The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Disaster Law Programme (DLP) assists National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to support their authorities in developing and applying state-of-the-art disaster-related legislation, policies, and procedures. We do this in order to make communities safer, to ensure timely and effective humanitarian relief, and to improve the protection of the most vulnerable when faced with a crisis.

By harnessing their unique auxiliary role, National Societies working with our programme have successfully strengthened new disaster laws and policies in 37 countries since 2007.

**Key Figures**

- 1,850 persons trained by IFRC in auxiliary role, disaster law and legislative advocacy in 25 countries
- 8 countries adopted new law and policy instruments
- 14 NS with better defined auxiliary roles in draft or new national laws and policies
- 20 NS engaged in legislative advocacy activities
- 17 legal drafting procedures which are expected to be adopted in 2019-2020
- 11 regional organizations receiving ongoing support with disaster law processes
- 25 inter-governmental, inter-agency and academic fora actively engaged on legislative advocacy issues with IFRC and NS influence
- 24 humanitarian and academic conferences received support for disaster law discussions
IFRC Disaster Law Programme's areas of expertise:

Modern legal frameworks that have integrated disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into disaster risk management and sectoral laws and policies, in line with key international and regional commitments.

Integrated legal frameworks for disaster risk management that adequately address domestic preparedness and response, including institutional and procedural arrangements, risk financing (such as FbF and CASH programming), as well as planned approaches to regulatory issues in post-disaster shelter.

Support to governments in strengthening their legal and policy frameworks for disaster risk management to ensure they are gender and diversity responsive, protective and inclusive, and reflect international humanitarian standards.

Procedures for international disaster relief that put domestic authorities in the driver's seat, reduce barriers, costs and quality problems, and uphold humanitarian principles.

Recognizing the critical role of National Societies as auxiliaries to their public authorities in the humanitarian field with a unique community outreach, to ensure community voices and engagement with the national level policy development and planning processes.

IFRC Disaster Law Programme's areas of activity:

Influence the development, adoption and implementation of law and policy connected to IFRC and National Societies' knowledge, experience and mission, in order to create positive social and institutional changes.

Strengthen dissemination, public awareness and communities' level of understanding on rights, roles and responsibilities under disaster-related legislation, policies and procedures to increase their resilience to disasters.

Disaster Law Resources and Key Tools

Introduction to the Guidelines
The checklist on law and disaster risk reduction
Rapid tenure assessment
Guidelines for post-disaster response planning
Pilot version

The Handbook on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction

Minimum standard commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming
Pilot Version

For further information please visit:


International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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Saving lives, changing minds.