

Shaping post 2015 development (HFA) agenda bottom-up: AIDMI statement of contributions to HFA during 2012-13



All India Disaster Mitigation Institute

All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI) is a registered non-governmental organisation based in Gujarat, India. It is a community-based action planning, research and advocacy organization, working towards bridging the gap between policy, practice and research related to disaster mitigation. Established after the 1987–89 Gujarat droughts, AIDMI has expanded its work over the years to cover nine types of disasters in twelve areas of India and beyond to eight countries in Asia. AIDMI strives to link local communities to national and international levels of risk reduction, relief and long-term recovery policies and programmes. As an operational and learning organization, AIDMI works towards promoting disaster risk mitigation and adaptation to climate change risk by supporting, capturing, processing and disseminating disaster related information, lessons and innovative ideas as well as conducting stakeholder round tables, trainings of trainers, reviews, evaluations, and pilot projects.

The Hyogo Framework for Action

The World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) convened in Kobe, Japan in 2005 identified five priorities in its action plan the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA):

1. Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation;
2. Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning;
3. Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels;
4. Reduce the underlying risk factors;
5. Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels.

AIDMI statement of contributions to HFA during 2012-13

The principles of global post 2015 development agenda of UN are inherent in AIDMI's organizational vision and mission. The vision of the post 2015 development agenda of the UN builds on the principles of respect for human rights, equality and sustainability. AIDMI's work is aligned to these principles. Striving to be 'a peoples' organization', in the field of disaster and risk reduction through action research,

AIDMI works towards achieving a safer life for all human beings, especially the poor and vulnerable. Since 1989, AIDMI works with India's poorest and most vulnerable communities. The flowing statement offers a brief overview of how AIDMI's humanitarian and risk reduction initiatives and their results contributes to the HFA goals and how it can help shape post-2015 development agenda bottom-up.

HFA	AIDMI role	Sector and key issues	Examples of compliance	Key outcomes	Key messages to policymakers	Priorities for DRR investment
P1. Governance	Advocate to make disaster management plans inclusive	Disaster Management Plans: Most district / provincial DM planning processed experience constraints of necessary knowledge, skills and resources and still remain top-down and single-time exercise.	Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir and Odisha: AIDMI launched a national campaign on making district / provincial DM plans inclusive with Cordaid, Netherlands in India. National: AIDMI developed training manual on long-term recovery and reconstruction strategies for senior policy makers and programme managers for NIDM.	Enhanced focus of local DM plans in India on risk faced by the poor and excluded.	National Disaster Management Authorities and UNOSSC: Process of local DM planning is hardly shared between two districts and countries of the global South. There is a need to establish Southern link on local DM planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The initiative is replicable in other states of India and neighbouring countries. An international event on "DM Plans and Southern Challenges" is planned during July 2013.
	Advocate to include DRR in development policies and recovery planning	DRR mainstreaming: Opportunity for mainstreaming DRR into development planning and sustainable recovery and reconstruction in Asia, usually remain a missed opportunity.		Improved focus on converging DRR with recovery in decision making.	National Disaster Management Institutes and UNDP: Integrating DRR into development require sensitization of policy makers. But, relevant teaching materials and effective training methods for them are in a short supply.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The training manual is suitable for launching an on-line course for policy makers. Piloting of the manual is planned with suitable disaster management authorities.
	Enable communities to participate in DRR processes	Child-centred DRR: Children remain most vulnerable and at risk and suffer the most when a disaster strikes. Still, they often remain excluded from disaster management and adaptation planning processes.	Bihar: AIDMI launched a state platform on Children and Child Centred DRR — the first of its kind in India — with the Bihar Inter-Agency Group, the Bihar State Disaster Management Authority and UNICEF India.	Improved participation of children in activities targeting them.	UNICEF and Child-centred agencies: State-level children's platforms can be effective advocacy tools for child rights and child-centred disaster risk reduction. They provide rare opportunities for children to voice their concerns directly with decision makers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIDMI is planning to expand the approach in other states of India. An international event on "Southern Perspectives on Children, DRR and Climate Change Adaptation" is planned.
P2. Risk Identification	Promote innovative risk assessment approaches	Auditing school safety: Commonly regarded as temples of learning, schools in India are often located in vulnerable areas and unprepared to respond to emergencies.	Six states of India: With support from NDMA and SDMAAs, AIDMI has covered 608 schools; 1, 53,210 students; and 3741 teachers under school safety audit.	Greater awareness on risk exposure of schools and children.	UNICEF and Child-centred agencies: Widely acknowledged as temples of learning and potentially "safe havens" against disasters, assessment of risk faced by schools needs to be emphasized in DRR.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIDMI is planning to cover more states in India. The process of school safety audit is relevant and replicable in other neighbouring countries.
	Support information sharing and cooperation	DRR networking: Weak coordination among agencies and authorities continues to be a major challenge for effective DRR and emergency response.	South Asia: with the <i>DuryogNivaran</i> , AIDMI contributed India country profile for the ISDR Asia Partnership on regional stocktaking and mapping DRR interventions.	Greater availability of information for planning and decision making.	Multi-lateral and bi-lateral donors: DRR portal promotion efforts can effectively answer: who is doing what and where and thus helps to identify gaps, increase cooperation and improve planning on DRR.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIDMI plan to document and contribute good practice case studies from India. Support is sought to develop state level information portals.
P3. Knowledge	Facilitate training and learning on DRR	Safer schools: Examples across the globe show that children are more vulnerable to disasters and unsafe schools make them even more vulnerable to disaster risk.	Assam: With Assam State Disaster Management Authority, AIDMI conducted 40 trainings covering 1682 participants from 25 district of Assam.	Improved standards of safety in targeted schools.	National School Safety Programmes: Lessons from school are often conveyed to the home. Thus, schools can be effectively used as a medium for creating wide-spread awareness on disaster risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is planned to carry out safety audits in trained schools. Pilot project for implementing risk mitigation measures is under consideration.
	Promote DRR research and its application	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs): India's 26 million MSMEs are among the worst sufferers of disasters. Still, limited knowledge exists on how disasters affect them and what measures can make them resilient.	India: With support from UNDP's BCPR, AIDMI prepared the India case study on MSMEs and disasters. This study is a part of UNDP's larger study on MSMEs and disasters.	Improved knowledge on impact of disasters on MSMEs for decision making	UNDP BCPR, UNIDO and SME authorities: The first responders after a catastrophe are often MSMEs. Continuity of their businesses is crucial for promoting a speedy and lasting community recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIDMI has planned to develop more knowledge resources on MSMEs and disasters in India. The livelihood relief fund of AIDMI is gearing-up to support MSME recovery across India.

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P4. Reducing underlying risk factors	Integrate DRR strategies with CCA and development	WASH: Access to clean drinking water and sanitation still remains an unfulfilled promise in many areas affected by disasters. Emergency response and early recovery: Recurrent flooding causing massive loss of life and property on annual basis is a major challenge for DRR in India.	Bangladesh and India: With SNV, a WASH scoping study to explore areas for investment in small towns and a round table on sustainable drinking water for everyone with IRC organised in India. India: AIDMI documented lessons from 2011 flood response by the ECHO partners (ACTED, Action Aid, ADRA, CARE, CONCERN, DCA, PLAN and Save the Children).	Improved knowledge on extending safer WASH facilities in vulnerable areas	UNICEF and WHO: The progress on MGDs — 'The proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation...' can be sustained and accelerated by integrating DRR. Humanitarian Agencies: Response to rapid on-set disasters such as floods in India requires investment in learning from past experiences to inspire systemic improvements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan to launch child's right to improved WASH campaign. Support networking and knowledge sharing at national and international levels with south-south links in mind. AIDMI plan to carryout national review on potential of cash transfers in India. A round table on the national Food Security Bill is planned.
	Support community-based risk transfer mechanisms	Climate smart DRR: Integration of CCA approaches in DRR and development is not widespread. DRR, CCA and development initiatives continue to remain separate areas in policy making. Risk transfer: Micro-insurance can be a potentially viable option for protecting assets of the poor against disasters but is often unavailable to them.	Odiasha: With Inter Cooperation Social Development India and IDS, Sussex in UK, AIDMI assessed institutional barriers and lacunae in integrating CCA in DRR and Dept. India: AIDMI continued covering the poor households and vulnerable schools with <i>AftVimo</i> (disaster insurance) schemes as an effective mean of climate friendly DRR.	Better links between DRR, CCA and development initiatives	UNEP and IUCN: Environment resilience is a fundamental precondition for human resilience. Climate smart DRR is a way of achieving development that is resilient to both hazards and impacts of CCA. National Livelihood Missions, ILO, IFAD, the World Bank and ADB: Convergence of livelihood support and micro-insurance with mitigation measures can effectively reduce financial risk of individuals and communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIDMI is trying to forge greater links between DRR and CCA, with like-minded agencies. AIDMI aims to integrate this theme with its training and advocacy events. Launch a national campaign on disaster micro-insurance. Refine and promote <i>AftVimo</i> as national disaster insurance scheme and lessons around it.
	Build institutional capacities for disaster response	Disasters and human rights: Mandated to respond in case of crisis, emergency response services often lack sensitivity towards human rights issues and necessary skills of dealing with the affected. South-South cooperation: While Southern approaches are more relevant for DRR in the global South, most DRR agendas remain dominated by the global North.	Tamil Nadu and Andaman & Nicobar islands: With NHRC, AIDMI conducted trainings on human rights and disasters covering 100 officers from police, railway and health Dept.	Better sensitised emergency response teams for protecting human rights in emergencies	National Authorities: Nation-wide and inter-regional initiatives on enhancing capacities of emergency response teams of key government departments to protect human rights in crisis are needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIDMI has planned to conduct such trainings in 6 states of India with NHRC. It is planned to institutionalise rights perspective in National Disaster Response Force SOP.
P5. Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response	Promote South-South Cooperation as a 'Centre for Excellence'	South-South cooperation: While Southern approaches are more relevant for DRR in the global South, most DRR agendas remain dominated by the global North.	Asia & Pacific: With UNOSSC and UNDP, AIDMI organised the Sixth academy on using cash transfers for recovery and DRR covering 33 participants from Asia & Pacific.	Greater South-South Cooperation for knowledge sharing on DRR	UNOSSC: Establishing South-South links on DRR takes time and resources but can be more effective in terms of impact and cost-effectiveness in a medium to long-run.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2013, two knowledge exchange events are planned. Draft proposal for South-South Disaster Management Facility is being finalized with UNOSSC.
	Support contingency planning and emergency drills	Emergency management exercise: In a country such as India, covering all vulnerable locations and stakeholders under such exercises remains a huge challenge.	AIDMI provided technical support for the Guwahati Emergency Management Exercise 2012 and conducted city wide school safety Trainings and mock drills.	Improved preparedness levels for emergency response	National Authorities: Continuity and evaluation of emergency management exercise will be crucial to ensure effective and well-coordinated response.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIDMI plan to develop innovative tools for covering wider populations. Advocacy efforts are planned to institutionalise this in SDMAs.

Contributors to this Effort

International Organisations

Adventist Development and Relief Agency, India
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre
Brooking-Bern Project on Internal Displacement
Caritas India
Climate and Development Knowledge Network
Commonwealth Foundation, United Kingdom
Concern Worldwide India
Cordaid, The Netherlands
Duyog Nivaran, Sri Lanka
ECHO
Harvard Humanitarian Initiative
HelpAge India
Holdeen India Programme
IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre,
Netherlands
Link Emergency Aid and Development
Save the Children, India
Tag International, UK
UN Disaster Management Team
United Nations Development Program
United Nations Economic and Social Commission
for Asia (UN-ESCAP)
United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation
United Nations Children's Fund

Non-governmental Organisations

Action for Food Production Organisation
Association for Stimulating Know How
Bihar Inter-Agency Group
Center for Environment and Education (CEE)
Himalaya Secretariat
Centre for Sustainable Development and Food
Security in Ladakh
Centre for Youth and Social Development
Coastal Development Planning Centre
Foundation for Public Interest
Inter Cooperation Social Development of India
Kalvi Kendra
Leadership for Environment and Development
National Dalit Watch
Nari Gunjan
Rural Development and You
Rural Education and Action Liberation
Rural Uplift Centre
Sabuj Sangha
Society for Women Action Development
West Bengal Voluntary Health Association

Private Sector

Ahmedabad Management Association
Life Insurance Corporation of India
United India Insurance Company Ltd.

Universities and Research Centres

Academic Staff College, Saurashtra University,
Gujarat, India
India Habitat Centre, Delhi, India
India International Centre, Delhi, India
Institute of Development Studies
Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology,
Bhubaneshwar, Odisha, India
Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Science,
Mumbai, India
Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidhya Nagar,
Gujarat, India
Saurashtra University, Rajkot, Gujarat, India
Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneshwar,
Odisha, India

Government Organisations

Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation
Andaman and Nicobar Education Department
Assam State Disaster Management Authority
Bihar State Disaster Management Authority
Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Government of Tamil Nadu
Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council
National Disaster Management Authority
National Human Rights Commission
National Institute of Disaster Management

Networks

Action Learning Network for Accountability and
Performance (ALNAP)
American Centre, New Delhi
European Evaluation Society
Indo-Dutch Business Centre, Ahmedabad
International Council of Voluntary Agencies
(ICVA)
National Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction, Delhi
National Knowledge Commission, India
People in Aid
Sphere India
The Royal Commonwealth Society
World Conservation Union (International Union
for Conservation of Nature (IUCN))

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