

**Module 3a:
Advocacy, policy
dialogue and
funding**
**What is in
this module?**
May 2019

12 December 2015

**Today
we made
history**

#ParisAgreement #COP21



What is in this module?

Introduction

Engaging in dialogue with government, meteorological offices, knowledge centres and civil society can help influence how climate change adaptation (CCA) is perceived, implemented and funded.

Resources for adaptation are increasingly available at national level and we hope your National Society can secure CCA funds for local climate-smart disaster risk reduction (DRR) or resilience projects through dialogue with government. We need to engage in this agenda to ensure that risks faced by the most vulnerable people are addressed.

But even if you don't partner in relevant pitches to donors, just influencing national planning so the adaptation needs of the most vulnerable people are addressed is a worthy goal in itself.

Please note that this module is the most complex of the series in this kit, depending much more on the political context of different countries and the changing international policy landscape.

“Advocacy is often a long process” says the Climate Centre’s Director of Policy and Communications. “Our continued engagement and the quality of our inputs ensure we are well appreciated by policymakers.

“This can lead to good policies and eventually the allocation of resources to implement them.

“But if you only engage in policy dialogue because of the money that may come out of it and you don't enhance the quality of the policies as well as the project activities so they become ‘climate-smart’, your chances of receiving financial resources will also diminish.”

Through various exercises this module provides an introduction to:

1. Global agreements on climate change
2. How to engage in national-level dialogue on adaptation
3. The special landscape on climate funding.

In addition to this module, please note that we have a [two-day course](#) dedicated to influencing the National Adaptation Plans (NAP) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) processes.

Objective

The 2015 Paris Agreement offers new opportunities for engaging in national policy dialogue. This module is intended to boost confidence and provide background

knowledge and tools to help train Red Cross Red Crescent staff and volunteers to become better equipped to engage with government agencies and other organizations in planning, policies and laws on CCA.

Ultimately, we hope it can help to secure resources for climate-smart programmes, targeting the needs of most vulnerable people.

Products

1. PowerPoint presentation with explanatory notes

The module includes three PowerPoints:

- Policy dialogue on climate change, with a focus on the Paris Agreement
- NAPs and NDCs
- Climate finance.

This module debunks the idea that advocacy is something for the secretary generals and other top managers.

In most countries, 2019 and 2020 are important years for adaptation policies and plans, which means that now is the time to influence the priorities that would guide funding for the most vulnerable people. Senior stakeholders need to hear about *practical experience* at the technical level to ensure adaptation plans deliver more climate-smart DRR locally.

2. Exercises

There are five working group exercises in this module. Exercise A helps identify known climate impacts on vulnerable people by teasing out local experience. Evidence on how communities and vulnerable people perceive changing risks is among the best information a National Society can put before policy-makers.

Exercise B takes that experience and uses it to identify “asks” from local and national policies.

Exercise C is a role-play on key messages and a sales pitch for a meeting with local or national government.

Exercise D focuses on policies on the overlapping thematic areas of DRR, CCA and ecosystem management and restoration.

Finally, Exercise E aids understanding of the funding landscape and how to access key databases.

3. A Red Cross Red Crescent example: influencing NAP and NDCs

The experiences of five National Societies engaging in NAPs and NDCs is summarized in a case study, [The added value of Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies in the development of National Adaptation Plans](#).

At a [UN meeting in 2018](#) it was reported that “only about 10 per cent of the climate finance available from international donors is channeled to the local level, and vulnerable communities are not receiving finance at the volume or pace needed to adapt effectively”.

There are still big opportunities for National Societies to help shape NAPs, and with this module we hope you’ll be inspired to engage in policy dialogue.

4. Frequently asked questions

The FAQ elaborates issues on climate finance. It answers questions on how National Societies can engage in dialogue here.

5. Relevant reading

- [*IFRC How to engage with National Adaptation Plans - Guidance for National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies*](#)
 - [*Minimum standards for local climate-smart disaster risk reduction*](#)
 - [*Expert perspectives - Using NDCs, NAPs and the SDGs to Advance Climate-Resilient Development*](#)
 - [*IFRC Disaster Risk Reduction: a global advocacy guide*](#)
 - [*IFRC The Checklist on Law and Disaster Risk Reduction*](#) in several languages, along with other resources, is available at this link.
 - The [*IFRC Legislative Advocacy Toolkit, participants handbook*](#), and the [*IFRC Legislative Advocacy Toolkit, facilitator guide*](#). (These strengthen Red Cross and Red Crescent legislative advocacy and are a good training resource. With increasing engagement on climate legislation and policies, they are highly relevant to work outlined in this module.)
 - Finally, a [*Guide for setting up a successful climate finance training*](#).
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