

# **Blended Capacity Building Program**

on

## **Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Management (DiDRM)**

Virtual Internet Participation (VIP): **01<sup>th</sup> Sept' 2022**

*link:* \_\_\_\_\_

Face-to Face Interaction at GIDM: **07<sup>th</sup> Sept., 2022**

**Venue:** Lecture Hall 4, First Floor, GIDM Campus

**Organized by**



**Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management**



## **Background:**

Disasters tend to affect more adversely vulnerable sections of the population such as persons with disabilities. With the world confronted with increasing situations of disasters, in the wave of climate change and global warming, the frequency has rampantly increased. In the past two decades and specifically in the current century the understanding on disability has witnessed a shift in approaches from a charity /welfare and medicalized model to a social and rights based model/ approach.

For centuries persons with disabilities were looked upon as ‘objects’ of charity and were either considered the responsibility of the government or the community. Being profoundly excluded and left to the ‘mercy’ of care givers the disability movement resulted in a landmark international treaty – United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) that came into force in 2008 and India was one of the first countries to ratify this. This treaty offers a paradigm shift in the understanding of disability – which is a result of socio- cultural, attitudinal, economic, political, communication and physical barriers in the environment. Article 11 of the CRPD on Situations of Risk and Humanitarian Emergencies directs all state parties to “take all necessary measures to ensure the protection of persons with disabilities in situations of risks, including armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and occurrences of natural disasters.”

Other international frameworks such as the SDGs (2015 – 2030), explicitly provides for ‘leave no one behind’ including persons with disabilities as one among vulnerable communities and has recognized disability as a ‘cross-cutting’ issue across all 17 goals. The Sendai Framework (2015 – 2030) promotes ‘all of society approach’, for inclusion and accessibility, and the use of Universal Design standards and the critical role persons with disabilities and their representative organisations have at each stage of DRR planning. Goal 7, of the ‘Incheon Strategy’ (2013 – 2022) to “Make the Rights Real”, for persons with disabilities, for Asia and Pacific region, sets targets for inclusive disaster risk reduction.

The national level legal provisions are found in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 in section 8 which *stipulates that persons with disabilities shall have equal protection and rights in humanitarian action* and provides reference to the Disaster Management Act in clause (c), section 2 and the District Disaster Management Authorities under section 25 are to maintain detailed records of persons with disabilities in the district and communicate early warning when a disaster are to occur in the region. The Inter Agency Standing Committee has formulated Guidelines for Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action at the global level. Along with this, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has prepared the National Disaster Management



Guideline on Disability inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction and The National Disaster Management Guidelines on Psycho-social Support and Mental Health Services in Disasters (PSSMHS) that outline the course of action to be taken provide practical mechanisms to promote Disaster Inclusive Disaster Risk Management from state, district, block to village level.

It is estimated (World Report on Disability 2011) that globally persons with disabilities comprise 15% of the population but in India the estimate falls to only around 2.1 % (Census 2011) due to several reasons related to stigma, definition and methodology adopted, limitations of enumerators among many others. In disasters the mortality rate is two to three times more than for persons without disabilities as per the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (ISAC) guidelines 2019. Persons with disabilities are not a homogenous group and the context barriers coupled with intersectionality of gender, age, class, class and religious ethnicity impact their participation and inclusion in humanitarian action.

Children and women with disabilities are at a higher risk of abuse and violence in such situations. Moreover, persons with disabilities are not equipped to evacuate on their own during emergencies and nor are they empowered to participate in the process of disaster preparedness and planning. The sheer invisibility of disability leaves the policymaker, the bureaucracy, caregivers, and frontline workers bereft of how exactly to respond to a particular person with a disability as the specific needs may differ on the type of disability and the environmental context. Sustainable development for all can only be achieved if persons with disabilities are included both as agents of change and as beneficiaries. The participation of persons with disabilities needs to be enhanced at every stage of humanitarian action. Determining the magnitude of disability is the first and foremost action that needs to be undertaken while deepening the understanding of disability.

As implementing laws and policies always remain a challenge to develop understanding on disability, it is proposed to conduct a one-day sensitization and orientation workshop with the staff members of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Health and Family Welfare Dept., NGOs and Other Stakeholders on disability and jointly evolve strategies for mainstreaming this within the ongoing modules of training various stakeholders on DiDRM at the district, block and village levels.

As instructed by DG, GIDM, the Blended training program on “Orientation of Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Management (DiDRM)” is scheduled on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. and 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2022.



## ***Objective:***

At the end of the blended capacity building program, the participants will be able to explain -

- Basics of DRM and Terminologies used in DM;
- International Frameworks such as SFDRR, SDGs, COP21
- Sensitization on disability
- Familiarize with the various approaches of disability with an overview of the available legal frameworks
- Understanding vulnerability from a disability perspective
- Brainstorming on integration of disability within the existing modules of GIDM

## **A. Agenda of the Blended Capacity Building Program**

At the national level, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Department, and at the state level Office of the Commissioner for the Person with Disabilities (designated to safeguard the rights of persons with Disabilities) and Directorate for Social Defence for (Welfare & Rehabilitation of the weaker sections of the society i.e. physically and mentally disabled children and adults, old aged persons and beggars).

The infusion of disability-related terms and concepts such as accessibility, inclusion, and universal design throughout the SFDRR document was significant. That is well transcribed in National Policy & Plan. It lays down roadmap/directions for a holistic and pro-active approach towards prevention, mitigation, and preparedness. The Policy also advocates for a multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral, and holistic approach towards disaster risk reduction involving all stakeholders. Eight principles of National Policy are as follows:-

- Protection of lives and properties
- Economic growth and development
- Concern for livelihood and employment
- Integrating DRR with development
- Preventing development becoming disaster
- Protection of environment and heritage
- Concerns for women, children and other Vulnerable sections
- Harnessing Science and Technology for reducing disasters

In view of the above developments, the training intends to address issues related to Disability inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction. Officers from the Directorate of Social Defence and Commissionerate for Disabilities, play a significant role in executing the plans and policies laid down by Govt. The awareness about the disability-inclusive DRM would certainly form a background concept about the inclusion and their importance in executing the programs.



**DURATION AND VENUE**

The blended training program is divided into two sessions. The first session will include Virtual Internet Participation (VIP) for a day. The VIP will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept, 2022. Participants have to study the Training Module and related literature and complete the assignments. The second session of training will be a face-to-face interaction which will commence on Tuesday, 07<sup>th</sup> Sept., 2022. The venue of the program would be GIDM Campus, Raisan, Gandhinagar.

**CERTIFICATE**

The successful completion of the VIP phase will help the participants to earn an e-certificate besides a regular certificate recognized by GIDM.

Selected participants may be empaneled as Resource Persons in GIDM and will be invited to join various capacity building activities of GIDM for DiDRM.

**References**

1. Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-30
2. UNDRR Terminology
3. PM's 10 Point Agenda
4. NDMA Guidelines on Disability Inclusive DRR