



Address: 15-A, Institutional Area, Sector – 4,
R K Puram, New Delhi – 110022
website: www.seedsindia.org

Report on State Workshop on Disaster Information Initiative

SEEDS organized the State Workshop on Disaster Information Initiative (DII) in partnership with the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) and Facebook in Thiruvananthapuram on May 27, 2019 at Hotel Residency Towers. The workshop was well attended by over 50 people from several organizations including different Govt. departments, UNDP, UNICEF, Sphere, CARE, ATREE, Thanal, Foundation for Development Action, CII, Aapdha Mithra, Community Radio stations, etc.

The workshop begun with Ms. Shelley Thakral, Head of Policy Programs, Central and South Asia, Facebook giving the opening remarks. It was followed by Dr. Sekhar Kuriakose, Member Secretary, KSDMA and Head (Scientist), State Emergency Operations Centre speaking about challenges in gathering and disseminating information while managing disasters and the advantages of using technology for getting real-time local information. Further, Dr. Manu Gupta, Co-Founder, SEEDS, made a presentation about the importance of local information in the changing face of disasters and introduced DII. He further added that it will be developed into a robust system after taking into account suggestions from the audience.

His session was followed by Mr. Rohit Singh, Policy Programs Manager, India and South Asia, Facebook speaking about Facebook's past work in crisis response and various tools that can be useful while managing disasters. The penultimate session had two speakers – Mr. Krishna Teja, Sub-Collector, Alleppey, and Mr. Jeremiah Coelho, Anbodu Kochi; who spoke about their experience in using Facebook for running campaigns to generate awareness, fundraise, and get support post the Kerala floods in 2018.

The last session, which was an interactive session with the audience to take their views, suggestions and questions on the Disaster Information Initiative was moderated by Mr. G Padmanabhan, Senior Fellow, SEEDS.

The DII will develop a system to source information from volunteers on the ground to prepare for, respond to and recover from a disaster. On an average about eight to ten volunteers per district will be selected to be a part of the DII program. The identified volunteers will be trained to provide information to help emergency services make a quick assessment of the situation and act swiftly.

During disasters, connectivity is affected if phone networks are jammed and roads are blocked. DII will serve as a platform to share near real-time and first-hand information on the extent of damage in their local communities. The information will be shared with State authorities to ensure timely decision making. Three major areas – access, speed and trend-based information, can aid near real-time decision making. The opportunity is also in using such technology to reach the unheard. 91% of disasters worldwide go silent, but with technology coming into play, remote and isolated communities too can have a voice.

As next steps, SEEDS will work with KSDMA to identify available resources and means to identify and train volunteers for the initiative.

Agenda for State Workshop on Disaster Information Initiative

Venue: Hotel Residency Towers (Galaxy Hall), Thiruvananthapuram

Date: 27th May, 2019

Sl. #	Item	Speaker/Facilitator	Time
1.	Opening Remarks	Ms. Shelley Thakral, Head of Policy Programs, Central and South Asia, Facebook	10:30 am – 10:45 am
2.	Challenges in Gathering and Disseminating Information while Managing Disasters and Importance of Real-Time Information	Dr. Sekhar Kuriakose, Member Secretary, Kerala State Disaster Management Authority & Head (Scientist), State Emergency Operations Centre	10:45 am – 11:15 am
3.	Local Information as Aid in the Changing Face of Disasters and Introduction to Disaster Information Initiative (DII)	Dr. Manu Gupta Co-founder, SEEDS	11:15 am – 11:45 am
4.	Introduction to Facebook's Work on Disasters - Work in Kerala with SEEDS, Tools Useful for Disaster Management	Mr. Rohit Singh Policy Programs Manager, India and South Asia, Facebook	11:45 am – 12:15 pm
5.	Case Studies from Kerala	Mr. Krishna Teja, Sub-Collector, Alleppey Jeremiah Coelho, Anabodu Kochi	12:15 pm – 12:45 pm
6.	Interactive Session on Developing the DII Platform	Mr. G Padmanabhan, Senior Fellow, SEEDS	12:45 pm – 1:15 pm
7.	Lunch		1:15 pm onwards

List of Participants

S. No.	Name	Organisation Name	Phone No	Email ID
1	Bipin S Kumar	Aapdha Mithra	9544862392	bipinskumar57@gmail.com
2	Chrislymon George	Aapdha Mithra	8281882862	chrislygeorge@gmai.com
3	Nevin Manoj	Aapdha Mithra	7561063873	nevinmanoj10@gmail.com
4	Saby Saji	Aapdha Mithra	8547321409	sabysaaaji@gmail.com
5	Amal Mathew	Aapdha Mithra	7559987749	amalgmk44@gmail.com
6	Sanju Suman	ATREE CERC	9746288054	sanju.suman@atree.org
7	Col. P G C Nair	IIEEMS	9446000472	bm-tvm@iieems.in
8	Neethu V. Thomas	KSDMA	9747570954	neethuvt0503@gmail.com
9	Joe George	KSDMA	9947756700	mailtojoe@gmail.com
10	Hari Balaji VR	CARE	8939037925	haribalaji.vr@gmail.com
11	Cyriac K.J.	NCRMP TVM	8547826900	cyriacncrmp@gmail.com
12	Midhunraj P	IIEEMS	9446000335	midhun.pr@iieems.in
13	Midhun V L	UNDP	9995050932	midhunvl@gmail.com
14	Sabith Umer	Thanal	9947922791	sabithumer@rediffmail.com
15	Surya A	NSS College Neeramankara	702591172	suryatvm1999@gmail.com
16	Arya Chandran	NSS College Neeramankara	858991554	aryachandranacs@gmail.com
17	Ann Mary George	Foundtaion for Develoment Action	8281910839	annmary.grg@gmail.com
18	Dr.Ummuselna	Joint Director (Health)	9447494342	duatupm@gmail.com
19	Jayakumar S	Information Officer	9496003204	webprd@kerala.gov.in
20	K M Aiyappam	Dy. Director, I&PRD	9496434224	akshethrapal@gmail.com
21	K.Vipin Raj	Radio Media Village - Chry	9447968033	mail@radiomediavillage.com
22	G. K Sunil	System Manager, Directorate of Panchayat	9947971535	systemmanagerdp@gmail.com
23	Indu V	Shelter Coordinator, UNDP	9496367928	ar.induv@gmail.com
24	Annie George	UNDP	9442100074	annie@bedroc.in
25	Shreeja Nair	UNDP	9871888664	shreejanair101@gmail.com
26	Pradeep N Wales	SBCID	9497990158	pradeepnwales@gmail.com
27	Sreeja s nair	UNDP	9810079551	sreejanair22@gmail.com
28	Noble Sam Prina	Media Village, Changanasemy	7736263695	noblesam63@gmail.com
29	Vyshnavi VK	Pallium India Trust	7907425026	vyshnavi@pallimindia.org
30	Vyasdev Yengkhom	UNDP	9899699273	vyas.yengkhom@gmail.com
31	Nonsa S M		9497920103	dotvm.frs@kerala.in
32	Ramesh Krishnan	FDA, TVM	8129207788	fdatvm@gmail.com
33	Praseeda Gopan	RA, CRD	9495379922	crdkerala@gmail.com
34	Vijeesh P	SPO, Sphere India	9746649029	vijeesh.gardigran@gmail.com
35	Bristin C baby	FDA, Pathanamthitta	9567027234	bristinsefaniya@gmail.com

36	Gina Mathew	FDA, Pathanamthitta	9037355598	g.numathew@gmail.com
37	Sreejith JS	KSDMA	8138070085	sonasekharan.sreejith@gmail.com
38	Rajeev TR	KSDMA	9656665755	rajeevtr8@gmail.com
39	Pradeep C	Radio Manglam 91.2	9447148959	toindu1982@gmail.com
40	Fr. Xavies	Radion Neythal	9446544899	fr.xaviesta@gmail.com
41	Dios. PF	Radion Neythal	9995683936	dios.p.f999@gmail.com
42	Appu Lenin	CM Web & SM	8800217472	appulenin@gmail.com
43	Shibu	KSDMA	9745567720	
44	Jsm azhm	UN		
45	Baby Arun	UN	9496316690	
46	Jawahar Lal	CII	9910475074	jawahar.k@cii.in
47	Siji M Thukulam	SDMA		
48	Krishna Teja IAS	Sub-Collector, Alleppey	9447495002	
49	Dr. Hema NN	IUCDS MG University	9995582671	
50	Hanasi N	UNDP	9979503901	
51	Nidhin Davis	KSDMA	9447519687	davisknidhin@gmail.com
52	Nisha M R	KSDMA	9567663503	
53	Anupama	KSDMA		
54	Parvathy S	KSDMA		