

A 2-day Residential Program
for Youth Volunteer based organizations
on
ROLE OF YOUTH & VOLUNTEERS
FOR DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

Thursday, 17-18th Sept' 2020
Venue: CR-2, Ground Floor, GIDM

Organized by



Training Aim and Objectives

Aim

The enhance the understanding on Basics of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) for Youth and Volunteers in the State.

Objective

By the end of the complete training, the participants will be able to explain -

- Basics of DM and Terminologies used in DM;
- International/National/State level frameworks such as SFDRR, SDGs etc;
- COVID-19 understanding and Volunteerism;
- Basics of Search and Rescue, First Aid and Fire Risk Mitigation;
- Govt. Response Mechanism and Relief Programs.

Targeted Participants

The selected participants (around 7 from each organization) from volunteer driven organizations, namely, Seva Bharati Gujarat, Bharat Swabhiman Trust and BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha will be oriented to the subject. Over a period of time, as these organizations do not have any other agenda except the public service, their volunteers have been committed to the course. The volunteers working with these organizations are not permanently remitted but comes from various professions such as doctors, engineers, traders, professors, architects, advocates, businessmen, students, so this initiative can help us penetrate into an area through which, over a period of time, Community based Disaster Preparedness can be achieved.

About the course

This course provides the participants with ideas to learn and inculcate an introductory awareness on Role of Youth and Volunteers for Disaster Risk Management based on International/National/State Frameworks on DRM and under the overall ambit of SDGs/SFDRR.

The training makes several assumptions:

- Participants have limited experience in Disaster Management (DM) field;
- Participants are interested in improving the quality of their DM practice through volunteerism;
- Participants would be willing to continue learning about DRM principles and widely accepted standards in disaster response.

The training module on “Role of Youth and Volunteers for DRM” can be used in conjunction with the participants’ training need.

Structure of the Course

This course has been divided into two sessions, namely, Basics of DM and Role of Youth & Volunteers for DRM. Each session contains session briefs, timeline, key learning objective and key learning outcomes along with the group exercise. Each session is supported by a session plan that describes the:

- Time required for each activity in the session;
- Rationale for the session;
- Key learner outcomes;
- Key messages for the session;
- An overview of the session;
- Preparation to be undertaken prior to the session;
- Resources to implement the session;
- Trainers notes which give extra background information, additional reading and process tips.

The course has been designed to assist trainers to plan, implement and orient the participant through lecture sessions and practical hands-on, to enhance the understanding on Basics of DM principles along with the Role of Youth and Volunteers in different phases of a DM cycle. However, trainers are encouraged to design and implement their own training activities based on their unique skills and knowledge of the local context in which this training material will be delivered.

The training focuses on familiarizing participants with the Basics of DM, International-National Frameworks on DRM and other relevant reference points on DRM in the State, exploring how it will be useful when youth will have an opportunity to respond to disaster situation. Some of the language and

SFDRR and local governance: The Sendai Framework for DRR 2015–2030 was adopted by 185 states at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held from 14 to 18 March 2015 in Sendai, Miyagi, Japan.

The Sendai Framework is a 15-years, voluntary, non-binding agreement which recognizes that the State has the primary role to reduce disaster risk but that responsibility should be shared with other stakeholders including local government, the private sector and other stakeholders. It aims for the following outcome:

The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.

The SFDRR document shows that local governance requires a flexible national framework to allow for tailored solutions at the local level. It calls for the countries and their humanitarian and development partners to urgently ensure that local governments implement a policy of awareness, resilience and information sharing. Enhancing local governance and local disaster management requires an effective legal framework and the engagement of multiple stakeholders. However, the importance of local governance is vital in addressing the 4 priorities and 7 global targets of SFDRR.

Govt. of Gujarat has been working on strengthening the institutional mechanism for DRM in the State. The Sendai Frameworks for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030 talks about 'all-of-society' and SDG talks about 'leave-no-one-behind'. With India, as a Nation of Youth population, the onus lies with us to empower our youth, so that they can design their own Resilient and Sustainable future.

Keeping in view of greater engagements of these forums, GIDM, in association with line department/organizations, has devised the Program Development and Review Committee (PDRC) on theme “**Role of Youth and Volunteers for Disaster Risk Management**” (*meeting conducted on 26th Nov' 2018 at GIDM*) where discussions and decisions were taken to have a strategic positioning of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in capacity building programs of Youth and Volunteers across the State. As decided in the PDRC meeting, GIDM, in association with various youth volunteer based organizations will explore possibilities of creating a cadre of Master Trainers who can drive on various capacity building activities of GIDM on the subject.

In view of the above developments at State level, the training intends to address certain issues related to DRM by partnering with youth-volunteer driven organizations, such as, NCC, NSS, NYKs, Scout & Guide, Civil Defence & Home Guards etc in the State so as to build a cadre of uniform trained young workforce who can complement and supplement the efforts in different phases of Disaster Management Cycle. After the commencement of Sendai Framework of Action there continues to be not just a lot to be accomplished for DRM but also significantly more to demonstrate and deliver on 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 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 DRM and response actions. Disaster Risk Management being a relatively new domain of knowledge and practice offers a key challenge in find high quality human resources and capacity development opportunities. Much emphasis has also been laid in the SDGs agenda where India is a signatory where the Role of Youth on various Social Security Programs is vital to the development processes. As youth, especially, are central to this effort.

Under the National Youth Policy 2014, four key areas of intervention have been identified, with many areas of overlap with the SDGs. Action Plans were developed to achieve the objectives of the National Youth Policy 2014 under four key areas: Social Entrepreneurship; Gender Justice and Equality; Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction; and Social Inclusion. While all four Action Plans work towards Goal 1 (No Poverty), the plans also bring focus to other SDGs.

The Action Plan on Social Entrepreneurship looks at the targets of Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth). Strategies detailed in the plan suggest facilitating entrepreneurship opportunities for youth in order to build creative, innovative solutions to the most pressing development challenges in India through education and volunteering. The Action Plan on Gender Justice and Equality provides clear strategies to work towards Goals (Gender Equality) in India. For example, one of the key strategies outlined is to encourage young women to volunteer in their communities, which could help them build skills while also challenging gender inequalities. Along with an overarching focus on Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), Goal 14 (Life under Water), and Goal 15 (Life on Land), the Action Plan on Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction also addresses some of the targets of Goal 13 (Climate Action), by strategizing prevention and mitigation of natural disasters, involving youth volunteers in climate-change related planning, and improving education and awareness about climate change and environmental challenges. Goal 10 calls for reducing inequalities based on age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic or other status within a country. The Action Plan on Social Inclusion recognized young people as a marginalized group, laying out a blueprint to effectively approach intersectional marginality due to other factors like sex, disability, caste, ethnicity, religion and others by creating safe spaces for youth and promoting a rights-based approach to youth development. Volunteering has been entwined across all four thematic areas as a realistic and achievable strategy to involve young people in development work. With volunteering as an overarching strategy, all the plans bring to light new issues and strategies in the respective themes. The relevance of volunteering is particularly highlighted in the action plan on *Engaging Youth Volunteers in Disaster Risk Reduction and Environment Management* where building a cohort of trained youth volunteers is suggested to tackle unexpected disasters in India. Further, in *Engendering the National Youth Policy*, a strong focus has been to empower the existing voluntary schemes.