

Training on Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate Change Adaptation



Training Report

Date: 13th – 15th September, 2013
Venue: M.G.P.G. College, Gorakhpur

Organized By:
Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group, Gorakhpur

In Joint Collaboration:

National Institute for Disaster Management (NIDM) Government of India,
Institute for Social & Environmental Transitional (ISET) U.S.A. &
District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), Gorakhpur

Supported by:
CDKN-START

Background

The Eastern U.P. is the India's most vulnerable region when it comes to natural disasters. In this regard, building resilience and adapting to climate change is highly crucial for cities especially those in the Eastern U.P. region. Efforts to build resilience in cities can benefit from integrating climate change adaptation (CCA)



Fig. 1: Hon'ble Chief Guest Mr. Prem Narayan Srivastava, Manager MGPG addressing participants

with existing efforts in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and other similar planning processes. A resilient city is one that is able to adapt to disaster and climate impacts now and in the future, thereby limiting the magnitude and severity of those impacts.

Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG), a leading resource agency on CCA and DRR of Uttar Pradesh has initiated the process in Gorakhpur to capacitate various stakeholders including government departments, voluntary agencies and individual researchers/students in order to

make them efficient in making and executing climate and disaster resilience DDMP. National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), New Delhi and Institute for Social and Environmental Transition (ISET), USA are partnering with GEAG in this project. Under this process, intensive efforts have been made to understand the inter departmental gaps and to capacitate them for planning. As a result of this process, some very positive results have come up.

As next step, GEAG, NIDM and ISET are jointly planning to orient and train potential scholars of relevant streams from renowned institutions of the state on DRR and CCA issues.

Purpose of the Training:

Purpose of this training program is 'To build capacity of young researchers and scholars from reputed institutions promoting DRR and CCA by seeking contribution to and sharing development of the knowledge.'

Expected Outcomes:

1. Development of common understanding among participants on DRR & CC related issues in the context of current development scenario.
2. First-hand experience on process understanding on assessment of community level vulnerabilities, sectoral gaps and scope of integration of CCA & DRR in departmental plan development and execution.
3. Cadre building of like-minded and trained young researchers on Disaster Risk Reduction & Climate Change Adaptation issues.

During this 3-day event, the Training will to provide an opportunity to young people to discuss and understand climate change and the need for risk reduction and adaptation. The Training Workshop will also reflect on how can youth best work towards a sustainable and disaster risk free future? How can youth assist vulnerable communities to reduce the impact of natural and human-induced hazards? These are some of the issues that will be highlighted at the workshop and the participant can get more knowledge from this.

The training was organised along the following agenda:

Day	Session Timing	Topic	Tool	Resource Person
DAY 1	10:00-10:15	Welcome		Dr. Shiraz
	10:15-11:00	Introduction, Participants Expectation and Objective of the training	Group Interaction	Amit
	11:00-11:15	Tea Break		
	11:15-12:15	General Understanding on Disaster <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Half hr. group work-4 groups • Half hr. presentation 	Group Work	Gautam
	12:15-13:30	Disaster-Typology, General terminologies , Causes and Impact of various Disasters	Lecture/PPT	Gautam/Dr Verma
	13:30-14:30	Lunch		
	14:30-15:45	- History, paradigm shift and Institutional framework of Disaster Risk Reduction -Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (Two PPTs and discussion)	Lecture/PPT, discussion	Gautam Gupta/Amit
	15:45-16:30	Climate Change	PPT	Dr Verma/Shashi
	16:30-16:45	Tea Break and consolidation		
DAY 2	10:00-10:30	Recap of Day 1		Gautam
	10:30-11:15	General terminologies in climate change		Kailash Pandey/Dr Verma
	11:15-12:30	General Causes and Impacts of CC-Global to local (Two PPTs-20 min each followed by 30min discussion)	Group Work and PPT	Dr Verma/ Kailash Pandey
	12:30-13:30	Government Initiatives in DM (Act-2005, Roles & Responsibilities of Various departments /stakeholders), Mainstreaming Initiatives	PPT and Discussion	Sanjay Jhaldiyil/Gautam
	13:30-14:30	Lunch		
	14:30-15:15	Government initiative in Climate Change	PPT and Discussion	Shashi /Dr Verma
	15:15-17:00	Link-Disaster and CC (with working tea)	Group work and presentations	Shashi/Amit/ Dr.Verma/K.Pandey
DAY 3	10:00:10:30	Recap		Dr.Verma/ K.Pandey
	10:30-12:30	Impact of Climate Change-Sector wise	PPT and Discussion	
	30 min	• Agriculture & Livelihood		Ajay Singh
	30 min	• Water & Sanitation		Gautam
	30 min	• Health & Education		Pragya
	30 min	• Animal Husbandry		Vijay Pandey
	12:30-13:30	Future Actions-Individual/Group wise action plan presentation & Training Evaluation.		Shashi/Gautam
13:30-14:00	Certificate Distribution - Valediction			

		Lunch		
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Fig 2: Dr. Shiraz A. Wajih addressing participants and introduce training programme.

The GEAG and DDMA Gorakhpur jointly organized a three-day certificate training programme on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation on 13-15 September 2013 in MGPG College, Gorakhpur. Experts from ISET, DDU University, U.P. Academy attended the workshop and shared their knowledge and expertise on climate change and variability, climate change impacts and assessment, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and loss and damage.

On the first day, Dr. Shiraz A, Wajih President GEAG, provided an overview of the project as well as the agenda, main objectives and expected outputs of the training. He provided background on GEAG's activities on climate adaptation and discussed the CCA-DRR project initiatives. He explained some of the adaptation activities that GEAG has been implementing and the more recent activities under Resilience Framework.

After a small tea break Mr. Amit facilitated introduction session "to know each other". He distributed slips between participants and participants have given a task of finding their partners in a very interesting manner and give introduction of each other. This session provided a fun beginning, relax initial social anxieties and help create mutual respect and understanding.

After that all participants divided into 05 groups. A group work on "General Understanding on Disaster" was given to all groups and groups presented their exercise. Mr. Gautam Gupta Project Officer DDMA Gorakhpur facilitated the session, and with the help of ppt and video films he clarify the doubts of the participants and build common understanding on Disaster and its types.

Mr. Gupta encouraged the participants to enhance the exchange of available knowledge and experiences as they presented. He highlighted that disaster impacts require actions at all levels of governance, depending on their nature. There are policy fields like agriculture, environment and energy where the local bodies and Government plays an important role or which fall under local bodies and Government competency and thus, mainstreaming at all level is important. In addition, the Government role is to enhance research capacities, capacity building and knowledge transfer on risk reduction.



Fig 3: Participants during the ice-breaking exercise - to know each other

Mr. Amit emphasized a paradigm shift in the approach to disaster management. The new approach proceeds from the conviction that development cannot be sustainable unless disaster mitigation is built into

the development process. Mr. Amit presented Government structure and highlighted the roles and responsibilities of various authorities.

After a small lunch break, Mr. Gautam Gupta underline the role of community in disaster risk reduction. He presented "Community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) is a process in which at-risk communities



Fig 4: Mr.Gautam Gupta leading session on Disaster.

are actively engaged in the identification, analysis, treatment, monitoring and evaluation of disaster risks in order to reduce their vulnerabilities and enhance their capacities. Risk reduction measures include mitigation and preparedness activities before a disaster occurs as well as response and recovery activities during and after the disaster.

The involvement of the community is important to ensure:

- The information collected will be more relevant and will reflect the opinions and realities of community members, particularly the vulnerable and poor.
- The capacity (self confidence, knowledge, skills like: team work, making plan, etc.) of the entire community to deal with hazards will be developed
- Outsiders (experts, consultants, government officers, etc.) will understand better about community.
- Disaster management and community development activities and programs will achieve better, more practical and effective results.
- Community life will become more stable and sustainable.

Before tea break, there was the interaction of volunteers of one group with the others and shared about the experience and learning's on the first day of the training program.

Mr.Shashikant Chopde had given an intro lecture about the climate change. Mr. Chopde clarifies the difference between projections and prediction. A prediction is a probabilistic statement that something will happen in the future based on what is known today whereas projection is a probabilistic statement that it is possible that something will happen in the future if certain conditions develop.



Fig 5: Participant presenting group work on responses of Govt, Community, Universities & Private sectors

Mr.Chopde given a group work to the volunteers and this time they have to represent their views about the responses of Government, Community, Universities/Colleges and Private/Corporate sectors to the disaster. Each group performed very well.

Shivangi Chandra say's – the first day of the training gives us feeling of a new sense to do more effective job for Disaster Risk Reduction and aware each and every one about that. All of us have learnt a lot on this first day and each one have realize that awareness is much necessary for reducing the risk of any disaster. On behalf of everyone I must say that it was truly a memorable day for each one.

Day 2 (14.Sept 2013)

The day initiated with a recap of the last day learning's and experiences. In a very interesting manner Mr. Gautam threw a paper ball randomly at an individual to know, what they have learnt from the first day session.

The first session was on the "General terminologies in Climate Change" presented by Dr.S.S.Verma and Mr.Kailesh Pandey. They explained various terminologies that are used in Climate Change and also causes & impacts of climate change on Global and local level. The topics covers –

- Basic difference between climate and weather
- How climate and weather change (reason and main causes)
- Structure of atmosphere
- Global Warming



Fig 6: Dr.S.S.Verma interacting with participants during session on General terminologies in CC

The participants asked various questions with facilitators, they cleared their confusions about some general terminologies used in this context. Many of them have their queries about climate and impacts of climate change which was satisfied by both the trainers.

Mr.Gautam Gupta had given a brief description on Government Initiatives in Disaster Management. In this session with the help of ppt he describes roles and responsibilities of various departments.



Fig 7: Mr.Sanjay Jhaldiyal facilitating session DM Act 2005 & Mainstreaming DRR in Development.

Mr.Sanjay Jhaldiyal, Faculty – Disaster Management Cell, UPAM lucknow explained Government Initiatives in DM (Act-2005, Roles & Responsibilities of Various departments /stakeholders) and Mainstreaming DRR in development planning initiatives taken. This discussion includes the necessity and aims of disaster management, the gradation of disaster management at local, state and national level. He also shows some footage of Uttarakhand disaster and briefly explains the current situation.

Mr.Shashikant Chopde and Dr.S.S.Verma present a brief presentation on Government Initiatives in Mainstreaming Climate Change issues in development planning. Mr.Chopde briefly describe the initiatives taken by various departments of Gol like Disaster Management—Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Climate

Change: Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) and National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC).

A video film developed by GEAG, ISET and TERI was shown to the participants. The video film capture various problems of the citizens of Gorakhpur Urban Area, efforts of GEAG for understanding problems, find out the solutions through community participation, advocacy at various stages and submitting recommendation to Commissioner Gorakhpur Division



Fig 8: Participants in a table-top exercise on linking Disaster, Climate Change and developing mitigation strategy.

A group work was given to participants on “link disaster & climate change by using their own ideas and creatively present it through chart papers”. The session was appreciated by the participants however; they shared if more time could have been given to this important session and discussions. The presentation was rolled over for the 3rd day.

Prakriti Mishra Say's – The whole day was full of discussion, queries and their feedbacks which was a great experience for all of us. In short it was a day to gain and share knowledge and also to represent our own understanding about the topics.

Day 3 (15.09.2013)

The facilitator started the session with last day group exercise presentation. The participants present their chart and shared with another groups “how they link Disaster & Climate Change issues and prepare a mitigation strategy”. The facilitator used a debate among the participants on the importance of CCA-DRR and further built on the understanding of the participants on the subject with experiences and views of other participants and facilitators.



Fig 9: Participants Presenting Group Work on CCA-DRR and Mitigation strategy.

Mr.Shashikant Chopde explained all the participants about



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the linkage between development, mitigation and adaptation and the indicators with the presentations made by each group. The session was well appreciated by the participants and majority of them expressed that now they feel more confident.

Mr.Ajay Singh and Mr.Kailash

Fig 10: Showing resilient agriculture sample



Fig 11: Mr. Kailesh Pandey facilitating the session on CCA-DRR

Pandey interact with participants on climate proofing agriculture practises adopted by the farmers in GEAG Project area. They explained how community were using information related with rainfall, tempreature etc circulating from GEAG Weather Station and secure their inputs. As per the fig 10 shows, Mr. Ajay Singh enlightened the experiences of farmer field school, Agro Service Centre, Composting and input support provided to the farmers.

In the last session of the day, Mr.Gautam Gupta shared departmental findings and his experiences of managing Kosi Floods of 2008 in the state of Bihar. He apprised the participants about the incident and its impact. He then explained how Kosi Floods 2008, one of the worst disasters, was managed and various response activities were carried out by Government of Bihar State with the help of Various NGO's/INGO's and Central Government. He emphasized that recently Govt. of Uttar Pradesh circulate one GO to mainstream DRR in development planning and Built Back Better, which not only emphasized the need of reconstruction of the damaged house but also making it resilient to multi hazard affecting the area. This was also carried out with the help of community.

In the last session of the day, Mr.Gautam Gupta shared departmental findings and his experiences of managing Kosi

Participant's Feedback (End Course Evaluation)

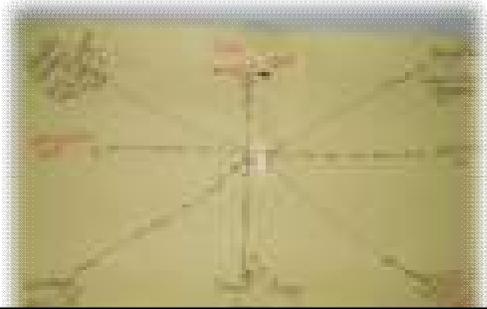


Fig 12: Participants feedback

Mr. Shashikant Chopde placed chart papers on the wall and divided into eight major topics which deliver during three days. He distributed 04 stickers to each participants and instructed them to select any four topics, place them on the chart according to the session they like most or if they don't like it place near by the centre of the chart paper. The feedback was for the assessment of content as well as presentation skills of the Resource Persons. The session wise details of the feedback are as follows.

S.No	Topics	Feedback
1	Disaster Typology, Causes & Impacts	Excellent
2	Community Based DRR	Good
3	General Termenologies – Climate Change	Good
4	Government Initiatives – Climate Change	Fair
5	Impact of Climate Change	Very Good
6	Climate Change Science	Good
7	Link between – CCA-DRR in Development	Good
8	Government Initiatives - DRR	Fair

Mr.Shashikant Chopde delivered the valedictory address. During his address, he congratulated trainers team for successfully conducting the training program. He said that due to change in climate disasters have been on an increase across the globe and focus of management of catastrophic situations should be on

prevention, mitigation and preparedness. He said that community is the first responder, hence their capacity should be build for better disaster risk reduction. He gave away successfully completion certificates to participants. Dr.S.S.Verma proposed a formal vote of thanks at the end of this session.

Certificates of participation were awarded to 41 participants who actively participate in 3 days training programme.



Fig 13: Participants receiving certificates from Mr.Shashikant Chopde

Participants Reflection

"The course has taken me from one stage to the stage whereby I am comfortable to say the – I am the trainer in DRR and everything is Possible".



Manoj Kumar Jaiswal

"It has been a wonderful moment since I started the course. It was encouraging and I have learnt many things which I am taking back for betterment of my community".



Shikha Tiwari

