



Training of Trainers (ToT) on

“Developing Local Level DRR Strategies and Plans for Urban Risk Reduction”

(IAS/State Civil Service from Urban Development Departments/ Municipal Administration Departments, and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) & Master Trainers from ATIs and Armed Forces)

22-25 July, 2025

Organized by

Centre for Disaster Management (CDM)

Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussoorie.

in collaboration with the

National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Government of India, New Delhi.

Brief note on Training of Trainers (ToT)

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Organized by: Centre for Disaster Management (CDM), Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussoorie, in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Government of India, New Delhi.

Dates: July 22-25, 2025.

Venue: Kalam Hall, Indira Bhawan Campus, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie.

Target Audience: Senior officers (IAS/State Civil Service) from Urban Development Departments/Municipal Administration Departments, Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), and Master Trainers from ATIs and Armed Forces.

1. Background and Introduction: The "Training of Trainers (ToT) on Developing Local Level DRR Strategies and Plans for Urban Risk Reduction" was originally conceptualized in 2019 as part of the "Making Cities Resilient Campaign". This initiative receives support from the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR-GETI) based in Incheon, Republic of Korea. Previous iterations of this program, held in 2019 and 2023, have successfully trained over 70 Master Trainers. These Master Trainers, through a cascading model, have subsequently equipped local officials in urban risk governance. The current program design has been updated to align with the clarion call made by the Honourable Prime Minister at the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) in March 2023.

Globally, over 50% of the world's population now resides in urban areas, a figure projected to increase to 66% by 2050. This rapid urbanization intensifies the concentration of people, livelihoods, and properties in areas exposed to high risks from hazards and shocks. Consequently, **strengthening urban resilience is crucial for sustainable development and enhanced prosperity**. Disasters lead to significant economic losses, estimated at US\$314 billion annually in the built environment alone, which hinders development gains. Recognizing

this, the Making Cities Resilient (MCR) Campaign, launched in 2010 and coordinated by UNDRR, aims to promote urban disaster resilience by integrating Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) into urban development processes. The campaign provides tools, technical assistance, city-to-city support networks, and learning opportunities.

2. Aim and Objectives: The primary aim of this ToT program is to **enhance the capacity of local governments to develop robust Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) action plans, thereby supporting the creation of resilient and sustainable cities.** It also seeks to improve understanding and capacity to address disaster risks and build resilience at the local level, with a focus on crisis-prone cities.

Specific objectives include:

- Equipping participants to develop and facilitate the implementation of climate and disaster resilience action plans.
- Training Master Trainers who can, in turn, cascade this knowledge and capacity to local officials in urban risk governance.
- Enabling participants to assess urban resilience, identify gaps, and prioritize investments and actions using relevant tools.
- Fostering awareness and understanding of various disaster risk issues and their interconnectedness.
- Strengthening local capacity and stakeholder partnerships in DRR.

3. Key Concepts and Frameworks: The training program is built around the following core concepts and tools:

- **Making Cities Resilient (MCR) 2030 Campaign:** A global initiative encouraging cities and local governments to commit to building resilience against disasters and integrate DRR into sustainable urban development.
- **The Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient:** This is a 10-point checklist that serves as a reliable guide for city actors in resilience planning and decision-making, mapping directly against the Sendai Framework's priorities of action. The Essentials are:

1. **Organise for disaster resilience:** Establish organizational structures, strong leadership, clear coordination, and integrate DRR into city vision/strategic plans.
2. **Identify, understand, and use current and future risk scenarios:** Maintain up-to-date data on hazards, exposures, and vulnerabilities; prepare and use risk assessments for urban development and long-term planning.
3. **Strengthen financial capacity for resilience:** Understand the economic impact of disasters, prepare financial plans, and develop mechanisms to support resilience activities, including contingency funds and exploring innovative financing.
4. **Pursue resilient urban development and design:** Carry out risk-informed urban planning, enforce risk-compliant building regulations, and integrate design solutions like green infrastructure.
5. **Safeguard natural buffers to enhance the protective functions offered by natural capital:** Identify, protect, and monitor ecosystems (green and blue infrastructure) for their disaster risk reduction benefits.
6. **Strengthen institutional capacity for resilience:** Ensure all relevant institutions (government, private sector, academia, civil society) have the capabilities to perform their roles in DRR, with clear responsibilities and shared information.
7. **Understand and strengthen societal capacity for resilience:** Foster social connectedness and mutual help through community initiatives, education, and multimedia communication, addressing the needs of vulnerable groups.
8. **Increase infrastructure resilience:** Assess, protect, update, and maintain critical infrastructure; develop protective, risk-mitigating infrastructure, and ensure continuity plans for services.
9. **Ensure effective preparedness and disaster response:** Create and regularly update preparedness plans, connect to early warning systems, and increase emergency and management capacities.

10. **Expedite recovery and build back better:** Establish post-disaster recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction strategies aligned with long-term planning to improve the city environment and increase resilience.

- **Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities:** This is a primary tool developed to support the implementation of the Ten Essentials. It measures the performance level of a city against each Essential through a numerical and visual assessment. The Scorecard has two assessment levels: a preliminary assessment with 47 indicators and a detailed assessment with 117 indicators. The results form the basis for city DRR action plans.
- **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030:** This framework, adopted by UN Member States, aims for a substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses. It is guided by **four Priorities for Action** and **seven global targets** for reducing disaster losses.

4. Course Structure and Content (Daily Breakdown): The program features a comprehensive schedule combining presentations, discussions, case studies, and interactive group exercises.

- **Day 1 (July 22, 2025):**
 - **Inauguration & Course Overview:** Setting the stage for the training.
 - **Introduction to DRR and the MCR 2030 Campaign:** Overview of the need for local-level DRR strategies and plans for urban risk reduction, including a briefing on the Disaster Resilience Scorecard tool and the local DRR action plan template.
 - **Essential 1: Organise for disaster resilience:** Discussion, briefing, and a case study. This essential focuses on establishing DRR as a key consideration in the city's strategic plan, defining agency responsibilities, and coordinating mechanisms. Potential reference documents include existing DRR strategies, city master plans, and organizational charts.
 - **Essential 2: Identify, understand, and use current and future risk scenarios:** Discussion, briefing, and a case study. This covers maintaining updated data on hazards, exposures, and vulnerabilities, and using risk

assessments for urban development. Reference documents include hazard statistics, risk maps, and local risk profiles.

- **Group Exercise:** Practical application and presentations related to Essentials 1 and 2 of the Disaster Resilience Scorecard.

- **Day 2 (July 23, 2025):**

- **Essential 10: Expedite recovery and build back better:** Discussion, briefing, and a case study of the Rebuild Kerala Initiative. This involves planning for post-disaster recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction to ensure an improved and more resilient city environment. Reference documents include rapid damage assessments, resettlement plans, and "build back better" guidance.
- **Essential 4: Pursue resilient urban development and design:** Discussion, briefing, and a case study of the Agartala Flood Mitigation Project. This focuses on risk-informed urban planning, land-use zoning, building codes, and integrating design for disaster prevention. Reference documents include land-use and zoning plans, building codes, and urban design guides.
- **Essential 5: Safeguard natural buffers to enhance the protective functions offered by natural capital:** Discussion, briefing, and a case study. This emphasizes identifying, protecting, and monitoring natural ecosystems for their protective functions and promoting green/blue infrastructure in urban development. Reference documents include information on ecosystem functions and policies supporting green/blue infrastructure.
- **Essential 6: Strengthen institutional capacity for resilience:** Discussion, briefing, and a case study. This covers ensuring institutions relevant to city resilience have necessary capabilities, and maintaining data on resources and skills for risk reduction. Reference documents include human resource databases and awareness campaign records.
- **Group Exercise:** Practical application and presentations related to Essentials 4, 5, 6, and 10 of the Disaster Resilience Scorecard.

- **Day 3 (July 24, 2025):**
 - **Essential 7: Understand and strengthen societal capacity for resilience:** Discussion, briefing, and a case study. This focuses on identifying and strengthening social cohesion, engaging citizens, and addressing vulnerable groups through initiatives, education, and communication. Reference documents include lists of grassroots organizations, statistics on vulnerable groups, and business continuity plans.
 - **Essential 8: Increase infrastructure resilience:** Discussion, briefing, and a case study. This covers assessing critical infrastructure, developing protection strategies, and ensuring maintenance and upgrading. Reference documents include data on infrastructure resilience plan execution and critical asset documentation.
 - **Essential 9: Ensure effective disaster response:** Discussion, briefing, and a case study. This emphasizes creating and updating emergency response plans, early warning systems, and increasing management capacities. Reference documents include early warning systems, standard operating procedures, and staffing databases.
 - **Essential 3: Strengthen financial capacity for resilience:** Discussion, briefing, and a case study. This focuses on understanding economic impacts, developing financial mechanisms, and ensuring dedicated budgets for DRR and contingency management. Reference documents include budget plans, financial reports, and insurance scheme lists.
 - **Group Exercise:** Practical application and presentations related to Essentials 3, 7, 8, and 9 of the Disaster Resilience Scorecard.
- **Day 4 (July 25, 2025):**
 - **Final Cumulative Presentations & Evaluation:** Groups will present and evaluate their local level DRR strategies action plans.

- **Discussion on Urban Disaster Management Authorities (UDMAs):** Focus on the need for UDMAs as per The Disaster Management (Amendment) Act, 2025.
- **Valediction:** Concluding remarks and official close of the program.

5. Methodology: The training will employ a **multi-stakeholder, participatory workshop approach**. This includes:

- **Conceptual Introductions:** Familiarizing participants with key technical concepts and developing a common language.
- **Expert-led Sessions:** Briefings and discussions led by subject matter experts from premier institutions.
- **Case Studies:** Real-world examples will be presented to illustrate the application of DRR strategies and plans.
- **Group Exercises:** Participants will engage in hands-on exercises related to the Disaster Resilience Scorecard, allowing them to apply concepts and facilitate deeper understanding.
- **Presentations and Discussions:** Opportunities for participants to present their work, engage in dialogue, and achieve consensus on DRR issues.
- **Secondary Data Review:** Emphasizing the importance of reviewing existing DRR frameworks, city development plans, and municipal structures to effectively embed DRR plans.
- **Contextualization of Tools:** Discussion on adapting assessment criteria to specific city contexts to enhance relevance.
- **Peer-to-Peer Learning:** Fostering opportunities for participants to share experiences and learn from one another.

6. Expected Outcomes: Upon completion of the ToT, participants are expected to be able to:

- **Lead and develop robust local-level DRR strategies and action plans**, integrating them into urban and sectoral development plans.

- Effectively utilize the **Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities** to assess their city's resilience baseline, identify gaps, and prioritize investments and actions for improving resilience.
 - Gain a deeper understanding of the **Ten Essentials for Making Cities Resilient** and their application in practical urban development and risk management contexts.
 - Enhance their capacity to **engage multiple stakeholders** (including government agencies, private sector, academia, and community groups) in DRR planning and implementation.
 - Identify and implement strategies for **strengthening financial capacity for resilience**, exploring diverse funding mechanisms.
 - Promote **risk-informed urban development and design**, including the application and enforcement of resilient building codes and the safeguarding of natural buffers.
 - Contribute to **strengthening institutional and societal capacities for resilience**, including public awareness, education, and effective disaster response mechanisms.
 - Support efforts for **effective post-disaster recovery and "build back better"** initiatives.
 - Serve as **Master Trainers** who can effectively cascade this knowledge and capacity to local officials and communities, fostering a broader culture of resilience.
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