



Multi-Actor-Partnerships on Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance

Course syllabus: Foundations of Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance (CDRFI) and impactful Civil Society Engagement

Course description

This free, self-paced eLearning course gives a profound introduction to climate and disaster risk finance and insurance (CDRFI) and the political processes surrounding it. The course presents conceptual and policy frameworks, laying the ground for CDRFI, and shows how approaches in this context are functioning in practice. It further demonstrates how CDRFI can be integrated in national policy frameworks and provides insight on CSO engagement and advocacy strategies at the national, regional and international levels. Finally, it sheds light on potential benefits, limitations and challenges of CDRFI solutions. By the end of the course, learners should have more resources to engage in a meaningful and critical way in CDRFI programs. The main target group of this online course are civil society organizations that want to work in the field of CDRFI, but everyone interested in the topic is welcome to join this learning journey free of charge.

The course consists of five modules, each comprised of several smaller units. The units feature mixed media content, including expert videos and case studies, and provide additional reading to dig deeper into to the different topics. After each unit, students take a short quiz and are invited to engage with fellow learners in the course forum to reflect on their personal experience. After successful completion of the course, students will be awarded an official, personalized and verifiable certificate issued by MCII and the United-Nations University – Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS).

The Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII), which produced this course, is a leading think-tank on climate change and insurance, and is a forum for insurance-related expertise applied to climate change issues – under the vision that insurance solutions are an essential part of a wider climate risk management strategy. Thus, people who are currently not able to access or afford insurance against extreme weather events should be enabled to protect their livelihoods against the negative impacts of climate change. MCII was started as a charitable organization by insurers, research institutes and NGOs in April 2005 in response to the growing realization that insurance solutions can play a role in adaptation to climate change, as suggested in the Framework Convention and the Kyoto Protocol. MCII is hosted at the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS).

This course is an output of the MCII project “Multi-Actor Partnership (MAP) on Climate and Disaster Risk Financing and Preparedness in the Context of the InsuResilience Global Partnership”, and was developed in consultation with the project’s partners. MAPs on CDRFI aim to strengthen the technical understanding of CDRFI solutions and spur an effective collaboration between civil society organizations, governments and private sector stakeholders at the national and international level. Throughout the project (2019-2022), which is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Development and Economic Cooperation (BMZ) with support from Engagement Global, MAPs have been initiated and partially established in the Caribbean, Lao PDR, Malawi, Madagascar, the Philippines, Senegal and Sri Lanka through local project partners with support from CARE Germany, MCII and Germanwatch.

Objectives

The aim is providing participants with a general understanding of CDRFI, as well as presenting concepts and frameworks that will help them to critically assess the quality of CDRFI policies and programmes. Ultimately, it is expected that the e-learning course contributes to strengthen the capacity of CSOs members and helps CSO to better articulate their position vis a vis other CDRFI stakeholders. More concretely, by the end of the course learners should be able to:



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- Using climate risks concepts appropriately
- Differentiating stages in Integrated Climate Risk Management
- Being cognisant of different international policy agendas, as well as entry points for engagement
- Understanding core principles in CDRFI and workstream purposes in CDRFI programmes
- Identifying the main characteristics in CDRFI instruments and different contexts in which CDRFI has been applied
- Identifying the key features in Climate Risk Insurance products and programme workstreams, as well as entry points for gender mainstreaming
- Defining CSOs entry points to CDRFI programme implementation and advocacy
- Identifying the main CDRFI players and funding facilities at the international and regional levels
- Being aware of the potential benefits, shortcomings, and challenges to CDRFI programmes
- Relating CDRFI to the broader climate and DRR policy agendas, as well as being cognisant of the immediate challenges in advancing those

Didactic approach and unit structure

The course relies on different materials to present concepts and examples on climate risk and CDRFI. Moreover, and going beyond most existing e-learning courses in CDRFI, the aim is to create a learning space that encourages participants to critically reflect and evaluate the content presented.

The **workload in a standard unit varies** depending on the degree to which participants engage with the supporting materials (**30 mins to 1 hour** – if participants limit themselves to watch videos, read the units and answer the quizzes – **to 3 or 4 hours** if they decide to browse through the additional materials).

The units have been developed following a **similar structure** to gradually build up the learners' knowledge. All contents are integrated in an e-learning platform that learners can access any time through mobile devices or laptops.

- **Icebreaker:** An external resource (usually a video) that sparks participants' attention, presenting related content in an informative way and laying the ground for the unit.
- **Units:**
 - Content reminder: Brief recap from previous units that facilitates the creation of linkages between the content
 - Content: Thematic presentations including theoretical concepts and frameworks supported with practical examples and explanatory audios.
 - Selected bibliography: Participants are provided with a short and concise list of materials that can be used deepen their knowledge on selected topics addressed in the unit.
- **Expert insight:** Most units include a video featuring the opinion of one CDRFI expert to deepen specific themes that were discussed throughout the unit.
- **Evaluation:**
 - Quiz: Simple questions (definitions, true/false, matching, etc.) aiming at reinforcing the learning process.
 - Contribution to the **course forum:** Participants are asked to **critically discuss** a selected topic through case studies, hypothetical scenarios or relating the course content to their past experiences. The aim is to foster reflection and critical thinking on the themes discussed, as well as provide a space for **(asynchronous) interaction** with other learners.



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Content outline

The estimated completion times assume that participants go through all videos, audio-slides, quizzes and forum discussions (additional readings not included).

Module 1: An introduction to climate disaster risk finance and insurance (Time required: ca. 4h)

Unit 1.1 Basic concepts in climate risk (Time required: ca. 55 min)

- Theoretical concepts: risk, hazards, exposure, vulnerability
- Social dimension in climate disasters
- Resilience and vulnerability measurements

Unit 1.2 Integrated Climate Risk Management (Time required: ca. 40 min)

- Integrated climate Risk Management approaches
- Stages in Integrated Climate Risk Management: prevention, retention and transfer, preparedness, response, and recovery

Unit 1.3 International governance frameworks for disaster risk management and climate risk (Time required: ca. 45 min)

- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Loss and Damage and the Warsaw Mechanism

Unit 1.4 CDRFI in relation to broader development objectives (Time required: ca. 60 min)

- Climate risk and the international policy agendas: Climate risk and the SDGs
- The InsuResilience Global Partnership: Pro-poor and gender focus

Unit 1.5 Principles and purpose of using DRF to manage climate and disaster risks (Time required: ca. 45 min)

- Paradigm shift for disaster response: from reaction to anticipation
- Pillars for Climate Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance

Module 2: Climate Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance in practice (Time required: ca. 4h 25min)

Unit 2.1 CDRFI instruments in-depth (Time required: ca. 60 min)

- Macro, Meso and Micro levels for CDRFI
- Risk retention instruments
- External risk finance
- Risk transfer instruments
- Risk layering: Bringing all together

Unit 2.2 CDRFI in the making: Focus on Climate Risk Insurance (Time required: ca. 40 min)

- A programmatic view to CDRFI
- Technical aspects in CDRFI programs: Risk assessments, fiscal impact assessment and enabling environment analysis
- In-depth: Climate Risk Insurance

Unit 2.3 Climate Risk Insurance in action (Time required: ca. 50 min)

- Macroinsurance: African Risk Capacity
- Microinsurance: Kenya Livestock Insurance Program
- Adaptive Social Protection



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Unit 2.4 The role of CSO's in the implementation of CDRFI programmes (Time required: ca. 60 min)

- Integrated Climate Risk Management and Civil Society Organizations
- Entry points throughout the ICRM cycle

Unit 2.5 Access avenues to project implementation (Time required: ca. 55 min)

- Existing CDRFI funding facilities
- Stakeholders in CDRFI programmes
- Forging effective partnerships

Module 3: CDRFI integration in national policy frameworks and CSO advocacy (Time required: ca. 2h)

Unit 3.1 Integrating and aligning CDRFI into and with national policy and initiatives (Time required: ca. 40 min)

- NAP's and CDRFI
- National DRM institutional frameworks
- Disaster Resilient and Responsive Public Financial Management

Unit 3.2 CSO engagement strategies for policy advocacy at the national level (Time required: ca. 40 min)

- Framing advocacy and case study
- Public awareness raising on climate risks and CDRFI capacity building

Unit 3.3 Malawi: Lights and shadows in the path to CDRFI (Time required: ca. 40 min)

- Malawi risk profile
- First steps to a CDRFI strategy
- A DRM framework on the making
- Comprehensive CDRFI pays out

Module 4: CSO Engagement and advocacy strategies at the regional and international levels (Time required: ca. 2h 10min)

Unit 4.1 CDRFI global stakeholders and programmes (Time required: ca. 45 min)

- InsuResilience Global Partnership: A global platform for CDRFI
- Focus on selected actors: Donor countries, V20, World Bank and IDF

Unit 4.2 Global and regional policy processes (Time required: ca. 50 min)

- Sendai Framework
- UNFCCC
- World Bank and regional MDBs
- InsuResilience Global Partnership

Unit 4.3 CSO action at the global level: Views from selected case studies (Time required: ca. 35 min)

- Mock COP
- Views from the Frontline
- Loss & Damage Collaboration

Module 5: CDRFI potential benefits, limitations, and challenges (Time required: ca. 3h 5 min)

Unit 5.1 CDRFI potential benefits and shortcomings (Time required: ca. 60 min)

- Evidence on macro level instruments
- Evidence on meso level instruments
- Evidence on micro level instruments
- Avenues for future research



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Unit 5.2 CDRFI implementation challenges (Time required: ca. 60 min)

- Political support
- Capacities and awareness
- Product development
- Market development
- Operational issues

Unit 5.3 CDRFI Agenda beyond 2022 (Time required: ca. 65 min)

- IGP 2025 vision
- The Global Shield and a new CDRFI architecture
- Technical assistance and data accessibility
- Novel implementation approaches
- Other issues