

A Two-Day Residential Classroom-based Training of Talati
on
**Emerging Challenges to Traditional Approaches
of Community based Disaster Risk Management
(CBDRM)**

03-04-January-2024

Venue: Auditorium, First Floor, GIDM



Organized by



Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management

A. Background

Biological hazards pose more threats than any other hazards as more people in these types of hazards are vulnerable and risk is comparatively more. The impact of a biological disaster(s) is *biological, psychological, social*, as well as *economic*. Biological disaster(s), if not attended with proper preparedness, can be an epidemic in countries like India with a huge population endangering the life of the many and putting extra pressure on the resources, finance, and governance.

The COVID-19 global health pandemic and its economic, as well as social impacts, have disrupted nearly all aspects of life for all groups in society. People of different ages, however, are experiencing its effects in different ways, while many of its implications, such as confinement-related psychological distress and social distancing measures, affect all of society. Continuing challenges of Covid, i.e. the second wave, health impacts are growing largely due to inadequate measures to reduce the risk. An inclusive response to and recovery from the crisis requires an integrated approach to public governance that anticipates the impact of response and recovery measures across different age cohorts. “Building Back Better” requires decision-makers to acknowledge generational divides and address them decisively to leave no one behind.

Traditional approaches to build the resilience and capacity development and expansion need improvisation. Mitigation measures adopted earlier for hazards such as Cyclones, Floods, Earthquakes and Industrial-Chemical Accidents have to be modified. Disasters occurring at present are much more in magnitude, frequency and differential pattern as compared to earlier times. In addition, due to the specific and varying characteristics of every event prohibit us to take one size fit all approach.

Communities are the first responders so it is important to build capacities of individuals as a basic unit of communities. Community-based schemes have evolved into holistic approaches to managing associated risks, which need to be embedded in concerned activities/programs. This concept note reviews various best practices/initiatives taken-up by Communities for effective Disaster Risk Management. It also presents lessons and practical guidelines in developing CBDRM investment projects, particularly highlighting community organization, financing, capacity development, gender and social inclusion, risk management, technology transfer, and cultural norms and values.

GIDM, in association with Panchayat, Rural Housing and Rural Development Dept., State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD) and Gujarat Vidyapith (GU), has organized the Training of Talati

(ToT) titled “**Emerging Challenges to Traditional Approaches of Community based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM)**”, scheduled from **03-04-January-2024** at **Classroom**, First Floor, GIDM.

This training highlights, the flexibility and innovation required for local communities in DRM initiatives. This program will assist the Community leaders/Elected representatives of civil society and local Government officials in taking stock of the preparedness measures’ initiatives on DRM, who are directly connected with the grassroots level.

B. Aim and Objectives

To build this culture of looking at a crisis, such as this, holistically and comprehensively, the communities must be explained how the prevalent Understanding of Disaster Risks fits into the present scenario and how the Systemic Nature of Risk would affect every sector. This training program aims to discover and promote various community-based disaster risk mitigation methodologies and how these mitigation methodologies can be streamlined as per Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction to improve their efficacy. Under this, the following specific objectives will be pursued -

1. Understand the concept of Risk Management and associated Terminologies;
2. Discuss existing CBDRM practices and mitigation approaches;
3. Methods to strengthen various Community-based Risk Management techniques;
4. Introduce and evaluate various participatory tools in HRVC assessment;
5. Discuss various DRM measures that can be undertaken by the communities, for the communities: Case studies and lessons learned.

C. Rationale

The **Disaster Management Act, 2005** and **National Policy on Disaster Management 2009** provide the framework for institutional and legal mechanisms 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 2015-2030**), 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 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.

This training program intends to address certain issues related to DRM by partnering with grass-root level stakeholders, to build a cadre of trained manpower who can complement and supplement the efforts in different phases of the **Disaster Risk Management Cycle**. The mode of communication would be Gujarati language.

The training includes four expected outcomes structured around the four **Priorities** for Action of the Sendai Framework. The four expected outcomes are namely, assess and update data and knowledge of traditional approaches, dissemination, monitoring and review emerging challenges, and capacity building to highlight the best practices at all levels. The program has been designed to be in four segments:

1. The **first segment** would empower participants to think about and understand disaster risk(s), which is a step towards managing risk(s) rather than managing disasters. Thus, this section has been designed to addresses *Priority 1: Understanding Disaster Risks*;
2. The **second segment** would stimulate the participants to think about governing such disaster risk(s) at different levels by tinkering their preparedness for the near future through exercises of DRR Future Thinking like Scenario Based Preparedness, Scenathons etc. This segment has been designed to address *Priority 2: Strengthening Disaster Risk Governance to Managing Disaster Risks*;
3. The **third segment** would talk about investing resources of all forms, financial and human, to build Disaster Resilience. This section would underline the importance of traditional/indigenous knowledge and possible roles of communities to tackle the emergent and systemic nature of disaster risk. This section would address *Priority 3: Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience*;
4. By discussing good practices and case studies of CBDRM in the **fourth segment**, *Priority 4: Enhancing disaster Preparedness for effective Response and to "Build Back Better" in Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction* will be emphasized upon.

Key Words: First Responders, Pandemic, Capacity Building, Community, Risk Identification & Assessment, Risk Management.

D. Targeted Participants

The target group for this program is (L2 and L3 level) Taluka/Village level Elected representatives/Officials and functionaries from the Department (via. Talati-cum-Mantri), involved

in activities related to planning, design and rural developmental activities. In addition, Faculty members from SIRD and PR Training institutions, selected NGOs/CBOs/CSR and Youth-Volunteer organizations across the State, the proposed activity may also help in assessing the training needs of the targeted stakeholders.

E. 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 communities at grassroots levels. Apart from great organizing skills, it may call for courage and leading from the front, the local community members can play a role of leadership in Disaster Risk Management at all stages.

References

1. Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-30
2. UNDRR Terminology
3. PM's 10 Point Agenda: India's Disaster Risk Management Roadmap to Climate Resilient and Sustainable Development
4. NDMA Guidelines: Community Based Disaster Management, 2014
5. GIDM Training Module on Basics of DRM (English/Gujarati version)
6. All presentations
<https://gidm.gujarat.gov.in/>