

THE REDR CHRONICLE

The latest news and updates from RedR India

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Message from the Advisor and Interim CEO

Prasad Sevekari

Pleased to present the voices from the field as well as the images from 'drawing board' in the 2nd Newsletter of RedR India.

Training is our forte' and we are glad to be back in 'business' after a long gap. We have not only contributed to awareness generation of the frontline workers in Pune district (with Janaseva Foundation) but are also announcing a trademark RedR India Calendar course on Hygiene Promotion in Emergencies, given the significance of understanding and practicing hygiene in the current pandemic context. Thanks to HCL Foundation, we shall be aiming higher by initiating the Blended Learning courses that would offer an interesting re-learning opportunity for humanitarian practitioners.

The roster is our backbone and we are aiming to enhance the affiliation with the esteemed members through a new approach slated for a roll-out in the coming year.. The raw thoughts shared are for your perusal and your insights would help in improvising the approach. A case study from Assam will signify the value that RedR India allocates for providing structural and non-structural support to the partner NGOs for shoring up their DRR perspectives.

Looking forward to your feedback, which will help provide a much-needed fillip, necessary for continuing all such activities initiated with a fanfare.



ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM REDR INDIA



WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE OUR ASSOCIATION FOR **BLENDED LEARNING COURSES** STARTING SEPTEMBER 2021



RedR India and HCL foundation have joined hands together to build a learning ecosystem for Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction at the national level by providing a unique blended learning platform and fascinating learning experiences.

REDR INDIA

Registered Engineers for Disaster Relief (RedR), India, works towards strengthening training and capacity building interventions in Disaster Management. RedR maintains a register of experienced humanitarian professionals and provides technical and capacity building services to governments and external support agencies in the humanitarian and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) sectors.

HCL FOUNDATION

HCL Foundation (HCLF) was established in 2011 as the CSR arm of HCL Technologies. The foundation strives to contribute towards national and international development goals, bringing about lasting positive impact in the lives of people, through long term sustainable programs. The foundation aims to alleviate poverty and achieve inclusive growth and development.



HYGIENE PROMOTION IN EMERGENCIES

PUNE

TO BE ANNOUNCED

RedR India's 4-day training course on Hygiene Promotion in Emergencies offers to build the knowledge and skills of learners, to address the gaps in hygiene practices in emergency situations and to plan hygiene promotion interventions through participatory learning methods.

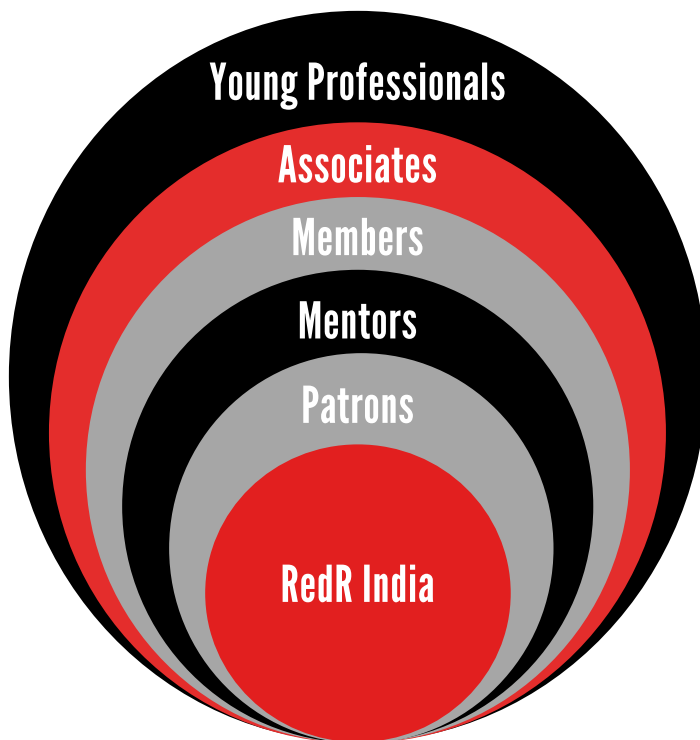


THE ASSORTMENT OF REDR INDIA ROSTER MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM

Since its inception in 2003, RedR India's membership base has grown exponentially and beyond the geographical boundaries of the country. All those humanitarian professionals who get interviewed by and are selected for the RedR India Roster are called as '**Members**'. They continued to be the Members, till such time as they are associated with RedR India.

203 ROSTER MEMBERS

163 MALE MEMBERS
40 FEMALE MEMBERS



Young or Old, Experienced or Amateurs, Experts or Novice – everyone being called simply as a Member perhaps prevented the necessary personal or professional attributes or characteristics being acknowledged appropriately and applied in the field for the right cause. Member affiliation was perhaps the biggest casualty in the process.

PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE

It is proposed that a rejig of the RedR India Membership profile needs to be done which would;

- Enable overlapping relationships between the Members and Non-Members, which would be mutually beneficial.
- Emphasise gradation amongst the affiliated professionals based on their age, experience, expertise, association with and contribution towards RedR India and its ethos.
- Provide a path of progression for individual professionals and their association with the organisation.
- Two new categories of Members would be introduced within the membership structure. These are; **Mentor Members & Patron Members.**
- Additionally, RedR India would also like to introduce two new categories for the non-Members who are working as Consultants on different projects and deployments. These are; **Associates & Young Professionals.**

It is believed that the acknowledgement of association, contribution, guidance resulting in a much-needed makeover of the membership and would surely help in enhancing the affiliation between RedR India as an institution and the Members as individuals, facilitating the redressal of skills and capacities within the humanitarian sector, at large.

*Your feedback is solicited in taking this makeover to a logical conclusion.
For any queries, suggestions and further details, you contact us at,*

membership@redrindia.org

ENHANCING RISK INFORMED PLANNING THROUGH IMPROVED COORDINATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The high vulnerability profile of the North-Eastern states necessitates the adoption of appropriate measures to mitigate the impact of disasters and ensure a timely response. RedR India has partnered with UNICEF (Assam) to strengthen the capacities of government institutions on disaster risk management across the northeastern states of Assam, Meghalaya and Nagaland. The support is directed towards improving risk-informed programming plans and strategies in the states with special emphasis on strengthening the resilience of women and children and ensuring the continuity of education, nutrition and other essential services.

At present RedR India has deployed 3 consultants in Assam and Meghalaya who are closely working with the State Disaster Management Authorities of both the states along with the Education and Social Welfare Department to accomplish the goal of preventing new and reducing existing disaster risks in the region through an integrated and inclusive approach.

Raka Sangma, Project Officer deployed in Meghalaya quoted,

“My journey so far has been enriching as I am understanding the improvements that can be made in the Disaster Risk Management Planning in the state, and personally this opportunity is a turning point in my career.”



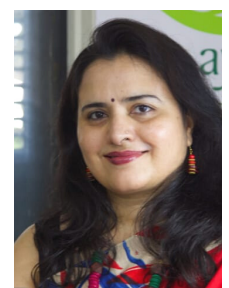
GETTING BACK IN THE GAME THROUGH FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING

Post the COVID Pandemic, RedR India in collaboration with Janaseva Foundation conducted its face-to-face training after a long hiatus, for the Frontline Workers from Velhe block of Pune, Maharashtra. 40 ASHA Workers and ANMs received the training which focused on 'Vaccination Awareness' and 'Third Wave Preparedness'. The training was facilitated by Dr Bhagyashree Sevekari, Dr Richa Agarwal and Ms Sayali Chougale (Training Coordinator, RedR India).

The training gave us a very good opportunity to understand the grass-root level challenges and the needs of the participants with regards to COVID-19 Appropriate Behaviour and vaccination. The training included discussions, role-plays and quiz sessions which made it interactive and participatory by nature.

Dr Bhagyashree Sevekari, Training Facilitator quoted,

“I was overwhelmed by the response of the participants, especially when they honoured me with Asha claps. The session gave me a sense of fulfilment towards my social responsibility as a doctor.”



UNDERSTANDING THE FIELD LEVEL REALITIES FOR ENHANCED RESPONSE TO DISASTERS

In 2020, the state of Assam witnessed the first wave of floods with heavy downpours since May, which peaked on 21st July. The floods engulfed almost 30% of the state impacting 2,278 elementary schools and 306 secondary schools. Heavy damages especially to the WASH infrastructure disrupted the lives of the community members. To address such challenges, NEADS Assam sought technical services of RedR India and financial support of the National Stock Exchange Foundation (NSE Foundation) to intervene and support the recovery and restoration of 25 flood-affected schools in rural areas of Jorhat and Golaghat Districts.



Field report by Rohan Kulkarni, Project Officer, RedR India

In the project areas, RedR is ensuring that the Hand Pumps are raised above the flood level so that the affected communities have safe water supply available and accessible even during adverse times. We are also providing Hand Wash Stations to encourage appropriate WASH behaviour. The plinth levels of kitchens and sanitation facilities are also being raised so that they are resilient and remain functional. Additionally, we are also providing smoke-free stoves in the kitchens to mitigate respiratory health hazards caused by using local firewood.

Further, we are also working on the component of building back better. The Mithai Chapori School is being reconstructed by integrating indigenous practices (Chang Ghar Form) with disaster-resilient features. All the activities planned for this project were decided after taking direct feedback from the school management committees in the intervention areas.

Active engagement on the field gave me the opportunity to build the capacities of the staff members and other stakeholders that had a crucial role to play in the project. We plan to build the capacities of the masons who are active in the construction activities through training workshops where they will be familiarised with the concepts of multi-hazard resilient features. Overall, the field visit was an immense learning experience for me. Although we are constantly facing challenges like the flooding season along with curfews and movement restrictions due to the pandemic, we are working in close coordination with the NEADS team to ensure that the relationship with the community remained intact while slowly progressing towards the target.



redr india

facilitating humanitarianism

RedR (Registered Engineers for Disaster Relief) India is part of the RedR International federation, a humanitarian, non-profit organization, which maintains a register of experienced humanitarian professionals who are available to assist governments and external support agencies that work in the humanitarian sector. The RedRs have a global reputation for development and presentation of high-quality training and technical support services for the humanitarian aid and disaster risk reduction sectors. RedR has offices in Australia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the United Kingdom, please do visit www.redr.org.in.

RedR India is registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act of 1860, Registration No. Maharashtra/936/2003/Pune

RedR India is registered under 80G, of the Income Tax Act, No. ITBA/EXM/S/80G/2020-21/1031970434(1), Valid from 30th March 2021

ISO 9001:2015 certified

VISION

A world in which sufficient competent and committed personnel are available and responding to humanitarian needs.

MISSION

To relieve suffering caused by disasters by selecting, training and providing competent and committed personnel to humanitarian causes worldwide.

RedR India

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