

Concept note

A 2-days district level training programme on Preparedness for Flood Disaster Response & Relief is scheduled on 23rd – 24th Aug 2022 at Rajkot.

Subject	Preparedness for Flood Disaster Response & Relief		
Target Participants	All Departments of District Administration		
Date of Training Programme	23 rd – 24 th Aug 2022	Location	Rajkot
Time	10.30hrs – 18.00hrs	Coordinator	Piyush Ramteke, Programme Manager, GIDM
Expected no. of Participants	30	Contact	+91-9662007130 rspm1-gidm@gujarat.gov.in

1. Aim

To develop the capacities of target participants by linking their roles in DRM activities with field level actions using appropriate technologies considering global perspectives and action at local level

2. Background

Owing to its geo-climatic, geological and physical features, Gujarat is vulnerable to all major natural hazards namely, drought, flood, cyclone, earthquake, tsunami etc. The State is also under constant threat of various human made hazards like that of industrial (chemical) hazards, transportation accidents, terror attacks, epidemic, road accidents, etc.

Gujarat has seen many damaging floods. Almost all major rivers in the state pass through a wide stretch of very flat terrain (often more than 50 km) before reaching the sea. These flat low lands of lower river basins are prone to flooding. Due to erratic rainfall pattern in the State, the Saurashtra region is receiving higher rainfall than average in isolated areas. The increase in rainfall in North Gujarat and upper areas have caused overflowing of rivers in Saurashtra regions having origins in North Gujarat. The deadliest flooding events from 2000 to 2019 were the June 2013 floods in India (6,054 deaths) (UNISIDAR). The 2017 Floods in Gujarat have caused loss of lives, livestock, crops, durable assets, and damage to public and private infrastructure.

The process of flood management is very complex due to the influence of several socio-hydroclimatological factors, such as climate change, sea level rise, and socio-economic dynamics. Flood response measures are those taken immediately after receiving early warning from the relevant authority or in anticipation of an impending disaster, or immediately after the occurrence of an event without any warning. The primary goal of response to a disaster is saving lives, protecting property, environment, and meeting basic needs of human and other living beings after the disaster. Its focus is on rescuing those affected and those likely to be affected by the disaster. The UNISDR (2016) defines response as: *“Actions taken directly before, during or immediately after a disaster in order to save lives, reduce health impacts, ensure public safety and meet the basic subsistence needs of the people affected”*.

The overarching concern of disaster response is immediate and short-term needs, including immediate disaster relief. Effective, efficient, and merely response relies on disaster risk -informed preparedness measures, including the development of the response capacities of individuals, communities, organizations, countries and the international community. The institutional elements of response open include the provision of emergency services and public assistance by public and private sectors and community sectors, as well as community and volunteer participation. “Emergency services” are a critical set of specialized agencies that have specific responsibilities in serving and protecting people and property in emergency and disaster situations.

3. Objectives

- i. To develop a sound understanding about Flood Risk in Saurashtra
- ii. To enhance the knowledge of Participants in Early warning systems
- iii. To encourage the use of relevant structural and non-structural risk mitigation measures in flood prone areas
- iv. To promote coordinated response mechanism as part of Incident Response System
- v. To encourage strengthening of Response Capacities of the district administration

4. Why Training on ‘Preparedness for Flood Disaster Response and Relief’?

- i. Lack of awareness about the flood risk among various stakeholders
- ii. Inadequate provision for risk informed planning in areas prone to floods
- iii. Inadequate monitoring of early warnings and dissemination
- iv. Absence of Flood response documentation
- v. Lack of formal training on coordinated response mechanism
- vi. Lack of adequate preparedness and response capacity among various stakeholders groups

5. Target Departments/Agencies

- i. Revenue Dept.
- ii. R&B Department
- iii. Panchayat Department
- iv. Education Dept.
- v. Health Dept.
- vi. Police Dept.
- vii. ULBs
- viii. Water Supply Department
- ix. Agriculture and Animal Husbandry
- x. PGVCL
- xi. Civil Supplies
- xii. GSRTC