

SOCIETY FOR POOR PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT

Mitigation of Losses through Disaster Preparedness by training 10,000 women, children, disabled and senior citizens of slums of Chennai city in India.

Aim

The project aims to mitigate the heavy loss of lives and the properties of the communities belonging to the slums of Chennai city of India and to quicken the process of recovery through Disaster Preparedness initiatives. The focus is on the most vulnerable sections of senior citizens, the people living with disabilities, women and children with the population of around 10,000.

Background Information

It is well known that Chennai city has been experiencing floods every year without fail. And there was heavy loss of life with the official death toll of 271 and properties due to devastating floods and sudden storms that that struck in the previous years have wreaked havoc. Heavy loss of lives and the loss of properties, mainly that of the poorest in the city was estimated to be running to several hundred million Indian rupees. There have been reports of many missing and still to be traced.

Chennai city has quite a number of disaster prone (flood) areas, which have the heavy concentrations of the poorest and one of the most voluminous sections, the slum dwellers. And this year as the North East Monsoon rains are about to set in the month of October, the poor communities in the slums of the flood prone localities of Chennai here are really in a state of acute fear.

Upon our findings based on field experiences, we had in imparting training and forming disaster response clubs in for the vulnerable sections of women, children, people living with disabilities and senior citizens, we have decided to ahead with the Disaster Preparedness for the vulnerable sections as one of the very crucial initiatives on after the last Chennai floods. This is because we strongly believe that disaster preparedness will be a sustainable model in disaster management. This not only mitigates the loss of lives and the humble possessions of the hapless sections, but also **quicken the process of recovery.**

Required Initiatives

Enhance awareness and knowledge on preparedness for disaster management to children, older adults and people living with disabilities.

Strengthening the community with disaster preparedness through education campaign, training of caretaker teams (parents of the focused group & their neighbours) and rehearsals of emergency response scenario to support the focused group.

Networking the community with Government / Private / Social bodies working on disaster management

Localities to be covered.

SPPD INDIA

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- 1.Saidapet
2. Teynampet
3. Egmore
- 4 Vyasarpadi
5. Semmanjeri

Strategy

Training Process

A total of 10000 members belonging to the most vulnerable sections of slums such as Women, children, people living with disabilities and the senior citizens will be imparted training on the following.

- Mobilize and train volunteers on response mechanisms and strategies
 - Evacuation procedures
 - Search and rescue teams
 - Training of first aid and emergency response teams
 - Procedures for activating distribution systems
- A basic supply kit comprising of water bottle, torch, radio, first-aid kit, whistle, charged batteries & garbage bags as well as a flood preparedness manual will be provided to each volunteer.

Networking the community with Government / Private / Social bodies working on disaster management

- The child and adults disaster response club formed will be trained on how to establish reliable and appropriate communication lines with responsible local authorities & local organizations.
- Likewise the local departments will be well informed on the organization's activities, existence of clubs, rescue teams, etc. during the local body meetings conducted by the Govt. who will assist them in times of emergency.
- The available clubs will be linked to Rotary/Notary Clubs, Lion / Lioness Clubs, Round table club, Local elected bodies, NGOs working on the same objectives, etc.

Short term indicators

- There will be 30 trainees in each batch of the training.
- A total of 333 batches of training will be conducted to cover 10000 members from the vulnerable sections.
- The number of total trained persons would be 999 in all after the first phase.
- 3 lead volunteers will be selected from every batch.
- After the completion of every 5 batches, a Disaster Response Club comprising of 15 lead volunteers will be formed.
- A total of 67 Disaster Response Clubs will have been formed after the completion of first phase of training on Disaster Preparedness.
- As many as 1005 lead volunteers will form part of the 67 Disaster Response Clubs.

Short and Long Term Impacts and Sustainability

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As a Disaster Response Club will be formed after completion of 5 batches they will start preparing their own communities. Similarly all the 67 Disaster Response Clubs will be federated for the purpose of coordination and link with other agencies related with disaster management such as the Fire Service, Police, The Red Cross and NGOs. This shall ensure an efficient and quick response in disaster management mechanisms. Periodical meetings once in three months will be held for the Disaster Response Club members.

With the continued sensitization and training, the loss of lives and properties belonging to the Vulnerable sections however humble it may be, will be drastically reduced. Being an on going process, the disaster preparedness training shall cover maximum number of persons of the slums in Chennai city. By the end of the third year of the training process, a substantial number of poor slum dwellers will have become disaster prepared.

Project period :

As the floods have been occurring and causing heavy loss of lives and properties to the marginalized communities of the slums of Chennai almost every year, the training on disaster preparedness has to be an on- going process for a minimum of 3 years. With 30% of the total population of Chennai being the poor slum dwellers, it becomes utmost essential.

Estimated Cost of training programs

Per Batch

S.No	Particulars	Indian Rupees	US Dollars
1.	30 Participants x Rs 50 Lunch	1500	\$23 USD
2.	30 Participants x Rs 15 Tea	450	\$7 USD
3.	Emergency kit for 30 Lead Volunteers x Rs.100	3,000	\$46 USD
4.	Trainer's fees Rs.1500 per batch of 30 participants	1,500	\$23 USD
5.	Total	6,450	\$99 USD

Total number of batches of training 333 x Rs.6450 = Rs.21,47,850 (Twenty one lakhs forty seven thousands and eight hundred and fifty only).

Total project cost in US dollars

Training cost per batch \$99 USD X 333 batches = \$32,967 USD