

CONCEPT NOTE & PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Training Program

on

ROLE OF YOUTH AND VOLUNTEERS FOR DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

Organized by

Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM)

for

L.D. College of Engineering (NCC Cadets)18th August, 2026**1. Background**

With the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (**SFDRR, 2015–2030**) at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, the global discourse shifted decisively from Disaster Management to Disaster Risk Management (DRM). The Framework's first **Priority for Action: "Understanding Disaster Risk"**, recognizes that risk can be reduced only once it is properly understood, at every level from the individual household to national policy. This principle anchors the design of the present orientation program.

India, as a signatory to the SFDRR, has progressively aligned its national systems with this global framework. The **Disaster Management Act, 2005** provides the legal and institutional foundation for DRM in the country, establishing the National, State and District Disaster Management Authorities (NDMA–SDMA–DDMA). Building upon it, the **National Policy on Disaster Management (2009)** and the National Disaster Management Plan (**NDMP, 2016; revised 2019**) articulate India's roadmap for Prevention, Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery, and are explicitly structured around the priorities of the **Sendai Framework**.

Hon'ble Prime Minister enunciated a **10-Point Agenda on Disaster Risk Reduction**. It calls upon all development sectors, including education and engineering, to imbibe the principles of risk management (Point 1), and specifically calls for developing "a network of universities to work on disaster-related issues" (Point 6). In pursuance of this, the India Universities and Institutions Network for Disaster Risk Reduction (IUINDRR) was being established, bringing higher-education institutions into the National DRR mainstream through education, research and capacity building. This program for NCC Cadets is envisaged as a concrete step towards realizing that vision at the institutional level.

The **National Education Policy (NEP), 2020** reinforces this direction by emphasizing interdisciplinary learning, community engagement and practical, skill-based education. In line with NEP 2020, national bodies have developed model curricula on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management for undergraduate students across disciplines, combining classroom learning with field-based, hands-on components. This program follows the same spirit, pairing conceptual sessions with hands-on demonstrations in Fire Safety and First Aid.

The 2005 Disaster Management Act further emphasizes the crucial role of education in building **Community Resilience**. Equipping the next generation with the knowledge and skills to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters is essential, and there is an ongoing need to orient front-line institutional stakeholders including University faculty, staff and students, to the principles of Disaster Risk Management. Such

orientation serves two purposes: *first*, it sensitizes faculty, staff and students to their role in DRM; *second*, it encourages them to develop innovative ideas and skills for DRM-related academic and field activities.

This training aims to equip faculty members, staff and students/NCC Cadets with the knowledge and skills necessary to integrate Disaster Risk Management principles into their professional practice, teaching and research. It provides a common platform for participants to build their knowledge and awareness on the subject, and is a crucial step towards building a culture of disaster resilience within the academic fraternity.

2. Policy & Institutional Alignment

The program has been designed to reflect, and contribute to, the following national and global policy commitments:

- **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015–2030 / UNDRR:** advances Priority 1 ("Understanding Disaster Risk") and Priority 4 ("Enhancing Disaster Preparedness for Effective Response") through structured, evidence-based orientation;
- **Disaster Management Act, 2005:** reflects the institutional mandate for capacity building at all levels, delivered here through GIDM as Gujarat's designated State Apex Institution in the field of DRM;
- **National Policy on Disaster Management (2009) & National Disaster Management Plan (2016, revised 2019):** operationalize a culture of prevention, mitigation and preparedness, which this program extends to the higher-education sector;
- **Hon'ble Prime Minister's Ten-Point Agenda on DRR (AMCDRR, 2016):** responds directly to Point 1 (all development sectors to imbibe DRM principles) and Point 6 (developing a network of universities on disaster issues), the latter operationalized nationally through IUINDRR;
- **National Education Policy (NEP), 2020:** supports the program's interdisciplinary, skill-based and community-engaged design, consistent with national model curricula on DRR for undergraduate students.

3. Why Disaster Risk Management

GIDM endeavors to make Disaster Risk Management part of the eco-system, engrained in the ethos of society, in order to save precious lives. Inculcating the sense of saving lives during disasters requires certain common skill sets, which need to be reinforced repeatedly at all levels and strata of society.

GIDM assesses the training needs of Government departments, officials, local bodies, NGOs and academic institutions, to make available the knowledge and skills required for individual competency-building, sound understanding of risk management, and strengthened DRM institutional capacity at the State, District and local levels.

Through a series of capacity-development activities, the program demonstrates simple and, in some cases, life-saving techniques that individuals can be trained to perform with minimal resources or equipment. Fire Safety and First-Aid training are low-cost yet highly effective strategies to reduce morbidity and mortality, valuable both in preventing and treating sudden illness or accidental injury, and in caring for large numbers of persons affected by a disaster. It is a measure of self-help as much as of help to others.

The program underscores the shared responsibility of educational institutions, policymakers and individuals in building a more disaster-resilient society fostering a culture of safety, equipping students with risk-reduction skills, and enabling them to become risk-informed citizens who contribute to community

preparedness. It also addresses the challenges of incorporating DRM into higher education, and explores solutions such as curriculum development, training, and collaborative partnerships between educational institutions and disaster management agencies.

4. Relevance to the NCC Cadets

Disaster Risk(s) is, in large part, created and can be reduced through decisions made in the planning, design and construction of the built environment. This places cadets in a uniquely consequential position within the DRR ecosystem envisaged by the SFDRR and UNDRR, since it is their professional decisions that shape a community's exposure and vulnerability to hazards such as earthquakes, floods and fires.

The familiar risk equation: **Disaster Risk = (Hazard × Exposure × Vulnerability) ÷ Coping Capacity**, is, for a Engineer, not merely a conceptual formula but a practical design consideration: appropriate siting, hazard-resistant design, adherence to codes such as the National Building Code (NBC) 2016 and relevant BIS seismic standards, and quality construction all directly reduce vulnerability and strengthen coping capacity.

This orientation module, therefore, extends the standard GIDM curriculum with a dedicated session on Structural Safety & Resilient Infrastructure (Session 2 of the schedule below), so that participants connect DRM concepts directly to their professional and academic domain, in keeping with SFDRR Priority 3: "Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience."

5. Objectives

- Understand the concepts and terminologies associated with the Disaster Risk Management field;
- Understand recent trends and developments in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, nationally and globally (SFDRR, NDMP, PM's 10-Point Agenda);
- Appreciate the specific role of Engineering in hazard-resilient infrastructure, building codes and safe construction practices;
- Build fundamentals of Fire Safety through a practical, hands-on exercise;
- Build basics of First-Aid and managing medical emergencies;
- Understand the concept of Community-based DRM, Early Warning Systems and Volunteerism;
- Sensitize participants to becoming risk-informed citizens and future professionals who contribute to a safer, disaster-resilient built environment.

6. Target Participants

Through collaboration and knowledge sharing, GIDM strives to build a network of universities and experts ultimately contributing to a Nation and communities that are resilient in the face of disasters. The targeted participants for this training are Faculty members, Staff and Students/NCC Cadets (approximately 100 nos.).

7. Methodology

The training is designed around interactive lecture sessions, hands-on exercises, group activities, presentations and feedback sessions. It will cover practical aspects of disaster resilience, conceptual understanding of the impacts and challenges of disaster and climate risk on sustainable development, the

relevance of disaster management planning and building codes to engineering practice and live demonstration of Fire Safety equipment.

8. Resource Persons

- Structural Engineering Expert (Engineering session)
- GVK 108-EMRI/First-Aid Trainer
- Gujarat State Fire Prevention Services
- GIDM Core Faculties

9. Expected Outcomes

- Participants sensitized to core DRM concepts and India's institutional DM framework;
- Enhanced preparedness skills in Fire Safety and First-Aid;
- Clear appreciation of Engineering's role in disaster-resilient infrastructure and safe construction;
- A seed group of oriented student volunteers for campus-level DRM activities and mock drills;
- Strengthened institutional linkage between L.D. College (NCC) and GIDM University Network (IUINDRR).