

Capacity Building of Professionals on implementation of SFDRR at local level

An approach to create a cadre of trained professionals on implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction at local level.

Introduction:

Large scale natural disasters often overwhelm the capacity of governments, not only for effective response but for long term recovery and reconstruction as well. Recent experiences such as; the cloud burst and land slide in Uttarakhand, India, the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011, the Haiti Earthquake of January 12, 2010, and the flood in Pakistan clearly illustrates the need for surge capacity and ex-anti planning in disaster response and recovery. The gap could be well addressed through further strengthening in understanding and implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk reduction (SFDRR) and role of the State. Such a mechanism can contribute to reinforcing regional integration, sharing of experiences and transfer of expertise, setting and promoting best practices. Broadly defining the strategies and action plans, joint implementation of projects on recovery and strengthening the capacities of local authorities could be purposive and strategic restraints to calamity and unseen forces creating disaster. The current approach is to create a cadre of master trainers at the state level, who would again train the professionals at the regional and state level representing states and districts of the North-East region.

Assam and its vulnerability:

Assam state is prone to multi-hazards and vulnerable to climate variability and its negative manifestations such as; flood, earthquake, storms and cyclone, soil erosion, extreme weather events, flash floods and landslides besides risk of human-induced disasters. The State falls in a high intensity seismic zone-V and have a history of high magnitude earthquakes. Floods are a major challenge. The State faces recurring floods each year affecting land, life and livelihood. The hazard maps prepared by the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) reveal that there are areas in the State where floods recur 5 to 7 times in a year.

The average annual damage since 1954 has been over Rs 124 crore, estimated average annual erosion rate has been 8,000 hectares, which has affected lakhs of families spread over 2,534 villages. Floods and erosions cause major disruption in education and health services. Studies have shown that children tend to lose, on an average, about a month and a half of school days. Many of the schools are used as relief camps due to which they remain closed for months. Even after the floods, schools have to remain closed as physical infrastructure gets damaged. Apart from issues related to water and sanitation together with post-flood episodes of diseases, children and women face issues related to safety and security, and become most vulnerable to all kinds of harassment.

SFDRR 2015-2030:

The SFDRR 2015-2030 was adopted by UN member states at the UN World Conference on DRR (WCDRR) in Sendai city, Japan. The framework is built on elements which ensure continuity with the work done by states and other stakeholders under the predecessors, the HFA, and introduces a number of innovations as called for during the consultations and negotiations. The SFDRR has 7 targets and 4 priorities. The *scope and purpose* of the framework will apply to the risk of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters, caused by natural or manmade hazards as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks. It aims to guide the multi-hazard management of disaster risk in

development at all levels as well as within and across all sectors. The *expected outcome* is substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries and the *goal* is to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience.

Aim of the proposed training:

The training is aimed at enhancing the capacity of trainees on implementation of SFDRR, so that the trained personnel will be available for providing technical expertise as there is a need. The main result areas of the training are;

- (i) *to increase understanding on SFDRR and the role of state*
- (ii) *to increase the understanding level for preparing resilience action plan based on the gaps identified using the Sendai Framework*
- (iii) *to take the stock of state disaster risk reduction related policy, plans and strategy*
- (iv) *a group of professionals in the state represented by GO/NGO/INGO trained on the implementation of SFDRR as advocates to the “build back better” campaign.*

Methodology:

Lecture & Interactive session, Mock Session and Slide Presentation on Case Interventions, Campaign Leaflet & Literatures:

Technical Lecture sessions would be conducted on specific subject with Guidance Notes on Recovery along eleven sectors, i.e. shelter, livelihood, environment, gender, infrastructure, governance, health including RH, psycho-social, climate change adaptation, pre-disaster recovery planning, and telling live lessons are used as base material. The training will be highly interactive wherein the participants would be encouraged to interact with the Trainers and fellow trainees siting different cases that lead to Disaster preparedness.

Organizers:

The training would be organized jointly by UNICEF, Assam State Disaster Mitigation Authority (ASDMA) in association with UNISDR & GETI.

Participants:

Size of Batch: Approximately 30 delegates from SFDRR implementation community of practice would be the successive size of batch

Category of Personnel: Government Officials such as; DPOs, Emergency DDMA from Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Tripura, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, and West Bengal NGO Professionals, Academic Institutions on Social & Corporate Bodies, UN Officials.

Level: The training will be conducted at the state level.

Roster building: The trained professionals will be kept in roster with Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), UNICEF Assam. They will also be accessible to other agencies for the SFDRR implementation purpose on request.

Expert Panel of Trainers:

Professionals from UNISDR & GETI, UNICEF, ASDMA, Emergency Relief Agencies.

Modality of roster members:

The engagement of the SFDRR implementation trained professionals would be worked out by ASDMA in discussion with UNICEF for utilizing their services at the time of need.

Reference

- Flood hazard Atlas for Assam state
- http://asdma.gov.in/project_flood.html,
- <http://nidm.gov.in/pdf/dp/Assam.pdf>,
- http://www.unisdr.org/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf
- Assam Disaster Management Manual 2015