UNDRR
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

Common Country Assessment

Course Background

The General Assembly resolution 72/279 emphasizes the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) as the primary instrument for planning and implementing UN development activities at the country level in alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The UNSDCF employs a multidimensional approach to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) risk analysis, summarizing key risks and assessing capacities to prevent, resist, absorb, adapt, respond, and recover from hazards and shocks.

Given the significant impact of climate change and disasters on people, planet, prosperity, and peace, the UN system has prioritized the design of risk-informed Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks. Consequently, a Guidance Note on Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in the UNSDCF was developed by the global UN Disaster Risk Reduction Focal Point Group in 2020, with input from United Nations country teams from all regions.

This course focuses on the development of **Common Country Assessments (CCA)** as an integrated, forward-looking, and evidence-based analysis of the country's context for sustainable development as established in the UNSDCF. The CCA serves as an essential step in integrating risk reduction and climate change adaptation across the UN system's policy and programme support.

Course Goals and Outline

This e-learning course aims to strengthen the capacities of government officials, UN Resident Coordinators, UNDRR in-country teams on the application of a forward-looking, and evidence-based analysis in the development of Common Country Assessments.

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

1. Explain the importance of the use of a risk-sensitive approach in the formulation of risk country assessments.

2. Describe the importance of risk analysis in UNSDCF processes.

3. Outline the key stages of the UNSCDF guidance and options for integrating a risk lens and/or DRR actions in each.

4. Develop a multidimensional risk analysis for new CCAs and its updates for discussions and validation in a workshop setting.

5. Plan and prepare a risk analysis workshop for CCAs.

6. Summarize findings and write up drafts of the CCAs risk chapters respectively.

The course is comprised of the following learning packages:

1. **Onboarding package.** This package has two versions:

   A. **Facilitated**. Addressed to **UN Resident Coordinators and high-level politicians**

   B. **Self-paced**. Addressed to other participants with minimal knowledge on risk analysis

2. **Intensive package.** This package is addressed to **UN Country Teams** and other stakeholders involved on risk analysis, and it is comprised of 4 modules:

   C. Risk Analysis for Humanitarian Planning

   D. Introduction to Risk Analysis in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) Processes

   E. Risk Analysis Methodologies for New CCA and CCA Updates

   F. Practical resources for and Examples of Successful Risk Analysis Workshops

Learning Packages, Content and Learning Objectives

1. Onboarding Package

Module	Content	Learning Objectives
Facilitated	• What is disaster risk? • What is disaster risk analysis? • Why are risk data and analysis important? • Understanding interconnected and cascading risks • UNDRR services and tools on risk analysis	1. Understand the value of risk assessment in national planning processes. 2. Plan for the integration of improved risk assessment in planning documents. 3. Identify and use tools to enrich risk assessment.
Self-paced	• What is disaster risk? • What is disaster risk analysis? • Why are risk data and analysis important? - **Video** • Understanding interconnected and cascading risks - **Video** • UNDRR services and tools on risk analysis	1. Understand the value of risk assessment in national planning processes. 2. Plan for the integration of improved risk assessment in planning documents. 3. Identify and use tools to enrich risk assessment.

2. Intensive package

Module	Content	Learning Objectives
1. Risk Analysis for Humanitarian Planning	• Key concepts related to risk analysis. • Risk drivers. • Risk equation. • Risk information management. • Disaster Risk Reduction and the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus.	1. Describe basic concepts and terminology related to risk analysis in country planning processes. 2. Explain the importance of good risk analysis in the formulation of national needs assessments and planning documents. 3. Facilitate a discussion about drivers of risk in humanitarian contexts and in developing countries that can cause disasters. 4. Identify different ways to maintain and update risk information.
2. Introduction to risk analysis in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) processes	• Integrating DRR and Climate Adaptation in the UNSDCF (Guidance Note and Checklist). • Risk Analysis Support for CCAs. • Risk information landscape (Spotlight report). • Risk analysis workshop preparation.	1. Describe the importance of risk analysis in UNSDCF processes. 2. Outline the key stages of the UNSCDF guidance and options for integrating a risk lens and/or DRR actions in each. 3. Describe the various approaches through which UNDRR supports the creation of CCAs. 4. Explain how to prepare risk analysis workshops for CCAs.

Module	Content	Learning Objectives

3. Risk Analysis Methodologies for New CCA and CCA Updates	• Risk Analysis Workshop Design.
	• Risk Analysis Methodology.
	   • CCA
	   • CCA Update
	• Maintenance: Keeping Risk Analysis Up to Date.
	• Further resources
		1. Develop a multidimensional risk analysis Common Country Assessment (CCA) and CCA Updates - for discussions and validation in a workshop setting.
		2. Develop risk-informed scenarios.
		3. Use risk analysis to inform the development of UNSCDF and adaptive planning.

4. Practical Resources for and Examples of Successful Risk Analysis Workshops	• Humanitarian Needs Overview
	   • Somalia (English)
	   • Cameroon (French)
	   • Guatemala (Español)
	• Application of the Checklist on Scaling Up DRR into Humanitarian Action
	   • Cameroon (French)
	   • Ethiopia (English)
	• Common Country Analysis Update
	   • South Sudan (English)
	   • Haiti (French)
	• New Common Country Analysis
	   • Ethiopia (English)
	• Resources: templates and samples
		4. Plan and prepare a risk analysis workshop for HNOs and CCAs.
		5. Design and develop the draft analysis for a risk analysis workshop.
		6. Facilitate risk analysis workshop sessions.
		7. Summarize the findings and write up the draft of the HNOs and CCAs risk chapters respectively.

Course Design

The modules contain the following components:

> ❯ **Interactive lessons**. They introduce you to the conceptual foundations of the different modules in an interactive manner.

All the lessons in the course are flash based. They introduce the contents and include interactive exercises that give you an opportunity to self-assess your knowledge.

You may interrupt a lesson at any point. They system keeps track of your position. Upon your return it automatically takes you to the point where you have previously stopped.

A printable version of the lessons is also available.

> **Templates and samples:**

1. Introductory slide decks for initial engagement
2. Half day agenda for risk analysis workshop
3. Full day agenda for risk analysis workshop
4. Two-day agenda for new CCA
5. Master slide deck for CCA update
6. Risk analysis matrices (EN, SP, FR)
7. Example of Checklist session slide deck
8. Draft risk chapters
9. RiX Spotlights (Editable versions)
10. Participant's workshop folder

Study Plan

Over the duration of the course, your workload is estimated to be about 3-4 hours per Module.

The course has been designed in a way to give you flexibility to plan your learning progress. The lesson activities, and additional resources of all modules can be accessed throughout the course. Thus, you will only need to complete all the required activities before the end of the course.

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