



IFRC-TISS CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Prospectus
Cohort XVI

TATA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Jamsetji Tata School of Disaster Studies

Academic Year 2020-21

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Rationale

Globally, complexities and frequencies of disasters are on the increase, impacting communities and nations with grave social and 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 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. For example, in 2018, the number of deaths caused by natural disasters was 11804, however, over 68 million people were reported as affected by natural disasters, according to the Natural Disasters 2018 by the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED)¹. This data emphasizes the need to train professionals in the field on the fundamental aspects of disaster management.

There is an urgent need to equip humanitarian and emergency professionals with conceptual knowledge of disaster management in order to help them to respond better and to build more resilient communities worldwide.

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.

1 CRED. (2019). Natural Disasters 2018. <https://www.emdat.be/publications>

About 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. This course, while leveraging the decades of experience, inherent strength and 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. This integrated Programme defines humanitarian response 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.

The content of the Programme is aimed 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

Content Overview and Structure

The Programme is a **one year course**, and is offered at the Post Graduate level. It carries **22 Credits** and is comprised of **8 Modules**. 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.

Each Module in the Programme comprises of sessions on a varied themes which will have compulsory reading, illustrative case studies, and audio-visual material from diverse contexts. The course content may be updated in view of recent global events. The Programme is conducted online, entirely, by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences through the MOODLE (Modular Object-Oriented Learning Environment) e-learning platform.

Programme Structure

Module 1:

Introduction to Development

2 Credits

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.

Module 2:

Humanitarian Principles, Laws, and Standards in Disaster Management

2 Credits

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.

Module 3: Introduction to Hazards, Vulnerabilities and Disasters

4 Credits

This module aims to develop a conceptual understanding of hazards, exposure, risk, vulnerability, and disaster. It explains how vulnerability (internal susceptibility or defencelessness) and hazard (an external event) interact to create disasters and discusses various perspectives and approaches to Disaster Risk and Vulnerability Assessment.

Module 4: Disaster Risk Reduction and Development Planning

2 Credits

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.

Module 5: Geo-informatics and Information Communication Technologies in Disasters

2 Credits

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.

Module 6: Disaster Response and Recovery

4 Credits

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.

Module 7: Term Paper

2 Credits

The term paper is a self-study component in which the participant is 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 analyse relevant information and convey conclusions and recommendations to others – whether peers or the disaster management community.

Module 8: Field Practicum

4 Credits

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 or 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 organizations 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.

Learning to Learn (Mandatory Course)

Non credit

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.

Assessment Pattern

Participants are consistently evaluated throughout the entire Programme through Discussion Forums and assignments, ending with the Term Paper and Field Practicum. The assessment method is communicated at the start of each module by the tutor and participants have to maintain minimum grades for passing.

Application Guide

Who Should Apply?

The Programme is meant for a wide variety of learners- practitioners in disaster management, IFRC, National Society Volunteers and Staff at all levels, and 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 must be able to:

- Read and write in English, as this Programme is a post-graduate level course conducted entirely in English
- Work on a computer, and have reasonable access to internet for video conference

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.

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

Application Timeline

Applications open	1st September 2020
Last date for Bursary Applications	14th October 2020, 23:59 IST (GMT +5.30 Hrs)
Applications close	14th November 2020, 23:59 IST (GMT +5.30 Hrs)
Commencement of Cohort XVI	1st December 2020

Qualification received upon Completion

Successful candidates will receive a Certificate in Disaster Management issued by the Academic Council, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India.

Programme fee & funding

The following tuition fee is applicable Cohort XVI:

Applicant type	Tuition Fee (in USD)
IFRC and National Societies	990
TISS Alumni	990
Others	1980

Fees once paid are non-refundable under any and all circumstances. However, applicants- upon the discretion of the Project Director- will be allowed to transfer to the next cohort on 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 bursary should complete the bursary section of the application form, and must demonstrate a solid case for need of bursary through a Bursary Note. A candidate seeking bursary will not be considered eligible if the Bursary Note is not submitted along with the application form.

The last date for applications seeking bursary is October 14, 2020

Application Checklist

The following list of documents is required to complete your application:

- Statement of Purpose (SoP)
- Curriculum Vitae or Resume
- Letters of Reference from Employer/Educational Institution
- Certificate of Highest Degree earned
- IFRC/ICRC/RCRC affiliation document, if applicable. Past membership will not be accepted.
- TISS ID card/Degree

Additional Documents for Bursary candidates

- Bursary Note, justifying the need for Bursary
- Financial/Income Certificate, mandatory for Bursary Applicants

Documents required according to Application type

Application type	Regular Applicants	Bursary Applicants	RCRC Applicants	RCRC Bursary Applicants	TISS Alumni	TISS Alumni Bursary Applicants
Documents required						
Statement of Purpose	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CV/ Resume	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reference Letter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bursary Note		✓		✓		
Financial/Income Certificate		✓		✓		✓
Certificate of Highest Degree earned	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
IFRC/ICRC/RCRC affiliation document		✓	✓	✓		
TISS ID Card/Degree					✓	✓

COURSE FACULTY

Sl. No.	Module	Course Credit	Faculty
1	Introduction To Development	02	Dr. Janki Andharia
2	Humanitarian Principles, Laws And Standards In Disaster Management	02	Dr. K.M Parivelan Ms. Saumya Kumar
3	Introduction To Hazards, Vulnerabilities and Disasters	04	Dr. Sohini Sengupta Ms. Saumya Kumar Dr. Peehu Pardeshi
4	Disaster Risk Reduction and Development Planning	02	Dr. Sohini Sengupta
5	Information Communication and Geo-informatics Technologies In Disasters	02	Dr. Ramesh Veerappan
6	Disaster Response and Recovery	02	Ms. Niti Mishra Ms. Saumya Kumar
7	Term Paper	02	JTSDS Faculty Supervisors & IFRC-TISS Programme Team
8	Field Practicum	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 Assistant Professor with the IFRC-TISS Programme in Disaster Management. She has done her BBA, LLB (Honours) from National Law University, 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 Alapuzha District after the Kerala Flood in 2018



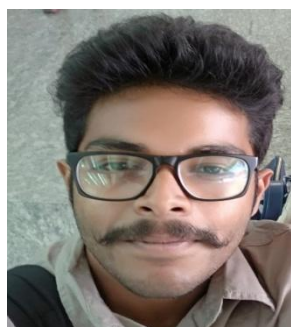
Ms. Kaveri Gogoi, Programme Associate

Ms. Kaveri Gogoi is a Post Graduate in Sustainable Development Practice with 5 years of experience in action research projects on gender, livelihoods and energy access. Prior to this, she has worked with IIT Bombay, TERI and WOTR. Her research interests are adaptation to extreme events in agriculture, sustainable rural livelihoods, community's role in adaptation to extreme events



Mr. Soumyadev Banerjee, Programme Associate

Mr. Soumyadev Banerjee is a Post Graduate in Development Studies. He has completed his under graduation in Mass Communication and Filmmaking. Prior to this, he has worked in a wide array of roles in the media sector. His interest areas include Philosophy, Films and Linguistics.



IFRC-TISS Faculty Members (2020-2021)



Dr. Janki Andharia, Dean
Jamsetji Tata School of Disaster Studies



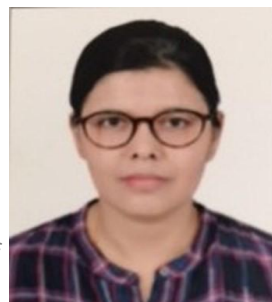
Dr. K.M Parivelan
Associate Professor
*School of Law, Rights &
Constitutional Governance*



Dr. Sohini Sengupta
Assistant Professor
School of Social Work



Ms. Saumya Kumar
Assistant Professor
*Jamsetji Tata School of
Disaster Studies*



Ms. Niti Mishra
Assistant Professor
*Jamsetji Tata School of
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Dr. Peehu Pardeshi
Assistant Professor
*Jamsetji Tata School of
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Dr. Ramesh Veerappan
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