COVID 19 Academy
Kerala
(Phase 1)

Dates

29.09.2020 to 21.10.2020

Organized by

Kerala State Disaster Management Authority &
Sphere India

Covid 19 Academy | Launch on 29th September 2020

Introduction

Sphere India along with the support from Kerala State Disaster Mnagement Authority and Kudumbashree inaugurated a series of training sessions for civil society groups, in the presence of the chief guest, Shri. Harikishore. S IAS, Executive Director, Kudumbashree, Govt.of Kerala

A collaborative initiative of NIDM, WHO, UNICEF, HCLF, WFP, Sphere India and other organizations, the COVID-19 Academy is a capacity-building initiative with a mission to enable frontline volunteers and outreach workers to mitigate the risk of Covid 19. COVID 19 academy- Kerala is a series of training sessions delivered in Malayalam organized jointly by Kerala State Disaster Management Authority, Kudumbashree & Sphere India. The Kerala academy had twelve technical sessions starting from 30th September covering diverse topics delivered through online platform (cisco-webex). The Academy's sessions are targeted towards participants from Kudumbashree, IAG member organizations, Aapta mithra volunteers, Sanadhasena, Kerala Civil Defense volunteers, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and academic institutions.

Inaugural Ceremony

In his Presidential note, Dr. Sekhar. L. Kuriakose, Member secretary, KSDMA said "covid-19 academy is a platform to discuss about Disaster risk reduction by bringing people from all fraternities related to disaster management. We need to talk more on disaster management in conjunction with humanitarian action because that's more relevant in the context of climate change. The main goal of this academy is to continuously provide a platform for the youth volunteers, elders and anybody who is willing to work on this field and to interact with experts". He thanked Sphere India for coordinating Inter Agency Groups for disaster preparedness and response.

During the inaugural session, Shri Harikishore said "Covid 19 Academy is a great visionary step. The focus on frontline workers is an enormous idea. To get volunteers educated and trained early is the biggest aspect and the focus on training in vernacular language is commendable. Trainings can be good in long run. Kudumbashree is conducting IEC campaign to inform the NHGs that elderly people should take special care to prevent the pandemic**."**

Prof. Santhosh Kumar, National Institute of Disaster Management said 'Kerala meant to set examples like 'Covid 19 Academy' that can be replicated by other states and the academy should focus on multi hazards, he urged greater *use of digital technology* to improve disaster education. Dr. Aravindkumar, pro vice chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University addressed the

COVID-19 Academy: Kerala - Launch Ceremony
Hosted by Kerala State Disaster Management Authority and Sphere India
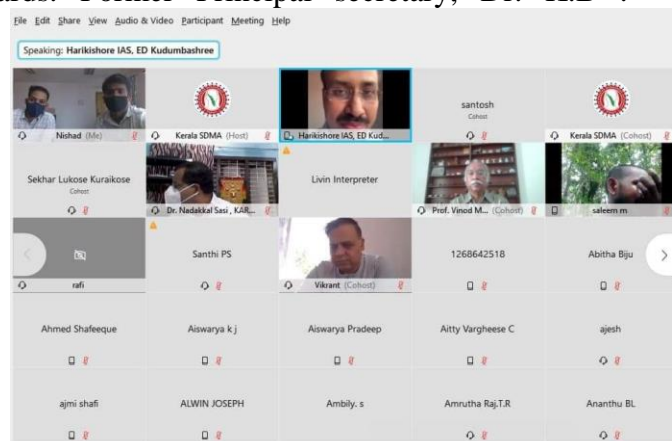
audience and briefed on pandemic diseases evolved in the world before COVID 19 and particularly emphasized on the need of adaptable lifestyle models and people need to learn to live with the virus. On behalf of National Disaster Management Authority, Mr Nawal Prakash, Joint advisor said the Academy need to develop a plan for involving Aapta Mithra volunteers that will bring needed skills and bring community ownership in disaster response.

Prof. Vinod C. Menon, former member, NDMA, pointed how the state mastered and became the role model in the fight against corona virus, that in the Covid 19 response, the state strengthened the surveillance and control measures against the disease. Kerala has utilized its earlier experience in Nipah virus to contain the COVID-19 spread. Shri Sarabjit Singh Sahota, UNICEF urged that Overlapping of hazards should be discussed in the academy, in India, many states are on the edge of witnessing overlapping hazards. Former Principal secretary, Dr. K.B .

Valsalakumari detailed the services provided by Kudumbashree in COVID 19 prevention activities. The mission has been in the forefront of COVID 19 19 response. The *academy' will* help *supplement the additional skills, she added*

Shri Rafi, coordinator, World Food Programme discussed the nutritional aspects for covid-19, The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in decline in food production, children have less access to preferred diets and that children do not receive the nutrition services they needed. Fr. Saji J Joseph, Loyola college of social science elaborated upon the disaster management education, the academy will be a good platform for Kerala to impart solid training to the frontline workers, he added. Shri Vikrant Mahajan, Sphere India said, Covid 19 academy opened the door to a new way of learning for frontline and volunteer community, and Kerala model can be replicated in other states also .

In the concluding remarks, Shri Joe George, State Project Officer, KSDMA expressed vote of thanks to all guests and participants.

COVID 19 Academy | Sessions Report

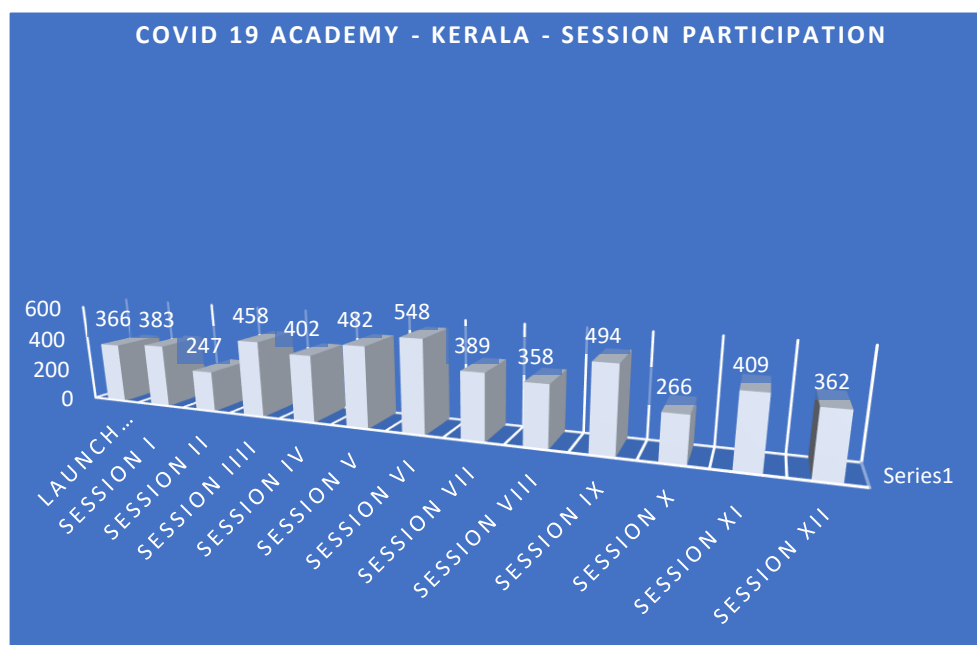| Total No of Sessions : 12 (Twelve)			
	6246 registrations		
	Total No. of Participants: 5164		Shareable Link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCK9yTrBmriWHK570NwLXNzg Resource Material: http://www.sphereindiacovid19academy.org/home/covid_kerala

Sphere India along with the support from Kerala State Disaster Management Authority and Kudumbashree organized a twelve - part webinar series from 29th September to 21st October

A collaborative initiative of NIDM, WHO, UNICEF, HCLF, WFP, Sphere India and other organizations, the COVID-19 Academy is a capacity-building initiative with a mission to enable frontline volunteers and outreach workers. COVID 19 academy- Kerala initiative is part of a series of training sessions delivered in Malayalam organized by Sphere India in association with Kerala State Disaster Management Authority and Kudumbashree (State Poverty Eradication Mission), Government of Kerala. The Academy's sessions are targeted towards participants from

Kudumbashree, IAG member organizations, Aptamithra volunteers, Sanadhasena, Kerala Civil defense, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and academic institutions.Each webinar aimed to address different aspects of Disaster management and disaster risk reduction providing an overview of disaster management scenario in the Kerala state with emphasise on current covid 19 pandemic and sharing good practices and recommendations.The academy was held through

CISCO Webex and video conferencing tool. Twelve sessions were conducted with 2 hours per session in each day. All sessions were supported with the service of sign language interpreter from National Institute of Speech and Hearing. For this Webinar series, registration link using webex was created. The link was circulated via emai invitation, and through various social media platforms.

Over five thousand participants, including Government officials, officials from Local Self Governments, Officials from Kudumbashree, Apta Mithra voulunteers, Civil defense volunteers, Sanadhasena volunteers and students from various academics, and representatives from research institutes, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) Inter Agency Groups joined the webinar series. In addition, officials from state disaster management authority and District disaster management authorities also took part in the programme. According to feedback from participants, the webinar was helpful for them to gain new knowledge and awareness on Disaster Risk reduction in the context of covid 19 pandemic. The webinar was also successful in providing both conceptual and policy guidelines with practical experience from both state and national experience.

The Webinar series discussed the following topics under twelve sessions:
Throughout the webinars there was engagement with questions and discussion. Additional questions on the topics specific to the participants' plants were also asked following the webinars. Post webinar support on each of the webinar topics was offered to participants, all webinar presentation materials were uploaded in covid academy website. The webinar format was a success and the timeframe of 1.5 – 2 hours appeared to be enough time to allow facilitation of discussions and cover the session theme. Session themes are as follows;

- Risk Communication & Community Engagement during Covid-19
- Understanding Gender, Gender Mainstreaming and Addressing GBV in Humanitarian Action
- Mental Health and Psycho social Issues during Covid 19
- Understanding Gender, Gender Mainstreaming and Addressing GBV in Humanitarian Action
- Role of Civil Society and CBOs (CDS,ADS,NHG) in the Covid 19 Preparedness and Response
- Disaster Planning ; State District & LSG plans
- School Safety
- PM's ten point Agenda for DRR
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Climate change abnd extreme events
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
- Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction

Registrants and attendees came from a broad cross The below table outlines the topics covered in each webinar as well as the number of registrations and attendees at each webinar.

Session	Date	Session Tile	Resource Person	No. Of registration	No of Participants	Webex video recording link (password: K@academy123)
	29 September 2020	Launch Session		No registration	366	Click Here
1	30 September 2020	Risk Communication & Community Engagement during Covid-19	Dr. Aneesh, Govt Medical College, Trivandrum,	636	383	Click Here
2	01 October 2020	Personal Protection of frontline workers during Covid 19	Dr. Ratheesh K H, Govt Medical College, Trivandrum,	327	247	Click Here
3	03 October 2020	Understanding Gender, Gender Mainstreaming and Addressing GBV in Humanitarian Action	Dr. B Valsalakumari IAS (Ret.), Former Principal Secretary, Govt. of Kerala	103	458	Click Here
4	05 October 2020	Mental Health and Psycho social Issues during Covid 19	Dr. Kiran P S, State nodal officer, Mental health programme, Govt. of Kerala	569	402	Click Here
5	07 October 2020	Role of Civil Society and CBOs (CDS,ADS,NHG) in the Covid 19 Preparedness and Response	Annie George, CEO, Bedrock	684	482	Click Here
6	09 October 2020	Disaster Planning ; State District & LSG plans	G. Padmanabhan, Former Emergency Analyst, UNDP	795	548	Click Here
7	12 October 2020	School Safety	*Hari Kumar* Regional Coordinator for South Asia, Geo Hazards.	658	389	Click Here
8	14 October 2020	PM's ten point Agenda for DRR	Jaimon Uthoop , Policy Specialist, SDGs, UNDP	485	358	Click Here

9	16 October 2020	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Dr. Joy Elaman, Executive Director, KILA	659	494	Click Here
10	17 October 2020	Climate change and extreme events	Dr. M.G Manoj Scientist, Cochin University of Science and Technology,	332	266	Click Here
11	19 October 2020	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)	Prof. Vinod . C. Menon, Former Member , NDMA	540	409	Click Here
12	21 October 2020	Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction	Dr. Muhamed Asheel, Executive Director, KSSM	458	362	Click Here

Webinar Attendance

Kerala Academy has hosted a total of 12 webinar The total number of people who have participated in all is 5164 , 6246 people pre-registered for the webinars, so participant rates were approximately 83 % of those who registered. According to the attendee reports, webinar and broadcast attendees were from all 14 districts of the state.

Key Points.

1. Webinar series created a demand among stakeholders through disseminating the messages at all level. Participation from Local Self Government department and other govt. line departments like Higher education and social justice is admirable.
2. The main function of the Kerala academy was to prepare the volunteers involved for covid 19 and other emergency responses. The volunteers groups loke Sanadhasena, Civil Defense and Apta Mithra thus had the opportunity to get to know the basics of DRR, to jointly discuss the respective instructions for use, to develop suggestions for improvement in response
3. Kudumbashree state mission has issued proceedings to all districts missions to ensure participation of officials and other fronline workers, while most of the participants from Kudumbashre mission. There is high number participation among CDS, ADS category who has been in the forefront of managing first line treatment centers arranged for covid treatment.
4. Educational institutions; Layola college , Trivandrum, Marian College, Viomala College, Holly cross college, St. Thomas college, LISSAH college were participated in various sessions.

5. To develop and update NGO/ civil society data bank at state and district level. Resource management is crucial in emergency operations

6. To assess training need of frontline workers and volunteers based on the findings of the training need assessment, sector wise capacity building training programme for volunteer groups to be developed.

7. Sector specific research and advocacy programme to be taken up in the field of disaster risk reduction by IAGs at district and State

8. Several participants commented on the need for follow up sessions to be able to explain the practical knowledge on Disaster risk reduction and associated activities.

9. In few sessions, due to connectivity errors, some participants were disconnected. After these webinars, participants commented on the need for proper internet connectivity, especially at rural locations.

Twelve webinars were delivered in this first phase of COVID 19 Academy - Kerala. These webinars aimed to build the knowledge and expertise in the COVID 19 frontline workers. The webinars were well received.

Report Prepared by	**Reviewed by**	**Approved by**
Sd/-	Sd/-	Sd/-
Vijeesh P	Joe John George	Dr Sekhar L. Kuriakose
Programme Coordinator	State Project Officer, KSDMA	Member Secretary, KSDMA

Welcome Address	Mr. Vijeesh, Coordinator Covid19 Academy – Kerala , Sphere India
Presidential Address	Dr Sekhar L. Kuriakose, Member Secretary, KSDMA
Inaugural address	Shri. Harikishore. S, Executive Director, Kudumbashree ,Govt.of Kerala
Keynote address	Prof. Santosh Kumar, Professor , NIDM
Special address	Dr. C. T. Aravindakumar Hon. Pro Vice-Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University
Felicitations	Shri. Nawal Prakash, Joint Advisor (CBT), NDMA
	Prof. Vinod,C, Menon Former Member NDMA
	Shri. Sarbjit Sahota. Disaster Risk Reduction Specialist , *UNICEF*
	Dr. Valsalakumari IAS (Rtd), former Principal secretary, Govt of Kerala
	Rafi P, Senior Programme Associate, WFP
	Fr. Saji Joseph , Professor, Layolla college of social work
	Shri. Vikrant Mahajan, CEO Sphere India
Participants Q&A	
Vote of Thanks	*Shri. Joe John George* *State Project Officer, KSDMA*