

DISASTER STUDIES – 18BGE35S
UNIT – V

Disaster management organizations:

International :

1. The UN System

- United Nations Disaster Management Team (UNDMT).
- United Nations Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).
- World Food Programme (WFP).

2. The Red Cross Movement

The Red Cross Movement is composed of three elements:

- The National Red Cross or Red Crescent Societies;
- The International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRCRC);
- The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) working in emergency relief can be divided into two main categories, international NGO (those working in the international field, even though they may not be an international organisation in the true sense of the name) and local NGO (working within their own country).

- NGO are in principle autonomous and independent of governments (hence the name), and are financed by private individuals or groups.
- Financing, however, has changed in recent years, The modern tendency for NGO funding goes towards receiving more and more funding from governments (usually their own governments) or Inter-Governmental Organisations (IGO), e.g. the European Union.
- Whether or not this affects the autonomy greatly depends on the individual NGO and the possible strings attached to the funding.
- NGO work in all areas of the humanitarian field and provide the greatest international capacity to implement relief on the ground.
- Therefore it is important to inter-relate with them as there is valuable information and help to be found (and given).
- It is usually the case that one or more NGO are actually physically in the area of an emergency before, during and after the emergency, and will therefore have hands-on information and experience of the issues. NGO also tend to specialise in one or two fields, or to direct their efforts towards one needy population group.

- They usually offer skilled staff, rapid deployment capacity (if they are not already in the area), operational flexibility, and resources that might not otherwise be available in an emergency.
- The number of local NGO has also grown in the past years.
- They can be helpful in a variety of ways, especially because they are known locally and they themselves know the area, the culture, the population etc.
- In many cases they work together with international NGO, the UN and others. They are assets that can be helpful not just with giving information, but also as implementing partners.

National, State and Local level: The National Disaster Management Authority, is the apex body for Disaster Management in India.

- Setting up of NDMA and the creation of an enabling environment for institutional mechanisms at the State and District levels is mandated by the Disaster Management Act, 2005.
- NDMA is mandated to lay down the policies, plans and guidelines for disaster management. india envisions the development of an ethos of prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response.
- The Indian government strives to promote a national resolve to mitigate the damage and destruction caused by natural and man-made disasters, through sustained and collective efforts of all Government agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations and People's participation.
- This is planned to be accomplished by adopting a technology-driven, pro-active, multi-hazard and multi-sectoral strategy for building a safer, disaster resilient and dynamic india.
- The NDMA Logo reflects the aspirations of this national vision, of empowering all stakeholders to improve the effectiveness of disaster management in india.

NGO - Non-Governmental Organization:

What is NGO?

A non-governmental organization (NGO) is a non-profit group that functions independently of any government. NGOs, sometimes called civil societies, are organized on community, national and international levels to serve a social or political goal such as humanitarian causes or the environment.

Types of NGO:

A number of variations of the NGO:

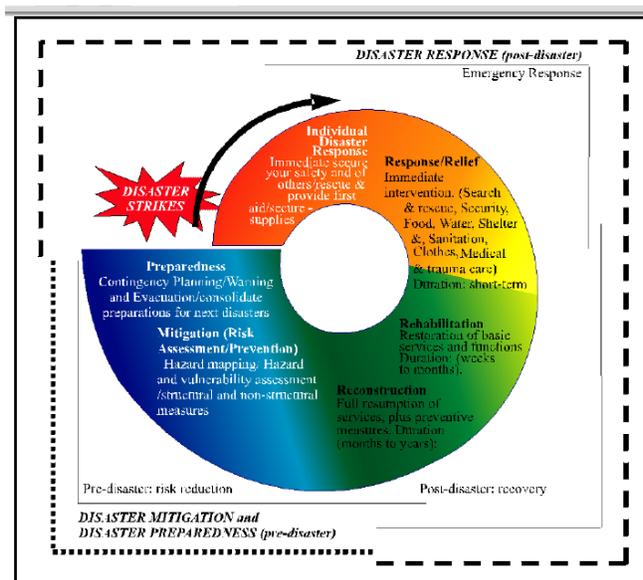
- **INGO:** An international NGO. For example, the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe is comprised of more than 300 participating INGOs.
- **GONGO:** This means government-organized NGO, often derogatory. Foreign Policy describes GONGOs as a government-backed NGOs set up to advocate on the behalf of a repressive regime in the international arena.
- **QUANGO:** Chiefly a British term, often derogatory. A quango is a quasi-autonomous non-governmental organization that relies on public funding. Its senior officials are appointed by the government. A Financial Times opinion piece writes that quangos are seen as useless and are often staffed by quangocrats.
- **ENGO:** An environmental NGO, for example, Greenpeace or the World Wildlife Fund. Both groups operate internationally in addition to advocating for the environment. They are often simply referred to as NGOs.

Disaster Cycle

Disaster Risk Management includes sum total of all activities, programmes and measures which can be taken up before, during and after a disaster with the purpose to avoid a disaster, reduce its impact or recover from its losses. The three key stages of activities that are taken up within disaster risk management are:

1. Before a disaster (pre-disaster)

Activities taken to reduce human and property losses caused by a potential hazard. For example carrying out aware-ness campaigns, strengthening the existing weak structures, preparation of the disaster management plans at household and community level etc. Such risk reduction measures taken under this stage are termed as mitigation and preparedness activities.



2. During a disaster (disaster occurrence).

Initiatives taken to ensure that the needs and provisions of victims are met and suffering is minimized. Activities taken under this stage are called emergency response activities.

3. After a disaster (post-disaster)

Initiatives taken in response to a disaster with a purpose to achieve early recovery and rehabilitation of affected communities, immediately after a disaster strikes. These are called as response and recovery activities.

Preparatory Phase and Emergency Phase:

The different emergency phase: Prevention, Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Mitigation.

1. Prevention focuses on preventing human hazards, primarily from potential natural disasters or terrorist (both physical and biological) attacks. Preventive measures are designed to provide more permanent protection from disasters; however, not all disasters can be prevented.
2. Preparedness is a continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action.
3. Recovery consists of those activities that continue beyond the emergency period to restore critical community functions and begin to manage stabilization efforts. The recovery phase begins immediately after the threat to human life has subsided. The goal of the recovery phase is to bring the affected area back to some degree of normalcy.
4. Response is comprised of the coordination and management of resources (including personnel, equipment, and supplies) utilizing the Incident Command System in an all-hazards approach; and measures taken for life/property/environmental safety. The response phase is a reaction to the occurrence of a catastrophic disaster or emergency.
5. Mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters and emergencies. Mitigation involves structural and non-structural measures taken to limit the impact of disasters and emergencies. examples include flood control projects, raising building elevations, and clearing areas around structures. Non-structural mitigation most often entails adopting or changing building codes.

Other emergency preparedness strategies include:

- Emergency Preparedness activities should be completed year round
- Emergency Preparedness is a continuous cycle of process improvement
- Emergency Preparedness activities drive the preparedness cycle

REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION PROCESS

- The Development is a dynamic process, and disasters offer the opportunity to vitalize and/or revitalize this process, especially in the generation of local economies and the upgrading of livelihoods and living conditions.
- This is especially relevant to the context of the developing nations.
- Government, nongovernmental and international organizations have their own stakes in disaster recovery programs, and links must be established among them, as well as with the community.
- In other words, post-disaster rehabilitation and recovery programs should be seen as opportunities to work with communities and serve local needs.

The standard time frames for rescue, relief and rehabilitation are defined as seven days, three months and five years respectively. The rescue operation starts with local residents immediately after the earthquake, and is later supported by trained and skilled staff from the Search and Rescue (S-R) government departments. These activities can be complemented by non-governmental organizations (NGOs). International Relief Teams arrive in the later stages, usually after 24 hours, depending on accessibility, and political relations with the country. The rescue phase usually lasts for the first 48 hours after a disaster when the rate of survival of trapped victims is high.

Process of Reconstruction and Rehabilitation

The Process of Rehabilitation had three major stages:

- a. Principles and Planning,
- b. Implementation and
- c. Ensuring Sustainability.

a. Principles and Planning,

The first task was setting up the basic principles for planning the rehabilitation intervention. The intervention had to be participatory, with a gradual increase in the involvement of the community.

b. Implementation

This Implementation Stage of the project consisted of three steps:

(1) Need Assessment, (2) Capacity Building, and (3) Implementation.

c. Ensuring Sustainability

The effort initiated by the Project Team needed to be sustainable long after the interventions were over. In effect, intervention should be designed to ensure that the community was able to take care of its development needs and was resilient against future disasters. For this, strengthening local institutions was necessary.

MITIGATION AND MANAGEMENT

- Mitigation embraces measures taken to reduce both the effect of the hazard and the vulnerable conditions to it in order to reduce the scale of a future disaster.
- Therefore mitigation activities can be focused on the hazard itself or the elements exposed to the threat.
- Mitigation measures which are hazard specific include water management in drought prone areas, relocating people away from the hazard prone areas and by strengthening structures to reduce damage when a hazard occurs.
- In addition to these physical measures, mitigation should also aim at reducing the economic and social vulnerabilities of potential disasters.

NROM : Natural Resources Organizational Management,

NIDM : National Institute of Disaster Management

NIDM, is a premier institute for training and capacity development programs for managing natural disasters in India, on a national as well as regional basis.

The National Centre of Disaster Management (NCDM), constituted under an Act of Parliament in 1995; was re-designated to give the present name of National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) by the Disaster Management Act 2005 passed by President of India on 9 January 2006.

The United Nations designated the 1990s as the international decade for natural disaster reduction. In 1995, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation, nominally responsible for disaster management in India, created the National Centre for Disaster Management. When responsibility for disaster management was transferred to the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Centre became the National Institute of Disaster Management.

The National Disaster Management Act of 2005 granted the Institute statutory organisation status.

- National Institute of Disaster Management in partnership with the World Bank, Washington offers a series of online courses on disaster management.
- The aim of these programmes is to raise the level of awareness and preparedness as well as to enhance analytical skills and professional competencies of different key stakeholders in various areas of Disaster Risk Management.
- The NIDM online courses are first of its kind in India which help different users in acquiring knowledge base in the subject.
- The programmes include discussions, queries, clarifications, assignments and end-of-course projects which are evaluated by experienced course facilitators. Successful candidates are provided certificates jointly issued by the NIDM and the World Bank.

SDMC- Saarc Disaster Management Centre:

Noting that high level meetings convened since the inception of SAARC on the subjects of children, women, human resettlements, Sustainable developments, agriculture and food, poverty alleviation etc. have contributed immensely to the enrichment of the social agenda in the region and that several directives of the Heads of State or Government of SAARC Countries at their Summit meetings have imparted dynamism and urgency to adopting regional programmes to fully and effectively realize social goals. In particular, that Heads of State or Government of SAARC Countries, at their Tenth Summit in Colombo in July 1998, re-affirmed the need to develop, beyond national plans of action, a regional dimension of cooperation in the social sector and that the Eleventh SAARC Summit in Kathmandu in January 2002 directed that a SAARC Social Charter be concluded as early as possible.

References:

<http://www.onlinenidm.gov.in>

<https://www.connectconsulting.biz/the-preparedness-cycle>