

Disaster Law Programme Summary Plan for 2016

Key goals

3 new laws

at minimum, to be adopted

12 draft laws

at minimum, to be significantly advanced

3 countries

at minimum, that have improved implementation of their disaster laws

500 persons

at minimum, to be trained on disaster law



The IFRC's Disaster Law Programme (DLP) promotes legal approaches to disaster management that make communities safer, humanitarian relief more effective, and recovery stronger. It provides expert advice to National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and governments, undertakes legal research, and fosters discussion and learning about the development of disaster law.

Areas of activity



1. Technical assistance

The DLP will support National Societies to assist and advise their governments in the analysis, drafting and implementation of effective disaster laws.

It will devote 60% of its time to 27 priority countries (where efforts will continue for four years), dividing its remaining time among other opportunities (for programmes in at least 40 countries in total).

Country level projects will depend on local priorities, but will include support on the **regulation of international relief, legislation for disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and protection** in disaster response.

DLP priority countries 2016-20

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Africa | Liberia, Malawi, Madagascar, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan |
| Americas | Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru |
| Asia-Pacific | Bangladesh, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu |
| MENA | Egypt, Lebanon |



2. Tools and capacity building

In 2015, the DLP and UNDP finalized a **Checklist on law and disaster risk reduction** along with an accompanying **Handbook**. Drawing on a multi-country study and several years of stakeholder consultations, the Checklist and Handbook provide a comprehensible guide to assessing strengths and weaknesses in domestic legal frameworks for disaster risk reduction and developing plans for action. These will be rolled out at the country level in 2016.

In 2016, the DLP will collaborate with UNDP and other relevant partners in developing companion **Checklists on law and disaster preparedness/response** and on **climate change adaptation**, through a process of case study research and stakeholder consultations.

The IFRC will publish an **online introduction to law and disaster risk reduction** and develop a **hosted online training** on international disaster law. It will also jointly organize two global, 4 regional and 12 country-level in-person trainings on disaster law issues. It will also organize the second annual global disaster law essay contest for students.



3. Advocacy

The DLP will organize a series of **regional consultations** on accelerating progress in developing IDRL regulatory frameworks, including the possibility of strengthening regional and or global legal frameworks. The DLP will also support over a **dozen regional organizations** in developing tools and mechanisms to promote disaster cooperation.



4. Research and dissemination

The DLP will conduct **case study research** on law and disaster preparedness/response and climate change adaptation in at least 5 countries. It will also begin work with UNDP and other partners on a **global index** of domestic legal preparedness for disaster risk management.

The DLP will contribute to a **multi-year research project** on law and policy related to law and sexual and gender based violence in disaster settings.

The DLP will publish, together with the Roma Tre University, a foundational **textbook** on international disaster law



5. Emergency deployment

Drawing on successful pilots in the Philippines, Nepal and Vanuatu, the DLP will continue to **deploy legal experts** to support states and the international community (potentially as part of UNDAC) on regulatory issues in major disaster operations.

The DLP will also organize a **training of legal experts** from National Societies to enable them to deploy as needed on behalf of the IFRC.

More information can be found at www.ifrc.org/dl. A detailed operational plan for 2016 is available on request.