Training Module

Dignified Management of the Dead

VIRTUAL Classroom based Training Program

GUJARAT INSTITUTE OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT

BUILDING RESILIENCE

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Message

Dignified Management of the Dead, a major social responsibility, entails positive identification of the deceased for correct and dignified disposal according to religious, cultural, ethnic and psycho-social needs of the affected community. In view of response-centric mass-disposal of the dead in the past, it becomes imperative to build the capacity on the subject at all levels.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has prepared the National Guidelines on the Management of the Dead in the Aftermath of Disasters, 2010. Keeping in view these guidelines, GIDM has developed the State Specific Guidelines on the subject "Dignified Management of the Dead" which will compliment and supplement the efforts of Health and Family Welfare Department, Home Department, Forensic Laboratories/Experts and various other concerned stakeholders, in managing the dead bodies in a dignified manner.

This Training Module will help in identifying the first-hand knowledge on the subject and sensitize participants in understanding Basics of Disaster Risk Management along with identifying the relationship between Disasters and Role of concerned stakeholders with respect to Dignified Management of the Dead. The different sessions are designed for a comprehensive understanding of hazards, vulnerabilities, capacities and the associated risks; followed by the working group to discuss various stages, current state of practice and training needs for Dignified Management of Dead.

The Training Module explains to the participants, the ways in which community managed development may be converged with DRM and engages participants in identifying actions to be done by the local administration for managing the dead. The Module dwells deep into the scientific procedure in chronological applied for Dignified Management of the Dead. The Module recognizes multi-disciplinary approach of the subject and seeks cooperation from various Govt. Departments/Organizations and Institution to come together and to work positively towards the flagship project of Gujarat, designed by GIDM, "Dignified Management of the Dead".

(P.K. Taneja)
Director General

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Gandhinagar

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Training Aim and Objectives

Aim

The enhance the understanding of Dignified Management of the Dead considering various components of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) for concerned stakeholders, across the State.

Objective

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

- Basic Terminologies used in DRM;

- Basics of Disaster Risk Management;

- Understand the Disaster Management Cycle with emphasis on Disaster Risk Management;

- Understand significance to manage Dead Bodies in a Dignified/Scientific manner, after an extreme event;

- Understand various steps involved/course of action in Dead Body Management, from Recovery to Disposal;

- Understand the multi-disciplinary dimension of the task and coordination required from various Departments;

- Identify the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders to deal with the issue;

- Identify gaps; recommend possible ways to efficiently use available resources and the capacity development requirements on the subject, to equip the State Administration and concerned stakeholders to manage the Dead in a Dignified Manner.

Targeted Participants

It shall be used by trainers in the Disaster Risk Management and/or Health/ Home/ Forensic Science and other relevant sectors for imparting training to the state and city level officials on Dignified Management of the Dead. The following would be the expected target groups for the module:

- Officials from the Health & Family Welfare Department;

- Personnel from Hospitals, Medical Officers, Dental Surgeons, Faculties from Medical Colleges;

- Scientific Officers/Asst. Directors from Forensic Science Laboratories, Directorate of Forensic Sciences;

- Officials from the Home Department;

- Officials from Revenue Department;

- Officials from Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare Department;

- Officials from NDRF, Civil Defence & Home Guards, NCC, NYKS, NSS, Scout & Guide, Indian Red Cross, Autonomous Bodies, NGOs, etc.

About the Module

This module provides the trainer or the facilitator with ideas to conduct an introductory awareness training on Dignified/Scientific Management of the Dead, based on existing Protocol(s)/Guidelines in State, Country and International Frameworks. The training makes several assumptions -

- Participants have limited or no knowledge and experience in DRM;
- Participants are interested in improving the quality of DRM practice;
- Participants would be willing to continue learning about DRM principles and widely accepted standards in Managing the Dead Body in Dignified/Scientific manner.

The Module can be used in conjunction with the participants' training needs.

Structure of the Module

A contents page lists the topics in order of presentation. Four sessions of 30 min. each including the introductory session for training through the use of Virtual Classroom of GIDM. Each session contains session briefs, timeline, key learning objective and key learning outcomes along with the mode of training. Each session is supported by a session plan that describes the:

- The time required for each activity in the session;
- The rationale for the session;
- Key learner outcomes;
- Key messages for the session;
- An overview of the session;
- Preparation to be undertaken before the session;
- Resources to implement the session.

How to Use the Module

The module is designed to assist trainers to plan, implement and orient the participant through lecture sessions to enhance the understanding of Basics of DRM principles along with the role of concerned stakeholders in different phases of Dead Body Management considering the DM cycle. However, trainers are encouraged to design and implement their 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 DRM, International Frameworks on DRM and other relevant reference points on DRM, existing Protocol(s)/Guidelines for Dignified

Management of the Dead in the State, Country, and Internationally, exploring how it will be useful when Mass Fatalities will have an opportunity to respond to crises. Some of the language and concepts may be challenging for newcomers and therefore it is advised that the trainer or facilitator make the aim of this module clear at the beginning of the training to set clear and attainable expectations among the participants.

This Training Module will help in identifying the first-hand knowledge on the subject and sensitized participants in understanding Basics of DRM and that of Dignified/Scientific Management of the Dead, with an emphasis on its significance and procedures involved. It will identify the relationship between Disasters and the role of concerned Stakeholders, concerning Dignified Management of the Dead.

Background

Disasters of any aetiology have a common denominator of a large number of deaths in a short period, thrusting an uncommon challenge on the Authorities for handling a large number of dead bodies and animal carcasses. The humanitarian community recognizes that proper management of the dead is a key component of disaster response, togetdeceased is an essential requirement for proper disposal and financial compensation, property rights, inheritance and issues of remarriage. The psychological recovery of survivors needs to have their dead relatives returned to them for culturally appropriate rites and disposal. Management of the dead, a major social responsibility of the government, entails identification of the deceased for correct and dignified disposal according to religious, cultural, ethnic and psycho-social needs of the affected community.

The process of identification of dead bodies involves a series of activities including recovery and retrieval, transportation to temporary mortuaries, storage and preservation, identification of dead body using methods ranging from visual identification to DNA Fingerprinting and other scientific methods for identification of the deceased, release of the dead with due care of the medico-legal aspects associated, disposal of the dead, providing support to the bereaved, documentation and information management.

Given the above developments, the module intends to address certain issues related to Dignified/Scientific Management of the Dead by partnering with the Health and Family Welfare Dept. (HFWD), Gujarat Forensic Sciences University (GFSU) and Laboratories, Home Dept., Revenue Dept., other line Department and Volunteers Organizations like NCC, NSS, NYKS, Scout & Guide, Civil Defence & Home Guards, in the State, to build a cadre of uniform services who can complement and supplement the efforts in different phases of Disaster Management Cycle.

A Program Development and Review Team (PDRT) meeting has been conducted on 4th Sept' 2018 at GIDM where discussions and decisions were taken to have a strategic positioning of DRR in capacity building programs of members associated with the Dignified Management of the Dead across the state. As decided in the PDRT meeting, GIDM, in collaboration with GFSU, will explore possibilities of creating a

cadre of Master Trainers who can drive on various capacity building activities of GIDM on the subject.

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 DRM and response actions. Disaster Risk Management is a relatively new domain of knowledge and practice offers a key challenge in finding high-quality human resources and capacity development opportunities.

Training Schedule

No.	Time	Title	Session Objective	Methodology
1.1	30 min.	Introduction to Basics of Disaster Risk Management	At the end of this session participants will be able to, 1. Terminologies used in DRM 2. List and define the Basic Concepts that comprise DRM 3. Evolution of the field; from Managing Disasters to DRM 4. Disaster Management Cycle (DM Cycle)	Presentation
1.2	30 min.	Risk Analysis (Hazard, Vulnerability, Capacity and Risk Analysis) – with a focus on the Risks of mismanagement of Dead Bodies	At the end of this session participants will be able to, 1. Explain what H, V, C, R stands for in the context of DRM 2. Explain the equation used to calculate Disaster Risks 3. Explain how an HVCRA study helps to Understand the level of Risk and gradually meet the needs of the community 4. Tools for HVCRA	Presentation
1.3	60 min.	Dignified/ Scientific Management of the Dead: Significance, Identification, and Planning	At the end of this session participants will be able to: 1. Define the Role and Responsibilities of concerned stakeholders in Managing the Dead Bodies in Dignified/Scientific manner 2. Explain effective Response Mechanism to address the Mass Fatalities 3. Disaster Victim Identification and Capacity Building activities for Contingency Planning	Presentation

Session 1.1: Introduction to Basics of Disaster Risk Management

Duration: 30 min.

Session Objectives:
At the end of this session, participants will be able to,

Terminologies used in DRM;

1. List and define the Basic Concepts that comprise DRM;
2. Evolution of the field; from Managing Disasters to DRM;
3. Disaster Management Cycle (DM Cycle).

Key Learning Points:
1. The basic concepts that comprise the DM cycle;
2. When a natural hazard strikes, complementing and supplementing the efforts of Govt. is the responsibility of all stakeholders;
3. Resilience Building and disaster response will help reduce vulnerability and build the resilience of the State;

Facilitator's Guidance:

Time slots in minutes	Process	Resources
15	Explanation: Matching meanings and definitions Explain to the participants at what stage of the disaster cycle (see resource and workbook sheet diagram) they think the terms/activities apply. Note: ∗ The terms and definitions are still being defined. It's important to be clear with other partners what you mean by the terminology used in DM ∗ Although activities are linked to particular stages in the emergency-development life cycle, in reality, many of them cross over ∗ Most people now regard risk, reduction, and even preparedness activities as part of development work. This is increasingly true as the number of disasters (small and large scale) increases globally	• Terms/ Definitions: in PPT • DRM / Disaster Management Cycle
10	Show the PPT 1.2 (1-12) slide on Gujarat Vulnerability to different Hazards and its Impact • Potential impacts of this hazard on communities by age group bearing in mind impacts on different sectors (e.g. Education, Health, Child Protection, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Nutrition, etc.)	Presentation

5	Show the Video Clip on Act Now and end the session with thanks to the participants https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HhD85cQejTg	Video Clip

Additional Reading for Session-1.1:

After the enactment of the Disaster Management Act 2005, the Disaster Management process has undergone a paradigm shift from the earlier approach of response to disasters to the current holistic approach of Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Preparedness, which yields long-term benefits while minimizing damage due to disaster impacts. In the recent past, the country and the state of Gujarat have faced frequent disasters and extreme climate events. In response to this, the Government of Gujarat maintains the Disaster Risk Management portfolio at all levels, considering its vulnerability and giving proportionate weightage to Disaster Prevention, Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery.

Gujarat is a multi-hazard State, prone to Floods, Earthquake, Cyclone, Tsunami, Climate-induced Extreme events, etc besides man-made ones. The state is much vulnerable to earthquake ranging seismicity from II to V. The state has witnessed more than nine Earthquakes in the last 5 decades. It is a matter of fact that the Natural Hazards cannot be prevented, but their adverse impact on human society can be reduced to a considerable extent with proper planning and strengthening preparedness. The administration has the role to help the people in distress, the people themselves have greater responsibility to withstand together to face such eventualities and help the authorities in DRM processes, rather than fully depending on it. No state-level administration will be able to meet the requirements of communities unless communities come forward to solve their problems.

After the commencement of Sendai Framework for Actions, 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, 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.

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.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)'s, Government of India further emphasis on the role of Urban local bodies and the **Panchayats** to follow building bye-laws (under priority 2 of SFDRR) in actionable points for implementing SFDRR at local level such as; States/Districts to achieve India's commitment in the Sendai Conference

Training and Capacity Building is a vital component of the Disaster Risk Management processes and hence, adequate training to the key stakeholders, creating adequate training opportunities, strengthening of training infrastructures, sharing of skills and knowledge on DRM, adequate capacity enhancement and their sustainability have been the prime focus for the State like Gujarat.

Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA): Promotes an integrated and coordinated system of disaster management including prevention or mitigation of disaster by the State, local authorities, stakeholders and communities.

Commissioner of Relief (CoR): Provide immediate relief and response to any impending disaster situation by assisting and protecting the community; providing relief to the affected community; preventing or combating disruption; or dealing with the destructive and other effects of the disasters.

Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM): The Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM) is registered as an autonomous society under the Government of Gujarat. The Institute has been entrusted with the responsibility of human resource development, capacity building, training, research and documentation in the field of disaster management. As per GIDM's objective and mandates, it focuses on enriching the capacities- in specific areas of prevention, mitigation, preparedness & relief, recovery, rehabilitation, reconstruction and sustainable development of the officials and other functionaries of the state and district administration for the response to emergencies & in the longer run, it will take up similar capacity buildings for other stakeholders in the country. Undertakes activities for human resource development, public education, and community awareness, safety, etc. in disaster education and management.

Session 1.2: Risk Analysis (Hazard, Vulnerability, Capacity and Risk Analysis) With a focus on the Risks of mismanagement of Dead Bodies

Duration: 30 min.

Session objectives:

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Explain what H, V, C, R stands for in the context of DRM;

2. Explain the equation used to calculate Disaster Risks;

3. Explain how an HVCRA study helps to Understand the level of Risk and gradually meet the needs of the community;

Tools for HVCRA.

Key Learning Points:

1. HVCRA stands for Hazard, Risk, Vulnerability, Capacity Analysis;

2. HVCRA is a participatory tool which can help the students in identifying the main hazards and their threats;

3. Disaster Risks □ Hazard × Vulnerability × Exposure / Coping Capacity;

4. The basic formula follows three major steps viz., Hazard analysis, Vulnerability Analysis, and Capacity analysis to determine the level of Disaster Risks;

5. The level of risk helps to shape the future course of action and develop a short, medium and long term, Disaster Risk Management planning.

Facilitator's Guidance:

Time slots in minutes	Process	Resources

15	**Begin with Asking of following Questions**
	  1. Have you heard about HVCRA tools and techniques?
	  2. Have you done any of kind of HVCRA in your respective areas viz. Villages/Taluka/Districts/State?
	Encourage the participants to share their views/experiences about HVCRA tools and techniques.
	∗ If participants are not aware of HVCR, elaborate – hazards, vulnerability, capacity and Disaster Risks
	Show the PPT and explain the different tools using different examples
		Presentation

10	Share presentation on the following themes in 10 slides - • HVCR stands for Hazard, Vulnerability, Capacity, and Risk • HVCRA is a participatory tool, which can help the students in identifying the main hazards and their threats in schools and surroundings • Disaster Risks ∝ Hazard × Vulnerability × Exposure / Coping Capacity • The basic formula follows three major steps viz., Hazard analysis, Vulnerability Analysis, and Capacity analysis to determine the level of Disaster Risks	Presentation
5	Show the Video Clips on Demystifying vulnerability (disabled people in emergencies, mainly children) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IywPclgr2I	Video Clip

Tools and Equipment needed:

• PowerPoint Presentation

Session 1.3: Dignified/Scientific Management of the Dead: Significance, Identification, and Planning

Duration: 60 min.

Session Objectives:

At the end of this session participants will be able to:

1. Define the Role and Responsibilities of concerned stakeholders in Managing the Dead Bodies in Dignified/Scientific manner;
2. Explain effective Response Mechanism to address the Mass Fatalities;
3. Disaster Victim Identification and Capacity Building Activities for Contingency Planning.

Key Learning Points:

1. Dead Body Management: Experiences/Learning from the Past;
2. Role of Biotechnology and Forensic Sciences in Disaster Victim Identification;
3. Role of Dentists' in Disaster Victim Identification;
4. Role of Civil Administration and Authorities in Dead Body Management (at State, District, and Taluka level);
5. Planning and Preparedness for Mass Causality Incidents;
6. Contingency Plan for Dignified/Scientific Management of the Dead;
7. Standard Operating Procedure for Dignified/Scientific Management of the Dead;
8. International, National, and State level Guidelines on the subject;
9. Coordination amongst different stakeholders and organizations;
10. Role of Youth Volunteers organizations in assisting the International, National and local authority in managing the Dead Body.

Facilitator's Guidance

Time slots in minutes	Process	Resources
30	Explain the Institutional, National and State level arrangements for Dead Body Management; The roles and responsibilities envisaged in different documents prescribed by Government; Invite and involve participants by asking them why there is a need to be involved in different phases of the DRM Cycle. Endorse their suggestion with - • Define the Role and Responsibilities of concerned stakeholders in Managing the Dead Bodies in Dignified/Scientific manner • Myths about Dead Bodies and challenges associated with handling dead bodies • Disaster Victim Identification, Disposal of the Dead and Capacity Building activities for Contingency Planning • Documentation and Information Management	Presentation
10	Explain the scope of involvement of concerned stakeholders in Dignified Management of the Dead, • Awareness and sensitization meetings/orientations • Support in the formation of Disaster Management Committees (DMCs) and subcommittees and their roles (coordination, Disaster Awareness, Risk Reduction, and Response groups) • Awareness and dissemination of Contingency Plan • Conduct mock drills and reporting • Implementation of Risk Mitigating measures identified in HVCRA • Annual evaluation and updatation of the Contingency Plan	Presentation
5	Sum-up with a generic discussion on Capacity Building Activities for Contingency Planning; Ask participants to share if they received, came across, developed Draft Action Plan for Capacity Building Activities on the above-mentioned components; Share lesson(s) learned/documents, where Dignified Management of the Dead has been Mainstreamed.	Video Clip

Tools and Equipment Needed:

- LCD and Screen

Additional Reading for Session 1.3:

The dignified management of dead bodies involves a series of activities beginning with the Search, in-situ Identification of the body, and its Transfer to the facility that serves as a mortuary. It also encompasses delivery of the body to family members, and assistance from the State for final Disposal of the body, by the wishes of the family and the religious and cultural norms of the community.

- **Recovery and Retrieval**

After any disaster, it is very important to recover and retrieve the maximum number of dead bodies at the earliest, to facilitate prompt and correct identification, storage and final disposal. Delay in recovery may lead to the decomposition of the bodies. It is also essential to retrieve and store a dead body part(s) when the whole body is not available.

- **Transportation of the Dead**

It is important to retrieve the dead from the site of the disaster and transport them to the place of storage and their preservation, as quickly as possible. This will not only help in proper storage and preservation, identification and proper disposal but also mitigate psychosocial trauma to the surviving community.

- **Storage and Preservation**

The creation of adequate space and infrastructure, required for storage and preservation, will be planned as a part of various disaster management plans at all levels. Mortuaries in hospitals are usually not adequate to meet the enhanced requirement during disasters. It is therefore essential to create temporary or semi-permanent structures. Abandoned buildings, store-houses or temporary constructed structures can be used for the storage with proper modifications. Important factors like climatic conditions, temperature, availability of ventilation and cooling facilities will be considered before deciding the site of the temporary mortuary.

- **Identification of Dead Bodies**

Identification of dead bodies is mainly done by comparing and matching the information of the missing person (physical characteristics, personal belongings, place, and circumstances of death, etc.) with corresponding information of the deceased mostly with the help of surviving relatives and the community. In case a body is unidentifiable, different techniques for identification are mandatory to be carried out for which adequate infrastructure is needed at all levels, along with the availability of trained human resources.

- ◊ **Primary Methods of Identification**

  The primary methods for identification of a dead body are applied only in case the secondary methods of identification are found inadequate. These methods are enlisted below;

- **Fingerprinting:** Fingerprint analysis is a reliable indicator of the identity of an individual as fingerprints are unique to each individual.

- **UID – AADHAR** Database usage for comparison and identification: The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) under the aegis of the Government of India, has been mandated for implementing the envisioned multi-purpose National Identity Card or Unique Identification Card (UID Card) project which is known as AADHAAR. The database associated with UID can be used for identifying biometric data (10 fingerprints and photographs of the face and the iris). Accordingly, for identification, the dead body's biometric data can be compared with the UID database, for which software can be developed for prompt identification.

- **Forensic Odontology:** Dental data (dental points) and dental morphological traits can be recorded from the dead body and compared to ante-mortem data, if available, in the medical history of a person.

- **Forensic Anthropology:** Forensic Anthropology deals with techniques that can be used to assess sex, age, stature, ancestry and analyze trauma and disease.

- **DNA Fingerprinting:** When used with other investigations, DNA is a significant complementary tool for identification. The Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics (CDFD), Hyderabad, is a National Referral Laboratory for difficult and recalcitrant case samples in the identification of the deceased in Mass Casualty Incidents.

◊ **Secondary Methods of Identification**
- Visual identification
- Photography
- Personal Description/Medical Findings
- Evidence/Clothing

- **Disposal of the Dead**

Disposal of the dead is the final step in the management of the dead. It is a highly sensitive and very important step because of cultural, ethnic and religious sensitivities, varying from community to community, in our country. This process involves issuing a Death certificate by the competent authority to the relative of the deceased and release of the identified bodies to the relatives for final rituals which include cremation, burial, and other methods. Authorities may be required to organize final rituals in respect of the unidentified or unclaimed bodies or body parts in a disaster scenario.

- **Disaster Victim Identification Cells (DVICs)**

model of developed countries, established for disasters, can be taken up for study and implementation with modification to the Indian context.

- **Missing Persons** should be considered to be alive unless there is evidence to suggest otherwise. A reliable and consolidated list of missing persons is a necessary and mandatory step towards identification efforts. Information on missing persons and unidentified human remains may be stored centrally in an electronic database, under the guidance of a data management specialist, to assist in the tracing and identification efforts and shall also be made available to the relatives of the missing. The missing becomes silent, but the family members left behind to wonder about the fate of their loved ones. It is important for the healing process of the families left behind to provide them with information about their kith and kin. Robust efforts should be made to find the possibility of life and/or missing persons in and around the scene of incidence. This issue also reflects the need to strengthen human resource capacities and the use of advanced technologies to find missing persons in disaster conditions.

- **Documentation and Information Management**
  The proper documentation will include compiling the Dead Body Inventory Record and Dead Body Identification Form which includes photographs of the deceased, giving age, sex, the site at which the body was found, identification marks, clothes and other information which may prove useful for identification of a dead body. The collection, storage, analysis and management of information collected in the process of dead body management shall be duly taken care of and be available for any future use.

Chart of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
2015-2030

Scope and purpose

The present framework will apply to the risk of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters, caused by natural or manmade hazards as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks. It aims to guide the multi-hazard management of disaster risk in development at all levels as well as within and across all sectors

Expected 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

Goal

Prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience

Targets

Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower average per 100,000 global mortality between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015	Substantially reduce the number of affected people globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015	Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030	Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030	Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020	Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of this framework by 2030	Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030

Priorities for Action

There is a need for focused action within and across sectors by States at local, national, regional and global levels in the following four priority areas.

Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4
Understanding disaster risk	Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk	Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience	Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to «Build Back Better» in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction
Disaster risk management needs to be based on an understanding of disaster risk in all its dimensions of vulnerability, capacity, exposure of persons and assets, hazard characteristics and the environment	Disaster risk governance at the national, regional and global levels is vital to the management of disaster risk reduction in all sectors and ensuring the coherence of national and local frameworks of laws, regulations and public policies that, by defining roles and responsibilities, guide, encourage and incentivize the public and private sectors to take action and address disaster risk	Public and private investment in disaster risk prevention and reduction through structural and non-structural measures are essential to enhance the economic, social, health and cultural resilience of persons, communities, countries and their assets, as well as the environment. These can be drivers of innovation, growth and job creation. Such measures are cost-effective and instrumental to save lives, prevent and reduce losses and ensure effective recovery and rehabilitation	Experience indicates that disaster preparedness needs to be strengthened for more effective response and ensure capacities are in place for effective recovery. Disasters have also demonstrated that the recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction phase, which needs to be prepared ahead of the disaster, is an opportunity to «Build Back Better» through integrating disaster risk reduction measures. Women and persons with disabilities should publicly lead and promote gender-equitable and universally accessible approaches during the response and reconstruction phases

Guiding Principles

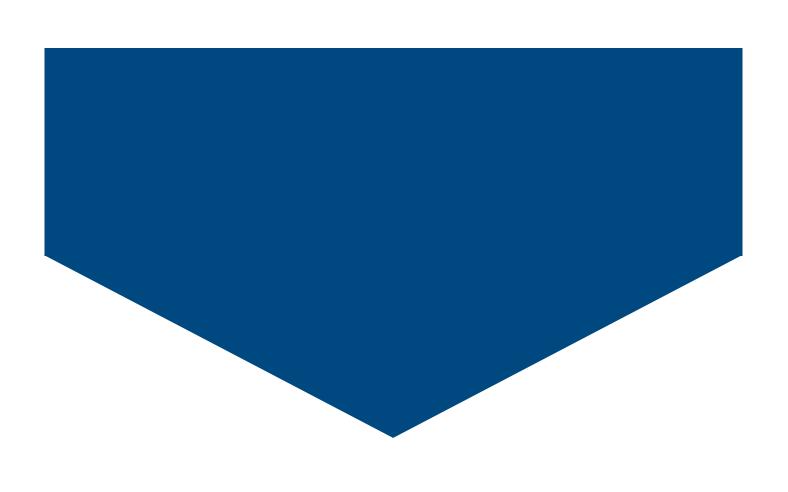|						
Primary responsibility of States to prevent and reduce disaster risk, including through cooperation	Shared responsibility between central Government and national authorities, sectors and stakeholders as appropriate to national circumstances	Protection of persons and their assets while promoting and protecting all human rights including the right to development	Engagement from all of society	Full engagement of all State institutions of an executive and legislative nature at national and local levels	Empowerment of local authorities and communities through resources, incentives and decision-making responsibilities as appropriate	Decision-making to be inclusive and risk-informed while using a multi-hazard approach
Coherence of disaster risk reduction and sustainable development policies, plans, practices and mechanisms, across different sectors	Accounting of local and specific characteristics of disaster risks when determining measures to reduce risk	Addressing underlying risk factors cost-effectively through investment versus relying primarly on post-disaster response and recovery	«Build Back Better» for preventing the creation of, and reducing existing, disaster risk	The quality of global partnership and international cooperation to be effective, meaningful and strong	Support from developed countries and partners to developing countries to be tailored according to needs and priorities as identified by them	

UNISDR
The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

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