

Climate Training Kit – User Guide

⑥ Introduction

Climate change will severely affect the lives of millions of people around the world; the poorest and most vulnerable will feel the impacts worst. Scientists project an unprecedented warming of the earth which may lead to an increased likelihood of extreme events like floods and droughts, heat waves, more intense hurricanes, changing patterns of diseases like malaria and dengue, and rising sea levels. Climate change is not only a global environmental problem, it is as well a global humanitarian problem, of which the consequences will be felt locally.

The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement is on the front line when it comes to disasters. The impact from weather and climate events depends on its nature and severity, and the vulnerability and level of exposure of a people. Many weather and climate events themselves are not extraordinary, but they become disasters when people are unprepared or unable to cope. Risk reduction is therefore considered to be a main climate change adaptation (CCA) strategy within the international community.

In order to reduce the vulnerability and exposure of communities to extreme events, *Strategy 2020* of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) highlights the change in mindsets essential to deal with such complex and interconnected challenges. To address the humanitarian consequences of climate change, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement (“the Movement”) has committed itself to integrating climate risk management into plans and programmes, including awareness raising and advocacy on climate-related issues.

⑥ Why a Climate Training Kit?

A training kit like this is one key to building capacity to address climate-related risks in our regular programming and activities in disaster risk reduction (DRR), disaster management and health, and also in our humanitarian diplomacy to make sure the most vulnerable people can reduce their exposure to risks from both natural climate variability and human-induced climate change.

Helping vulnerable people adapt to changing climate conditions requires an understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the Movement. This kit provides different training products to enhance the capacity of Red Cross Red Crescent staff and volunteers worldwide. It closely links to IFRC products and guides and has been developed and tested in close cooperation with Movement partners globally.

As context differs from region to region and country to country the kit is generic, and materials should be *adjusted to local need*. People who have already used resources in this kit say the personal guidance on using the products was very important to them. The Climate Centre is happy to offer support in tailoring the products and compiling relevant materials for your context. For assistance please contact kit@climatecentre.org.

⑥ Who is the Kit for?

The training resources are primarily for Red Cross Red Crescent staff and volunteers. The interactive and flexible modules have been designed to help colleagues understand and address the impacts of climate change and participate in policy dialogue with governments and international agencies.

⑥ What resources are available?

This kit consists of four modules:

1. What is climate change?

- 1a. The science and impacts of climate change
- 1b. Climate and the Red Cross Red Crescent

2. What can we do?

- 2a. Assessments, partnerships and networks
- 2b. Using forecasts
- 2c. Disaster management
- 2d. Community climate risk reduction
- 2e. Health and climate

3. Policy, communication, youth and gender









- 3a. Advocacy, dialogue and funding
- 3b. Communications
- 3c. Youth, gender and climate

4. Programmes

- 4a. Climate in programmes

Each module includes a variety of materials that can be used together and are chosen from and adjusted to local needs to support climate-related training exercises.

The modules will always start with 'What is in this module', which we strongly encourage everybody to read first:

-  What is in this module?
-  Powerpoint presentations with notes
-  Films
-  Games
-  Exercises
-  Relevant reading
-  Red Cross Red Crescent example(s)
-  Frequently asked questions or checklist

⑥ Will the Kit be translated into other languages?

Given that this kit is a living resource that will be continually updated there are no plans to translate it into other languages at this stage. We do encourage colleagues to send us translated materials so we can share them with others on the Climate Training Kit website. Please send examples and feedback to kit@climatecentre.org.

⑥ How can the Kit be used?

We think that there are two possible ways to use the resources in this kit.

Learning. Certain products (such as the practical guidance notes) may directly inspire staff and volunteers to take action in their country or region. Reading through the resources may help improve their knowledge that can be directly applied to programmes.

Teaching. Staff or volunteers may want to help colleagues learn more about how to consider climate change in their programmes. The resources in this package can be used as part of a comprehensive training on climate change or sections of the kit can be selected for more targeted purposes. Components of the health module, for example, could be presented in a session within a broader health-related workshop or training event.

When designing a training session using these resources, it's important that the local context and examples are taken into consideration and that the facilitation team includes people who are familiar with the regional, country or local context. Collaboration between facilitators prior to the training session is strongly recommended. The Climate Centre team is ready to support you in assembling your agenda, so please email us at kit@climatecentre.org.

⑥ How can I facilitate and present the

For each module there is a PowerPoint presentation available with speaker notes. The speaker notes, for the facilitator only, are intended to provide background information that will help to feel more comfortable with the presentation. The facilitator is advised not to try to memorize them or read them out word-for-word in a training session, since this could take the interactive dynamic out of the presentation.

The facilitator should consider that the slides may need to be adapted to the local context, and the presentations may need to be shortened to fit the occasion. The Climate Centre discourages the excessive use of PowerPoint and recommends them as appetizers and introductions to participatory sessions. We believe – and experience and research show – that exercises and games are much more effective learning tools than passive information sharing via PowerPoint.

Please take into consideration that participants at your training event may start with differing levels of knowledge, education and experience. Having a clear idea of existing knowledge of participants before the event will help tailor the materials for them, and those who are more knowledgeable on any one topic than others can be a resource.

Many colleagues have highlighted the value of drawing on external resource-people during a training or workshop event. Examples include inviting the national meteorological office, the government's climate change focal point, or a climate adviser at a partner NGO.

We strongly recommend the free resources from public-interest communications expert Andy Goodman's 2006 *Why Bad Presentations Happen to Good Causes*. The checklists from page 75 are particularly useful:
http://www.agoodmanonline.com/publications/how_bad_presentations_happen/index.htm

⑥ Who can facilitate games?

If you can run an ice-breaking exercise at an event, you can run a games session! The Climate Centre recommends strongly that you practise playing the game three times with a sympathetic audience before playing it for real. Practise by yourself in a quiet room with an imaginary crowd, or with friends, family or close colleagues.

⑥ Will this Kit give me all the answers to deal with climate change related risks?

No, If you are looking for all of the answers on how to deal with climate change you won't find them here. This package is a collection of resources created by the Climate Centre team in collaboration with many colleagues around the world. It is a beginning rather than an end, and you can use it to develop action on the ground where you are. Climate change is a global problem, with local impacts and those impacts are determined by the local context of which we have no knowledge. We provide the tools, not the answers. These will have to be developed at the local level, with all relevant local stakeholders.

One thing we know for sure is that the future will be different from the past and there will be more and greater surprises when it comes to weather and climate. We need to factor in changing risk into our work, and we need to accept more uncertainty about what the future will look like. Even if we don't know exactly what the future will be like, we can try to manage risks.

Trying to incorporate climate change concerns into your work is *new to everyone*, not just people in the Red Cross Red Crescent. You are at the forefront of this new field of work, which makes it more important that you document experience and share what works and what doesn't as widely as possible. You may even find forums for practitioners in your country who are sharing their approaches to this. There is a growing number of national and international forums for sharing these experiences.

⑥ Assistance and feedback

Many opportunities exist for integrating climate information into existing training for National Societies staff and volunteers. The Climate Centre is eager to assist you with tailoring or selecting the right products for your training. For support in compiling a package or an agenda for your training event please contact us at kit@climatecentre.org.

The toolkit is not a final product, it is a work in progress and we value your feedback. We are always looking for examples of best practice, new games and relevant documents. We invite you to contribute to the toolkit. Send us information on your activities on climate change and general feedback to kit@climatecentre.org.

⑥ Acknowledgements

The toolkit has been created in close collaboration with many staff from National Societies and the IFRC secretariat worldwide. The Climate Centre is very grateful for the specific input and assistance of Gail Neudorf and Karthick Pathman (Canadian Red Cross), Diana Londono, Roxana Trigo Ballivián and team (Colombian Red Cross), Anne Mette Meyer (Danish Red Cross), Thorsten Klose (German Red Cross), Cameron VudiNatangu (Solomon Islands Red Cross), Sonja Greiner (Austrian Red Cross), Christine Keplinger (Austrian Youth Red Cross), Gilma Mantilla (IRI), Bruno Haghebaert (Netherlands Red Cross), Enkas Chau, Colin Fernandes, Pete Garrett, Patrick Fox, Hung Ha Nguyen and Seng Samban (IFRC), Marcel Stefanik, Oscar Zuluaga (IFRC Youth Department), Alex Wynter, Eszter Sarody, Veraniek Geerts and Emma Lovell.