



Message from CEO

Dear Readers,

Switch the mindset from recovery to resilience!

This is one of the most important messages echoed throughout the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction in Brisbane, Australia.

Yes, we need to be resilient enough to cope with future disasters but resilience won't happen overnight. It can only be an outcome of long-term consistent efforts.

At a time when we are midway down the road towards achieving the targets under Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, we need to introspect how resilient are our core infrastructure and communities for potential disasters. We also need to fill the existing gaps diligently.

Our DRR plans require to be more inclusive of all sections of society such as women, differently-abled, elderly people, and the marginalized sections. Similarly, the resilience structures for some of the basic social infrastructures such as hospitals and schools need to be improved.

At APMCDRR, India Delegation emphasized on how the progress toward disaster risk reduction can be accelerated by improving the coordination and cooperation across different stakeholders. The details have been included in this month's monthly bulletin 'Samanvay', along with the regular updates such as important initiatives undertaken by Sphere India, our member organizations, the government, and the global humanitarian community. We have tried to make the newsletter as informative and useful as possible and we are looking forward to the reader's feedback.

Vikrant Mahajan
CEO, Sphere India

In this Issue

- Indian Delegation at APMCDRR 2022, Brisbane, Australia
- Program Updates
- News from Members
- Updates from Government
- Global Updates
- News from IAGs
- Grants and Opportunities
- Upcoming Events
- Plans Ahead

Indian Delegation at APMCDRR 2022 Holds Discussion with Union Minister

Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) is an intergovernmental meeting organised in support of UNISDR to assess the progress made by nation states and related agencies in disaster risk management in different priority areas/sectors. This year the APMCDRR Conference was held in Brisbane (Australia) from 19th-22nd September 2022. The Indian Delegation at Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 (APMCDRR) had a meeting with Shri Nityanand Rai, Honorable Minister of State for Home Affairs, Government of India, on the sidelines of the multilateral event, and discussions were held on accelerating progress on disaster risk reduction, improving coordination and cooperation, challenges, and way forward. Members of India delegation at APMCDRR-2022 in Brisbane, Australia also came together to discuss the learning and way forward from the conference, outlining various milestones and roadmap for 'From Crisis to Resilience: Brisbane to India'.



The meeting was also attended by Shri Harsh Gupta, Project Director, National Disaster Management Authority; Shri Kamal Kishore, Member and Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India; Shri Suneet Mehta, High Commission of India, Canberra, Australia; and Shri Sanjeev Jindal, Joint Secretary, GOI, MHA.

The Indian Delegation at Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) 2022

[APMCDRR Way Forward >>](#)

Program Update

Knowledge & Capacity Sharing

Webinar on Promoting Lifelong First Aid Learning



A webinar on Promoting Lifelong First Aid Learning was organized by Sphere India Academy on September 12. The session aimed at creating awareness on the importance of learning first aid at all ages. The eminent panelist deliberated on the relevance of first aid knowledge and training, and advocated for a lifelong commitment towards building basic first aid awareness across the country.

[Watch the Session>>](#)

Sphere India Booth at Marketplace in APMCDRR 2022, Australia



Sphere India Exhibit at APMCDRR Marketplace, 2022 highlighted the Multi stakeholder and multi-sectoral Emergency Coordination work and featured documentations of various initiatives, toolkit, guidelines and research studies representing the collaborative effort of diverse stakeholders of humanitarian, DRR, Climate Risk management, Development, Peace building actors in India.

Inter-Agency Coordination

Training Program on the Multi-sector Coordination for Response & Resilience in TN

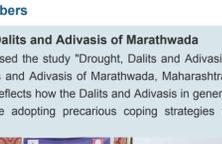
A three-day training program on the Multi-sector Coordination for Response & Resilience was conducted in Tamil Nadu from 14th-16th September 2022. Organised jointly by NIDM & Sphere India, the training aimed at enhancing the capacities and knowledge of stakeholders for emergency preparedness and response. It was organised in continuation of the 6 Multi-Sector Coordination Handbooks on Emergency Preparedness and Response launched in 2021 by the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) and Sphere India.



The online training programme on the Multi-sector Coordination for Response & Resilience held in Tamil Nadu

Sitrep, Alerts in response to Floods and other Emergencies in the Country

In response to floods in various parts of India, Situation Reports (SitReps) were prepared and disseminated for the use of various stakeholders working for the response & relief of affected communities and at risk populations. In addition to this, daily and weekly alerts were issued after observing IMD, CWC, and INCOISE websites, every Monday morning.



Webinar on Pilot Testing of Training Manual on Cash and Voucher Assistance in Disasters

A webinar was conducted on pilot testing of a training manual on cash and voucher assistance in disasters in Assam and Tamil Nadu. The training manual on cash and voucher assistance aims to enhance the capacities of humanitarian agencies and professionals responding to disasters on issues associated with cash transfer programs and build the knowledge and capacities of emergency managers who will be responsible for running cash transfer programs. The training program was organized by Sphere India in collaboration with NIDM and state IAGs.

News from Members

NCDHR Releases Study on Impact of Droughts on Dalits and Adivasis of Marathwada

National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR) released the study "Drought, Dalits and Adivasis: Impact of Droughts catalyzed by Climate Change on Dalits and Adivasis of Marathwada, Maharashtra" in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, on September 16. The study reflects how the Dalits and Adivasis in general and women, children, aged and PwDs, in particular, are adopting precarious coping strategies to droughts in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra.

It captures their trust with recurring droughts and caste /social, origin/ descent-induced pre-existing vulnerabilities. The study recommends making drought proofing management; state climate action plans, and disaster management from local to higher governance levels inclusive of the voices and concerns of the most marginalized sections.

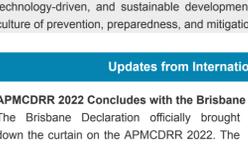


Left to Right: Ajay Chaudhari, Disaster Management Expert and former Divisional Disaster Management Officer, Prof. B. S. Waghmare (retd), JNU, Bhaskarao Munde (retd) Divisional Commissioner, Aurangabad, K.E. Haridas, Former Sugar Commissioner, Beena Pallavi, Gen Secretary, NCDHR, Prof. Sampat Kale, TISS, Dr. Milind Awad, RDC.

[Read Report >>](#)

Five-day Online Foundation Course on Disaster Management

An online Foundation Course on Disaster Management was conducted from 5th-9th September jointly by NAPSIPAG Disaster Research Group (NDRG), Institute of Social Sciences (ISS), and Sphere India. The five days e-course aimed at empowering teachers, researchers, PSUs, corporates, and NGOs to start new research programs in disaster management, conduct synchronized research in disaster risk reduction, and develop an understanding of the transdisciplinary law & governance concerns surrounding disaster studies. It was well attended by around 25 different academic and social sector institutions.

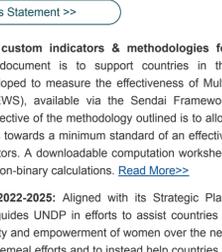


Online Foundation Course on Disaster Management jointly organised by NAPSIPAG Disaster Research Group (NDRG), Institute of Social Sciences (ISS), and Sphere India.

Updates from Government

Hardeep Singh Puri Presents Smart Solutions Challenge & Inclusive Cities Awards

The Minister for Housing & Urban Affairs, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri has presented the Smart Solutions Challenge & Inclusive Cities Awards 2022 this month. An initiative of the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) & the United Nations (UN) in India, these awards are in recognition of tech innovation that aims to address city-level accessibility and inclusion challenges faced by persons with disabilities, women, girls, and senior citizens. Highlighting the innovative role played by technology, Hardeep Puri said "The best solutions are always simple, cater to specific pain points, have clear benefits, and are widely accepted by users."



Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri speaking at the Smart Solutions Challenge & Inclusive Cities Awards 2022 Ceremony.

National Disaster Management Authority's 18th Formation Day Celebrated

National Disaster Management Authority's 18th Formation Day was celebrated on September 28. The National Disaster Management Authority, headed by the Prime Minister, was established following the passage of the Disaster Management Act by the Central Government on December 23, 2005. The authority envisions building a safer and disaster-resilient India by implementing a holistic, proactive, technology-driven, and sustainable development strategy that involves all stakeholders and fosters a culture of prevention, preparedness, and mitigation.

Updates from International Humanitarian Community

APMCDRR 2022 Concludes with the Brisbane Declaration

The Brisbane Declaration officially brought down the curtain on the APMCDRR 2022. The 2022 Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction presented an opportunity for delegates from across the Asia Pacific to showcase and share experiences, actions, and innovations to help build a resilient future for the region. The conference also represented a final opportunity ahead for the Mid-Term Review of the SDRR (2015-2030) in 2023, to focus on Sendai Framework progress and commitments in the Asia-Pacific Region.



[APMCDRR 2022 Co-chair's Statement >>](#)

Multi-hazard early warning system custom indicators & methodologies for computation: The purpose of this document is to support countries in the computation of custom indicators developed to measure the effectiveness of Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS), available via the Sendai Framework Monitor national level reporting. The objective of the methodology outlined is to allow for consistent measurement of progress towards a minimum standard of an effective MHEWS when using the custom indicators. A downloadable computation worksheet is also available to assist in computing non-binary calculations. [Read More>>](#)

UNDP's Gender Equality Strategy 2022-2025: Aligned with its Strategic Plan, Gender Equality Strategy 2022-2025 guides UNDP in efforts to assist countries in accelerating progress on gender equality and empowerment of women over the next four years. It aims to move beyond piecemeal efforts and to instead help countries to shift power structures and the economic, social, and political systems that perpetuate discrimination. The strategy is grounded in UNDP's commitment to eradicating poverty, reducing inequalities and exclusion, and supporting the empowerment of all women. [Read More>>](#)

United in Science: It provides an overview of the most recent science related to climate change, impacts, and responses from the World Meteorological Organization and partner organizations such as the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNEP, Met Office, Global Carbon Project, and IPCC. At a time when urgent action to address climate change is needed, the report provides unified scientific information to inform decision-makers and highlights some of the physical and socioeconomic impacts of the current and projected climate change. [Read More>>](#)

Human Development Report: In the wake of the pandemic, and for the first time ever, the global Human Development Index (HDI) value declined for two years straight. Many countries experienced ongoing declines in the HDI in 2021. Even before the pandemic, feelings of insecurity were on the rise nearly everywhere. Many people feel alienated from their political systems, and in another reversal, democratic backsliding has worsened. There is peril in new uncertainties, in the insecurity, polarization and demagoguery that grip countries. [Read More>>](#)

Air Pollution in Asia and the Pacific: Science-based Solutions: This report identifies 25 clean air measures that can positively impact human health, crop yields, climate change and socio-economic development, as well as contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Implementing these measures could help 1 billion people breathe cleaner air by 2030 and reduce global warming by a third of a degree Celsius by 2050. The top 25 measures not only represent wins for cities and countries looking to improve air quality but also provide next-generation business opportunities and boost economic growth. [Read More>>](#)

GPDRR Proceedings from Risk to Resilience: Towards Sustainable Development for All in a Covid-19 Transformed World: The seventh session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR-2022) was organized and convened by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction from 23 to 28 May 2022, in Bali, Indonesia. The GP2022 took stock of Sendai Framework implementation, recommended actions for policy makers, highlighted good practices and raised awareness. The outcomes will contribute to the inter-governmental Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework scheduled for 2023. [Read More>>](#)

Grants and Opportunities

Applications Invited for Research-Practice Partnership (RPP) Grant Program
The Research-Practice Partnership (RPP) Grants Program is intended to support education research projects that engage in collaborative and participatory partnerships with project budgets of up to \$400,000 and durations of up to three years.
Organization: Spencer Foundation
Deadline: 09 November 2022
[Read More>>](#)

Applications Invited for United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security Grant (UNTFHS)
The UNTFHS is seeking proposals that focus on advancing the application of human security in priority areas as highlighted in the recent recommendations of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Human Security.
Organization: UNTFHS
Deadline: 12 December, 2022
[Read More >>](#)

Upcoming Events

Flagging-off
REIMAGINING DISASTER RISK REDUCTION CAMPAIGN
with
India Resilience Dialogue-2022
Join us on
OCT 13 2022
To commemorate
International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction-2022
Venue - India Habitat Centre, New Delhi | Registration Link - bit.ly/IDRR-131022

Supported by [unicef](#) and [HCL FOUNDATION](#)

Sphere India along with NIDM and other partners have initiated a series of processes centered around DRR and resilience building, with various key milestones to be achieved between International Day for DRR (13th October 2022) and National Day for DRR (20th October 2022), which will further evolve based on the consultative inputs from various stakeholders. Towards this, the Reimagining Disaster Risk Reduction Campaign, will be flagged off with the **INDIA RESILIENCE DIALOGUE on 13th October 2022**. Last date to register is 6th October 2022.

[Register Here >>](#)

Plans Ahead (October 2022)

Accountability to Affected Populations
Focal Point: Dr. Henna Hejazi- Senior Manager, Programs
Contact: henna@sphereindia.org.in

1. Tool kit on Minimum Standards for Relief.
2. Approach & Methodology: PSEA Mechanism.
3. Webinar on Minimum Standards for Relief – Plan of Action for Minimum Standards in Practice
4. Function for Kerala state strengthening of District IAGs and NGO
5. Futuristic partnership and collaboration with Sectoral Ministries on DRR and CCA.

Inter-Agency Coordination
Focal Point: Dr. Henna Hejazi- Senior Manager, Programs
Contact: henna@sphereindia.org.in

1. Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Matrix
2. Multi Sector Coordination Training in Uttarakhand and J&K
3. Humanitarian Logistics Hub Planning and Coordination
4. Guidelines for Cash Transfer practices
5. Emergency Coordination and Assessments
6. DRR Nexus
7. Financial Tracking and PFM for HA in India

Knowledge and Capacity Sharing
Focal Point: Nupur Tyagi- Program Manager, Knowledge and Capacity Sharing
Contact: nupur@sphereindia.org.in

1. India Resilience Dialogue
2. Institutionalisation of Resilience Index Framework for all states in India
3. Plans ahead for Knowledge Forum on DRR and Resilience
4. Regular Session for Sphere India Academy
5. Engagement with Academic Institutions
6. Regular Updates on Social Media and Website
7. Guidelines for Mainstreaming DRR in SDGs
8. Coordination with India Delegation at APMCDRR 2022

Collaborative Advocacy
Focal Point: Nishu Barhore- Coordinators: Youth Resilience & Engagement
Contact: nishu@sphereindia.org.in

1. Plans ahead for Youth Parliament for Climate Change and DRR
2. Stakeholder focused guidelines for DRR and Emergency Coordination
3. Partnerships coordination for advocacy for Parliamentary Committee for DM&DRR and Climate Budgeting
4. Plans ahead for sessions on CEFM
5. Training Modules on Child Early & Forced Marriage (CEFM), Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)
6. Coordination Guidelines for Media and FBOs