

Report on the inception meeting of Regional Steering Group

South Asia

Workshop Date: September 06 – 07, 2017

Workshop Venue: Hotel Evergreen Palace, Bangkok

Participants:

Country	Organisation	Name of the Participants
Bangladesh (4)	Helpage International	Kabita BOSE (Could not Join)
	Action Aid Bangladesh	Tanjir Hossain
	Action Aid Bangladesh	Farah Kabir
	Jago Nari	Duke Ivn Amin
India (3)	SEEDs India	Manu Gupta (Could not Join)
	UDYAMA	Mr. Pradeep Mahapatra
	Coastal Area Disaster Mitigation Effort (CADME)	Meda Gurudatt Prasad
Pakistan (3)	Pattan Development Organisation	Sarwar Bari
	JAD Foundation	Syed Harir Shah
	Sustainable Environment and Development Foundation (SEDF)	Nasrullah Thahim
Nepal (2)	NSET	Surya Narayan Shrestha
	Practical Action	Gehendra Bahadur Gurung
Maldives	Huvadhoon Aid (HAD)	Imad Mohamed (James)
Afghanistan	Organisation for Saving the Children and Empowering Women	Dr.Naseer Babakerkhail (Could not Join)
Sri Lanka	Janathakshan GTE	Ranga Pallawala (Could not Join)

Workshop Proceeding:

- ❖ After the first introductory session, the workshop kicked off with Country Positioning Presentation from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Maldives. The presentations are available at Dropbox in this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/q8ddzke305kej2p/AABp7fnjf9nUdIRcc627uAQPa?dl=0>

There were no presentation either from Sri Lanka or Afghanistan as the focal points there could not make it to the workshop.

- ❖ National focal points and members of the regional steering group worked together to prioritize activities for national and regional level. See below for the agreed set of activities.
- ❖ The secretariat presented an update on the ongoing and upcoming programs of GNDR. The interactive session was also complemented with the sharing of the other priority actions of the Secretariat currently being perused.
- ❖ A session on the possible intervention points for the national focal points and regional steering group was followed by. It was mainly a brainstorming session on how effectively the focal points can ensure their participation and contribution on GNDR priority actions and program.
- ❖ The second day started with a brief presentation (it was not finalized by then) on the financial out-look of the network. The secretariat presented an overview of current funding available and others in the pipeline.
- ❖ National focal points and members of the regional steering group resumed their group work to draft a tentative work plan based on the agreed prioritized set of activities.
- ❖ The workshop concluded with the presentation, adoption and agreeing on prioritized actions and work plan both for national and regional level.

Output and agreed actions from the workshop:

Agreed five (5) prioritized activities for the National Focal Points at country level:

- Help to identify the needs, positions and concern of GNDR members within the country.
- Support and encourage collaboration and cooperation between GNDR members within the country and surrounding regions.
- Communication with GNDR members in their country and inform the RSG about their national realities and specific issues, positions or opportunities raised by national members.
- Provide general support and guidance at the country level for the effective formulation and implementation of GNDR objectives, workplans and priority actions.
- Help the GNDR secretariat with membership application and registration including support with vetting of applicant organisations.

Proposed Work plan for NFP/T:

What	When	Tentative Budget
Workshop/National Meetings, Communication	Pakistan (Oct 2017) Bangladesh (Oct – Dec 2017) Nepal (Dec 2017)	Pakistan (USD 9,000) Bangladesh (USD 2,000) Nepal (USD 5,000) India (USD 35,000)

	India (Oct – Dec 2017) in for zones Maldives (Dec 2017)	Maldives (USD 12,000)
General Support and Guidance to membership at country level	Ongoing activities for all countries (Sep 2017 – Sep 2019)	Pakistan (USD 10,000) Bangladesh (USD 12,000) Nepal (USD 6,000) India (USD 20,000) Maldives (USD 20,000)
Membership registration, profiling, promotion, networking at country level	Ongoing activities for all countries (Sep 2017 – Sep 2019)	Pakistan (USD 6,000) Bangladesh (USD 6,000) Nepal (USD 7,000) India (USD 7,000) Maldives (USD 8,000)
Develop collaboration guideline, training, simulation etc	Ongoing activities for all countries (Sep 2017 – Sep 2019)	Pakistan (USD 10,000) Bangladesh (USD 10,000) Nepal (USD 8,000) India (USD 10,000) Maldives (USD 8,000)
Total Budget (tentative) required for the work-plan		USD 174,000

Agreed five (5) prioritized activities for the Regional Steering Group at regional level:

- Developing a Regional Strategy for 3 to 5 years.
- Advise Board and National Focal Points on policy moments, advocacy issues and fund raising.
- Outreach and Membership including training, capacity development and facilitating knowledge sharing.
- Lobbying and Advocacy at the regional level and beyond region when relevant.
- Facilitate consultation and dialogue with other networks (like, ADRRN, Duriyug Nivaran etc) and liaising with external stakeholders and allies (like SAARC, UNISDR etc.)

Proposed Work plan for RSG:

What	When	Tentative Budget
Developing Regional Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation meeting at national level - Questionnaire development - Validation meeting at Regional level 	Jan 18 (final draft)	25,000 USD
Advise Board and National Focal Points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quarterly Consultation Discussion - Email Groups 	Continuous Process	No Cost associated (done through periodic RSG meeting)

<p>Outreach to Membership for capacity building and knowledge sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online Webinar - Quarterly newsletter (online) - Once a year capacity building - Regional Microsite - 1 partially dedicated person in each of the country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quarterly Newsletter - Continuous update of the microsite - 1 large lesson sharing publication for AMCDRR 	<p>For dedicated person: 72,000 USD (500 USD per country x 6 countries x 24 months)</p> <p>AMCDRR publication: USD 10,000</p> <p>Capacity Building: USD 180,000 (30 persons x 3 day x 2000 USD per person) dependent on the location</p>
<p>Advocacy Lobby at Regional level and beyond</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2018 AMCDRR - 2019 GPDRR 	<p>Need based</p>	<p>Event in AMCDRR: USD 5000 Unallocated: USD 15,000</p>
<p>Facilitate Regional Consultation on collaboration</p>	<p>Need based</p>	<p>Budget coming from GNDR operational allocation</p>
<p>Total budget (tentative) required for the worklan</p>		<p>USD 325,000</p>

Key decisions made:

- GNDR Regional Representative (Member of the Global Board, currently Farah Kabir) by default will serve as the 'Chair' of the Regional Steering Group.
- A vice chair for the RSG was proposed and agreed by all of the present members of the RSG. Mr. Sarwar Bari of Pattan, Pakistan will serve as the Vice Chair for the Board.
- Regional Development Coordinator from the GNDR secretariat will act the member secretary with responsibilities of organizing, documenting and disseminating workshop proceeding.
- Decision making of the RSG will be done on a 'majority' voting basis. However, to fulfill the quorum of the meeting, at least 5 members (out of 7) of the RSG need to be present.
- Issues of accountability and governance were deferred to take up on the next RSG meeting.
- The work plan prepared and agreed by NFP and RSG is their responsibility to carry out. GNDR may or may not be able to provide some financial contribution of the budget anticipated for the work plan. However, GNDR will provide with all sorts of technical supports needed to raise fund locally/regionally for this work-plan.
- Once the regional budget (a part of global operational plan and budget for the whole network) is ready, the secretariat will share it with the RSG members and NFPs. That can give an idea, if there's any allocation possible from the secretariat towards the work plans proposed and agreed by the NFPs and RSG.
- Venue of the next face to face RSG meeting should be changed from Bangkok to somewhere else, if possible.

Photographs from the Workshop:



Workshop in Progress – Day 01



Workshop in Progress – Day 02



Participants from Maldives, Bangladesh and Nepal



Participants from India and Pakistan



Group Photo - 01



Group Photo – 02