A 2-Day Residential Classroom-based Training Program

Capacity Development of Talati-cum-Mantri on Disaster Risk Management

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Organized by



Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management

Community based Approach for managing Hydro-Meteorological Risk

Background

At present, there is an acute need for capacity development of panchayat functionaries to react institutionally in an effective manner to emergency situation(s) and it is the district administration, which retains the basic responsibility of handling crises situations with the Collector playing a pivotal role. Grass root/Field level responses on behalf of the government in rural areas are by the nearest police, revenue and/or panchayat functionary (viz. Talati-cum-Mantri/Talati/Sarpanch, PRI members, etc.). Priority should be given to training and capacity building of these stakeholders, particularly Talati-cum-Mantri working with Panchayat, Rural Housing and Rural Development Department, GoG to effectively implement DR strategies at grass roots' level.

Across the globe, women play a critical role in the ability of a community to mitigate, prepare for, and recover from a disaster because of their central function as primary care providers for both the young and the aging. Although women are often recognized for participating in local efforts to mobilize relief efforts and provide for basic needs, rarely is the collective voice of women acknowledged and integrated into the policy-making realm. This concept note tries to address this issue. Apart from this, the climate change adaptation (CCA) is the need of the hour which needs to developed with reliable networks. Climate action plans and practices need to be implemented not only at the city level but also at the village level. The concept note presents lessons and practical guidelines in developing village disaster management plans along with gender inclusion, risk management, capacity development and resilience building.

This training highlights, the flexibility and innovation required for the role of Talati-cum-Mantri in DRM activities. Further, it underscores the need for greater engagement with people and a better understanding of their Disaster Risk and Resources. This program will assist the local Government officials in decision making and planning activities for preparedness, response and relief phase at the grassroots level through practical components in training.

Aims and Objectives

- 1. To understand the concept of Disaster Risk Management
- 2. To discuss the provisions of DRM in Panchayati Raj Act, 1993
- 3. To understand Climate Change Adaptation and Gujarat State Climate Action Plan
- 4. To prepare Village Disaster Management Plan and its implementation
- 5. To discuss emergency response and ways to create humanitarian chain management

Rationale

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 and National Policy on Disaster Management, 2009 provide the framework for institutional and legal mechanism on disaster management in India. It ensures that the affected communities, relevant responders and other stakeholders including volunteers are well trained in various aspects of disaster management.

After the commencement of the Sendai Framework for Action (SFDRR 2015-30), there continues to be not just a lot to be accomplished for DRM but also significantly more to demonstrate and deliver to the inter linkages between DRM, early recovery, development, environmental protection and climate change adaptation. While there is acceleration in the implementation of DRM initiatives across the country and at the State level. In this context, there continues to be a need to build capacities innovatively, increase outreach at the appropriate levels, enhance the impact of action; all of which also require qualified and experienced professionals to assist and support government and non-government actors in coordinated, structured and timely DRR and response actions. DRM being a relatively new domain of knowledge and practice offers a key challenge in find high-quality human resources and capacity development opportunities.

The Gujarat Panchayats Act 1993 clearly mentions the role of Talati-cum-Mantri for DRM and to build a cadre of trained manpower who can complement and supplement the efforts in different phases of the Disaster Risk Management Cycle. District Emergency Operation Centers (DEOCs) have appointed qualified personnel as staff over the years and coordinate GSDMA activities at district level. They also supervise activities at the taluka and village levels through TDO and Talati. The training is in relevance with the Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda on DRR w.r.t. imbibing the principles of DRR in development sectors and emphasized on women's untapped potential (*Point 1 & 3*). The training includes outcomes which are structured around the

four Priorities for Action of the Sendai Framework. The outcomes are namely, understanding DRM, strengthening PR system, preparation of VDMP and establishing humanitarian chain management. The training addresses the SDG (Agenda 2030) to work towards gender equality, creating sustainable cities and communities; and ensuring peace, justice and strong institutions at all levels (SDG 5, SDG 6 and SDG 16).

The training also includes practical activities on one days of training for greater participation and peer learning. The care has been taken to combine theories and empower the officials to implement in practical sense. The Training Needs Assessment (TNA) has been conducted of Panchayat Raj Institutions & Rural Development on mainstreaming DRR at Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management dated on 17/02/2018 (GIDM/Trg/AP-1/GIDM-SIRD/01/2017/N/11). It is a collaboration between GIDM and SIRD to conduct Two Hour Orientation Program on Heat Wave through BISAG. This module gives a brief and detail information on Heatwave Preparedness. Program Development and Review Committee (PDRC) meeting has been conducted for Community based Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation dated on 02/06/2022. (GIDM/Training/CBDRM&CCA/11/2021/97/C). It mentioned mainstreaming of risk reduction elements in the development planning at the village level contributing to SDGs. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed with State Institute of Rural Development and Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management for Role of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Disaster Management dated on 03/12/2018. The objective is to organise training programs, workshops, etc. for the personnel of rural development and Panchayati Raj departments and various target groups. (GIDM/Trg/AP-1/GIDM-SIRD/01/2019/1/C)

Expected Outcome

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

- 1. Understand the terms and concepts related to disaster risk management.
- 2. Strengthen the Panchayati Raj System at village level and incorporate women in decision making.
- 3. Able to prepare a Village Disaster Management Plan and implement it.
- 4. Implement development plans in accordance with climate action plans.

Way Forward

The impact of disasters on people living in vulnerable areas and losses to their property can be minimized by a proactive role played by local government officials and communities at grassroots levels. DRM needs to be an integral part of development processes for sustainable development. Apart from great organizing skills, it may call for courage and leading from the front, the local government officials and community members can play a role of leadership in Disaster Risk Management at all stages. At the village / grass roots level, the DRM Team will be constituted, which draws up the plan consists of local authorities, government functionaries including doctors/paramedics of primary health centers located in the village, primary school teachers and elected representatives of the village. Eventually each village will have a DRM Plan.