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# Climate Change – an introduction for staff and volunteers

A Red Cross Red Crescent Learning platform course

*The Learning platform is part of the Red Cross Red Crescent Learning Education and Training (LET) Hub. The LET Hub provides an overview of and access to a wealth of personal and professional development opportunities, grounded in the 150 years of Red Cross Red Crescent knowledge, insights and experience. The LET opportunities are free or highly cost effective, multilingual and available to every volunteer and staff member in the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement as well as partners and the general public. The LET Hub provides a learning community for peer-to-peer exchange globally and locally.*



For more details on the LET hub, please contact the learning and research team at the IFRC or follow the Learning Network by clicking on the following:



## Course overview

### Name

Climate Change – an introduction for staff and volunteers

### Description

The course provides an introduction to climate change and aims to help staff and volunteers understand how they can contribute to addressing related issues in their day to day work within local communities.

The course is designed for smartphones, tablets and desktops and lasts approximately 30 minutes. It has been structured in five short modules, with a short exercise at the end of each module to rehearse what has been learned.

### Learning objectives

The course reviews the main causes and consequences of climate change and summarizes its impact on the mandate and work of Red Cross Red and Crescent National Societies.

The approach taken by the Red Cross Red Crescent to address both the root causes (mitigation) and the consequences (adaptation) of climate change is explained.

Finally the course discusses how Red Cross Red Crescent staff and volunteers can help address climate change issues in their daily work and underlines the urgency to do so.

### Background

Climate change will severely affect the lives of millions of people around the world. It is not only a global environmental problem, it is also a global humanitarian problem which will be felt by everyone and will affect vulnerable people the hardest.

However, there is still a lack of familiarity with climate change issues and with the ways staff and volunteers can help address this challenge in their day to day work with local communities.

This brings to light the need to strengthen organisational capacity and scale up Red Cross Red Crescent action on climate change.

### Intended audience

This course has been developed for Red Cross Red Crescent staff and volunteers with no, or limited, knowledge of climate change issues.

### Content

- **Setting the scene**  
Introduction to the learning objectives.
- **Module 1: The causes of climate change**  
Provides an overview of the main causes of climate change, including a short video. Emphasizes the difference between weather and climate.
- **Module 2: The impact of climate change**  
Provides an overview of the various impacts that may be attributed to climate change.
- **Module 3: Impact on the Red Cross Red Crescent work and mandate**  
Discusses how climate change affects vulnerable people and thereby the Red Cross Red Crescent work. Describes the commitments made by the Red Cross Red Crescent to address climate change.
- **Module 4: The Red Cross Red Crescent approach**  
Provides case studies to illustrate how the Red Cross Red Crescent mainstream climate change considerations into existing programming.
- **Module 5: How can I help?**  
Reviews how staff and volunteers can contribute to addressing both the root causes of climate change (mitigation) and the consequences of climate change (adaptation).
- **Summary**  
Provides key messages.

### Languages

The course is currently available in English.



[www.ifrc.org/learning-platform](http://www.ifrc.org/learning-platform)



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### *Practical information*

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#### Find the course

The link to this course can be found under “Suggested Learning Opportunities” once you are logged into the Learning platform. Access to the course requires registration on the Learning platform first.

You can also carry out a “Search” for the course using the powerful search function in the Learning platform.

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#### Register with the Learning platform

If you have not done so already, please register with the learning platform at [www.ifrc.org/learning-platform](http://www.ifrc.org/learning-platform). If you require support, in the first instance, please take a look at [this video to understand better how to create your own user profile](#).

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#### Launch the course

- 1** After registering with and logging into the Learning platform, search for the course “Climate Change – an introduction for staff and volunteers”.
- 2** You must disable the pop-up blocker function in your internet browser – the course will not work properly if this is not done.
- 3** Launch the course.
- 4** Enjoy the course and let us know your experiences and its value to your work.

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### *The Red Cross Red Crescent Learning platform in brief*

[www.ifrc.org/learning-platform](http://www.ifrc.org/learning-platform)

The Red Cross Red Crescent Learning platform is an online learning community for Red Cross Red Crescent National Society volunteers and staff as well as partners and the general public. It delivers free, high-quality, self-directed, multilingual Red Cross Red Crescent and other learning opportunities to support the personal and professional development of volunteers and staff. Alongside the learning materials, the Learning platform has various social learning tools including communities, forums and wikis through which to learn from and collaborate with peers.

The Learning platform's rapidly growing global community of many tens of thousands of learners from all National Societies consistently achieves industry topping completion rates of above 50 per cent across its courses.

The Learning platform is a core part of the Red Cross Red Crescent Learning Education and Training (LET) Hub ([www.ifrc.org/learning](http://www.ifrc.org/learning)) which provides a window to a variety of appropriate, high quality online training and learning opportunities including those found on the Learning platform. We encourage all National Society volunteers and staff to explore, use and share these as widely as possible among friends and colleagues.

**The Course Catalogue for the Learning platform is available [here](#).**

Registration, access to and use of the Learning platform is free.



[www.ifrc.org/learning-platform](http://www.ifrc.org/learning-platform)



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## *Frequently asked questions*

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I can see the course welcome page but nothing happens when I click on the link...

You will need to disable your pop-up blocker or create an exception for the Learning platform site ([www.ifrc.org/learning-platform](http://www.ifrc.org/learning-platform)) so that new windows can be launched.

You can find help on how to carry this out here: <https://host.softworks.ca/Agate3/blocker/disable-blockers.htm>

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My course seems to have disappeared from the platform. What do I do?

It may be that your course has been archived (probably not intentionally). You will need to re-activate it before being able to continue the course.

To reactivate a course, please follow these steps:

1. In the “Learn” tab of the Learning platform, click the round blue button. This will enable you to access your archived training.
2. Click on the title of the course that you would like to bring back to your regular training record.
3. At the bottom of the course description/information, you will find a button which says “Activate.” Click it.
4. Once it is done, you may need to click again on the blue button and select your training record.

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Where can I find my certificate?

You will also be able to print a certificate by opening your curriculum and clicking on the “certificate” link that will appear after completion of all items on the course.

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How much time do I have to complete the course once started? How can I save my progress?

Unless you are taking the course because it is a prerequisite for being a volunteer or staff member in your branch or National Society offices, you have as long as you want to complete the course. When you log back into the Learning platform and the course, you can start from where you left off. Once completed, you are free to go back to the part that you want, to find resources or prepare for the test.

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## Resources

The following materials and tools are available electronically and can be found at:

- FedNet CPRR (<https://fednet.ifrc.org/en/resources/community-preparedness-and-risk-reduction/climate-change-adaptation-and-mitigation/>)
  - RC/RC Climate Centre (<http://www.climatecentre.org/>)
- **“Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Guide”**
- **“The IFRC Plan of Action on Climate Change 2013-2016”**
- **“A Guide to mainstreaming disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation”**
- **“How to engage with National Adaptation Plans: Guidance for National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies”**
- **“Accessing climate finance: an Overview”**
- **“Climate Training Kit”**



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