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INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM - TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



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Countries in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region experience a range of natural disasters, including droughts, earthquakes, floods, forest fires, hurricanes, landslides, tsunamis, and volcanoes. The complexity and magnitude of incidents experienced in the region have highlighted the need to implement a standardized disaster management system that enables an efficient and effective response, as well as the optimization of available resources and cooperation between different response organizations.

Since 2002, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) has offered a specialized Incident Command System (ICS) consulting program in the LAC region that aims to strengthen emergency management systems and enhance first responders' capacity to respond to emergencies.

USAID/OFDA promotes and supports the regional adoption and implementation of ICS in the LAC region as a standard incident management model, as it can be used to efficiently manage small or large-scale emergencies by integrating equipment, facilities, staff, processes, and communication under a common organizational structure and language. ICS also facilitates the command and control of personnel and resources and allows emergency agencies to coordinate responses without being limited by jurisdictional boundaries.

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### TECHNICAL SUPPORT AREAS

- Definition of inter-institutional protocols for incident management
- Development of mobilization exercises
- Development of operating procedures manuals at an institutional level
- ICS implementation
- National fora for exchange of experiences and good practices
- Simulations and drills to practice using ICS in emergency scenarios
- Training of ICS instructors

### COURSES AND REFERENCE MATERIALS

- Aide Mémoire of the ICS Latin American Forum
- Basic ICS Course
- Intermediate ICS Course
- Advanced ICS Course
- Guide for Implementation of ICS in Latin America and the Caribbean
- ICS for Decision Makers
- ICS Instructor Training Workshops
- ICS Protocol and Procedures Workshop

