



## ANNUAL REPORT - 2021-22

The FY 2021-22 is the 14<sup>th</sup> Financial year since the inception of GeoHazards Society. Starting from disaster risk management, school safety, hospital safety, and disaster management plans. GHS has come a long way and now focuses on activities to achieve the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This year saw the organisation engage in the preparation of a detailed project report for a climate adaptation project involving three Indian states. Additionally, a series of online training for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in various sectors have been organised online in association with various state governments, line departments, NIDM, and SDMA across India.

### Climate adaptation project with GIZ and NIDM

GeoHazards Society assisted GIZ, the German Development Bank, and the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) in preparing a detailed project report likely to be funded under the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) under the MoEFCC Government of India. The GHS team was given the task of developing a Project Concept Note (PCN) and Detailed Project Report (DPR) on climate-risk proofing critical facilities in Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, and Orissa for disaster and climate resilience through the enhanced knowledgebase, process innovation, and resource convergence.

This 6-month project was initiated in September 2021 and involved continuous dialogues and consultation with the officials from the departments of climate change, water, health, and the SDMA. Detailed desk review of relevant literature, state-level consultations to identify the sectoral needs and locations for intervention, detailed budgeting, and consolidation of the DPR as required by the NAFCC guidelines were the major activities undertaken and the DPR was submitted to NIDM, the national executing agency for this project.

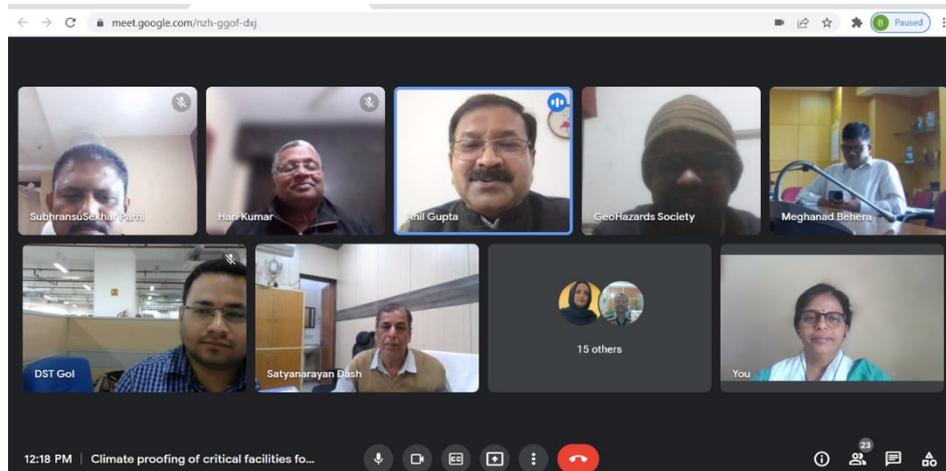


Figure 1- State level consultation with line departments

### School Safety programme for Tibetan Schools

This webinar was organised in April, in partnership with the Education department of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA). More than 80 teachers from Tibetan schools attended this virtual training and were trained on how to make their schools and students safer from disaster risks.

### Museum Disaster Management Plan Preparation, Kerala

GHS in association with the Archaeology Department of Kerala organised an online training in April for the staff of the museums in Kerala. Experts who have wide experience in preparing DM plans for museums handled the sessions, enlightening the participants to ensure the safety of the heritage properties and invaluable assets in their museums. Falling hazards and non-structural mitigation discussed during the sessions were well taken by the museum staff.



### **Webinars with NIDM**

GHS assisted NIDM in organising webinars on integrating Disaster risk reduction in various sectors. Stakeholders from the concerned departments joined online to discuss and exchange their views on topics ranging from earthquake risk mitigation, school safety, and non-structural risk mitigation to resilience of health infrastructure.

#### **Earthquake safety for Petrol Pumps**

This webinar organised in April 2021 was attended by personnel from petrol pumps all over India. Safety precautions to be adopted in such facilities were highlighted and the participants were sensitised to prevent risks and prepare better against disasters.

#### **School safety training for Himachal Pradesh SDMA(HPSDMA)**

The workshop involved capacitating teachers from various schools in Himachal Pradesh on the importance of School DM plans and mock drills. Two online webinars were organised partnering with NIDM and HPSDMA in April and May 2021, targeting the schools of the state. Each webinar was attended by more than 650 teachers and non-teaching staff from various schools in Himachal Pradesh.

#### **Webinar on earthquake risk mitigation in healthcare infrastructure**

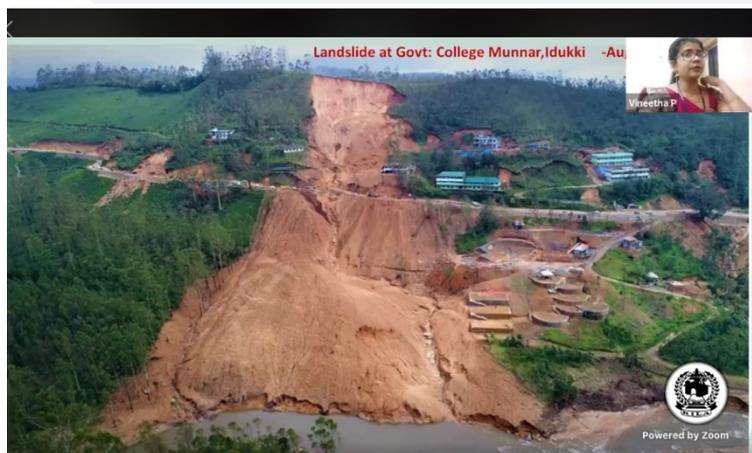
GHS partnered with NIDM for this workshop organised in September 2021 for educating the government and private sector officials, engineers, and planners, especially from the hilly states on the impacts of earthquakes and their risk mitigation measures.

#### **Webinar on School Building Infrastructure Resilience**

This event was organised in October 2021 by NIDM involving stakeholders from various states across India including engineers, planners, school administrators, and key decision-makers.

### **Hillside Risk Mitigation Training with KILA, Kerala**

In June 2021, GHS partnered with the Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) and Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) to conduct an online webinar attended by over 650 participants including engineers and overseers from the Engineering wing of the Local Self Government Department. The training stressed the need for developing and usage of good-scale hazard maps and the enforcement of the building regulations s regulations that prevent construction in hazard-prone regions.



*Figure 2- Case study presentation by the resource person*

### **Webinars on International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR - 13th of October)**

- **Building Resilience of Schools:** On the occasion of International Day for DRR, GHS and NIDM joined hands to organise a webinar on how to build disaster resilience in schools. More than 200 participants across India participated in the online event.



- Webinar on Eco-DRR based interventions in hilly regions: This online webinar was organised in partnership with KILA in which engineers, planners, PRI officials, and the general public participated to understand the DRR interventions that could be adopted in hilly regions.
- Role of Scenarios in Disaster Risk Mitigation: GeoHazards Society along with GeoHazards International organised this online event for students from various universities in the South Asia Region. More than 120 students from Bhutan, Nepal, and India participated in the online event to commemorate IDDRR.

### **Hospital Preparedness training with Shimla Municipal Corporation**

GHS organised two 2-day Online training program in August and September in partnership with Shimla Municipal Corporation. The

training was conducted in hybrid mode with the participants assembling in a hall physically and the resource persons joining virtually. The first training was conducted for the health personnel from HP, on the subject of Mass



Figure 3- Training on Mass Casualty Management

Casualty Management and Medical Preparedness. The second one was exclusively for the staff members of Indira Gandhi Medical College in Shimla on hospital safety. GHS has earlier worked with IGMC for preparing the disaster management plan for the hospital.

### **3-Day Online Training Programme on JKSDMA**

This online training organised in October 2021, is a collaborative effort of the Jammu & Kashmir State Disaster Management Authority (JKSDMA), NIDM, and GHS. The 3-day Online Training Program (OTP) comprises learning sessions on various aspects of hospital safety and functionality including structural safety, non-structural risk mitigation, disaster management planning, and energy-efficient practices in health facilities. The sessions focus on building the capacities of government officials, engineers, hospital staff, and healthcare workers for better preparedness and mass casualty management during emergencies. The sessions on all three days were attended by a versatile group of participants including J&K officials, engineers, and doctors from J&K, other Indian states, and also from abroad, and also live streamed on NIDM's YouTube platform. The event received wide appreciation and extensive media coverage.

### **National Workshop on Earthquake-Resistant Practices in the Built Environment**

This event was organised in association with NICEE, IIT Kanpur. Targeting students from engineering colleges located in seismic zones, this week-long event happened during the second week of October 2021. A broad range of technical interventions for earthquake risk mitigation was covered and highly experienced resource persons handled the sessions.



### Disaster Preparedness in Special Schools, Kerala

Focusing on working for the safety of the differently abled children, in December 2022, GHS organised a workshop on Disaster Preparedness in Jeevodaya School in Kurumpanadom, Kottayam in Kerala State.

The training was attended by caregivers and parents of intellectually challenged children. The importance of preparedness before disasters and the need to prepare a school disaster management plan was highlighted by the experts handling the sessions.



Figure 4- Headmistress of the School addressing the audience during the training