

Head of Training and Capability Strengthening

About the Centre

The Centre for Disaster Protection ('the Centre') works to prevent disasters devastating lives, by helping people, countries, and organisations change how they plan and pay for disasters. We focus on disaster risk financing (DRF) to help ensure that money and plans are in place before a disaster strikes, so that the poorest and most vulnerable people are better protected. We are committed to work in partnerships across sectors and geographies to drive more impactful and more equitable DRF that leaves no one behind. Specifically, through a focus on:

Delivering excellent client outcomes and promoting lasting DRF expertise. We provide clients with impartial and evidence-based advice, quality assurance and training that meets their needs and drives more effective DRF.

Quality evidence and learning. We work to strengthen the evidence base for prearranged financing and document and share what shows the greatest potential to achieve system change.

Impactful communications and global policy engagement. We seek to engage and influence through evidence-led policy and inclusive policy dialogue that bridges both 'local to global' and the humanitarian development climate nexus, targeting the bottlenecks key to effect transformative change of the international crisis financing architecture.

Driving innovation in how disasters are planned and paid for. We co-design, develop and share open tools and approaches that transform how countries plan and pay for disasters, working with governments and partners to build the data foundations, methods, and financing solutions that make DRF more efficient, accessible and country-owned.

Additionally, we are focused on building effective systems and processes for people and operations that support the Centre to rapidly, yet strategically, scale and grow in a way that supports our people to do their best work through safe challenge, promoting and integrating diversity, equity and inclusion.

The Centre is funded with UK aid. You can learn more about us in our [updated strategy \(2025-2030\)](#) and at www.disasterprotection.org.

The Opportunity

Role Purpose

The Head of Training and Capability Strengthening will lead the development, delivery, and growth of the Centre's global training and capability strengthening offer.

The postholder will develop the Centre's existing training activities into a coherent function that strengthens disaster risk financing capability across governments, regional institutions, development banks, risk pools, UN agencies, and other partners.

The role combines strategic leadership, business development, programme and training delivery, partnership management, and innovation. The successful candidate will ensure that the Centre's technical expertise is translated into high-quality training modules, learning products, capacity development programmes, and institutional strengthening approaches that generate lasting impact and support the Centre's mission.

Key Responsibilities

1. Capability Strengthening and Institutional Development

- Lead the evolution of the Centre's offer beyond training into broader capability strengthening approaches.
- Design programmes that strengthen organisational, institutional, and system-level capacity.
- Support governments and partners to embed learning into policy, planning, and operational processes.
- Develop approaches that promote long-term sustainability and ownership rather than one-off training interventions.
- Identify opportunities for accreditation, certification, academic partnerships, and formal learning pathways.

2. Function Leadership

- Lead the Centre's Training and Capability Strengthening function.
- Work closely with the Associate Director to develop and implement a multi-year strategy for training and capability strengthening aligned with the Centre's organisational strategy.
- Establish priorities, work and resource plans, budgets, and performance frameworks for the function.
- Coordinate inputs from across delivery teams, and from the Associate Director and Executive Director to identify emerging capability gaps within the global disaster risk financing landscape and position the Centre to respond accordingly.
- Work closely with the Associate Director to integrate training and capability development across advisory, evidence, policy engagement, and innovation activities.

3. Portfolio Management and Development

- Oversee the design, development, and delivery of the Centre's training and capability strengthening portfolio.
- Develop innovative learning products such as workshops and simulations, peer learning programmes and communities of practice.
- Ensure learning products are evidence-based, practical, accessible, and tailored to client needs.
- Maintain quality assurance processes and standards across all training activities.
- Ensure training content remains current with developments in disaster risk financing, public financial management, climate finance, social protection, crisis financing, and related fields.

4. Business Development and Partnerships

- Support the Associate Director in identifying and pursuing opportunities to expand the Centre's training and capability strengthening portfolio.
- Contribute to proposal development, fundraising, and business development efforts.
- Develop new and support existing partnerships with:
 - national governments;
 - regional organisations;
 - multilateral development banks;
 - UN agencies;
 - academic institutions;
 - professional networks;
 - regional risk pools.
- Represent the Centre externally in support of its strategic objectives on visibility and partnerships development.
- Support income generation and cost recovery through funded training and capability strengthening initiatives.

5. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

- Support the Head of Impact in monitoring the quality, effectiveness and impact of training activities through regular reporting and collaborating on the development of learning indicators and performance metrics;
- Capture and share lessons learned across programmes and partners.
- Ensure evidence and participant feedback inform continuous improvement.

6. People Management

- Lead a high-performing training and capability strengthening team, comprising internal staff and embedded consultants.
- Provide line management, coaching, and professional development support.
- Manage consultants, facilitators, and specialist learning providers.
- Foster collaboration across functions and geographical locations.
- Champion the Centre's values of quality, impartiality, creativity, and challenge.

Required skills and experience

Required Experience

- Significant experience developing and leading training, learning, capacity development, or capability strengthening programmes in an international context.
- Experience working with governments, international organisations, development finance institutions, or donor-funded programmes in low and/or middle-income country contexts.
- Experience leading teams and managing complex stakeholder relationships.

Highly desirable

- Professional experience in disaster risk financing, or a closely adjacent field (such as public financial management, climate adaptation finance, actuarial science, social protection, insurance and alternative risk transfer, humanitarian response)
- Experience contributing to systems that measure and demonstrate development outcomes.

Required Skills and Knowledge

- Strong understanding of adult learning principles and instructional design.
- Excellent strategic thinking and programme development skills.
- Knowledge of disaster risk financing, climate adaptation finance, crisis financing, public financial management, insurance, social protection, or related fields.
- Ability to translate complex technical concepts into accessible learning products.
- Strong communication, facilitation, and influencing skills.
- Excellent project and budget management capability.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Commitment to inclusion, localisation, and equitable capacity strengthening.
- Language skills in French or Spanish are desirable.

This role requires international travel.

The offer

This role is expected to be offered on a fixed term contract basis, anticipated to start in November/December 2026 and continuing to June 2029, with an initial probation period of up to 4 months. The role will be contracted by DAI Global UK, who are the Centre's managing agent.

The position is offered in the UK, and applicants must have the right to work in the UK. There is a requirement to work from the London office at least eight days a month. This may be pro-rated for part-time working. Flexible and part-time working arrangements will be considered.

Candidates based elsewhere who fulfil the above skills and experience and person specification criteria and have interest in the role, may contact the Centre on the enquiry e-mail below in the first instance, to enquire whether the role could be offered in their preferred location.

A competitive salary and benefits package will be offered depending on experience with indicative gross salary range between £60,000 to £75,000 per annum. The proposed salary will be confirmed at the offer stage.

The Centre is committed to building a diverse and inclusive workplace and so we particularly encourage applications from diverse backgrounds that are typically under-represented in this sector and from citizens of countries affected by disasters.

DAI is a global development company with corporate offices in the USA, the UK, the EU, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Palestine, and project operations worldwide. DAI tackles fundamental social and



economic development problems caused by inefficient markets, ineffective governance, and instability; it works on the frontlines of global development, transforming ideas into action—action into impact. DAI is committed to shaping a more liveable world.

Application process

Interested applicants should apply via email to jobs_centre@disasterprotection.org. All applications must include a concise CV as well as a covering supporting statement (no more than two pages) outlining your motivation for applying and the key qualities you would bring to the role. Please include the subject line 'Head of Training Application'

Any reasonable adjustment requests or questions about the role or the recruitment process should be sent to: jobs_centre@disasterprotection.org.

The deadline for receiving applications is 11:59 pm (UK time) on 15 October 2026.