



# IFRC-TISS

## Certificate Programme in Disaster Management

### Cohort **XX**



**TATA Institute of Social  
Sciences**



**International Federation  
of Red Cross and  
Red Crescent Societies**



**Jamsetji Tata School of  
Disaster Studies**

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# from the project director



Disasters and extreme weather events impact people, their livelihoods and often the global economy and pose serious challenges to attaining the goals of sustainable development. The International Federation of Red Cross and Crescent Societies (IFRC) as the world's largest humanitarian organization, aims at preventing and alleviating human suffering and has been instrumental in responding to a wide range of humanitarian crises. The Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) with more than seven decades of rich experience in social development and in post disaster interventions, has engaged in systematic research, teaching and praxis. The year long IFRC-TISS online Certificate Programme in Disaster Management was conceptualized recognizing the need for



practitioners to gain systematic knowledge of a rapidly expanding field. The program has seen participants from over 90 countries. As the programme completes its 8th year and the team will continue in its endeavour to provide the best that would help enhance the knowledge and capacities of humanitarian professionals and contribute to our collective aim of reducing disaster risks and building sustainable and resilient communities.

Janki Andharia, PhD  
Project Director, IFRC-TISS Programme on Disaster Management  
Dean, Jamsetji Tata School of Disaster Studies  
Tata Institute of Social Sciences

# the rationale

Globally, complexities and frequencies of disasters are on the increase, impacting communities and nations with grave socio-economic consequences and threatening the survival, dignity and livelihoods of the vulnerable sections of their populations. Shifting socio-economic situations, unplanned urbanization, environmental degradation, climate variability and change, geological hazards, competition for scarce natural resources, and the threat of epidemics/pandemics are factors that compound the impact of disasters. Disasters increasingly impact the global economy

and the sustainable development of developing countries. There have been great advancements in technology and capacity to forecast and recover from disasters, however, an increasing number of communities are becoming more vulnerable with each passing day, and loss of life and infrastructure persist at unacceptable rates. Organizations like The International Federation of Red Cross and Crescent Societies (IFRC) and other humanitarian actors are tremendously proficient at mounting immediate response interventions. There is a growing need to bring together the wealth of practical disaster response experience and knowledge of the IFRC and other humanitarian actors and the academic community like Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) to address humanitarian response in a holistic and integrated manner.

**URGENT NEED TO EQUIP HUMANITARIAN & EMERGENCY PROFESSIONALS WITH CONCEPTUAL KNOWLEDGE OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT TO RESPOND BETTER AND BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES WORLDWIDE.**

## IFRC strategy 2030

### 3 GOALS

- 1 People anticipate, respond to, and quickly recover from crisis
- 2 People lead safe, healthy and dignified lives and have opportunities to thrive
- 3 people mobilise for inclusive and peaceful communities

### 5 CHALLENGES

- 1 climate and environmental crisis
- 2 evolving crisis and disasters
- 3 growing gaps in health and well-being
- 4 migration and identity
- 5 values, power and incision

### 7 TRANSFORMATIONS

- 1 Supporting and developing National Societies as strong and effective local actors
- 2 Undergoing a digital transformation
- 3 Working effectively as a distributed network
- 4 Inspiring and mobilising volunteerism
- 5 Ensuring trust and accountability
- 6 Influencing humanitarian action
- 7 Financing the future

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# the programme

The International Federation of Red Cross and Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the Tata Institute for Social Sciences (TISS) have established an on-line Certificate Programme in Disaster Management to address the existing practice-knowledge gaps, by developing humanitarian professionals with the right blend of academic and practical approaches, to reduce vulnerabilities and risks to hazards while developing ways of building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters. The course positions the IFRC with TISS in an innovative partnership to collaborate in evolving new areas in the realm of Disaster Management.

## ***aiming at***

Training practitioners to think in a holistic and integrated manner, situating disasters within the larger context of development and with knowledge of factors such as vulnerability and studying the application and implication of humanitarian principles and standards.

## ***defining humanitarian response***

Integrating within the framework of an understanding of development, with vulnerability and disaster risk reduction as an integral part of development. It recognizes the vulnerabilities faced by the poor and marginalized and the disproportionate impact of disasters endured by them in the developing world. In this programme, the study of disaster risk reduction, disaster response and post-disaster recovery will be grounded in the values of justice, equity and social inclusion.

## ***leveraging decades of experience***

The uniqueness of the IFRC in Disaster response will enhance the knowledge and capacities of highly qualified and motivated Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers and new humanitarian professionals, resulting in more professional support to building sustainable and resilient communities and nations.



# join us

The Programme is a one year course and is offered at the Post Graduate level. It addresses all stages of disaster management in a comprehensive and holistic manner, including: Pre-disaster preparedness and mitigation, Rescue and relief in the context of disasters, and Post-disaster rehabilitation, reconstruction, and recovery.

## who should apply?

- Practitioners in disaster management.
- IFRC, National Society volunteers and staff at all levels.
- Others who are interested in disaster management and humanitarian response.

## eligibility

- Applicants should have a Bachelor's Degree or the overseas equivalent, although each application will be judged on its own merits and exceptions to this requirement may be made.
- Applicants who do not have a Bachelor's Degree or the overseas equivalent may apply if they can demonstrate (via a Personal Statement) that they are highly motivated, and have experience of prior learning.
- Applicants from developing countries receive priority

- Candidates should be able to read and write in English, as this Programme is a post-graduate level course conducted entirely in English.
- Candidates should be able to work on a computer, and have reasonable access to the internet for video conference.

## how to apply?

- Applications must be submitted online:  
<http://apply-ifrc.tiss.edu/>
- Additional inquiries can be addressed to the Programme Team at [onlinedm@tiss.edu](mailto:onlinedm@tiss.edu)

Each Module comprises of sessions on varied themes which will have compulsory reading, illustrative case studies, and audio-visual material from diverse contexts. The Programme is conducted online, entirely by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences through the **TISSOL**.



## selection process

- A Selection Committee comprising members from TISS and IFRC selects up to 50 qualified participants, based on merit and relevance. Selected participants will be informed by email.
- Successful candidates will receive a Certificate in Disaster Management issued by the Academic Council, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India.

## fee details

APPLICANT TYPE	TUITION FEE (USD)
IFRC & NATIONAL SOCIETIES	990
TISS ALUMNI	990
OTHERS	1980

- Fees once paid are non-refundable under any and all circumstances.
- Applicants upon the discretion of the Project Director will be allowed to transfer to the next cohort on a justifiable basis.
- Deferment to only two cohorts after the enrolment is allowed.

*Fees mentioned are for this Cohort only.*

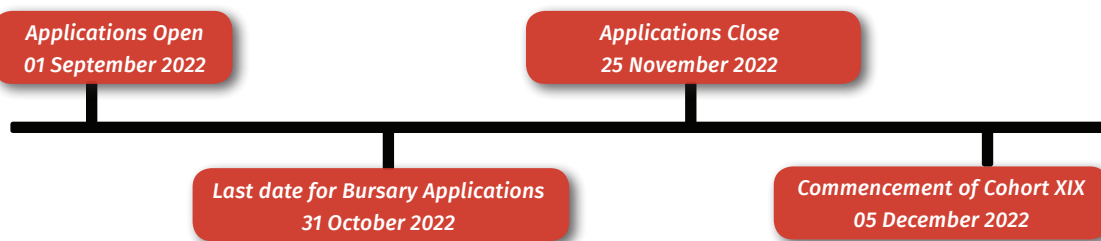
## bursary

- A limited number of bursaries are offered based on merit and means.
- Candidates who wish to apply for a bursary should complete the bursary section of the application form and must demonstrate a solid case for the need of bursary through a Bursary Note.
- A candidate seeking bursary will not be considered eligible if the Bursary Note is not submitted

## application checklist

APPLICANT TYPE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	REGULAR APPLICANTS	BURSARY APPLICANTS	RCRC APPLICANTS	RCRC BURSARY APPLICANTS	TISS ALUMNI	TISS ALUMNI BURSARY APPLICANTS
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE	•	•	•	•	•	•
CV/ RESUME	•	•	•	•	•	•
REFERENCE LETTER	•	•	•	•	•	•
BURSARY NOTE		•		•		•
FINANCIAL/INCOME CERTIFICATE		•		•		•
CERTIFICATE OF HIGHEST DEGREE	•		•	•	•	•
IFRC/ICRC/RCRC AFFILIATION DOCUMENT		•	•			
TISS ID CARD/DEGREE					•	•

## application timeline





# program structure

	MODULE/COURSE	DESCRIPTION	COURSE CREDIT	FACULTY
A	<b>Learning to Learn</b>	An introduction to the methodology of online classrooms and the tools for communication and interactions. Guided practical exercises to gain an understanding of the Programme Structure, method of delivery, and assessment.	Non Credit	NA
B	<b>Word of Red Cross &amp; Red Crescent</b>	An introduction to the world of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, its work in the field of disaster management, and discussions of its Strategy 2020	Non Credit	NA
1	<b>Introduction to development</b>	The key objective of this module is to equip students to examine basic concepts related to development, including human development and sustainability, in order to understand disasters and provide meaningful, sustainable responses to them. This course will link development and its impact on disasters.	02	Dr. Janki Andharia
2	<b>Humanitarian Principles, Laws &amp; Standards in Disaster Management</b>	This module provides a clear understanding of humanitarianism and humanitarian principles underlying the response to natural disasters and conflicts. It highlights the need for accountability and transparency during disaster responses through various practical examples and illustrations. It also looks at the various facets of applying humanitarian standards in disaster contexts.	02	Ms. Saumya Kumar
3	<b>Introduction to Hazards, Vulnerabilities and Disasters</b>	This module aims to develop a conceptual understanding of hazards, exposure, risk, vulnerability, and disaster. It explains how vulnerability (internal susceptibility or defenselessness) and hazard (an external event) interact to create disasters and discusses various perspectives and approaches to Disaster Risk and Vulnerability Assessment.	04	Dr. Sohini Sengupta, Ms. Saumya Kumar
4	<b>Disaster Risk Reduction and Development Planning</b>	The objective of this module is to develop knowledge and a critical outlook on the different frameworks, approaches, and methods for disaster prevention, preparedness, and vulnerability reduction.	02	Dr. Sohini Sengupta
5	<b>Information Communication and Geo-informatics Technologies in Disasters</b>	This module introduces participants to Information Communication Technology (ICT) and Geo-Informatics Technology (GIT) and their use in planning, mitigation, and response in disaster situations.	02	Dr. Ramesh Veerappan, Dr. Ravinder Dhiman
6	<b>Disaster Response and Recovery</b>	This module serves as an introduction to concepts relating to Organised Response; Nature and Type of Immediate Response; Disaster Management Plans; Key Response Functions, including Public Health, Logistics and Governance; Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction; Economics and Financial Aspects of Recovery and Reconstruction.	02	Ms. Niti Mishra, Ms. Saumya Kumar
7	<b>Term Paper</b>	The term paper is a self-study component in which the participants are encouraged to explore the intricacies of a specific topic beyond what is possible to cover within the units in each module. The process of writing the term paper will enable participants to find and analyze relevant information and convey conclusions and recommendations to others - whether peers or the disaster management community.	02	JTSDS Faculty Supervisors, IFRC-TISS Programme Team
8	<b>Field Practicum</b>	The Field Practicum is the most vital component of the Programme as it brings together all the key theoretical learnings for the participants. The internship or field practicum in the Programme aims to enable the participants to develop a broader national and international perspective on disaster management. The overall thrust will be to focus on issue-based work and complex emergencies for a period of 4 weeks. This could be linked to the term paper also. The internship may be based with organisations engaged with high quality research or practical work in the field of disaster studies. It may also be based with any of the UN agencies or government structures.	04	Ms. Saumya Kumar, IFRC-TISS Programme Team

# programme team



## **Dr. Janki Andharia, Programme Director**

Dr. Janki Andharia is currently the Dean of the Jamsetji Tata School of Disaster Studies, TISS, Mumbai and has over 32 years of experience in the field of community organization and social development. Her areas of work focus on gender issues, environmental concerns, democratic governance, addressing diverse forms of marginalization and vulnerability. She was awarded the Association of Commonwealth Universities Scholarship to pursue her Ph.D. from the School of Environment Sciences, University of East Anglia U.K in the area of Gender, Development and Environment.



## **Ms. Saumya Kumar, Project Leader**

Ms. Saumya Kumar is working as Asst. Professor with the IFRC-TISS Programme in Disaster Management. She has done her BBA, LLB (Honours) from NLU, Jodhpur and LLM in International & Comparative Law from West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata. She has previously worked at the Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow on several projects on river water conservation in the NCR region. She is engaged in research and has published work on disaster policies in India, Transboundary Disasters and International Humanitarian Law. She was also actively involved in TISS' intervention in Alappuzha District after the Kerala Flood in 2018



## **Ms. Suranjana Mullick, Programme Associate**

Ms. Suranjana Mullick is a Post Graduate in Disaster Management from TISS. She completed her graduation in Geography. Prior to this, she worked as a project executive and has also interned on various research projects in the field of disaster management.



## **Qazi Firas, Communications Officer**

Qazi Firas has a background in architecture and design having completed his undergraduate from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi and his MA in Digital Humanities from Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Bangalore. He has worked at various architectural studios before working as a communications officer for the Quill Foundation in New Delhi.

# faculty members

## Faculty Contributors

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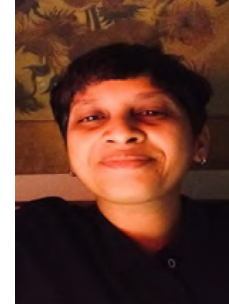
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**Dr. Janki Andharia,**  
**Dean, JTSDS**



**Ms. Saumya Kumar,**  
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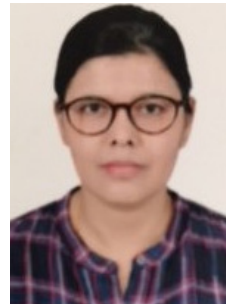
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## ***contact us***



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