

Background

Climate smart, inclusive, and well implemented disaster laws underpin a well-functioning disaster risk management system and are essential to prevent and reduce the impact of disasters. They provide the legal and institutional basis on which to undertake all aspects of disaster risk management from risk reduction, preparedness to response and recovery, and contribute to strengthening the resilience and the protection of vulnerable and disaster-affected populations.

IFRC Disaster Law operates on an international mandate provided by all state parties to the Geneva Conventions, providing technical advice based on twenty years of global research and consultations. IFRC Disaster Law assists National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to support their public authorities in developing and applying disaster-related laws, policies and procedures; to enhance community resilience, ensure timely and effective humanitarian relief, and to improve the protection of the most vulnerable when faced with crisis.

As auxiliary to their public authorities, National Societies have an essential role in the humanitarian field within their countries. By harnessing their unique auxiliary role, National Societies working with the IFRC Disaster Law have successfully advocated for and supported the strengthening of disaster related laws and policies in over 40 countries since 2007.

In continued support to African National Societies, IFRC Disaster Law will be hosting the 2nd Regional Disaster Law and Legislative Advocacy workshop. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, this workshop will be conducted entirely online through a series of weekly webinars. The methodology of each session will include instructive lecture presentations, scenario-based exercises, as well as group discussions to facilitate sharing of ideas among participants.