



Sphere India

National Coalition of Humanitarian Agencies in India



BULLETIN: JANUARY 2022

Samanvay

Humanitarian Coordination & Resilience Building



Message from CEO

Dear Readers,

Entering into year full of possibilities, Sphere India wishes a very Happy, Healthy and compassionate New Year to each of our partner organizations, collaborative agencies, and the most importantly, the people to whom we affirm to serve Quality and Humanitarian response during conflict and distress.

This bulletin covers key highlights of COVID-19 Academy monthly sessions, coherent efforts to build IAGs' Emergency preparedness and response, stories and updates from key stakeholders: Members, IAGs, Government, Volunteer Network etc. and feature story on Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2022. Additionally, the bulletin presents glimpses of Lessons learnt workshop 2021, along with launch and piloting of Multi sector coordination handbooks in 6 states.

Herewith, I take this opportunity to thank all the members, partners, staff and volunteers for their support and commitment. We will strive to improve our efforts to build synergies among diverse actors and will appreciate any feedbacks to improve our programs and this monthly bulletin.

Vikrant Mahajan
CEO, Sphere India

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Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2022


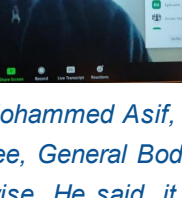
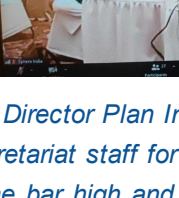
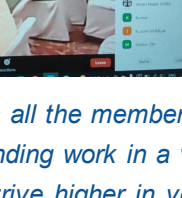
Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM), established in 2012, received the **S.C. Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar for 2022** under institutional category while **Professor Vinod Sharma**, a senior professor at the Indian Institute of Public Administration and Vice-Chairman of the Sikkim State DMA, founder-co-ordinator of the National Centre of Disaster Management, now known as the National Institute of Disaster Management has been awarded the **S.C. Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar for 2022** under Individual category.

This year's awardees were conferred with the Award, alongwith the awardees of the year 2019, 2020 and 2021, by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi at the investiture ceremony held on 23rd January 2022 to commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Awardees for 2021 were **Dr. Rajendra Kumar Bhandari** (Individual category)
Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society (SEEDS) (Institutional category).

Awardees for 2020 were **Shri Kumar Munnan Singh** (Individual category)
Disaster Mitigation & Management Centre (DMMC) of Uttarakhand (Institutional category).

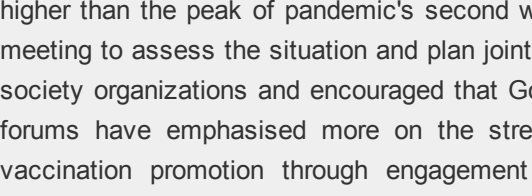
Awardee for 2019 was **8 Bn NDRF, Ghaziabad**

Governance Update

Sphere India HR, Finance and Membership committee met on 16th December and Executive Committee met on 17th Dec 2021 as a regular process meetings. Apart from taking stock of the action points, Organisation compliances, HR, Finance and Program Updates, the Executive Committee reviewed preparations for the AGM and approved Sphere India Strategic Plan 2025.

The Annual General Meeting was organised on 22nd Dec 2021. The meeting appointed Statutory Auditor for year 2022-23, approved Budget for 2022-23; revisions in organisational policies, Strategy 2025, Annual Program Report with Audited Accounts 2020-21 and new members as recommended by Executive Committee for approvals.



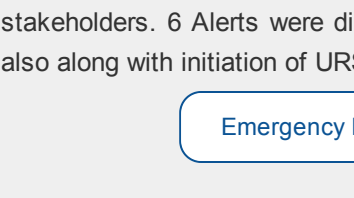
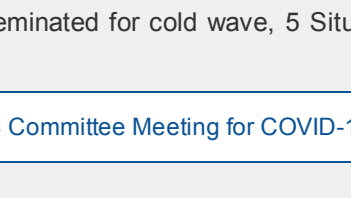


The Chairperson, Mr. Mohammed Asif, Executive Director Plan India thanks all the members of the Executive Committee, General Body and Secretariat staff for an outstanding work in a very challenging year otherwise. He said, it has set the bar high and need to strive higher in years ahead.

Programs Update

Inter-Agency Coordination

Emergency Coordination

In the last 3 months of 2021 (October to December), Sphere India along with its partners carried out Joint Needs Assessment for Kerala Flash Floods in October 2021, Tamil Nadu Floods 2021, Uttarakhand Floods in October 2021, Andhra Pradesh Floods in November 2021 and Dimapur Fire in December 2021. Additionally, Kerala IAG has concluded the JDNA in 4 flood affected districts jointly with KSDMA, Unicef and Sphere India.

COVID 19 Response: Due to an exponential rise in the number of COVID-19 cases, which was higher than the peak of pandemic's second wave, SI IAC Committee has called an emergency meeting to assess the situation and plan joint actions. NDMA has also called meeting with civil-society organizations and encouraged that Government and CSOs need to work together. Both forums have emphasised more on the strengthening local coordination, promotion of CAB, vaccination promotion through engagement of mass influencers, encouragement of home isolation as per guidelines, engagement of CSOs in facilitating isolation for vulnerable and supporting system. And there is need to prepared well for crisis as far major indicators on hospital beds, oxygen, and other essentials may be concerned where CSOs can pick up early info of stresses in local context and work in collaboration with Government. In this sequence, State IAGs/ Networks have immediately taken actions and organized session on "Omicon, Delta, Paediatric Cases, and Adolescent Vaccination Strategies" cum GO-NGO meeting in Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar, similar meetings are planned in other states in first week of February.

In response to COVID-19 and other Emergencies IAC program is engaged in continuous coordination with State IAGs/ Networks, Sphere India members, other partners and stakeholders. 6 Alerts were disseminated for cold wave, 5 Situation reports on COVID-19 were also along with initiation of URS.

Emergency IAC Committee Meeting for COVID-19 - Minutes >>>

Capacity Building of IAGs

For strengthening more localised coordination with in-depth knowledge about vulnerability and resilience, models and tools, standards in relief measures, maximizing community engagement and transforming information into a professional plan aligned with unified efforts, 3 days training organized for District Focal Point Persons/ IAG Members in Uttarakhand and Nagaland covering the Basics of Emergency Management, Emergency Coordination for Assessments, SOPs, Emergency Management Tools and Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Coordination related Documentation etc. Similar training are scheduled in Kerala and J&K in February.

Uttarakhand

Nagaland

The needs of the members were identified through joint coordination of Sphere India and UK IAG and session plans were chartered to cater the needs of existing members. 3 day trainings were organised on JRNA, Kobo Toolbox, Core Humanitarian Standards and Flood Preparedness & Response.

On 8th January 2022, third session was concluded on **"Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management"**. Details, need and objectives of Humanitarian Logistics, Procurement, Transportation and Distribution process were some of the key topics explained by Mr. Gopal Thapliyal, Project Manager, Plan India, Uttarakhand, while Mr. Dhiraj Kumar, Country Programme Administrator, Handicap International, took a session on process, system & risk assessment of Supply Chain Management.

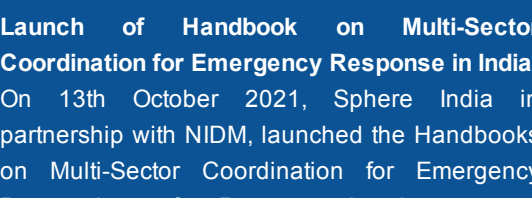

Training session on **"Essential Humanitarian Practices"** was conducted on 8th January, 2022 by Sphere India team. The Second training was conducted on 7th January, 2022 on "Minimum Humanitarian Standards in Emergencies", moderated by Mr. Tapan Patel, Founder, Centre For Integrated Development. These sessions summarised on the Sphere Humanitarian Charter on the core legal principles that have most bearing on the welfare of those affected by disaster or conflict.

View Session Summary Report >>

View Session Summary Report >>

Annual Lessons Learnt Workshop 2021

The annual Lesson Learnt Workshop 2021 was hosted by Sphere India on 21st and 22nd December 2021, in collaboration with UNICEF and HCL Foundation to provide an interactive platform to different stakeholders and members to discuss the challenges, achievements, outcomes and learnings from 2021 to document the experiences, best practices for better response and preparedness for 2022 and have a shared understanding on the way forward.

Participants across cities and states, and member agencies joined the workshop, both online and offline, for enlightening the discussions and presented their strategy and best practices for the greater good of the community.

View Lessons Learnt Workshop Report >>

Knowledge and Capacity Sharing

COVID 19 Academy (National and State Level)

Session to commemorate National Youth Day-The Indian government proclaimed the 12th of January as National Youth Day in 1984 on the occasion of Swami Vivekananda's birthday. The theme for National Youth Day 2022 was "It's All in the Mind" focusing on which a panel discussion was organised to reawaken the inexhaustible vitality of youngsters, understand and provide them a better platform to put across their thoughts freely.

Session to commemorate National Girl Child Day and International Day of Education-The Covid-19 Academy Team had organized a panel discussion to highlight the vulnerabilities and strengths of the girl children along with the child's right to education and its challenges during the pandemic. The theme for 2022 was "my voice: our equal future". On the other hand, the International Day of Education was adopted by UNGA in 2018 and the theme for this year is "Changing Course, Transforming Education".




12th January, 2022-Covid-19 Academy Session to commemorate National Youth Day

24th January 2022-Session on National Girl Child Day & International Day of Education

Multi-Sector Coordination for Emergency Response in India

Launch of Handbook on Multi-Sector Coordination for Emergency Response in India:

On 13th October 2021, Sphere India in partnership with NIDM, launched the Handbooks on Multi-Sector Coordination for Emergency Preparedness for Response in six sectors - education, health, food and nutrition security, WASH, shelter, and protection to strengthen preparedness and unified emergency response.

Pilot Testing of Multi-Sector Coordination Handbook was also initiated in 6 states through training modules developed from the Handbooks. 6 Pilot Trainings were organized in the states shared below and 3 day trainings for 6 sectors are planned in Nagaland, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar and Kerala in February and March 2022.

1. Education- Madhya Pradesh
2. FNS- Bihar
3. Health- Kerala
4. Protection- Manipur
5. Shelter- Jammu and Kashmir
6. WASH- Gujarat




Collaborative Advocacy

Advocacy of CEFM through Inter Faith Humanitarian Alliances

JHPIEGO and Sphere India, have collaborated for an attempt of Mobilising Faith based leaders to raise awareness about Child Early and Forced Marriages (CEFM), gender based violence, legal provisions that protect girls from CEFM, social support programs for those at risk, the significance of keeping girls in school and encourage leaders to play an active role in preventing and responding to CEFM within their community.

Updates from Members

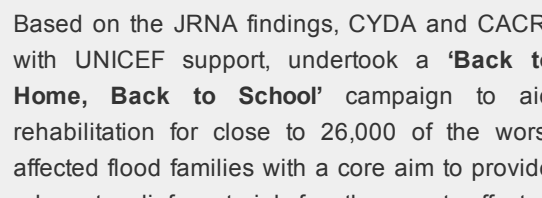
Goonj- Dignity Diaries:

Goonj is a 23-year-old non-profit organization that undertakes relief and rehabilitation work, especially focusing on disaster mitigation, humanitarian aid and community development, across India with the lens of dignity. During the pandemic, we have channelised 18.4+ million Kgs. of ration and other essential items, 1.71+million facemasks, 90,000+ Family Medicine Kits, and 99,000++ Hesititant Giver Kits across 28 States and Union Territories. From standing with missed-out communities, to creating grassroots networks for sustainable development by respecting local traditions, and wisdom. We adapt as we go while essentially making giving a more mindful process. Our flagship Dignity for Work initiative, uses cloth as a currency to encourage people to address these issues. In the past two years, 18,500+ were conducted. [Read More >>](#)




World Vision India: Covid 19 Response:

World Vision India is present in 118 districts through APs (Area Programs) impacting 2.6 million children and their families in over 6200 communities spread across 25 states and union territories. World Vision India has been responding to the pandemic since March 2020 across India, supporting the government in reaching out to the health care delivery systems and most marginalized and the vulnerable population. In the first wave, World Vision India had reached over 6.6 million people through the COVID-19 emergency response. During the 2nd wave, the overall goal was to reduce further transmission of covid-19, strengthen healthcare for treatment & mitigate the impact of the outbreak in the long term and WVI was able to reach more than 3.2 million people. [Read More >>](#)

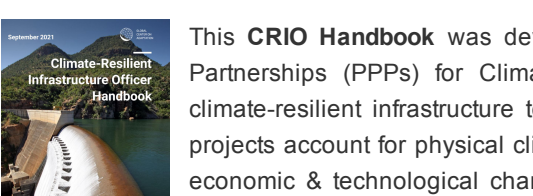
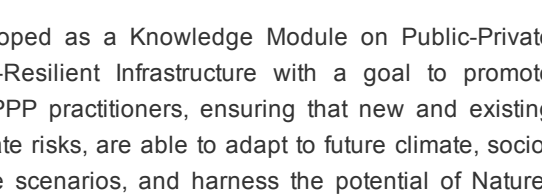


News from IAGs/ State Networks

Maha PECOnet

Pandemic Surge Support-Process Report 2021: The second surge of COVID 19, with 41,61,676 cases on 24th April 2021 resulted into emergency situation in Maharashtra. COVID care facilities and medicines ran short of beds, oxygen and essential medicines. On the social front families and communities were just restarted their livelihood activities after long and strict lockdown since March 2020 due to first COVID 19 surge.

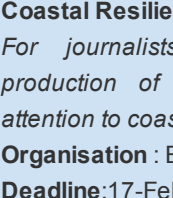
On this background UNICEF Maharashtra Field Office (MFO) in collaboration with State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA), State Public Health Department and partnership with RedR India initiated surge deployments to provide technical support to local Government led coordination and other strategic interventions in the domain of communication, risk-governance, disease surveillance, rationalising the decisions of the lockdowns and restrictions, etc. [View Report>>](#)

Updates from International Humanitarian Community

The Toolkit on Integrating Migration into Environment and Climate Change Interventions

Interventions is intended to provide concise, operational, and user-friendly information and tools to support partners to understand how migration can be reflected in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development cooperation interventions (i.e. projects or programmes) that have an environment and climate change focus. [Read More>>](#)

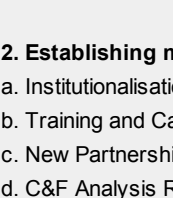


This CRIO Handbook was developed as a Knowledge Module on Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) for Climate-Resilient Infrastructure with a goal to promote climate-resilient infrastructure to PPP practitioners, ensuring that new and existing projects account for physical climate risks, are able to adapt to future climate, socio-economic & technological change scenarios, and harness the potential of Nature-based Solutions (NBS).

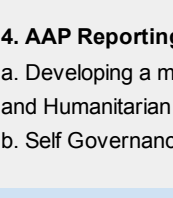
Read More>>

The Catalogue of Nature-based Solutions for Urban Resilience

This Catalogue was created as a resource for those aiming to shape urban resilience with nature. This Catalogue provides good practice examples, design, benefits, and implementation considerations. It gives insight to the suitability of NBS in the urban landscape and their effectiveness for climate resilience. [Read More>>](#)



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Science Advisory Board (SAB) launched the Priorities for Weather Research (PWR) study. The PWR study identifies an urgent need to accelerate and increase investments across three interconnected Pillars: Observations and Data Assimilation, Forecasting, and Information Delivery. [Read More>>](#)



Grants and Opportunities

Coastal Resilience Story Grants 2022

For journalists worldwide to support the production of in-depth stories that will call attention to coastal resiliency and solutions.

Organisation: EJN
Deadline: 17-Feb-22

More Info>>

2022 International Data Corporation Smart City Asia/Pacific Awards

To recognize the top Smart City initiatives in Asia/Pacific excluding Japan in 14 categories.

Organisation: IDC
Deadline: 7-Feb-22

More Info>>

Request for Expression of Interest (Eoi)

The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) invites Expression of Interest (Eoi) from eligible consulting agencies for a study titled "Risk and Resilience Assessment of Health Infrastructure". [Click Here for More info >>](#)

Plans Ahead

Accountability to Affected Population

Focal Point: Dr. Hema Haseja Senior Manager, Programme
Contact: hema@sphereindia.org.in

Enabling SMART mechanisms to promote, measure and document Accountability to Affected and at risk population leading to reduced human suffering and disaster losses in India.

1. Communication with Communities:
 - a. Documenting community voices through member & other resources and closing loop with communities.
 - b. Developing partnerships for two way communication with communities.
 - c. Webinars / Academy Calendar: Community Voices Sessions every month and especially during disasters
 - d. Rights in Crisis (JRNA, D&L Assessment) exercises.
2. Establishing mechanism for RTEA and Real Time Feedback Mechanism:
 - a. Institutionalisation of CFM (RTFM incl of PSEA) in Inter Agency System in India.
 - b. Training and Capacity Building on CFM and PSEA of members, partners, IAGs.
 - c. New Partnerships and agreements for community outreach.
 - d. C&F Analysis Reports.
3. Minimum Standards and Humanitarian Principles:
 - a. Establishing SI as Standard Setting body for Hum/ Social Sectors in India.
 - b. Supporting States with Development of Standards for Recovery and Resilience building.
 - c. Regular trainings, capacity building on MS&RP.
4. AAP Reporting Matrix and Accreditation:
 - a. Developing a matrix and Dashboard for real time reporting of AAP Vertical, Secretariat, Sphere India membership and Humanitarian System in India
 - b. Self Governance and Accreditation Model Institutionalisation

Inter-Agency Coordination

Focal Point: Divya Gupta- Program Manager, Inter Agency Coordination
Contact: divya@sphereindia.org.in

Multi Sector Multi Stakeholder Coordination Mechanism efficiently and effectively supporting preparedness, response, recovery and resilience building in India for accountability to affected and at risk populations.

1. Multi Sector Guidelines Institutionalisation:
 - a. Sector Networks and Nexus is established with all stakeholders as per guidelines
 - b. Training and Capacity Building of all on Guidelines, PDNA etc. along with NIDM, SDMA and Line Departments.
 - c. EPR Planning for Sectors in the States
 - d. Resilience Building Plans for each Sector in the States
2. URS and JRNA/PDNA /D&L:
 - a. Revision of Tools and Publication of JA guideline.
 - b. Mobile & Web application with real time Dashboard and Integrated Database.
3. Predictable Financial Mechanisms and Accounting:
 - a. National and State CSR mobilisation sector wise.
 - b. Public Funds for localisation, Innovations, EPR and RB
 - c. Government Funds Analysis, Coordination, technical system strengthening Support
 - d. Humanitarian and RB funds accounting and reporting
4. Humanitarian Logistics Hub:
 - a. Logistics coordination support and establishing Humanitarian logistics hub in India

Knowledge and Capacity Sharing

Focal Point: Nupur Tyagi- Program Manager, Knowledge and Capacity Sharing
Contact: nupur@sphereindia.org.in

Knowledge and Capacity Sharing collaborative Institution of Excellence addressing Knowledge and Capacity needs of the sector leading to enhanced accountability to affected/ at risk population.

1. Humanitarian leadership and Resilience building Academy:
 - a. Concept, Strategy, Partnership and processes.
 - b. Training Portfolio and Training Need Analysis.
 - c. Curriculum development and delivery modalities.
 - d. Academic and KCS Delivery.
2. Knowledge Products and Documentation
 - a. Need Identification
 - b. Knowledge Resource Pool and New Knowledge Products
 - c. Documentation and Reports
3. Partnership Standards
 - a. Regional consultation for feedback collation
 - b. Release of Final Guidelines
4. Evidence based Research
 - a. Analysis of existing Research and evidence and new Research in targeted areas
 - b. Integrated Strategy Database, Dash board, big data planning
 - c. Scoping and Strategy for AI in DM (What can be done, who can do what, what new members can join)
5. Communications
 - a. Website, Bulletin, Snippets
 - b. Social Media Communications, SMOs
 - c. Wikipedia platform
 - d. Comm Support to other verticals

Collaborative advocacy

Focal Point: Vikrant Mahajan, CEO- Sphere India
Contact: ceo@sphereindia.org.in

A collaborative advocacy initiative identifying advocacy priorities of the nexus and achieving desired change in policies, systems and stakeholders leading to enhanced accountability to affected/ at risk population.

1. Evidence Based Advocacy
 - a. Advocacy Need Analysis.
 - b. Advocacy materials and communications.
2. System Strengthening Tech Support:
 - a. Systems Strengthening Strategy and coordination.
 - b. System Strengthening Deployments and Coordination.
3. Media Advocacy
 - a. Media Advocacy Dynamic Conceptualisation and Partnerships
 - b. Media Guidelines
 - c. Coordination of Advocacy issues to be posted to media with evidence including
 - d. PFMA Scoping for Media Programs / Production on identified
4. Stakeholder Focused Advocacy
 - a. Mid Terms and Emergency Advocacy focused on different stakeholders

Enabling and Navigating the Nexus: Humanitarian Development DRR CCA Peace

Focal Point: Salikhom Kennedy, Senior Manager-Operations
Contact: kennedy@sphereindia.org.in

Establishing a network of network linking humanitarian, development, DRR, CCA, peace building networks / organizations in key social sectors covering both rural and urban contexts and cross cutting issues leading to enhanced accountability to affected/ at risk population.

1. Navigating the Nexus
 - a. Membership Drives and Sector Networks
 - b. Accreditation and Self Regulatory Mechanism
2. Enabling and Operations
 - a. Systems and Compliances Program Support
 - b. Enabling Sphere India Network and the Nexus