

# **Virtual Class Room Based Training Program on Flood Preparedness & Early Warning System in Gujarat (Through Zoom Platform)**

**Date: 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 Time: (15:00 to 17:00 Hrs.)**

## **Concept Note:**

Flood is a relatively high flow of water that overtops the natural and artificial banks in any of the reaches of a stream when banks are overtopped, water spread over the flood plain, and generally causes a problem for inhabitants, crops and vegetation. In possible extreme flood events; it is important to determine quickly the extent of flooding and land use underwater.

The Flood Preparedness is organizational activities which ensure that the systems, procedure, and resources required to confront a flood are available to provide timely assistance to those affected, using existing mechanisms wherever to possible e.g. training, creation of awareness, the establishment of disaster plans, evacuation plans, pre-positioning of stocks, early warning mechanisms, strengthening indigenous knowledge, etc. the concept of Disaster Preparedness has emerged as an umbrella concept including risk assessment, disaster prevention, and disaster mitigation. It also involves analysis of disaster response as it provides a useful testing of preparedness.

This plan provides a checklist of activities, responsibilities of various flood preparedness plans, government agencies, officials, NGOs, and international agencies at various stages, post-disaster review, assessment, and also a schedule with procedures for reviewing and updating the plan.

A comprehensive plan that enables the authorities to take prompt action in flood situations. The principal of which is the increasing emphasis on prevention and preparedness as a means to reduce risks. Some of the commonly identified flood preparedness activities are; Public awareness-raising on flood preparedness, response and mitigation measures; Stockpiling of emergency relief materials i.e., food, fodder for livestock, emergency medicines, materials for temporary shelter, etc; Installation of community-based early warning system for issuance of

timely and effective flood warnings; Management of safe areas for the temporary removal of people and property from a threatened location; Transportation to safe areas/ evacuation center; Ensuring access to health and sanitation facilities; Conducting drills and rehearsals.

The key to flood preparedness planning is to have a clarity and agreement on the roles and responsibilities of relevant stakeholders such as the government agencies, disaster management organizations, Red Cross, voluntary groups as well as community members. Such an arrangement is possible by forming a disaster management committee and teams at various levels to agree on a set of standard operating procedures (SOPs) defining what actions to be taken before, during and after floods. The benefits of the flood preparedness planning are many and some of them are listed:

- Systematic arrangement and deployment of resources to reduce the impact of flood disasters vulnerable communities to get access to crucial information, such as timely flood forecasts and warnings
- The provision of basic needs, such as shelter and medical care, clean water, sanitation, and food during floods
- Continued access to livelihoods, to minimize disruption of economic activities; Effective coordination among disaster management agencies to ensure efficient emergency response during floods
- Urgent restoration of critical infrastructure and measures to be taken to bring normalcy immediately after the floods

The flood early warning is a part of preparedness measures; and a significant step in flood risk reduction. It is the web of information and communication systems based on different kinds of sensors that have capabilities to detect the information of events/accidents in their pre-occurrence stage. CWC is entrusted with monitoring of flood situation in the country during the designated flood period. For flood water levels/ discharges along the major rivers, flood forecasting and warning for 197 low lying areas/ towns and 128 reservoirs help the user agencies in deciding mitigating measures like evacuation of people and shifting their movable property to safer locations.

IMD inform about rainfall situation and forecasting, CWC inform about water level/discharge about the water bodies. This information pass to the Commissioner of Relief/GSDMA by the fastest means about any hazardous situation that may turn in to a disastrous.

The Commissioner of Relief (COR) will activate all departments for emergency response including the State EOC, District EOC, and ERCs. State Government may publish a notification in the official gazette declaring such areas to be the flood-affected area. Once the situation is controlled and normalcy is restored, the COR declares end of emergency response and issues instructions to withdraw the staff deployed in emergency duties.

Flood Preparedness and Early Warning System in Gujarat is to educate the participants about the Preparedness and early warning mechanism in Gujarat.

### **Objectives:**

1. Basic concepts of flood preparedness and early warning
2. Preparedness mechanism in Gujarat
3. Role of Govt. and non-gov. organizations in flood preparedness and early warnings

These all concepts, mechanisms, and practices going on in Gujarat will be discussed in detail in this training program. The training sessions will be delivered in Hindi/Gujarati and English.

### **Target Audience for Proposed Training**

| <b>Sr. No.</b> | <b>Department Name</b>                                       | <b>Designation of Participants</b>  |
|----------------|--|---|
| 1.             | Agriculture, Farmers Welfare & Cooperation Department        | Agriculture Extension Officer, Agri. Supervisor, Agri. Assistant, Block Technology Managers, Assistant Technology Managers & Farmers Friend |
| 2.             | Narmada Water Resources, Water Supply and Kalpsar Department | Asst. Engineer & Add. Asst. Engineer  |
| 3.             | Urban Development Department                                 | Planning Assistant, and Jr. Town Planner  |

### **Resource Persons:**

1. **Shri. Kaushal Mathiya**, Asst. Director, Central water Commission, Gandhinagar
2. **Shri Ramashray Yadav**, Scientist 'D', IMD, Ahmedabad
3. **Shri. C.C.Patel**, Former, DoR, SEOC, Gandhinagar
4. **Dr. Sandeep Pandey**, Asso. Prof., GIDM

**Expected outcome:**

This will potentiate the employee to know the Flood Preparedness and Early Warning Mechanism and precautionary measure in their daily planning and execution.

**Participants & Venue:**

1. Zoom link will be provided through e-mail to the participants they may participate through mobile phone/laptop etc.