



Purpose

Enhance the capacity of regional partners to contribute to multilateral, whole-of-government response operations as they prepare for, mitigate, respond to, and recover from crises and disasters.

Course Description

Natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies regularly create threatening challenges for domestic and international responders in Asia-Pacific nations. Large and complex crises require critical systems thinking and effective coordination over the event life cycle. Many ministries and society sectors may be involved, and when capacities are overwhelmed, international actors require effective coordination.

This annual five-week course emphasizes critical thinking skills as it explores preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery. Crisis capacity is promoted through a strong foundation in critical thinking, strategic assessment, leadership, communication, negotiation and future thinking. Course participants (Fellows) analyze problems, explore factors that shape effective crisis management and develop comprehensive strategies and approaches. The knowledge of seasoned Fellows with experience in crisis management is incorporated to provide national narratives and learning from the field.

Course content

This executive course emphasizes participant-centered learning through small group discussion, and hands-on activities and exercises. Elective lectures supplement plenary lectures by providing a broad selection for Fellows to horizontally deepen their knowledge and enhance particular crisis management skills or move laterally and learn about new fields. A third of the course is dedicated to exercises, political-social serious role-playing games, technical learning and field trips. Modules include:

- Capacity Building: tools, skills and capabilities to better assess crisis risk, plans and preparations
- Leadership: sense making, crisis leadership, decision making, teaming and communication
- Coordination: issues, actors, and practices involved in national and regional coordination
- Challenges: inclusion, diplomacy and future challenges to governance and collaboration

Fellow's Projects focus on real-world problems. They are developed initially in groups and then are refined by individuals to make them nation and occupation specific. Groups review the literature on a topic and analyze it to identify areas of interest. Individuals then tailor the topic to fit their own organizational sphere of influence and present their plan. Fellows Projects reinforce key concepts, tools and course learning at the planning phase and are implemented at home after course completion.

Educational objectives

- Understand the scope and practice of crisis management across the Asia-Pacific region
- Analyze regional systems and procedures for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief
- Sharpen skills in problem assessment and crisis coordination at the strategic level
- Develop strategies and networks to build resilience and manage future crises

Who would benefit by attending this course

CCM is for mid-career to senior practitioners (0-4 to 0-6 military personnel and civilian equivalents) whose responsibilities include crisis preparation, mitigation, response, and recovery. They come from the military, NDMOs, law enforcement, relevant ministries, as well as relevant NGOs/IOs. Participants are primarily from the Asia-Pacific region, and typically come from around forty different nations and international organizations.