

## Urban Disaster Risk Management Principles and Tools Training Course Syllabus

Within the context of the joint project UCLG, ICLEI, Metropolis, CITYNET and EMI are offering a 2-day training program on disaster risk reduction management for local professionals, managers and policy makers. The training program has a hands-on focus and is based on practical matters and sound practices of mainstreaming disaster risk reduction (DRR) through detailed case studies of partner cities.

The first day of the training session will provide an overview of key principles, components in managing and reducing disaster risks in cities. The objective is to build a common understanding of principles, terms and processes involved in disaster management and guide the practitioners through the complexity of issues they face when they deal with natural disasters.

The focus of the second day is to provide an overview of tools and strategies for developing and implementing a city-wide disaster risk reduction agenda. A range of practices and topics will be covered from presenting need assessment methods for defined DRR objectives, to introducing planning and management tools for achieving DRR strategies, to covering the main institutional arrangements and organizational structures in setting disaster management systems.

A room is reserved for the training session for October 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> prior to the 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Metropolis (October 22-25) from 9:00-17:00. There will be a 1-hr lunch break at 12:00pm. Each day is composed of three 2-hour sessions. Each session includes a 40-45 minute lecture, followed by a 20-30 minute presentation of case studies. The rest of the time in each session will be used of discussions, breaks and interactive exercises.

## Day 1 – Urban DRM Principles

### **Session 1: Cities and Disaster Risk**

- *Trends in disaster occurrence, impact, frequency and regional distribution*
- *Elements of risk and vulnerability in cities (social, physical, institutional, economic)*
- *Urbanization, climate change and risk reduction*
- *The situation now and why cities should be concerned*
- *Interrelation between disaster risk reduction, development, poverty alleviation and MDGs*
- *International cooperation and initiatives that aim at reducing disaster risk at the global scale – HFA*
- *Case Study: Sound practices of disaster risk reduction in select cities*
- *Exercise: Create a simple risk table outlining risks, hazards and vulnerabilities facing their city and the potential impact.*

### **Session 2: Building blocks of disaster risk management**

- *Principles and fundamentals of local-level disaster risk reduction in cities*
- *Terms and processes involved in DRM*
- *Framework for accomplishing and mainstreaming DRR*
- *Case Study: National Disaster Management Systems in Select Countries*
- *Exercise: Suggest ways that a proposed DRR policy may impact both positively and negatively on their city.*

### **Session 3: Role of local actors in disaster risk management**

- *Urban governance structures and functions*
- *Trends in local-level DRM practice*
- *Limitations, issues and impediments of Urban DRM practice*
- *Key concepts of disaster risk management and the role of local institutions*
- *Elements of planning for safer cities within a sustainable development process*
- *Case Study: Role of local actors in DRM in Metropolitan Manila, Philippines*
- *Exercise: Propose an outline of the main ways in which local government can be used to support risk reduction activities in their city and list the main actors that can assist in the risk reduction process.*

## **Day 2 – Urban DRM tools for developing and implanting a city-wide disaster risk reduction agenda**

### ***Session 1: Assessing needs for defined DRR objectives***

- *Basic elements of disaster valuation*
- *Disaster Risk Assessment (DRA) and overview of available tools such as scenario analysis, risk mapping, vulnerability capacity assessments, consequence analysis, training needs assessment, etc.*
- *Potential uses of damage and reconstruction needs assessment in policy formulation*
- *Case Study: The Philippines disaster assessment and valuation system*
- *Exercise: Develop an outline for a disaster risk assessment plan for their city given a set of DRR objectives.*

### ***Session 2: Planning and management tools for DRR***

- *The Disaster Risk Management Master Plan (DRMMP)*
- *Strategies for monitoring and evaluation of disaster risk reduction (Early warning systems; especially related to flooding)*
- *Planning skills for prevention, mitigation and post-disaster management (participatory planning, community-based approaches, land use planning, construction control, urban re-development, etc.)*
- *Management for disaster risk reduction (Financial management, information management, decision making tools and techniques, etc.)*
- *Case Study: Indicators systems for planning for and managing Istanbul's disaster risk*
- *Exercise: Propose a set of planning and management approaches and their application for their city*

### ***Session 3: Institutional Arrangements and Organizational Structures***

- *DRR organizational framework*
- *Key organizational and institutional issues in DRR*
- *Guidelines in setting up national disaster management systems*
- *Case Study: Lessons learned from institutional and organizational structures for disaster management world-wide*
- *Exercise: Propose an achievable operation plan for mainstreaming DRR within the participants own organizations and discuss the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing implementation.*