



Sphere India
National Coalition of Humanitarian Agencies in India

nidm
Resilient India - Disaster Free India

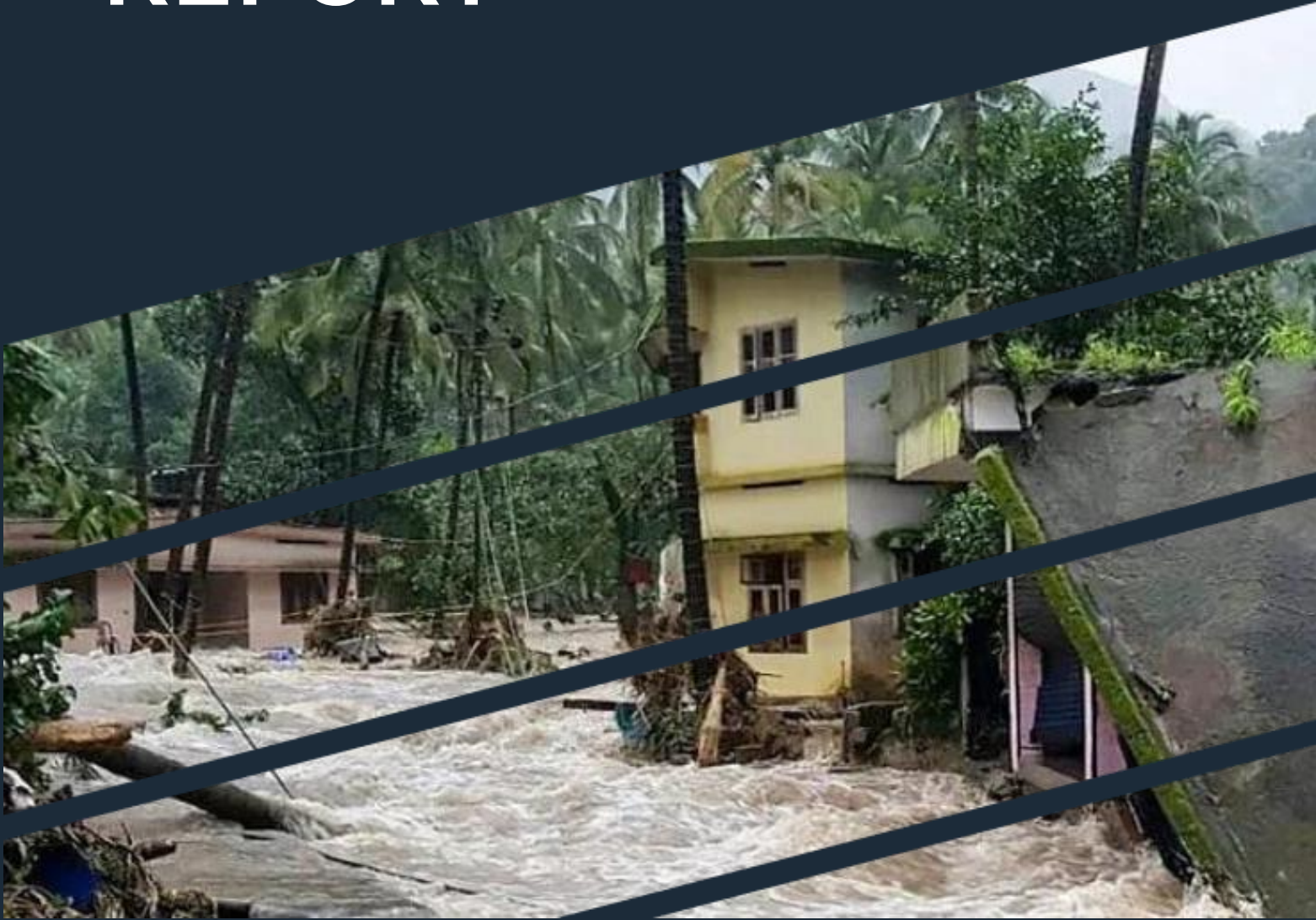
NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



On backdrop of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022

20th MAY 2022 | 10:30 to 13:30 Hrs

RECOMMENDATION REPORT



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BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

India has witnessed many disasters in recent years, both natural and climate-change-induced, continuing to cause extensive devastation. The outbreak of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) also posed an unprecedented threat and challenges to the health, wellbeing, lives and livelihoods of people across India and the globe. While historically, dealing with disasters focused on emergency response, but now the focus is on reducing and managing conditions of hazard, exposure and vulnerability that can prevent losses and alleviate the impacts of disasters, as accentuated by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-30). We are now in 8th year of Sendai Framework and India is still a long to go in achieving the targets. It is now needed that we move our focus towards measurable impact of DRR interventions. The current challenges faced by the country along with the potential threats due to climate change particularly emphasize on the need of strengthening the Disaster risk reduction systems in the country, to protect the lives and livelihoods of communities and individuals who are most vulnerable to disasters or emergencies.

Sphere India had also coordinated a wide consultative process along with NIDM and published multi-sector coordination guidelines in Six Sectors (Water Sanitation, Food and Nutrition, Shelter, Health, Education, and Social Protection) in October 2021 which focused on strengthening coordination and collaboration between Govt., NGOs and other stakeholders. Sphere India is now in process of developing DRR guidelines for all 17 SDGs and plan to take that up in Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on DRR in September this year.

Sphere India in collaboration with National Institute of Disaster Management (Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India) organised a National consultation on Disaster Risk Reduction, ahead of GPDRR 2022, as a multistakeholder platform in India to deliberate on various mechanisms for disaster risk reduction and resilience building in India. The overall theme of the Consultation focused on the main and Cross cutting themes of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022, scheduled in Indonesia from 23rd to 28th May 2022. It saw a participation of over 100 development sector practitioners from civil society, NGO, CSR, and Government, to understand existing provisions of disaster risk reduction systems and identify potential entry points in various policies & programs and to explore need and ways to establish an overarching dedicated budgetary mechanism for Resilience Building, Climate Action and Disaster Risk Reduction.

This consultation was planned as one in the series of consultations and it was envisaged that the outcomes of this consultation, especially leanings and recommendations will be presented at Global platform for DRR Sphere India's member organizations and network. Through this consultation, Sphere India has documented Civil society perspective along with other stakeholders and will be taking these inputs forward as a coalition.

Summary of Key Recommendations

Disaster Risk Governance and DRR Financing:

The session embodied the need of collaborative efforts towards building a **network of systems that can be used for rapid assessments and resilience building** and making them available at local levels. Specific emphasis should be made towards **decentralization**, thereby reducing the weight on national and state-level institutions. Put focus on local government level disaster management and **contingency plans supplemented by community participation** with financial outlays. **Adopting DRIP approach** so the communities and other stakeholders can be linked horizontally as well as vertically with social network to improve their awareness and knowledge of DRM issues.

Political willingness will be the key for ensuring linkages between development (SDGs) and DRR are adequately addressed to ensure sustainable and resilient development. Disasters need to be viewed from the lens of the socio-economic & development impacts. There is a need for **local-level disaster risk financing**. We need to consider gram panchayats as the first stop for disaster risk as well as fund management. All gram panchayats must have contingency funds that can be invoked for disaster preparedness or resilience building. **Localization**: We need to initiate, educate and promote localization where the community takes ownership. For this District Disaster Management Authorities shall be the focal point. **Guidelines on the use of available funding and finances** under various schemes for DRR and CCA.

Inclusion: Leave no one behind:

Twin track approach, i.e. working with both national & local service providers along with communities to adjudge the impact and collaborate on inclusive response. Women need to be included in all activities and planning related to disaster risk management. Collection of **disaggregated data** showing differential impact on different vulnerable groups. Details of the elderly particularly those residing alone should be recorded. This will help to reach out to them in times of crisis and there should also be an Elders' self-help group as well. **Social equity audit tools** need to be used to systematically measure discrimination & take appropriate decision during disasters when the most vulnerable population are at most risks. **Assessments should focus on Socially marginalized groups**. Support needed not only during relief phase but also during recovery and rehabilitation by rebuilding livelihood options. **School contingency plans** & task force teams should be set up to provide practical training to children in search rescue, first aid, health and sanitation as preparatory effort towards resilience building. **Psychosocial counselling for children** is integral to maintain post disaster recovery. **Panchayat disaster management plans** should make specific focus on child protection. Leveraging **community-based child protection and GBV prevention mechanisms**, identifying and addressing issues of abuse or exploitation is needed. Village and panchayat level committees can be set up for this.

1. DISASTER RISK GOVERNANCE

1.1. Challenges

- Over the years due to climate change and an incandescent series of disasters, we have witnessed a colossal loss of ecosystem. The focus now should be on how we construct a structure to regain the lost environment, subsequently making a special effort towards Sustainable development. The socio-economic recovery, post COVID-19 has been turbulent, and hence it has become a liability of disaster management systems to evolve and accommodate the dynamic trends, requirements and needs.
- There have been multiple operational level challenges with respect to Disaster Risk financing that has not been responded efficiently under the 15th Finance commission Report. Additionally, MSMEs which acts as a strong financial backbone of the economy, has not been adequately addressed in the fifteenth finance commission report.

1.2. Learning

- Orissa's Community Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP) has been an effective model which has come to light only after repeated disaster occurrence in the state over years. The Odisha government receive cyclone warning by the IMD well in advance, and is accurate with minimum deviations. This has not just boosted confidence among the people but also the officials. Such processes have also prevented a large number of unnecessary evacuation and enabled building trust between the response agencies and the evacuating population.
- Kerala follows a decentralised decision-making approach, a lot of arrangements and policy making is done at local levels, and this has helped in responding to disasters in an effective manner.
- Choosing between experiential learning vs policy based mechanisms, given the increase in the types, geographies and intensities of disasters, we can hasten the process of Disaster response without having to relate it to number of fatalities/ Political willingness/ Community acceptance. It is impressive to see the input oriented processes between Institutions, Policies, SoPs, Guidance Notes, which are government led yet not fully dependent on continued or intense consultative mechanisms.
- In West Bengal's Sundarban areas (affected by cyclones, storm surges, extreme rainfall, etc. Very frequently) the example of Disaster Risk Information (DRIP) being followed. The communities and other stakeholders were linked horizontally as well as vertically with the social network- Amader Sundarban, a common platform and Social media network for DRI in both India and Bangladesh.

1.3. Recommendations

- Access to data on disasters is still an insufficiently acknowledged arena. Hence, there is an urgent need of collaborative efforts towards building a network of systems for a National level disaster that can be used for rapid assessments and resilience building. Making such database available at local levels can be an ideal approach towards anticipative, prevention-based Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).
- There is an urgent need of reducing the dependence of Local-level administrative bodies on central/state level organizations like NDRF and SDRF. Specific emphasis should be made towards decentralization, thereby reducing the weight on national and state-level institutions.

- It is time that we put focus on local government level disaster management and contingency plans with financial outlays supplemented by community participation.
- Adopting DRIP¹ approach so the communities and other stakeholders can be linked horizontally as well as vertically with social network to improve their awareness and knowledge of DRM issues. With the help of the DRIP approach, the communities and other stakeholders are linked horizontally as well as vertically with social network. This is an effort to improve their awareness of disaster risks and management issues by sharing risk information; Need based capacity building initiatives (like training on Search and Rescue, Menstrual Hygiene Management, Safe Drinking Water), sharing good practice from different sectors and on cross cutting issues, develop collaborative activities for informed decision making with the potentials of utilizing local resources, and disseminate the general risk scenarios with action plans to other members who have not participated in the risk communication process.
- There is a need for triggering political willingness- linking it to damages & losses, its impact on the economy and social development accommodating to the Sustainable Development Goals. Linkages between development (SDGs) and DRR should be adequately addressed to ensure sustainable and resilient development.
- We need to start viewing disasters from the lens of the socio-economic and development impacts it has caused instead of the number of fatalities. Also we need to rank disasters not in terms of vulnerability but in terms of development.
- There should be a paradigm shift, from responsive to pro-active approach, be it at the government level or at the CSO level. Towards that, continuous productive engagement is required with various stakeholders.

2. DRR FINANCING

2.1. Challenges

- Despite the constitutional manifestations, through the 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments acts, there has been no clear progress towards the decentralisation process of action.
- Gram panchayat disaster-management and response ideas and plans does not get effectively communicated in the gram sabhas.
- Disaster response and development aid is shrinking over the years, specifically after COVID-19. Hence, majority focus of humanitarian as well as disaster response agencies is on financing response and reconstruction over Disaster Risk Reduction. Also, international funding is highly volatile and hence there is no stark clarity on what proportion of these funds to be spent on disaster response, mitigation, risk reduction or resilience building.

2.2. Learning

- Every elected person and officer have to undergo disaster management training in Odisha. This is a revolutionary step that can go a long way in building individual as well as institutional capacity.

¹ Disaster Risk Information Platform (DRIP) was formed by the National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (NIED) in 2006. It is a specialized software application, aimed at understanding and communicating disaster and climate related risks, with the goal of integrating disaster risk information into development planning & budgeting, policies and programs

2.3. Recommendations

- There is a need for local-level disaster risk financing. We need to consider gram panchayats as the first stop for disaster risk as well as fund management. All gram panchayats must have contingency funds that can be invoked for disaster preparedness or resilience building.
- Localization is integral to Disaster Risk financing as to identify the need and requirement. We need to initiate, educate and promote localization where the community will take up responsibility. For this District Disaster Management Authorities shall be the focal point.
- Clear guidelines on the use of available funding and finances under various schemes for DRR and CCA.

3. INCLUSION: LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

3.1. Challenges

- Disaster alert and forecast message does not reach to person with disability or senior citizens during emergencies due to lack of accessibility or the technical knowhow to interpret those messages.
- Women are often kept out of the disaster planning and response procedures.
- About 10 percent of the Indian population falls under the senior citizen category mostly residing in rural areas. Families are the only Safety Net of senior citizens. During COVID-19, when movement of individuals was restricted, the supply of basic medicines and routine follow ups were halted affecting their health along with their mental well-being. Helpline numbers are mostly not accessible to the elderly. They also face difficulty in remembering them.
- Often abuse and violence towards children get aggravated post disasters.
- Not all children need psychosocial first aid. Engaging with them in extra-curricular activities will help understand those in need of a support. Alongside, engaging parents is also important as many exploitations are often accepted by the parents.

3.2. Learning

- Incorporating the accessibility issues for disaster alerts and forecasts, an Accessible message dissemination mechanism was adopted during COVID-19 in Odisha.
- Cyclone shelters in Odisha have been designed and constructed considering the universal designs and approaches.
- In Assam tea gardens, a lot of women employed face harassments and threats relative to safety and security. To avoid sexual violence and harassment in tea gardens of India, UN Women India Office is implementing a programme titled 'COVID-19 and Ensuring Women's Health, Wellness and Safety in Rural Spaces in the Tea Sector in Assam' to forge and strengthen multi-sectoral partnerships in Assam, India (Tea) to effectively respond to the COVID-19 and pandemic through targeted interventions to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic and enhance women workers' health, wellness, and safety in the tea sector.

3.3. Recommendations

- It is recommended to incorporate the twin track approach, i.e. working with both national-local service providers along with working with communities to adjudge the impact and collaborate on response which is inclusive of resilience building.
- Women need to be included in all activities and planning related to disaster risk management.

- Every police station should keep a record of the details of the elderly living in their respective areas. Details of particularly those residing alone should be there. This will help to reach out to them in times of crisis. There should also be an Elders' self-help group as well, officers can put in effort for collaborating and creating such networks along with other humanitarian organisations.
- Collection of disaggregated data showing differential impact on different vulnerable groups
- Apart from providing shelter-related assistance, nutritious food is needed by the elderly and those suffering from non-communicable diseases.
- Social equity audit tools need to be used to systematically measure discrimination and take an appropriate decision specially during disasters when the most vulnerable population are at most risks.
- Most of the humanitarian work is limited to the response phase. Give priority to recovery and rehabilitation by rebuilding livelihood options (as the marginalized are more affected by livelihood losses).
- A school contingency plan will be useful in the times of disaster. A School task force team with practical training for children in search rescue, first aid, health and sanitation can be a preparatory effort towards resilience building.
- Psychosocial counselling for children is integral to maintain post disaster recovery.
- District panchayat disaster management plan shall make a specific focus on child protection. Leveraging community-based child protection mechanisms, identifying and addressing issues of abuse or exploitation is needed. Village and panchayat level committees can be set up for this.

ANNEXURE

AGENDA

#	Session	Session Theme	Session Objective	Speakers & Facilitators
1	10:30 to 11:15	Disaster Risk Governance	To understand existing provisions of disaster risk reduction systems and identify potential entry points in various policies and programs	Welcome & Context: Nupur (Sphere India) (5 Mins) Moderator: Shri. Anil Kumar Sinha, IAS (Retd) (Former Vice Chairman, BSDMA) Speakers <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Anil Kumar Gupta 2. Dr. Sekhar Lukose Kuriakose (Member Secretary, KSDMA) 3. Aniruddha Dey (Chairperson, PRISM) 4. Annie George (CEO, BEDROC)
2	11:15 to 12:00	DRR Financing	To explore need and ways to establish an overarching dedicated budgetary mechanism for Resilience Building, Climate Action and Disaster Risk Reduction.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Dr. Bhanu Pratap Mall, Secretary, VASUDEVA (PGVS)) 6. Abha Mishra (National Coordinator UNDP)
3	12:00 to 13:25	Leave no one behind	To understand the impact of disasters on socially marginalised and vulnerable communities and plan for actions to address these protection gaps and reduce disaster risks.	Moderator: Dr. Eilia Jafar, Sphere India Speakers: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annie Hans (Rehabilitation & Inclusion Coordinator, Handicap International) 2. Sushmita Mukherjee (Director, Gender and Adolescent Girls, PCI Global) 3. Girish Mishra (National Director, Livelihoods and Emergencies, HelpAge India) 4. Anand Kumar (Honorary Director, PHIA Foundation) 5. Neha Chauhan (Program Manager, Ending Violence against Women and Girls, UN Women) 6. Monoj Das (State Coordinator- Assam Tea Garden Program, UN Women) 7. Smruti Ranjan Das (Help A Child of India) 8. Prabhat Kumar (Deputy Director – Child Protection, Save the Children)
4	13:25 to 13:30	Closing Remarks Vote of Thanks		Sphere India and NIDM

GALLERY



Sphere India
National Coalition of Humanitarian Agencies in India




ONLINE

NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

On backdrop of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022

20th MAY 2022 | 10:30 to 13:30 Hrs

PATRON



Shri Taj Hassan, IPS
Executive Director,
NIDM, MHA, GoI

**PROGRAM
CONVENORS**



Prof. Anil K Gupta
Head, ECDRM Division
NIDM, MHA, GoI



Dr. Eliia Jafar
Sphere India

PANELISTS

DISASTER RISK GOVERNANCE AND DRR FINANCING | 10:30 to 12:00 Hrs



Prof. Anil K Gupta
Head, ECDRM Division
NIDM, MHA, GoI



Dr. Sekhar Lukose
Member Secretary, KSDMA



Dr. Aniruddha Dey
Chairperson,
PRISM



Annie George
CEO, BEDROC



Abha Mishra
National Coordinator,
UNDP



Sarabjit Singh Sahota
Emergency Specialist, DRR
Section, Unicef India



Dr. Bhanu Pratap Mall
Secretary, WASIRMA (HVS)
MoEF

MODERATORS



Shri Anil K Sinha, IAS (Retd)
Former Vice Chairman
ISDMA

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND | 12:00 Hrs to 13:30 Hrs



Annie Hans
Rehabilitation & Education
Coordinator,
Handicap International



Sushmita Mukherjee
Director, Gender and
Adolescent GLE
PCI Global



Girish Mishra
National Director, Livelihoods
and Enterprise
Helpline India



Anand Kumar
Honorary Director,
Prak Foundation



Neha Chauhan
Program Manager,
EWSS, UN Women



Monoj Das
State Coordinator, Assam
Tee Garo, Program
BN Women



Smriti Ranjan Das
Program Manager,
Help A Child India



Prabhat Kumar
Deputy Director - Child
Protection,
Save the Children



Dr. Eliia Jafar
Sphere India

Coordinators:
Nupur Tyagi (Program Manager, Sphere India) nupur@sphereindia.org
Dr. Sweta Baidya (Consultant, ECDRM, NIDM) drswetabaidya@gmail.com

Jointly organised by: **National Institute of Disaster Management**
Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India

Sphere India
Noida, Uttar Pradesh



**Stay Protected
from Corona**



**Wear your Mask
Properly**



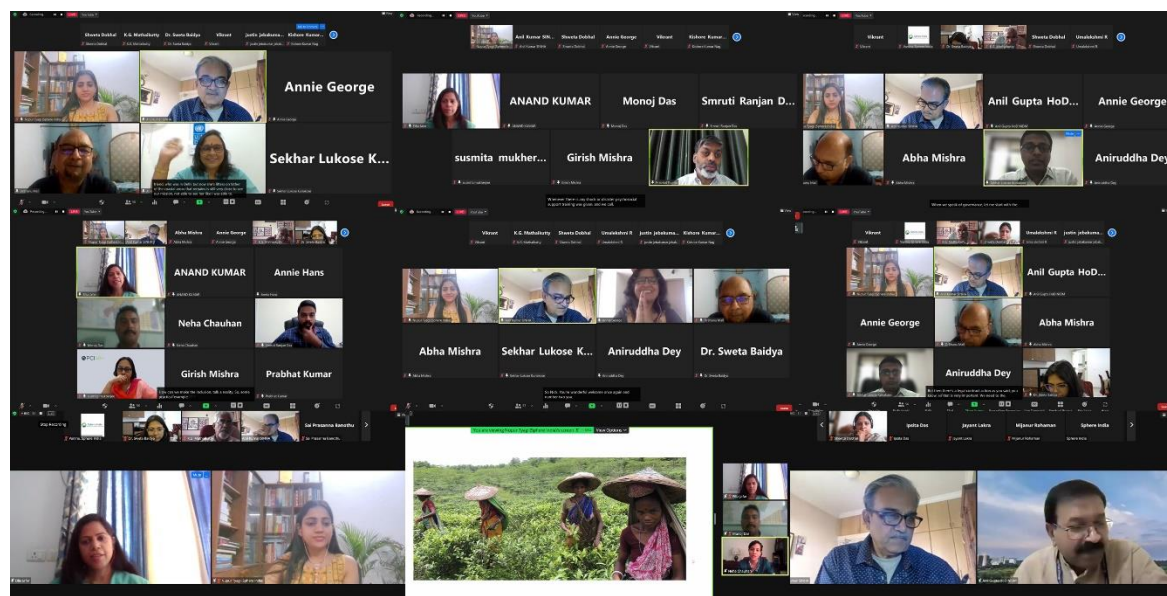
**Follow Proper
Hand Hygiene**



**Maintain Social
Distancing**



**Get
Vaccinated**



LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

#	Name	Organisation
1	Aafreen Haider	jamia millia islamia
2	Abha Bordoloi	Bal Utsav
3	Abha Mishra	UNDP
4	Agnijit Banerjee	ISGPP II
5	Altamash Khan	Sphere India
6	ANAND KUMAR	Phia Foundation
7	Anil Gupta HoD NIDM	NIDM GOI
8	Anil Kumar SINHA	Know Disasters
9	Aniruddha Dey	Professional Institute For Development And Socio Environmental Management
10	Annie George	BEDROC
11	Annie Hans	Handicap INTERNATIONAL
12	Annie Hans	Handicap International
13	Anthony Das	Church's Auxiliary for Social Action
14	Archana Bisoi	UNICEF
15	Ashok Kumar Panigrahi	National Academy of Broadcasting and Multimedia Prasar Bharati
16	Ashwin Lingaiah	UNICEF
17	Avtar Singh	Dte of civil defence Delhi
18	BASANTA PANIGRAHI	INDO-GLOBAL SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY
19	Bibekananda Biswal	Lutheran World Service India Trust
20	Cyljo Abraham	Sphere India
21	Divya Sagar	Institute of Management Studies Indore
22	Divya Sobha	Sphere India
23	Divya Sobha	Sphere India
24	Dr Manish Sharma	Public health department
25	Dr. Karunakaran Akhil Dev	Kerala State Disaster Management Authority
26	Dr. Sweta Baidya	National Institute of Disaster Management
27	DR. THIYAM JUGEN SINGH	Faculty
28	DrBhanu Mall	PGVS
29	Eilia Jafar	Sphere India
30	Girish Mishra	HelpAge India
31	Hemlata Sharma	O p Jindal Global University
32	Henna Hejazi	Sphere India
33	Hersh Vijayvargiya	Pragya
34	Ipsita Das	Tata Sons
35	Jagriti Chowdhury	PRAYAS
36	Jayant Lakra	ActionAid Association
37	Jhuma Das	PRISM West Bengal
38	Joseph sahayam	CASA
39	justin jebakumar jebakumar	Habitat for Humanity

40	K.G. Mathaikutty	Cosmic Community Centre
41	Kishore Kumar Nag	LWSIT
42	Kushal Neogy	CRS
43	Lalitha Krishnappa	M.S. Ramaiah Medical College, Bangalore
44	Madhukar Sanap	Aga Khan Agency For Habitat
45	Malavika Thirukode	The Asia Foundation
46	Manjay Kumar	Delhi Civil Defence
47	Mansi Kaushik	SphereIndia
48	Mijanur Rahaman	Madhya Ramkrishnapur Gramin Unnayan Samity
49	Monoj Das	UN Women
50	Mukta Arora	UN Women
51	Munazzir Bhat	Adverb Development Solutions
52	Narugopal Sarkar	CASA
53	Navdeep Singh	दिल्ली सिविल डिफेंस
54	Neeti Mathur	Bal Utsav
55	Neha Chauhan	UN Women
56	Nithi Shetty	TISS Mumbai
57	Nitish	Sphere India
58	Nupur Tyagi	Sphere India
59	OnkarPuri Advisor	Advisory Services
60	Padmasree Kalathur	UN Women
61	Peniel Malakar	Brigade Altamont (A412)
62	Polly Mondal	LWSIT
63	Prabhat Kumar	Save the Children
64	Premananda Panda.	DRI
65	Raj Kumar	Sahyog Foundation
66	RAJU TERON	Indo Global Social Service Society
67	Sai Prasanna Banothu	JNAFAU
68	Sakti Mondal	HDC
69	Santosh Kumar Das	LWSIT
70	Santosh Patnaik	CAN South Asia
71	Saurabh Dalal	WHO
72	Sekhar Lukose Kuriakose	KSDMA
73	Shamsher Ali	Nadi Adhikar Mancha (NAM)
74	Shangnaidar Tontang	WSDC
75	Shefali Lakhina	Wonder Labs
76	Shiv Sharan Lal Bajpai	Akhil Bhartiya Gramodyog Seva Sansthan
77	Shubham Tandon	UNDP
78	Shweta Dobhal	Reach to Teach
79	Shyoji Ram	Social Action Of Next Guide Rural Awareness In Health Sansthan
80	Smruti Ranjan Das	Help A Child Of India
81	Somenath Ghosh	LWSIT
82	SOUMITRA HAZRA	CASA
83	Sujay Mandal	PSJS
84	Surajit Neogi	ActionAid

85	susmita mukherjee	PCI
86	Suyog shinde	National cosulation
87	Tongkhomang Haokip	Oasis India
88	Umalekshmi R	Sphere India
89	Varsha Chaudhary	SI
90	vijay rai	WHH
91	Vikrant Mahajan	SI

SPHERE INDIA'S EVOLVING NEXUS

155 Members : UN, INGOs, National NGOs, CSR , Academic Institutions, Sector Networks, Expert Individuals, and State IAGs/Networks

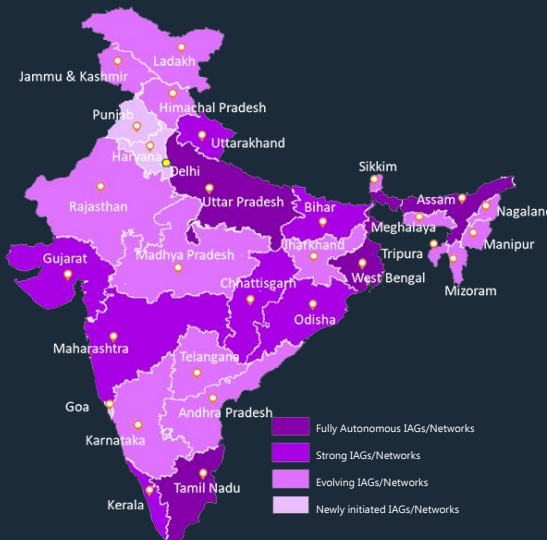
805 associate members as Sphere India Locally Empowered Organisations Network (LEON)

1,80,000 community volunteers (CDRF -Community Disaster Response Force)

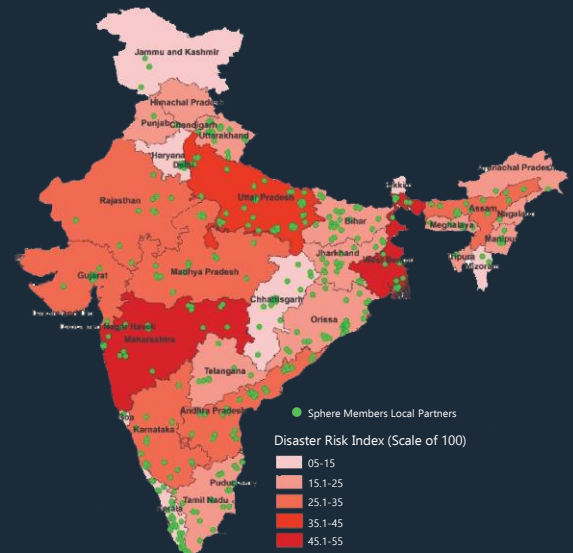
MEMBER ORGANISATIONS



STATE-SPECIFIC NETWORKS/ INTER AGENCY GROUPS (IAGS)



LOCALLY EMPOWERED ORGANISATIONS NETWORK (LEON)



Sphere India

National Coalition of Humanitarian Agencies in India

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