

Training cum Workshop on

Urban Risk Reduction and Resilience: A Comprehensive Approach

Date: 19-23 June, 2023

Organised by



RIKA India



**Gujarat Institute of
Disaster Management**

Background

Countries around the world are facing unprecedented demographic, environmental, economic, social, and spatial challenges owing to unsustainable practices. Governments and citizens witness the problem of managing the situation arising out of extreme weather conditions, floods, cyclones, pollution, land degradation, deforestation, and the resultant impact on livelihood and well-being. Climate-related disasters are often exacerbated in cities than rural, majorly by interactions between urban infrastructure systems, growing urban populations, cultures, and economic activities (Gencer et al., 2018). This has resulted in cities pushing for resilience, to safeguard the populations and resources. India has a growing urban population, changing risk landscape, and socioeconomic inequality which has led to the need for improved urban resilience. With a huge population being impacted by weather-related disasters every year it is essential to build a strong foundation for disaster risk reduction and integrating nature-based solutions into disaster risk management and resilience building.

Resilience building cannot be treated as a stand-alone problem in the face of the challenges posed by the pandemic, the climate emergency, and other such anticipated and unanticipated shocks and stresses. Instead, one must take into account the interdependencies between sectors, the interdependence of socioeconomic factors, the complexity of hazards, and the systematicity of disaster risk. The right information and tools can assist decision-makers and stakeholders to assess the risks and act accordingly. As a result, cities must adopt a long-term strategy to lower risks and incorporate resilience building into sustainable urban development.

Rationale

Gujarat is one of the most urbanized states in India, with a population increasing from 34 percent in 1991 to 48 percent in 2020. It is crucial to have an integrated and responsible urban government system that can reduce disaster risk, improve disaster preparedness, and increase climate change resilience as rapid urbanization becomes a vital driver for the state's economic growth. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction emphasizes the need to promote mainstreaming of disaster risk assessments into land-use policy development, implementation, and urban planning. This requires governments to equip officials with the necessary skills, tools, and techniques to assess

vulnerabilities, develop risk reduction strategies, and implement disaster preparedness and response plans.

SDG 11 highlights the need to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. The inequalities exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, changing risk landscapes, and cascading crises amplify the importance of sustainable urban development. Strengthening the preparedness and resilience of cities is crucial in responding to future crises. In this context, the training program's purposes are to address the vision, assist practitioners and policymakers in being equipped to improve urban resilience, and function as multipliers of a self-sustaining knowledge transfer process. This is critical for Gujarat's fast-expanding cities. This training intervention is unique as it is not only about training but mechanism targeting to ensure capacity building in the upcoming years.

Objectives

The overall objectives of the training programme are:

- To provide knowledge of urban systems and their resources, resilience, and impacts of climate and disaster risks, and thereby act as a spring for further knowledge multiplication
- To familiarize participants with tools, legislation, and frameworks for the assessment and development of urban resilience
- To infuse informed decisions and systems thinking for improving the quality, efficiency, sustainability, and resilience of urban services
- To improve the readiness of local administrators and stakeholders inter alia increase their knowledge on the key roles and responsibilities to build urban resilience
- To provide participants with the knowledge to formulate effective city development, management plans, and policies for climate change and urban resilience

Course Pedagogy

The training course would be offered in a professional and innovative manner. Conducive conditions will be created for the participants to engage in meaningful dialogues and discourses on the course content. The training will be held in person, facilitated by expert trainers from the industry and academia, and joined by international guest speakers. The training will include presentations, group exercises, discussions, and field visits.

Target Participants

The trainees considered for these training modules are:

- Practitioners like Engineers, Town Planners, Architects
- Policymakers and Executives like Chief Officers and Municipal Commissioners

Training Day	Course Content
Basic Course Date: 19-21, June	
Day 1	Technical Session 1: Introduction to DRM & CCA
	Key Concepts in Disaster Risk Management and CCA
	Global Frameworks and Policies
	Disaster Ethics and Humanitarian Actions
	Technical Session 2: Introduction to Urban Systems, Their Interdependencies, and Their Risks
	Risk profile of Gujarat in the urban context
	Urban systems and associated risks
	Case study/Group Exercise - Interdependencies of urban systems
Day 2	Technical Session 3: Urban Resilience, Framework for Urban Resilience: Case Studies, Methodologies, and Tools
	Urban resilience and its components
	Key Instruments for urban resilience
	Tools of Analysis and Assessment
	Group Exercise on Resilience Tool
	Technical Session 4: Good Practices in Building Resilient, Safe Towns and Cities
	Case Studies on building resilient towns and Cities
	Sectoral experience sharing and group discussion
Day 3	Technical Session 5: Urban Resilience and Governance
	Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation into Urban Development Planning
	Multi-sectoral risk management
	Group Exercise – Drafting institutional mechanism for urban risk governance
	Field Visit
	Discussion
Specialized Course for Policymakers Date: 22-23, June	
Day 1	Technical Session 1: Introduction
	Role of Policymakers in disaster risk management
	Group exercise - Gaps and Challenges in Urban Policies and Their Implementation from the lens of DRR, CCA, and resilience building
	Technical Session 2: Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) into Urban Development Planning
	DRR and CCA Frameworks in an urban context

	Case studies: Integration of DRR and CCA through global, national, and state interventions
	Discussion
Day 2	Technical Session 3: Transboundary Governance
	Technical Session 4: Disaster Grievance Redressal Mechanism
	Technical Session 5: Disaster Risk Financing
	Key concepts and existing instruments
	Group exercise - Tabletop on strategy planning for integration of DRM and CCA
Specialized Course for Practitioners (Engineers, architects, urban planners) Date 22-23, June	
Day 1	Technical Session 1: Introduction
	Role of Practitioners in disaster risk management and resilient urban development
	Technical Session 2: Understanding Critical Infrastructure and Systemic Risks
	Relevance of Critical Infrastructure for disaster resilience
	Risk and resilience assessment of Critical Infrastructure and resilience building
	Case Study- Resilience Building Measures for Critical Infrastructure
	Discussion
Day 2	Technical Session 3: Land Use Planning for Urban Resilience
	Key concepts and tools
	Case Studies
	Technical Session 4: Grey-Blue-Green Infrastructures for Urban Resilience
	Key concepts, Introduction to SIA and EIA
	Key Concepts in Fire Safety and Prevention in Urban Context
	Case Studies
	Discussion
	Technical Session 5: Technologies for Urban Resilience
	Technologies and Applications in Urban Planning
	Open Data for Urban Resilience
	Group Exercise