

# Annual Report – 2021

## KSDMA-UNICEF Programmes Mainstreaming risk and resilience



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## 1.0 Introduction

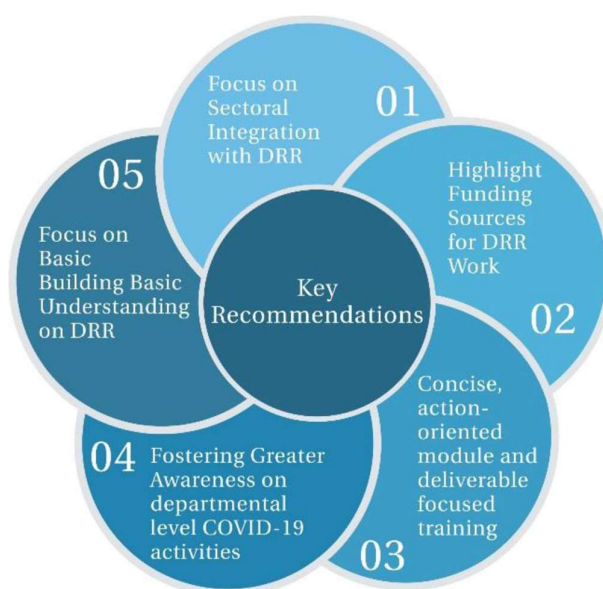
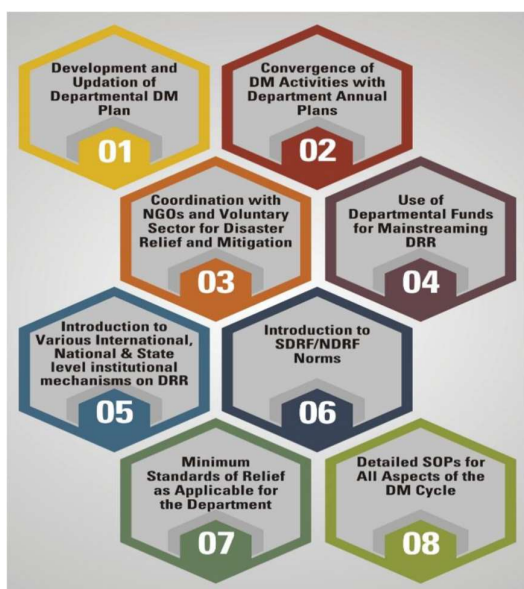
KSDMA-Unicef partnership programmes “Mainstreaming Risk and resilience” started in 2019 and the activities are continuing focussing on risk communication and resilience building through various capacity building and mainstreaming activities. The programmes and activities were aimed at strengthening and equipping the governance system in considering the vulnerable population especially children and building resilience among them. Understanding risk and strengthening the capabilities to deal with the risk plays a pivotal role in survival of population in the context of climate extremes. Virtual cadre of officers for disaster management in different departments and their training, School safety and other education sector related resilience activities, GO-NGO coordination through IAG activities at the districts, evidence building through creation of disaster impact database and Joint disaster needs assessment for the social sectors were the main activities executed under the project in the current timeline.

### 1.1 Virtual cadre training programme for seven departments

To strengthen the disaster management capacity of the nodal departments, Government vide G.O (Rt) No: 56/2017/DMD; dated 25th November 2017 had initiated a project called Virtual Cadre for disaster management. The goal of the project is to mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into sector departments, thereby mitigate the risk of disasters in each sector. The virtual cadres to be formed in 26 departments of the state. The virtual cadre officers will be the champions of disaster management in the department despite of their transfers and other compelling tasks. Thus, this is a long term engagement towards a disaster resilient state.

KSDMA has already given training to virtual cadre members of eight departments in association with UNDP. In the year 2020-2021, KSDMA in collaboration with UNICEF initiated virtual cadre training for rendering the officers’ basic and advanced training in disaster management which will be appropriate for each department. As part of the AWP 2020-2021 of KSDMA-UNICEF partnership, virtual cadre online training programmes on disaster management for Panchayath, Civil supplies, education, tourism, ground water, fisheries departments were organised. Training needs analysis through questionnaires and interviews, online training sessions and handholding support to virtual cadre members during the preparation of department specific DM plans are the specific activities under this programme. KSDMA-UNICEF programme collaborated with All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI), Ahmedabad for the module preparation and execution of this programme.

As the first step towards executing this programme, an inception meeting was conducted on 24th November 2020 from 3pm to 4.20 pm for six departments namely panchayath, civil supplies, education, tourism, ground water and fisheries. In the inception meeting the relevance of virtual cadre for DM and the Training needs assessment format were explained. As a follow up the meeting report along with the training needs questionnaire was send to heads of all departments as well as the virtual cadre members to respond. As per the request from LSG planning (formerly Town and Country Planning) for training in DM and risk informed planning, it was decided to include officials from these departments also for the training session. An inception meeting and training needs assessment was done for the virtual cadre members on 7th April 2021 from 11am to 1pm.



### Common training needs and Key recommendations from the Training needs assessment

Department specific modules for training were designed for imparting overall understanding of disaster management mechanism, legal, governance and other factors equipping them for the formulation of departmental DM plans were designed and reviewed with the help of AIDMI and experts from KSDMA team.

A Training Needs Assessment (TNA) dissemination meeting was conducted online on 23rd June 2021, 11.30am onwards in order to inform the virtual cadre members about the findings of the TNA. A total of 69 officials from different departments, KSDMA and AIDMI attended this online meeting. The meeting started with the welcome address by Mr Joe John George, State Project Officer, KSDMA and introductory remarks by Dr Sekhar L Kuriakose, Member Secretary, KSDMA. In his introductory remarks, Dr Sekhar reiterated the fact that virtual cadre is all about integration – integrating different activities on emergency response to some extent but disaster mitigation to larger extent in respective department context. This was followed by a special address by Shri Mihir Bhat, Founder Director AIDMI in which he commended the efforts taken up by KSDMA especially Member Secretary who took the perseverance in mainstreaming DRR activities. He also focussed the localisation and development context of the training needs assessment and mentioned that the TNA assessment will be a living document. Sri. Kshitij Gupta, project coordinator, AIDMI described the TNA results focussing on seven training needs, six expectations and five key recommendations. This was followed by a Q & A session in which the State Project Officer, Mr Joe John George declared that the training programme will be starting on 5th July 2021. The members clarified their doubts about the virtual cadre in the discussion which followed. This meeting concluded by 12.50 pm with the vote of thanks by Dr. Pratheesh C Mammen, programme coordinator, KSDMA-UNICEF programmes.

This was followed by a five days online session for two hours of basic and department specific advanced training on disaster management. The first 3 days of training were held from 5th July-7th July 2021 focussed on general and basic DRR training on DRR. Basic concepts, legal and institutional mechanism, Kerala profile – multi-hazards, case studies and best case scenarios etc.

Dr. Sekhar Lukose Kuriakose, Member Secretary, KSDMA and Mr Mihir Bhatt, Director, All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI) opened the training with their welcome remarks to the participants and then invited the resource persons to conduct the training. Ms. Annie George- Former UNDP, Consultant - Capacity Building, Mr G Padmanabhan, Former Emergency Analyst, UNDP and Mr. Pradeep G S, Hazard & Risk Analyst, KSDMA acted as resource persons for the three day sessions in which on an average 87 out of 105 virtual cadre member's attended. Mr Joe John George, SPO, KSDMA gave an overview of the virtual cadre system in Kerala and also briefed about the current training. Dr Pratheesh C Mammen, UNICEF-KSDMA, Mr Vishal Pathak, Senior Coordinator, AIDMI and Mr Kshitij Gupta, Project Coordinator, AIDMI facilitated the whole process. Basics of disaster management, institutional and legislative framework of Disaster management, Phases in Disaster Management: case studies and best practices, Disaster management mechanism in Kerala were the topics lectured and discussed.

Preliminary session was followed by 2 days department specific sessions, separately for each department.

#### General Education

Two days department specific training held on 12th-13th July, 2021 11am to 1.30 pm and focused on department specific actions related to DRR. Dr. Hari Kumar, DRR and School Safety Expert, Geo Hazard International, New Delhi, Mr. Nisanth Mohan, Higher Secondary teacher, Mr Ramesh Krishnan, Former UNDP coordinator & Disaster Management Cell Coordinator acted as resource persons dealing with subjects like Context setting - DRR and Education, Sector Integration, Mainstreaming DRR in Education, Good Practices, SDMP - School DM Plan and School Safety.

#### Panchayath

Two days department specific training were held on 12th July-13th July 2021 2.30pm to 4.30pm focussing on mainstreaming DRR in Panchayath department and showcasing some of the good practices related to management of disasters at the local level. Dr Joy Elamon, Director, KILA, Ms. Neha Kurian, KILA and Mr Anish Kumar, SPO, Kudumbasree Mission delivered the lectures and there was active participation.

#### Fisheries

Two days department specific training were held on 3rd August- 04th August 2021 2.30pm – 4.30pm focussing on department specific actions related with DRR. Mr. V Vivekanandan, Former Director, South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies (SIFFS) talked about practical issues related to mainstreaming DRR in Fisheries sector. Ms. Annie George elaborated about Good practices and case studies in the sector related to disaster management, followed by a session by Mr. Vijeesh P on the preparation of Departmental DM plan.

#### Groundwater

Two days department specific training held on 22nd July-23rd July 2021, 11am to 1pm, covering topics like Impacts of Hazards on Groundwater Resources and Good Practices and orientation on departmental DM plan. Prof. E Shaji, Head of the Department, Department of Geology, Kerala University and Mr. Vijeesh P, State Coordinator, Sphere India delivered presentations and actively involved in the succeeding discussions.

## Tourism

Two days department specific training held on 22nd July- 23rd July 2021 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm and focused on department specific actions related to DRR. Mr Rupesh Kumar, Responsible tourism mission presented key actions for preparedness and checklist for tourist destinations followed by discussion. Followed by detailing of the departmental DM plan. Ten virtual cadre members of the tourism department attended the training.

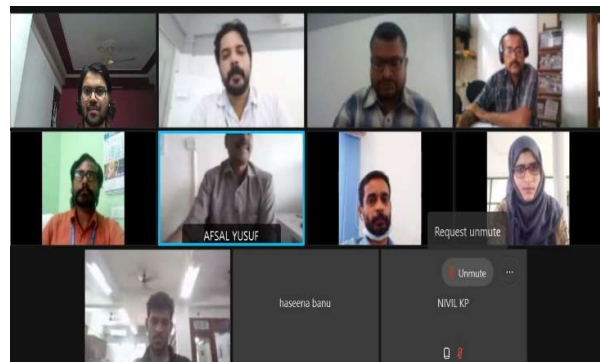
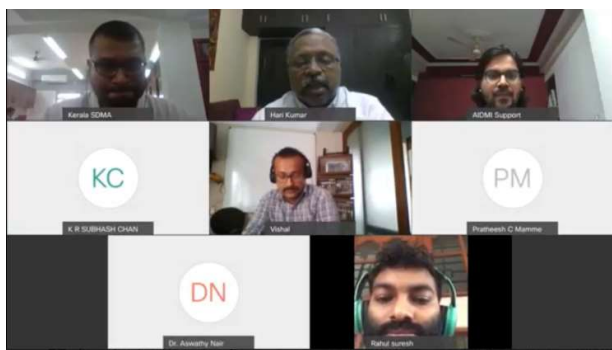
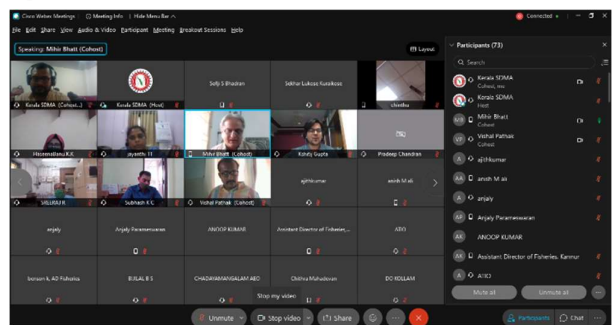
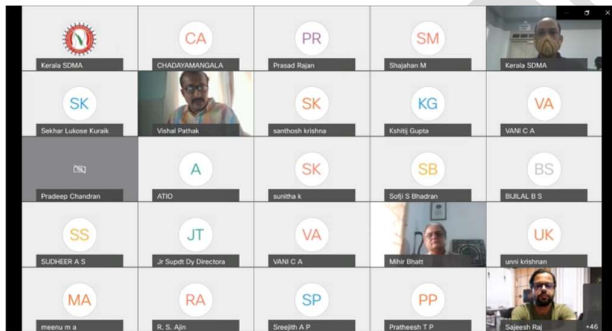
## Civil supplies

Two days department specific training held on 5<sup>th</sup> August – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021 11 am – 1 pm, focused on the department specific functions related to DRR. Mr Sunil Devassy, former officer, World Food Programme (WFP) delivered the keynote address, followed by session on the Departmental DM plan overview.

## LSG Planning

Two days department specific training held on 11<sup>th</sup> August- 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021, 11 pm – 1.30 pm, focussing on the basic disaster management and department specific functions related disaster risk reduction. Ms. Riby Rachel, Urban planner, Independent Consultant and Mr. G Padmanabhan, Former officer UNDP India delivered presentations on Mainstreaming DRR in LSG planning and risk informed planning.

The detailed reports of the training programmes and the department specific modules are available in the website of KSDMA (<https://sdma.kerala.gov.in/virtual-cadre/>)



## 1.2 Satheerthyan Campaign - 5 days online camp

Building resilience among children in the context of cascading of disasters especially in the time of COVID 19 is one of the objectives of KSDMA-UNICEF engagement. School safety training programmes and other interventions are part of this objective. As part of the Satheerthyan campaign of KSDMA with the same objective, a five days online training programme was organised focussing on children.

Resilience in simple terms may be defined as the ability to recover from the difficulties and manage how you feel. Being prepared is an important aspect of resilience building in relation to children since those kind of interventions will lessen panicking, paranoia, and confusions related to running around. This will reduce the mortality and can be integrated as a behavioural change among children which eventually contributes to the resilience building process.

The five days online training programme was centred on the following themes/ topics

1. First aid skills
2. Earthquake and landslides
3. Burns and bleeding
4. Snakebites
5. Lightning and cyclone
6. Pandemics
7. Emergency kit preparation

Five days, two hours virtual camp for the school-going children was organised from 24th to 28th May 2021. The camp was organised to tinker critical thinking process and reasoning capacities related to hazards in daily life through content promoted activity-based online sessions "Cheemu the talking monkey" who was the main actor in the puppetry by Mr Felix Joeffrey, was one of the major attractions of the camp. Storyteller fame Ms. Sai Swetha with her trademarks Mittu, the cat and Kittu, the monkey communicated about burns, snakebites and precautions. More than 2000 people watched 5 sessions of Satheerthyan online camp in the KSDMA you tube channel.

After the overwhelming response of more than 1008 participants in the first session, it was decided to air the session live through KSDMA's official Youtube channel for the remaining four days. Every day there were assignments for the participants which they were supposed to submit over email. Every session had an interaction session in which children had meaningful conversations with Cheemu for clearing doubts and expressing themselves.

The sessions started with the opening remarks by Member Secretary, KSDMA and the theme was introduced by State Project Officer, KSDMA. Followed by the session with Cheemu and Mittu. The last day session was filled with a dance performance by Ms. Megha Prasad and Ms Akshaya Lakshmi on the importance of preparing emergency kits at home. As a concluding assignment the participants were given the task of preparing emergency kit at home and email the pictures of the kit to ksdma.

As a follow up to the sessions, an interactive session with Cheemu for the children who had prepared the emergency kit and had send the pictures was organised on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2021, Environment Day. "Ecosystem restoration" was the theme for the environment day and Cheemu had one to one interaction with twenty two students who have participated in the session. Mr Felix Joeffrey, Mr Joe John George and Dr Pratheesh C Mammen interacted with students on various subjects like role of children in environment protection, importance of emergency kits etc. all four days session videos were uploaded in KSDMA youtube channel for further viewing.

**സതീർത്ഥ്യൻ ഓൺലൈൻ ക്യാമ്പ് ചീമുവിനും മിട്ടുവിനുമൊപ്പം**

SESSIONS CONDUCTED BY



FELIX JOFFREY V    SAI SWETHA    MEGHA PRASAD    AKSHAYA LAKSHMI

കേരള സംസ്ഥാന ദുരന്ത നിവാരണ അതോറിറ്റി 2021 മെയ് 24 മുതൽ 28 വരെ കുട്ടികൾക്കായി അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്ന ഓൺലൈൻ ക്യാമ്പിലേക്ക് എല്ലാ കുട്ടികൾക്കും സ്വാഗതം ചെയ്യുന്നു. സമയം എല്ലാ ദിവസവും രാവിലെ 11 മണിക്ക്.

കൊറോണയ്ക്കെതിരെയും ദുരന്ത സാഹചര്യങ്ങളിൽ സ്വീകരിക്കേണ്ട മുൻകരുതലുകളെ പറ്റിയും രസകരമായ കഥകളിലൂടെയും, ഡാൻസ് രൂപത്തിലും പിന്നെ ചീമു എന്ന പാവയിലൂടെയും നമുക്ക് പഠിക്കാം. മീറ്റിംഗ് ലിങ്കിന്റെ വിവരങ്ങൾ ഇവിടെ നൽകിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

LINK: <http://tinyurl.com/kydjszhy>

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അപ്പോൾ മറക്കേണ്ട മെയ് 24 മുതൽ 28 വരെ ഏവർക്കും സ്വാഗതം. ചീമു നിങ്ങളെ കാത്തിരിക്കും.



ORGANISED BY KSDMA

**SATEERTHYAN ONLINE CAMP**

FOR CHILDREN

24 TO 28 MAY 2021

TOPIC FOR 28TH MAY  
EMERGENCY KIT, PANDEMICS AND FIRST AID SKILLS



MEGHA PRASAD    AKSHAYA LAKSHMI    SAI SWETHA    FELIX JOFFREY V

DANCE    DANCE    STORY TELLING    PUPPETRY

AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE CHANNEL OF KSDMA

11 AM 


IN ASSOCIATION WITH 

SESSIONS WILL BE IN MALAYALAM    for every child

**DAY 5**

### 1.3 Webinar - 'Back to School'

In order to address the concerns of the parents and children getting engaged in formal classroom education after the COVID 19 pandemic season, a webinar was organised as you tube live on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021. This 'Back to school' Technical session was organised in association with KSDMA and IAG Kerala for parents, teachers and other stakeholders in the education sector. The webinar was compered and facilitated by Indu V, Architect, KSDMA and Dr. Anish T S, Associate Professor, Dept. of Community Medicine, Medical college, Thiruvananthapuram was the main speaker. He elaborated on the concerns and doubts, parents and teachers might have about classroom sessions in a post pandemic scenario and also explained about various measures and precautions to be taken by the children during the classroom sessions.



Back To School' online awareness programme organized by KSDMA on 30.10.2021 by Dr. Anish TS

**കുട്ടികൾ നീരികെ സ്കൂളിലേയ്ക്ക് ആശങ്കകൾ അകറ്റാം**



**ഡോ. അനീഷ് ടി.എസ്.**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Community Medicine  
Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram

നിങ്ങളുടെ സംശയങ്ങൾക്ക് ഉത്തരം നൽകുന്നു  
അവസരം : ഇരു. വി

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in Association with   

കേരള സംസ്ഥാന ദുരന്തനിവാരണ അതോറിറ്റി ഫോൺ: 823 4697 4177, ഫാക്സ്: 823 4697 4177, മെയ് 24 മുതൽ 28 വരെ, എല്ലാ ദിവസവും രാവിലെ 11 മണിക്ക് - 55033



#### **1.4 International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) Webinar for Inter Agency Groups (IAGs) on October 13th, 2021.**

Since 1989, the United Nations has been celebrating October 13th as the International Day for Disaster reduction. Each year, the focus has been on one of the seven targets of the Sendai Framework agreed by UN Member States at a World Conference on DRR in Sendai, Japan. This year's theme is 'International Cooperation for Developing Countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses'. A webinar was conducted online in which participants were members of Civil society organizations which are part of the Inter Agency Groups, students, LSGD DM plan coordinators, officials from Virtual cadre, etc. The webinar focused on the importance of the cooperation among different stakeholders in the areas of disaster risk reduction. This webinar was compered and coordinated by Mr Vijeesh P from Sphere India, and the main speaker was taken by Job Zachariah, Chief, UNICEF office for Chhattisgarh. The main speaker stressed the increasing need of integrated action for taking up disaster related activities such as mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery etc. with a scientific vigour and also in an efficient manner. Training and preparation in this regard is also to be encouraged at different levels starting from local to international. The vulnerable populations and the vulnerable sections in the same community are to be considered for an integrated action.

#### **1.5 Joint Disaster Needs Assessment in the Social sectors – Floods and landslides October 2021**

Kerala has witnessed a series of landslides and floods in succession from the year 2018 onwards starting from the great deluge. In 2019, it was Kavalappara in Malappuram dist. and Puthumala in Wayanad dist.; Pettimudi of Idukki dist. in 2020. Rains in October 2021, witnessed series of landslides in Central Kerala and Kokkayyar of Idukki district and Koottikkal of Kottayam district became the eye of the whole series. Areas in Pathanamthitta and Alappuzha districts were also inundated owing to losses in infrastructure and local people shifting to relief camps. The extreme rainfall event claimed the lives of 57 people across the state. The death toll was highest in Kottayam district followed by Idukki. In addition, two persons were reported missing as on 29th October 2021. About 4226 families were displaced and, as of 26th October 2021, about 346 houses were fully damaged and 2196 houses were partially damaged. Due to the back-to-back disasters Kerala has been facing since the floods of 2018 including the Covid 19 pandemic, some of the impacts of the floods of 2021 would be the cumulative result of repeated erosion of resilience, the most notable being the impacts on mental health, nutritional status of children and women, Child Protection and even the increasing vulnerability of people who continue to be residing in vulnerable locations since the 2018 floods.

The Joint Disaster Needs Assessment (JDNA) – Kerala is designed to assess the impacts of the disaster in six social sectors namely child protection; education; Water; sanitation and hygiene (WASH); gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) and food and nutrition based on the available data with different departments and also through the field visits by sector level experts to the affected population/area. This assessment will build on initial and detailed sector damage assessments undertaken by the state government and the data collected by other agencies and civil society groups. Sector level experts will be both from the departments as well as from the IAG member organisations.

Accordingly, state-level orientation for sector level experts was held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021. This was followed by field visits to the disaster-affected districts for two days focusing on Local self-government institutions which are affected and affected people. The field assessment teams visited affected areas, relief camps, anganwadis, PHC/ CHC etc. and held interactions with various stakeholders such as affected people, elected representatives, District Collector, officials of line departments, Kudumbashree and CSOs.

The field assessment team comprises of experts from eight line departments namely Department of General Education, Social Justice Department (SJD), Women and Child Development Department (WCD), Health and Family Welfare Department, Scheduled Caste Development Department (SCDD), Scheduled Tribes Development Department (STDD), Kerala State Civil Supplies Department and Department of Panchayats (under LSGD) , IAG member organizations, KSDMA, UNICEF & Sphere India. For the local coordination and arrangements Hazard analysts of the DDMA's and LSG DM plan coordinators of the districts assisted the team, A meeting with the district collector was also organised in order to interact and convey various issues related to social resilience

The process includes (i) analysis of pre-disaster baseline data to compare with the post-disaster condition and (ii) to assess the disaster impacts and (iii) also to determine or recommend the overall recovery and coordination strategy. Various cross cutting issues such as governance, disaster risk reduction and climate change were also discussed apart from the main social sectors under consideration. 23 experts from 13 NGOs as part of the IAG system, 16 officers from eight departments, 7 experts from UNICEF, 4 experts from KSDMA, 5 representatives of Sphere India, 3 hazard analysts from the respective districts and 4 LSG DM plan coordinators of the districts took part in the field level assessment process amounting to a total of 62 persons participated in the whole process divided in four district groups.

The data documentation team at KSDMA and the leads of the group along with the documentation experts in each group contributed in writing the JDNA draft report and the findings were shared to all the experts and a presentation and pre-submission briefing meeting was conducted for finalisation of the report on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022 at 3.30 pm online. The experts were briefed about the report by Ms. Annie George who worked as the external consultant and documentation expert for the whole JDNA process. This was followed by an interactive session in which experts pointed out their concerns about the draft report.



The draft was reviewed and corrected based on the inputs from these sessions and the final draft was submitted by the documentation team to UNICEF. Later the draft was submitted formally to The commissioner, Disaster Management for review and approval.

The draft report has released for consultation..

Despite the fact that the JDNA was only for the social sectors, the damage to the infrastructure in the sectors analysed was also collected from the line departments. Because losses in the social sector are difficult to evaluate, the Study team concentrated on the impacts rather than the losses.



## 1.6 Disaggregate data on disaster impacts

As part of the annual work plan of KSDMA-UNICEF programme, an activity of generation of disaggregate data of the people affected by disasters for the past 5 years at the district level was planned with the help of hazard analysts in the districts. Lack of disaggregate data was one of the key findings by United Nations in their Post Disaster Needs Assessment of Floods 2018. The generation of such a data will give an idea about the vulnerability of the population which will help in the planning processes of the district administration and to make policy level interventions at the state level. It will also give the locations and typology of the relief centres being used repetitively in all the years. The data also can be utilised during HVRA as part of the disaster management plans.

For this purpose each district hazard analyst was given charge for the collection of data, curation and processing the data and the preparation of consolidated district datasheet since the data were collected from the Taluk headquarters. The data related to the disaster impact was primarily based on the camp name and location. Following data were collected during this process

- Name of Taluk
- Name of Village
- Name of LSG
- Year
- Month
- Type of Disaster
- Camp name
- Camps – Typology – Schools, College, Auditorium etc.
- Total number of members
- Males
- Females
- Children(<18 yrs otherwise specify)
- Divyang/differently abled
- Name the locality affected by the disaster

Some districts actively participated in this process and collected data from 2015 onwards. Due to the unavailability of hazard analysts in four districts, data were not collected from Pathanamthitta, Malappuram, Kannur and Kasargode. In some of the districts data was available from 2018 onwards from all the taluks. Further analysis on these data points with geo-referencing may be initiated by the SEOC for future use.

## 1.7 School safety awareness programmes

Although schools were closed most of the time during the year, various school safety awareness online trainings were conducted by DDMA and SIEMAT in collaboration with KSDMA. District level school safety awareness programmes were conducted for the teachers from schools at the district level and this was organised as a joint initiative of DDMA and Deputy Director of education office at the district. School safety plan related trainings by SIEMAT was conducted for head teachers of Lower Primary, Upper Primary, High School and Higher Secondary schools across Kerala. Each session accommodated more than 150 participants. Several sessions were conducted in which programme coordinator, KSDMA-UNICEF programmes acted as resource persons. All sessions were focussed on the aspects of school safety plan and the activities need to be done to make school safe. Its also reiterated the fact that child safety is of bigger importance in the case of extreme events due to climate change.

## **1.8 Lightning awareness video preparation**

As part of the lightning awareness campaign several videos were made targeting different sections of population. Video on life saving skills and puppetry video for children were part of these initiative. Mr. Rajasekharan Nair of Indian Institute of Emergency Medical Services (IIEMS) and Mr. Felix Joeffrey facilitated as resource persons in the videos prepared. These videos were later shared through official You tube channel of KSDMA for the public to watch.

## **1.9 Activities in collaboration with other Govt. organisations and DDMA's**

Several school safety sessions were organised as part of various programmes conducted by State Institute for Education Management and Training (SIEMAT) in which Mr. Joe John George, State Project Officer; Mr. Pradeep G S, Hazard and Risk Analyst and Dr. Pratheesh C Mammen were engaged as resource persons. Head teachers and Principals from various schools across the state attended these training programmes in which 150 – 200 participants have participated in each session. Various documents and templates related to school safety were shared with the participants for wider circulation.

Risk communication activities, Covid appropriate behaviour (CAB) campaigns, mock drills, IAG programmes and meetings, IEC preparation and dissemination activities were also conducted at the district level in association with DDMA's supported by KSDMA-UNICEF programmes. These activities were mainly targeted at the local population increasing their capability and resilience. Most of these activities were executed by DDMA's in collaboration with concerned departments - General education, Health and Family welfare etc.

## **2.0 Way forward**

Virtual cadre training programmes covering all the 26 departments including basic training for the 11 departments, school safety and hospital safety app for popularising and extending helping hands for the preparation of institutional DM plans, animated videos related to understanding risk and building resilience among children and various resilience building activities in education sector through Satheerthyan campaign are planned for the future. Evidence building for understanding child risk and climate change resilience activities are also planned.