

June 2020

Annual Report 2019 - 2020

Kerala flood recovery project for system strengthening through GO-NGO Coordination.

A collaborative effort by Kerala State Disaster Management Authority and Sphere India

Submitted to
Kerala State Disaster Management Authority

Submitted by
Sphere India

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National Coalition of Humanitarian Agencies in India

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List of acronyms

AIDMI	All India Disaster Mitigation Institute
CBO	Community Based Organizations
CE	Chief Engineer
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CMO	Chief Medical Officer
CMRF	Chief Minister Relief Fund
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DDMA	District Disaster Management Authority
DDMP	District Disaster Management Plan
DDRF	District Disaster Response Force
DC	Deputy Commissioner
DDC	Deputy Development Commissioner
DMT	Disaster Management Team
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DEOC	District Emergency Operation Centre
EOC	Emergency Operation Centre
ESFs	Emergency Support Functionaries
EWS	Early Warning System
EFICOR	Evangelical Fellowship of India Commission on Relief
FRT	First Response Team
GIS	Geographic Information System
GP	Gram Panchayat
GPS	Global Position System
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
HRVCA	Hazard Risk Vulnerability Capacity Analysis
HVCA	Hazard Vulnerability Capacity Analysis
IAF	Indian Armed Force
IAG	Inter Agency Group
IAP	Immediate Action Plan
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
KSDMA	Kerala State Disaster Management Authority
IMT	Incident Management Teams
IRS	Incident Response System
IRT	Incident Response Team
IYA	Indira AwasYojna
LSG	Lower Selection Grade
MLA	Member of Legislative Assembly
MISP	Minimum Initial Service Package
MP	Member of Parliament
MPLADS	Member of Parliament Local Area Development Schemes
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
SDMA	State Disaster Management Authority
SEOC	State Emergency Operation Center

Executive Summary

This Report provides an overview of all activities and results delivered by the 'Kerala flood recovery project for system strengthening through GO-NGO Coordination', HCL foundation funded project implemented by Kerala State Disaster Management Authority, between March 2019 and May 2020.

In March 2019, Sphere India entered into an agreement with Kerala State Disaster Management Authority for implementing 'Kerala flood recovery project for system strengthening through GO-NGO Coordination'. Initially the programme started in 7 severely affected districts and later extended to the remaining seven districts of Kerala thereby covering the entire fourteen districts. The specific objective of the project was to strengthen disaster governance and its System through participatory inclusive resilience planning at state and district level. The project is of participatory nature and ensures participation of multi-stakeholders in all phases of project planning and execution to strengthen the institutional capacity of government agencies and vice-versa. Under the intervention, the partnership project implemented its activities in all fourteen districts in the state of Kerala. The project aimed to implement sustainable interventions in the Disaster Risk Reduction through building the capacity of communities, government agencies, local government representatives and other relevant stakeholders.

To ensure stakeholder involvement in disaster management planning, the project organised multilevel consultation meetings with line departments and civil society organisations at district and state level. Later on, project organized intensive training for stakeholders and other technical resources associated to the DDMP revision. The project has supported all fourteen DDMA's by appointing 14 coordinators to ensure technical support in plan revision. A process document was developed prior to implementation of the DDMP revision activities.

The Inter Agency Coordination in Kerala was established during the response of the devastating floods and landslides of 2018 by Sphere India with more than 172 national, international and local humanitarian organisation working together with the administration to help the affected. Today with this partnership project, the IAGs are established officially in all the 14 districts of Kerala with more than 420 member organisations.

There have been verifiable positive outcomes under objective 1 (Strengthening Disaster Governance through promoting resilience planning process:). These include the institutional strengthening in DDMA, including the creation of district level advisory committee to monitor DDMP revision; significantly improved coordination and cooperation between line departments and other civil society organisations.

Under Result objective 2 (NGO coordination framework for inclusion in the DM plans) the project has had verifiably positive achievements. These include the setting up of district level Inter Agency Groups and active involvement of the member organisations in the emergency response; Kerala flood and landslide 2019 and COVID 19., it is acknowledged that IAG involvement in resource mobilisation and shearing achieved and this indicates that involvement of civil society organisations in disaster risk reduction and preparedness. Capacity development through the provision of targeted training achieved much more substantial results. As mentioned above, there was also strengthened coordination between civil society organisations and line departments, as well as an increased sense of empowerment among government officials in relation to DRR mainstreaming. In addition, there has been strong commitment by the State Disaster Management Authority and District Disaster

Management Authority which played a major role in the project's positive results at state and district levels.

With the implementation of effective activities, project had to braw against some challenges and accomplished some major achievements.

1. District Disaster Management Plan – Revision completed in all fourteen districts in Kerala.
2. District level consultation meetings with nodal departments and civil society organisations completed in all fourteen districts in Kerala
3. District Advisory committee formed for first time in all fourteen districts for strengthening DDMA and DDMP review activities as per the DM Act-2005
4. State level Advisory committee formed for strengthening DDMP and SDMP review activities as per the DM Act-2005.
5. All districts prepared IAG charter and ratified by concerned IAG executive committee and officially shared with KSDMA.
6. All district administrations issued proceedings on IAG formation
7. Institutionalize inter agency coordination led by district and state government with ownership and participation of local civil society organizations, academia, CSR initiatives, media and other stakeholders completed in all fourteen districts in Kerala
8. Mapping of stakeholder groups completed in all fourteen districts in Kerala
9. Project Intervention created a demand among stakeholders through disseminating the messages at all level. Organizing sharing session, workshops, consultation meetings increased the knowledge level of the stakeholders on disaster risk reduction.
10. Initiatives were undertaken by district level IAGs in different aspects like inter agency coordination and mobilization of the volunteer resources towards emergency responses have promoted a smooth community support system in the districts.

However, an important lesson learned is that there is a need for constant support to DDMA and SDMA in disaster risk reduction and emergency response. It is also recognised that a significant amount of further support will be necessary to ensure that the Inter Agency Coordination is sustainable. It is critical that both the DDMA/SDMA and, local self governance institutions, continue to provide required support to Inter Agency Coordination in district and state level. In conclusion, it should be noted that the project was ambitious in its aims, in that it has made a significant contribution in supporting the District Disaster Management Authorities to strengthen their capacities to implement planning process.

1. Project Background

1.1 Project Context-

Kerala is a state on the south-western Malabar Coast of India. The state has one percent of India's geographical area and three percent of its population. Kerala, which lies in the tropic region, is mostly subject to humid tropical wet climate experienced by most of Earth's rainforests. Eastern Kerala consists of the Western Ghats; the region includes high mountains, gorges, and deep-cut valleys with dense forests, while other regions lie under tea and coffee plantations and other forms of cultivation. Year 2017- 2018, the state of Kerala has experienced worst disasters as cyclone Ockhie in December 2017 leaving 218 dead and over 500 primarily fishermen missing in Kerala. Further in August 2018, Kerala experienced worst most devastating floods in the history of the state, resulting in loss of 474 lives. 14.5 lakh people were displaced who took shelter in more than 12000 relief camps and approximately 13,000 houses were either fully destroyed or seriously damaged. One sixth of Kerala's population has been directly affected by the floods and related incidents. A series of landslides across the western Ghats added to the flood impact.

These disasters exposed the level of preparedness of the governance system who was very complacent with disaster management for having not faced any serious disasters over decades. The vulnerability of communities and infrastructure also emerged clearly. While the State has one of the highest indices on human development in India, there remain a large vulnerable population with almost no sensitisation and emergency preparedness at community level for such disasters.

1.2 Sphere India response towards Kerala flood 2018

The Joint Detailed Assessment Conducted by Sphere India in the month of September 2018 have covered the most important sectors such as Gender, Health, Nutrition, Shelter, WASH, Communications, Education, Heritage, Protection, and Livelihood. With five Inter agency Coordinators deployed in the 10 most affected districts, Sphere have provided a unified platform for the humanitarian agencies and collaboration with the district administration of these districts and conducted 31 district and 3 state level IAG meetings within a period of three months. In addition to the coordination, Sphere has conducted various events, conferences and workshops to share knowledge on humanitarian coordination, Disaster Risk Reduction, minimum standards and collaborative advocacy. In partnership with KSDMA, Rebuild Kerala Initiative and UNDP, Sphere have conducted a two day seminar cum exhibition Disaster Risk Reduction for Navakeralam on 3rd and 4th of December 2018 at Thiruvananthapuram. Communicating with Communities (CwC) is another initiative led by Sphere India. A Community Working Group working group has also been set up with representatives of various stakeholder groups.

Having supported the Govt of Kerala with Emergency response coordination in affected districts and in integrating accountability to affected population standards and practices in Govt of Kerala, Sphere India is partnering with Govt of Kerala to address the most vital gap to strengthen governance systems with effective disaster management planning at state and district level, revising state disaster management policies and supporting capacity building efforts for DDMA and communities in building resilient communities. In March 2019, Sphere India entered into agreement with Kerala State Disaster Management Authority for implementing 'Kerala flood recovery project for system strengthening through GO-NGO Coordination'. Initially the programme started in 7 severely affected districts and later extended to the remaining seven districts of Kerala thereby covering the entire 14 districts. The specific objective of the project was to strengthen Disaster Governance and its System through participatory inclusive resilience planning at state and district level.

1.3 Objective, Purpose

To strengthen Disaster Governance and System through participatory inclusive resilience planning processes and capacity building at state, district, and community level.

1.3.1 Specific Objective 1

To strengthen Disaster Governance and System through participatory inclusive resilience planning processes and at state, district and community level.

- Revision of DDMPs in fourteen districts.
- Revision of State Disaster Management Policy and Policy on Minimum Standards for Kerala.
- Support for mainstreaming and converging DRR, Climate risk management in development plans of local self-governments

1.3.2 Specific Objective 2

To institutionalize inter agency coordination led by district and state Government with ownership and participation of local civil society organizations, academia, CSR initiatives, media and other stakeholders.

- IAG institutionalization and NGO coordination
- Mapping of sectoral NGO and other stakeholder capacities

1.3.3 Specific Objective 3

Capacity building of Local self-governments on localizing, converging and mainstreaming DRR, CCA in development planning.

- Capacity Building of Panchayaths on DRR, CCA localization, convergence and mainstreaming in development planning.
- Training on modal village disaster management plan.

1.4 Duration of the project

Duration for implementing ‘Kerala flood recovery project for system strengthening through GO-NGO Coordination’ was for a period of fifteen months starting from March 2019 to May 2020.

1.5 Geographical Coverage

The project covered all 14 districts of the state of Kerala; namely Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alapuzha, Pathanamthitta, Idukki, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Wayanad, Kannur, Kasargod.

2. Project Management and Project Staff

Sphere India in consultation with KSDMA hired professionals having work experiences in the field of disaster risk management. Initially a State Project Officer and seven District Project Coordinators were appointed which was followed by seven other DPO’s. Apart from this one Media Consultant was also hired for development knowledge materials. The project advertised DPC positions through the visible online portals and mailing Job portals and professional social media circles, additionally, the project used Inter Agency Group platforms in national and state level for announcing the positions. Following a strict equal opportunity policy, The first round of interviews held on March 15th and second round held on 26th July and it continues till 29th July.

As a part of project management strategy, Sphere India established a project unit with one state project officer and fourteen district coordinators. Additionally, an implementation Committee established with the Chief Executive Officer, Sphere India, and Manger, inter agency coordination to monitor and review the project direction.

3. Progress against Planned and Results

Planned Verses Actual			
Activities under each objectives	Actual at Completion	Explanation on Variance/Changes	Supporting Document link
Strengthening Disaster Governance through promoting Resilience Planning process:Revision of DDMPs in 14 districts			
Nodal officer for DDMP revision	District based activities were successfully completed in all fourteen districts	No variance The department and civil society consultations on the other hand reached a much larger participant than originally anticipated	Click Here
Desktop review of existing DDMP			Click Here
Resource inventory updating and verification			
Consultation with Nodal Departments		No Variance Lessons learned include the realization that greater dissemination of DRR information has a deep impact on line departments and civil society organisations.	State level consolidated Report and District level reports and supporting documents- Click Here
Consultation with civil society organization			Civil society consultation – State level consolidated Report and District level reports and supporting documents- Click Here
State and District Advisory committee	DDMA constituted advisory committee at district level. Organised district level DDMP advisory meetings and state level meeting.	No Variance	Click here
DDMP Drafting	All fourteen districts submitted first draft of Volume I, II, III, IV	The drafting was delayed from the originally planned timeline	Draft document Officially shared with KSDMA Click Here
Final Stakeholder consultation workshop		This process is delayed by current health emergency (covid 19) in the state. As a precautionary measure, Kerala state government has declared health emergency and closed down schools and banned all public meetings including government events	
Finalization in DDMA		This process is delayed by current health emergency (covid 19) in the state. As a precautionary measure, Kerala state government has declared health emergency and closed down schools and banned all public meetings including government events	
Presentation of the DDMP (draft):			
Approval from SDMA			
Improving the minimum relief standards of Kerala		No Variance	

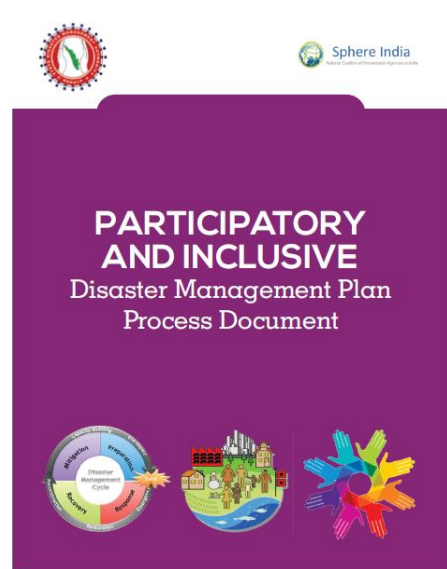
Revision of State Disaster Management Plan		No Variance Draft submitted to KSDMA	Click Here
NGO coordination framework for inclusion in the DM Plans			
IAG Charter/ IAG formation Proceedings	All districts prepared IAG charter and ratified by concerned IAG executive committee and officially shared with Sphere India..	No variance	Click Here
	IAG formation proceeding from DDMA	No variance	IAG official Proceedings Click Here IAG Meeting minutes and Attendance- Click Here
Mapping of NGOs in each district.	Development of NGOs database and mapping of sector specific for the district level IAGs members in fourteen districts	No variance	Click here

4. Activities implemented during the project period

4.1 Harmonized District Disaster Management Plan process document

The aim of Harmonized District Disaster Management Plan process document is to serve as a best practice to be followed while preparing a participatory and inclusive District Disaster Management Plan. Considering the reality of the increasing risk of natural and man-made disasters, the focus laid lot of emphasis on disaster management planning through participatory approached. The document also aims to support as a guideline for the authorities at different level and different stakeholder groups involved in the process of development of participatory district disaster management plans. The document development process was participatory and included several rounds of consultations with all stakeholders at national and state level like NDMA, NIDM, KSDMA, AIDMI, Caritas India, UNICEF India, TearFund, EFICOR and others member of Sphere India.

The document includes the description of process involved in participatory DDMP development, list of suggested stakeholder groups and suggested tool for mapping, list of databases and questionnaires for collection of relevant data. The document also suggests outline of chapters of DDMP volumes. This process document has attempted to capture best practices emerging from initial pilots and subsequent process improvement during replication in other districts in different parts of India. The document serves the purpose of awareness and capacity building on disaster management planning. The purpose of the document is to promote innovation, process improvement and continuous learning and to create opportunities for regularly updating the document itself. The document is an attempt to develop certain minimum standards, non-negotiable principles and processes for the disaster management planning.



The document was made available to all other stakeholders including line department, civil society organisations in both English and Malayalam languages.

4.1.1 Agreed process guideline with KSDMA for DDMP revision/development

Guideline for updating District Disaster Management Plan was developed. The guideline includes systematic process & ways, minimum standards, non-negotiable principles and provisions of flexibilities for updating the DDMP's by giving ample amount of weightage to local conditions and parameters.

4.2 Two-Day Training Programme cum Consultation on Development of Participatory District Disaster Management Plan

The Two Day Training Programme cum Consultation on Development of Participatory DDMP revision was held on 29th and 30th July 2019 at Kerala State Disaster Management Authority. The



DDMPs revision process needs to be owned and coordinated by District Disaster Management Authority. It should be owned by all other stakeholders. DDMP preparation requires a planned and systematic approach towards understanding and analysing the facts and phenomenon associated with each disaster. It involves systematic observation and analysis of measures relating to disaster prevention and risk reduction, emergency response, recovery and development. The main motive to this workshop is to find strategies, ways and measures to develop DDMPs

through participation and involvement of different stakeholders. Involvement and participation of the district level DM practitioners will ensure a collective and coordinated action during DDMP revision. The participants included Hazard Analysts from State Emergency Operation Centre, Hazard Analysts from District emergency operation centres, District Project Coordinators of Sphere India, District Programme Officers of UNDP. Output from the workshops as follows;

- Familiarized DDMP revision process, templates and structure.
- Gained inputs on the HVCA, methodology, resource inventory, check list, and maps in DDMP revision process.
- Time frame for DDMP revision process finalised

4.3 Desktop review of existing District Disaster Management Plans

During the consultation meeting, wherein template for reviewing the existing DDMPs' were developed and inputs from district level hazard analysts, and other officials from SEOC-KSDMA collected on process and methodology for updating the DDMPs. Desk top review of existing DDMPs have been performed after thorough reading and analyzing of the existing DDMP of each district. The new outline developed for revising of DDMP is used as the base structure for reviewing the document. In the review document, details are placed under three columns which shows the contents in existing and proposed DDMP. A short note regarding proposed contents is given in the right column. As of now District Disaster Management Plans of all the 14 districts have been reviewed.

District	No of Nodal Officers
Trivandrum	42
Kollam	53
Alapuzha	43
Pathanamthitta	43
Idukki	48
Kottayam	49
Ernakulam	41
Thrissur	54
Palakkad	25
Malapuram	50
Kozhikode	43
Wayanad	32
Kannur	54
Kasargod	32

4.4 Nomination of nodal officers for disaster management

District level nodal officer were nominated from each line departments to oversee the execution of DRR activities and to update the existing DDMP's. Nodal officers were placed in all the districts and they have contributed a lot in updating the

DDMP's of respective districts. It helps the district administration to effectively coordinate DDMP revision process and associated activities. The anticipated output will help the district administration in designing proper and scientific District Disaster Management Plan. To facilitate the process, DDMA chairperson wrote a letter to all Government line departments, sub divisions, circles and LSGs to nominate a suitable person as nodal officer for disaster management in respective office.

4.5 State and district advisory committees

In exercise of power conferred under section 28 of the Disaster Management Act 2005, a district advisory committee has to be formed to advise the District Disaster Management Authority for efficient discharge of its functions and reviewing of Disaster management Plan. District level advisory committees were formed in all the fourteen districts of Kerala to monitor and provide support to update the existing District Disaster Management Plans. The committee comprises of officials from line departments and experts from scientific institutions, and civil society organisation having proven capacity in DRR and related field.



4.6 1st State level advisory committee meeting

The first meeting of the advisory committee of system strengthening with revision of district disaster management plans and state policies was held on 05, February 2020 at Hotel Prashanth, Thiruvananthapuram. The meeting was attended by Dr Sekhar L Kuriakose, Member secretary, Kerala State Disaster Management Authority, Mr. Vikranth Mahajan, CEO, Sphere India, representatives of member organisations like Caritas India, EFICOR, Plan India, Members from donor agency like HCL. Mr John Samuel, President, ISGD, Marshal Kumar, HCL Foundation, Fr. Paul Moonjely ,Executive Director Caritas India , Mr. N.M Prusty, Mr. Sam, Plan India Mr. G Sankar, Rtd. Scientist F, National Centre for Earth Science Studies, Dr. Sreekumar, Rtd. Professor , Geologist ,



Director IRTC Mundoor, Dr. Manoj, Asst. Professor, CUSAT, Meteorologist, Mr. C. E. Muraleedharan, Deputy Director General GIC (Rtd) , Geologist, Dr. Shijo Joseph, Asst. Professor, KUFOS, GIS Expert, Dr. Henna, Asst. Professor, MG University, IUCDS, Disability Expert, Dr.

Ajith, Head, Emergency Medicine Dept. Kolenchery Medical college, Ms. Elia Jafar, Sphere India, Mrs. Annie George, Founder, BEDROC , Adv. Sandhya J, Ex. Member, Child Rights Commission & Chairperson, Local Complaints, Dr. Dineshan, Scientist (Rtd), CWRDM, were also present.

Dr Sekhar L Kuriakose delivered opening remarks, in his opening remarks, Dr. Sekhar. L. Kuriakose apprised the members about the Sphere India- KSDMA partnership project, Mr. Vikrant Mahajan, gave a presentation on the status of the ongoing project and plan for next two months. DDMP revision

process was detailed by district coordinators, followed by panel discussion on draft DDMP and process. The major discussion points includes preparation of Departmental DM Plans, Institutionalization of the nodal officers nominated for the purpose of revision of DDMPs, Private hospitals’ coordination system during emergencies, capacity building of LSG for Emergency response, HVCA analysis, challenges faced during the preparation of DDMPs etc.

4.7 Consultation meeting with nodal departments

Consultation meetings under the aegis of District Disaster Management Authority were organised in all the 14 districts of Kerala. The consultation meeting was attended by nodal officers from various line departments and local bodies (the Grampanchayats and urban local bodies) wherein feedback and comments of nodal officers were collected and compiled. The exercise also helped in ensuring participation of line departments and local bodies in the process of DDMP updation.



The purpose of the meeting was to brief the objectives and expected results of revision of District Disaster Management Plan; that includes review of existing DDMP by each nodal department, training needs of each Nodal Department in the light of 2018 and 2019 floods and incident response system and rollout plan of each department

Following are the detail of Nodal officer consultation meeting held in fourteen districts.

Sl. No	Name of District	Nodal officer consultation meeting date	No of Nodal Department attended
1	Trivandrum	10 October 2019	23
2	Kollam	17 October 2019	45
		23 October 2019	48
3	Alapuzha	26 August 2019	54
4	Pathanamthitta	31 October 2019	27
5	Kottayam	17 October 2019	50
6	Idukki	18 October 2019	42
7	Ernakulam	28 October 2019	34
8	Thrissur	09 October 2019	48
9	Palakkad	11 October 2019	35
10	Malappuram	11 October 2019	52
11	Kozhikode	06 November 2019	40
12	Wayanad	23 October 2019	40
13	Kannur	13 November 2019	51
14	Kasargod	01 November 2019	36

4.8 Consultation meeting with civil society organisation

Consultation with civil society organizations was organised in all the fourteen districts of Kerala to ensure multi-stakeholder participation in updating District Disaster Management Plan document. The event was also used to decipher the role of NGO, civil society organizations and community-based organization in updating DDMP’s. The existing core components of the DDMPs were presented before the audience and feedback collected on resource/data development and management, promotion of volunteerism, community training need and disability inclusive DRR etc.



The meeting was attended by District Collector/ Deputy Collector (Disaster management), Additional district magistrate and representatives of various civil society organisations like Non Government Organisation, Community Based organisations, representatives of media, youth clubs, voluntary societies, trade unions etc. The purpose of the meeting was to brief the objectives and expected results of revision of District Disaster Management Plan; that includes review

of existing DDMP by civil society, training needs of civil society organisations in the light of 2018 and 2019 floods. The consultation meetings were organised keeping in view the significance of role of civil society and other community based organisations in the process of developing District Disaster Management plan.

Following are the detail of civil society consultation meeting held in fourteen districts.

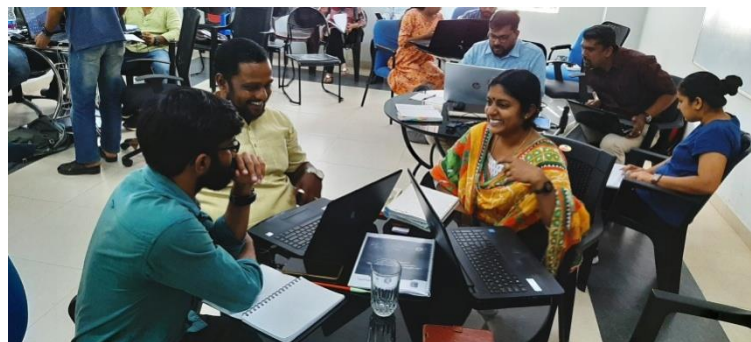
Sl. No	District	Civil society consultation meeting date	No of Civil society organisations attended
1	Trivandrum	07 November 2019	75
2	Kollam	16 November 2019	38
3	Alapuzha	15 October 2019	19
4	Pathanamthitta	14 November 2019	16
5	Kottayam	02 November 2019	32
6	Idukki	15 October 2019	29
7	Ernakulam	23 November 2019	24
8	Thrissur	22 October 2019	35
9	Palakkad	18 October 2019	17
10	Malappuram	29 October 2019	53
11	Kozhikode	07 November 2019	56
12	Wayanad	22 October 2019	34
13	Kannur	13 November 2019	35
14	Kasargod	02 November 2019	35

4.9 DDMP document drafting

One of the major tasks given to the project was to update the existing District Disaster Management Plans of all the fourteen districts. First draft of all the 14 DDMP's (volume I, II, III & IV) is submitted to KSDMA for perusal. The DDMP drafting process completed through various consultation meetings and write - shops at state and district levels;

4.9.1 Consultation meeting

The consultation meeting was organised for the district coordinators and hazard analysts from 5th to 7th December 2020 at KSDMA, Trivandrum.



4.9.2 Write- shop

The first write-shop was organised for the district coordinators and



hazard analysts from 3rd to 6th February 2020 at KSDMA, Trivandrum. The program included:

- Writing exercise on format for DDMP document
- An input on writing structure and style
- Peer review of draft sections of the DDMP document

The write-shop participants, there were, including Dr Sekhar L Kuriakose, Member secretary, Kerala State Disaster Management Authority, Mr. Vikranth Mahajan, CEO, Sphere India, Ms. Elia Jafar, Sphere India as facilitators.

4.10 SDMP Document drafting

Another task given to the project was to update the existing State Disaster Management Plans. First draft of all four volumes is submitted to KSDMA for perusal.

4.11 Formation and institutionalization of IAG

Inter-Agency Groups (IAGs) are multi stakeholder coordination platforms at state and district levels in India. The purpose of IAG includes, ensure coordination among NGOs/INGOS/Govt agencies during emergency and peace time, avoid duplication of works, prevent human suffering, promote and facilitate collaboration and coordination among various actors and agencies working with communities in a state before, during and after emergencies. Varying from state to state, they also engage and collaborate with Govt., Corporate, Academia, Media and other key stakeholders. Under the project, IAG as a coordination



forum was formed in all the 14 districts of Kerala during the second quarter A total of 395 NGO's and other organizations are currently part of the IAG.

4.11. 1 IAG Charter

IAG charter was prepared by IAG member NGOs after a series of consultations. The Charter is a document which provides a broader framework to IAG member organizations to carry out various agreed activities of KSDMA-Sphere India partnership programme. The Charter describes about the goal, objectives, membership details and constitution of IAG executive committees. In short, the Charter is like By-Law of the IAG.

4.11.2 IAG official Proceedings: District collector (chairperson DDMA) issued

District	Date of IAG coordination Meeting
Trivandrum	07 January 2020, 29 February 2020
Kollam	11 October 2019, 17 October 2019 ,13 April 2020
Alapuzha	15 July 2019, 10 August 2019 ,18 March 2020
Pathanamthitta	21 August 2019, 14 November 2019, 27 January 2020 , 16 March 2020
Idukki	10 July 2019, 05 August 2019, 20 August 2019, 18 March 2020
Kottayam	30 October 2019
Ernakulam	23 September 2019
Thrissur	15 July 2019, 17 March 2020
Palakkad	28 November 2019 , 20 December 2020, 03 May 2020
Malapuram	24 October 2019, 16 March 2020
Kozhikode	21, December 2019 ,13, March 2020
Wayanad	06 May 2019, 10 August, 05 September 2019, 26 September 2019, 22 October 2019 , 12 March 2020
Kannur	18 October 2019
Kasargod	18 December 2019

proceedings on IAG formation.

4.11.3 Development of database of NGOs and stakeholders

District wise mapping of NGOs were completed with the help of DEOC/DDMA. The database includes updated contact details (phone number, e-mail id, website) of the NGO, their area of expertise and human resource capacity etc.

4.12 Workshop on Networking for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation For IAG

Workshop on Networking for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation for IAG members was held on 07, March 2020 at Hotel Appolo Dimora, Trivandrum. The programme was co hosted by Sphere India, Unicef and KSDMA. The participants were, Inter Agency Group representative from each district and representatives of DDMA's.

The programme was chaired by Dr. K.B Valsalakumari IAS (Rtd), Former Principal Secretary, Revenue & Disaster Management. Member Secretary, KSDMA Dr Sekhar L Kuriakose



inaugurated the programme. Orientation lectures were delivered by Mr. Siji M Thankachan, Chief Manager KSDMA, Mr. Joe John George, State Project Manager KSDMA, Mr. Pradeep GS, Hazard & Risk Analyst, Mr. Vijeesh P, State Project Officer KSDMA-Sphere Project and Dr. Pratheesh Maman, Project Coordinator, KSDMA-UNICEF programme. Discussions centred around the possible arena of collaborative preparedness work. Good models from various districts were discussed.

Major Recommendations of the workshop;

District level coordination with DDMA/DEOC for DRR actions

1. Capacity building programme to be designed in a manner wherein IAG member organizations are kept engaged during peace time for preparedness activities. Periodic review and monitoring meetings to be conducted by using new human resource structure at state and district level.
2. Sector wise interventions like – livelihoods, shelter management, inclusive DRR, climate change and bio-diversity, trauma care and psychosocial support can be systematically implemented at districts by linking with IAG Member organisations.
3. Sector specific research and advocacy programme to be taken up in the field of disaster risk reduction by IAGs at district and State
4. To develop interactive mobile application for IAG member organizations for disaster response
5. District administration to issue identity card to all IAG member organisations
6. IAG shall meet once in a month under the chairmanship of district collector. Joint meeting with DDMA to be conducted to familiarize the aims and functions of IAG



IAG Database

1. It is essential to develop and update NGO/ civil society data bank at state and district level. Resource management is crucial in emergency operations.

2. District administration to call of the agencies at taluk level / village level meeting with representative from panchayat to form local platform to IAG. This will help them out to carry the sectoral mapping of all the recourses/skills available in the district.
3. It is essential to develop Emergency ROSTER at state and district level. Emergency Roster is a detailed document of volunteerism and willingness certificate issued by an individual who commit himself / herself to work in emergencies

IAG Capacity building

1. It is essential to assess training need of IAG member organizations based on the findings of the training need assessment, sector wise capacity building training programme for IAG member organizations to be developed.
2. Conduct evaluation and documentation of IAG coordination
3. seek the continued support from all government departments e.g. KSDMA, DDMA, Department of Revenue, Local self government, Police, Fire and Rescue service ect
4. Organize documentation and publicity on the IAG interventions; newsletters, video documentations ect.

Financial resource for IAG

1. It is essential to develop annual work plan with financial provision for IAG related activities at state and district
2. To mobilise Corporate Social Responsibility funds from private and Public sector companies.

4.13 IAG Emergency responses

4.13.1 IAG response towards Kerala flood and landslide 2019

Extreme monsoon rains have come to Kerala for the second year in a row, causing thousands to run off their homes and leading to more than a hundred deaths. Inter Agency Groups had been assessing the situation across the state closely through coordination with various partner agencies. Having been working on the ground in Kerala through the last one year, IAG s has an active presence in the state. During post flood response, emergency IAG coordination meetings are held at state and district level. The District control room coordinated the efforts by involving all humanitarian agencies in the response to the floods. The IAG response was coordinated through; District level officers meeting, daily situation analysis meeting, emergency IAG meeting and relief and response strategy planning.

State level emergency coordination meeting was held on 10th August 2019 at KSDMA, Trivandrum .The discussion was initiated and moderated by Mr. Job Zacharia, UN recovery coordinator. Mr. Vijeesh. P, SPO, Sphere India welcomed the



participants and invited Mr. Siji. M. Thankachan, Session officer, KSDMA to share the current situation in Kerala. The event was co facilitated by Ms. Valsalakumari IAS (retired) and Ms. Annie George , UNDP state coordinator. NGO heads of 32 organisations participated in the event and sheared their current resources, area of expertise and what they can contribute in the current emergency prevailing in the state of Kerala. Mr. Vijeesh.P introduced URS matrix with details of the components of the matrix. After the presentation, the NGO heads were issued copies of URS matrix and ask them to fill up the matrix.

4.13.2 IAG response towards COVID-19

The humanitarian support contributed by the NGOs and civil society organisations under Inter Agency Group platform was commendable. Initiation of Inter Agency Groups (IAGs) with the technical support from Kerala State Disaster Management Authority is a milestone step to strengthen the partnership between the NGOs and Government. The collaborative efforts during the pandemic demonstrated the importance of coordination in disaster management. The release of IEC materials, helpline for Migrant labourers, general public, foreign citizen etc., Psychosocial support to the home quarantined, Medical equipment, ambulance service, and the list goes on if we look at the service delivered by the IAGs. The volunteer support is one



major area with which the IAG members handholding the Government. The tireless efforts of volunteers spread across the districts to help the affected, prevent in infection, serve the needy etc. are commendable.

District	IAG covid-19 response meeting
Kozhikode (Calicut)	13, March
Thrissur	17 March
Idukki	18 March
Malappuram	16 March
Wayanad	12 March
Alapuzha	18 March
Pathanamthitta	16 March
Kollam	13 April
Palakkad	03, May
State Level	13 th and 27 th April

major area with which the IAG members handholding the Government. The tireless efforts of volunteers spread across the districts to help the affected, prevent in infection, serve the needy etc. are commendable.

Emergency Inter Agency Coordination meetings

District and state level IAG emergency meetings were organized towards COVID 19 preparedness to mobilize volunteers and to coordinate NGO activities. The district IAG meetings were chaired by respective district collectors/deputy collectors (Disaster Management).

4.14 Quarterly project review meeting

Quarterly project review meeting was held at conference hall, Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), Trivandrum on 28th December 2019 to review the current progress, timeline of key deliverables activities and addressing HR/logistics issues of the project. Following meeting with project team, a review meeting was held with Dr.Sekar. L. Kuriakose, Member secretary, KSDMA on 30th December 2019 at KSDMA office, Trivandrum, during which the revised work plan was presented. The meeting was attended by Mr Vikrant Mahajan, CEO- Sphere India, Ms. EiliaJafar, Advisor – Programme, Sphere India along with team members from KSDMA and Sphere India – KSDMA partnership staff.



Key discussions and decisions

- A write shop shall be conducted in January to draft DDMP
- An Advisory Committee meeting shall be conducted in conjunction with the write-shop to support the process and to review policy documents
- Sphere India will be acknowledged for providing Human Resource capacity for preparation of GPDMPs in the initiative of KSDMA and KILA. It was decided that a letter from KSDMA will be provided to acknowledge this support. It was also decided that VDMP is not relevant in Kerala systems as GPs are very strong and will be acquiring additional capacities through GPDMP. Therefore this activity may be dropped from work plan.
- Inclusion of education, disability friendliness and other standards in HSP app may be considered in minimum standards of relief policy to be updated for Kerala.
- Digital platform (application) to be created for DDMP may be a standalone app or separate module in existing KSMDA APP. Detailed plans will be developed for implementation after final DDMPs and other policy documents have been released.
- Sphere India shall submit DDMP process document (Malayalam and English version) to KSDMA for release during advisory committee meeting.

4.15 Major lessons learned

1. Project Intervention created a demand among stakeholders through disseminating the messages at all level. Organizing sharing session, workshops, consultation meetings show increased the knowledge level of the stakeholders on disaster risk reduction.
2. Initiatives were undertaken by district level IAGs in different aspects like inter agency coordination and mobilization of the volunteer resources towards emergency responses have promoted a smooth community support system in the districts.
3. Civil society organisation system is well functioning at the community level but IAG coordination is yet to effectively contribute in districts like Kollam, Kottayam, Kannur and Kasargod. Our efforts to ensure participation of local organisations shown significantly positive results.

4.16 Major bottlenecks and challenges and measure undertaken

Some of the activities are delayed due to recent flood in the state during the month of August 2019 that led to shift of priorities of KSDMA and DDMA official on emergency assignment for rescue, relief and rehabilitation activities till the 2nd week of September 2019. Final stakeholder consultation meetings delays by current health emergency (COVID 19) in the state. As a precautionary measure, Kerala state government has declared health emergency and closed down schools and banned all public meetings including government events. During the initial project implementation period, one of the major challenges faced was to ensure participation of line departments in the process. In order to ensure their participation, project formed advisory committees with members from line departments.

4.17 Phase-out and sustainability plan

It is an essential element of the project that by the project's end DDMA and other stakeholders will have the capacity to formulate, and monitor the implementation of project deliverables. It is clear that the SDMA/DDMA has made very significant progress and is now capable of continuing activities using its own staff. The project is in partnership with Govt. of Kerala, KSDMA, all the processes and outputs will be owned by Govt. of Kerala and integrated as processes in Governance system. Thus, it will be sustained by Government resources. Further, the project has mobilised stakeholder groups, defining their roles and responsibilities. There are specific areas where further training and capacity development will be required, but it is considered that the Disaster Management Authorities can identify these and seek appropriate solutions. One such major initiative by KSDMA is that, for the

first time KSDMA has added a separate section on roles and responsibilities and functional guidelines for district IAGs in disaster management orange Book published in May 2020 ([Click Here](#)). Additionally finance provision been allocated for IAG coordination by KSDMA for 2020-2021 finance year.

There are also objective indicators that the DDMA's have made substantial progress in developing their capacities to implement DRR activities. Several DDMA's have already developed strategies to sustain IAG platform under its own capacity. In districts like Palakkad, Ernakulam and Thrissur, DDMA's initiated IAG platforms at Taluk level. IAG proceedings issued by DDMA's are the right step towards IAG institutionalisation. In addition, the active involvement of civil society organisations and IAG member organisations at district level should make a significant contribution to the sustainability of IAGs, as well as offering future partnerships for further DRR initiatives.

4.18 Conclusion

The project is one of a unique kind of intervention to strengthen disaster governance and system through participatory inclusive resilience planning processes and capacity building at state, district, and community level. The intervention has started a process for the stakeholder to act in a more united way and opened new way to the stakeholders to act in disaster response and risk reduction. It has also changed the existing situation of civil society participation in unified disaster response. In a significant way, the one year intervention has equipped DDMA's in disaster planning process and associated activities with full confidence.

4.18.1 Supporting documents

Copy/link of materials/reports produced

1) Consultation Meetings

- Nodal officer - State level consolidated Report and District level reports and supporting documents- [Click Here](#)
- Civil society consultation – State level consolidated Report and District level reports and supporting documents- [Click Here](#)
- District Level Consultation Documents: [Click Here](#)

2) Disaster Management Plans

- DDMP Draft [Click Here](#)
- SDMP Draft [Click Here](#)
- Desktop review of existing DDMP (2015) [Click Here](#)
- Desktop review of existing SDMP (2016) [Click Here](#)

3) Nodal officer for DDMP revision [Click Here](#)

4) State and District Advisory committee [Click here](#)

5) IAG

- IAG Charter [Click Here](#)
- IAG official Proceedings [Click Here](#)
- NGO Mapping [Click here](#)
- IAG Meeting minutes and Attendance- [Click Here](#)
- District wise IAG Database: [Click here](#)
- District Wise IAG Executive Body [Click Here](#)

6) Media coverage [Click here](#)

7) Activity wise picture 1) [Click here](#), 2) [Click Here](#)

8) IAG COVID 19 Response _Report [Click Here](#)

9) IEC prepared by district level IAG 1) [Click Here](#)

10) Report _Workshop on Networking for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation or IAG members – State & District level [Click Here](#)

11) Report_ Two-Day Training Programme cum Consultation on Development of Participatory District Disaster Management Plan (DDMP – Revision)- [Click Here](#)

Annex I: Case story

Case Story 01:

IAG Help desk for Migrant workers; Networking for collaborative action against COVID-19 – IAG Thrissur Model

IAG- Thrissur comprising civil society organisations other NGOs, CBOs and media organisations, have come forward to do their bit to help the district authorities to overcome the covid -19 emergency. HCL support Sphere India –KSDMA partnership project established Inter Agency Group structure in the cultural capital city Thrissur to ensure civil society collaboration in emergency situation. IAG Thrissur coordinated to mobilize organisations and volunteers for action. IAG Thrissur is active in the field with district administration by setting up volunteers in care homes, food-medicine distribution, ambulance and other paramedical services. The Inter Agency Group , Thrissur has set up a district -level help desk on to address issues related to migrant workers in current health emergency lock down. The IAG has also launched a helpline number. While migrant



labourers are being forced to leave from many cities in the wake of the covid-19 outbreak. In Kerala, state government in association with civil society organizations taking steps to ensure the welfare of the migrant workers. There were around 32 lakh inter-state

migrant labours in Kerala. The call center was officially started on 3rd March in the district collecterate. Around six volunteers representing various IAG member organizations working day and night at the call center. The call center team has been attending complaints that are coming directly to the district collector as well as complaints via email, complaints posted on social media and complaints channeled from District Emergency Operation Center. Once the complaints receives, it will forward to an official Whatsapp group ‘named IAG Emergency Control Room’. Later it will move to concerned department nodal officer / concerned local self government. The District IAG has also been preparing and issuing posters, leaflets, radio giggles making announcements and visual messages in various languages, including Hindi, Bengali, Assamese, and Odiya to sensitise the guest workers on the deadly COVID-19 and the importance of social distancing. *I came to Kerala years ago from Bengal, everything was well and good here, I used to get regular updates from call center on state government services, for people like me , I got dry ration, hygiene kit ect; Sourab Lal, a guest worker said.* Deputy Collector, Disaster Management Dr.Rejin M said that volunteers have been actively taking part in all Covid-19 related activities. Arun T, convener of Inter-Agency Group (IAG) said that the response from citizens especially youngsters is overwhelming, especially the educated youth, some of them have volunteered with us repeatedly during a crisis in the past,” he said

Case Story 02 Warriors of Palakkad IAG- Fight against COVID 19

Frequent calls now from Keralities who stuck in other states over covid-19 seeking support, many are from rural areas, begins Manoj M P Inter Agency Group Convener, Palakkad, and he reveals that just a while ago he was on the phone with a truck driver who stranded in Maharastra and seeking to find out if they can help out . The call centre established at district collectorate, Palakkad by IAG helped many such people by connecting them with ‘Malayali associations’ in various states. Inter-Agency Group, Palakkad established under HCL funded Sphere India- KSDMA partnership project is actively involved in ‘fight against covid-19 action’ .Around 90 volunteers led by Mr. Manoj from Youth of Palakkad, an NGO have also been working day and night with the district administration for distribution of food and medical supplies, said Soumya Johns, District coordinator, IAG Palakkad”.



The work pattern is divided in three shifts working for round the clock from 15th March to 26th March. One team facilitated Medical Screening of public and staff in Civil station. Another team was located in railway station. Around hundred volunteers have also been working day and night with district supply office to distribute food and hygiene kits to migrant workers. A total of 165 IAG volunteers to conduct mass screening programmes in seven interstate check posts under police supervision, other volunteers have been supplying masks and gloves to public in various parts of the district. IAG members prepared and distributed thousands of masks and sanitizers at various sites where migrant workers stay. *IAG member organisations came up with leaflets, posters and pamphlets to educate public on covid-19. Information, Education & Communication (IEC) material on fight against the virus are being developed for awareness of the general public in various Indian languages. The ‘covid boy and covid girl’ became an instant hit on social media after the vide circulation. IAG Palakkad appealed all to promote Break the Chain Campaign as a safety measure and set up thirteen facilities across the district with the support of youth clubs. Additionally, Ambulance service was arranged by IAG in association with All Kerala Ambulance Association Palakkad chapter.*



IEC material access [Click Here](#)

Case story 03

Together we can do better- Civil society consultation in DDMP revision – Trivandrum Model

Civil society occupies an important position in the development dialogue as it provides opportunities to bring communities together for collection action, mobilising society to articulate demands and voice concerns at local, national, regional and international levels. The concept of civil society gathering in Disaster Management Pan revision is a new path way for both the district administration as well as the civil society groups in each district to have healthy discussions on how we can go further. The process was developed under HCL support Sphere India – KSDMA partnership project .

Public participation in decision making is an enhancing and active method of any system. It leads the transparency and trust to work along for social causes. Civil society consultation in DM plan revision is having a pivotal role. Disaster Management plan revision done in 2015 since it dealt more on theoretical approaches, public opinion seeking was very minimal. The

plan revision project boosted the method of collaboration with civil societies in each district of Kerala.



Process of civil society consultations

Each district administration has different approaches to select and ensure the civil society participation. Trivandrum adopted a transparent mode to have the meeting in an open forum discussion. The initial step is to identify the nodal agencies and credible individuals who all working for

different sort of social cause. Then it leads to preparation of a data base. By publishing applications in district administration official website, it becomes more official. It doesn't stop us to make a public notice in different newspapers also. People from different zones, agencies, contacted with positive responses. Before arranging the event the soft copy of the previous plan has sent to the participants. By November first week (7th-Thursday 2019) civil society consultation of Trivandrum district conducted at the collectorate conference hall. The highlights of the meeting were the presence of more than 75 NGO, and other stakeholders from media, NSS, NCC, Ambulance services, Truck driver's association etc. The consultation was point out the vulnerability aspects, areas of the district. DM Deputy collector and other officials were encouraged public opinion in open forum discussion.

A meeting with at its true spirit went on well and decided to have meetings like the same in coming days to understand more on DM plan revision of Trivandrum district. The coordinators agreed to have second level of meetings as the next step.

Case Story 04

Life on Wheels: Going the extra mile for disabled flood victims

The flood of 2018 and 2019 due to extreme monsoon rains in Kerala making thousands homeless and causing more than a hundred deaths. Inter Agency Groups had been assessing the situation across the state closely through coordination with various partner agencies. Having been working on the ground in Kerala through the last one year, IAG s has an active presence in the district. HCL support Sphere India –KSDMA partnership project established Inter Agency Group structure in Malappuram district. In District of Malappuram, the need for wheel chairs for the people of flood affected area was identified through the Unified Response Strategy matrix. An NGO viz., NIPHAM foundation who works for the people with different ability in association with Inter Agency Group, Malapuram and the District Disaster Management Authority Malappuram distributed Ten Wheel chairs for the people of disaster stricken region of the district. The beneficiaries were identified from the list given by Social Justice Department, Malappuram.



On 10th of November 2019 the wheel chairs were distributed at Collectorate conference hall to the beneficiaries by the District Collector Mr. Jafar Malik IAS, he appreciated the involvement of IAG in Malappuram and their activities towards DRR in the District. He also valued the kind sponsorship of NIPHAM foundation

for their efforts. Deputy Collector, Disaster Management Section Mr. Purushothaman was also present in the function. He also cherished the efforts of IAG in the District and also ensured his whole hearted support for the better achievement of DRR in the district. The beneficiaries were so much delighted and whole heartedly appreciated the District IAG for the noble act.

Case story 05

‘Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success’ Determining success in Inter Agency Collaboration- The Thrissur model

IAG Thrissur is platform of Humanitarian organizations working on Disaster Management in Thrissur District. At the initial phase of IAG Thrissur, doesn't had a back support of District Administration. In 2019 when HCL supported Sphere Project planned to institutionalize IAG, which had 8 members in total, now it's reached upto 35 strong pillars

Behind the success story of IAG Thrissur, there is an element called ' coordination' the executive committee of IAG is taking out the best efforts to put each activity implemented, that reflected in the post flood intervention meet of Volunteers. 4 IAG partners were took the charge of volunteer



deployment in 4 Taluks, which was absolutely brilliant point to get Taluk wise focal points in Emergencies. 12 IAG partners were actively contributed to the flood relief, I crore project of KIDS Kottapuram along with 47 house repairs in Chalakkudi and 4 house construction in Malappuram. ACTS Thrissur has sent 7 lakh relief items to Wayanadu district collaborating with KSRTC. Tropical Health Foundation has given 33 wheelchairs, Energy

Conservation Society offered 50 Volunteers for electrical maintenance across state. These kind of intervention made District Administration whole heartedly support IAG Thrissur and institutionalize it.

As part of IDDR Day observation, IAG Thrissur conducted a mass rally of 1500 people, School students, students police cadets, NSS volunteers, Nursing College students, Walkers Club, Women's self help groups were participated. All the participants in the Rally worn T shirt on a Theme Disaster Risk Reduction. The fund allocation for rally summed up in 3 lakh cost, which all collectively shared by IAG partners within 2 weeks of time. It also had done a taluk wise data base of HAM radio operators in the district under IAG Banner. Bedrock of success lies in such platform where people resolving their differences and focusing on a common goal and Values.

Case story 06

Case story: II

‘ We for Wayanad’ A Digital Platform roadway to disaster resilient

We for Wayanad is a responsive web application of Inter Agency Group Wayanad developed for the coordination of disaster management initiatives of Wayanad district which will also look after the recovery and rehabilitation coordination of the administration and the Civil Society Organisations, individual donors etc. Such a coordination platform for the Civil Society Organisations is developed for the first time in Kerala. The features of the Platform are ;



individual donors etc. Such a coordination platform for the Civil Society Organisations is developed for the first time in Kerala. The features of the Platform are ;

- A registration link for the Civil Society
- Organisations and other donors who can support the recovery,

rehabilitation needs and DRR initiatives of the district.

- The Panchayat representatives will be updating the requirements of the Districts.
- A sectorial Committee will be appointed for final verification of the data. A registration link for the public to raise their demands and concerns
- A programme which will evaluate the demands and offers of the district and made publically accessible.
- Timely evaluation and updation of information from the District Administration

The platform will also have; Disaster related alerts, HVRA maps - Resource Database of the district, DM plans, Details of the District’s requirements , Programmes planned and conducted , Events calendar. The launch of the website was officially taken place on 8th September 2019 by Minister of Ports, Museums, Archaeology and Archives Shri. Kadannappally Ramachandran, For ensuring the sustainability of the web portal, IAG Wayanad have decided to register “We for Wayanad” under the Societies Registration Act.

Web link: <http://weforwayanad.in/>

Case Story 07

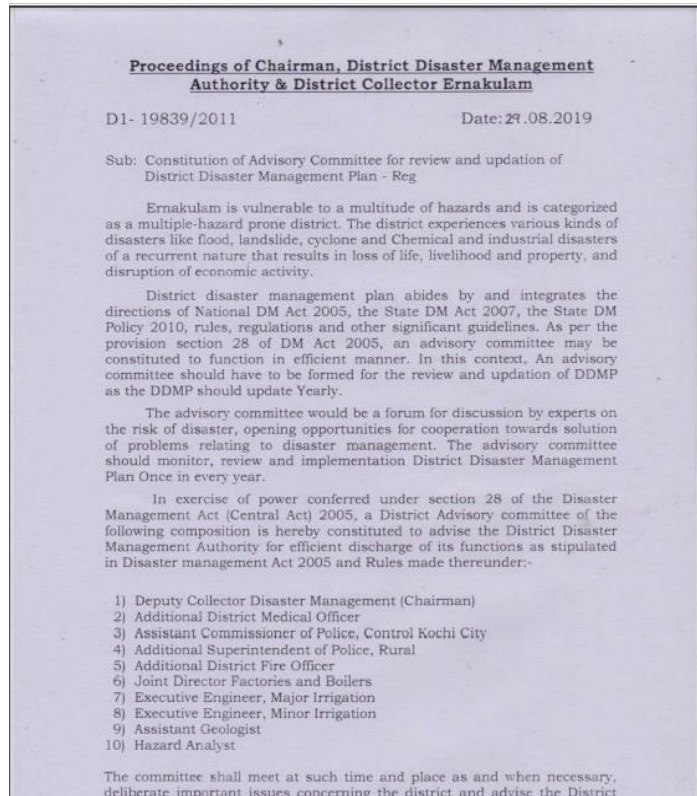
District Advisory Committee: A replicable model for system strengthening

In exercise of power conferred under section 28 of the Disaster Management Act 2005, a District Advisory committee has to be formed to advise the District Disaster Management Authority for efficient discharge of its functions and reviewing of Disaster management Plan.

A 12 member committee has formed in Ernakulam district. The process was initiated under HCL support Sphere India –KSDMA partnership project. The advisory committee would be a forum for discussion by experts on the risk of disaster, opening opportunities for cooperation towards solution of problems relating to disaster management. The advisory committee will monitor DDMP review and implementation. the Proceeding for Advisory committee for DDMP came on existence on August 29th 2019. The

advisory committee consists of ten members; Deputy collector, DM, Additional district medical officer, Assistant commissioner of police, control Kochi city, Additional Superintendent of Police, Rural, Additional District Fire officer, Joint director factories and boilers, Executive engineer, Major irrigation, Executive engineer, Minor irrigation, Assistant geologist, Hazard Analyst, KSDMA

Experts from various lines departments in the committee would be helpful to advise DDMA on technical matters and socio-economic aspects of Disaster Risk Reduction and emergency response management. The advisory committee would be a forum for discussion by experts on the risk of disaster, opening opportunities for cooperation towards solution of problems relating to disaster management.

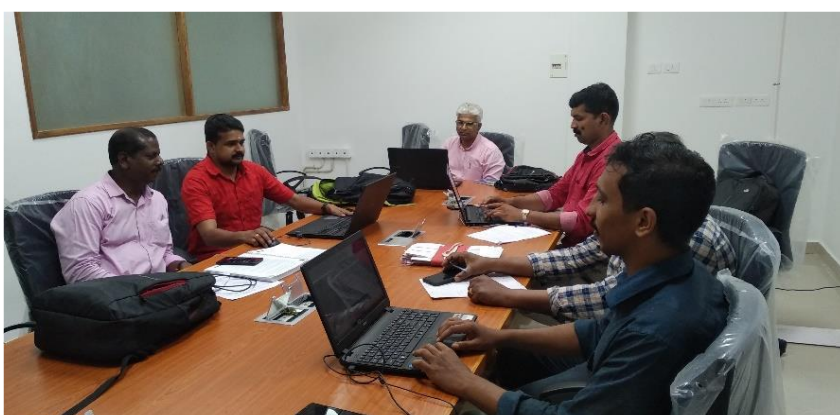


Case story 08

Departmental Consultation- Way for Innovative planning process ; DDMP revision; Kollam Model

In order to develop a sound Disaster management Plan for the district, proper participation from all the stakeholders is inevitable which helps to maintain the oneness. With that intention a nodal officer from each government department of Kollam district was called for multiple consultancy meetings on 17th and 23rd October 2019. The process was initiated under HCL support Sphere India –KSDMA partnership project. The aim of the meetings was to familiarize them with Disaster Management, DM Act, SFDRR, SDGs and the existing DDMP of 2015. After the inception meeting each department were requested to review the existing DM plan with the proposed template of the new plan. A Google form was also shared with specific set of questions in order to capture their suggestions and recommendations.

The second consultation meeting was intended to listen to the suggestions, recommendation and comments of the nodal officers and to discuss upon the online Google form responses as well. The major chunk of the discussions points were to



provide training programs to each departments on Disaster Management in order to incorporate/ mainstream Disaster Risk Reduction into their developmental plans. Disaster specific standard operating procedures and interdepartmental coordination, provisions for providing public awareness, area specific flood vulnerability maps, IEC materials, etc. were few of the major recommendations received. The Officers also pointed out onto the improvement of DDMP 2015 in terms of HVCA analysis, DRR mainstreaming actions, incorporation of SFDRR, SDGs and so on.

With respect to all the recommendation and suggestion received from the Nodal officers a three day workshop was planned to conduct for the preparation of Departmental Disaster Management Plan. Nodal officers from 12 line departments attended the 3 days' workshop from 22nd to 25th November 2019. The NDMA guidelines and State plans were followed a reference. After the completion of the workshop, all the 12 departments had submitted their first draft of Departmental DM Plan.

The departments were Irrigation (major and Minor), KWA, Health, deputy director Panchayats, Fire and Rescue, Animal Husbandry, Education, Fisheries, KSEB, Police, and PWD Roads. The major scope of improvements which can be made to the plans were to detail the Hazard, Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis, Preparedness measures, incorporating more developmental projects and introducing new projects with mainstreaming DRR as a core objective, Financial planning etc.

Case story 09

Inter Agency Group – A New Platform for Ham Radio Operators.

During the tough time of Flood (2018), Ham radio operators were shown good work and efficiency to Trissur district administration, it helped connect to remote areas, especially clearing the DAM routes, and relocation of people from isolated places to relief camps. Etc. Again in 2019 emergency, the District administration deployed them under IAG platform. Proficiency and productivity of Ham operators was widely acknowledged This was a suggestion, came out from District Collector to merge the HAM radio operators into the IAG platform. Initially, Two of the Ham operators were added to the IAG official group, and they were in constantly touch with IAG activities, and attended several meetings, Finally IAG took an initiative to bring the HAM radio mechanism at Taluk level, the idea was to create a data base of all HAM radio operators on taluk wise, so in emergencies, there should a coordinated work, and information can be disseminated from a single point.

The HAM radio operators meeting were arranged under IAG banner on November 22nd at Collect orate,the process was initiated under HCL support Sphere India –KSDMA partnership project.



District Collector thanked the HAM radio operators for their efficient and coordination work in the past few years while doing the key note address. He emphasized the good work during ;Thrissur Pooram’, one of the biggest temple festival in Kerala. All the HAM radio operators were introduced themselves and put their suggestions in front of District Collector. Around 53 members were attended in the meet. All the taluks have at least 3 member, their licence is verified by the core committee, Whatsapp group and

constant meetings can bring more inputs the platform and it will enhance the capacity build ups, thus we can focus on a disaster resilient community and communication backups when it get disrupted .

Case story: IV

Inter Agency Coordination during Emergency: Iddukki modal

In Idukki, disaster struck one after another. Natural Calamity like flood, landslide and heavy rain fall has affected the 5 taluks of Idukki District for 6 days starting from 9 August to 14 August 2019. The district is hit by heavy rain fall causing floods and landslides that led to huge damage to property, infrastructures, and 7 death cases are reported.

There was great coordination among Inter Agency Groups and district administration. The district IAG WAS initiated under HCL support Sphere India –KSDMA partnership project. The District control room coordinated the efforts by involving all humanitarian agencies in the response to the floods. Inter Agency Groups had been assessing the situation across the district closely through coordination with various partner agencies. The IAG response was coordinated through; District level officers meeting, daily situation analysis meeting, emergency IAG meeting and relief and response strategy planning.



In the first district level officers meeting, the IAG members were directed to mobilize volunteers for rescue and relief and it was coordinated by district IAG convener. Daily Situation analysis meeting is held at District emergency centre from 9 to 14th August. The District level officers of all departments and IAG representatives were participated in the meeting. This gave the following immediate results;

- Medical and safety equipment's are ensured for relief and rescue
- 7 x 24 emergency operation centre at District headquarter
- District level supply chain management by IAG at 5 Taluks of the district
- Taluk and village level daily and hour based situation analysis reports

An emergency district level IAG meeting was conducted on 10th August. As an immediate action; The District Women's council, Navajeevan Charitable Society, Carmel Jyothi Charitable Society and Green valley development society were assigned to provide psycho social support to camp inmates. The Hill Area Development Society, Kerala Social Development Society, Green Valley Development Society are assigned for food and shelter. The help age India team has deputed for the medical support to all camps and The Oxfam India provided safety equipments .

The IAG intervention during the emergency situation in the district is highly appreciated by the District Administration. The immediate response in terms of relief and rescue activities is well coordinated. The camp operation was coordinated by the IAG members in the specific area with the guidance of District administration.