government authorities; and in Tanzania the focal point and programme manager took part in stakeholder consultation meetings.

Members of the Americas Advocacy Network in Cuba and Paraguay convened members of their governments to national seminars on IDRL. National Societies of Ecuador, Guatemala and Jamaica conducted IDRL projects with support from IFRC, and IDRL focal points in Colombia, Jamaica and Nicaragua delivered presentations on IDRL.

One member of the Americas Advocacy Network from Ecuador was engaged to provide technical assistance support to the IDRL projects in Peru for the drafting of a ministerial decree to facilitate international disaster assistance. This person also represented IFRC at the Fuerzas Aliadas Humanitarias (FA-HUM) simulation's preparation meeting in El Salvador in December.

Support was also provided to the Cook Islands Red Cross to continue the term of their Advocacy and Policy adviser, who dedicated more than half her time to disaster law initiatives in the Cook Islands.

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 3.2: Sample TORs and guidance for IDRL projects developed and disseminated</b>	<i>Kit for NSs interested in running their own technical assistance projects developed on IDRL</i>	See below	
	<i>Similar kit designed for assistance projects focused on DRR law</i>		

Finalization of the sample TORs and kits was postponed to 2014.

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 3.3: Legislative advocacy manual disseminated</b>	<i># of copies of the legislative advocacy manual disseminated</i>	680	See below
<p>Work on a revised version of the legislative advocacy manual, dividing up its various components into individual “guidance notes” was begun with the publication of a Legislative Advocacy Guidance Note on Disaster Risk Reduction and its dissemination at the statutory meetings in Sydney; 221 copies in 3 languages were disseminated there.</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 3.4: Dedicated global, regional and country training workshops organized</b>	<i># of global training workshops</i>	4	1
	<i># of regional training workshops</i>	15	4
	<i># of country-level training workshops (may overlap with the workshops described in Output 1.2)</i>	20	20
<p>The annual disaster law course, “Law and Legal Protection in Natural Disasters,” organised in collaboration with the Brookings-London School of Economics Project on Internal Displacement, OCHA and UNHCR was successfully organized at the International Institute for Humanitarian Law in San Remo, Italy, in December 2013. Participants included representatives from 12 governments, 6 National Societies, IDMC and UNDP. At the conclusion of the course, each participant developed a plan of action with specific steps to improve their countries’ legal preparedness.</p> <p>Regional disaster law meetings were organized in Astana, Doha, Dushanbe and Panama; and a training session on disaster law was organised for 13 National Societies and ICRC at the Legal Advisors Meeting (Southeast Asia and East Asia) in Hong Kong in March.</p> <p>Several of the workshops reported above in output 1.2 included a training component. Additionally, disaster law ‘sensitisation sessions’ were piloted with National Societies in Myanmar and Lao PDR, and IFRC and the Red Cross Society of China co-hosted a disaster law roundtable with UNDP in China.</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	
<b>Output 3.5: Develop textbooks and training for professors</b>	<i>Develop textbook for law schools</i> <i>Develop abbreviated version for DM students</i> <i>Provide training for law /DM professors</i>	See below	
<p>Work on the textbook and training for academic courses on disaster law was postponed to 2014.</p> <p>A public database of existing disaster law courses and certificate programmes was created, and new listings are added regularly.</p>			

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 3.6: Disaster law integrated into other IFRC and partner trainings</b>	<p><i>DL module created and managed for Tata DM course</i></p> <p><i>DL material contributed to humanitarian diplomacy course</i></p> <p><i>DL integrated into relevant Movement, DM and HD training</i></p>	See below	
<p>Disaster law was integrated into the FACT and IMPACT trainings in Australia in April, the FACT training in Montenegro in September, the Movement Induction Course for NS leaders in Geneva in October, the Asia Pacific Zone IT/Telecommunications training in Singapore in September, the National Logistics Workshop for the Red Cross Society of China in October, and at the Americas Field School in the Dominican Republic in December.</p> <p>Disaster law was also covered at a Programme Coordination meeting in South Africa in November that brought together 11 National Societies, as well as at an Australian Red Cross training on legal frameworks for humanitarian assistance in June. A regional disaster law workshop was also organized for 6 National Societies from the MENA Zone, hosted by the Qatar Red Crescent in Doha in December. Moreover, the e-training module on IDRL was incorporated as a mandatory component of RIT trainings in Barbados and El Salvador in April.</p> <p>The DLP also provided support for the curriculum for the new online disaster management course run by the TATA Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai, India.</p>			



Community consultation during the DRR law study in Madagascar



DRR law study in Nicaragua



Addressing HLP issues with the Shelter Cluster in Leyte Province, Philippines.

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Outcome 4: New research on disaster law broadens the general knowledge-base and facilitates change</b>	<p><i>High quality studies well received by relevant disaster management and legal stakeholders</i></p>	See below	
<p>The DLP is establishing a solid evidence base in its newer focus areas, in particular law and disaster risk reduction. The impact of this work is not expected until next year when the research phase is complete and concrete programming tools are developed and piloted. In the meantime, however, the greater integration of DLP work with that of other departments as well as the growing partnership with UNDP are already a valuable by-product. The country research on law and DRR has already informed the development of legal analysis components in IFRC joint project plans on urban DRR in Mexico, and for</p>			



a major project proposal on 8 cities in Africa.			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 4.1: DRR law research project</b>	<i># in-depth country case studies completed</i>	6	7
	<i>Synthesis study completed</i>	1	0
<p>The IFRC-UNDP joint research project on law and disaster risk reduction was nearly completed in 2013. Building on the IFRC-UNDP desk surveys of relevant laws in 27 countries, 5 new in-depth country studies were completed by IFRC, with 1 further case study nearing completion (in parallel with 3 UNDP case studies under way). The <a href="#">Ethiopia</a> and <a href="#">Nicaragua</a> studies were published, and final reports were received for the case studies in Guatemala, New Zealand, Madagascar, Tanzania and Vietnam. A synthesis study draft was completed and sent out for peer review. <a href="#">Global preliminary findings</a> for the project, 'Better Laws, Safer Communities?', were published and disseminated at the Fourth Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. Publication of the jointly-produced synthesis report is planned for early 2014.</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 4.2: Research on regulatory barriers to shelter</b>	<i># regional desk studies of country laws completed</i>	3	2
	<i># in-depth case studies completed</i>	5	0
	<i>Synthesis study completed</i>	1	0
<p>A regional desk study on regulatory barriers to shelter in the Americas was largely completed during the reporting period, focusing on 6 countries (Chile, Cuba, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Peru). Summary reports from this and the Asia regional study conducted last year will be published in 2014.</p> <p>Following from these desk-based studies, in-depth regulatory reviews were conducted in Haiti and Nepal. The Nepal study was presented at a symposium of the Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium in Kathmandu in December. Publication of this and the Haiti report is expected in the first half of 2014. A consultation workshop is also being planned in Nepal to discuss the recommendations set out in that report.</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 4.3: Real time legal evaluations in selected disaster operations</b>	<i># of real time evaluations conducted</i>	6	3
<p>At the request of the Global Shelter Cluster, a DLP staff member was deployed to the Philippines from 20-28 February to support the cluster in the assessment of regulatory issues in the shelter response to Typhoon Bopha through the preparation of an advocacy report. This included guidance on beneficiary selection, no build zones, and tenure issues. The report was published by the Global Shelter Cluster and OCHA and disseminated widely to humanitarian stakeholders.</p> <p>Two DLP staff members were deployed as part of the response to Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda), one with a dual portfolio including IFRC's legal risk management and IDRL. On IDRL, the staff addressed issues encountered by Movement actors, collected information on emerging IDRL issues and provided advice to the Philippine government on the regulation and facilitation of incoming assistance. The second DLP</p>			

staff member acted as Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Technical Advisor for the Philippines Shelter Cluster one month into the emergency. The staff member supported the Shelter Coordination Team and other cluster partners on HLP issues, working in Manila, Cebu and Tacloban, and was responsible for convening an inter-cluster HLP technical working group and developing a common humanitarian position on HLP concerns.

The DLP staff member based in Haiti supported IFRC delegations and National Societies in the Dominican Republic and Haiti with migration following a citizenship ruling by the Constitutional Court of the Dominican Republic.

To ensure that staff are adequately prepared for future deployments, the DLP organised a training workshop covering IFRC rules and procedures, legal status and legal risk management and IDRL for the emergency context. Participants included all DLP and legal department staff. Two DLP staff completed FACT training courses, three completed the Shelter Cluster Coordination training, and one completed the Americas Field School.

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 4.4: Additional legal research on targeted issues</b>	<i># of additional research projects for other IFRC departments, as requested (such as food security, first aid, health emergencies, nuclear accidents, logistics issue, DRR in slums, etc.)</i>	2	3

The DLP developed a research options paper on legal issues in nuclear accidents for discussion by the National Society Nuclear Accidents Reference Group in August. Work on a similar options paper concerning food security is on-going, and research and advice were provided to address logistics and demurrage issues in Pakistan.

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 4.5: Comprehensive disaster law database</b>	<i># of records in the database</i>	2000	1030

The database grew to 1030 records, including international instruments, national laws and key articles. In addition, as noted above, a new [database](#) of disaster law courses was developed.



Construction of bunkhouses in the Philippines following typhoon Haiyan



Italian Red Cross volunteer training on IDRL at the Institute of International Humanitarian Law in San Remo



IDRL presentation in Ecuador

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Outcome 5: Disaster law issues receive greater visibility, including in humanitarian and academic fora</b>	<i># of RC/RC &amp; NGO meetings addressing disaster law issues</i>	20	18
	<i># of new masters/diploma courses include regular modules on IDRL and other key DL issues</i>	5	3
	<i>Disaster law is addressed in relevant IFRC courses and trainings</i>		

Disaster law issues – and the valuable contribution of the Red Cross Red Crescent and its partners – are gaining attention in both humanitarian and academic fora. In April OCHA published a [new manual](#) for disaster response in Asia Pacific including the IDRL Guidelines among the key instruments for effective disaster response. We are also seeing a surge of interest among academics, who are pursuing exciting new research in the field as well as a large increase in the number of related courses. (See the new [database](#) of disaster law courses.)

In addition to the annual disaster law course noted above, the programme was invited to deliver a number of academic lectures and trainings, including to students from Australian National University in Geneva in February, lecturers at the Islamic University of Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur in February, as part of the Geneva Centre for Education and Research in Humanitarian action (CERAH) Certificate Course on Disaster Management in Geneva in March, and as part of the International Diploma in Humanitarian Assistance course in Kuala Lumpur in November.

Partnerships between National Societies and academia are also on the rise. The Italian Red Cross partnered with a university to launch a new [IDRL training programme for its volunteers](#). The programme was a success, and it is hoped both that it will be continued and that the model might be replicated in other countries. The Ecuadorian Red Cross has also succeeded in adding legal issues in international disaster response in [university courses](#) at the Latin-American Faculty of Social Science the San Francisco de Quito University.

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 5.1: Support provided for attention to DL issues at key RC/RC conferences and meetings</b>	<i>IFRC statutory &amp; regional meetings address DL issues</i>	5	2
	<i>IFRC Governing Board advisory committees on DM and HD supported on DL issues</i>	2	2

Disaster law was addressed in 2 workshops during the statutory meetings in Sydney, Australia in November:

- General Assembly workshop ‘Better laws, safer communities: The role of National Societies in the development and implementation of legislation for disaster risk reduction’
- Council of Delegates workshop ‘Making the most of the International Conference: Outcomes of the 31st IC and preparing for the 32nd IC in 2015’

The Advisory Body on Humanitarian Principles and Diplomacy also addressed disaster law in its meetings in Geneva in February and June.

In addition, disaster law featured at numerous other National Society events and meetings during the year. Several of note:

- IFRC-American Red Cross Workshop on Urban DRR in Arusha, Tanzania in February
- Americas RC Partnership Meeting in Panama City, Panama in March
- Southeast Asia Leaders Meeting in Laos in March
- RCRC Legal Advisors Meeting (Southeast Asia and East Asia) in Hong Kong in March
- European Legal Support Group meeting in Oslo, Norway in April
- PADRU Think Tank Meeting in Panama City, Panama in May
- PADRU Pre-disasters Meeting in Bogota, Colombia in June
- RC Auxiliary Role Meeting in San José, Costa Rica in June
- Annual Meeting of National Society Legal Advisors in Geneva, Switzerland in June
- IFRC workshop on Urban DRR in Kampala, Uganda in July
- Caribbean RC Partnership Meeting in Trinidad in August
- Second Haiti Learning Conference in Panama City, Panama in October
- IFRC Asia Pacific Zone HD meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in October
- Pacific National Societies Leadership Pre-Meetings in Sydney, Australia in November
- Bi-national DRR meeting of Haitian Red Cross and Dominican Red Cross in the Dominican Republic in December

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 5.2: Key humanitarian partner meetings address disaster law issues</b>	<i># of humanitarian partner meetings (e.g. Interaction Forum) where disaster law is discussed</i>	10	16

DLP issues were addressed and presentations delivered at a number of partner meetings and conferences, including:

- African Regional Platform for DRR in Arusha in February
- Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme's and Mercy Malaysia's training for ASEAN member states in February
- UK Shelter Forum in Oxford, United Kingdom in February
- Health and Disasters National Congress in Santiago de Cuba, Cuba in March
- IASC Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) meeting in Bangkok, Thailand in March
- Logistic Cluster meeting in Haiti in April
- Europe and Central Asia Housing Forum in Geneva in April
- Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva in May
- Regional Policy Forum for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok in May
- Australian Shelter Forum in Sydney in June
- Roundtable on Security of Tenure in Humanitarian Shelter in Geneva in June (co-organised)
- AU Sub-Cluster for Emergency Response and Preparedness
- Asia Pacific Housing Forum in October
- Pacific Humanitarian Team Meeting in October
- Asia-Pacific Regional Humanitarian Partnerships Forum in Phuket in November
- European Voluntary Civil Protection Forum in Budapest in November

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 5.3: Effective and widely used DLP websites, newsletter and news service</b>	<i>DLP websites in all languages are effective and up-to-date</i>	See below	See below
	<i># of DL newsletter list subscribers</i>	3,500	6,570
	<i># of DL news service subscribers</i>	500	772
	<i># of weekly news service reports</i>	80	48
	<i># of newsletters</i>	12	5
<p>The quality of the DLP website continues to improve, with an enhanced layout and new content in multiple languages. The programme's two main communications tools – the weekly news service and bi-monthly newsletter – were published regularly and reached a wide audience. Subscription rates during the reporting period were 772 for the news service and 6,570 for the newsletter.</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 5.4: DL essay contest</b>	<i># of students participating in the contest</i>	80	0
<p>The student essay competition was not yet launched.</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 5.5: Disaster Law Working Paper Series</b>	<i># of working papers published</i>	4	0
<p>The Disaster Law Working Paper Series published no new papers during the reporting period.</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 5.6: Articles published in external journals</b>	<i># of articles published</i>	8	1
<p>One article was published in an external journal during the reporting period: David Fisher, <i>The Future of International Disaster Response Law</i>, German Yearbook of International Law, volume 55 (2012).</p>			
Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 5.7: Additional DL videos created</b>	<i># of videos published</i>	2	5
<p>Five new videos were produced, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Disaster law in West Africa</a> jointly produced with ECOWAS</li> <li>• <a href="#">Key messages and outcomes</a> of the 5th Summit of Heads of State and/or Government of the Association of Caribbean</li> <li>• a video interview on the new <a href="#">Peruvian Ministerial Resolution on IDRL</a></li> <li>• a video produced for the Second Haiti Learning Conference in Panama in September</li> <li>• a video report on the <a href="#">launch of the Jamaica IDRL study</a> produced during the MIAH in Jamaica in October</li> </ul>			

Objectives	Indicators	Target for 2013-14	2013 Actual
<b>Output 5.8: DL messages reflected in external media</b>	<i># of external media articles/broadcasts per year have featured IFRC or NS disaster law work</i>	22	11
<p>External media covered the IDRL side-event at the ACS Summit (12 TV and radio channels, and one article published in a local newspaper) as well as the MIAH meeting, both in Haiti. DLP events in Botswana, Kazakhstan, Malawi and Tajikistan were featured in news articles and on radio programmes; and a press briefing by DLP staff on the Bangladesh building collapse aired as an interview on UN Radio. An <a href="#">interview</a> with the programme coordinator was also published in the A4ID newsletter in September.</p>			

## Stakeholder participation and feedback

One of the main areas of work of the DLP is building the capacity of National Societies and technically assisting governments in matters relevant to disaster law. By its nature, this work requires stakeholders' direct participation. The importance of the IFRC's continued work on disaster law was strongly endorsed by the 31<sup>st</sup> International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2011. Since then, we have been pleasantly surprised by the increasing number of requests for technical assistance by both National Societies and states.

Representatives of National Societies and governments are regularly joined by other partners at our training events, such as at the workshop jointly organised with CEPREDENAC and WFP in Panama in November and the workshop organised with WCO and OCHA in Astana in October. In participant evaluations, these events receive consistently high ratings. Constructive feedback and new ideas reflected in the constant improvement of our project methodologies and training programmes.

Our research projects this year are all collaborative efforts, involving several departments of the IFRC and colleagues from across different specializations, as well as key external partners, such as UNDP.

## Key Risks or Positive Factors

Key Risks or Positive Factors	Priority High Medium Low	Recommended Action
A major risk in legislative advocacy is that separate political considerations unrelated to the substance will slow progress. This has often led to delays in the launch and finalization of the DLP's projects.	M	We adapt the structure of projects to accord with political realities in each country. However, we remain committed to engaging key stakeholders in our work, and this often takes time.

The development of new and untested areas of disaster law expertise could lead to misunderstandings or tensions with other concerned stakeholders.	M	We ensure adequate time to build an evidence base. We create partnerships with key actors to avoid duplication and conflict.
IDRL is gaining ever-more attention in humanitarian and academic circles, as well as in senior levels of government (as seen in the recent heads-of-state declarations). The possibility of a global treaty on the topic is raising with increasing frequency, especially with the advancement of the related project of the International Law Commission.	M	We remain engaged in the discussion, consulting with our membership and governments on the question of whether a treaty would be either desirable or feasible. We plan to contribute new research on the question over the coming year. We also provide input to the ILC and other related processes at the regional level.

## Lessons learned and looking ahead

Obtaining clear results over the short term is extremely challenging in the legal field. As interest in disaster law appears to be rising, the DLP has received no shortage of invitations to speak, present and provide training. While building up the knowledge and engagement of key stakeholders is important over the long term, measuring the real effectiveness of this work in the short and medium term can be difficult. Even more difficult is determining how much time and resources to devote to each legislative project, given that legislative bills can sometimes languish for years for reasons unrelated to their content. To date, the DLP has emphasized the depth of in-country research on existing law to ensure that its advice is made on the basis of a thorough understanding of the country's current situation.

In 2013, the DLP commissioned its first external programme evaluation with the aim of assessing the programme's progress, effectiveness and efficiency. The evaluators, with the help of several volunteers, interviewed 65 stakeholders from 35 countries – including National Societies and governments receiving technical assistance, participants in disaster law training events, and other partner organisations. On the basis of these interviews, on-line survey results and a literature review, the evaluation showed significant achievements since IFRC began its work in the areas in 2001. The evaluators found that, while ambitious, the DLP goals are realistically achievable over the longer term. While there is significant support for these goals by National Societies and governments, they saw a need for more implementation support following research studies. The need to maintain a strong country-level focus and for better follow-up on technical assistance projects were among the key recommendations. These and other recommendations have already been integrated in the DLP's 2014-2015 operational plan. (See the summary report [here](#).)

## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Find out more on [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)

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