



Message from CEO

Dear Readers,

Since the adoption of the Sendai Framework in 2015, we have made major strides in disaster risk reduction. But, is the pace at which we are marching toward the goal of disaster risk reduction good enough? The recently published Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction emphasizes that risk creation is outpacing risk reduction. And this is certainly something to be responded with accelerating the pace and progressing transformation of our systems to defend against future shocks. For that it's imperative to reimagine and re-orientation disaster reduction by placing all sections of communities at the centre.

With this aim, Sphere India organized India Resilience Dialogue-2022 and flagged off the Reimagining DRR Campaign on the occasion of International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction on October 13. The campaign, which will come to a close next year with NPDRR (National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction) 3, is opening up an opportunity for stakeholders to formulate recommendations for prioritised, accelerated and integrated actions, and finally devise a roadmap for India to shift the focus from response to resilience.

The details of the hybrid event and the campaign can be read in this issue of SAMANWAY. Apart from this, the October issue features other important initiatives undertaken by us, 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 readers' feedback.

Vikrant Mahajan
CEO, Sphere India

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India Resilience Dialogue-2022

Sphere India in association with National Institute of Disaster Management & Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) organized the India Resilience Dialogue 2022 on October 13 in New Delhi to commemorate the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction and thus to flag off the Reimagining Disaster Risk Reduction campaign, which will conclude on January 2023. Around 30 experts from the government, UN organizations, NGOs, CSOs, Corporate, media, and academia took part in the deliberations held as part of the hybrid event attended by over 150+ participants.



Offline participants and expert speakers of the India Resilience Dialogue 2022 held in New Delhi on October 13

Reimagining DRR Campaign

The campaign will comprise various key milestones and series of thematic consultative processes to be achieved between IDDRR and NPDRR 3. The overall objective of this campaign is to collate best practices and lessons learnt, pen down challenges experienced in reducing disaster risks and revisit our existing policies and strategies with respect to DRR. It will further act as an opportunity for varied stakeholders to formulate recommendations for prioritised, accelerated and integrated actions, and finally devise a roadmap for India to shift the focus from response to resilience.

Inaugural Session

During the inaugural session, Mr Vikrant Mahajan, CEO of Sphere India made a briefing on Indian Delegation's suggestions and recommendations at the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. Giving the welcome address, Professor Anil Kumar Gupta, Head of Division, NIDM, appreciated Sphere India's consistent efforts in bringing together various stakeholders on single platforms. **'Sphere India always creates forums to bring people from various sectors together. National Institute of Disaster Management and several other institutions are joining hands with Sphere India for this reason as such forums help multiply the impacts of efforts in the area of disaster risk reduction.'** he said. Deliberations were held on the 3rd National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Importance and relevance of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2022 and crucial coincidence with Sendai Framework mid-term review, and Planning for Reimagining Disaster Risk Reduction Campaign.



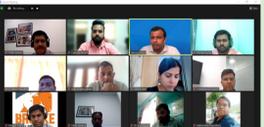
Prof Anil Kumar Gupta, Head of Division, NIDM, giving the welcome address at the India Resilience Dialogue 2022 held in Delhi on October 13



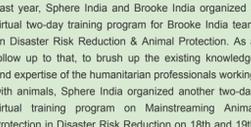
Participants listening to the discussions held as part of the India Resilience Dialogue 2022 held in New Delhi on October 13

Technical Sessions

Technical sessions were held on two important topics. The first was an open discussion on Sector Specific Mainstreaming DRR and Climate Resilience into Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The discussions delved deep into the reflections on the progress made so far, needs and significance, existing challenges and opportunities, and recommendations for the future course of action. The second technical session was on stakeholder-specific multi-stakeholder coordination for DRR. Deliberations were held on role of different stakeholders in DRR, challenges faced by different stakeholders in DRR, and strategy to build effective inter and intra stakeholder coordination.



Panelists of the technical session on Sector Specific Mainstreaming DRR and Climate Resilience into Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Panelists of technical session on stakeholder-specific multi-stakeholder coordination for DRR

Watch the full session >>

Knowledge & Capacity Sharing

Sphere India Academy

Training on Disaster Risk Reduction & Animal Protection



Last year, Sphere India and Brooke India organized a virtual two-day training program for Brooke India team on Disaster Risk Reduction & Animal Protection. As a follow up to that, to brush up the existing knowledge and expertise of the humanitarian professionals working with animals, Sphere India organized another two-day virtual training program on Mainstreaming Animal Protection in Disaster Risk Reduction on 18th and 19th October 2022 for the staffs of Brooke India.

As it was a refresher course, the training plan comprised of revision of already covered topics along with some advanced information and a few additional modules for keeping them prepared for any humanitarian response. The two-day training program deliberated on the following:

- Basics of disaster management - their cause and impact on human and livestock.
- The Legal and Policy Framework for Animal Protection in Disasters: In Indian Context.
- Multi Stakeholder Coordination for Animal Management in Emergencies
- Understanding Animal Behaviour and Handling Techniques in Disasters
- Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards

The interactive training mode with digital means of polling, google forms, breakout groups, etc ensured active participation by each member and made this training programme a meaningful initiative.

Guidelines for Mainstreaming DRR in SDGs

While effective response is important, much more crucial is to be proactive in approach and pave our way to be ready for any emergencies or disastrous events. This means understanding and embracing the need for Disaster Risk Reduction and its grounded implementation. As a result, currently, Sphere India in collaboration with NIDM is preparing guidelines for mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Action in SDGs. The objective is to understand the importance and guide the mainstreaming and strengthening (existing) connections between resilience building and SDGs. Author Working Groups for the same have been activated and meetings were organised for 8 SDGs.

Showcase of DRR Best Practices

Sphere India as a National Coalition along with NIDM and other partners convened INDIA RESILIENCE DIALOGUE 2022 by flagging off the Reimagining Disaster Risk Reduction Campaign on 13th October 2022. As part of the campaign, we showcased the best practices and innovative models for achieving Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), already adopted and in use by various agencies across India through social media campaign. These stories were sourced from the Compendium of Good Practices in Disaster Risk Reduction published by Sphere India last year and will offer an opportunity for cross-learning to improve, implement and respond to various emergencies.



Read Best Practices here >>

Inter-Agency Coordination

Online Training Sessions on Multi-sector Coordination for Response & Resilience

Further to the launch of the 6 Multi-sector Coordination Handbooks on Emergency Preparedness and Response in October last year, by NIDM, Sphere India & other supporting partners & SI Sector Leads, a series of online training sessions on Multi-sector Coordination for Response & Resilience were conducted.

Sphere India in association with the National Institute of Disaster Management conducted a three-day online training on multi-sector coordination for response and resilience in Uttarakhand from October 17th-19th. Sectoral experts from various organizations delivered these sessions and made deliberations and provided recommendations for improvement and guidance for better performance. Stakeholders from Government and CSOs joined this training.



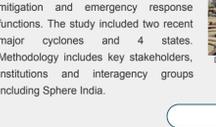
EPR training session held in Uttarakhand. As many as 109 people participated in the training program.

SitReps, Alerts Issued in Connection with Various Disasters

In response to floods in various parts of India, SitReps were prepared and disseminated. In addition to this, daily and weekly alerts were issued after observing IMD, CWG, and INCOISE website. In response to cyclone Sitrang, a pre-cyclone alert is prepared and circulated on 23 October. A situation report was prepared on the suspension bridge collapse in Morbi, Gujarat.



Joint Rapid Needs Assessment on Uttar Pradesh Floods Conducted



Data collection as part of the JRNA in UP

Heavy rains in Uttar Pradesh from 08th to 13th October 2022 led to waterlogging. According to the official count on October 12, about 1466 villages in 20 districts were affected by rain. In the wake of the flood in Uttar Pradesh, Joint Rapid Needs Assessment was conducted using Kobo tool. As part of the initiative, orientation on kobo tool was provided to volunteers on October 12th, data was collected from the field on August 12th- 14th, and the initial report was prepared on October 15th, 2022. As many as 272 people responded through Kobo Collect App in 5 affected districts. Altogether 1328154 beneficiaries were reached out during JRNA.

Read JRNA >>

Updates from Government

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Mission LIFE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Mission LIFE (Lifestyle for Environment), in the presence of the UN Secretary General António Guterres, at the Statue of Unity, Ekta Nagar, Gujarat on October 20. First proposed by the Prime Minister at COP 26, Mission LIFE is envisioned as an India-led global mass movement that will nudge individual and collective action to protect and preserve the environment. The Prime Minister and UNSG unveiled the LIFE logo and tagline, and released the Mission Document at the event. Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister highlighted the importance of unity in the fight against climate change.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and UN Secretary General António Guterres at Mission LIFE global launch event in Gujarat on October 20.

The Prime Minister pointed to an issue related only to policy and highlighted that climate change goes beyond only government responsibility and needs contributions from individual, families and communities. He underlined that Mission LIFE makes the fight against climate change democratic, in which everyone can contribute with their respective capacities. He elaborated that Mission LIFE embodies the spirit of the P3 model, i.e. Pro Planet People. He also threw light on the concept of 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' and circular economy and mentioned that it has been a part of the Indian lifestyle for thousands of years.

Disaster Damages and Losses-Study of Underlying Causes Released

National Institute of Disaster Management has released the research study report-Disaster Damages and Losses - Study of Underlying Causes.

The report captures and comprehends on the underlying causes of risk and vulnerability, and more particularly the aspects that contribute to failure of mitigation and emergency response functions. The study included two recent major cyclones and 4 states. Methodology includes key stakeholders, institutions and interagency groups including Sphere India.



Disaster Damages and Losses Study of Underlying Causes being released

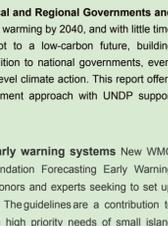


Read Report here >>

Updates from International Humanitarian Community

Egypt to Host 27th Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC from Nov 6-18

Egypt will host the 27th Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC (COP27) in Sharm El-Sheikh from November 6 to 18, with a view to building on previous successes and paving the way for future ambition. COP27 will be a moment for countries to fulfill their pledges and commitments towards delivering the objectives of the Paris Agreement to enhance the implementation of the Convention. It is expected to witness the implementation of the Glasgow pact call to review ambition in NDCs, and create a work program for ambition on mitigation. World leaders, governments and state parties to the convention have reiterated their commitment to enhanced global action on adaptation in the COP26. Beyond the global goal on Adaptation, COP27 is expected to witness enhanced global agenda for action on adaptation, confirming what was agreed on in Paris and further elaborated in Glasgow pact with regard to placing adaptation at the forefront of global action. Likewise, significant progress is expected to be made on the crucial issue of climate finance.



Climate Action from the Ground Up: Supporting Local and Regional Governments and Cities: The world is on pace to reach 1.5 - 1.6 Celsius of warming by 2040, and with little time remaining, countries must scale up ambition to pivot to a low-carbon future, building resilience and adaptive capacity for all citizens. In addition to national governments, every region, city and village have a key role to play in multi-level climate action. This report offers 19 snapshots where countries use a whole-of-government approach with UNDP support toward a unified climate strategy. [Read More >>](#)

WMO issues guidelines on coastal flooding early warning systems New WMO Guidelines on the Implementation of a Coastal Inundation Forecasting Early Warning System offer solid and practical advice for countries, donors and experts seeking to set up early warning systems against an increasing hazard. The guidelines are a contribution to the UN Early Warnings for All initiative and reflect the high priority needs of small island developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries that are particularly vulnerable to these coastal hazards. [Read More >>](#)

Addressing the cost-of-living crisis in developing countries: Poverty and vulnerability projections and policy responses: The publication estimates the potential effects of food and energy inflation on global poverty and vulnerability and simulates the welfare loss mitigation potential of two policy options: blanket energy subsidies and targeted cash transfers. The results suggest that soaring food and energy prices could push up to 71 million people into poverty, with clear hotspots in the Caspian Basin, the Balkans, and Sub-Saharan Africa (particularly in the Sahel). [Read More >>](#)

Achieving Net-Zero Prosperity: The publication brings together findings from academic and gray literature to identify 15 industry transformations that will drive net greenhouse gas emissions to zero. It lists the obstacles that prevent their adoption, such as barriers related to infrastructure, regulations, public and private finance, information and political economy issues. It also provides examples of sector-level government interventions that can address these barriers such as building infrastructure, reforming regulations and subsidies, providing information and building capacity, and managing distributional impacts. [Read More >>](#)

Changing directions: Steering science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals: The report finds that research and innovation around the world is not focused on meeting the UN's SDGs, which are a framework set up to address and drive change across all areas of social justice and environmental issues. Critically, the report finds that research in high-income and middle-income countries contributes disproportionately to a disconnect with the SDGs. Most published research (60%-80%) and innovation activity (95%-98%) is not related to the SDGs. [Read More >>](#)

Grants and Opportunities

Applications Invited for WomenConnect India Challenge (Round 2)

Reliance Foundation and USAID have launched Round Two of the WomenConnect India challenge. This round is inviting solutions that improve women's participation in everyday life in India, by meaningfully changing the ways women access and use technology. Reliance Foundation will provide up to INR 1 crore to each grantee to implement innovative solutions.

Organization: USAID & Reliance Foundation
Deadline: 14 November 2022
[Read More >>](#)

Spencer Foundation Invites Applications for Small Research Grants Program

The Small Research Grants on Education Program supports education research projects that will contribute to the improvement of education, broadly conceived, with budgets up to \$50,000 for projects ranging from one to five years. Eligible investigators may also request additional supplemental funds for a course release.

Organization: Spencer Foundation
Deadline: 05 December 2022
[Read More >>](#)

Upcoming Events

Sphere India along with National Institute of Disaster Management, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs and other partners have initiated a series of processes centered around Disaster Risk Reduction and resilience building, with various key milestones to be achieved between International Day for DRR (IDDRR)- 2022 and National Platform for DRR (NPDRR)-2023 as part of Reimagining DRR Campaign.

Towards this, the next Milestone event is "Reflection and Roadmap for Resilience: Reimagining Disaster Risk Reduction" on 4th November at the Auditorium of YMCA, New Delhi.



Join us on NOV | 04th | 2022
Auditorium, YMCA, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi
10:00 AM - 04:00 PM
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Hashtag: #ReimaginingDRR #EarlyAction #DRRDay #Sphere_India

For more details, contact Mr. Cyjo Abraham at cyjo@sphereindia.org.in

Plans Ahead (November 2022)

Accountability to Affected Population

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

- Approach & Methodology: PSEA Mechanism.
- Partnership and collaboration with Sectoral Ministries on DRR and CCA.

Inter-Agency Coordination

Focal Point: Monami Borah - Program Manager, Inter Agency Coordination
Contact: monami@sphereindia.org.in

- EPR Multi sector coordination Trainings in Uttar Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.
- Partnership with SDMA and support to IAGs
- Implementation of Inter Agency SOP during Emergencies
- Inclusion of PSEA in Inter Agency SOP
- Humanitarian Logistics Hub Planning and Coordination
- Regular Forecasts, Alerts and Sitreps
- Announcement of Annual Lessons Learnt Workshop

Knowledge and Capacity Sharing

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

- Guidelines for mainstreaming DRR and CCA in SDGs
- Stakeholder wise Guidelines for Resilience Building
- Regular Sessions on Sphere India Academy
- Development of Training Portfolio and Transition Planning for HLRBA
- Collaboration with academic Institutions

Collaborative Advocacy

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

- Climate Budgeting Log Frame
- Developing Training Modules on Child Early & Forced Marriage (CEFM), Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Leadership in Girls, and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)
- Coordination Guidelines for Media and FBOs.
- Planning and launch of Youth Parliament for DRR and Climate Change
- Planning for Resilience Index in India