

A person is shown from the chest up, floating in space. They are holding a globe of the Earth in their hands. The background is a dark, starry space with a faint grid pattern. The person's arms are extended, and the globe is positioned in the center of their hands. The text is overlaid on the image.

Know Disasters for No Disaster

**By
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Some Basic Questions

- Why is it important to know about disasters?
- How it can affect us?
- Fundamentals of disasters and disaster management?
- How to be prepared and protected?
- Can Disasters be prevented?
- Disasters – Natural or Man-made?



Disasters and Disaster Risk Reduction

- Disaster means a catastrophe, mishap, calamity or grave occurrence affecting any area from natural and manmade causes, or by accident or negligence, which results in substantial loss of life or human suffering or damage to, and destruction of property, or damage to, or degradation of environment and is of such a nature and magnitude as to be **beyond the capacity of the community** of the affected areas.
(DM Act 2005)
- Disaster Risk Reduction - Reducing human and social vulnerability and **build communities' resilience** to disasters through a multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder approach.



Hazards, Vulnerability, Capacity & Disaster

- **Hazard**- source of potential harm, or a situation with a potential for causing harm
- **Vulnerability** is proneness to hazard

Hazards may be inevitable but
Disasters can be prevented

- **Disaster** = $\frac{\text{Hazard} \times \text{Vulnerability}}{\text{Capacity}}$



How to survive a disaster?

Survival is a matter of preparation...

Basics of survival....

- Know your environment- Identify risk
- **Preparedness:** Have a detailed and practiced disaster plan **before the disaster strikes**
- Efficient communication channels to relay important information
- Plans to help victims/survivors get life back on track

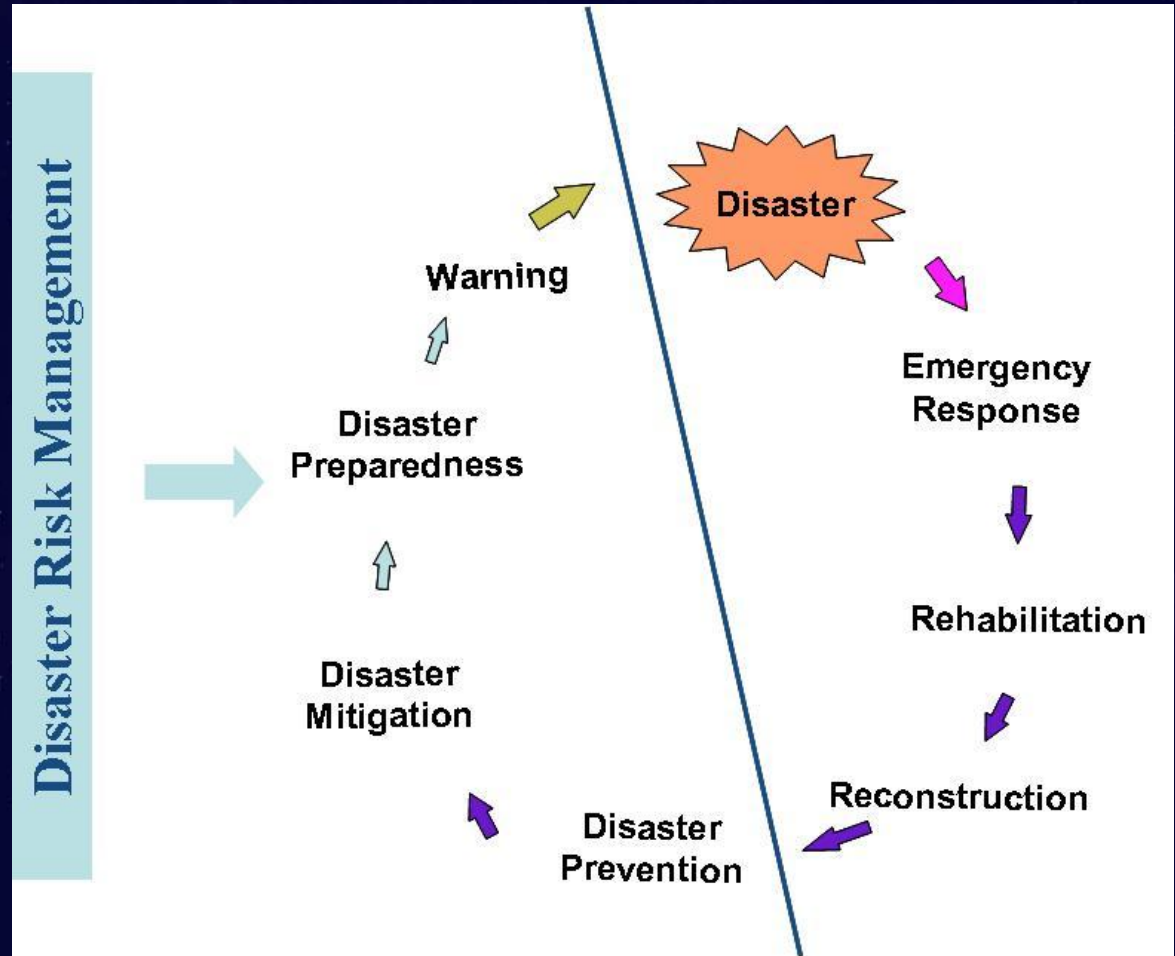


Who Survives when a Disaster Strikes?

- Survivors are who know: **'what to do'** and **'how to do'** (Examples – 9/11, Bhopal Gas Tragedy)
 - **'What to do'** is the knowledge, alertness and orientation towards risk mitigation
 - **'How to do'** is the practice of the exit plan,
- **'How to do'** comes with repeated drills, rehearsals, mock practices
- **Disaster Personalities –**
 - Freeze
 - Panic
 - Knowing **'What to do'** and **'How to do'**



Disaster Management Cycle



Community Preparedness

- Without preparedness and risk reduction, community can experience self-reinforcing spiral of further disaster risk.
- For sustainable development – need to address vulnerabilities of a hazard prone community.
- Preparedness required at two levels – **Community level and Household (Family) Level**
- **Community level –**
 - Planning starts with asking questions
- Key Assessments –
 - Assess the disaster(s)
 - Assess your community
 - Assess your family
- **Prepare a list- define the scope of hazards affecting your community**
- **Include different scenarios for the same type of hazard**
 - Some scenarios may present a greater risk, higher priority
- **Be careful in considering worst plausible scenarios**
 - The more 'worst case' a scenario, the less likely it is to occur



Community Preparedness

- **Household level**
 - Inappropriate strategies **to cope or adapt to a situation** leading to a set of harmful consequences.
 - **Many ongoing changes are increasing both hazards and vulnerability** – Community needs to be prepared for that (*Changes in flooding pattern, environmental degradation, unplanned urbanisation leading to greater exposure to hazards etc.*)
 - **Women, children, elderly and differently able persons** are particularly vulnerable to disaster
 - **Important information need to be protected** - Insurance policies, Mortgage/leases/contracts, Birth certificates, Passports/alien documentation, Occupational licenses, Family medical information, Unpaid bills, Any other irreplaceable papers



Levels of Community Preparedness

AWARENESS

SENSITISATION

CAPACITY BUILDING



Levels of Community Preparedness

- **Awareness** - Understand potential hazards, risks and vulnerabilities
- **Sensitisation** – Understanding that *Vulnerability* is related to the *exposure* to the hazards, their *sensitivity* to the hazard, impacts of impending disasters due to lack of *capacity* to address the hazard.
- **Capacity Building** - People's capacity is divided into their ability *to cope* (using short-term unsustainable strategies) and *to adapt* (using methods that keep pace with the changing nature of hazards and threats).



Learn About Disasters to Save Lives:

- D** – **Discuss** about your hazards and vulnerabilities, **Disseminate** knowledge and information
- I** – Know and plan **Immediate Actions** to be taken in the event of a disaster
- S** – Identify **Safe spots** in case of disasters
- A** – **Actions** to be taken during a disaster, **Avoid doing certain** things. (**Dos and Don'ts**)
- S** – **Structural** Concerns – about your place of living/work/school.
- T** – Important **Telephone nos.** to be remembered/displayed.
- E** – Have an **Emergency Kit** prepared (Most important things to be carried away at the time of occurrence of a disaster, if time permits)
- R** – Identify and know **Resources** in Neighbourhood.

**Be Prepared or Be Scared and
face even worse situation.....**

**You should be prepared to
Expect the Unexpected....
as**

Disasters can always Surprise you





THANK YOU!

