

## Program Note

# Workshop on Implementing Making Cities Resilient (MCR) 2030 in Vadodara

- **Background**

Gujarat is a state located in the western part of India. It has a population of over 60 million people (Census of India, 2011) making it one of the most populous states in the country. The decadal growth rate of urbanization for the state is 19 percent. The urban population in Gujarat accounts for approximately 42% of the total population (Census of India, 2011), and the state has several cities with a population of over one million, including Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara, and Rajkot. While the state has been a major powerhouse, its urban centers are prone to varied hazards including earthquakes, floods, cyclones, droughts, and heatwaves. The urban areas of Gujarat are particularly at risk due to factors such as rapid urbanization, poor developmental practices, poor data availability on disaster risk and poor infrastructural quality (NIDM, 2021). The risk profile of Gujarat in an urban context is complex, which poses a threat to the safety and well-being of not only its residents but also to the infrastructure, urban systems and associated assets.

Positively, however, urban local governments are on the ‘**frontline of opportunity**’ to foster transformation, reduce effect & impact of disasters, reduce chronic vulnerabilities like keeping people out of poverty and protect hard-earned local development gains, enabling urban areas, commonly acknowledged as municipalities, to become more inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. Challenged by climate emergency, pandemic, and other such seen and unforeseen shocks and stresses, resilience building can no longer be a stand-alone issue and must take into consideration the inter-dependencies between sectors, the interconnectedness of socio- economic factors, the complexity of hazards and the systemicity of disaster risk. Therefore, cities in Gujarat must take a long-term approach to reduce risks and must make resilience building an integral part of sustainable urban development.

The Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR 2030), a 10-year global partnership accelerating local resilience, provides a clear 3-stage Resilience Roadmap guiding cities and municipalities towards taking a long-term and continuous approach to resilience investments, from awareness raising to enhanced strategic planning and taking a whole-of-society approach to implementation. Founded on the fact that disaster prevention is an investment and not a cost, MCR 2030 aims to Leave No Municipality Behind in this ambition. MCR 2030 prioritizes strengthening of the local resilience agenda and the link between national and sub-national in terms of coordination, planning and implementation of resilience actions as well as across city actors. MCR 2030 offers a platform for cities to access knowledge, experience, networks, tools, resources and services in support of their resilience journey to ensure cities become inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable by 2030, contributing directly to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG11) “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”, and other global frameworks including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Agreement, and the New Urban Agenda.

- **Objectives**

This workshop would serve as a fundamental training on urban disaster and climate resilience. It would aim to -

- A. Increase the knowledge and capacities on disaster risk reduction and climate resilience of Vadodara Municipal Corporation.
- B. Introduce the Resilience Roadmap, the normative framework guiding cities towards long-term resilience investment and other offers by MCR2030 partners
- C. Provide approaches and tools to further support resilience building at the local level
- D. Strengthen national and local government linkage and support on disaster and climate risk reduction
- E. Foster city-to-city exchange and learning of good practices

- **Course Pedagogy**

The training will be held in person, facilitated by trainers from Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM) with support of UNDRR Global Education and Training Institute (GETI) and SAARC Disaster Management Centre (IU). The training will include presentations, group exercises and discussions.

- **Targeted Participants**

The workshop is organised for the officials of Vadodara Municipal Corporation and all other relevant departments by GIDM.

- **Date and Venue**

The workshop will be organized at the Vadodara Municipal Corporation. The dates of the workshop is

14<sup>th</sup> March, 2022.