

DISASTER LAW PROGRAMME



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.

The DLP operates on an international mandate provided by all state parties to the Geneva Conventions, providing technical advice based on over a dozen years of global research and consultations.

THEMES



Auxiliary Role

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 national level policy development and planning processes on key humanitarian issues such as: disaster management, migration, health, among others



Legal Preparedness for International Disaster Assistance ('IDRL')

Adequate legal frameworks that facilitate and regulate international humanitarian assistance in emergencies. IDRL advocates for procedures for international disaster relief that put domestic authorities in the driver's seat, reduce barriers, costs and quality problems, and uphold humanitarian principles



Law and Disaster Risk Reduction

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



Domestic Preparedness and Response

Integrated legal frameworks for disaster risk management that adequately address domestic preparedness and response, including institutional and procedural arrangements, disaster risk financing, gender and protection issues, as well as planned approaches to regulatory issues in post-disaster shelter and disaster-related human mobility



Disasters and Climate Laws that leave no one behind

Inclusion of gender, diversity and protection issues; to ensure that dignity, access, participation and safety for all is adequately provided for in domestic legislation, policies and procedure

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.

Strong laws not only create a supportive environment for the efforts of our National Societies, they shape the significant capacities of government, create incentives for safer development practices, and ensure that the rights and dignity of vulnerable populations are protected.