

Workshop on Community Based Disaster Risk Management

Date: 17-18 May, 2024

Executive Summary

Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM) and the State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD) has organised the workshop on Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) to make the gram panchayat planning climate and disaster risk informed through capacity building program of Master Trainers. It will involve training on concepts and framework on mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation.

This workshop will provide a platform for the master trainers to share their challenges, best practices, and exchange ideas on possible cooperation among different levels of stakeholders engaged training and capacity building. It will aid in resilience amongst the communities at village, taluka and district levels.

GIDM and SIRD will invite experts from government, NGOs and international organisations like UNICEF to enhance improve teaching pedagogy related to climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) planning at grass root level through effective implementation of Risk-Informed Gram Panchayat Development Plan (RI-GPDP).

Background

Across the country, Gram Panchayats (GPs) are formulating Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs), which provide a strategic framework for local development initiatives. By synchronizing these plans with climate and disaster risk reduction agenda and the SDGs, GPs can effectively integrate global objectives into their local context, leveraging resources from various centrally and state-sponsored schemes. To achieve this alignment, it is crucial to identify, address and mainstream hazards induced by climate change across sectors. Nine Themes have been identified for Panchayats to aim to become, with a Vision Statement for each Theme.

Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) play a crucial role in disaster risk management (DRM) at the grassroots level in India. PRIs are local self-governing bodies established under the Constitution of India, and they form an essential part of decentralized governance. PRIs are at the forefront of disaster risk management, as they possess intimate knowledge of the local context and have direct

access to the community. Their active involvement strengthens the effectiveness of disaster management efforts and ensures a more resilient response to disasters.

PRI plays a crucial role in disaster response by creating awareness among the local communities about the potential risks, conducting drills, and preparing contingency plans. They have to also identify and map vulnerable areas and communities, and prioritize their preparedness and response efforts. PRI works with the district administration and other stakeholders to set up early warning systems that can help alert the local communities about an impending disaster. This can be done through a variety of means such as sirens, public address systems, and mobile phone alerts. In the event of a disaster, PRI needs to coordinate search and rescue operations at the local level. They are expected to mobilize resources, including human resources, equipment, and vehicles, to help in rescue and evacuation efforts. Often, PRI has the responsibility with relief and rehabilitation efforts after a disaster. They undertake to distribute relief material, including food, water, and medicines, to the affected population. They can also coordinate efforts to rebuild damaged infrastructure and provide other forms of support to the affected communities. It is the need of the hour that PRI to work with local communities to build their capacity to respond to disasters.

Apart from disaster response, they are expected to work in disaster preparedness and mitigation in normal times. For instance, Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) is prepared considering the needs of the village and funding is sourced from different initiatives and schemes of Govt. of Gujarat (GoG) and Govt. of India (GoI). Now, it is of utmost importance that during GPDP formulation, CCA and DRR components need to be considered. The activities undertaken should strike a balance between environment and development.

In this point of view, master trainers who teach these initiatives and schemes are being targeted to make the planning process risk informed. Now what is risk-informed planning? Risk informed planning is that development planning undertaken considering the disaster risks involved, where risk is a function of hazard of the region, vulnerability and coping capacity of the community and exposure when affected by such hazards.

The existing content covered in the PRI training centers can be enhanced by integrating the lens of climate shocks and DRR. This addition would enrich the training content by providing trainers with orientation and capacity-building sessions focused on mainstreaming CCA and DRR into the areas of concern already being addressed like Swachh Bharat Mission, Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, MGNREGA Capacity Building, Capacity Building under NRLM for GLPC, Capacity Building under Lab to Land, BNVs Strategy, Watershed Management, IAY Basic Training, RGPSA training, BRGF Capacity Building.

By incorporating sessions/modules on CCA and DRR into these topics, trainers can better equip participants to tackle environmental challenges and build resilience within their communities. This

holistic approach ensures that the training curriculum remains relevant and responsive to the evolving needs of stakeholders in sustainable development efforts.

Session Objectives

This workshop aims to:

1. Orient the participants to integrate DRR and CCA in the training components of SIRD
2. Increase the awareness about disaster risks and climate change impact
3. Understand the concept of CBDRM, its need and importance
4. Share the experiences and good practices in the area of RI-GPDP.

Date & Time

- 17-18 May, 2024, 09:30 - 17:00

Venue

- Smart Classroom, Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM)

Organisers

- State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD)
- Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM)

Format

- In Person

Expected Participants:

- Master Trainers (around 30).
- These MT provide trainings to officials of Panchayat, Rural Housing and Rural Development Department.

Expected Outcomes

At the end of the training program, the participants would be able to,

- Learn about DRR and CCA and its mainstreaming in their teaching curriculums
- Opportunities for collaboration for capacity development on CBDRM and RI-GPDP
- Strengthen localization of SDGs more efficiently
