

# Enhanced Vulnerability & Capacity Assessment (eVCA) Training 2026

## Concept Note



ORGANISED BY

**+C IFRC**

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**CaDRiM**



## Purpose

The **Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA)** is a practical method that helps communities identify their own risks, needs, and solutions to become safer and more resilient. This training is designed for Red Cross and Red Crescent National Society staff and volunteers. It builds their skills to carry out participatory community risk assessments.

By the end of the training, participants will be able to guide communities through the eVCA process helping them identify key risks and vulnerabilities, and support them in creating practical, community-led actions to reduce disaster risks and strengthen resilience.

## Training location and dates

The training will be in **English** and will combine 5 online sessions and 4 in-person sessions in Antigua and Barbuda. The schedule is as follows:

<b>Session type</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time (UTC-4)</b>
<i>Online Session 1</i>	17 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	6:00 PM- 8:30 PM
<i>Online Session 2</i>	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	5:30 PM- 8:30 PM
<i>Online Session 3</i>	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	5:30 PM- 8:30 PM
<i>Online Session 4</i>	24 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	5:30 PM- 8:30 PM
<i>Online Session 5</i>	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	5:30 PM- 8:30 PM
<b><i>In person Sessions</i></b>	17 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	8:30 AM- 5:30 PM

## Learning outcomes

By the end of this training, participants will be able to:

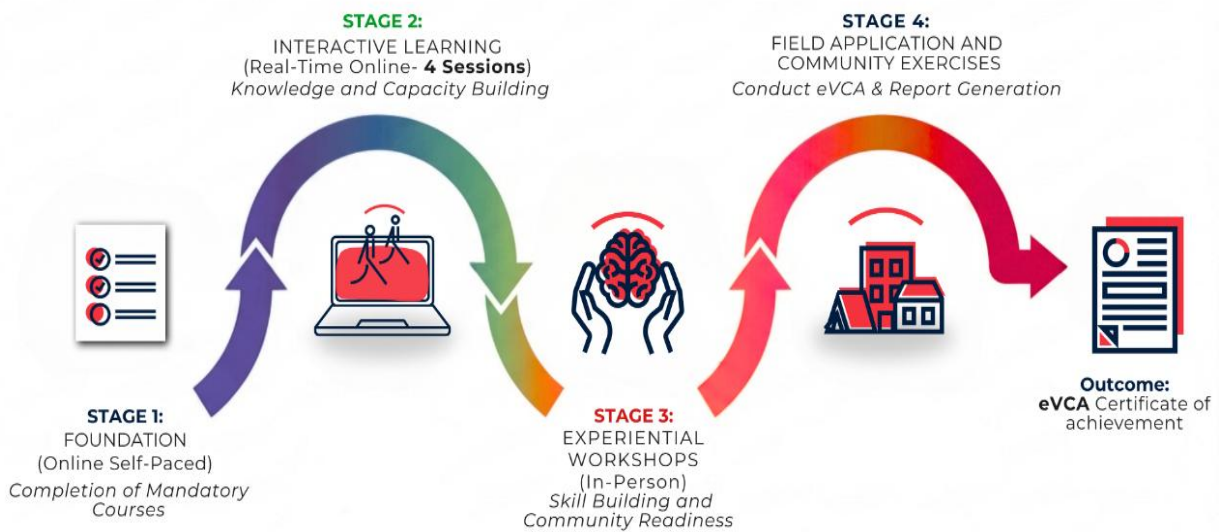
- **Explain the purpose and principles of the eVCA approach**, including its participatory, empowering, multi-sectoral, and multi-stakeholder nature, and how it serves as an entry point to community resilience work.
- **Describe the reasons for conducting an eVCA**, including how it helps communities understand existing, changing, and emerging risks, identify practical risk reduction and resilience actions, and mobilize awareness and resources.
- **Outline the enhanced features of eVCA compared with traditional VCA**, such as its alignment with the Roadmap to Community Resilience and the integration of climate change, gender, urban, and diversity considerations.
- **Participatory Assessment and Community Action Planning**, facilitating the eVCA process to empower communities to assess local hazards, vulnerabilities, and

capacities, ensuring the development of context-specific risk reduction and adaptation strategies driven by local ownership and priorities.

- **Demonstrate how eVCA contributes to community resilience**, showing how the tool links to the broader resilience building process and planning in line with the IFRC Roadmap to Community Resilience.

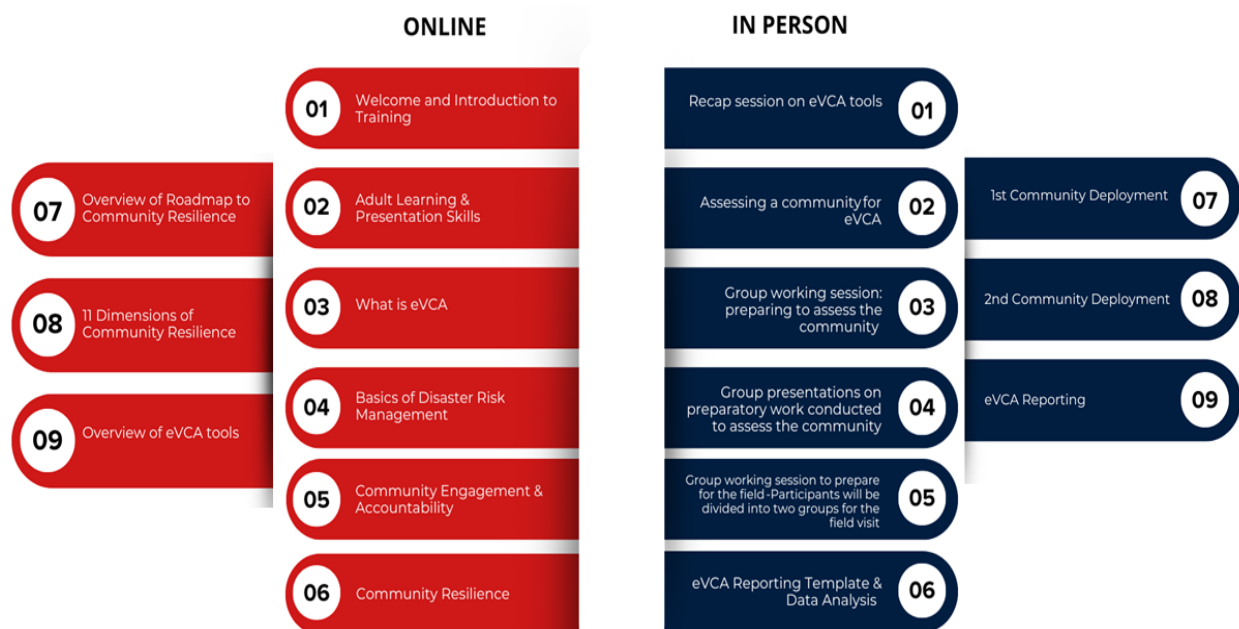
## Learning approach

# Blended Learning Journey Map



This training utilizes a blended learning model to bridge theory and practice. Participants first establish foundational knowledge through online prerequisites and real-time webinars, then transition to in-person workshops focused on group collaboration, local knowledge sharing, and a live field-based eVCA exercise.

## Training structure



## Key topics to be covered during training

- **Adult Learning & Presentation Skills:** participants will strengthen their facilitation and presentation skills. They will learn practical techniques for teaching adults effectively and leading engaging group discussions.
- **What is eVCA:** this session introduces the Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA), a participatory community risk assessment approach. Participants will learn how eVCA builds on the traditional VCA by using updated tools and guidance to help communities identify risks, understand vulnerabilities, recognize local strengths, and take practical action to reduce risk and strengthen resilience.
- **Basics of Disaster Risk Management (DRM):** participants will learn key Disaster Risk Management concepts and terminology. The focus is on moving from reacting to disasters to reducing risks in advance by identifying hazards and strengthening community capacities.
- **Community Engagement and Accountability:** this module highlights the importance of transparency, participation, and feedback. Participants will learn how

to ensure communities are active partners in disaster management, not just recipients of assistance.

- **Community Resilience:** participants will explore how to build trust and strengthen resilience by involving community members in decision-making, integrating climate change considerations, and creating clear feedback channels.
- **Overview of the Roadmap to Community Resilience:** this session introduces a structured four-stage process that guides communities toward long-term safety and resilience.
- **11 Dimensions of Community Resilience:** participants will learn how to assess community resilience across eleven key sectors to identify gaps and prioritize the most important actions.
- **eVCA Tools:** participants will gain hands-on experience using both digital and participatory eVCA tools. They will learn how to identify hazards, understand vulnerabilities and local strengths, organize and analyze information, and turn assessment findings into clear, practical community priorities and action plans.
- **Assessing a community:** this module focuses on facilitating community-led assessments and using the findings to develop a clear roadmap that addresses identified disaster risks.
- **Risk Informed Community Action Planning:** participants will learn how to transform assessment results into a realistic, risk-informed action plan that supports locally led solutions.

## Assessment Tools

The participants will be evaluated based on their performance in the following activities:

- **Learning Reflection Quiz:** the quiz will help participants to reinforce and reflect on their understanding of key concepts from the online training and prepare for deeper, practical learning during the in-person session.
- **Group Presentation:** used to assess how well participants understand and can apply the eVCA concepts and tools. Participants will have the opportunity to demonstrate their learning by explaining key ideas, presenting assessment findings, and outlining proposed actions.

## How you will learn

- **Instructional activities:** learning sessions led by facilitators where key concepts and skills are explained and practiced. These may include short presentations, demonstrations, and guided exercises.
- **Group activities:** collaborative tasks where participants will work together to share ideas and complete activities, promoting teamwork and collective learning.
- **Field exercise:** participants will carry out an eVCA in a selected community. They will then complete the eVCA Excel template and write a short report. This exercise allows participants to apply what they have learned and practice using the tools in a real-life setting.

## Costs

For this course, IFRC will cover all expenses including air travel, ground transportation to and from the hotel, travel insurance, hotel accommodation and per diem.

## Commitment

It is a requirement that each participant is available to support the work of their National Society in conducting at least **one (1) eVCA** within the next 6 months.

## Participant Criteria

*Each participant should meet the following criteria:*

- Experience implementing community-based disaster risk reduction projects/ initiatives
- Understand VCAs (Vulnerability Capacity Assessment)
- Fluent in both written and spoken English
- Able to function effectively under high stress levels
- Available for the entire training period (both online and in person) and able to commit fully to completing all activities
- Commit to executing the EVCA in at least one (1) community in 2026
- Grasp concepts quickly
- Good communication and teamwork skills

## Participant Selection Process

Interested candidates must visit register using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/evcatraining>

## Prerequisite Courses

Before attending the eVCA Training, participants must complete the below online courses and submit via email to [kearell.neils@ifrc.org](mailto:kearell.neils@ifrc.org). **If you have already completed these courses there is no need to redo them, simply email your certificates.**

*The courses are as follows:*

1. **Stay Safe: Level 1 – Fundamentals**
2. **Stay Safe: Level 2 – Personal and Volunteer Security in Emergencies**
3. **Road Map to Community Resilience**
4. **Code of Conduct**

## Note:

This training initiative is funded under the **CREWS 2.0 initiative** and supported by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) through the Caribbean Disaster Risk Management (CaDRiM) Reference Centre.

The **CaDRiM Team** will lead the overall planning and coordination of the Enhanced Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (eVCA) training. They will also support the facilitation of the sessions and work closely with other facilitators to adapt and strengthen the training materials to ensure they are relevant and practical.

**Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society** will host the training, providing logistical support and key data on the selected community. This information will be used during the practical field exercise, allowing participants to apply the eVCA tools in a real-world context.