

KEY EDITORIAL MESSAGE

Dear Readers and Member Agencies

It is indeed a great honor to welcome all to explore Sphere India's Monthly Newsletter, September, 2015 issue.

In this issue, we will recount the various projects and activities of government, key activities of member organizations, updates from Sphere India programme unit and a list of upcoming events.

We intended to publish news from member agency on recently organized workshop on **Understanding of Urban Risk in context of Disasters and Climate Change** and **Enhancing Private Sector Partnership for Disaster Risk Reduction**, updates from government on **"India Disaster Resource Network (IDRN)"**, updates from IAG on **World Humanitarian Day** and the SI programme updates.

We also have the glimpse section on **"World Humanitarian Week"** and Training on **"Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP)"**.

A huge thanks to all the persons who contributed writing the wonderful and inspiring articles, without which there wouldn't have been this newsletter issue.

Last but not the least, I would like to thank my editorial team and all the members for their everlasting support.

Vikrant Mahajan,
CEO, Sphere India



All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI)

Locating Sphere India in Urban Setting

So how and where does one locate Sphere India in the current Humanitarian Landscape of India? Let me do so in about 300 words.

Having been at the launch of Sphere India—the event and the process—and having worked on Sphere Standards for the poor for all these years, one can locate Sphere India at the forefront of humanitarian action. Increasingly more and more new ideas and initiatives (not all of them) are coming out of Sphere India's work and groups. These may be ideas related to reaching out to the youth or holding dialogues with Member of Parliaments, or pushing cash transfers in the main relief action in Odisha after 2009 floods. I can also see for more need for Sphere India to be located into urban setting which will face more hazards and also suffer more loss and damage.

One can also locate Sphere India at the centre of humanitarian coordination in India. This coordination was manifest in the efforts made by Sphere India during disasters such as the Koshi floods in Bihar or the Earthquake in Sikkim; or in cross-sectoral efforts covering water, food, and shelter; or in efforts at different levels involving institutions such as INGOs, UN, and local NGOs. Coordination is an inevitable need for humanitarian response in India, but it is also a need that has never been fully or fairly addressed in this country. Over the years, Sphere India has been working to find ways to reconcile and find balance between these two aspects of coordination, both from time-to-time and from event-to-event. Further, coordinating humanitarian action in the cities will continue to cost more, need more time and effort, and call for innovation.

One can see Sphere India playing a key role in pushing the demand for Universal Coverage of Districts with DDMPs that was made at the First Dialogue of CSOs and NDMA in Delhi in July 2015. Sphere India has initiated DDMPs in India, at Bihar, in Madhubani district and has taken the lesson to more districts in Bihar. It is but natural to support the government for better implementation of DDMPs at district level. At the same time, districts have towns and cities in it. Large cities are within districts and the cities do not have disaster risk reduction plans, or if they have, they are not coordinated with DDMP.

As the fear of disasters, making the rich richer and poor poorer increases in India, one hopes to locate Sphere India on the side of the poor and excluded in villages but also in slums in small and large towns. So one can conclude that Sphere India has found its location to group up and grow out to new humanitarian opportunities in India that can make Indians feel safe by enjoying the benefits of shared prosperity.



Mr. Mihir R. Bhatt, AIDMI



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

A regional Workshop on 29 July 2015 was held in Vijayawada city for the Municipal Commissioners and Municipal Engineers of Rajahmundry and Guntur regions, wherein 84 participants attended the workshop.

The objective of the workshop was to achieve better and deeper understanding of the Urban Risk in the context of Disaster and Climate Change. The workshop was inaugurated by Mr. Sai Srikanth Regional Director, Rajahmundry and Mr. MA, Shukoor Chief Engineer and Nodal Officer of Vijayawada Municipal Corporation. Vijayawada Municipal Corporation shared the approach currently being adopted by them. Experts pooled from across the country like Mr.



Mr. Ajay Kumar (TARU); Mr. Ajit Tyagi (Ex- Director General, IMD); Mr. Balaji Singh Chauhan (Disaster Management USFS Expert South Asia, Forest Service) shared learnings of other cities on planning based on Hazard Risk Vulnerability Assessment (Surat City) or measures taken to strengthen their Early Warning System (Ahmedabad) based on review of hazards; activities being undertaken to build urban community capacity for disaster response and preparedness etc.

The workshop was facilitated by UNDP team (G.Padmanabahn, Abha Mishra, Nagendra Biyani, Abdul Sattar) with the support of Revenue [Disaster Management] Department, Hyderabad & Commissioner, Director of Municipal Administration, Hyderabad.

“Enhancing Private Sector Partnership for Disaster Risk Reduction”

The Ministry of Home Affairs, UNDP, USAID and FICCI, jointly organised 1 day workshop on “Enhancing Private Sector Partnership for Disaster Risk Reduction” on 24th August 2015 in New Delhi. The main objective of the workshop was to develop better understanding of the need for risk sensitive investment planning in business and industries. The workshop was inaugurated Mr. Kiren Rijiju, Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs, India and Chief Guest for the occasion was Ms. Ms. Margareta Wahlstrom, SRSG, UNISDR.

Nearly 150 participants attended the workshop, they were from USAID, FICCI

members, Academics and NGOs. After the inaugural session, the morning plenary



session was on “Business Continuity Planning and DRR” and its was chaired by Prof. Santhosh Kumar, Executive Director of NIDM and the panel members were Daman Dev Sood, Aslam Perwaiz, G. Padmanabhan and Michael Ernest. The afternoon session held four parallel sessions covering the following sectors:

- IT Sector and Disaster Management: Challenges and Opportunities
- Disaster Risk Reduction in Real Estate/ Housing Sector : Challenges and Opportunities
- Challenges and Opportunities in Infrastructure Sector for Disaster Management
- Supply Chain, Manufacturing and Disaster Management

The detailed report of the workshop will be shared soon.

National Institute of Disaster Management, India

State Level training on "India Disaster Resource Network" for 19 districts of Bihar state organized by Bihar State Disaster Management Authority at Patna, Bihar on 29th July 2015



Training programme on "India Disaster Resource Network" has been organized by Bihar State Disaster Management Authority (BSDMA) for 19 districts (Arwal, Aurangabad, Bhojpur, Buxar, Gaya, Jamuia, Jehanabad, Kaimur, Kishanganj, Lakhisarai, Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, Nawada, Purnea, Samastipur, Saran, Sheikhpura, Siwan and Vaishali) of Bihar State at Hotel The Panache, Patna, Bihar on 29th July 2015. The training programme was inaugurated by Shri Anil K. Sinha, IAS (Rtd.), Vice Chairman of Bihar State Disaster Management Authority. State Informatics Officer, NIC, Bihar Shri Rajesh Kumar was also addressed the delegates. Thirty seven participants (officials from National Informatics Centre and district administration) participated in the course.

The officials were introduced to the IDRN portal, its uses, workflow and administration. Besides a hands on session was organized for familiarizing the participants with the IDRN portal, user login, data uploading, various formats, data accessing etc. Participants shared their experiences and specific challenges pertaining to IDRN. The participants agreed to update data of the concerned districts and requested NIDM to provide necessary technical/administrative support. Dr. Uday Kant Mishra Member, BSDMA was also present during the training program and validates the training program with distribution of certificates.

Feedback and suggestions received from the group regarding the technical issues, portal administration, data collection and date entry etc. will be used for upgrading the portal further.

IAG Odisha Observed World Humanitarian Day- 2015



On 19th August 2015 IAG Odisha commemorated the World humanitarian day in joint collaboration with Action Aid and IGSSS. The event was attended by wide array of individuals including Govt. officials, international Humanitarian Organisations, academicians, students, village disaster management committee members and NGO's of different districts.

The event was inaugurated by Dr. Chakradhar Panda & chairperson of IAG Odisha& Honorary

Secretary of IRCS Odisha state branch, Sri. Debabrat Patra Regional Manager Action Aid & Vice-chairperson IAG Odisha, Dr.Kamal Lochan Mishra- Chief General Manager- Odisha State Disaster Management Authority and Sri. Animesh Pakash, Programme officer of Oxfam India were present as the key panel members.

During the event Dr. Chakradhar Panda extended a warm welcome to the participants and by expressing his views on World Humanitarian Day Dr. Panda said- this is the day to celebrate our common humanity and to honor the heroic aid workers who rush bravely to help people in need. We honour their memory by celebrating this occasion, who continue to provide aid, no matter the risks and sacrifices, too often the world takes their service for granted.

During the session S. Debabrat Patra said the World Humanitarian Day reminds us that no-one should ever fail to honour their heroism. And by giving few examples of Disaster risk reduction sri.patra urged we must continue to improve and innovate to make disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery more effective and accountable.

By praising the efforts of Humanitarian Workers of Odisha Dr. Kamal Lochan Mishra stressed that members of Govt. and Civil society organizations of Odisha have made significant contributions in most of the recent disasters, which has been now praised in national and international platforms, and we have contributed a lot for this, hence we need to reassess our strategies for a better disaster resilient Odisha.

During the event Dr. S.C Sahu Director- Indian Metrological Society, and Sri Ranjan Panda convener Combat Climate Change Network India expressed their views on a special session on Heat Wave.

Ms. Monalisa Bhanja from LWSI, Bharati Chakra of Help Age India, Santaram Nanda of Save the children, Ms. Inakhi Patra of CASA, Mr. Goutama Arya bhusan of Practical Action, Mr.V.N rao of Lepra Society, Mr. Sukant Sahoo of Plan India, and Many eminent personalities of Civil Society, Govt. and IAG Members participated and expressed their views and suggestions during the event. The event was coordinated by Mr. Manoranjan Behera, coordinator of IAG Odisha and ended with a vote of thanks by Sri.Basant ku. Panigrahi of IGSSS.



INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

JRNA Trainings

- Training on revised JRNA tool in West Bengal: A training programme on JRNA tool have been organized in West Bengal by IAG WB with technical support from Sphere India. IAG West Bengal has taken up responsibility to translate JRNA tool into Bengali language.
- Translation of JRNA tool in Hindi has been done by UP IAG.
- Reports of all JRNA trainings in five states on Sphere URS as well as Sphere India Blog. Please find below the link for reports in five states:



<https://sphereindiablog.wordpress.com/category/reports-of-jrna-training-in-up/>

Emergency Coordination

- Floods in India;** 5 Sitreps were released in coordination with IAG Gujarat, Members from Rajasthan and Govt. Administration from Rajasthan, Odisha, West Bengal and humanitarian agencies in Manipur.
- Floods in West Bengal and Manipur;** 02 IAC Committee meetings have been held to take stock of flood situation in India. SI Team Coordinated with IAG WB for JNA process updates and Sitreps. Coordinated with member agencies for carrying out JNA exercise and initiation of IAG process in Manipur. Secondary data analysis report for Manipur has been prepared and shared across Sphere URS members. URS has been activated in Manipur.

Link for Sitrep & secondary report- Manipur given below:

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

COLLABORATIVE ADVOCACY

World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) Seminar – “Media in Humanitarian Actions”: The seminar was organized by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) with facilitation support from Sphere India, allows for an open and honest discussion between editors, journalists and the humanitarian sector in creating a greater synergy. The seminar also helped in improving understanding between Media and



Humanitarian Actors in the WHS context.



“Role of Academia/Youth in Disaster Preparedness and Humanitarian Effectiveness”: Sphere India with the support of member agencies has organized series

of event from 12th to 19th August in aligns to the theme for the **“World Humanitarian Day”** to achieve the following objectives: to define role of academic institutions/youth in disaster preparedness and humanitarian effectiveness, to strengthen DRR in Academic Framework, to support World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) process engaging academicians/youth and to better coordination with youth and academic institutions

- ✓ **“International Youth Day” Seminar** was done on 12th August 2015 at **AMITY Law School, Delhi** with expert session by Ms. Nimisha Goswami, IPPF Sprint.
- ✓ Expert lecture on **“Mainstreaming Disability in Emergencies”** was organized on 13th August 2014 at **Child Guidance Center, Jamia Millia Islamia University**. Expert session was supported by Mr. Shem, EHA and Mrs. Neha Saigal, HI.
- ✓ Expert Lecture on **“Role of Youth in building Resilience”** was organized on 14th August 2015 at **Department of Social Work, Delhi University**. The session was facilitated by Ms. Lee Macqueen as a guest speaker.



TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME

MISP Training in Kashmir:

A 3 day training was organised in collaborative partnership with National Rural Health Mission, UNFPA and Sphere India in the Regional Health and Family Welfare Institute, Dhobiwan from 22-24th July. A total of 35 participants attended the training. The training was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister for Health and Medical Education, Chaudhry Lal Singh, Director Health Services Dr. Sameer Matoo, Mission Director, Dr. Yashpal Sharma. The Hon'ble Minister welcomed the initiative by UNFPA and Sphere India for extending the requisite support and acknowledged the fact that MISP ought to be a priority during disasters. He expressed his optimism in rolling out MISP in the State of J&K.



Chief Medical Officers from 9 districts of Kashmir, State Trainers, District Programme Managers and Asha Coordinators participated in the training. Collective Action Plans were submitted by the participants for each cluster based on the need and vulnerability. Most of the participants completed the online MISP certificate course during the 3 days of the training. Deputy Director Health Services attended the Valedictory function. Certificates, MISP Manuals and additional reference material in flashdrives was handed over to each participant.

Meeting with Honorable Minister of Health & Medical Education, Trainings and ARI and Commissioner Secretary Health regarding MISP:

After the successful roll out of two Regional MISP Trainings, two separate meetings were initiated with **Honorable Minister for Health & Medical Education** and the **Principal Secretary Health**, at the Civil Secretariat, J&K, in the first week of August. The discussion was based on two basic requests including the approval for the **allocation of**



funds to the State, in supplementary PIP for the MISP activities in J&K for 2015-16. The activities, it was specified, would include Capacity Building, Coordination, Procurement and Prepositioning of RH Kits at district level. Secondly approval for the **allocation of funds to the State for the 2 day MISP Integration Workshop in J&K.** It was proposed that this workshop would be residential (in house) in which we can invite **Key Govt. Officials** including Deputy Commissioners, Commissioner Secretaries, Divisional Commissioners, Directors etc. It was informed that Sphere India has **limited budget** under this activity and would be expecting support from the State to cover the expenses incurred in this workshop primarily on the boarding lodging of Govt. Invitees and participants. An application was submitted to the Hon. Minister based on his request. The Principal Secretary Health has put in his remarks in the letter and referred it to Mission Director NHM for necessary information on the expected funds, for the integration workshop.

MISP Integration Workshop-Maharashtra:

A one day MISP workshop will be organised on the 9th September in Mumbai. The purpose of the workshop is to **review the State Health and Disaster Management Plan and PIP and suggest appropriate MISP interventions** which can be **integrated in the District and State DM Plan.** The workshop will be attended by the Principal Secretary Health, Secretary SDMA, MD NHM, Principal PHI, Principal HFWTC Nagpur, Thane, Aurangabad. Few documents related to State DM Plan and checklists /suggestive priority MISP Actions have been shared with participants. The respected speakers will **review the documents** and give **brief presentations** on how they can include various components of MISP in relevant sections. After the workshop a group will sit for a day and work on the incorporation of MISP contents into the Disaster Plan.

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

- **Workshop on DDMP Process Document and Training Module:** With the release of NDMA (National Disaster Management Authority) framework for preparation of district disaster management plans and acceptance of participatory process to develop model DDMPs, some pilots were initiated by different organization like AIDMI, Caritas, Unicef, Sphere India, EFICOR etc. in collaboration with government authorities at all levels.

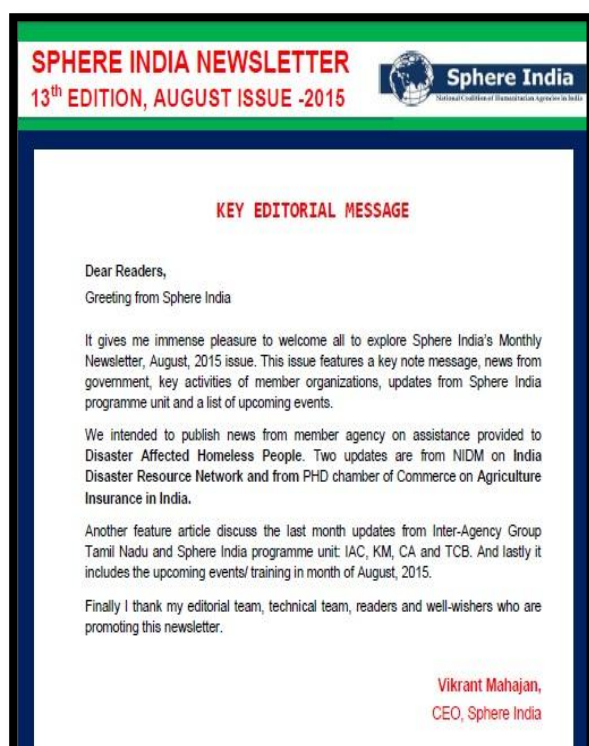
The process has evolved with each pilot Disaster management plan undertaken by different agencies. There were plans to replicate similar processes in more districts in some states. As per the suggestions of key agencies involved with this process, it was decided to collate existing experiences to develop a process guideline on, “How to prepare participatory DMP”

(Disaster Management Plan). A training module will also be developed to help other agencies and government authorities to take the process forward.

With reference to same agenda a **“Workshop on DDMP Process Document and Training Module”** was organized on 20th July, 2015 at EFICOR Conference Hall, New Delhi. Based on this collective initiative taken up by (UNICEF, Sphere India, Caritas, SEEDS, Cordaid-AIDMI and PRISM) we came up with a **Harmonized DDMP Process Document** of all the work done by these organizations for DMPs. This document includes the ‘principles to be followed for facilitating DDMP, Steps involved in the process, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders, technical component and its outcome & output.

- **Sphere India Newsletter:** The Sphere India KM team successfully released the Sphere India Newsletter- August, 2015 Edition. Which includes the news from government, key activities of member organizations, updates from Sphere India programme unit and a list of upcoming events. Please find link below:

<https://sphereindiablog.files.wordpress.com/2015/08/sphere-india-newsletter-issue-no-13-august-2015.pdf>



GLIMPSES



Expert Lecture by Ms. Nimisha Goswami, IPPF at AMITY University on "Role of Youth in Building Resilience"

Group Discussion on Emergency Kit Items at Jamia University, New Delhi



Expert Lecture by Ms Lee Macqueen Paul at Department of Social Work, Delhi University

Expert Lecture by Ms Neha Saigal, Handicap International & Mr. Shem, EHA on "Mainstreaming Disability in Emergencies: at Child Guidance Centre, Jamia Milia Islamia University



Group Work by AMITY Students on Localized Preparedness

Training on Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) Jammu & Kashmir



MISCELLANEOUS

IMPORTANT TRAININGS/EVENTS in September, 2015:

Sr. No.	Event/Training/Workshop	Date	Place
1.	ToT for CBM Partners in Humanitarian Response	15-17 th Sept	New Delhi
2.	National Workshop on Emergency Risk Management Health	18 th Sept	New Delhi
3.	5 th Post Manipur Floods Coordination Meeting	23 rd Sept	Manipur
4.	Mainstreaming Disaster Management into City Development Plan	28-30 th Sept	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Post Disaster Reconstruction & Rehabilitation	28-30 th Sept	New Delhi
6.	International Conference on DRR	6-7 th Oct	New Delhi
7.	General Body Meeting on formation of IAGs in Himachal Pradesh	8 th Oct	Himachal Pradesh
8.	Disaster Psycho-social Care	12-16 th Oct	NIDM
9.	Forest Fire Disaster Risk Mitigation & Response	12-16 th Oct	Dehradun



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