International Training Programme on Urban Risk Mitigation
Organized by: National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM)
Course Coordinator : Dr. Garima Aggarwal, Sr. Consultant, NIDM

Dates: 23 – 27 November 2026 (1 Week) **Venue: NIDM, Delhi Campus**

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1. Background



Most of the world's population now live in urban areas. The rapid growth of urban populations has resulted in increased concentrations of people, livelihoods and properties in areas exposed to high risks from hazards and urban stressors. Projections indicate that by 2050, 60% of the world's population (nearly 5.2 billion people) will be urban (UNDESA, 2018). The global shift toward urban living is largely driven by natural population increases within cities; economic concentration and the attraction of better employment and living standards and structural shifts from agrarian-based economies to industrial and service-based economies. This rapid expansion has been particularly intense in **Asia and Africa**, where the growth of infrastructure and services has often lagged behind the pace of urbanization.

This massive demographic transition is a defining trend of the 21st century, fundamentally reshaping risk landscapes by concentrating people, assets, and critical infrastructure in areas increasingly exposed to hazards. Cities, therefore, have huge responsibilities but face great challenges in ensuring the health, safety and well-being of increasing residents. Subsequently, strengthening urban resilience is the key to sustainable development and enhanced prosperity.

Historically, disaster management was concentrated on emergency response. Modern understanding acknowledges that **disasters are often human-made**, arising from gaps in development and poor environmental mismanagement rather than just natural hazards. There is an urgent need for a **paradigm shift from a reactive, relief-centric approach to a proactive Disaster Risk Reduction** (DRR) model that integrates disaster mitigation into the development process. Modern disaster risk reduction (DRR) necessitates a paradigm shift: many contemporary urban challenges, such as deteriorating air quality and infrastructure strain, should be understood as chronic, slow-onset urban disasters rather than isolated environmental issues.

The **proposed course aligns** with global frameworks, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030) (SFDRR), which emphasizes understanding risk, strengthening governance, investing in resilience, and enhancing preparedness. It also supports Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11, which aims to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. The course introduces practical tools such as UNDRR's "Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient", and the Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities. Developed by UNDRR, the Ten Essentials framework is designed to accelerate the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the local level, ensuring that the actions under each Essential are integrated into disaster resilience and sustainable urban development planning.



2. Aim of the Training programme

The training programme aims to build capacity to understand, assess & manage disaster risks and to apply disaster resilience tools for developing resilient cities towards sustainable development.

3. Key Learning Objectives

- Identify major disaster risks, urban stressors and vulnerabilities in complex urban settings.
- Explain and apply international resilience frameworks, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030) and Sustainable Development Goal 11.
- Conduct basic urban risk assessments using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and remote sensing tools.
- Utilize the Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities to benchmark city resilience.
- Analyze lessons learned from global best practices in urban resilience.

4. Target Audience/ eligibility

- This course is designed for **international officials** specifically for officials/ engineers/ city planners working in the sectors such as urban development, municipal administration, disaster management, public works, environment, health and education departments. Ideal participants include senior to mid-career officers with responsibility for urban planning, building regulations and infrastructure resilience for DRR.

5. Approach & Methodology

- **Technical Sessions:** NIDM will collaborate with international organizations such as United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), UN-Habitat, and Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, as well as national institutions such as NDMA, NIUA & state authorities for organizing technical sessions and to develop state-of-the-art training materials for the course.
- **Group Activities/ Field visits: The participants will be engaged through** Group work on developing urban resilience action plan. Field visits will be organized to understand urban risks and to showcase best practices in the area of DRR.
- **Assessment and Feedback:** The programme will incorporate Session wise MCQ Test and group presentations for assessment. An **external assessment** may be organized for evaluating learnings of the participants. A dedicated session on feedback will be organized in the end of the programme.
- **Certification:** Participants who actively engage in group activities and assessments and maintain regular attendance will be eligible to receive a "Certificate of Completion." A minimum of 80% attendance is required to qualify for the certificate.

  (A draft programme schedule is annexed)

6. Pre-Course Requirements

- Participants will be given a pre-course reading material (on urban risk mitigation and resilient cities. Onboarding of the participants can be through a one-day webinar, which will familiarize the participants about the course contents as a part of pre-training course.

7. Dates of the training:

Dates	23 – 27 November 2026 (1 Week)	**Mode**	Offline
Venue	NIDM Rohini Campus, Plot 15, Block B, Pocket 3, Sector 29, Rohini, Delhi-110042		

8. Mode and Logistics

- **Mode and language:** The course can be delivered online, offline or hybrid mode in **English** as per the requirement.
- **Venue & Board and Lodging:** The training will be held at the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) Rohini Campus, Delhi. The address is Plot No. 15, Block B, Pocket 3,

Sector 29, Rohini, Delhi-110042. NIDM will host the participants at its campus and provide necessary boarding and lodging facilities.

9. Expected Outcome:

- Identify major disaster risks and vulnerabilities in urban settings.
- Explain and apply international resilience frameworks in planning city risk reduction.
- Conduct basic urban risk assessments (e.g. hazard mapping, vulnerability analysis).
- Develop an outline of an urban resilience action plan (incorporating multi-sector coordination and community engagement)
- Utilize the UNDRR Disaster Resilience Scorecard tool to benchmark a city's resilience level.
- Collaborate effectively with peers from other countries and leverage diverse experiences (in group discussions and projects).

10. Suggested Reading materials

- **UNDRR – Making Cities Resilient (MCR2030):** *The Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient* (checklist for local governments).
- **UNDRR – Sendai Framework (2015–2030):** Summary of targets and four priorities for DRR.
- **NIDM – Training Module on Urban Risk Mitigation:** Available at NIDM website (covers urban risks, governance, codes).
- **BIS (India) – Seismic Codes:** *IS 1893 (Part 1): 2016* – Guidelines for Earthquake Resistant Design of Structures (for built environment safety).
- **UN-Habitat – New Urban Agenda (2016):** Principles on sustainable and resilient urban development.
- **Other Resources:** NDMA guidelines on urban risk, CDRI reports, World Bank urban resilience reports, relevant case studies.

11. About the Organizations

- **National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM):** Constituted with a vision to serve as India's premier institute for capacity development, NIDM has been assigned nodal responsibilities under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, for human resource development, capacity building, training, research, documentation and policy advocacy. The Institute's vision is to build a Disaster Resilient India by strengthening capacity for disaster prevention and preparedness at all levels.
- **Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme:** Instituted on 15 September 1964 as a bilateral cooperation programme of the Government of India, ITEC is the flagship capacity-building programme of the Ministry of External Affairs. It has grown from training about 4,000 participants in 2006-07 to over 11,000 annually, across 380-plus courses at 85-plus premier Indian institutions, covering diverse areas including engineering, environment and climate change, health, ICT, management and rural development. ITEC's central objective is to project India's soft power and share its development experience with partner countries.

Annexure

International Training Programme on Urban Risk Mitigation

Draft Programme Schedule

Day/Timings	Sessions
Day 1: Introduction to Urban Resilience	
	Inaugural Session
	Session 1: Introduction and Ice-Breaking on Urban Resilience
	Session 2: Urban Issues & Challenges Experiences
	Session 3: Special Session on **India's Flagship Urban Resilience Programmes - AMRUT 2.0 & Smart Cities Mission (GOI Flagship Scheme Session) – NIUA/ MoHUA**
	Session 4: Multi-hazard Risk Assessment Approach and steps of HRVCA
Day 2: City Resilience Planning tools	
	Field Visit – Jaipur/Chandigarh /Delhi - NCR
Day 3: City DM Planning and scorecard tool	
	Session 5: Global and National Frameworks on Urban Resilience
	Session 6: Use of GIS and Remote sensing for Urban Risk Assessment
	Session 7: Earthquake Safety for critical infrastructure
	Session 8: Fire Safety in critical Infrastructure for city resilience – Beyond Carlton
Day 4: MCR 2030 Toolkit	
	Session 9: Developing a city resilience Action Plan: Focus on 10 Essentials
	Session 10: Best Practice on urban resilience – case studies of - GIFT city, Gandhinagar and experience from Philippines/ Incheon
	Session 11: Developing an action plan: Focus on 10 Essentials (Gap & Action identification) – Group Activity
	Session 12: Discussion on results and feedback from group exercise
Day 5: Action Plan for City Resilience	
	Session 13: Urban Flooding: Issues and Mitigation Measures
	Session 14: SWM Group Activity – Vivekananda Gupta
	Session 15: Upscaling urban resilience- Way Forward
	Feedback and Valedictory Session