



## Concept Note

### 3<sup>rd</sup> National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

5-6 May 2020, Vigyan Bhawan , New Delhi

#### Background

Global Disaster risk is increasing worldwide, threatening development gains, owing largely to mix of unplanned urban development, vulnerable livelihoods and ecosystem degradation. It is now widely realized that many disasters are avoidable, as they are consequences of unmanaged risk. Development without adequate incorporation of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) could worsen existing risks and has the likelihood of introducing new risks, increasing the negative impact of potential disasters. During the period of 1998-2017 disaster-hit countries reported direct economic losses valued at US\$ 2,908 billion<sup>1</sup>. India suffered USD 79.5 billion economic loss due to climate-related disasters in the last 20 years<sup>2</sup>. India's average annual economic loss due to disasters is estimated to be \$9.8 billion, including \$7 billion loss on account of floods<sup>3</sup>.

However, for the last 15 years a paradigm shift has taken place from the relief centric approach to a holistic approach with emphasis on prevention, mitigation and preparedness. Government of India has established improved institutional arrangements and Disaster Risk Reduction mechanisms to deal with any threatening disaster situation or disaster with the enactment of The Disaster Management Act, 2005 and by setting up an apex authority National Disaster Management Authority under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. National Disaster Management Plan is prepared in consultation with all the stakeholders. The present institutional framework in India gives roles to every Ministry/ Department of the Union Government and to every State/ Union Territory Government to prepare and implement a holistic disaster management plan, with adequate financial provisioning.

These efforts are aimed to conserve developmental gains and also minimize losses to lives, livelihood and property. Integrating disaster risk reduction into investment decisions is the most cost-effective way to reduce these risks; investing in disaster risk reduction is therefore a precondition for developing sustainably in a changing climate. Thus, it is desirable that the development initiatives and DRR are dealt with concurrently in a seamless manner into all the

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<sup>1</sup> Economic losses, Poverty and Disaster 1998-2017, CRED

<sup>2</sup> Un Office for DRR, October, 2018

<sup>3</sup> UN Global Assessment Report, 2019.

relevant policies, planning and implementation. Climate change impacts act as risk multipliers in respect of the hydro-meteorological hazards. All development initiatives should factor in the likelihood of greater risks and increase in climate change-induced vulnerabilities. This requires incorporation of risk management and climate adaptation as an intrinsic feature of all developmental efforts, especially in the areas where hazards are known to be high. Thus, mainstreaming of DRR becomes an essential practice, fully institutionalized within each sector's regular planning.

The Government of India recognizes the need to evolve a participatory process of decision making in disaster management with active involvement of the Central & State Governments and stakeholders including people representing different interests in the field of disaster management. An institutional mechanism to address this need will not only strengthen the disaster management structure and institutions but will also strengthen the federal polity and democratic governance.

The Government of India has constituted a multi-stakeholder National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) vide Government's Resolution dated 26th February 2013 under the Hon'ble Union Home Minister as Chairperson and Minister of State in-charge of Disaster Management in the Ministry of Home Affairs(MHA) as Vice Chairperson of NPDRR. The resolution was subsequently revised and a comprehensive resolution dated 5th July 2017 was notified followed by an amendment dated 03.09.2019

NPDRR is chaired by the Union Home Minister and Minister of State in- charge of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs is the Vice Chairperson of NPDRR. The other members of NPDRR are 15 Cabinet Ministers, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, Minister of each State Government/UT dealing with the subject disaster management, representatives of Local Self-Governments and Parliament, ex-officio members, Heads of institutions of national importance, persons representing industry, media representatives, civil society organizations and international representatives. NPDRR is, thus, characterised by a process that facilitates dialogue, sharing experiences, views and ideas, present findings of research and action and explore opportunities for mutual cooperation in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction.

## **Rationale**

The first meeting of NPDRR was organized on 13-14 May 2013 in New Delhi on the theme, **"Mainstreaming DRR in Development: From Risk to Resilience"**. It was organised with an objective to encourage implement Hyogo Framework of Action and creating a pool of resources of scientists, practitioners in Disaster Risk Reduction. First NPDRR also aimed to synthesis knowledge, research and provide a platform where researchers and practitioners shall meet periodically, and present their research paper in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction. An exhibition of innovative ideas, projects, products and services in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction was also organised.

In the year 2015, Government of India adopted three landmark international agreements having bearing on Disaster Risk Reduction viz; Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) March 2015, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (2015-2030) in September 2015 and Paris Agreement on Climate Change at the 21<sup>st</sup> Conference of Parties (COP21) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December, 2015. These international agreements should not be seen in isolation as sustainable development needs to be disaster resilient and be adaptive to climate change impacts. Thus, special emphasis must be given on carrying out activities that would enhance outcomes based on coherence between the three international agreements.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of NPDRR was held on 15-16 May 2017 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, on the theme **“Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development: Making India Resilient by 2030”**. The meeting deliberated on emergent issues, with special focus on the Prime Minister’s 10- Point Agenda on Disaster Risk Management and its relevance in integrated implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), Paris Climate Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Prime Minister’s 10 point agenda emerged as recommendations of 2<sup>nd</sup> NPDRR, 2017. They require in, particular,

- i. All development sectors must imbibe principles of disaster risk management.
- ii. Risk coverage of all, starting from poor households.
- iii. Greater involvement and leadership of women in disaster risk management.
- iv. Mapping risks globally.
- v. Leveraging technology.
- vi. Develop a network of universities.
- vii. Utilize social media and mobile technologies.
- viii. Build local capacities and initiatives.
- ix. Learn lesson from disasters and
- x. Bring greater cohesion in international response to disasters.

Since the late 1990s, there has been increasing recognition by both governments and donors of the need to ‘mainstream’ disaster risk reduction into development i.e., to consider and address risks emanating from natural hazards in medium-term strategic development frameworks, in legislation and institutional structures, in sectoral strategies and policies, in budgetary processes, in the design and implementation of individual projects and in monitoring and evaluating all of the above. Already there is an emerging consensus that the key to achieve sustained reduction in disaster losses lies in factoring risk considerations into development activities. However, Mainstreaming DRR within development remains the most difficult, slow and challenging process as Disaster Management overwhelmingly focuses on disaster response and preparedness, with little effort made to mainstream DRR across the different sectors of development. There is little appreciation for the costs and benefits of risk reduction among agencies responsible for planning and financing of development, which leads to inadequate

public investment for disaster reduction. Inefficient legal support, poor governance, lack of awareness, poor land use regulation, risk transfer and risk management, lack of coherence and mutual reinforcement under major global framework further compounding the accumulation of risk factors.

Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into the development planning process essentially means looking critically at each activity that is being planned, not only from the perspective of reducing the disaster vulnerability of that activity, but also from the perspective of minimizing that activity's potential contribution to hazard specific vulnerability. Mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction would also mean to incorporate disaster resilient specifications in design and construction and in order to mainstream DRR appropriate policy interventions and adequate financial allocation would be required. Thus, mainstreaming, by its very concept, is not a sub-component of a disaster-specific plan but an approach that must be woven into all developmental plans to reduce risks from disasters. Therefore, the **Third national platform is proposed to be organised on 5-6<sup>th</sup> May, 2020 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi** on the theme of **“Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction”**.

As per the provisions of the Disaster Management Act, all Ministries, States, UTs, departments and agencies must have its own DM Plan. The plan required to spell out

- measures for prevention and mitigation of disasters in accordance with the National Disaster Management Plan,
- specifications regarding integration of mitigation measures into development plans,
- preparedness and capacity building,
- prompt and effective response,
- constant improvements in preparedness and
- provision of financial and other support required to carry out the activities specified in the Plan.

## **Objectives**

The main objectives of the platform, its expected outcome and thematic areas for the platform are indicated below:

- a. Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction in Developmental plan and crosscutting issues.
- b. Coherence between three (03) post-2015 global frameworks on Disaster Risk Reduction viz; Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Sendai framework for Disaster Risk reduction (SFDRR) and Conference on Parties (COP21).
- c. Governance and Social inclusion in Disaster Risk Reduction for building resilience.
- d. To discuss strategy and plan of actions of States and other stakeholders in view of the Prime Minister’s 10 Point Agenda on Disaster Risk Management.

## **Expected Outcome**

1. An understanding of coherence between SDGs, SFDRR and COP21 will be created.
2. A mechanism for implementation of Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda will be established.
3. Framework for mainstreaming DRR in developmental plan and other crosscutting issues will be identified.
4. An understanding of mainstreaming and social inclusion in building resilience.

## **Thematic Areas for main event:**

1. **Mainstreaming and Risk Governance**  
(Policy, Legal Framework, Sectoral Laws, institutions).
2. **Mainstreaming and Planning**  
(Urban Planning, Development Planning, DM plans).
3. **Mainstreaming in Social Sectors**  
(Education, Health, Housing etc.)
4. **Mainstreaming in Productive Sectors**  
(Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, and Manufacturing).
5. **Mainstreaming in Infrastructure Sectors**  
(Roads, Ports, Aviation, Bridges, Water Supply, Irrigation, Communication, Transport and Power).
6. **Mainstreaming and Cross Cutting themes**  
(Gender, PWDs, Aged, Poor, SC/STs).

## **Other Programmes**

- Pre-events
- Exhibition
- IGNITE Stage-programme will be organized as a parallel sessions.
- A competition inviting entries for short film competition on disaster management will be organized.

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