

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

**ECLAC SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS
FOR THE CARIBBEAN**



Evaluation report of the e-learning course on Damage and Loss Assessment Methodology and planning for disaster risk reduction

ILPES online platform



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Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean

E-learning course on Damage and
Loss Assessment Methodology
and planning for disaster risk reduction
ILPES online platform
13 January – 10 February 2020

LIMITED
LC/CAR/2020/2
13 July 2020
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**EVALUATION REPORT
OF THE E-LEARNING COURSE ON DAMAGE AND LOSS
ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY AND PLANNING FOR
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

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**Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social
Planning (ILPES) online platform**

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A. INTRODUCTION

1. Situated in one of the most hazard prone regions in the world¹, Caribbean countries are continuously seeking to integrate Disaster Risk Management (DRM) as core components of their national sustainable development policies, plans, implementation, reporting and evaluation frameworks. Disaster risk reduction (DRR) and DRM cuts across the economic, social and environmental sectors of development. Therefore, any sustainable development strategy must contain elements of disaster risk management. Sector wise and in the particular case of the small island developing States (SIDS), the DRR and DRM processes must address vulnerable groups, gender aspects, environmental sustainability, climate change, and the role of communication and telecommunications (ICTs).

2. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA Pathway), recognize the indivisible relationships between disaster and development. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development gives great importance to the reduction of disaster risk and as a key element for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Under the 2030 Agenda, 10 of the 17 Sustainable development Goals (SDGS) and 25 targets are related to disaster risk reduction.² The SAMOA Pathway firmly establishes that the SIDS remain a special case for sustainable development as they continue to face the combined challenges arising, in particular, from their geographical remoteness, the small scale of their economies, high costs and the adverse effects of climate change and natural disasters.³

3. The assessment procedures of a disaster contribute to the policy cohesion and priorities for sustainable development. This is modeled in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) Damage and Loss Assessment Methodology (DaLA). The DaLA's estimation of damages, losses and additional costs after a disaster provides the financial dimension to the risk associated with disasters.⁴ The DaLA developed by ECLAC provides an excellent tool to elaborate an evidence-based and coherent recovery and reconstruction strategy and budget. It provides a multisector overview of the situation after a disaster, an economic estimate of the damages, losses and additional costs, other qualitative analysis and quantitative information on the effects and impacts of a disaster. ECLAC's DaLA Methodology is also framed within the priorities of the Sendai Framework⁵ guaranteeing the development of the necessary capacities that lay the foundations for an effective recovery.

4. The Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit, ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean, provides resource persons and expert assistance in disaster assessment and disaster risk reduction to the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Region. Considering that assessing the effects and impacts of disasters is critical to the LAC countries, the Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit designs, plans and delivers periodic tailor-made training courses, which are based on countries' demand.

5. ECLAC's DaLA training course is designed for public sector officials, policymakers and professionals directly involved with disaster risk management and risk reduction. Considering that the methodology is comprehensive in scope, it can also be a training resource for the private sector engaged in disaster management.

6. In continuation of this capacity building service, ECLAC and the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) developed a DaLA Methodology online training course. The first training was delivered through the ILPES online platform from 13 January

¹ ECLAC (2019). Planning for sustainable territorial development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/CRP.17/3), Santiago, Chile.

² SDGs with Targets related to Disaster Risk, available at: <https://www.preventionweb.net/sendai-framework/sgd/target>, cited June 30, 2002

³ UN SAMOA PATHWAY, A/RES/74/3.

⁴ ECLAC is a pioneer in the field of disaster assessment and in the development and dissemination of the Disaster Assessment Methodology. ECLAC's history in assessing disasters started in 1972 with the earthquake that struck Managua, Nicaragua. Since then, ECLAC has led more than 100 assessments of the social, environmental and economic effects and impacts of disasters in 28 countries in the region.

⁵ See Sendai Framework at: https://www.preventionweb.net/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordren.pdf.

to 10 February 2020. The online modality facilitates access to ECLAC's training materials, thereby providing for a wider participant outreach. The first of its kind, the English version of the DaLA online course is tailor-made for the Caribbean subregion and focuses on the specificities and challenges facing Caribbean countries. The course combines ECLAC experience in assessing disasters in social, infrastructure and productive sectors of several Caribbean countries with the latest information on climate change adaptation, disaster risk and resilience building.

7. The training modules introduced the basic concepts of the DaLA Methodology with examples of policies and measures that have been undertaken in the Caribbean subregion. The cases presented were related to climate change adaptation and resilience to natural hazards, showcasing best practices and discussing options to support governments' efforts to incorporate prevention, estimation, and risk reduction in public investment plans and development programs.

8. As a pilot training course, this first online session engaged a mix of invited participants from different governmental agencies in the Caribbean and Latin America and observers from other United Nations agencies.

B. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Place and date of the e-learning course

9. The e-learning course on the "Damage and Loss Assessment Methodology and planning for disaster risk reduction" was held from 13 January to 10 February 2020 and was hosted in the ILPES online platform (<http://elearning.cepal.org/moodle/course/view.php?id=226>).

2. Attendance

10. The course targeted multisector specialists from different public institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean and included four participants and nine observers.

11. The e-learning course was facilitated by the Coordinator and the Associate Environmental Affairs Officer of the Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit of ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean with technical support from ILPES.

C. SUMMARY OF KEY OUTCOMES OF THE E-LEARNING COURSE

12. The workshop provided an overview of ECLAC's Damage and Loss Assessment Methodology and exemplified its applications in actual cases that occurred in LAC. The course was divided into four modules, each module included two to five different units covering all relevant sections of the DaLA Methodology. The estimated work time per module is six hours. The first module included a brief introduction with the fundamental concepts and the more recent data on disaster in the LAC region and globally. It also included an overview of the global framework for DRM, situating the topic of disaster into the global sustainable development agendas, debating its inclusion and importance within the 2030 Agenda. The module also debated and exemplified synergies between the DRM agenda, the Sendai Framework and the SAMOA Pathway. Modules 2, 3 and 4 of the online training included a detailed explanation of the methodology to calculate damage and losses in the social, infrastructure and economic sectors. Each lesson included examples of lessons learned from the many disaster assessments conducted in the Caribbean subregion. Drawing on national, regional and global best practices, major challenges, achievements and lessons learned, these modules also include strategies for building resilient societies, economies and infrastructure.

13. In order to encourage participants to understand the practical use of the methodology, exercises were included in each module to help participants assimilate the concepts discussed.
14. Each module remained opened for completion for a week and participants received continuous support from ECLAC staff for the completion of exercises and for clarification of questions related to the content. Technical IT support was also provided by ILPES.
15. At the end of the online training course, participants were requested to complete a final evaluation activity including questions related to each module of the DaLA Methodology.

Annex I**List of participants**

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Annex II**Curriculum****Module 1: Introduction and global framework for DRM**
13th - 19th January

Unit 1. Part one of Global Framework. Definitions, Regional Overview and Disaster Risk Management
- Overview and detail of disaster events in the region

Unit 2. Part two of Global Framework. Sustainable planning of a Disaster Risk Management strategy

Module 2: Overview DaLA Methodology**Estimations of effects on the social sector: Affected Population, Education, Health and Housing Sectors***20th - 26th January*

Unit 3. Overview of DaLA Methodology

Unit 4. Affected Population

Unit 5. Education

Exercises in Education Sector

Quiz

Unit 6. Health

Exercises in Health sector

Quiz

Unit 7. Housing

Exercises in Housing sector

Quiz

Module 3: Estimations of effects on the Infrastructure sector: Water and sanitation, Power sector, Transportation and Telecommunications.*27th January - 2nd February*

Unit 8. Water and sanitation

Unit 9. Power Sector

Exercises in Power Sector

Quiz

Unit 10. Telecommunications

Unit 11. Transportation

Module 4: Estimations of effects on the Economic sector: Agriculture, Tourism, Livestock and Environment.*3rd - 9th February*

Unit 12. Agriculture

Unit 13. Tourism

Unit 14. Livestock

Unit 15. Environment

Final activity: 10th February



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