NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

ROLE OF NGOs IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT

(DRAFT)

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Disaster Risks in India

India’s geo-climatic conditions as well as its high incidence of poverty and socio-economic vulnerability make the country among the most vulnerable to natural disasters in the world. Disasters strike the country with regular frequency, causing massive human and economic losses. Along with the large-scale disasters such as the earthquakes in Gujarat & Jammu & Kashmir, Tsunami in South India, cloudburst and flash-floods in Uttarakhand, a very large number of smaller disasters have serious impact on the population. Among the disasters which strike the country on a regular basis are floods, earthquakes, cyclones, landslides, avalanches, droughts, forest fire, etc.

On the other hand, Climate change is expected to increase the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events and give rise to new vulnerabilities with differential spatial and socio-economic impacts on communities. The unprecedented increase is expected to have severe impact on the hydrological cycle and water resources leading to droughts, floods, drinking water shortage, loss of coastal wetlands and mangroves as well as rise in food insecurity and health problems.

1.2 The Context:

Volunteerism and community based movements have remained intrinsic to the social fabric of our country and have helped sustain communities through times of crisis.

The role of NGOs remains crucial in all phases of disaster management namely relief, response, rehabilitation, reconstruction, recovery, preparedness and mitigation.

Recent trends with respect to management of natural disasters have highlighted the role of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) as a vital stakeholder in the relief and response efforts especially with respect to facilitating communication and coordination between the administration and the affected community.
NGOs have grass-root presence and strong linkages with the communities, and can readily respond to the needs of the affected community.

1.2 Role of NGOs – From a Policy Perspective:

The High Powered Committee (HPC) 2001 has recommended a nationwide network of NGOs for coordinated action encompassing all aspects of disaster management.

The Disaster Management Act 2005 emphasizes the need for continuous and integrated process of planning, organising, coordinating and implementing policies and plans on DM in a holistic, community based, participatory, inclusive and sustainable manner. The Act entrusts/mandates the State Executive Committees at different levels with the responsibility to advise, assist and coordinate the activities of NGOs engaged in disaster management.

“The 35 (2) of chapter V in DM Act 2005 says In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of subsection (1), the measures which the Central Government may take under that sub-section include measures with respect to all or any of the following matters, namely:—
(a) Coordination of actions of Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, State Governments, National Authority, Governmental and Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in relation to disaster management.

The National Policy on DM 2009 mentions that Non-Governmental Organizations will be encouraged to empower the community and generate awareness through their respective institutional mechanisms.

1.3 Scope of the Guidelines:

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 defines the roles and responsibilities of different government bodies and recognises the prime responsibility of the state to prepare for disaster response and provide necessary assistance when communities are affected by disasters. The involvement of the communities is also recognised by the said Act. The role of the humanitarian agencies and NGOs is to supplement the
efforts of the government thereby helping communities to cope and recover from the disaster.

The NGOs within their own capacities and mandates perform these roles (as specified in different sections of these Guidelines) in line with the basic principles of the Humanitarian Charter, The Red Cross and Red Crescent NGO Code of Conduct, and the laws and regulations, as applicable.

1.4 Non-Governmental Organizations – Definition and Mandate:

i. A non-governmental organization (NGO) is any non-profit, voluntary citizens' group which is organized on a local, national or international level. Task-oriented and driven by people with a common interest, NGOs perform a variety of services and humanitarian functions. There are national level NGOs acting as donor and advocacy organizations, state level NGOs involved in mobilizing communities through various campaigns as well as action research and local NGOs working directly with communities. There are many Community Based Organisations (CBOs), which also play a significant role in disaster management.

ii. The National Policy on the Voluntary Sector (2007) was the first step which paved way in evolving a new working relationship between the government and voluntary organizations. Voluntary organizations are defined as formal as well as informal groups such as: community-based organizations (CBOs); non-governmental development organizations (NGDOs); charitable organizations; support organizations; networks or federations of such organizations; as well as professional membership associations.

iii. This Policy recognizes three instruments of partnership, viz., (i) consultation, through a formal process of interaction at the Centre, State and District level; (ii) strategic collaboration to tackle complex interventions where sustained social mobilization is critical over the long term; and (iii) project resource generation through standard schemes.
1.5 Objectives of the Guidelines

i. The objective of the Guidelines is to institutionalize the role of NGOs in disaster management and to strengthen the quality, synergy and accountability of NGO systems in India. These Guidelines will be primarily utilized by administrators and NGO stakeholders in disaster management.

1.6 Institutional Mechanism

i. The National DM Policy Instruments detail the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in disaster management. The institutional structure outlined in the DM Act 2005 and the National DM Policy 2009 promotes a holistic and proactive approach to disaster management, without disturbing the other mechanisms that exist in the country. Thus, the states continue to have the primary responsibility for disaster management by assigning responsibilities for different stakeholders.

ii. The National Policy on DM 2009 spells out the role of NGOs, CBOs and other stakeholders as potential partners for disaster management. This reiterates the importance of contributions made by the NGOs in all phases of disaster management over the years in the country. The participation of civil society stakeholders which includes NGOs will be coordinated by the SDMAs and DDMAs.

Coordination Platforms

(a) Constitution of GO-NGO Task-force: A national level GO-NGO taskforce has to be constituted and institutionalized as a permanent and effective mechanism to regularly review the performance of partnership efforts at the national, state and district levels. This Taskforce will ensure that all stakeholders are engaged in a spirit of cooperation, with the overall mandate of timely response and risk reduction. This task force will also review the guidelines periodically and make appropriate amendments to address emerging concerns. The taskforce will also formulate State Specific Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) that would facilitate and strengthen collaborative efforts for various disaster management
activities/functions. The taskforce will promote sharing of resources; expertise and good practices between stakeholders.

(b) At the state and district levels, similar Working Groups/Task Forces will maintain the synergistic working relationships between Administration and NGOs even during non-disaster situations. The functional linkages between the Administration and the NGO will be stipulated in the SOPs.

(c) The State Governments may give more detailed guidelines to coordinate the efforts of NGOs working for disaster management by virtue of their powers under Section 38(2) of the Disaster Management Act.
CHAPTER 2:  
Role of NGOs in Disaster Preparedness

2.1 Key Components of Disaster Preparedness

Disaster Preparedness is based on a sound analysis of disaster risks and establishing good linkages with early warning systems. It includes such activities as contingency planning, stockpiling of equipments and supplies, arrangements for inter agency coordination, evacuation plans and public information, and associated training and field exercises. These must be supported by formal institutional, legal and budgetary allocations.

The process of disaster preparedness addresses the need for convergence of the legislative and institutional arrangements, coordination mechanisms, contingency and response plans as well as information and communication systems.

2.2 Role of NGOs in Disaster Preparedness:

GO-NGO collaboration specifically at the district and Panchayat levels is imperative for disaster preparedness

NGOs play a vital role and can be made responsible at various levels in developing capacity and skills for disaster preparedness. At state level, NGOs have been organized to take coordinated action for disaster preparedness. Government officials in many states are active partners of such coordinated action and both stakeholders are known to benefit from this collaboration.

The DM Act, 2005 provides the legislative back-up to enable collaborative mechanisms at all levels for participation and joint/coordinated action by Government and NGOs in planning, learning and action for disaster preparedness.

The SDMAs and the DDMAs will invite representative NGOs regularly to chalk out strategy and action points, which could help in enhancing the preparedness through better coordination.
Areas of Intervention

(a) Advocacy: NGOs are powerful advocacy institutions and would collaborate with the Government in reviewing various sectoral policies to ensure that Disaster Preparedness concerns are addressed. NGOs may develop an advocacy plan envisaging the opportunities for investing in preparedness activities and take up with the district administration, Panchayati Raj Institutions, District level elected representatives and Corporate for mobilising resources for disaster preparedness interventions. Such advocacy may facilitate policy formulation, strategy development and programme design at different levels towards disaster preparedness.

(b) Assessment: NGOs may contribute in initiating Participatory Assessment of Disaster Risk (PADR) processes at the community level to assess the vulnerabilities and risks to various hazards in their respective areas of operation. The process may also identify available resources and capacities within the community to overcome vulnerabilities and address risks. Members of the PRI and the district level elected representatives would be involved in these processes. The NGOs may also facilitate documenting the findings of the assessments and provide the information to the district administration for joint planning measures, which would lead to better integration of initiatives in the District Disaster Management Plans (DDMPs).

(c) Capacity building: NGOs may build the capacities of the community (Disaster Management Committees & Taskforces) and other government officials at district and state level to undertake activities in various thematic areas which will result in the integration of the same in the Disaster Management or other departmental plans and may also facilitate preparation of the Plans by involving the local communities and the Panchayat Raj Institutions.

(d) Knowledge Management: NGOs may play an important role in generating awareness and building capacity on Disaster Management at various levels

Coordination & Partnership:

- NGOs will have dialogue with Government counterparts to develop coordination mechanism at different levels. NGOs may also promote
exchange of information and coordination with all stakeholders concerned with the aim of fostering a holistic approach towards disaster preparedness.

- NGOs may promote regular disaster preparedness exercises in coordination with the Government Stakeholders, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective disaster response.

- NGOs may facilitate GO-NGO coordination platforms at the state and district levels as well.

- NGOs may facilitate establishment of modalities with Panchayat Raj Institutions/District administration to endorse or validate beneficiary lists, especially in cases where disasters have destroyed family documents, such as BPL cards, ration cards and other identity cards, in order to ensure no exclusion takes place and the most vulnerable are provided assistance.

- NGOs in collaboration with the district administration may organise joint consultations with the community members, elected representatives and the PRI members to strengthen the preparedness capacities of the community. Subsequent to the consultation, NGOs may facilitate formation of Disaster Management Teams from among the community members and assist in linking them with the PRIs and the district administration. Based on the local context, the DM teams may be formed on early warning dissemination, search and rescue, first-aid(public health), shelter maintenance, water and sanitation, relief and coordination, carcasses disposal, psycho-social support and damage assessment. NGOs may also facilitate appropriate representation of women in each of the DM teams.

- NGOs in coordination with the District Administration may organise mock drills to strengthen the understanding of the DM Teams with regard to their role in preparedness.

- As part of the DM plan, NGOs in coordination with Local Government may support the communities to prepare disaster specific Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to be followed during disaster situations at the community level. NGOs may help the DM teams familiarise with the SOPs and the households, with the household preparedness checklist by conducting periodic mock drills jointly with the district administration.

**SECTOR SPECIFIC ASSOCIATIONS:**

**Education**

NGOs in coordination with education department may advocate with the school system to provide special training in schools on different kind of disasters, their causes and appropriate actions to be taken before during and
after disasters. NGOs jointly with the education department will undertake programmes on school safety, vulnerability assessment of schools and assist in developing school DM plan as well as provide support in curriculum development for educational institutions.

**Health including Reproductive Health (HIV/AIDS)**

NGOs, specialising in the health sector may assist the health department and district administration in preparation of emergency health management plans. The plan may contain details on the various needs with regard to emergency health including reproductive health and gender issues in the local context, availability of health professionals, drug supply system, preposition of dignity/hygiene kits and the implementation plan. NGOs may also develop health volunteers within the community and provide training on basic health care including first-aid and ensure practice through periodic mock drills.

**Shelter**

In every disaster huge losses occur due to destruction of shelter and infrastructure and pose challenges to quick recovery. NGOs may render technical support to the district administration in creation of disaster resilient shelters and infrastructure that would reduce the impact of disaster to a great extent.

**Livelihood (Agriculture\Livestock)**

Integrating interventions on livelihood are a key challenge to sustain the socio-economic development. NGOs may assist the district administration in rendering technical support for generation of alternate livelihood opportunities.

**Water and Sanitation:**

NGOs would assist the local administration in advocacy, building capacities and promotion of systems that reduce vulnerabilities arising from poor access to water, poor water quality, poor access to toilets, vector problems and inadequate solid waste management, sewerage and drainage.

**Protection**

NGOs’ role in establishing protection mechanisms to prevent exploitation of the vulnerable groups affected by disasters is important. NGOs will assist the local government in establishment of systems for addressing grievances as well as SOPs for prevention of human trafficking.
Environment management:
NGOs will render technical support to the Government stakeholders in sensitization, awareness generation and information dissemination with respect to conservation of natural resources and climate change adaptation.

Disability
During disaster preparedness, NGOs would advocate for participatory processes and involve Persons with Disabilities in risk mapping and design special measures to address such concerns through participatory and inclusive processes. Further interventions may include preparatory activities for accessible disabled friendly drinking water and sanitation sources, shelters, special schools and volunteers who could provide physical and psychological support and emergency health care.

Supplies / Relief Materials
One of the major concerns during pre-disasters is to identify safe spaces in close proximity to the vulnerable locations to stock-pile essential goods, medicines and emergency equipment. NGOs may support the district administration in locating such spaces or extend their own spaces in the local areas to enable the essential goods to reach the affected in time.

Roles and Responsibilities:
Roles to be played by NGOs at the community, district, state and National levels with respect to the key components are illustrated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Components</th>
<th>Roles and Key Actions of NGOs to facilitate and support</th>
<th>Community Level</th>
<th>District Level</th>
<th>State Level</th>
<th>National Level</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institutional arrangements</td>
<td>-Mobilise and organize community from village/local disaster management committees (VDMC). -Help VDMCs get institutionalised by regular Disaster preparedness (DP) planning, documentation efforts VDMCs form Task Forces to work on specific needs and issues.</td>
<td>Participate in district level task forces, EOC level meetings -advocate for establishment of DDMA-NGO Advisory Committee, and assist in preparing inclusive DDMPs; assist in social equity audits at various levels, as worked out by the authority</td>
<td>Participate in State level task forces, EOC level meetings. -NGOs mobilise and organize inclusive Interagency Group (IAG) -Advocate for establishment of SDMA- NGO Advisory Committee</td>
<td>Participate in National level NGO and other task forces. -Advocate for formal and institutionalized engagement and develop protocols for consultation with NDMA, National Executive Committee, SDMA, State Planning Boards, State Executive Committees and such other bodies, including nodal...</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry / Department</td>
<td>Coordination Mechanisms</td>
<td>Contingency Planning</td>
<td>Capacity Needs Analysis and Standardized Capacity building</td>
<td>Hazard Monitoring, Forecasting and Early Warning (EW)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministries / Departments / Agencies, on mainstreaming disaster management concerns</td>
<td>Establishment of community level coordination mechanisms with frontline workers, panchayat and their link with block and district level line-departments.</td>
<td>Assist in developing and participating in district level GO-NGO and Inter Agency Coordination Mechanisms</td>
<td>Assist in developing and participating in state level GO-NGO &amp; Inter Agency Coordination mechanisms</td>
<td>Establish linkages with stakeholders for hazard monitoring and provide last mile connectivity for EW dissemination</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordination Mechanisms</td>
<td>Assist in developing and participating in district level GO-NGO and Inter Agency Coordination Mechanisms</td>
<td>Assist in developing, piloting, validation and updating of the district level contingency and preparedness plans</td>
<td>Assist in development, piloting, validation and updating of the state level disaster management plans</td>
<td>Establish linkages with multiple stakeholders for hazard monitoring and provide last mile connectivity for EW dissemination</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contingency Planning</td>
<td>Assist in developing and participating in district level GO-NGO and Inter Agency Coordination Mechanisms</td>
<td>Assist in developing, piloting, validation and updating of the district level contingency and preparedness plans</td>
<td>Assist in development, piloting, validation and updating of the state level disaster management plans</td>
<td>Establish linkages with authorities for hazard monitoring and provide last mile connectivity for EW dissemination</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capacity Needs Analysis and Standardized Capacity building</td>
<td>• Detailed assessment of current needs and capacities at community level • Training, Simulation and mock drills Conducting vulnerability mapping exercises with the community to know the areas of intervention by the GO-NGO collaboration in the field Training of community volunteers and linking them with the local administration to act in the event of disaster</td>
<td>Facilitate detailed assessment of current needs and capacities at district levels Facilitate Training and mock drills of different stakeholders</td>
<td>• Facilitate detailed assessment of current needs and capacities at state levels • Facilitate and participate in Training and mock drills of different stakeholders</td>
<td>Establish linkages with multiple stakeholders for hazard monitoring and provide last mile connectivity for EW dissemination</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hazard Monitoring, Forecasting and Early Warning (EW)</td>
<td>Establish linkages with stakeholders for hazard monitoring and provide last mile connectivity for EW dissemination</td>
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<td>Establish linkages with stakeholders for hazard monitoring and provide last mile connectivity for EW dissemination</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Information & Knowledge Management and Communication | Facilitate and support mechanisms for information dissemination before, during and after disasters  
• Collect, Manage, Process and share Data during and after disaster  
• Research, develop, document and disseminate best practices, including traditional coping strategies for replication and scale up | Facilitate mechanisms for public information dissemination before, during and after disasters  
• Collect, Manage and Process Data during and after disaster  
• Research, develop, document and disseminate best practices for replication and scale up | Facilitate, support and establish mechanisms for information dissemination before, during and after disasters  
• Collect, Manage and Process Data during and after disaster  
• Research and promote best practice development / adoption | Facilitate and establish mechanisms for public information broadcasting before and during disasters  
• Collect, Manage and Process Data during and after disaster  
• Research and promote best practice development / adoption |
Chapter 3
Role of NGOs in Disaster Mitigation

Disaster mitigation refers to any action that seeks to make the impacts of a disaster/hazard less likely to cause losses or to reduce its negative impacts. The focus of disaster mitigation measures is to minimise disaster risks and losses by:

a. Analysing the risk (likelihoods and consequences)
b. Taking Risk reduction measures
c. Risk Hedging (Transferring, sharing, or spreading disaster risks)

3.0 Disaster mitigation has become the cornerstone of disaster management practices with international credence and support from grassroots change initiatives\(^1\). Disaster mitigation is primarily composed of two main measures—structural and non-structural.

- **Structural measures** focus on some form of construction, engineering or employing physical changes or improvements to the risk context, such as building or strengthening flood embankments, constructing community shelters, and installing earthquake vulnerability reduction measures.

- **Non-structural measures** focus on non-engineered activities like adopting and enforcing land use and building codes, conducting community training programmes in disaster risk/essential disaster management skills, diversifying livelihoods, fostering behavioural changes, and developing environmental controls.

Any hazard turns into disaster only when communities are unprepared for such eventualities, when physical structures and the environment are not resilient enough to resist the hazards, when responses to the disaster are not swift, effective and efficient, when no steps had been taken to avoid or reduce disaster risks and impacts, and when no safety measures are in place.

It is important to note that mitigation measures ought to be undertaken with a clear intent of linking relief, rehabilitation and development activities together. This can be achieved through the continual incorporation of core disaster management principles.

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\(^1\)The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 - the international blueprint for disaster risk reduction stresses on the importance of disaster risk reduction being made a national and a local priority.
3.1 Need for Disaster Mitigation

3.1.1 Climate change, environmental degradation, unsustainable exploitation of natural resources and overpopulation are aggravating India’s already high vulnerability to disasters. The resulting losses and damage to homes, property, livelihoods, major economic activities, key infrastructure and essential services threatens the overall well-being of the Indian population. Vulnerable sections of the community, like people living in poverty, the aged, persons with disabilities, children, and women are especially at the risk of being adversely affected due to their social status, lack of assets, livelihood opportunities and lack of voice in decision-making. In the event of a disaster, poor people suffer greater losses of assets and are therefore in a weaker position to cope and recover. It is therefore in the interest of the state and the subjects to invest in planning and putting in place timely (pre disasters) mitigation planning / contingency measures. Mainstreaming disaster mitigation into social, environmental, economic and development activities, such that disaster risks becomes a mandatory consideration in the everyday lives of the community and can go greatly towards creating a culture of risk awareness and avoidance, and ensuring that hazards simply remains hazards, and impacts of the events like floods, earthquakes, landslides, cyclones, cloudbursts, and drought etc. reduced to minimal if not avoided completely.

3.2 The Role of NGOs in Disaster Mitigation

3.2.1 NGOs can play a pivotal role in supporting the government’s agenda of disaster mitigation and thereby ensuring long term resilience. NGOs foster disaster mitigation practices by many measures including:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Pre disasters ➔ Post Disaster ➔ &amp; Pre (till the next event)</th>
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<tr>
<td>- advocating at the appropriate forums including legislative and policy levels for disaster mitigation to be institutionalised in policy, legislative and institutional frameworks,</td>
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<tr>
<td>- disaster mitigation awareness and capacity-building activities- promoting inclusive disaster management approaches</td>
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<tr>
<td>- developing operational sustainable livelihoods models</td>
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<tr>
<td>- strengthening disaster preparedness measures</td>
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<tr>
<td>- assisting in risk assessments and action planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Constructing shelters, public buildings and other critical infrastructure safe from disasters.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Improving water and sanitation systems</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
3.3 Participatory & Inclusive Approach in mitigation

3.3.1 NGOs with their long standing experience in the areas of community mobilisation, social inclusion and participatory approaches can become effective partners of government action planning and ensure that the developmental planning in a vulnerable geography is inclusive for all resident and dependent communities regardless of their identity (caste, gender and ethnicity), economic backgrounds and physical abilities, to prepare and respond adequately to disasters.

3.4 Mitigation planning (Assessment, Identification, Analysis of Risk and Planning)

3.4.1 Risk and Vulnerability Assessments are critical for understanding the element of risk to the communities (known and unknown vulnerability and anticipated impacts) and devising appropriate mitigation strategies. These assessments form an integral part of the decision support system at all levels – community, block, district, state and national. It is important that assessment be carried out at both macro and micro level with NGOs playing a constructive role of either supporting such an assessment initiative (led by govt. or other stakeholders) or by conducting the same where is no other initiative in place. The strength of participatory approach can be harnessed by all stakeholders in mitigation planning. Participatory community action planning places the community in the centre of all planning and actionable agenda thereby assimilating the existing traditional knowledge, factoring in the short and long term needs, analysing the vulnerabilities, affirming (and enhancing) the capacities and integrating it all in a sustainable action plan for growth and well-being. NGOs can work with the govt. and other stakeholders to invest in the actualisation of this action plan through sustained capacity building, lobbying for rights and entitlements (food, financial and identity security) and strong preparedness initiatives (like mock drills, search and rescue equipment and appropriate incident command systems across administrative levels) linked to sustainable development models (livelihoods strengthening).

NGO action planning also focus upon mainstreaming the key needs of special groups (children, women, elderly and the disabled) along with the marginalised communities (caste, gender and ethnicity) in an inclusive and accountable manner which can be of assistance to the govt. machinery for the effective and inclusive roll out of key mitigation measures including flagship resilience enhancement schemes and relief and recovery dispensation.

3.4.3 The local coping and risk sharing mechanisms such as seed and food grains storages are effective risk mitigative measures for short term needs. The
sudden events (flash floods, earthquake, fire, accidents, riots, seasonal changes) however tend to increase the stress on vulnerable livelihoods of the poor. Financial inclusive measures like insurance too are gaining acceptance in the recent years. Adoption of insurance would enable the local communities to have a form of viable risk sharing strategy for the disaster losses. Insurance, including life, health, crop and general insurance are important risk hedging measures where private players along with govt. financial institutions share responsibilities of providing risk cover to lives and assets (property & livestock).

Financial inclusion measures like Insurance schemes, savings and credit options for the disaster prone areas provide cover for weather related incidents where vulnerable households lose their entire assets including crop and livestock forcing being in debt for lengthy periods of time. Vital household assets, life and health of the family members including women and children can be covered.

NGOs can play a critical role in facilitating awareness and linkages between insurance companies and communities (based on principles of equity and transparency), especially to the poorer sections of the communities and areas where financial services are limited (disaster prone). In times of disaster losses NGO can work with govt. authorities in easing hurdles in speedy claim settlements

### 3.5 Information Dissemination (strengthening existing channel – Capacity building)

3.5.1 Timely, contextual and accurate Information is the foundation on which a robust disaster mitigation approach can be built on. NGOs in many vulnerable areas are in the forefront on generating locally relevant disaster information for the vulnerable communities. This information on key issues like early warning on floods (water levels), climate variability (seasonality and rainfall) is being collected across the country. This information can have immense potential when fed into the central information dissemination system. NGOs need to proactively work with the govt. departments for information fusion (on agreed terms and needs) and diffusion through govt. system or NGO/ Network/ IAG for wider reach and acceptance.

NGOs have a direct role in the sensitization, orientation, training and capacity building of most of the local stakeholders and advocating for systemic changes in timelines and information content at the state and national level.

3.5.2 Capacity building of practitioners and officials is essential and critical for undertaking various measures for disaster mitigation, would be undertaken in a coordinated manner by NGOs. This would enable them to address the specific vulnerabilities and capacities of the local area, link local disaster management plans with development plans, and ensure disaster risk reduction mainstreaming in all development projects. The capacity building/ orientation activities would also
focus on helping to acquire skills and knowledge necessary to carry out disaster mitigation activities, such as Rapid Visual Screening to identify earthquake vulnerable buildings, understanding flood information up streams, fire management in dry windy periods, disease outbreaks, public health issues, cyclonic occurrences, chemical and transport based accidents etc.

3.5.3 NGOs play an important role in raising **Awareness, Sensitizing and building local capacity (communities and govt.) to carry out disaster mitigation actions.** Awareness campaigns like safe construction, school safety, personal health and hygiene, environment management, maternal health, food and nutrition, and overall sustainable development are key areas of NGO operations. NGOs may make use of local folk media besides using other modes of communications for the awareness campaigns.

NGO would link up with electronic and print media which can play an extremely important role in the sensitisation process by raising public awareness and by providing accurate information about alerts and early warning messages issued by the concerned nodal agencies. NGO would employ mass media campaigns, rallies, public advertisements, and messages to reach out with these issues. Special messages on radio, television, print media are also effective and would be used.

3.5.4 School children can play a vital role in future disaster risk reduction measures. To ensure their ownership of mitigation opportunities and needs, it is important to develop their understanding about disasters (types, causes, impacts, timelines and related vulnerability).

NGO work on school safety campaigns ensuring Children understand the role of various stakeholders, their capacities and actions to be taken up in disasters. NGOs can influence formal education streams, and can take up informal education programmes to address this need. They can also carry out school safety training programmes and facilitate practical exercises like mock drills.

A hitherto uncharted constituency is of the higher-level students who become important stakeholders in disaster planning (engineers, architects, planners, administrators etc) who need to be sensitised about key disaster mitigation measures as part of their training curriculum. Disaster mitigation inputs need to be mainstreamed in study of architecture, urban and rural planning, natural resource management, different branches of engineering, different branches of medicine and health, social sciences, social work, media and communications, and for this; NGOs can take up advocacy and technical support work where needed and possible.
3.5.5 NGOs can also play an extremely important role in mobilizing youth for Disaster risk reduction in their neighbourhood by facilitating appropriate capacity building efforts through the National Service Scheme (NSS), Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), National Cadet Corps (NCC), Scouts and Guides, etc.

3.5.6 Training to community volunteers, particularly those related to development fields such as education, livelihoods, health, water and sanitation is also very important and would be taken up by NGOs in the respective areas.

3.5.7 Other areas where NGOs can play a critical role in facilitating information sharing and coordination amongst agencies, authorities, and communities. This is essential for effective disaster risk reduction and emergency response. Research is another area where NGOs can also contribute in disaster mitigation and effective response.

3.5.8 Overall, NGOs can play a vital role in mobilising, creating public awareness, providing capacity building interventions like imparting training to most of the local stakeholders including general public on DRR. NGOs can complement and supplement the role of NIDM and the State ATIs who are already working in the area of disaster management capacity building for government officials and other stakeholders.

3.6 SECTOR SPECIFIC MITIGATION EFFORTS

(A) Livelihoods

- Sustainable Livelihoods are critical to the wellbeing of the vulnerable communities affected by disasters. Mitigation efforts of NGO and other stakeholders need to focus on growth of local livelihood options and opportunities. Livelihoods can be made sustainable through building in securities like diversification of livelihood options, thrust on local capacity building, financial safeguards and sustainable outlook along with market linkages and value chain development. It is important to focus on the needs of marginalised and poor communities including land less farmers, women farmers, small traders and local market systems through need based customised solutions for risk transfer and mitigation. NGOs can play a critical role for identifying options and additional/ supplementary livelihoods to enhance overall livelihood security. Sensitization and training of local groups, forming Self Help Groups (SHGs), establishing linkages with financial institutions, material suppliers and markets are priority actions that can be taken up by NGOs.
• NGO can take up priority actions (under livelihood vulnerability reduction) like capacity vulnerability analysis for identification (pattern), mapping and reducing livelihood vulnerabilities in the area. NGO can advocate for pro poor livelihoods policy measures, research and knowledge sharing on best practices within the Inter Agency coordination systems, with the govt. bodies and all other need based stakeholders.

• NGOs would facilitate community linkages with livelihood programmes of Government like JNNURM, MGNREGA and other employment and flagship schemes, and other development programmes.

• Actions for building livelihood capacities will include promoting additional/supplementary livelihoods, strengthening SHGs or other livelihood institutions like cooperatives, capacity building and skill specific vocational training programmes. These actions also include the creation of local resources through research and action projects in the area, establishing local level information and knowledge resource centres for collection and dissemination of desired information, advocacy, etc. Building livelihood capacities also requires linkages to promote logistics capacities and improve infrastructure, development projects in the area to boost local economy and create livelihood opportunities, and establishment of grain and fodder banks in rural areas and vocation based reserves in urban areas.

(B) Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion [WASH]:

• Water, Sanitation and Hygiene promotion are critical elements that are needed to mitigate health and epidemic related disasters. This is described as determinants of health hence becomes a priority need of the community especially in the aftermath of a disaster. Water and sanitation needs are more critical maintaining household health and community well being. WASH needs for vulnerable groups become important in the times of disaster – women (reproductive health) Children (nutrition) and families (food basket / intakes)

• Public health response becomes the first intervention in emergencies as it directly associates with saving lives because the high morbidity and mortality rates are attributed to WASH related diseases in the first phase of emergency.
Some diseases, especially diarrheal diseases cause considerable dehydration, which can lead to death if not promptly treated. Diarrhoal diseases can be prevented through access to clean, safe and adequate drinking water and through proper hygiene and sanitation measures, including hand washing and safe disposal of human and animal waste. Unhygienic way of excreta disposal is a significant source of water and sanitation related-infection, especially in the disaster context which needs to be addressed.

These measures can be achieved in a sustainable manner through adequate attention to the development of local human resource capacity through appropriate sensitisation, education and training.

(C ) Safe housing and Infrastructure

Making existing houses and public buildings safe from disasters is a crucial component of disaster mitigation as mentioned in the National Policy on DM (2009). Constructing new buildings safe from hazards and retrofitting for existing buildings for improving hazard resistance. NGOs can play a pivotal role in this by sensitising local communities and training masons and construction workers in multi-hazard resilient construction techniques.

NGOs can facilitate in coordination with the respective government departments and agencies towards the rapid assessment of structural safety of buildings. This can be followed by retrofitting of vulnerable buildings viz. hospitals, health centres, schools, disaster shelters, and buildings and infrastructure of emergency response agencies, including the restoration of essential services like power, water supply, etc.

At the same time, ensuring future safety of new houses and public buildings will require acceptance and adherence to the prescribed building codes for disaster. Promotion of transferable indigenous technologies with appropriate adaptation and promotion of local materials and skills, and low-tech, low-cost technologies is very important in this process.

During rehabilitation and reconstruction phases, NGOs would take care of the needs of People With Disabilities (PWDs). When planning reconstruction activities, NGOs must assess whether houses, toilets and water sources are easily accessible to PWDs. Basic design standards for designing and planning buildings and utilities for PWDs, as per prevailing Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) codes, must be adopted while constructing new buildings and utilities by NGOs. In existing individual or public buildings, NGOs can train and when possible help making the houses, toilets and water sources accessible to PWDs. The training must be to educate that non-structural mitigation measures, such as
ensuring that gas and electricity connections are safely installed, and that ceiling beams are not loose, are undertaken.

Special skill training on disaster resistant technologies to masons and other construction workers, and health and education workers is very important. Attention needs to be paid to the inclusion of the women’s work force within all these sectors.

NGOs would also advocate for hazard resilient housing for communities that largely lives in hutments in hazard prone regions and suffer house damage successively, but because such shanties/huts are not largely considered economic losses, they go unnoticed and inadequately compensated. NGOs could either focus their resources in building safe houses in these locations, or advocating with Govt. through Indira Awas Yojana scheme to build houses for these people (also to avoid any chance of successive compensation claims). NGOs would assist authority in reaching out to these communities.

3.7 Climate related adaptive (mitigation) mechanisms

3.7.1 India with its vast geographic expanse, cultural and ethnic diversity remains under severe stress of climate related phenomena. Extreme weather events like cold and heat wave, sudden events like flash floods, earthquakes as well as slow onset disasters like drought put the vulnerable communities at peril across the country. Owing to this complex diversity; predicted increases in maximum and minimum temperatures and increased frequency and intensity of floods and drought are likely to adversely affect agriculture, ecosystems, coastal zones, health and infrastructure. Humanitarian as well as development NGOs aim to complement and supplement the efforts of the governments.

Mitigation for Climate related phenomena involves complex interactions between climatic, environmental, economic, political, institutional, social, and technological processes. It cannot be addressed or comprehended in isolation of broader societal goals (such as equity or sustainable development), or other existing or probable future sources of stress.

3.7.2 NGOs would assist the Government Organizations in rendering support towards annual review of the National policy on climate change components and how inclusive are approaches to reaching out to vulnerable communities, mostly Dalits and Adivasis due to their location and dependence on natural resources/biodiversity and advocate for convergence of authorities of Disaster Management and Climate change & Biodiversity at national and state levels. Also, alternative means of livelihood would be economically viable options for
these communities, which could be supported by NGOs together with dialogue and action with authorities.

To eliminate or reduce the risk of changing climate to human life and property, both policy instruments and technology must be used in the context of sustainable development. NGOs would assist in enhancing the capacity of community and duty bearers to provide the support. NGOs would take up appropriate campaigns to promote actions for reducing emissions, primarily in the urban and upper economic bracket communities.

3.7.3 Climate change adaptation is the process of aligning lifestyles and support systems to cope with the inevitable impacts of unavoidable climate change. These are more crucial for the poor and vulnerable, who have very little contribution towards climate change in terms of their carbon footprints, but pay a heavy price by being at the frontline of the climate change impacts. This is a prime area of concern for all stakeholders including GO and NGO, and requires concerted efforts. Initiatives to be taken up include adoption of processes, technologies and products that help survive the inevitable level of climate change with minimal adverse impact. These may include water harvesting, grey water recycling, livelihood options and securities, micro-credit and micro-finance for livelihoods and other purposes, and micro-insurance. In fact disaster risk reduction is a major component of climate change adaptation, and it is critical that that the two are not treated as separate domains.

3.7.4 To ensure that disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation are addressed in an integrated manner, NGOs can adopt the Climate-Smart Disaster Risk Management (CSDRM) approach in their projects and encourage policy makers to do the same. The overall aim of CSDRM is to enable persons working in the areas of climate change, disaster risk management, and development, to tackle changing disaster risks and uncertainties, enhance adaptive capacities, and address the structural causes of vulnerabilities and poverty holistically in their existing and future projects, without having to develop completely new work practices.

3.7.5 Natural resource management is also an important area of work for NGOs and relates to both mitigation and adaptation. NGOs need to work on management of natural resources through participatory and community based processes. Natural resources may include forests, surface water bodies, ground water reserves, grasslands, coastal belts, small islands, and ecologically fragile lands, flora and fauna. Improved farm management practices and the introduction of drought-resistant varieties are some of the natural resource management interventions in agriculture in disaster-prone areas.
3.7.6 NGOs would take up the important role of information dissemination to the public, and advocacy to local governments, corporations, institutions, development agencies, office bearers and policy decision makers.

3.8 Techno-Legal and Techno-Financial regime

The DM Act 2005 has aimed towards setting up an institutionalized structure and mechanisms for DM with defined roles and responsibilities of the Central, State and District level departments. It also has promoted for the formation of disaster mitigation fund. Therefore mitigation measures are essentially in the nature of developmental works which are normally funded out of the Plan budget of the Ministries or Departments of GoI or State Governments.

3.8.1 The statutory provisions regarding preparation of a hierarchy of disaster management plans at the National, State and District levels provide an opportunity to prepare holistic plans on disaster management covering the entire disaster management cycle and integrating the macro level policy issues with micro level issues of implementation. This also provides an opportunity of converging resources available from various sources for disaster risk reduction and management in the country. All of these instruments provide the operational space for mitigation actions, within which NGOs can play a vital role. Indeed, the emerging techno-legal and techno-financial framework would aim towards active participation of all stakeholders for community capacity building and resilience, including community based organisations and community groups themselves.

3.8.2 NGOs also have a very important role to play in promoting and supporting national projects on risk mitigation. For eg: The National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP), administered by the NDMA, aims to minimize vulnerability to cyclones and make people and infrastructure disaster-resilient, in harmony with the conservation of coastal eco-system in the cyclone-hazard prone States and Union Territories of India.
Chapter 4
Role of NGOs in Disaster Response

Disaster Response is defined as aggregate of decisions and measures taken to (1) contain or mitigate the effects of a disastrous event to prevent any further loss of life; property and/or environment (2) restore order in its immediate aftermath, and (3) re-establish normality through early recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation shortly thereafter. The situation where the impact of disaster exceeds the capacity of local communities to cope with it is called Emergency and the response to such a situation is called emergency response. In such a situation, the priority is always there to prevent further loss of life and reduce human suffering; accordingly it is called humanitarian response.

A response to large or complex post disaster situation requires the cooperation of several agencies, and NGOs play an important role towards it. This chapter outlines the summary of the conventional and potential roles the NGOs would play as part of the larger coordinated and collaborative system for disaster response.

As the DM Act 2005 has given specific roles to DDMAs, the NGOs and community based organisations would work in overall partnership with DDMAs, so that relief does not get concentrated in few of the affected areas only. The DDMAs would be in a better position to take decisions on the overall fair distribution of relief and other humanitarian aid.

4.1 Early warning and evacuation:

NGOs work closely with communities and can help mobilise communities for evacuation and taking precautions for an emerging situation. District administration would involve NGOs in dissemination of early warning information and evacuation of communities in times of need.

4.2 Search and Rescue:

Search and Rescue operations are highly specialised in nature and require extensive training of teams/personnel for operational efficiency in unstable and chaotic conditions in the immediate aftermath of any major disaster. Therefore, it is desirable to carry out search and rescue (SAR) operations by well-trained specialised agencies as approved by the State and district administration. However, during the SAR operations NGOs may coordinate with the District
administration /local authorities for administrative help in registration, disaggregated data collection and documentation of the people evacuated.

4.3 Damage and Needs Assessment

The district administration would coordinate and have pre agreed understanding with NGOs for deploying teams for immediate assessment. Beyond the immediate assessment, the NGOs would be involved in sector specific assessments and periodic in-depth assessments. The assessments would follow standard formats.

4.4 Relief and Humanitarian Assistance

Disaster relief is the prime responsibility of the Government and the role of NGOs is to supplement government efforts. NGOs would be involved in relief assistance as per their mandate, available capacities and the needs of the area. In coordination with IAGs, NGOs would share their committed plan of actions for relief and other assistance activities with district administration, allied line departments, local self governments and communities. NGOs can provide assistance for different sectors like WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene promotion), Food and Nutrition security, shelter and settlements, health services, psychosocial support, education, livestock, economic recovery. NGOs would design their assistance/response program to identify and address specific needs of the vulnerable groups like children, pregnant women, lactating mothers, adolescents, women headed households, people with disability, PLHIV (People living with HIV/AIDS), elderly people, marginalised communities like dalits, tribals, minorities, trans genders and others who may get excluded in relief assistance. The assistance would be based on minimum standards of relief for different sectors.

Any non-governmental organisation, registered or otherwise, or any individual working for relief work in any district in any disaster should inform the District Disaster Management Authority in writing, within one month of taking up the work, the details of work done by them, including financial resources spent, the names of people assisted and the manner of assistance. If the work is of continued nature involving rehabilitation or reconstruction, the DDMA will be informed in writing on a quarterly basis.
If any NGO takes up work in more than a district in a State, such written intimations will be given to the State Disaster Management Authority.

The DDMA or the SDMA may invite such non-governmental organisations to their coordination meetings and seek their suggestions. The NGOs will ensure that their representatives attend such meetings and take up the work in such a manner that the relief efforts reach all sections of the affected people in all affected areas.

4.5 Social Protection

NGOs would plan interventions and develop mechanism for protection of the rights and prevent further exploitation of people affected with disasters especially focusing on most vulnerable groups. This includes listening; psycho social support; family tracing and restoration of family links; protection of livelihood assets; prevention of trafficking and harmful coping practices, awareness on rights and post disaster entitlements and social welfare schemes of the Government, technical and legal support for restoration of rights and justice. In cases of child abuse, gender based violence, caste and ethnic violence, reporting, addressing and redirecting grievances to concerned authorities and agencies.

4.6 Advocacy

NGOs would advocate issues to different stakeholders that need their attention. The advocacy efforts would primarily focus on authorities at different levels by helping with analysis and information to take better decisions. Similar efforts would be targeted at other stakeholders for their mobilisation and involvement with priority issues. The advocacy efforts with communities would be focussed on adopting safe behaviours, strengthening local coping and resilience building mechanisms.

4.7 Monitoring, Evaluation and learning documentation

The district administration would involve NGOs in real time monitoring the post disaster situation, identifying changing priorities and enabling decision making for the same. NGOs would be involved in evaluation at the end of the response to analyse learnings( on what went well and what could have been better). The NGOs would coordinate through IAG to perform such
evaluation and feed into revision and documentation of district disaster management plans.

**Process Documentation:**

- Every NGO taking part in Disaster Management Activities will have to document the outcomes and furnish their reports to DDMA for record.
- NGOs working in the area of disaster management in more than a State in the country will send a copy of their detailed annual reports to National Disaster Management Authority.

### 4.8 Planning for early recovery

Most NGOs exit with end of response while some continue or new organisations come forward for early recovery and recovery efforts. While completing their response programs, NGOs would plan exits by linking their response efforts to the development programs of the Government or other agencies. The district administration would involve NGOs in initiating the planning for recovery efforts as most of them have information and data of the affected communities. NGOs would give entry and exit report with follow up plans to the district administration at every level in-order to streamline and sustain the support.

### 4.9 Coordination during response

Different types of coordination like NGO-NGO coordination, GO-NGO coordination and multi stakeholder coordination is needed during recovery to avoid gaps and duplication of efforts and for optimum utilisation of resources. NGOs play an important role in facilitating the coordination needs by working through existing Inter Agency Groups or creating mechanisms to support and facilitate coordination. They help in developing information through coordination tools like who is doing what and where, GIS maps to help decision making etc. This coordination cut across all the roles described above.

### 4.10 Accountability

Most NGOs are guided by NGOs Code of Conduct principles and minimum standards. As part of their accountability, **NGOs must work as per the local law, supplementing Government efforts in interest of the communities. To**
strengthen accountability towards the people affected by disasters NGOs play an important role through interventions like community participation in planning and implementation, information sharing on various NGO and Government programs, facilitating complaint mechanisms etc.

NGOs participating in relief or reconstruction/rehabilitation work are expected to ensure transparency in all their actions. In case of any complaint about the activity of any non-governmental organisation with reference to works taken up for disaster management during response or reconstruction/rehabilitation, the NGO will ensure prompt submission of factual reply to any query that may be made to the DDMA

4.11 Civil Military Coordination:

The civil administration has the prime responsibility to respond to disaster situations. In most instances, the local administration is also affected by the disaster and/or the impact of the disaster exceeds their managing capacity. The Armed Forces and Civil Society organisations plays an important role in such situations. On request from the local administration, Armed Forces gets involved as an aid to civil authorities, especially for search and rescue operations, immediate life saving response needs, logistics and critical infrastructure support to enable access to disaster affected areas. The role of civil society organisations/NGOs is to supplement the efforts of the Government to address humanitarian needs and issues emerging in these situations. With in the country context, the Armed Forces, Civil Administration and Civil Society Organisations in such a scenario has a common or connected goal to save human lives and prevent human suffering. This can be facilitated through an effective civil military coordination for preparedness, response and disaster risk reduction

During preparedness:
1. Networking between agencies.
2. Developing an understanding of each other’s strengths and limitations and have pre agreed cooperation mechanisms in place.
4. Developing of roaster of professionals in respective organisations who can function as Civil Military focal points for respective organisations.
5. Taking stock and sharing information with each other periodically and during pre disaster season like monsoon.

During Response:
6. Nomination of focal points from Armed Forces, Civil Administration and Civil Society Organisations at various levels in the context of the disaster.
7. Developing an understanding of each other’s strengths and limitations in the disaster context and developing a common plan of action.
8. Periodic coordination meetings of all focal points together supplemented by bilateral meetings as needed.
9. Planning exit strategies and informing the focal point to ensure other agencies are able to cope up with the gaps on exit.

**Disaster Risk Reduction:**

10. Armed Forces also work in their respective areas of operations through SADBHAVNA projects. Many of these projects and activities can be planned along with DDMAs and local civil society organisations for disaster risk reduction in the region. Similarly, the civil administration and Civil Society organisations can explore through respective focal points where they can leverage greater results in their projects through SADBHAVNA projects of Armed Forces.
Disasters disrupt progress and wipe out the hard-earned fruits of developmental efforts, often taking nations decades backward in their mission for progress (NPDM 2009). When disaster strikes, it creates severe impact on the development process and people are deprived of the outcomes of development. They lose their lives and livelihoods. Poor and marginalized sections of the society are further spiralled into an irreversible whirlpool of poverty. Development then becomes meaningless for those whom development is intended for. Over the years it has been observed that natural as well as human induced disasters create a lot of adverse impacts on the development process as the current development initiatives do not automatically reduce vulnerability of communities towards disasters. Development initiatives more often than not, do not consider disaster risks nor are disaster risk reduction concerns consciously built in the design and implementation of development programs. Occasionally communities have been left more vulnerable to disasters because, humanitarian or development initiatives have introduced new vulnerabilities or reinforced vulnerability into existing ones. Therefore, developmental activity would ensure that it is not introducing any new disaster risks but looks for opportunities for disaster risk reduction. Societal changes and rapid development are also to a certain extent the underlying causes for increasing disaster losses. This chapter focuses on the role NGOs can play in mainstreaming DRR into the development process.

5.1 Disaster Risk Reduction

5.1.1 Disasters are the result of exposure of a community to a hazardous event (e.g. earthquake, flood, tropical cyclone, chemical leakage, etc.) and the vulnerability of the community towards this event. Disasters can be avoided or the negative effects minimised by ensuring disaster resilient development and building capacity. Disaster risk reduction (DRR) attempts to strengthen the capacity of the disaster-prone communities and address hazard threats through appropriate mitigation measures. Experiences in several countries have shown that by addressing the root causes of vulnerability, the impact of a disaster can be reduced.

5.1.2 DRR represents “the conceptual framework of elements considered with the possibilities to minimize vulnerabilities and disaster risks throughout a society, to
avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation and preparedness) the adverse impacts of hazards, within the broad context of sustainable development” (Source UN).

### 5.2 Mainstreaming DRR into Development Sectors

5.2.1 DRR refers to the measures used to reduce direct, indirect and intangible disaster losses that may be technical, economic or social. ‘Mainstreaming DRR’ describes processes that incorporate the concerns of disaster preparedness, prevention and mitigation into development and post disaster recovery policy and practices. It means completely institutionalizing DRR within the development and recovery agenda. Accordingly, the following broad objectives of mainstreaming DRR into Development will be encouraged:

- Ongoing schemes and projects of the Ministries and Departments of GoI and State Governments, as well as of all Government agencies and Institutions, including Public Sector Undertakings, will be audited by designated government agencies for ensuring that they have addressed the disaster risk and vulnerability profiles of the local areas where such schemes and activities are being undertaken.
- At conceptualization or funding stage itself, the development schemes will be designed with consideration of any potential hazardous impact associated with it and incorporate measures for mitigation of the same.
- All the development schemes will be pragmatic, incorporating the awareness of local disaster risk and vulnerability, and ensuring that the schemes have addressed these concerns and included specific provisions for mitigating such disaster concerns; and
- The SDMAs and DDMAs will ensure that all the disaster relief and recovery programmes and projects that originate from or are funded by any agency satisfy developmental aims and reduce future disaster risks.

### 5.3 Opportunities for NGOs in mainstreaming DRR

5.3.1 The opportunities for NGOs to support mainstreaming DRR into Development may be placed under six categories as mentioned below:

- Integration of DRR in their developmental policy
- Mainstreaming DRR in their developmental strategy
- Ensuring DRR through capacity building and training of stakeholders
- Geographical planning as an opportunity for mainstreaming DRR
- Mainstreaming DRR in their project cycle management
- Integration of DRR into development through mutual collaboration with other stakeholders
5.3.2 Policy Level Integration of DRR by NGOs:

NGOs would have a clear cut policy on disaster risk reduction issues, which commit that their developmental projects are protected from disasters and do not inadvertently or advertently become the cause for any future disasters. Similarly, their disaster recovery projects would be part of normal development and would not increase people’s further vulnerability to disasters. For example, an NGO working towards a policy ‘shelter for all’ may make it as ‘safe shelter for all. Similarly, the NGOs with adequate technical knowledge on shelter would support the government to reinforce that the policy for reconstruction of housing/shelter adhere to the principles of safe shelter.

The NGOs are strong advocacy partners and would support the government in reviewing the various sectoral policies and ensure that they address the DRR concerns to address all the phases of disaster management.

5.3.3 Integration of DRR in Developmental Strategies of NGOs:

NGOs translate their organizational goals and policies into detailed strategies for action. At this phase of detailed strategy formulation NGOs would also ensure integration of DRR by taking their in-house and external stakeholders into confidence. For example: A strategy of covering all the BPL beneficiaries under ‘policy of education for all’ may also integrate safe school and disaster education for the targeted beneficiaries.

By ensuring the integration of DRR concerns in their own development activities the NGOs will be able to demonstrate to the government or donor agencies the doable parameters in each of the development schemes.

5.3.4 Knowledge Management and Capacity Building for mainstreaming DRR into Development:

Generating knowledge and building capacity on DRR at all levels is the key to Mainstream DRR into development process. NGOs can play an important role in this process. A few key steps for knowledge building could be:

Few methods of knowledge dissemination by NGOs are listed below:

- Curriculum Development and capacity building(training) in school, college, university and various training institutes
- Dissemination of knowledge during practical Skill Trainings within their own programmes as well as those of government and other stakeholders
- Support translation of conceptual/academic/research findings into easy to understand information
- Information Dissemination during campaigns, workshops, seminars and other mass media
- Support to develop forums and e-learning platforms to discuss issues from field as well as disseminate new concepts
- Support learning literature in local languages and dialects

NGOs have been playing an effective role as facilitator for capacity building at all levels. NGOs would enhance their technical and managerial capacity of mainstreaming DRR into Development projects undertaken by them, so that their sectoral projects are able to address the DRR concerns appropriately. Further, they in turn will be able to provide adequate technical or implementation support to the government.

### 5.3.5 Geographical Planning and DRR:

Location aspects of development projects decided on the basis of hazard, risk & vulnerability analysis of a given area would be part of the risk reduction strategy of NGOs. They must know where to locate their development projects. NGOs would conduct/facilitate hazard, risk and vulnerability analysis of a given area and take the results into consideration while deciding the physical locations of their developmental projects. For example, a housing scheme floated by an NGO would check if its housing project is located in a flood prone area or on a seismically active fault line. If so, the NGO may consider relocation of the project or may like to integrate additional disaster resistant construction techniques in their housing projects, instead of altering the project sites.

Further, NGOs could also play an important role of informing the community about the likely hazards and potential risks of the area based on the hazard, risk & vulnerability analysis when they are planning any development activities as well as support the government in reducing their foot prints in the vulnerable locations. For example, people/government can avoid drilling more bore wells in water deficit area and learn about water budgeting or restrict settlements in flood prone area.

### 5.3.6 Project Cycle Management as a Checkpoint for mainstreaming DRR:

NGOs have the opportunity to integrate DRR during management of various phases of their project cycle. In a project cycle, the typical phases consist of Project Conceptualisation, Appraisal, Financing, Implementation and Evaluation. In between the phases of conceptualization and appraisal, NGOs have
opportunities of looking at the project from the DRR point of view. They can verify that their project does not increase vulnerability to any disaster and assess the opportunity to see if their project can be a means of reducing any risk of future disaster. A mass housing project integrated with multi-hazard disaster resistant planning and technology can be a medium of future risk reduction from disasters. However, the same project, if not integrated with DRR concern, may invite more damage to lives and properties during any occurrence of hazard.

NDMA in cooperation with the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance (MoF) has set up appropriate mechanisms to ensure that all new projects involving infrastructure development and related construction adhere to disaster-resilient technology and safe siting. The revised project information formats of the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) and Detailed Project Report (DPR) address these concerns. Instructions in this regard have already been issued to all the Central Ministries by the MoF in June 2009. The process of self-certification is to be followed with a view to ensure that there is no delay in project implementation. The design of all new and on-going projects/programmes will thus be addressed from the point of view of DM concerns, while existing infrastructure will be selectively reviewed for appropriate mitigation measures. Besides this, NDMA has also requested the State Governments to implement similar procedures of DM audit for projects/programmes under their purview. The NGOs may advocate for similar procedures of DM audit for projects/programmes in the states besides supporting the community to make informed choices during public hearings for such projects.

5.3.7 External Collaboration for DRR:

Collaborations between GO-NGO, NGO-NGO and Local NGO-INGO (International NGO) would also be considered as another window of opportunity for mainstreaming DRR into Development Process. There is enormous potential to introduce opportunities of networking for improved coordination. The strengths of existing networks need to be combined with the potential of working together offered by existing links with networks of local communities (SHGs, youth groups, farmers groups, watershed committees, village health committees, village education committees, PRIs, etc.) and local govt. officials.

5.4 Sector Specific Mainstreaming Measures/Interventions

5.4.1 DRR needs to be integrated into development activities and large scale social welfare schemes launched by Central or the State governments. The statutory provisions regarding preparation of various disaster management plans at the National, State and District levels provides an opportunity to prepare
holistic plans on disaster management covering the entire disaster management cycle and integrating the macro level policy issues with micro level issues of implementation. Further, disaster management plans could be a basis for projecting demands for revamping various schemes and programmes of different departments to include disaster risk reduction concerns and launching of new schemes in areas not covered by any of the existing schemes.

Civil Society Organizations (CSO) in coordination with Government would make a concerted and coordinated effort for integrating strategies, and assessing potential risks as part of development planning, and allocating resources for risk reduction into sectoral plans.

It is important that a NGO-Government platform is established to build an enabling environment where discussion on various programmes/schemes of the government can take place. NGOs play a greater role at the community level due to their effective role as community mobiliser and better understanding of micro issues but they also require financial support for undertaking a meaningful advocacy and implementation role. It is important the relevant agencies besides identifying appropriate role for the NGOs in the scheme, appropriates funding mechanism to ensure a meaningful role that compliments the government efforts for disaster resilient development.

5.4.2 Integrating DRR in Shelter &Infrastructure:

In every disaster huge losses happen due to destruction of shelter and infrastructure and pose challenges to quick recovery. Focus on disaster resilient shelter and infrastructure can reduce the impact of disaster to a great extent.

Policies & Legislation
- Quality standards & guidelines for infrastructure with focus on hazard-resistant construction and appropriate material
- Accountability of the agencies fixed through self-certification or appropriate legislation
- Land-use planning technique is used in pre-planning efforts for an affected village area

Advocacy & Awareness
- Implementing agencies and people are aware of new disaster resilient construction techniques
- Institutional arrangements are in place to promote use of calamity-resistant techniques including retrofitting
- Affected people, including the most vulnerable, are aware of their land and housing rights
• Public information on entitlements
• Families are encouraged to prepare household disaster preparedness plans

Coordination & Capacity development
• Coordination mechanism available with representation of all stakeholders
• Necessary technical training is imparted to project staff and inspectors, district and local government and NGOs, on DRR in reconstruction (eg. hazard analysis for site location, awareness on how to monitor hazard resistant construction etc)
• Masons are trained in hazard resistant construction

Risk-proofing & Monitoring
• Retrofitting of existing houses
• Quality of construction is monitored through regular inspections

Engagement of Local Bodies & Communities
• Following the owner driven reconstruction principle, self-help groups, including the most vulnerable, are organised and engaged in construction with assistance in the form of finances, building materials, and DRR engineering services
• Communities are trained in quality monitoring

5.4.3 Integrating DRR in Restoration of Livelihoods:

Integrating DRR into livelihoods is a key challenge to sustain the socio-economic development achieved in the development process.

Policies & Legislation
• Land-use planning technique is used for livelihood planning
• Micro finance and Micro insurance are provided with legal backup

Advocacy & Awareness
• Research institutions like ICAR(Indian Council of Agricultural Research) Study and support preparation of development plans that include DRR concerns based on the Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Analysis region-wise for improved livelihoods, development of livestock, and overall agricultural development
• Vocational training is imparted to affected people including women and the most vulnerable
• Small entrepreneurs have developed business contingency plans
**Coordination & Capacity development**

- Coordination mechanism available with representation of all stakeholders
- Economic programmes are launched for informal workers such as masons, entrepreneurs and self-employed especially to support diversification of their skill sets
- Support is given to revitalization of dairy, handicraft, handloom & small industries with special focus on women and disadvantaged groups
- Use of locally available material and traditional livelihoods is supported and encouraged
- Use provisions in government programmes (eg. NREGA for disaster-affected areas) to address the DRR concerns
- Partnerships have been formed with Micro Finance Institutions on micro-credits and micro insurance

**Risk-Proofing & Monitoring**

- Income-generation activities are piloted for upscaling
- Comprehensive risk assessment of the agricultural land /livestock is done
- Diversification of crop pattern and growing of resistant/ alternative crops encouraged
- Alternative viable livelihoods are mapped, including market linkages
- Option of cash for work in reconstruction of key infrastructure for informal sector workers have been devised
- Access to financial tools for risk reduction is improved (e.g. insurance is offered to small enterprise owners and workers on livelihood assets; agreements in place with MFIs on reduced interest rates or grace period for loan repayments etc)

**Engagement of Local Bodies & Communities**

- Self-help groups are organised and covered under Swarn Jayanti Swarojgar Yojana for developing livelihoods
- Women have been trained in handloom and other economic activities
- Youth groups are trained in preparedness, response, mitigation, etc.
- Contingency funds at the local government and community level are created
- Vulnerable groups are prioritized in service provision

**5.4.4 Integrating DRR in Food Security and Nutrition:**
Food insecurity and malnutrition adversely affect poor households and their vulnerability further gets aggravated in post-disaster situations. Elderly, disabled, women and children are usually the worst affected in disaster situations. Special efforts must be made to ensure that the needs of these groups are assessed carefully.

**Policies & Legislation**
- Adequate safety net for poor in the situation of acute food crisis in the policy mostly in disaster prone areas
- Long term strategy for drought management has been developed
- Introduction of insurance schemes for the poor for covering post disaster losses (post floods, earthquake, cyclone, etc)

**Advocacy & Awareness**
- Public information campaign on Govt agricultural livestock schemes and related entitlement/access to them.
- Awareness raising about the risk to food crops from hazards & from environmental degradation – those currently experienced and those likely to appear in future through climate change
- Making the vulnerable community aware of the nutritious content of the local food which is cheap and accessible to them
- Creating awareness among people on climate variability and impact of human induced extreme weather events in disaster zone

**Coordination & Capacity development**
- Training of farmers in alternative farming methods, crop types & varieties and water resource management
- Training of mothers and adolescent girls on preventive measures of maternal & child nutrition especially in disaster situation
- Training of SHG women members in preparedness and post disaster response for food security
- Proper engagement of ICDS in multi hazard zone and train the staff accordingly
- Training of ASHA and AWW to take up special counselling for mothers and family members on maternal and child nutrition in multi hazard zone before the onset of disaster

**Risk-proofing & Monitoring**
- Increased cultivation of drought (or flood) resistant crop types or varieties; revival of traditional crops and varieties which are more hazard tolerant.
- Diversification of crops grown in different seasons of the year
• Introduction of water-conservation farming systems, e.g. minimal tillage, mulching, contour bunding (using earth or stones), half-moon pits, terraces, etc.; afforestation and pastureland development for soil and water conservation
• Small scale irrigation systems such as cross dams, sub-surface dams, and hand, foot or animal-operated pumps
• Community grain banks.
• Insurance of crops and livestock

Engagement of Local Bodies & Communities
• Formation or strengthening of farmers co-operatives (for access to Govt schemes, bulk purchase of inputs, grain banks, etc).
• Awareness raising of women SHG members, youth club and school children to increase engagement of vulnerable groups in preparedness/post disaster
• Involvement of local Govt (Gram Sabha) in schemes to manage natural resources – e.g. building cross dams, managing grazing or reducing environmental damage.

5.4.5 Health Services:

Health services are very important during disasters but often get badly affected by disasters. Integrating DRR into health services is of utmost importance.

Policies & Legislation
• Quality standards & guidelines for infrastructure - focus on hazard-resistant construction of hospitals and health facilities/centres
• Land use planning technique used for planning for location of new hospitals/health centres

Advocacy & Awareness
• Health workers are aware of NDMA Guidelines on medical preparedness and mass casualty management for disasters
• Hospital Disaster Management Toolkits, Community Health Workers manuals etc are available for health workers to use
• Community is aware of arising health issues due to potential hazards of their area
• Health service providers are connected to communities located in inaccessible areas
Coordination & Capacity development
• Health training: Anganwadi workers, ASHAs and health volunteers are trained on various aspects of health and hygiene during emergencies
• Anganwadi centres are strengthened (eg. safe structure, adequate stocks of medicines/emergency kits, DRM training for workers, more staff during risk prone season etc.)
• Health workers are involved in disaster preparedness efforts (eg. inclusion of disaster management and first aid into ASHA training curriculum, ASHA workers part of Village Disaster Management Teams etc.)
• A Contingency plan exists for health services and delivery during the monsoon season (eg. equipping paramedics in villages that are inaccessible/difficult to reach)

Risk-proofing & Monitoring
• Primary health centres and Community health centres are fully equipped to continue functioning during disasters
• Retrofitting of the existing health facilities

Engagement of Local Bodies & Communities
• Communities are trained in rendering psycho-social support to deal with post-disaster trauma
• Trained community volunteer (first aid, mass casualty management, trauma counselling) are linked to the local medical institutes

5.4.6 Water - Sanitation –Hygiene

Policies & Legislation
• Policy on WASH includes provisions on upgrading facilities in terms of hazard resistance and accessibility

Advocacy & Awareness
• Awareness at various levels on safe WASH practices
• Disaster Risk Reduction is integrated into drinking water schemes or sanitation programme
• Provision of dignity kits during disaster for women

Coordination & Capacity development
• A Contingency plan exists for service delivery system for WASH for monsoon season
• Coordination mechanism exists to ensure disaster safe water and sanitation facilities
Risk-proofing & Monitoring
- Risk assessment is done for site-location of water pumps, supply systems, drainage & sewage systems, sanitation facilities etc.
- Construction of community drainage systems, sanitation facilities, waste management system etc. is risk-resilient

Engagement of Local Bodies & Communities
- Quality control is exercised by the community by participating in the risk resilient creation of community drainage systems, sanitation facilities, waste management etc. as well as monitoring the quality of water at all time

5.4.7 Education

Policies & Legislation
- Land use hazard zoning technique used for planning for new schools
- Schools have disaster management plans -
  - Quality standards & guidelines for hazard-resistant construction of schools
  - Retrofitting policy for disaster resistant strengthening of existing school buildings
  - Retrofitting policy for Non-structural building components (falling hazards) in schools

Advocacy & Awareness
- DRR lessons in school curriculum advocate safe behaviour

Coordination & Capacity development
- Education & training on disaster risk management including teachers and other staff
- Schools conduct disaster preparedness programmes (eg. mock drills, first aid, search and rescue, swimming and crowd management training)
- A Contingency plan exists for continuing education during the monsoon season

Risk-proofing & Monitoring
- School safety norms are followed in construction of safe schools
- Risk assessment done for site-selection and building new schools
- Retrofitting of existing schools
- Insurance for students, teachers and other staff
Engagement of Local Bodies & Communities

- Engaging community in designing, construction and monitoring of education program

5.4.8 Environment

Policies & Legislation

- Environment regulations are adhered to and include hazard considerations (e.g. EIAs for all development including recovery projects incorporate disaster risk assessments)
- Institutions to update state, district and local disaster management plans reflect current needs and priorities for recovery in case of disaster

Advocacy & Awareness

- Safe reconstruction of embankments is advocated
- Public information on quality control is spread
- There is awareness on climate change adaptation and mitigation (energy saving)

Coordination & Capacity development

- Capacity development on updating disaster management plans and integration with climate change plans
- Knowledge transfer to duty-bearers esp. DDMCs (District Disaster Management Committees) on factoring and monitoring risk reduction into reconstruction, livelihoods programs and restoration of ecosystems

Risk-proofing & Monitoring:

- Environmental Impact Assessment incorporates Disaster impact assessment
- Eco-systems that contribute to risk reduction are restored (e.g. afforestation)
- All projects can be evaluated and audited from the design to commissioning phases for risk proofing

Engagement of Local Bodies & Communities

- Quality control of construction activities by beneficiaries
- Community-based risk assessments are done
- Community Early warning systems are in place
- There is a social audit of all measures like embankment construction to ensure that no new risks are created
- CBOs are trained on embankment monitoring
5.5 Illustrations of Mainstreaming DRR

5.5.1 At the National level, NDMA plays a key role in coordinating with various line ministries like Environment, Agriculture, Panchayati Raj, Human Resource Development, Urban Development, Rural Development etc. to integrate DRR into some of the on-going flagship programmes like JNNURM, IAY, SSA and MGNREGA. In this connection, opportunities/areas of mainstreaming DRR by NGOs in a few flagship programmes of Government are mentioned below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector/Line Departments</th>
<th>National</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Local</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MGNREGA</td>
<td>Facilitate advocacy on special planning with focus in employment generation and asset creation in disaster prone areas</td>
<td>Integrate district disaster management plans at state level with a focus on DRR.</td>
<td>Micro level planning with DRR integration for creation of assets and infrastructure (road, culvert, escape route, raised tube well for pure drinking water, irrigation structure) and get it approved at the district level. Micro level planning for retrofitting of the existing infrastructure so as to safeguard against loss.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NHM</td>
<td>Facilitate advocacy and negotiation with health ministry for training of ASHA on DRR measures from health point of view</td>
<td>Facilitate training of ASHA through state health resource centre on DRR. Design of training curriculum for Conduction of training for ASHA, paramedics, ANM and others health staff on DRR.</td>
<td>Facilitating data</td>
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<td><strong>JNNURM</strong></td>
<td><strong>ASHA incorporating DRR elements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Facilitating database Management that would support during Disasters</strong></td>
<td><strong>collection to support risk reduction</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Develop a cadre of community volunteers to support them during time of disaster</strong></td>
<td><strong>Negotiation with planning and national advisory council to integrate Capacity Development plan on DRR for urban planners, urban local body members, ministry of urban development</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Facilitate Hazard Risk Vulnerability Assessments that support risk audit for water supply, solid waste management, and improvement of drains, prevention and rehabilitation of soil erosion and landslides, reservation of water bodies and incorporate the findings in the town plan.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Explore options of urban reform programme under JNNURM to advocate with States/UTs for amending building bylaws for disaster resistant development of built environment in urban areas.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Support capacity building of the construction</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Public awareness on JNNURM and its implication on poverty alleviation among urban poor and relevance of DRR</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Support training programmes for risk identification and effective community monitoring or undertaking social audits</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Responsibility</td>
<td>Agency/Role</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Coordinate with central School boards (NCERT, CBSE, ICSE) to incorporate DRR basics into school curriculum</td>
<td>Coordinate with technical and non-technical central and state universities/colleges to include DRR concerns in their syllabus Advocate to ensure that the infrastructure developed for education is safe and adheres to safety norms Facilitate designing training curriculum for teachers and students Support in training programmes Facilitate alternative teaching aids Advocate to ensure that the infrastructure developed for education is safe and adheres to safety norms Replicate the same with state education boards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing Department, Urban Development Department, Rural Development</td>
<td>Advocate retrofitting in existing infrastructure (public buildings) for earthquake protection.</td>
<td>Advocate retrofitting in existing infrastructure (public buildings) for earthquake protection. Advocate retrofitting in existing infrastructure (public buildings) for earthquake protection. Training of Engineers masons etc. Capacity building of the PRI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Advocate for Structural measures and building codes in earthquake and flood zones</td>
<td>Advocate for Structural measures and building codes in earthquake and flood zones</td>
<td>Advocate for Structural measures and building codes in earthquake and flood zones</td>
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<td>Hazard resistant planning in IAY houses</td>
<td>Hazard resistant planning in IAY houses</td>
<td>Hazard resistant planning in IAY houses</td>
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<td>Facilitate adaptation measures in drainage pattern/sewerage treatment in flood prone areas</td>
<td>Facilitate adaptation measures in drainage pattern/sewerage treatment in flood prone areas</td>
<td>Facilitate adaptation measures in drainage pattern/sewerage treatment in flood prone areas</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Facilities adaptation measures in drainage pattern/sewerage treatment in flood prone areas</td>
<td>Training of Engineers, architects, masons, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Works Department</td>
<td>Advocacy to introduce disaster impact assessment tools, before giving approval of the major constructions</td>
<td>Facilitate disaster impact assessments</td>
<td>Generating public awareness about impact of unplanned physical infrastructure</td>
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<td>Imparting training to engineers/architects and other technical staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Health Engineering Department</td>
<td>Advocate for appropriate guidelines to ensure hazard safe drinking water and sanitation facilities</td>
<td>Negotiate for budget provision on high raised tube wells and for proper hazard resistant water pipe lines</td>
<td>Construction of high raised tube wells</td>
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<td>Training to the community members for repair and</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Agriculture/Animal Husbandry</strong></td>
<td><strong>Crop and Livestock Insurance</strong></td>
<td>Develop effective mechanism for monitoring the quality of water in hazard prone area</td>
<td><strong>maintenance of the tube wells</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Crop Diversification</strong></td>
<td><strong>State to take adequate measures for farmers on crop and livestock insurance</strong></td>
<td><strong>State to ensure mechanism to support crop diversification as per hazard analysis</strong></td>
<td><strong>Facilitating insurance for crops and livestock</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>State to ensure mechanism to support crop diversification as per hazard analysis</strong></td>
<td><strong>Strengthen systems for localized weather data collection and dissemination through community radio for farmers</strong></td>
<td><strong>Supporting skill development for crop diversification</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Negotiating with forest department on forest conservation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Strengthen community based monitoring and dissemination systems of weather related information</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Negotiating with forest department on forest conservation</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Coastal belt plantation that works as barriers to cyclone, surge and flooding</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Ensuring clean and sustainable energy security</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Forestry and Environment</strong></td>
<td><strong>Facilitate advocacy on judicious implementation of forest and environment policy from adaptation view point</strong></td>
<td><strong>Generating Public awareness on importance to social forestry and preservation of biodiversity</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Influencing the policy makers on a comprehensive energy policy in line with carbon and greenhouse gas reduction</strong></td>
<td><strong>Public awareness on CRZ Protection</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>Public awareness on greenhouse gas emission and its impact on</strong></td>
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</table>
5.5.2 The list given in the above table is an indicative one and many more line departments can be added to it. DRR planning needs to be done at Municipal and Panchayat levels with the involvement of local community representatives; and simultaneously the resources and responsibility to manage would be in the domain of the local authorities. Decentralised planning can enhance local participation along with improved efficiency and equitable benefits.

5.6 Good Governance in DM

5.6.1 Good Governance and management is important to ensure effective mainstreaming of DRR. Following are ways to mainstream DRR through Good Governance by NGOs:
- Develop clear understanding on existing policies and the DM Act that are laid out by the government to address the issues pertaining to disaster management and its implications on DRR.
- Facilitate, establish linkage and develop understanding on various aspects of human induced climate change effects and how it can be curbed through different policy interventions; for example devising ways and means to work with climate change missions. Climate change and adaptation measures can be linked to DRR policy initiatives.
- Good Governance requires political commitment which was endorsed through the DM Act 2005 and associated policies. Therefore the elected representatives at all level need to know the DM act and policies. NGOs would facilitate creating conceptual clarity on DRR and its relevance within the ambit of DM act and policies among elected representatives at local and state level through various innovative methods by using press/media or workshops/seminars- Advocacy and awareness for improved mainstreaming of DRR into development.
- Facilitating discussion at local governance bodies, e.g, Panchayat or traditional self-governance bodies like tribal/village councils etc. on relevance and exigencies of DRR and the process of its integration into various sectors; facilitate vulnerable community perspective to be heard in local governance institutions so that decisions positively influence in safer buildings and assets and resilience in the community. For example the DM Act 2005 and 73rd &74th amendments of the Constitution emphasises decentralised planning, thus enabling local bodies to plan and make budgetary allocations.
- Sensitise elected representatives on issues of DRR and its integration; (e.g. Budget allocation to each sector for DRR measures).
- Advocate, facilitate and support capacity building of government officials on DRR mainstreaming at executive levels; so that various line departments can integrate DRR into planning.
Chapter 6  
Action Points for Stakeholders

Action points to be implemented by all concerned institutions and agencies are summarized below:

**Overarching Principles for GO-NGO Coordination**

i. Establishment of a functional GO-NGO Coordination Platform during non-emergency times under stewardship of NDMA, SDMAs and DDMAs. This Platform would develop the road-map for short, medium and long term operational strategies and plans. The platform would also evolve mechanisms for better communication amongst stakeholders involved.

ii. The disaster management plans developed at various levels would include guidelines for the participation of NGOs in all phases of disaster management.

iii. The approach would be on addressing vulnerabilities both from risk reduction as well as response perspectives.

iv. Institutionalizing Knowledge Management Processes: Consolidation of institutional learning processes and creation of knowledge portals as well as educational programmes which will support long term capacity development.

(Action: NDMA at the National level, SDMAs at the State level, DDMAs at the district level, Line Ministries and Departments of Centre and States, Corporate, NGOs and other concerned agencies in their respective areas/sectors of operation)

**Institutional Mechanisms**

i. The NDMA, SDMAs and the DDMAs will have the flexibility to decide on the nature of consultations to be held to engage with NGOs to ensure that their representation is all inclusive. Towards this, the Authorities will have discretion in selecting NGOs, CSOs and faith-based organisations to participate in appropriate coordination mechanisms. Proven track record
and past work in the field of Disaster Management will be used as the criteria for selection of agencies.

(Action: NDMA, SDMA, DDMA, INGOs, national, state and local NGOs)

ii. NDMA would constitute a national level NGO-GO Taskforce that would facilitate dialogue between Government and NGO stakeholders on (Action: NDMA)

iii. NGO-GO Inter-Agency Group (IAG) or Task Force on Disaster Management in the states: The IAG or State Level NGO Task Force for DM will be constituted by the SDMA which would facilitate the functioning of this group. The SDMA will designate an officer (or more) to the IAG or representative from nodal Department in the state such as the Department of Disaster Management, Department of Relief and Rehabilitation, SDMA or a representative of the DM Faculty in the ATI. (Action: SDMA, State level NGOs)

iv. At the District level, the District Collector or the CEO of DDMA will set up District Level NGO Task Force comprising of members of district level NGOs. Depending on local governance systems and socio-economic profile, an appropriate mechanism for representation of communities in IAG and coordination with them would be established. (Action: DDMA, District level NGOs)

v. Any NGO, registered or otherwise, or any individual working for relief work in any disaster in any district will inform the District Disaster Management Authority in writing, within one month of taking up the work, the details of work done by them, including financial resources spent, the names of people assisted and the manner of assistance. If the work is of continued nature involving rehabilitation or reconstruction, the DDMA will be informed in writing on a quarterly basis.

vi. If any NGO takes up the work in more than a district in a State, such written intimations will be given to the State Disaster Management Authority.

vii. NGOs working in the area of disaster management in more than a State in the county will send a copy of their detailed annual reports to National Disaster Management Authority.
viii. NGOs participating in initiatives pertaining to disaster preparedness, relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation shall exercise total transparency with respect to the initiatives undertaken by them.

ix. In case of any complaint about the activity of any NGO with reference to works taken up for DM during response/reconstruction/rehabilitation, the NGO will ensure prompt submission of factual reply to any query that may be made by the DDMA.

x. In addition to the above, the State Governments may give more detailed guidelines to coordinate the efforts of NGOs working for disaster management by virtue of their powers under Section 38(2) of the Disaster Management Act.

Role of NGOs in Disaster Response

xi. Role of NGOs in disaster response at the state/district and sub-district levels would follow what has been outlined in the respective state and district disaster management (DM) plans. In order to systematically coordinate response functions and ensure timely provision of the services and material in all the affected areas, the resources available with the NGOs and what can be mobilised by them will have to be outlined in the DM plan as a preparedness measure. These would be facilitated by the DDMA. The NGOs would also provide feedback/observations to the Local Administration with respect relief and response measures that get administered at the community level.

xii. The State Government, through the district administration would provide necessary logistical support to the NGOs for undertaking mutually agreed tasks.

xiii. At the state and district levels, the respective administration would establish a monitoring mechanism to coordinate and facilitate relief and recovery operations. In consultation with NGOs’ a database and a decision support system capable of identifying demand supply gap would be established.

xiv. The DDMA or the SDMA may invite such non-governmental organisations to their coordination meetings and seek their suggestions. The NGOs will ensure that their representatives attend such meetings and take up the
work in such a manner that the relief efforts reach all sections of the affected people in all affected areas

xv. The weather forecasting and issue of early warnings are being handled by the Government through established mechanisms. While the network and standard operating systems for communicating messages from/at the national to district level have been well established, the network at the sub-district level is not uniformly robust enough to alert the communities at risk about the imminent danger and advise them on further precautionary measures. The GO-NGO coordination mechanism at the state and district levels will identify NGOs responsible for a set of villages or one village, as the case may be, and communicate early warning messages appropriate to that locality. The NGOs responsible for alerting villages will ensure that the messages are communicated to the concerned villages in time and disseminated through village level volunteer groups such as task forces or DM Teams. The NGOs would also assist the local administration in evacuating people, livestock and life-survival materials to pre-identified safe location as per the local DM plan.

(Action: DDMA and NGOs)

xvi. Search and Rescue: Communities are recognised as first responders as they have thorough knowledge about the location, and will be able to act immediately before the specialised rescue teams of the Government could reach the site. Therefore, NGOs will support local level Search and Rescue DMTs to undertake search and rescue operations by providing these groups with equipment and tools as well as skilled Human Resources (HR). While providing support at the community level the NGO will involve fully the local level volunteer groups. This is to capitalise on the local knowledge in terms of identifying vulnerable locations, local rescue resources and evacuation routes. NGOs, with their familiarity to the local areas, may play a vital role in providing information on missing people. NGOs could also supplement resources of the Government in terms of providing rescue equipment, transport facilities and alternate safe shelters. In the event of mass casualty, the NGOs may provide support in carcass disposal and mass burial, under the supervision of the district administration. All these would be facilitated through the IAG and as per the roles and responsibilities outlined in the DM plan.

(Action: DDMA, NGOs, Fire and Rescue Services, SDRF)

xvii. First Aid: NGOs in liaison with the public health department through the local administration may extend medical care to the rescued and the affected members. NGOs may establish temporary dispensaries or health centers with qualified medical professionals and required facilities at the
disaster sites or safe shelters. NGOs may share information on vulnerable population namely children, lactating and pregnant mothers, elderly, differently-abled, sick etc., with the response teams. NGOs may supplement facilities and materials required for providing first aid as well. NGOs may also contribute towards providing psychological support to the affected to speed up the recovery process

(Action: District Administration, NGOs, DDMA, Public Health Centers)

xviii. **Safe Shelter Maintenance:** The role of NGOs in jointly managing the safe shelters/relief camps is seen as a vital parameter for ensuring proper care and support to the evacuated community members. Thereafter, NGOs’ role is to monitor jointly with the district administration the provision of all amenities and facilities in the Relief Camps/shelters. NGOs may identify volunteers from the community to work along with the local administration to monitor and review the facilities periodically and update the district administration in case of any immediate action such as supply of food, safe drinking water and maintenance of infrastructure and sanitation facilities is concerned. The volunteers, under the guidance of the NGOs, may provide special care and supplementary food as per the requirements at the relief camps especially the children, elderly, sick persons, pregnant and lactating mothers. NGOs may also deploy trained community volunteers, who are enrolled with Civil Defence, in the safe shelter, to prevent any anti-social events occurring in and around the safe shelters. In case of major disasters, NGOs with prior approval from the district administration may construct temporary safe shelters in adherence to the standards prescribed by the local administration.

(Action: Local Administration, NGOs, DDMA, Police)

xix. **Relief Distribution:** GO-NGO coordination is pivotal to ensure effective and systematic distribution of relief materials to the affected community. NGOs may actively participate in the coordination of relief distribution by deploying volunteers at the distribution centers to assist the district administration and the PRIs with regard to stocking of relief materials, transporting of relief materials, documentation procedures etc. NGOs in consultation with the district administration may also distribute relief materials from their own sources, in prescribed quantity and quality. District level IAG may in advance prepare a list of vendors and suppliers of relief materials and get them approved by the District Administration to ensure quality of the materials. The district administration will provide logistical support to the NGOs for distribution of relief material that is coordinated through the Administration.

(Action: District Administration, NGOs, DDMA, PRI)
xx. **Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA):** With sufficient orientation to the process of damage assessment and in agreement with the district administration on the information needs, NGOs may participate in post disaster needs assessment in the affected areas. The formats and guidelines for undertaking PDNA may be standardised at the District IAG level to ensure uniformity in the collection of information. Depending on the magnitude of the disasters, the indicators for assessment may be determined by the district administration. Subsequent to the needs assessment, NGOs may decide on their level of participation in the process of relief or restoration in consultation with the district administration. The assessments carried out by NGOs would be shared with the district administration. State IAG would coordinate assessments by NGOs to avoid duplication of efforts and adequate coverage of all areas and all sectors.

*(Action: District Administration, DDMA, NGOs, PRIs)*

**Role of NGOs in Disaster Recovery**

i. The District Administration in collaboration with NGOs would formulate the recovery framework for the district as per the State Government guidelines. The State Government norms and guidelines would be shared with the NGOs. The IT platforms established during relief operations would continue to function even in the recovery phase. Data on affected people, causalities, beneficiary lists etc would be available on this database.

ii. Based on the PDNA, the IAGs may plan recovery programmes in alignment with the overall recovery framework of the district. IAGs in coordination with the District Administration may finalise components of recovery programmes of the NGOs with the objective of enhancing the capacities of the affected using build back better concepts. IAGs and the member NGOs, in consultation with the district administration will develop an assessment tool to identify areas requiring recovery support. NGOs may undertake the assessment jointly with the community using participatory appraisal tools to identify areas that require recovery and draw recovery plans in accordance with the overall recovery framework of the district and adapting the underlying “build back better” principles. The core underlying principle may be to enhance the capacities of the affected to enable self-support and reduce dependency. The IAGs may express in clear terms to the district administration, the assured resources available with the IAG/ NGOs and what they could mobilise to participate in the overall recovery efforts and provide clarity on the level of participation. Once agreed with the District administration, it is mandatory for the NGOs
to provide the support on a timely basis. The level of support required from the district administration will also be discussed and agreed.

iii. The broad areas of support for recovery are: shelter, infrastructure development, economic strengthening (including livelihood), health, education, gender and psycho-social support. Adequate efforts would be taken by the IAGs and the NGOs in designing the recovery programmes to factor in elements leading to self-sustenance and self-reliance.

iv. **Infrastructure/Shelter development programmes**: NGOs, based on the fund availability, may participate in the overall infrastructure/shelter development programme of the district administration with a commitment to complete the same within the time frame and in accordance to the State guidelines. NGOs may encourage owner driven construction, which allows communities to contribute to and manage their recovery and reconstruction process based on the use of indigenous building materials and traditional designs in alignment with the guidelines, issued by the Government for the said purpose. NGOs may arrange for expert advice on environment friendly and disaster resilient constructions to enable the communities to build disaster resistance houses and infrastructure. Training programmes and workshops on safe construction practices may be organised by NGOs to enable the affected communities decide on building their houses and other community infrastructure as well as maintaining these with their own resources. NGOs may build model houses in the affected locations to demonstrate the technical, environmental and financial viability of such constructions. NGOs will conduct Advocacy programmes to link schemes such as Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) for promoting safe construction practices wherever post-disaster constructions are being undertaken.

   a. *(Action: NGOs, District Administration)*

v. **Livelihood/Economic Recovery**: NGOs may design livelihood/economic recovery programmes based on the local capacities and needs of the affected community. The recovery programme may envisage restoring and strengthening of the affected community’s existing livelihoods or by equipping the community to secure employment. Livelihood recovery programmes of the NGOs may take into consideration the existing demand and supply, availability of local skills and resources and potential linkages with the market. NGOs may also conduct capacity building programmes to strengthen the skills of the community in terms of technological up-gradation, business administration, financial management and linkage with mainstream resources to ensure self-sustenance of the proposed livelihood programmes. NGOs may identify
opportunities to employ the affected community members in various restoration activities under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and propose the same to the district administration for perusal. NGOs may also liaison with the State/ District Industries Centres and support the affected members gaining access to self-employment opportunities.

(Action: NGOs, District Administration, State/District Industries Centres)

vi. Health related recovery programmes: Health related recovery programmes of NGOs may focus on strengthening the linkages with the mainstream health centres of the government. Priority of NGO funding/resources may be given to programme activities that strengthen access to the local primary health centers/ government hospitals. IAGs and the local NGOs may identify avenues for roping in programmes of National Health Mission (NHM) to assist in the recovery and also in developing sustainable systems to access health and propose the same to the District Administration for perusal. NGOs may also integrate capacity building activities into the recovery programme to train the youth and the women on health related issues and emergency health management. NGOs may also promote youth and children health clubs, village health guides etc. to facilitate development of sustainable health systems in the affected locations and also to mainstream them with the schemes under NHM.

(Action: NGOs, Health Department, District Administration)

vii. Education: NGOs will develop recovery activities jointly with the education department, to ensure continuation of education in the affected areas quickly. NGOs along-with the education department may launch advocacy with the schools to provide special coaching in schools and in the camps. NGOs may also organise supplementary special coaching for the affected children and develop community level volunteers for conducting the same. NGOs jointly with the education department will undertake assessment of schools located in the vulnerable locations and assist in developing proposal for SSA/ Education Department to retrofit or reconstruct the school buildings with disaster resistant features.

(Action: NGOs, Education Department, District Administration)

viii. Psychosocial recovery programmes: Psychosocial recovery can be facilitated by NGOs due to their grass-root reach, readily available infrastructure and man-power at the community; may augment the efforts of district administration to bridge the existing gap in mental health infrastructure and needs. NGOs may collaborate with mental health
institutions, general hospitals, psychiatric departments, universities, colleges, with social work and psychology departments and NGOs working in mental health field to build capacities of their staff and volunteers to provide psychosocial first aid, referral and follow up, and rehabilitation of survivors/community. NGOs play vital role in caring of vulnerable groups, create mass awareness and preparedness. The psychosocial support would be integrated into NGO DM Plans and programmes with a focus for establishing links with existing mental health programmes (DMHP) and development programmes (ASHA-NRHM, MGNREGA) for sustenance and support. 

(Action: NGOs, Health Department, Psychosocial experts, District Administration)

Role of NGOs in Preparedness

i. The SDMAs and the DDMAs will invite representative NGOs to chalk out strategy and action points, which could help in enhancing the preparedness through better coordination.

ii. One of the vital elements that enhance the effectiveness of preparedness is the capacity building at the community levels. IAGs may integrate preparedness related activities into their on-going community development programmes in alignment with various preparedness efforts of the district administration. This will ensure sustainability of the development programmes and also enhance the capacity of the community to be better prepared for disaster events. IAGs at the district level may periodically organise orientation and sensitisation programmes for the member NGOs on the need for integrating preparedness in their regular development activities.

iii. Main activities under disaster preparedness include assessment of vulnerabilities and risks to various hazards, preparation of disaster management plans, training and establishing disaster management teams, developing of standard operating procedures, establishing early warning systems and ensuring last mile connectivity.

iv. Hazard, Vulnerability and Risk Assessment (HVRA): NGOs may initiate a participatory process at the community level to assess the vulnerabilities and risks to various hazards in their respective areas of operation. The process may also identify available resources and capacities within the community to overcome vulnerabilities and address risks. Members of the PRI and the district level elected representatives representing the area along-with the community members should be involved across all
The NGO may facilitate documentation of the findings of the assessment and provide the information to the district administration for joint planning of preparedness related activities. 

*(Action: NGOs, PRIs, District Administration)*

v. **Disaster Management (DM) Plans:** Based on the HVRA, NGOs in consultation with the PRI and the District Administration may render technical support in development of disaster management plans. DM Plans will contain the potential hazards; list of vulnerable locations; details of available facilities, resources and capacities to reduce damages that the disasters can cause; standard operating procedures for responding to disasters and action points for preparedness. Special emphasis needs to be given to the vulnerable sections of the community namely children, women, elderly and the differently-abled throughout the various sections of the DM plan. NGOs can also facilitate consultations among the local community, PRI and elected representatives to draw capacity development/mitigation plans to reduce the risks due to disasters.

vi. NGOs may build the capacities of the community to undertake various steps leading to the preparation of a DM plan and may facilitate preparation of the plan by involving the local community and the Panchayati Raj Institutions. IAGs may compile the community level DM plans and share the same with the district administration to support implementation of preparedness, response and mitigation efforts.

vii. As part of the DM plan, NGOs may support the communities to prepare disaster specific Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to be followed during disaster situations. As part of the SOP, special instructions for household preparedness will also be prepared. NGOs may help the DM teams familiarise with the SOPs on preparedness by conducting periodic mock drills jointly with the district administration. *(Action: NGOs, IAGs, PRIs, District Administration)*

viii. **Disaster Management Teams (DMTs):** NGOs and the district administration may organise joint consultations with the community members, elected representatives and the PRI members to strengthen the preparedness capacities of the community. Subsequent to the consultation, NGOs may facilitate formation of disaster management teams from among the community members and link them with the PRI and the district administration. Based on the local context, the DM teams may be formed on early warning dissemination, search and rescue, first-aid, shelter maintenance, water and sanitation, relief and coordination,
carrices disposal, trauma counselling and damage assessment. NGOs may ensure appropriate representation of women in each of the DM teams. NGOs in coordination with the District Administration may organise mock drills to strengthen the understanding of the DM Teams with regard to their role in preparedness. The database of the DM teams may be developed and shared with the district administration for future reference. The DM teams constituted at the community level would be provided with essential equipments that could be used for search and rescue and first aid. (Action: NGOs, IAGs, PRIs, District Administration)

ix. **Early Warning System (EWS):** NGOs may also assist the District Administration / PRIs to establish community based early warning systems to ensure last mile connectivity. NGOs may also conduct awareness programmes on the warning services available for different hazards, interpretation of those warnings and the actions to be taken after the warnings. District Administration through appropriate channels may also liaison with the forecasting institutions such as IMD, CWC and INCOIS and organise mock drills/ awareness programmes at the community levels. (Action: NGOs, PRIs, District Administration, EWS agencies IMD, INCOIS, CWC etc.,)

x. **Handling of Food Supplies / Relief Materials:** One of the major concerns during preparedness phase is to identify safe spaces in close proximity to the vulnerable locations to stock-pile essential goods, medicines and emergency equipment. NGOs may support the district administration in locating such spaces or extend their own spaces in the local areas to enable the essential goods being stockpiled for ready use in case of any sudden onset of disaster. (Action: NGOs, District Administration)

xi. **Medical Preparedness:** NGOs, especially specialising in the health sector may render technical support to the health department and district administration in development of an emergency health management plan. The plan may contain details on the various needs with regard to emergency health in the local context, availability of health professionals, drug supply system and the related logistics plan. NGOs may also develop health volunteers within the community and provide training on basic health care including first-aid and ensure practice through periodic mock drills. (Action: NGOs, Health Department, District Administration)

xii. **Incident Response System (IRS):** IAGs in consultation with the district administration may assist in development of an action plan to support the
IRS in times of its activation. NGOs may also take part in the district level training programmes on IRS and serve as trainer of trainers (ToT) in creating awareness amongst the community on the IRS. *(Action: IAGs, NGOs, District Administration)*

**xiii. GO-NGO coordination platforms at the state and district levels will work out in advance, Long Term Agreements with vendors for the immediate supply of relief materials during emergencies. Modalities may also be worked out with PRIs to endorse or validate beneficiary lists, especially in cases where disasters have destroyed family documents such as BPL cards, ration cards and other identity cards in order to ensure no exclusion takes place and the most vulnerable are assisted. *(Action: IAGs, NGOs, District Administration)***

### Role of NGOs in Disaster Mitigation

**i.** NGOs will assist the district administration in developing a disaster mitigation strategy as part of the overall disaster management plan. The hazard, risk and vulnerability assessments done at the community level may provide insights on possible mitigation interventions that can be taken up as long term development initiatives. NGOs may document the mitigation opportunities that could be integrated into the district level development plans and share it with the district administration for perusal. NGOs may essentially integrate mitigation activities in their programme planning, to ensure that the community development programmes make the communities resilient to disasters, as well. *(Action: NGOs, IAGs, District Administration)*

**ii.** **Advocacy Programmes:** IAGs may develop an advocacy plan envisaging the opportunities for investing in mitigation activities and will have dialogue with the district administration, Panchayat Raj Institutions, District level elected representatives and Corporate for mobilising resources for undertaking mitigation programmes. Such advocacy may facilitate policy formulation, strategy development and programme design at different levels towards disaster risk reduction. *(Action: NGOs, IAGs, District Administration, PRIs, District level Elected Representatives)*

**iii.** **Risk Transfer Initiatives:** Most NGOs working with Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and micro credit programmes, may evolve risk transfer mechanisms and tools with expert advice from insurance experts. In consultation with the district administration and the State Relief Office, strategies would be developed to integrate the same into the community development programmes. IAGs may develop proposals on risk transfer
programmes in consultation with the district administration and render support in the implementation of such programmes. (Action: NGOs, CBOs, IAGs, District Administration, PRIs, Insurance Companies)

iv. **Information- services to link with flagship programmes:** NGOs in consultation with the PRIs may propose context based mitigation activities that can be taken up under the national flagship programmes such as National Health Mission, National Rural Livelihood Mission Scheme under National Employment Guarantee Act etc., to ensure that the mitigation opportunities are factored during the implementation of such programmes. (Action: NGOs, District Administration, PRIs, Health Department, Rural Development Department)

### Role of NGOs for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)

i. During the response phase, NGOs involved in immediate response would identify PWDs in advance during preparedness phase and appropriately include in the local disaster management plans. If they have not been already identified, special efforts must be made to identify people with disabilities and special needs immediately after disaster. Emergency search and rescue personnel must have knowledge on how to adapt search and rescue techniques to find and safely evacuate persons with different types of disabilities. (Action: SDMA, DDMA, Local Authorities, INGOs, national, state and local NGOs, SDRF, NDRF and Other Search & Rescue agencies)

ii. During the recovery phase, NGOs would take care of the needs of PWDs. When planning reconstruction by NGOs, they must assess whether houses, toilets and water sources are easily accessible to PWDs. Basic design standards for designing and planning buildings and utilities for PWDs, as per BIS codes, must be adopted while constructing new buildings and utilities by NGOs. In the absence of any BIS codes for any PWD friendly design, the best international standards of other countries would be referred. In existing individual or public buildings, NGOs would find possible solutions in making the houses, toilets and water sources accessible to PWDs.

   (Action: NGOs and other concerned agencies in consultation with government)

iii. During Preparedness phase, when resource mapping is carried out, resources specific to PWDs would also be identified. These may include disabled-friendly drinking water and sanitation sources, disabled-friendly
shelters, volunteers to provide physical and psychological support, rehabilitation centres, emergency healthcare and hospital services for injured persons, special schools or schools that include children with disabilities, etc. NGOs must address the specific need of PWDs during the preparedness phase. They would prepare a resource inventory taking into consideration three areas of disability: physical, sensory (hearing, speech, vision) and mental or intellectual. (Action: NGOs and other concerned agencies and related Government Departments)

iv. NGOs would facilitate participatory processes to plan for possible relief camp locations in the event of disaster. All locations including existing social institutions such as schools, large halls, community multi-purpose centres or stadia that may be used as shelter sites, would be made accessible to all community members using the universal standard design of accessibility (such as building ramps, installing handrails, modifying water and sanitation sources and making other necessary disabled friendly modifications) to ensure that the sites will be accessible to all. PWDs would be included in this participatory consultative process to ensure that their needs are adequately addressed. (Action: SDMAs, DDMAs, District Administration, Local Authorities, NGOs and other concerned agencies)

NGO-Corporate Collaboration for Disaster Management

i. Private sector engagement in post disaster situations, especially in distributing relief assistance to disaster affected communities as a part of their Corporate Sector Responsibility (CSR), would be augmented with special emphasis on strengthening pre-disaster preparedness and mitigation in disaster-prone areas with the help of local NGOs. Collaboration may also be made to utilise the domain expertise of the corporate sector in the vulnerability assessment and disaster management planning process. (Action: SDMA/DDMA, Corporate Sector, NGOs, and other concerned agencies)