

# TOWARDS TRANSFORMATIVE RESILIENCE

*Annual Report 2021–2022*



All India Disaster Mitigation Institute

April 2022



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**“Transformative Risk Reduction is not when we come out of risk, not when we are protected from risk, nor when loss and damage due to impact of risk is compensated but when we have a future without that particular risk of flood or cyclone or heatwave impacting me, my family, my world.”**

*Kavitaben*

All India Disaster Mitigation Institute

April 2022

Title: Towards Transformative Resilience: Annual Report 2021–2022

ALL INDIA DISASTER MITIGATION INSTITUTE

411, Sakar Five, Near Old Natraj Cinema,  
Ashram Road, Ahmedabad - 380 009, India

Tele/Fax: +91-79-2658 2962

E-mail: [bestteam@aidmi.org](mailto:bestteam@aidmi.org)

Website: [www.aidmi.org](http://www.aidmi.org), [www.southasiadisasters.net](http://www.southasiadisasters.net)

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## A. INTRODUCTION

The All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI) made a terrific upward swing in its activities and growth to move closer to its work on transformative resilience. AIDMI's team overcame the slowdown brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020-2021, turned around its efforts, and achieved more significant and better results in 2021-2022. AIDMI did so by building on its 2020-21 work of building a more resilient India.

AIDMI conducted a "Prospects Survey" of 50 key individuals—experts and experienced—for AIDMI's activities in 2022-23. The survey highlighted 'AIDMI's strength in national policy-shaping, local cadre building, empathetic review and evaluations, pioneering lessons learned, reports, and co-creating knowledge for transformative resilience.

The following work of AIDMI is in line with the National Disaster Management Plan of 2015 of the Government of India and India's commitments to the Paris Agreement. Accordingly, accountability to affected and at-risk populations will continue to dominate AIDMI's work, focusing on women, all minorities, tribals, and Dalits in India.

## B. ACTIVITIES

AIDMI continued to shape policy with local reality; plan pilots for the poor and vulnerable; help local authorities and CSOs learn through review and evaluation, and continue to consolidate and capture local knowledge through co-creation of publications.

*Review of COVID-19  
Impact on refugees in  
Tamil Nadu.*





*Kavita Vyavahare in front of her organic cotton field in Phulambri Block, Aurangabad District, Maharashtra.*

## **1. Pilots and Demonstration**

- AIDMI, with a farmers' cooperative, was invited to help pilot plan agriculture methods for resilient and organic vegetable and fruit farming for over 200 farmers in two arid districts in Gujarat. Demand to work on green humanitarian action has come up to AIDMI.
- Child-centered community-based adaptation in humanitarian action is rare. AIDMI, with the Government of Gujarat's education department, piloted a safer school reopening program in 120 most poor and vulnerable schools in the desert district of Kutch in Gujarat. AIDMI added tools in its toolbox for participatory visual methods for risk reduction.

## **2. Capacity Building**

- AIDMI, with the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), coordinated a national training program for over 200 schools on DRR, school safety, and the safe reopening of public schools in rural India. As a result, a national module is now available to all states of India.
- AIDMI, with Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA), built DRR planning and programme capacity of over 600 critical local officials of 7 departments of the Government of Kerala. As a result, 26 more departments have demanded such training in planning.
- AIDMI, with a local business organization built the capacity of over 1200 women workers in the informal sector in Ladakh and Maharashtra to plan their business recovery during the pandemic.

As a result, ways are found to avoidable deaths, loss, and damage for women workers.

- AIDMI with NIDM and GRRIPP South Asia was invited to conduct a national training programme on intersectionality, gender, and DRR for over 200 participants from local authorities and NGOs. As a result, new CBDRM guidelines are drafted with a global expert.
- AIDMI with local authorities was invited to support over 2000 women farmers affected by droughts, cyclones, and floods, or all three, with ways to build family and farm-level resilience through training and piloting in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra.

### 3. Review and Evaluation

- AIDMI, with local authorities, was invited to review and plan economic activities of over 600 women-owned local small businesses in Ladakh for whom AIDMI had offered livelihood relief after the Ladakh cloud burst in 2014. The review has provided an action plan.
- AIDMI, with CARITAS and SDMAs, evaluated IAG's capacity for coordination and localization in four states of Assam, Bihar, Odisha, and West Bengal to improve the humanitarian system in India. As a result, IAG capacity-building plans for over 200 NGOs are being made.
- AIDMI with St. Francis University of Canada was invited to use participatory visual methods to review and evaluate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on four women-owned enterprises in Gujarat. As a result, disaster response plans for women-owned businesses are being developed.

*Reading IEC poster by a girl student at Gyandeeep High School, Bhuj, Gujarat. February 2022.*





*Training on participatory visual risk and resilience survey in Gujarat, March 2022.*

- AIDMI, with local partners, was invited to review and plan the cash transfer work of ADRA among the refugees in Tami Nadu in India. As a result, AIDMI redefined accountability to the affected population, focusing directly on cash transfers for essential relief.

#### **4. Knowledge and Research**

- An international agency invited AIDMI to scope post-shock battery-operated mobility during and after a disaster shock in rural India, covering the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Assam, Kerala, and Ladakh in India. As a result, a new mobility system is being designed with a focus on gender and sustainability themes by the agencies.
- AIDMI, with local cooperatives, was invited to co-monitor 5000 cotton farmers in Gujarat and Maharashtra to take up more adaptation and organic farming practices. As a result, self-monitoring measures are being developed for broader use.
- AIDMI with local communities was invited to support quantitative and systematic data collection for local demand for agriculture and climate change information services for 3000 vulnerable women farmers in eight districts of Gujarat. As a result, mal-adaptation in agriculture is being avoided.
- AIDMI, with World Food Programme (WFP) and Sphere India, are navigating and negotiating to strengthen the humanitarian crisis system in India. The national report is coming out in June 2022.
- AIDMI published 6 Southasiadisasters.net with 70 authors contributing ideas and case studies from the top, middle, and the bottom of the risk knowledge ecosystem levels. Over 25,000 readers have benefitted.



## 5. Agenda Shaping

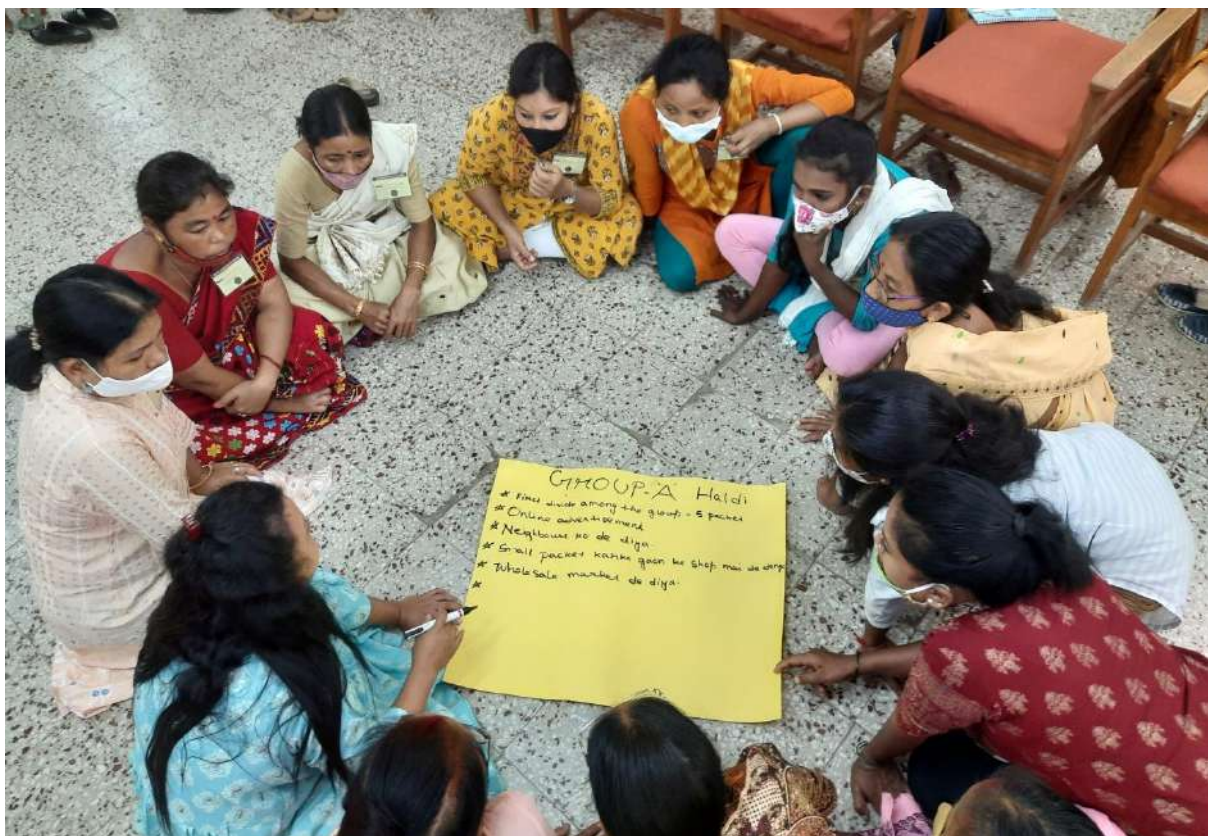
- AIDMI was invited to be on the global board of the World Humanitarian Forum (WHF) based in the UK and Geneva to shape the upcoming humanitarian action and learning trends for the next decade.
- Sphere India invited AIDMI to help it set up and spread its national work on shelter after disasters, DRR and youth, and cash transfer in crisis across India. As a result, over 200 local and international NGOs will benefit.
- AIDMI was invited by Duryog Nivaran (DN) to jointly work on its "policy, gender, and governance during double disasters" in Sri Lanka supported by Asia Foundation. The work will be shared in South Asia for local application.

## C. TEAM

AIDMI teams found ways to work from home; use hybrid methods of working; be more collaborative; focus on results and process, and increase their engagement with local male and primarily female youth to achieve the results of the above activities. As a result, around 1200 local youth directly or indirectly were involved in activities supported by AIDMI.

Activists, scholars, postgraduate students, and policy-makers and practitioners are collaborating with AIDMI.

*Local team understanding intersectionality and gender challenges, Assam, November 2021.*





*Farmer displaying a solar trap in her field in Gandhinagar district, Gujarat.*

#### **D. IMPACT**

In total, AIDMI had a direct and indirect impact on reducing risk and building resilience in the lives of over 33000 poor and vulnerable families in the above states of India.

#### **E. WAY AHEAD**

- AIDMI will remain demand-driven, focusing on local demand from authorities and communities. The following three will be AIDMI's key focus areas in 2023.
- Climate Smart Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Planning.
- Adaptive Humanitarian Action (HA) Programming.
- Developing Transformative Resilience concepts for DRR and HA.

AIDMI will continue the above work on a demand basis in coordination with the National Disaster Management Plan and India's commitment to the Paris Agreement.

AIDMI will encourage more diverse and local world views of Transformative Resilience.



**“We do not want to be resilient to same hazards, again and again, but want to reduce risks and build resilience to transform our safety, our lives, and our future.”**

*Local Assam Team*



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411 Sakar Five, Behind Old Natraj Cinema, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad-380 009 India.

Tele/Fax: +91-79-2658 2962

E-mail: [bestteam@aidmi.org](mailto:bestteam@aidmi.org), Website: <http://www.aidmi.org>, [www.southasiadisasters.net](http://www.southasiadisasters.net)

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