

INstitutional Strengthening through Preparedness for Inclusive REsponse in India - (INSPIRE)

Brainstorming Meeting 15 December -Colombo,Sri Lanka

To jointly brainstorm and prioritize possible areas of collaboration as part of INSPIRE, ADPC organized a brainstorming meeting on 15 December 2023 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The meeting was attended by senior representatives from the potential partners from India as well as the ADPC and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) as the implementing agencies and the potential funder of the program respectively. The meeting provided a platform for all the potential partners to engage with each other and discuss strategic gaps that the program may help address concerning the enhancement of emergency preparedness for response and recovery at the local level in India and the region through this program.

I was invited as a participant for the Discussion session. The day-long meeting started with opening remarks by all the participants. This was followed by a brief presentation by all the potential partners highlighting their areas of strength, needs and priority strategic areas for enhancing the impact of their interventions.

ADPC presented the concept of the INSPIRE program that was earlier also shared as part of the meeting notes.

I. Key decisions:

The participants agreed to the following actions:

- i. The participants agreed on the broad framework presented for INSPIRE. It was agreed that as a next step, all the potential partners would seek in-principle agreement from their parent institutions to proceed further.
- ii. On the discussion note, it was agreed that the project goal would also include impact at the state level. The note should also clarify that the program will not invest in setting up new institutions / CoEs rather it will help in strengthening the capacity of existing institutions / CoEs to tackle the challenges of a rapidly evolving risk context of India and the region in line with the PM's ten-point agenda.
- iii. ADPC will engage further with the partners, one-on-one, to detail out the concept note further by the end of January 2024. The group will meet again towards the end of February 2024 in India for the next round of co-creation efforts.

- iv. The program may be initiated with a scoping study during the first six months to detail each activity, articulate indicators of success, develop a realistic work plan and make necessary adjustments to the program framework.
- v. It was also agreed that once formalized, the program will be guided by a Program Advisory Committee (PAC) with senior representation from each partner organization. The PAC will meet every 3-4 months to allow for dynamic adjustment of activities based on the learning from field implementation.
- vi. It was also agreed that ADPC and partner agencies in India will make preparatory arrangements including drafting/ revising/ updating MOUs/ MOA, LOIs for technical cooperation between ADPC and partner agencies in parallel to the program development / proposal writing phase from Jan -May 2024, so that in principle agreement on those cooperation instruments can be sought.

My participation in the Discussion session was a rewarding experience, providing a platform to share knowledge and learn from different experts from different domains. List of co-speakers and certificate appended as annexure.

I. **Agenda: Annexure 1**

II. **Participants: Annexure 2**





Annexure I

AGENDA

15 December 2023		
08:30 - 09:00		Registration
09:00 - 09:10	Welcome and Introductions	Dr. Sisira Madurapperuma, Director- PRR, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)
09:10 - 09:20	Opening Remarks	Dr. Valerie Nkamgang Bemo Deputy Director, Emergency Response Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)
09:20 - 09:30	Objectives of the Meeting	Dr Mona Chhabra Anand, Technical Lead, ADPC
09:30 - 10:00	Successes and challenges in creating an impact on the ground in an	Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA)
10:00 - 10:30	evolving riskscape – partner experiences	• Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) / Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA)
10:30 - 11:00		Coffee break
11:00 - 11:30	Successes and challenges in creating an impact on the ground in an evolving	National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Government of India
11:30 - 12:00	riskscape – partner experiences (Contd.)	• National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Government of India
12:00 - 12:30	Proposed approach and framework for INSPIRE	Dr Mona Chhabra Anand, Technical Lead, ADPC
12:30 - 13:00	INSPIRE - Emerging opportunities and missing pieces - discussion	Ms Pilar Pacheco, BMGF & Dr. Sisira Madurapperuma, ADPC
13:00 - 14:00		LUNCH
14:00 - 15:30	INSPIRE - Emerging opportunities and missing pieces (Contd.)	Ms Pilar Pacheco, BMGF Dr. Sisira Madurapperuma, ADPC
15:30 - 16:00		Coffee break
16:00 - 16:15	Wrap-up and next steps	Dr Valerie Bemo, BMGF
16:15 - 16:30	Closing and Vote of thanks	Dr. Sisira Madurapperuma, ADPC

Annexure II

PARTICIPANTS

	Agency	Participant
1	National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Government of India	Col KP Singh, Joint Advisor
2	NDRF National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Government of India	Mr Narendra Singha Bundela, Inspector General
3	Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA)	Dr Gyana Ranjan Das, Managing Director
4	Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA)	Mr Meghanad Behera, Sr Consultant
5	Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA)	Dr Joy Elamon, Director General
6	Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA)	Dr Anjaly Parameswaran , Hazard Analyst
7	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)	Dr. Valerie Nkamgang Bemo Deputy Director, Emergency Response
8	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)	Ms Pilar Pacheco, Sr Project officer
9	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)	Dr. Sisira Madurapperuma, Director-PRR
10	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)	Dr Mona Chhabra Anand, Technical Lead
11	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)	Ms Nirjala Fernando, Lead : M&E
12	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)	Mr Kilian Murphy, Program Lead - Innovation

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