



MEAL for Development Professionals

Introduction to MEAL DPro

MEAL DPro is a collection of learning resources intended to build basic monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning skills for staff working in a broad range of organizations, from CRS to local church organizations and consortium partners.

CRS, [Humentum](#) and the [Humanitarian Leadership Academy](#) (HLA) partnered to create the resources for MEAL DPro, the third title in the DPro suite, building on PMD Pro for project management and FMD Pro for financial management. *A Guide to the MEAL DPro* has been published under a Creative Commons license¹ and can be accessed at [MEALDPro.org](#).



The key audiences for MEAL DPro are:

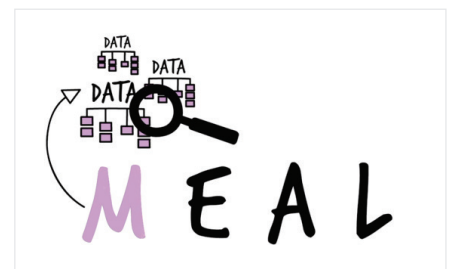
- **Project team members** – This includes project managers, program managers and other project associates. MEAL DPro also provides an opportunity for more experienced team members to strengthen their understanding of specific MEAL topics.
- **MEAL technical staff** – This includes entry-level MEAL specialists and more experienced MEAL staff who can use the MEAL DPro resources to create a common language for MEAL systems among colleagues and partners.

MEAL DPro learning resources include:

- [A Guide to the MEAL DPro](#)
- 8 MEAL DPro self-led online eLearning modules (posted to CRSlearns and externally)
- 14 [MEAL DPro illustrated whiteboard videos](#)
- MEAL DPro examination and certification (hosted by [PHAP](#))

Upcoming MEAL DPro courses

In addition to accessing MEAL DPro resources directly via [MEALDProStarter.org](#), learners may enroll in the following online courses.



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This 3-minute [video](#) provides an excellent overview of MEAL DPro.

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MEAL DPro certification

MEAL DPro certification will be awarded to learners who pass the MEAL DPro exam administered by the International Association of Professionals in

Humanitarian Leadership Academy's MEAL DPro course

This course is an introduction to the MEAL DPro content and is recommended for learners who seek to refresh their understanding of basic MEAL concepts, or entry-level learners who do not have the time or budget to accommodate the longer Humentum course.

Type	Dates	Time commitment	Cost
Online, self-directed	May 13 to June 7, 2019	About 6 hours of learning content over 4 weeks	Free

Humentum's MEAL DPro Flex Course

This course is recommended for learners who will benefit from its greater degree of interaction, who are able to dedicate time to more in-depth learning and have funding to cover course fees.

Type	Dates	Time commitment	Cost
Provides a more in-depth learning opportunity, using discussion boards and other means of social learning	June 19 to August 13, 2019, with a second course anticipated in fall 2019	Up to 32 hours of content over 8 weeks	\$175 per learner

CRS may host a MEAL DPro course in 2020 that will support learners by applying MEAL DPro concepts to a CRS context. **Recommendation: Staff are encouraged to take advantage of the HLA and Humentum courses above to meet learning immediate needs, while a CRS contextualized course is further considered.**

Humanitarian Assistance and Protection ([PHAP](#)). The cost of the exam is \$80 and there are no additional costs for the certificate itself. PHAP offers both a core (basic) and an advanced MEAL DPro exam and certification. Obtaining core certification is a requirement for progression to the advanced level. More information is available [here](#).

MEAL DPro certification is a valuable credential and will be recognized externally. Please note that certification is not currently a requirement for MEAL DPro learners or for CRS staff.

Approach centered on partner capacity strengthening

MEAL DPro is an excellent opportunity for partner staff to build MEAL capacity, whether through self study of the guide or enrollment in a course. We encourage CRS staff to share this opportunity with partners and undertake joint learning through weekly discussions on content, and reflection on how to apply the MEAL DPro ideas at the project level, or to simply sit together to complete the course content. In doing so, we anticipate that the MEAL DPro learning experience and staff relationships will ultimately both be enhanced.

We want to hear from you! If you have questions about MEAL DPro or are willing to share your experiences of MEAL DPro resources, please contact Guy Sharrock (Guy.Sharrock@crs.org) or Clara Hagens (Clara.Hagens@crs.org)