

# ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES

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## COMPREHENSIVE CRISIS MANAGEMENT (CCM) COURSE

### **PURPOSE**

This course is designed to educate and develop capacity among Asia-Pacific security practitioners to reduce, respond and recover from crises events.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This four week course, taught once each year, helps Fellows develop a comprehensive understanding of crisis and disaster management, with a focus on the strategic impact of decisions and actions before, during and after crises events. Depending on their complexity and scale, crises and disasters require a response that is planned and effectively coordinated. Very often, crises involve multiple ministries and sectors and, where capacities are overwhelmed, with the assistance of international actors. Collaboration, critical thinking, leadership and team building skills are required in complex crisis situations. Therefore these skills are emphasized in course lectures, small group discussions, exercises and individual projects. Fellows will have the opportunity to analyze and frame problems, discuss factors that challenge and enable crisis management and develop effective strategy and approaches through applied learning of best practices, case studies, and projects. As international Fellows, their diverse expertise and experiences are shared in a participatory and trusted environment to achieve comprehensive learning outcomes.

The course is structured into five modules: In Module 1, Crisis Resiliency in a Complex Environment, explores the multidimensional nature of crisis and contributing factors that strengthen crisis resiliency. Module 2, Enhancing Crisis leader and team capabilities, the objectives are to develop skills for comprehensive understanding of crises analysis, assess potential crisis outcomes, design strategies for information and communication management. Module 3, Improving Crisis Coordination and Collaboration, draws attention to the issues, actors, and practices that challenge and enable crisis planning and management. Module 4, Focused Knowledge Enhancement, offers elective sessions designed to deepen knowledge and skills for enhanced crisis management. Module 5, Applying Crisis Management, culminates course learning in a comprehensive CAPSTONE exercise and presentation of Fellows Projects.

### **WHO WOULD BENEFIT BY ATTENDING THIS COURSE**

The course is ideal for practitioners whose current or future responsibilities are related to crisis reduction, management and recovery, to include mid-career to senior practitioners (0-4 to 0-6 military personnel and civilian equivalents) from diverse backgrounds such as the military, law enforcement, relevant ministries, NGOs or international organizations pertinent to crisis and disaster management.

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Participants are primarily from the Asia-Pacific region, and in any one course may be drawn from as many as 45 different locations or organizations.

### **EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES**

- a. Identify trends that may drive future crises in the Asia-Pacific region
- b. Understand the fundamental issues that make a population, a country or a region resilient or vulnerable to the impacts of crises and disasters
- c. Broaden knowledge and sharpen skills in assessment and collaborative planning of crisis management activities
- d. Empower practitioners to initiate and collaborate to reduce risk and mitigate crisis impacts
- e. Advocate whole-of-society support to civil authorities in dealing with crises and disaster risks
- f. Create a basis for strong interpersonal relationships among course participants via seminar and other collective course activities.
- g. Connect current course participants with APCSS alumni and other networks via technology enabled linkages.

### **EDUCATIONAL APPROACH**

Lectures are provided on topics relevant to crisis and disaster management by APCSS faculty. Lectures are followed by focused discussions in small group seminars. The course emphasizes participant-centered learning through hands-on activities and exercises. Additionally, participants have an opportunity to pursue individualized Fellows Projects focused on specific and real crisis management challenges. The Fellows Projects apply learning from the course to address identified challenges with plans for implementation once Fellows return home.