background

The Master's degree at the UIC in Barcelona aims at preparing architects and professionals to deal with regional planning and emergency construction projects, i.e., professionals that can arrive at cities in crisis and can use specific tools to apply the appropriate strategies in order to support the development and recovery of affected communities. The MA aims at establishing the strategies and criteria for taking action in the area of urban planning, developing neighborhoods and implementing architecture projects, while bearing in mind energy-saving systems and sustainability criteria in all areas related to materials and local cultures.

UN-HABITAT’s objective in disaster management is to reduce the impacts of natural disasters and other emergencies on human settlements, inter alia, through appropriate planning mechanisms and resources for rapid, people-centered responses that promote a smooth transition from relief, through rehabilitation, to reconstruction to development. Ensuring development, in line with the principles of sustainable human settlements, of a disaster-resistant environment for residents of cities, towns and villages to live, work and invest.

UN-HABITAT, UIC Barcelona collaboration aims at maximizing resources by building a repository of knowledge in students that will, most probably, influence future responses and settlements reconstruction after crisis situations. This collaboration will concretely build capacity of future generations to deal and support local actors in post-disaster situations and, in exchange, maximize human resources by exploring new areas, tools and methodologies, together with advanced students of the Master degree.
The modules proposed for this 4-day Seminar are divided in 4 sessions of 3 hours each (12 hours in total):

**session 1**

1. **International Humanitarian Response (1 hour)**
   - Structure
   - Humanitarian Reform 2005
   - Cluster Approach

2. **UN-HABITAT Mandate and Role in the Humanitarian arena (1 hour)**
   - Challenges and advantages.
   - Policy Guidance
   - Cluster memberships
   - Focal Point responsibilities
   - Relief, Recovery and Development
     - Challenges

3. **Shelter and Housing issues (1 hour)**
   - Emergency Shelter vs. Housing Reconstruction... different contexts
   - Structural and habitability assessments
   - Integrated approach to housing reconstruction

**session 2**

1. **Shelter and Housing issues (1 hour)**
   - Shelter Options
   - Shelter Projects publications

2. **Land issues (1 hour)**
   - Land use and planning
   - Land Administration
   - Land tenure and different forms of tenure

3. **Water and Sanitation (1 hour)**
   - Critical infrastructure, protection and planning
   - Health and sanitation systems
   - Community roles and capacities

**session 3 and 4**

1. **Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (1 hour)**
   - UNFCCC and trends
   - Adaptation
   - Mitigation
   - Climate Change and Cities

2. **Needs Assessment methodologies + Exercise (3 hours)**
   - Housing Needs Assessment:
     - Typology and condition of housing stock
     - Locally available construction workers and their skill level
     - Community level social structures
     - Governance of building construction
     - Market conditions for construction

   - **Land Needs Assessment**
     - Land Loss, Land Availability and Damage Assessments
     - Land laws and typology of grievances

   - **Local Estimate of Needs for Shelter and Settlements (LENSS)**
     - Methods
     - Affected locality as the organizing unit for data
     - Applicable events, hazards and data
     - Data collection

   - **Damage Assessment on Housing (ECLAC)**
     - General
     - Baseline Information