Natural hazards and conflicts can have devastating impacts on the economic and social development of countries. Increasingly, governments and development partners are recognizing the need to adopt strategies that reduce the risk of impacts of natural hazards and create a culture of peace and resilience. Countries affected by conflict or prone to disaster face significant challenges, and education ministries often lack the human and financial capacities to cope with the additional burdens caused by crisis. To increase the safety, resilience, and social cohesion of an education system, sector planning processes can support risk reduction interventions that cover predictable, recurrent emergencies, as well as sudden-onset disasters or conflicts.

IIEP has extensive experience supporting ministries of education to address safety, resilience, and social cohesion, and has worked alongside other stakeholders to develop key guidance and research in this field. In 2011, IIEP and UNICEF’s West and Central Africa Regional Office (WCARO) developed guidance notes for educational planners on integrating conflict and disaster risk reduction into education sector planning. More recently, IIEP has been working in collaboration with Protect Education in Insecurity and Conflict (PEIC) and UNESCO’s International Bureau of Education (IBE) to create a series of resource booklets with practical, step-by-step guidance on addressing safety, resilience, and social cohesion at each phase of the planning cycle (see our joint website, Education for Resilience, for more information). With partners such as UNICEF’s Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) BACKUP Initiative, IIEP has also supported Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Uganda, and South Sudan to incorporate some of these elements into their education sector planning processes. In an effort to strengthen the capacity of other countries in this regard, IIEP developed this distance course to take participants through a systematic examination of how education authorities can integrate safety, resilience, and social cohesion into their own education sector planning processes.
COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this 9-week course, participants should be able to analyse the impact of risks and integrate safety, resilience, and social cohesion measures in national education sector planning processes.

More specifically, upon completion of the course, participants should be able to identify issues of safety, resilience, and social cohesion throughout the planning process as they:

- analyse risks of conflict and disaster that impact their country’s education sector and identify capacities that are already in place to respond to and prevent the impact of crisis;
- examine existing and proposed policies for their country in order to respond to risks that could affect their education system;
- identify programmes and build stakeholder support;
- generate a cost estimation and identify sources of financing;
- develop measurable and realistic indicators and identify the sources of information necessary for monitoring and evaluation.

In addition, participants will produce an action plan for the institutionalization of safety, resilience, and social cohesion in their respective education sector planning processes.

PARTICIPANTS’ PROFILES

This course is designed for senior staff of ministries of education, and for personnel from development partner organizations who are directly involved in the organization, planning, and management of the education sector, including both technical staff and policy-makers. The participation of female professionals is highly encouraged.

Please note that participants must have reliable access to the Internet and meet the requirements described in the Annex, ‘Technology equipment’.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

This distance course is organized in six modules. Modules 1, 5, and 6 will each cover a one-week period, while Modules 2, 3, and 4 will cover two-week periods. The modules include:
Module 1: Introduction (1 week/ 5-8 hours)

During the first week, participants will become familiar with the basic concepts of safety, resilience, and social cohesion, as well as the phases of educational planning.

Module 2: Analysis (2 weeks/ 10-16 hours)

Module 2 will focus on the analysis of impacts of disasters or conflict on access, quality, equity, and management of their education systems. Participants will examine the capacity of the education sector to respond to and prevent the impact of crisis. Country teams will also evaluate their education sector diagnosis in its current form to identify the entry point(s) for addressing safety, resilience, and social cohesion.

Module 3: Policies and programmes (2 weeks/ 10-16 hours)

Based on the analysis developed during Module 2, participants will begin to identify strategic actions and programmatic responses within an overall programme for access, quality, equity, and management. Participants will work together to identify the main activities and actors responsible for the implementation of potential measures for safety, resilience, and social cohesion, and will evaluate the current education sector plan to identify possible entry point(s).

Module 4: Costs and financing (2 weeks/ 10-16 hours)

In Module 4, participants will estimate unit and total costs needed to address their safety, resilience, and social cohesion priorities. Moreover, they will be asked to identify possible funding sources to cover these projected costs.

Module 5: Monitoring and evaluation (1 week/ 5-8 hours)

In Module 5, participants will map out a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework that incorporates elements of safety, resilience, and social cohesion. This will involve identifying the indicators and sources of information needed for a ministry of education to monitor and evaluate the degree to which their education system addresses issues of safety, resilience, and social cohesion.

Module 6: Institutionalization of safety, resilience, and social cohesion (1 week/ 5-8 hours)

Over the course of this final module, participants will reflect on and develop an action plan which lays out the responsibilities and capacities needed to institutionalize safety, resilience, and social cohesion in the education sector’s planning processes.

COURSE CALENDAR

The course will run from Monday 19 October to Friday 18 December (9 weeks), with a two-week preliminary phase for testing communications on the course e-learning platform, and meeting other participants and IIEP instructors. Participants should dedicate an average of 5 to 8 hours per week to the distance course.

LEARNING MODALITIES

The course will rely on an interactive and practice-oriented learning approach. Throughout the course, participants will be asked to prepare practical exercises which will allow them to directly apply the skills acquired. The training will be based on the following three learning modes:

– Individual study of the training materials and personal reflection on questions and exercises.

– Teamwork aimed at strengthening institutional capacities. Participants will work in group sessions to discuss participants’ individual replies and develop a joint response in the form of a group report.
Interaction with IIEP instructors and participants from other institutions and countries on the basis of an online exchange and sharing of experiences.

One member from each team will be appointed ‘group coordinator’. That person – preferably someone who works in a key position in the area of education planning – must distribute course materials, organize the group work, ensure that reports are submitted on time, etc. All participants must be able to read and communicate in English.

**Assessment and Certification**

Group assessment: Throughout their training, participants will be asked to prepare and submit group assignments to the IIEP course instructors, who will annotate and mark them. These activities will be evaluated on a pass or fail basis.

Individual assessment: In order to validate the course, participants must attend at least 75% of the group meetings and actively contribute to the group work. Group coordinators will take attendance during group meetings. In addition, participants will be required to participate in online discussions and to complete individual quizzes. Participants who meet the above-mentioned requirements will receive an IIEP-UNESCO certificate of participation.

**Participation Fees**

The tuition fees are 550 USD per participant. If your team's application is accepted, your ministry and/or organization must transfer the required tuition fees to IIEP’s bank account in order to validate your registration. It is imperative that participation fees be transferred two weeks before the beginning of the course. Delay in this regard will result in the cancellation of the registration.

IIEP has a limited number of scholarships available for participants from low-income countries without ministry support to cover participation fees. Scholarship requests can be made online at the time of application for the distance course.

**Registration**

The deadline to apply is Friday 14 August 2015. Applications must be filled out by clicking the following URL link: [https://app.wizehive.com/appform/login/IIEPOnlineResilience2015](https://app.wizehive.com/appform/login/IIEPOnlineResilience2015)

The selected teams will be informed of their registration status soon after they have submitted their application.

**Contacts**

Ms Leonora MacEwen  
Programme Specialist  
Tel: +33 (0)1 45.03.77.68  
Fax: +33 (0)1 40.72.83.66  
E-mail: plan4resilience@iiep.unesco.org

Ms Lorraine Daniel  
Programme Assistant  
Tel: +33 (0)1 45.03.77.44  
E-mail: plan4resilience@iiep.unesco.org
The course will be organized on a Learning Management System (Moodle) or “virtual classroom” which provides participants with training materials and a variety of interactive resources and tools, such as discussion forums, videos, instructional presentations with audio, wikis, blogs, and quizzes, etc. In order to participate in the course, candidates must make sure they meet the following minimum, (and if possible) optimal requirements:

### Minimum requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>For PCs</th>
<th>For Macs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating system</td>
<td>Windows XP or higher with latest updates installed</td>
<td>Mac OS X 10.3 Or higher with latest updates installed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processor</td>
<td>500Mhz or faster</td>
<td>1.83Mhz intel core duo or faster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ram</td>
<td>128Mb or more</td>
<td>128Mb or more</td>
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<tr>
<td>Video card</td>
<td>At least 64mb of video memory</td>
<td>At least 64mb of video memory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sound card</td>
<td>At least 16-bit</td>
<td>At least 16-bit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Browser</td>
<td>Firefox 1.1+, Internet Explorer 7.0+, Safari 1.0+, Google Chrome, or Opera</td>
<td>Firefox 1.1+, Internet Explorer 7.0+, Safari 1.0+, Google Chrome, or Opera</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broadband connection</td>
<td>500+ Kbps</td>
<td>500+ Kbps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional software</td>
<td>Adobe Flash Player 10.0.22+ Plug-in</td>
<td>Adobe Flash Player 10.0.22+ Plug-in</td>
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### Optimal requirements (recommended for IIEP’s videos and streaming content):

- Operating System: Windows Vista+ or Mac OS X 10.6+
- Browser: Firefox 8.0+, Internet Explorer 8.0+, Safari 5.0+, ou Google Chrome 15.0+
- Broadband Connection : 1 Mbps or higher
- Flash Player : Adobe Flash Player 10.1+

Ensuring optimal streaming speeds is especially important for Streaming. Make sure to close as many other tabs, browsers, and programs as possible while streaming your content. It may also help to hardwire your Internet connection, rather than using a wireless network connection.