

CAPACITY BUILDING, TRAINING AND EDUCATION FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Chairperson(s):

Prof. Vinod Sharma, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi
Prof. Pradeep Sahni, School of Social Sciences, Indira Gandhi National Open University

Rapporteur(s):

Prof. V K Sehgal, Indian Agriculture Research Institute, Pusa, New Delhi
Dr. Akhilesh Surjan, Institute for Sustainability, United Nations University, Japan

Facilitator(s):

Dr. Anil K. Gupta,
Associate Professor, NIDM (envirosafe2007@gmail.com)
Dr. R K Mall, Associate Professor
Dr. Ajinder Walia, Assistant Professor

CONCEPT NOTE

Introduction:

Capacities of the community and government to understand the risk causes, prevention, mitigation and emergency response helps by reducing vulnerability and occurrence of hazards or containing them from realization as disasters. Disasters impact on life, property and environment, on a scale that threatens short-term and long-term sustainability of life support system, resources, livelihood and overall well-being, is of direct concern in disaster management. Impacts may be in form of direct damages or indirect or intangible or chain-in secondary or tertiary effects or losses.

Disaster risk management is broad subject rooted in environmental systems, community action, and wisdom tools and is management centric, whereas emergency response mainly stems with well-tested command system and is operation centric. Capacity to manage disaster risks and emergencies require knowledge, skills, resources, motivation and attitude at different levels. It includes training, education, guidelines and legislation, policy support for actions, and systemic accountability. Legislative framework on disaster management in India emerged with focus on industrial and chemical disasters, primarily with Environmental Protection Act 1986 and Rules therein and later evolved a holistic disaster framework on multi-hazard vulnerability with High Power Committee report, UN-Disaster Risk Management project and Disaster Management Act 2005.

Context:

DM Rules and DM Policy are yet to take up emergence. Besides these, various strategic initiatives, for example, policy statement of conservation; abatement of pollution; notifications on Dhanu, Coastal regulation zone, Doon-valley, Environmental Impact Assessment, public hearing, site clearance; national strategy on climate-change; agriculture policy, water policy, land-use guidelines/policy, national environment policy, forest policy, etc. give ways to interventions for hazard and vulnerability reduction for disaster management aimed at sustainable development. Programmes like National Natural Resource Data Management Systems, River Conservation Directorate, Land-use Boards, Waste-land Development, Rain-fed Area Authority, Drought Prone Area Programme, Wetland Conservation, Climate-change Adaptation, Livelihood Diversification and Agro-forestry, JN Urban Renewal Mission, etc.

Parallel to the Crisis groups at national, state and district level (as under Emergency Planning, Prepared and Response Rules, 1996) now the framework on disaster management is being installed. Major lacunae is to quote, environmental management has no organized framework of authority despite of well realized need. DM framework provides opportunity for integration of various facets of sustainable development that help delineate the capacities for disaster risk management and emergency response. Need of capacity assessment, resource mobilization, training, education and information, is therefore, core agenda for in-making paradigm on disaster management. Higher education and research/innovation capacities are the basic requirements for evolution of discipline from theories to practical solutions, development of professional expertise, trained professionals, and soundness in decisions and actions. Organizations and re-organisation of systems, framework, tools, mandate, accountability and authorities at various levels also form part in the capacity building for the sustainability of efforts.

Expected Outcome:

The session will provide an opportunity of deliberation and discussions to identify critical challenges, gaps and to identify/evolve best possible and effective solutions for developing sustainable capacities focused mainly on education, training and application of science/technology and optimal resources. The session is strategically important as it will provide knowledge inputs to the preparation of national human resource plan for disaster management at national, state and district levels, besides developing the framework of paradigm shift from relief centric to prevention and risk reduction approach, in the light of integrated framework of mainstreaming disaster management in environment and development framework. The discussions will provide the basis for creation of higher and professional education system on disaster management in India, in an interdisciplinary mode along multi-disciplinary inputs.

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Day 3: Friday 6 November 2009, Time 10.00-13.00 hours

Hall No. 2 (1st Floor), Vigyan Bhavan

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Associate Professor, and Dr. Ajinder Walia, Assistant Professor, NIDM

SPEAKERS

1	Training perspectives in Disaster Management: Indian Journey	Prof. Vinod K. Sharma, IIPA, New Delhi
2	Open Learning and Distance Education: Role in Disaster Management	Prof. Pradeep Sahni, IGNOU, New Delhi
3	Disaster Management in Schools	Dr. Marla Petal, Risk-Red, Geneva, Switzerland
4	Networking Higher Education Institutions for Climate and Disaster Resilience	Dr. Srikantha Herath and Dr. Akhilesh Surjan*, United Nations University, Japan
5	Role of Environment, Toxicology and Animal Sciences in Disaster Management	Prof. S V S Rana, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, CCS University, Meerut (UP)
6	Multi-hazard Model for Risk Assessment for Schools	Dr. Rozina Rupani, FOCUS, Mumbai
7	Status of Disaster Related Courses in Indian Universities	P C Joshi, Delhi University, Delhi, India
8	Child Rights to Disaster Safe Education- Case Study of School Safety Programme in Delhi	Dr. Amir A. Khan, Assistant Professor (NIMD) and Mrs. Shagufta N. Khan, Delhi,
9	Role of Engineering Education in Development of Human Resources for Preparedness and Management of Natural and Man-made Disasters	Prof. Khanindra Pathak, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India
10	Multi- to Interdisciplinary Disaster Management Paradigm in Higher Education, Research & Communication: Infusion Models	Dr. Anil K Gupta*, Associate Professor, NIDM, Prof. Mohammad Yunus and Prof. R M Mishra, India
11	Concluding Address: Curriculum development for Disaster Management within Environmental Studies – Case of Marine Science	Prof. S N Bhalla, Ex-Professor & Chair, , Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh