

Guidelines/ Concept note on GOI-UNDP project on Climate Risk Management in Urban areas

BACKGROUND:

GOI-UNDP project on Climate Risk Management is being implemented in urban areas viz Gangtok, Shimla, Bhubaneswar, Trivandrum, Madurai, Navi Mumbai, Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada through disaster preparedness and mitigation. The project period is for approximately 3 years ending on September 2015 with an overall budget of \$ 1,615,000.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

1. Reduce disaster risk in urban areas by enhancing institutional capacities to integrate climate risk reduction measures in development programs as well as to undertake mitigation activities based on scientific analyses.
2. Enhance community capacities to manage Climate risk in urban areas by enhancing the preparedness

PROJECT RESULTS

Key results will include:

- City Disaster Management Plans
- Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Analysis
- Communities in wards trained to respond to disasters
- Action plan to strengthen Early Warning Systems in based on analytical studies
- Sectoral (4) plans in each of the cities to mainstream DRR and Climate Change Adaptation in development programmes
- Knowledge Management

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

A broad outline of key activities that will be undertaken is presented below:

- 1) City Disaster Management Plans:** Urban local bodies (ULBs) like municipal corporations are entrusted with the responsibility to manage key services and infrastructure of urban areas. However, low institutional and professional capacity at different levels has undermined effective implementation of disaster risk sensitive urban development programmes as well as effective disaster management measures in urban areas. In order to address this issue holistic City Disaster Management Plans including appropriate mitigation and prevention measures will be formulated in all selected cities. The City Disaster Management Plans will be prepared in a consultative manner involving all stakeholders highlighting the standard operating procedures (SOPs) for various emergency support functions like communication, search and rescue, transport, public works, casualty management, law and order, food, water and sanitation etc)and will also lay down the mechanism to ensure greater inter-departmental coordination. The plan will illustrate adequate focus on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation measures along with timelines for their implementation.
- 2) Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Analysis:** This will focus on conducting risk and vulnerability assessments through an interactive and participatory process. While doing vulnerability analysis adequate focus will be given on climate related hazards. The Expert agencies will be engaged to

conduct the study with due ownership of the local government. Consultations will be held with District level nodal departments, urban local body officials and other relevant stakeholders. The assessment reports and outputs would be referred to devise mitigation, preparedness plans as well as recovery strategies both for reducing disaster risks and impact of climate variability.

- 3) Communities in wards trained to respond to disasters:** Building capacity of the community members in effective response will go a long way in reducing disaster risks. This particular activity will focus on building capacity of community volunteers in disaster response in select wards. These wards will be selected based on their vulnerability profile. Community Emergency Response Teams will be constituted in each ward. Special efforts will be made to mobilize volunteers from National Service Scheme (NSS), Civil defense, members of RWAs, welfare societies, schools and colleges, religious centers, sanitary workers, health workers, NGO staff etc. Hands on training would be provided to these volunteers on basic search and rescue, first aid, firefighting, crowd management, shelter management, relief distribution and basic health care. The trained volunteers will be attached to the existing instructional systems of the city so that their services can be availed for disaster mitigation and response activities.
- 4) Action plan to strengthen Early Warning Systems in cities based on analytical studies:** Strengthening Early Warning System is a critical measure to reduce disaster risks. It is important to ensure that the Early Warning Systems existing at local level address the need for 'last mile connectivity' and technical agencies identified for early warning dissemination are able to disseminate them in time to the vulnerable communities. Under the project, in all the 7 select cities evaluation of the existing EWS and emergency communication network will be done. Analytical studies by competent technical agencies will be conducted in the select cities and the existing gaps and challenges will be identified. The findings of the studies will be shared with a wide range of stakeholders through state level workshops. Based on the findings of the studies, action plan for strengthening EWS and Emergency Communication Network would be developed for each of the cities. The project may also support partial implementation of the action plan in select cities depending on the ability to leverage resources from the city administrations and concerned elected representatives to utilize the MPLADs funds.
- 5) Preparation of sectoral plans to mainstream DRR and Climate Change Adaptation in development programmes:** In all the cities plans for integrating DRR and CCA measures under the ongoing development programmes of sectors namely infrastructure, public health, housing and environment will be developed through consultative process with different stakeholders. Development of these sectoral plans would also require intervention at the state and national level. Hence state level consultation meetings and one national level workshop will also be held. These plans will provide policy inputs as well as demonstrate suitable local level pilots on integrating DRR and CCA into development programmes.
- 6) Knowledge Management:** This component will promote knowledge management and sharing activities on cross cutting across every activity areas. Knowledge sharing workshops will be organized to share good practices as well as to tap in the tacit knowledge available with various experts and institutions. IEC materials and other knowledge dissemination products will also be developed and distributed in the city. Similarly, in order to get views of Disaster management practitioners in the country, queries on various elements of the project would be posted on solution exchange and the consolidated responses would be analyzed to explore possibilities of improving the technical contents and processes while implementing the project.

Gender Concerns: In UNDP programmes, attention has been given towards much greater engagement of women, their specific concerns and commitment to gender equality in the context of disasters and inclusive and sustainable development. This requires a shift in our approach from recognizing gender dimensions of disaster risk management not only in terms of providing basic information on gender differences to larger analysis to learn from women's experiences in disasters and factoring in these in the interventions.

The project would promote the principles of equity, social inclusion and women's empowerment. The HRVA studies will adequately try to find out the gender vulnerabilities. Similarly the ward level response plans and CDMPs will address gender issues while planning for response and preparedness. The mitigation plan would provide adequate measures to promote gender equity and empowerment.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS:

At National Level: The project would be implemented under the on-going Disaster Risk Reduction Programme framework approved by the Government of India, A work plan on an annual basis outlining activities and corresponding budgets will be prepared in consultation with the MHA and signed between MHA and UNDP annually.

The Programme Management Board (PMB): which is set up for the DRR Programme and co-chaired by the MHA and UNDP, would oversee the delivery and achievement of results under the project.

State-level Steering Committee: The project will be anchored at the State Disaster Management Authorities/Department of Disaster Management for overall strategic guidance and oversight whereas the actual implementation of the project will be carried out by the respective Municipal Corporations/District Administrations.

The state level Project steering committees setup by the respective SDMA/Department of Disaster Management for GOI-UNDP DRR programme comprising of senior level state officials and representatives from the participating cities would provide the oversight at the state level and ensure interdepartmental linkages to facilitate mainstreaming and sustainability of the project outputs.