

KEY EDITORIAL MESSAGE

Dear Readers,

On behalf of Sphere India I would like to welcome you all to explore Sphere India Monthly Newsletter, October 2015 Edition. This issue will contribute to provide a small glance of humanitarian work taken up during last month in different parts of India.

This issue covers news update from Sphere India members on **Building Disaster Resilience into Affordable Housing, North Bengal Landslide relief response**, from government sector it includes a write-up on **Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction, NIDM** and a brief of **Sphere India programme news**. And lastly it includes a list of upcoming trainings and consultations in the month of October-November, 2015.

We as Sphere India team are honoured to share the work of so many committed and thoughtful activities of our member organizations in India.

Vikrant Mahajan,
CEO, Sphere India



BUILDING DISASTER RESILIENCE INTO AFFORDABLE HOUSING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY (HFH)

The **Asia-Pacific Housing Forum (APHF)** is a biennial conference organized by Habitat for Humanity. The India chapter of the fifth forum, APHF5, was held in Delhi (Gurgaon) on the 3rd and 4th of September 2015.

APHF5 saw government policy and decision makers; architects and construction industry professionals; donor agencies; non-governmental organizations; academics, think-tanks and research institutions; private and public sector enterprise representatives; and community leaders and advocates of affordable housing and sanitation; all come together under one roof. The discussions encouraged an exchange of ideas, experiences, intervention models, and policy analysis and consensus building on affordable housing, proper sanitation and seeking market solutions and technology solutions towards achieving housing for all and an open defecation free India!

APHF5 organized by HFH India in Delhi was privileged to have **Shri Chaudhary Birendra Singh – Honorable Union Minister for Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Drinking Water and Sanitation**, come and share his thoughts on rural and urban housing, land acquisition and role of corporates in ensuring housing for all. Setting the sentiment behind APHF5 was **Ms. Sheila Kriplani**, Chairperson HFH India who said, *“To bring dignity and hope to all we believe that none of us can live with dignity until everyone lives with dignity”*.



Dr. Nandita Chatterjee - Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation declared the forum open. She shared the Government of India's efforts towards housing for all and highlighted the fact that nearing 20 million houses are required in urban India whereas rural India needs 30 million houses if we were to achieve the Government's mandate of **'housing for all by 2022'**.

The Asia Pacific Housing Forum (APHF5) organized by Habitat for Humanity India was designed to have 4 tracks namely Shelter, Sanitation, Market and Microfinance. Deliberations, debates and discussions took place under each track in parallel break-away sessions. Each track had four sessions each, thus a total of 16 break-away sessions took place over the two days of the conference.

Building Disaster Resilience into Affordable Housing

One of the sessions under the Shelter track was **'Building Disaster Resilience into Affordable Housing'**. The speakers for this session were Dr. N M Prusty, Former Chairperson - SPHERE India; Dr. A S Arya, Member BSDMA; Mr. Apoorv Vij, Programme Manager-Technical – GRIHA; and Mr. Sunil Kumar Mattoo, IAS (R) Former Chief Resident

Commissioner, Uttarakhand. The session was moderated by Mr. B V Selvaraj, IAS (R) Senior Advisor – HFH India.

The discussion focused on building disaster resilient houses and infrastructure, house modelling, cost effectiveness and affordability. All the participants agreed that disaster preparedness can be effective in minimizing loss of life, property and resources. The main issues that were identified during the course of the discussion were high cost of land and lack of implementation of policies. The speakers and delegates felt that there is a need for safe housing plans, proper structural designs for housing, different models for different areas and housing plans in accordance with the scale of damage that has occurred. They recommend that various models with all possible disaster compliance need to be developed, government recommendations need to be followed and that proper site selection is key. In addition there is also an urgent need to spread awareness about disaster resilient construction across school and college curriculums and through media.

Identifying the role various stakeholders can play in disaster resilient housing, the session speakers and delegates of APHF5 noted that the national government and local governments can make funds available and implement policies effectively; the corporate and business sector can contribute funds and resources and participate along with the development sector; and education institutions can help generate awareness and a better understanding on the issue.



APHF5 saw the **launch of an insurance scheme for families living in the disaster prone and affected areas**. Five such scheme policies were handed over at the hands of Bollywood Celebrity **Vivek Oberoi** to women from Cuddalore at the forum. **Alain Grimard**, UN Habitat Country Representative for India spoke about the UN's Global Housing Strategy and emphasized the increasingly important role that governments need to play in taking the lead in such transformative development.

WORLD VISION INDIA**NORTH BENGAL LANDSLIDE RELIEF RESPONSE**

Mild and frequent tremors in Himalayas continued since the earthquake which happened neighbouring Nepal on 25th April 2015. When monsoon started with heavy rains in North Bengal Himalayan region in mid-June, it triggered series Landslides in Darjeeling district. The 4 major landslides areas were concentrated around

1. Tingling (MIRIK),
2. 6th, 7th and 8th Mile,
3. Bongbusty GP and 11th Mile (KALIMPONG),
4. Lava and Lingseykha and Snagsay GP (Chisopani Busty) of Kalimpong II Block.

The series of landslides brought destruction which can be summarized as under:

- Fully or partially damaged houses, cow-shed etc.
- Supply of drinking water got disrupted
- Hike of prices of eatable and non- eatable products.
- Blockage to National Highway caused shortage of perishable and non- perishable products.
- Electric supply to Kalingpong, Mirik, Lava was disrupted because of constant rains, but power was restored in majority of the areas and villages.
- Water supply was also affected.

World Vision selected landslide affected families for the district targeting the most vulnerable and affected households, especially focusing on vulnerable families, who lost all their belongings. A total of 7000 people in 1400 families received emergency food supplies and Non Food Items to meet the needs for their immediate survival.

World Vision India intervention in brief:

- Distributed food pack to 1400 families. Each pack contained 25 kg rice, 2 kg Chana Dal (lintel), 2kg Masur Dal (lintel) Soyabeen nuggets 2Kg, Mustard Oil 2 liters, 2kg sugar, 2kg salt, 200g turmeric, 200g chilli powder, bags to contain the food. This food ration pack would meet the acceptable nutritional value in terms of 2100Kcal/ person.
- Provided hygiene kit to 1400 families, each kit included bathing soap, washing bar, tooth brush, tooth paste, antiseptic liquid, sanitary pad, talcum powder and bag to contain all the items.
- Provided Non Food Items to 1400 families. The pack included 3 Sarees, 3 Dhoties, 2 Bed sheets, 2 bath towels, 1 plastic bucket, spoons, bowls, plates, tumbler (to drink water), and cardboard boxes to contain all the items.



National Institute of Disaster Management, India

Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) 2016 - National Consultation of Partner Agencies: Scientific and Technical Institutions

National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) organized the national consultation of scientific and technical institutions, second in line after the donor's partners' meeting. The consultation was held under the chairmanship of Sh. Kiren Rijiju, Hon'ble Minister of State for Home Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs at 02.00 pm on 25th August, 2015 in India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The meeting aimed at involving the Scientific and Technical Institutions as partners for the conduct of AMCDRR 2016. The meeting was attended by representatives from various institutions like SDMAs, CBRI, IMD, NDRF, IITs, NRSC, Ministry of Earth Sciences, FICCI, UNDP, IFRC, UNW, etc. Ms. Margareta Wahlstrom, spoke about the Sendai Declaration and its recommendations. She said that Sendai declaration recommends about the involvement of scientific and technical agencies in the DRR activities. She also said that science has a very major role to play in reducing the risk arising from impending disasters and climate change impact. Shri Kiren Rijiju, Hon'ble Minister of State (Home), during his inaugural address, once again reiterated the importance of scientific institutions in not only managing disasters but also in reducing the risk. He said that Science is important in disaster management but application of science is even more important. He said that Government of India is committed for facilitating research in this field.

For more news, please visit: <http://nidm.gov.in>

INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

Emergency Coordination

a) **Floods in Assam:** IAC committee was activated. JRNA exercise conducted in Assam in 3rd week of August 2015. URS has been activated to map the humanitarian intervention in Assam. 02 sitreps were released.

- **IInd Phase of Floods in Assam:** After IInd spell of floods in Assam, IAC Committee get activated. Sitrep was released on 2nd September. JRNA exercise conducted for IInd phase of floods Regular coordination with IAG Assam as well as teams carrying out assessments at local level and writing JRNA report for Floods in Assam and URS further updated.

b) JNA report of West Bengal

- Sphere India team coordinated with each member of IAG West Bengal for their assessment reports and data collected on JRNA tool.
- Further, individual reports have been received and further consolidated to make collaborative/joint assessment report.
- URS get updated on Flood response by various agencies in State West Bengal

Link for JRNA report:

<https://sphereindiablog.wordpress.com/category/jrna-reports/>

Link for SITREPS

<https://sphereindiablog.wordpress.com/category/floods-in-india-2015/>

b) JNA report of Manipur

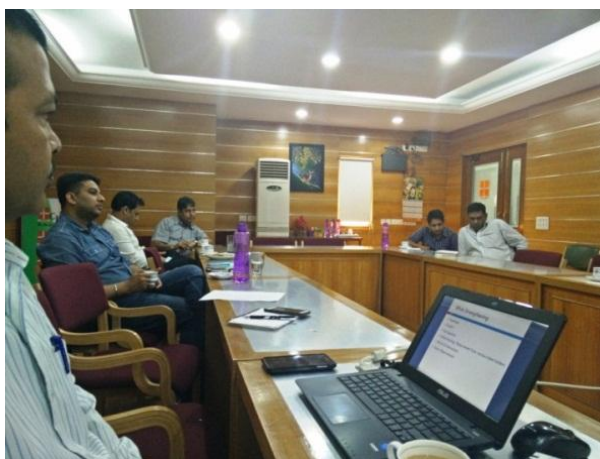
- Sphere India and its member organizations ADRA, OXFAM India, EHA, ACTION AID, WORLD VISION INDIA, CARITAS INDIA, IGSSS and NEICORD including its **local partners/NGOs:** DSSS, CSDO, SADO, REACH-M, YVU, PRDA and WSDC conducted the Joint Rapid Needs Assessment in five most worst affected districts of Manipur covering 21 villages highlighting the immediate needs for the affected population.



A debriefing at Imphal was organised by Caritas India, DSSS and Sphere India supported by Caritas India on 12th August, 2015 where PPTs on Immediate Needs, Findings and Challenges along where shared by each leads agencies.

Link for JRNA report:

<https://sphereindiablog.wordpress.com/category/jrna-reports/>



Multistakeholder coordination workshop conducted on 7th September with the suggestions from Interagency Coordination Committee and few members to have a face to face meeting on a common platform with member agencies and other stakeholders to discuss on planning for coordinated response through unified response strategy, intensification of SOP and also strength and Gap analysis in JRNA process of different states and further multi stakeholder coordination strategies at various levels i.e. National, State & Districts with Government set ups.

State IAG Process

- a. UP IAG meeting for strengthening Coordination platform in collaboration and consultation with Senior IAG members. Activities for next three months have been proposed by members of UP IAG. Oxfam in collaboration with PGVS will be conducting Event with regard to International DRR day celebration at State Level on 29th October 2015, Multistakeholder workshop on mainstreaming DRR shall be organized on 30th November 2015 and few workshops on capacity building have been suggested by Water Aid and Plan India. UP IAG will come out with its final charter in the month of September to further strengthen the IAG process. PGVS, Plan India and Water Aid in Lucknow are taking lead in the process.
- b. State IAG Coordinator MP, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand: State IAG Coordinators have been selected to be deployed in these three states to provide support to IAG platform in respective states.
- c. IAG Manipur process initiated in Manipur post floods. Inter Agency Coordination meetings were conducted with government authorities at State and District Level. Meeting of humanitarian agencies were called time to time to take an account of situation and to strategize the IAG process in Manipur by deploying coordinators at District Level.

COLLABORATIVE ADVOCACY

Round Table meeting on “Policy Advocacy and Humanitarian Coordination”

As part of annual campaign starting from 12th August “**International Youth Day**” till 19th August “**World Humanitarian Day**” aligning to the theme - “**Preparedness**”. Round table meeting was organized at YMCA, New Delhi on 17th August to mobilize and sensitize representatives from different stakeholder groups to participate and respond through Unified Response Strategy (URS), with the special focus to engage academic institutions and youth in humanitarian coordination



action. The Panel discussion was facilitated by Mr. Kamal Kishore, Member NDMA, Government of India and Mr. Ray Kancharla, Save the Children.

Way Forward Actions

- 1) Pilot research **disaster wise/geographic focus/community led sustainable research** to bridge the gap between research and government policies
- 2) **“Knowledge Bank”** - Review of existing literature in the identified field of Disaster Management, with sorting and filtering of documents for easy access and to prioritize research needs and analysis.
- 3) **Partnership with academic institutions** to undertake research on varied identified areas of Disaster Management.
- 4) To practice **Innovation in Research** – Key experts/humanitarian players’ meet could be organized to identify five key problems faced by the country in humanitarian actions to find out interesting/innovative solutions to address them



The **“World Humanitarian Day”** programme was organized on 19th August in collaboration with Caritas India, at **Press Club of India, New Delhi**, to observe the spirit of love and stand in solidarity with people who lost their lives in humanitarian work all around the world.

TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME

MISP Training in Leh

A 3 day MISP training at Leh was organised by NRHM supported by UNFPA and Sphere India from 2nd to 4th Sep. A total of 35 participants from Leh and Kargil attended the training. The training was inaugurated by Dr. Sonam Wangchok, Executive Councillor, LAHDC. The 3 day training highlighted the special needs of women and adolescent girls during disasters, prevention of sexual and gender based violence in disasters, maternal newborn health, HIV/STI prevention and institutional and coordination mechanism for SRH in disasters. The training was attended by CMOs, BMOs, MOs, DPMUs, SDRF and BPMUs of Leh and Kargil. By the end of the training Contingency Action Plans were developed by 4 cluster groups for effective implementation of MISP at the district level. Chief Medical Officer distributed certificates and training manuals to the participants at the valedictory session. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all for their support and cooperation.



MISP Integration Workshop in Maharashtra



UNFPA Maharashtra and Sphere India jointly supported the National Health Mission, Principal HFWTCs and DRCHOs in preparing presentations based on the State Disaster Management Plan Maharashtra. MISP Integration workshop was organised at Mumbai on 9th September with support from National Health Mission, UNFPA and Sphere India. Principal Secretary Health, Ms. Sujata Saunik and Mission Director Health, Ms. Kundan,

inaugurated the workshop and stressed upon the commitment to incorporate MISP in the State Disaster Management Plan. Among others Director State Disaster Management Authority and other nodal officers from SDMA, Director Public Health, Principal HFWTCs and DRCHOs gave presentations on the preparedness, Response, Prevention strategies and Training and Capacity Building for effective implementation of MISP in SDMPs. A steering group was established to work on the final draft of recommendations which will be incorporated in the State Disaster Management Plan.

National Training for CBM Partners in Mainstreaming Disability in DRR and Humanitarian Response:

Training Objectives and the Training Modules were further revisited. Logistic planning was initiated. Resource Persons from National Institute of Disaster Management, Emanuel Hospital Association and Handicap International were identified. The training management team comprising of trainers from EHA, NIDM, HI, CBM and Sphere India who discussed the session designs, objectives and topics prior to the training to address the training objectives.



A 3 day training on Mainstreaming Disability in DRR and Humanitarian Response was organised in New Delhi. A total of 22 participants from Hospital Directors to Administrators from 6-7 States of India participated in the Training. The participants appreciated the knowledge and skills imparted during the training on Disaster and how to prepare an inclusive Hospital and Community Disaster Mitigation Plan.

Emergency Risk Management Training in New Delhi

Training Announcement was shared on Sphere URS group and separately with Sphere Health Committee and Training and Capacity building Committees. The confirmations were made based on the prior experience of nominated participants in Health and Emergency Projects. A one day National Workshop was organised at New Delhi on Emergency Risk Management (ERM) ON 9TH Sep supported by WHO. 30 participants attended the training. At the end of the

training a panel session was organised to discuss on the present strategic framework of WHO and proposed actions to address issues in health preparedness and risk management.

3 day Orientation Training on Joint Rapid Needs Assessment, Disaster Risk Reduction and First Aid supported by IGSSS:

A 3 day Orientation training was organised by IGSSS with support from Sphere India. The training was imparted to the Community, PRI and field staff of IGSSS. 33 participants from 10-15 villages of Baramulla and Bandipora participated in the training. The training objectives included Description of the basic terminologies in Disaster Management, Design and Demonstrate the HVCA (Hazard Vulnerability & Capacity) Analysis, Specify Needs Assessment and its types, Demonstrate the SWOT Analysis in the community, Conduct a Joint Rapid Needs Assessment post disaster, Prepare the Structure of designing a District /Village Response and Mitigation Plan with specific focus on partner activities and operational areas, Best Practices in DRR and to Demonstrate First Aid Techniques. Forward Action Plan includes Developing roaster of trained personnel trained in this training, updating the names of participants in database for who can get involved in post disaster assessment within the State, and trained participants will in turn impart training to their team, field level volunteers and inform Sphere India after giving training.



Proposed MISP Actions at Sikkim, Assam and Manipur

As per the communication with the Sikkim Disaster Management Authority two Regional MISP Trainings will be organised from 12th October onwards in Sikkim. The trainings will be supported by UNFPA, the Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority with technical support by Sphere India. This will be followed by an Integration workshop in the State.

Meetings were initiated with the Assam and Manipur Disaster Management Units and National Health Mission for MISP Advocacy and its effective implementation at the district level.

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

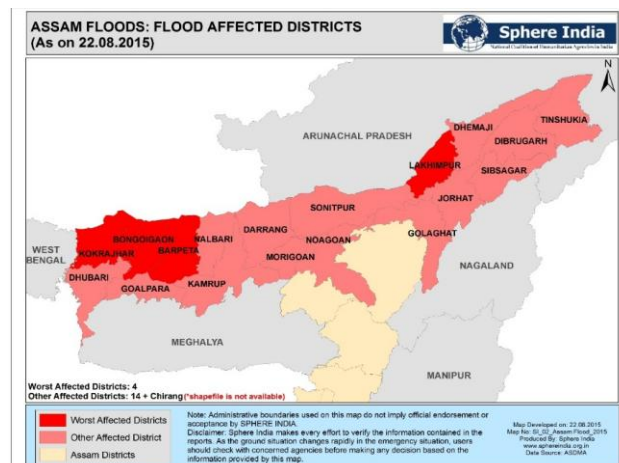
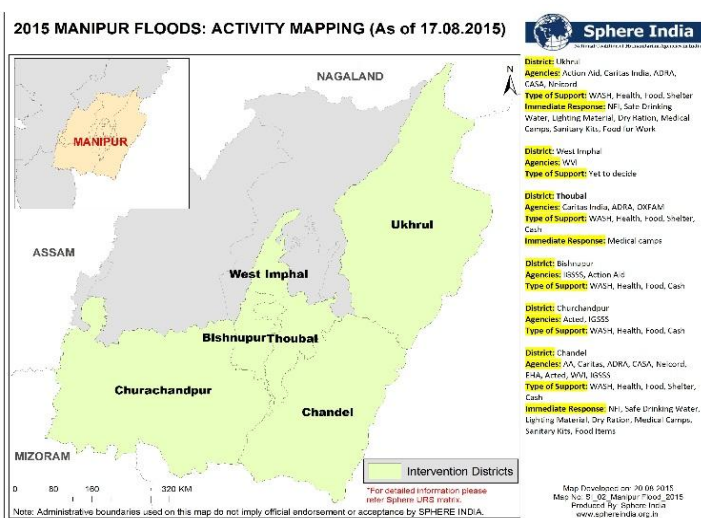
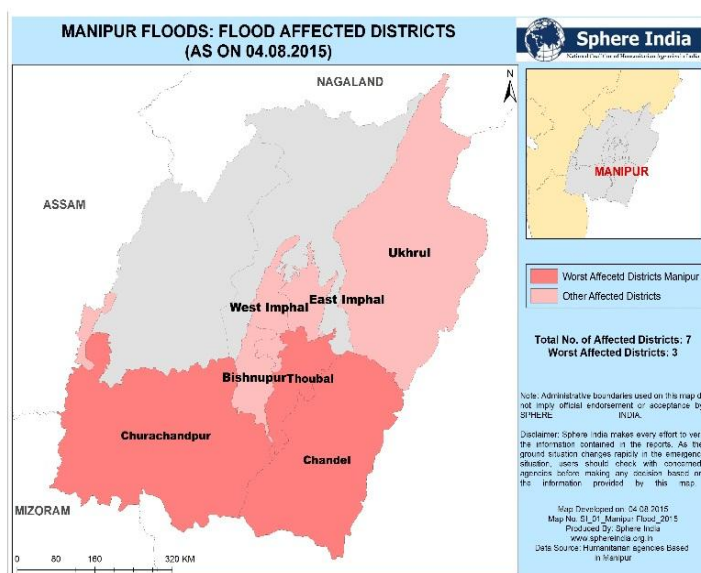
District Disaster Management Plan (DDMP): An initiative taken by Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA), Bihar

Disaster management has been an evolving discipline particularly in India over last one decade. With increasing frequency and intensity of disasters, a lot of efforts have been taken up to develop Disaster Management plans at national, state, district & sub-divisional level. **Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA) has taken** a pioneering step in creating DDMP for all the 38 districts in Bihar for which they have selected 9 organizations (INGO & NGO). Each organization have been allotted 4-5 districts to develop the DDMPs for. The work is moving on its full swing where most of the organizations have completed the first

step of conducting “***District Level Multi-Stakeholder Consultations***” in the presence of respective District Collector and Focal person from BSDMA. In these consultations, govt stakeholders, non-govt stakeholders and others departments were told about the need, approach, strategy, process and timeline of these District Management Plans.

GIS Mapping: Assam, Manipur and West Bengal Floods

Many villages in Manipur, Assam and West Bengal state have been flooded due to incessant rainfall in the past days that not only disrupted the normal life of people but also left a huge damage behind. A GIS and Google mapping of affected districts and agencies working was done. Please find below the maps for better understanding of the affected areas and the working organizations in different areas:



MISCELLANEOUS

IMPORTANT TRAININGS/EVENTS in October, 2015:

Sr. No.	Event/Training/Workshop	Date	Place
1.	MISP Integration Workshop supported by State Health Society and UNFPA	22 nd October, 2015	Srinagar
2.	Training Programme on “Disaster Psycho-social Care at NIDM	26-30 th October	New Delhi
3.	MISP Training and Integration in J & K	28 th October	Srinagar
4.	Observing National Day for Disaster Reduction – Strengthening Multistakeholder Coordination for Mainstreaming DRR”	29 th October, 2015	New Delhi
5.	MISP Training and Integration in Sikkim	2 nd November, 2015	Sikkim



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