

THE REDR CHRONICLE

The latest news and updates from RedR India



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READER'S FEEDBACK - REDR CHRONICLE

YEAR 2021 AND THE WAY FORWARD

*Message from the Advisor and Interim CEO
Prasad Sevekari*

At the outset, this being the first chronicle from RedR for the year 2022, we wish you and your loved ones a happier, healthier and safer New Year. The by-gone year 2021 carried on the strands of Coronavirus that grew in an unprecedented proportion all over the world and in India. The humanitarian work changed its dimensions too. The year emphasised the need to be prepared for the uncertainties, beyond the hazards of known labels and proportions. It also signified the fact that the chronic vulnerabilities tend to get exacerbated if the root causes remain unresolved.

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RedR India, therefore, focussed on building capacities of individuals and institutions in addressing these root causes, through training courses and deployments. The CBDRR course run at the behest of TLMTI in Chattisgarh or the Hospital Safety course organised for the Government of Meghalaya are indicators of this approach.

Additionally, RedR India continued the technical support being provided to NEADS in Assam, for building flood resilient school structures. This edition also brings you the trends of the Training Needs Analysis that RedR India is conducting in collaboration with Sphere India. The responses are coming in and you could watch this space for final results.

In this edition of the Chronicle, you would find a young professional deployed by RedR at the Mantralaya in Mumbai narrates her experience of working with MahaPECONet, the newly formed Interagency Group in Maharashtra, in response to COVID. Similarly, you would read the feedback on the previous issues from the readers and well-wishers.

As we always say, this Chronicle is your platform, do contribute with your experiences, insights and ideas.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Readers,

On behalf of the RedR India Team, I wish everyone a wonderful and prosperous year ahead.

It was just yesterday when the first Newsletter got launched, and now with the third edition out, it feels great to see an endearing thought taking shape in reality.

2021 was successful for The RedR Chronicle as it continued to receive appreciation and feedback from members, clients and partner agencies from the humanitarian-development sector.

As an organisation, RedR India has put its best foot forward to work on cross-cutting issues and have always made sure to deliver services for the greater good. We assure you with each version that we will consistently work towards increasing the visibility, impact and quality of the Newsletter. Along with this, we would also be looking at strengthening the reputation of The RedR Chronicle by inviting quality submissions.

I hope our readers share a similar vision, and we look forward to a productive and successful 2022 ahead.

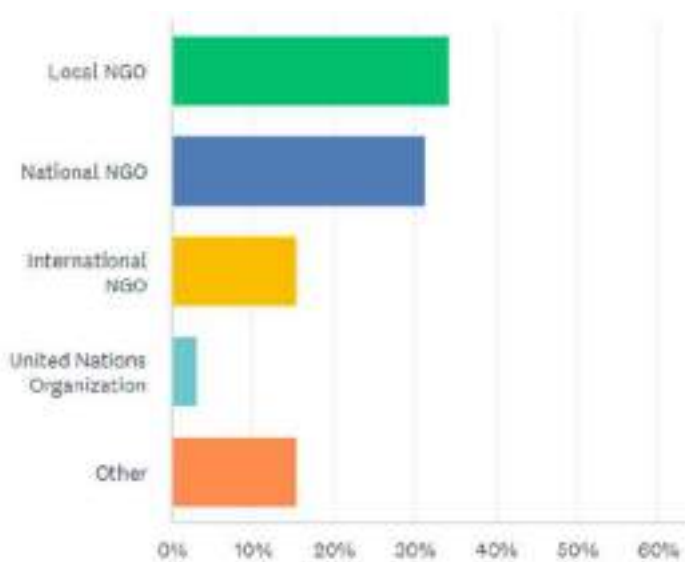
- Ayushi Bhatnagar, Learning and Communications Officer, RedR India Team



THE ANALYSIS OF **CURRENT CAPACITIES** FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF SERVICES

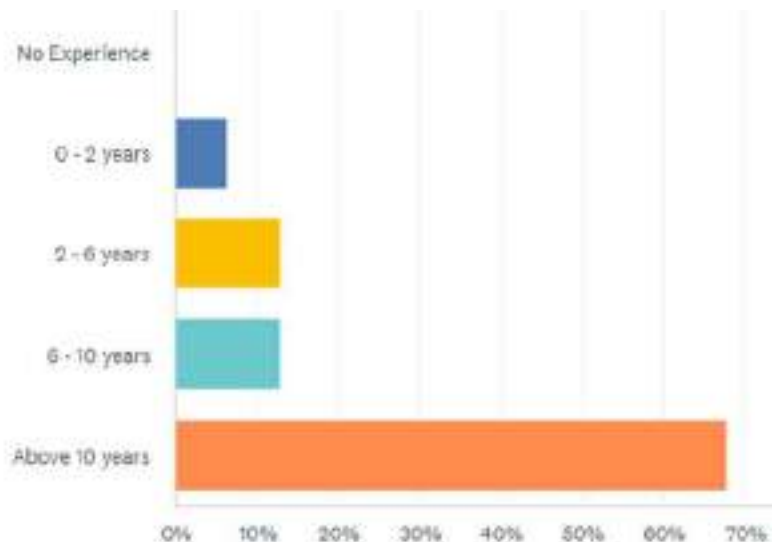
In this post-pandemic era, the need to excel as a humanitarian professional has also changed drastically. In order to understand the knowledge, skills, hands-on training, and demos in Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction, RedR India in collaboration with Sphere India, rolled out the Training Needs Assessment.

We have received responses from people working in various organizations like OXFAM, India, Indian Red Cross Society, Center for Environment Education (CEE), Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority, World Vision, and Action Aid.



One interesting fact that has come out of the TNA is that the maximum number of humanitarian professionals who have filled in the form are well-versed as well as trained in the standard topics of the humanitarian sector such as Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WaSH), Children and women protection, gender-based violence, psycho-social, diversity, equality, and inclusion, etc. But in the new normal, humanitarian professionals undergo training programs to succeed in the humanitarian-development sector.

Additionally, participants have specified that they are looking forward to courses like Planning and managing humanitarian response in Covid context, Inclusive Humanitarian Actions, Building personal & organizational resilience, Transgender welfare, Coordination and collaboration with other organizations, etc.



We hope that the final results from the Training Needs Assessment will reflect learnings in such a way that we would be able to expand on the current needs of the humanitarian sector.

PREPARING THE FRONTLINE STAFF FOR EMERGENCIES THROUGH MOCK DRILL

Considering that hospital preparedness in the pre-disaster phase enhances the effectiveness of their coordinated response during a disaster, RedR India in partnership with UNICEF (Assam) and the Directorate of Health Services, Govt. of Meghalaya conducted an Emergency Mock Drill Exercise followed by a two-day virtual state-level training program on hospital safety. The Mock Drill exercises were conducted in Ganesh Das Child & Maternity Hospital, Shillong and Nongpoh Civil Hospital, Ri-Bhoi saw the participation of hospital staff and volunteers from NCC and NSS.



The training on Hospital Safety was organised successively with the aim to equip the staff from hospitals across the state on the importance and phases of Hospital Disaster Management Planning, emphasizing the roles and responsibilities of the Hospital Disaster Management Committee along with the structural and non-structural safety indicators and functional indicators of a hospital safety plan.

Given that the state of Meghalaya, like the other northeastern state, falls in Seismic Zone 5 making it highly susceptible to earthquakes of higher intensity, it is essential that the hospital staff and stakeholders associated are routinely sensitized on emergency preparedness along with disaster response and mitigation mechanisms.



"I would like to thank all the participants for their support in conducting the mock drill. It was well coordinated with nodal persons, which helped me to execute the mock drill smoothly."

- Dr. Itinderpal Singh Bali, RedR India Trainer

PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES TO ENHANCE LEARNING

Mandrita Trivedi was deployed by RedR India for UNICEF Maharashtra as the state consultant for the Relief and Rehabilitation Department at the Mantralaya. She shares her deployment experience as well as her experience of working with RedR India.

"It has been an enriching experience working at the Relief and Rehabilitation Department at Mantralaya for the past 10 months as a Disaster Risk Reduction Consultant. During my tenure, I got the opportunity to work with the State IAG also known as MahaPECOnet to support them in sensitizing people about the COVID Vaccination Drive. While working I also picked up new skills like operating the NDMIS software. All in all the position challenged me to operate in tough situations considering the fact that there were different roles that I had to play as a consultant. In the end, I am very thankful to RedR India for providing me with this opportunity as it deepened my understanding of Disaster Risk Reduction and Response by providing me with a first-hand experience in witnessing disaster response. I hope that I get provided with similar opportunities in the future as it would greatly interest me to work with RedR India again. "



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



The community in the case of disasters is always the first responder. Therefore, it becomes essential to enhance their capacities for coping with the critical scenarios created by the event.

RedR India conducted a 6 Day face to face training course on "Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) for the professionals from The Leprosy Mission Trust of India (TLMTI) in Chattisgarh from 6th to 11th December 2021.

READER'S FEEDBACK - REDR CHRONICLE

"It is an excellent publication and gave me a comprehensive understanding of your thinking and direction, congratulations. Its insightful and collaborative tone was uplifting, a strong RedR exemplar. Congratulations on your new relationship with the HLC Foundation - my google search noted the strong diversity and Employee first focus of its 'parent' IT company so its fit with you appears very appropriate. All the very best with your proposals for the rejig of the Membership profile. As always, I wish you and RedR India colleagues all the very best as you hold the fort (and create opportunities) in the new normal."

- Professor Elizabeth Taylor AO, Ex-Chair RedR International

"RedR India has, through its years, helped in humanitarian capacity development, including developing human resources - and quite a few of us have hugely benefited from it and can say that are a product of the RedR India school. With that said, the concept of having Associates and Young Professionals puts structure to the benefits of being associated with and learning at the RedR India school! Such vital human resources can be identified and honed in all corners of the country and nurtured. One possible way of anchoring such a mechanism would be for RedR India to identify new and build upon existing associated NGOs/CSOs/Institutions across India to help identify, host and possibly be, platforms for training for the Young Professionals and projects at a local level. This would also help nurture the associate local organizations and add to the localization agenda. I would think CSR support would be important in this direction, something that RedR has built upon in recent years."

- Rahul Pandit, RedR India Member

"Thanks for your wonderful newsletter highlighting the many achievements of RedR India. Keep up the good work.."

- Professor Robert Care AM, Chair RedR International



To add value to the Newsletter, we invite inputs from our members, partners and other humanitarian-development agencies.

**For any queries, suggestions and further details, you contact us at,
membership@redrindia.org**

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.

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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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