

Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network Annual General Assembly 2024



Report prepared by: Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN)

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1. About ADRRN

The Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN) is a network of national civil society organizations across the Asia-Pacific region. Born in 2002 at a meeting of Asian CSOs in Kobe, Japan, ADRRN has rapidly evolved with region-wide reach from an awareness-raising network to a prominent regional voice in advocacy and capacity building. Today it is known as the 'Civil Society Voice of Asia' particularly in the field of DRR. ADRRN amplifies the able spirit of southern leadership, the effectiveness of regional collaboration and the power of civil society. ADRRN continues to play a key role in the Asian Humanitarian ecosystem, through the work of its members, strategic partners and wider stakeholder network. It has a [strategic plan 2021-2030](#) to "Transforming Asia to be the Most Resilient Region by 2030". Furthermore, ADRRN functions through its 3 core strategic objectives:

- a. **Outreach:** Continue to be a leading representative platform with increased outreach involving a larger number of NGOs and local CSOs in the region.
- b. **Facilitate:** Facilitate effective implementation of global frameworks at the national and local level and facilitate disaster risk governance and enhance accountability.
- c. **Knowledge:** Enhancing range of knowledge and practice on resilience.

2. About Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2024

ADRRN held its Annual General Meeting on 9th December 2024 in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting was attended by 68 representatives from 35 member organizations, and 6 partner organizations. The meeting was characterized by strong coordination among partners and members and summarized ADRRN's year, experiences and insights from partners, members and hubs reflecting the Network's commitment to putting people at the center and fostering synergies to make Asia more resilient. This year, ADRRN also conducted its election for the Executive Committee Members through open online voting between 25-27 November 2024.

3. AGM Proceedings

The registration for the AGM 2024 started from 09:00-09:30 AM at Hotel Rembrandt, Bangkok Thailand. The AGM also witnessed the physical absence of some of the participants, especially from Afghanistan. A remote zoom app joining was arranged by ADRRN for those joining remotely and for sharing their valuable insights. Similarly, participants were welcomed to ADRRN's AGM together with important announcements for completing the registration process, travel reimbursement criteria, consent on capturing images for the internal documentation purpose, suggestion box, and the overall agenda of the AGM.

3.1 Welcome from the chairperson and introducing the secretariat members







Dr. Amod Mani Dixit expressed that the Annual General Meeting is a special moment for ADRRN. It is the time of the year that the network, its members and partners come together not just to reflect on the progress but also to foster connectivity, mutual learning and grow as a network. He further highlighted that AGM is a platform to build the trust and understanding that forms the foundation of collective work



through mutually identifying challenges, opportunities and setting direction that ensures network’s efforts remain impactful and relevant in a rapidly changing world.

Dr. Dixit further added that the network’s focus and strength has been in ensuring that the voices of the communities are heard at all levels. Additionally, to expand the impact of ADRRN, one of the key priorities has been to strengthen the secretariat, which drives partnership collaboration and growth.

Dr. Dixit briefly introduced the project Strengthening Inclusive Disaster Risk Governance for Climate Resilience in Asia “SIDRRA” as one of the most recent developments in ADRRN. Similarly, he further introduced the ADRRN secretariat, which brings together a wealth of experiences, passion and commitment to their roles and shaping the future of the network. The secretariat are:

 <p>Frances Hill: Business Development Manager Frances has been with ADRRN since 2016 and has been instrumental in shaping the network’s strategic growth through building partnerships and securing resources to expand the network’s reach.</p>	 <p>Kosar Bano: GESI Advisor Kosar serves as GESI Advisor ensuring that inclusion and equality are at the heart of all the efforts of the network.</p>
 <p>Noorazila Ahmad (Zila): Finance Manager Zila has been with ADRRN since 2011, managing network’s finances with precision and care. She brings operational expertise to the secretariat, ensuring that the network’s initiatives are both sustainable and impactful.</p>	 <p>Remya Sasindran: Communication Manager Remya leads the network’s communication efforts, enhancing the network’s visibility at regional and global stage. Her work ensures that ADRRN’s voice is heard far and wide.</p>
 <p>Rita Thakuri: Network Coordinator Rita contributes by connecting our members and aligning efforts across the Asia-Pacific. She fosters</p>	 <p>Uma Nepal: Learning Manager Uma drives the network’s capacity building efforts, ensuring that members have access to the knowledge and tools they need to succeed. Her experience in</p>

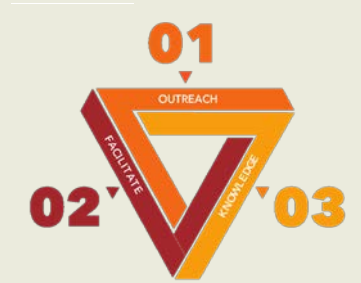


collaboration between network members, ensuring the initiatives are cohesive and impactful.	MEAL, training and research adds immense value to the network’s growth and learning culture.
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For showcasing the brief progress of ADRRN over the years, [a teaser video was shared](#). The primary objective of the video was to reflect on ADRRN’s journey so far.

3.2 ADRRN: A Year in Review

ADRRN over the years continues to be an Asian leading representative platform, on disaster resilience with increased outreach involving a larger number of NGOs and local CSOs in the region. ADRRN continues to facilitate effective implementation of global frameworks at the national and local level, and facilitate early action, disaster risk governance, integration of climate adaptation and disaster resilience and enhance accountability. Adding to this, ADRRN further continues to enhance the range of local knowledge and practice on resilience through linking science and practice.



3.3 ADRRN membership and partnership

ADRRN consists of 65 members across 18 countries in the region. In 2024, ADRRN witnessed a growth. There are 38 full members, 16 associate members and 11 observers. The new members in 2024 are:

New members	Country	Thematic focus
Hamraah Foundation	India	Education, Environnement, Health, Human Rights, Skill Development.
words. rhythms. images	India	Innovative communication solutions and storytelling for social change.
Sukaar Welfare Organization	Pakistan	WASH, Food Security, Livelihood Development and Community Empowerment.
Kurram Welfare Home	Pakistan	Education, Health & Wash, Sustainable livelihoods, DRR & DRM, Protection, Gender Equality, women & Youth Empowerment

To excel ADRRN’s all the efforts and effectiveness through continued support, ADRRN has built upon the partnership with funding agencies and sectoral partners.

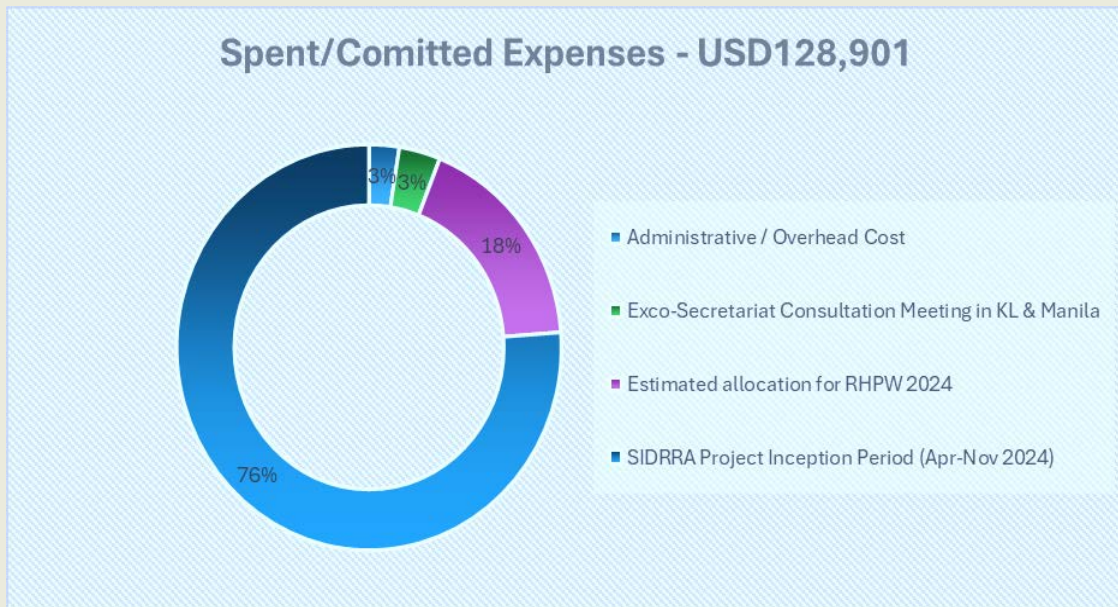


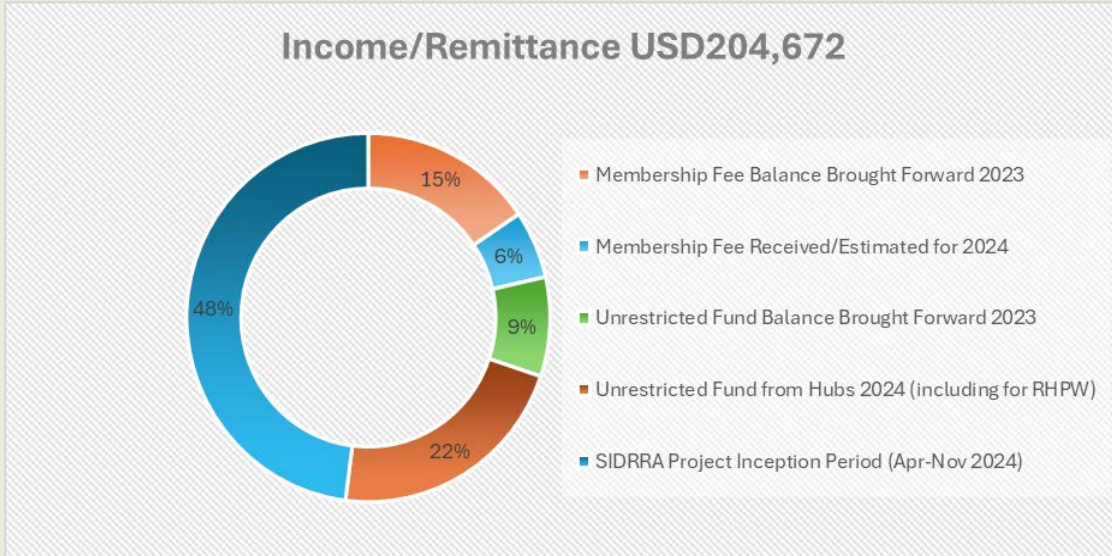
ADRRN Partnership



3.4 ADRRN: Financial update

As of November 2024, the total income/remittance of ADRRN is USD 204,672 whereas the spent/committed expenses accumulate to USD 128,901.





3.5 ADRRN’s project 2024

In 2024, ADRRN was able to secure funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) for the implementation of a regional program “Strengthening Inclusive Disaster Risk Governance for Climate Resilience in Asia (SIDRRA)” in partnership with the International Rescue Committee (IRC), Duryog Nivaran (DN) and Philippines Business for Social Progress (PBSP). The project duration is 4.5 years (April 2024 – September 2028) with allocated project budget for ADRRN USD 1,349,805.

The geographical focus for ADRRN through the project extends across its member countries including Iran, Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Maldives, Malaysia, Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, New Zealand, while IRC will primarily focus on Thailand and Philippines and DN will focus on South Asia Region, with field-level implementation in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Asian region for advocacy on inclusion.

The primary sectors of the intervention are environment and climate, gender equality and Disaster risk reduction (DRR).

Goal: Increased adaptability and strengthened resilience of communities at risk to climate change and disasters in Asia	
Outcomes	Sub-outcomes
Outcome 1: Regional networks amplify local voices and influence duty bearers to fulfil	The organizational capacity of regional networks is strengthened.
	Strengthened Regional Networks build evidence bases for improving participatory Disaster Risk Governance



commitments on inclusive climate change adaptation and DRR actions.	Regional networks use evidence and learning to amplify local voices to engage on policies and practice at the regional and international levels
	Regional networks have greater spheres of influence to engage and improve the decision-making of duty-bearers
Outcome 2: The power imbalances that exacerbate climate and disaster risks facing WMGB and other at-risk groups are understood and mitigated	Local/national authorities and representative organizations of vulnerable groups, especially women, have increased knowledge and skills on inclusive DRR actions
	Women, men, girls, and boys, and at-risk groups have increased access to inclusive protection services
	Women-led organizations are empowered to engage on multistakeholder platforms to advance inclusive DRR
Outcome 3: Communities, local government, and other stakeholders strengthen sustainable local-level adaptive actions.	Locally led adaptation initiatives are successfully implemented to support vulnerable communities' resilience to climate change
	Communities and CSOs have increased influence in the design and delivery of adaptation initiatives at the local and national levels
	Local, national and regional authorities have improved attitudes and values towards integrating inclusive DRR and locally led adaptation in planning and policy processes

The SIDRRA project aligns with ADRRN's ambitions and aspirations through:

- a. Strengthening Network's capacity**
 - The project supports strengthening the secretariat capacity.
 - The project supports the development and implementation of policies, SOPs and frameworks
 - The project supports the activation and strengthening of hubs.
- b. Strengthening the evidence-based advocacy**
 - The project has incorporated the scope of locally led adaptation initiatives
 - Scope of evidencing from local solutions to reduce negative impact of climate change
 - Thereby, supporting evidence-based advocacy.
- c. Amplifying CSO voices**
 - The regional networks will use evidence and learning to amplify local voices to engage on policies and practice at the regional and international level.





3.6 Mercy Malaysia and CDP: 25 years in making

The ADRRN's secretariat is operated by MERCY Malaysia and further supports the network to provide necessary coordination/support in financial and accounting matters. This year, Mercy Malaysia, celebrated its 25th anniversary in September 2024. The international humanitarian conference witnessed the participation of ADRRN's executive committee and other ADRRN members as a speaker during the event.



3.7 ADRRN at APMCDRR 2024

Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR 2024), a one of its kind conferences held between 14 – 18 October 2024 in Manila, Philippines is a joint platform to review the implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 at the regional level. The conference brought together diverse stakeholders to learn, share and progress actionable commitments. Under the conference's themes and objectives, it highlighted range of needs and opportunities for advancing SFDRR 2015-2030, from legal foundations and investments and developing finance mechanism to navigating balance between economic growth and disaster threats, multi stakeholders' coordinated approach, social and technological inclusivity, localization and capacity enhancement etc. for leveraging human rights.

Standing on ADRRN's strategic objective of continuing to be a leading representative platform with increased outreach involving a larger number of NGOs and local CSOs in the region, facilitating effective implementation of global frameworks at the national and local level and facilitate disaster risk governance and enhance accountability and enhancing range of knowledge and practice on resilience, Asian Disaster Reduction and response Network (ADRRN) shared important ways forward to advance SFDRR 2015-2023 to the diverse range of stakeholders' at the conference.

Through multiple stakeholder's consultations/surveys, ADRRN proposed key actions through CSOs commitment to action including keeping the community resilience at the center, capacity sharing for tangible change, policy coherence for local action, partnerships and collaboration for solving the unsolved and monitoring progress and addressing gaps.

In addition, to celebrate and amplify the local champions, ADRRN and its localization hub honored and felicitated the exceptional local champions at a special Asia Local Leaders Forum for Disaster Resilience (ALL4DR) event at APMCDRR 2024.

ADRRN's exhibition booth, participation in the Philippines' CSO's Summit on DRR and other social media campaign were the key route for ADRRN to craft spaces for local leaders, advocate the policy needs and its translation into local action, strengthen collaboration among all stakeholders, raise awareness and learn and share the experiences on the objectives of APMCDRR 2024.

3.8 Civil Society stakeholder group consultation for APMCDRR 2024

ADRRN is one of the major civil society conveners in Asia. As a part of local level action in the Asia Pacific, ADRRN works for and supports empowering civil societies in bringing global policy decisions down to the



local level, building social accountability at different levels. ADRRN further supports the propagation of grassroots innovation. To reaffirm ADRRN’s commitment towards the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the local level, ADRRN is continuing its role as convener and the chair of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) stakeholders. The stakeholder’s consultation session was a part of the drafting process for the official submission of the civil society group statement at APMCDRR 2024.

3.9 CSO commitment to Action 2024: Addressing hotspots of vulnerabilities to advance SFDRR

The survey [here](#) administered by the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN), followed by consultation [here](#) before the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR), revealed key gaps the region faces in its pursuit to enhance resilience against growing disaster risks. These risks are often exacerbated by underlying factors that lead to hotspots of vulnerabilities, disproportionately affecting marginalized and intersectional communities. Climate change impacts, with intensified hydro-meteorological and climatological disasters such as floods and droughts, severely affect marginalized communities with relatively high vulnerabilities, including exposure to hazards due to factors such as socio-economic status, gender, disability, and geographic location.





The CSOs commitment to Action 2024 [here](#) proposed actions, recommendations and implementation strategy:

Actions	Implementation strategy
Community resilience at the center	<p>Intensify awareness campaigns and educational programs on location-specific disaster risks, and preparedness to mitigate losses at the local level, ensuring that messages are accessible to marginalized communities, language differences, and disability needs.</p> <p>Organize simulation drills and exercises to integrate diverse community voices, in both rural and urban communities, to strengthen preparedness and response capacities, including first aid and early evacuations against increasing risks from climate variability.</p> <p>Empower communities with location-specific, inclusive anticipatory action planning, with linkages to early warning information, to protect vulnerable populations, including those facing multiple and overlapping risks</p>
Capacity sharing for Tangible change	<p>Uplift training programs on disaster risk reduction, especially for vulnerable groups, to understand specific know-how on how to mitigate disaster impact to safeguard their settlement and livelihood and ensure that knowledge transfer is equitable and accessible</p> <p>Share capacities among CSOs on research and evidence-based approach to risk reduction, including local and indigenous knowledge</p> <p>Integrate adaptation to climate risks with support to sustainable livelihood initiatives and local ecosystems to enhance community resilience by promoting inclusive access to resources and opportunities.</p>
Policy coherence for local action	<p>Collaborate with policymakers to integrate inclusive disaster risk reduction into national and local development plans and encourage budget allocation for locally led disaster risk reduction initiatives</p> <p>Promote inclusive and locally driven risk reduction that integrates with social welfare and protection mechanisms, with the active participation of women, youth, and marginalized groups in planning and implementation.</p> <p>Track progress and evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the disaster risk reduction initiatives in various countries, and actively share the findings with all stakeholders.</p>
Partnerships and collaboration for solving the unsolved	<p>Further strengthen partnerships with local and national government agencies, private sector, research/academic institutions, and local community-based groups to identify and scale effective risk reduction strategies.</p> <p>Proactively adopt innovative technologies for disaster risk reduction that are accessible to all segments of society, including early warning systems, risk mapping/monitoring, and risk communication tools to enhance local resilience.</p> <p>Create linkages with disaster data management with locally led risk reduction actions, ensuring that data is disaggregated by gender, disability and socioeconomic status to inform equitable interventions and actively share learnings of ‘what works’ across boundaries.</p>
Monitoring progress and addressing gaps	<p>Enhancing resilience is a whole-of-society effort, and CSOs will monitor where it is working and where it is not, and proactively voice out when the gaps or disparities are identified.</p> <p>Collect and disseminate the progress of CSO efforts that highlight the differential experiences of vulnerability across communities, including additional and/or alternative resources mobilized for local action.</p>



ADRRN

	Monitor the identified ‘vulnerability hotspots’ in the region, and report back how the risk reduction efforts are impacting the vulnerability at the next APMCDRR in 2026, ensuring that lessons learned inform future initiatives.
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3.10 The Asia-Pacific Local Leaders Forum for Disaster Resilience (APLL4DR) 2024

To celebrate and amplify the incredible efforts of the local heroes, the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN) and its localization hub, hosted by – Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society (SEEDS), announced, launched and honored the exceptional local champions as speakers at the Asia Pacific local leaders’ Forum for Disaster Resilience event (APMCDRR) 2024. Individuals who are at the forefront of local leadership in enhancing disaster resilience in the Asia-Pacific region shared their personal experiences and were felicitated at the special Asia Local Leaders Forum for Disaster Resilience (ALL4DR) event at APMCDRR on 14th October 2024, in Manila, Philippines. Under the theme “Recognizing, Linking, and Enhancing the Power of Local Leadership,” the APLL4DR Awards honored four exceptional local champions in climate action and disaster resilience.



a. [Ms. Maria Fe Maravillas \(Philippines\)](#)

Ms. Fe was honored for her work in inclusive transportation services through the Accessible Transportation Mobile Service (ATRAMS) initiative. ATRAMS transforms how communities include people with disabilities in disaster preparedness and response.

“Disability is not a problem, accessibility is. The resilience is when no one is left behind” – Maria Fe Maravillas

b. [Ms. Yustina Wardani \(Indonesia\)](#)

Ms. Wardani was honored for developing an inclusive disaster preparedness educational park, where persons with psychosocial disabilities and their caregivers find a place to heal and prepare for future disasters.

“By working together with mental health support and disaster education, we can build stronger, more resilient community” - Ms. Yustina Wardani

c. [Mr. VV Sanjeevan \(India\)](#)



Mr. Sanjeevan was honored for the creation of a green belt, planting 75,000 casuarina trees to safeguard the coastline from erosion and act as a barrier against tsunami waves.

“Our community may be small, but we have come together to create jobs, empower and build resilience for the future.” - Mr. VV Sanjeevan

d. Ms. Zenith Ballerta (Philippines)

Ms. Ballerta was honored for her initiative using Indigenous knowledge about herbal medicine to promote health and well-being and for promoting a hub for disaster risk reduction within the community.

“Our goal is simple: to heal and protect”. By combining our traditional knowledge with modern approaches, we strengthen our community and preserve our heritage - Ms. Zenith Ballerta

3.11 Voices of Resilience campaign at AMPCDRR 2024

To bring forward the voices of our network members and to energize our participation at the AMPCDRR, ADRRN launched the ‘Voices of Resilience - #DRRinAction’ campaign 2 months before the conference. As part of the campaign, a call for entries was put out for videos and photos that captured the various activities, efforts, and challenges around climate action and disaster risk resilience. The objective of the campaign was to encourage members and other organizations and individuals outside of the network to share how they are contributing to the disaster risk reduction space with a focus on local action, community leadership, and innovations. The call for entries was publicized through the ADRRN social media handles, WhatsApp groups, Substack mailing list, and personalized emails to our members. We also reached out to other partner networks such as GNDR, ICVA, PIANGO, etc. to publicize the call for entries. ADRRN Hubs, such as the Localization Hub, also supported sharing information about the call for entries to a wider audience. The call for entries saw about 25 entries from various organizations and countries in the region. The entries were summarised into a short video that was featured at the CSO Consultation. The video can be viewed [here](#). Selected entries to the campaign can be viewed on [this playlist](#) on our YouTube channel. Furthermore, all entries were also featured at the ADRRN booth that was set up at the Marketplace as part of the conference.



3.12 8th WSDN International Conference



The World Society for Disaster Nursing is a global platform dedicated to advancing disaster nursing practices and strengthening community resilience. During the 8th WSDN international conference, ADRRN supported the inaugural Dr. Yuko Kuroda Memorial Award for entrepreneurship in community resilience.

3.13 Response Innovation LabX24 Global Summit in Kathmandu 2024

Response Innovation Lab (RIL) is a collaborative initiative between Civic, World Vision International, Oxfam International, Save the Children International and the Danish Refugee Council. RIL platforms are designed to be largely demand-driven and have worked on addressing challenges from nearly all recognized humanitarian sectors.

RIL hosted the RILx24 Global summit between 17-19 September 2024 in Kathmandu, Nepal, bringing together over 200 participants from 25 countries in the summit to exchange insights and ideas on how to improve the testing and scaling of innovation in humanitarian and fragile setting. The 3 days event was designed to address, (a) how effective innovative ecosystems can be built, grown and sustained in humanitarian responses and context and (b) What sort of business models offer social innovators the best chance to achieve scale and sustainability when serving affected or vulnerable populations.





During the summit, ADRRN joined the panel discussion on how humanitarian actors can support a response innovation ecosystem. The highlights shared by ADRRN are as follows:



Global events directly impact local communities and collaboration, and partnerships are essential to driving innovation



Placing the community at the center of all efforts is the key



There is a need for local research and evidence to identify science-based solutions



Acknowledging local knowledge is inevitable to create a sustainable, lasting impact

3.14 Contribution to Book Chapter on Gender Responsive Climate Action and Sustainable DRR Solutions

Furthermore, to advance the collective voices and climate actions, ADRRN also supported the book launch of “Warming Mountains”: Implication for Livelihood and Sustainability during Pakistan’s Pathway to Development book launch event. ADRRN’s Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Advisor, Kosar Bano, contributed a thought-provoking chapter titled "Bridging the Divide: Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Pakistan’s Climate Crises" to this book. In her chapter, Kosar highlights the critical intersection of the climate crisis and gender, focusing on how climate change disproportionately affects women and marginalised groups in mountainous regions of Pakistan. The chapter also includes key findings on the impacts of climate crises and practical recommendations to advance gender-responsive climate action and grassroots resilience. This book chapter embodies the expertise and critical perspectives that ADRRN members bring to advancing inclusive and sustainable disaster risk reduction solutions.

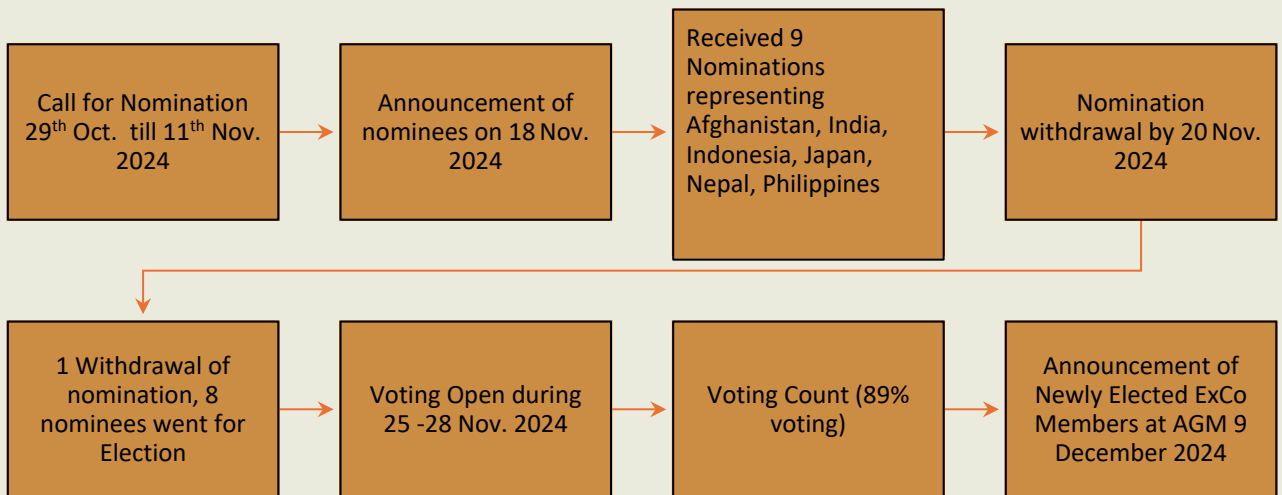
4. The New Beginning: Election and introduction of the New ADRRN Executive members

4.1 Election procedure

For the selection of ADRRN’s new Executive Committee members, ADRRN followed the following election process. Some of the keynotes from the election process are as follows:

- ADRRN’s election committee was formed, and the voting link was created using Google Form

- AGM representatives of the full member organization are the voting representatives
- The voters were contacted further to orient them about the voting link
- There was a scope that if no representatives are joining the AGM from any of the full members organisations, the head of the organisation or their assigned focal point would receive the link
- Each voter could only submit the vote once
- Each voting representative selected exactly 7 candidates out of 8 nominees listed in the voting form
- The votes were collected through online and office forms, and fully ensuring the anonymity.



The ADRRN’s Executive Committee Members jointly agreed on the following positions:



Takeshi Komino: The Chairperson of ADRRN

Takeshi Komino is the board Member and General Secretary of CWS Japan, which he founded during the 2011 East Japan Earthquake response. He is a key figure in GNDR Regional Advisory Group and has led humanitarian efforts across Asia and co-leads the Japan CSO Coalition for DRR and Tokyo Innovation hub of ADRRN. Mr. Komino, who has previously contributed to ADRRN as Vice Chair and Secretary-

General of ADRRN, has led the strategy development of ADRRN and is leading the network.



Mayfourth D. Luneta: The Vice Chair of ADRRN

Mayfourth D. Luneta is the Deputy Executive Director of the Centre for Disaster Preparedness. With nearly 25 years in the organization, she champions community-led actions. Skilled in capacity building, she focuses on marginalized populations, remaining grounded and committed to advocating for the organization’s core agenda and prioritizing the most vulnerable in her efforts. Previously, Mayforth

contributed as an executive member at ADRRN.



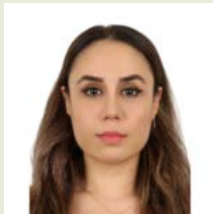
Anastasia Maylinda Titilestari: The Secretary General of ADRRN

Anastasia Maylinda Titilestari has been a senior manager at YEU since 2015. She has managed over five emergencies across Indonesia. As Response Manager for 2018 Central Sulawesi earthquake, she ensured humanitarian standards were upheld. Currently YEU's Accountability Focal Point, she led its 2023 Core Humanitarian Standards self-assessment, emphasizing community resilience and principled action. Previously, Linda contributed as an executive member at ADRRN.



Hanan Hussain: The Treasurer of ADRRN

Hanan Hussain is the President of Sri Lanka's MFCD. He specializes in planning, finance, and climate adaptation. He holds a Master of Business Studies and a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Colombo, with additional qualifications in fund management, journalism, and poverty index design from UNDP and the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. Previously, Hanan contributed as an executive member at ADRRN.



Sameera Noori: The Executive Member of ADRRN

Sameera is a humanitarian professional with extensive experience in managing and coordinating projects focused on education, livelihood and community development in Afghanistan. With a deep understanding of local contexts, she specializes in program design, localization and strengthening local actors' roles in humanitarian efforts. Sameera has previously also served as Key executive member of ADRRN, contributing to strategic discussions and regional collaboration initiatives.



Sudhanshu S. Singh: The Executive member of ADRRN

Sudhanshu S. Singh, CEO of Humanitarian Aid International (HAI), is a seasoned humanitarian with 36+ years of global experience. He has led disaster responses, advanced localization, and contributed to key global processes like CHS, Grand Bargain, and A4EP. A published author, he advocates decolonizing aid systems worldwide. Mr. Singh, through HAI is hosting the drone hub for ADRRN.



Khadga Sen Oli: The Executive member of ADRRN

Khadga Sen Oli, Director of Communications and Knowledge Management at NSET, leads strategies on advocacy, outreach, and training. A certified disaster response instructor, he has contributed to UNICEF-EU policies, USAID programs, and massive public awareness campaigns. Previously, he worked in engineering and academia, fostering disaster risk reduction efforts in Nepal.



4.2 Insights from the outgoing bearer

- a. Dr. Amod Mani Dixit, the former chairperson of ADRRN thanked all the members of ADRRN. Dr. Dixit stated that the idea of forming a network started in 1998, in Kobe, Japan. Since then, attracting funds, strengthening the network and working with different actors have been the efforts of ADRRN. Community led solutions, advocating for policies that prioritize resilience and strengthening partnership are at the core of ADRRN and these will support all ADRRN's efforts.
- b. Datuk Dr. Heng Alik Chek remembered his 20 years at ADRRN while identifying that the funds had been the most critical part for the Network. He stated that networking is one of the most important factors to sustain any entity. At present, ADRRN has secured some funding and has the resources of its own. Dr. Heng further suggested the network and all members to stay prepared and self-dependent for the future.
- c. Ms. Meghan Chawla rejoiced in the remembrance of serving its members and the communities in the past years, through ADRRN. She further shared her good wishes to the new executive committee and the secretariat.

4.3 Insights from the newly elected members

- a. Mr. Takeshi Komino thanked all the outgoing executive committee members for showing their trust to the new executive committee. He further remembered that this will be the very first time in ADRRN that the founding members will not be a part of the executive committee. However, he shared his trust and willingness to continue the track of ADRRN's strategic objective.
- b. Ms Mayforth D. Luneta thanked everyone for the support and inspiration to do better. She further shared that being an executive committee member is more of a responsibility and more of involving others.
- c. Ms Anastasia Maylinda thanked everyone for showing the trust to the new executive member. She further shared that all ADRRN members/partners might have come from various countries and background, however, everyone is only a click away, which in turn has increased the hopes of ADRRN on building stronger partnerships across and beyond the region.
- d. Mr. Hannan Hussain thanked everyone and recalled how supportive ADRRN, and its members has been over the past years. The lessons and ideas that Mr. Hussain has learned in ADRRN, he has also been able to reflect them in his home country, in Sri Lanka. He further added that it is important to have innovative and new avenues from the collaborative learning of all.
- e. Ms Sameera Noori Thanked all and shared her interest in serving in the region and her home country Afghanistan, which is facing more challenging situations. She further added to contribute to ADRRN through learning and new ideas.



- f. Mr. Sudhanshu S Singh shared that, in the present context, there are many networks, however, only few are contributing with an impact, one of such networks is ADRRN. He shared his joy of being a part of ADRRN.
- g. Mr. Khadga Sen Oli thanked all. He stated that with the collaborative support and ideas of all members, ExCo and Secretariat, ADRRN will be able to expand and intensify its efforts. He assured us of furthering this process of advancement.

5. Hub Chronicles: Updates from ADRRN hubs

During the AGM, the ADRRN hubs shared about the progress of each hub and the areas of mutual support from ADRRN in the upcoming years. The details are as follows:

Name of the hub: Tokyo Innovation Hub, Japan	
Key achievements	Plans/ support required from ADRRN for 2025
20 innovations were newly supported out of which 57 innovations to date are under CLIP	Measuring and communicating the impact of community-led innovations Planning for the geographical expansion Planning for increased communication with potential country-level partners
An emerging number of innovations institutionalised or gained support from the local government	
Innovations are taking root in, and owned by communities	
Costed extension of the program between April 2025 – March 2026 was signed off	
The concept note of the next phase receiving positive feedback from the donor	
Name of the hub: Disaster Response and Preparedness Hub, Malaysia	
Key achievements	Plans/ support required from ADRRN for 2025
Active involvement in Mercy Malaysia International Humanitarian Conference 2024 and contributed as speaker for key session	Mercy Malaysia plans to conclude operation on the Disaster Preparedness Hub in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Reaffirmed the commitment to upholding the values and objective of ADRRN through ongoing contribution to the network initiative and collaboration.	
Name of the hub: Localization Hub, India	
Key achievements	Plans/ support required from ADRRN for 2025
Trained grassroots CSOs to become “Disaster Ready” Organizations	Creating a Knowledge Platform for CSOs in Asia on key emerging challenges including: - Early warning, heat action - Innovative Financial Products for affected communities - Building a common digital infrastructure for recording loss and damage
Developed an encyclopedia of localized humanitarian terminologies to bridge communication gaps	



Unlocking pathways for direct funding to local CSOs and communities, fostering autonomy and resilience.	
Celebration of Asian Local Leaders for Disaster Resilience – Manila 2024	
Building a digital platform where communities can report loss and damages in their own language	
Name of the hub: Quality and Accountability Hub, Pakistan	
Key achievements	Plans/ support required from ADRRN for 2025
Conducted regional level training of trainers on Quality and Accountability to affected population.	Continuation to the Q&A ToT
Name of the hub: Earthquake Risk Management Hub, Nepal	
Key achievements	Plans/ support required from ADRRN for 2025
Intellectual contribution towards the successful completion of the Tomorrow's Cities project.	Fundraising initiative to support the demeretrofitting of a house in the Philippines, focusing on vulnerable groups and communities.
Conducted training on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for experts in Taiwan.	Facilitate coordination among partner organizations and countries to organize a Training for Instructors (TFI) on Search and Rescue for DRR professionals.
Conducted Geospatial Information Management Training in partnership with Map Action.	Organize a series of learning and sharing workshops across host institutions facilitating ADRRN hubs, with each hub hosting a one-day event.
Carried out Joint research initiatives with SAJAG	
Name of the hub: Drone Hub, India	
Key achievements	Plans/ support required from ADRRN for 2025
Initiated the development of the first ever proposal for drone hub.	Reach more areas prone to disasters through the technological capabilities.
	Host a comprehensive forum showcasing drone applications in DRR and CCA with at least 20 organizations demonstrating their work.
Drone hub was officially designated which strengthens the hub's position in disaster management landscape	Initiate joint projects with at least two ADRRN member organizations, fostering cross-border cooperation in drone-based disaster management solutions.
	Conduct a thorough evaluation of hub's initiatives' impact on disaster resilience, identifying areas for improvement and future focus
Conducted first Community of Practice (CoP) on drone technology bringing together five different organizations and experts from the technology sector.	Funding support for training and capacity building programs.
	Facilitate partnerships with drone hubs across Asia
Built a comprehensive database of organization working in drone technology	Engage government bodies for favorable drone regulation
	Organize a regional workshop on drone technology in disaster management.
Name of the hub: Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Hub, Philippines	



Key achievements	Plans/ support required from ADRRN for 2025
Supported community led actions and partnerships to ensure resilience	Preparation for the new ideas/proposals
Supported the promotion of the communities' rights to safe, resilient and sustainable future	Conduct training about what is new in CBDRRM
	Putting together the stories and experiences for knowledge exchange opportunities.

The presentations from the hubs were followed by insights from all participants, as follows::

- a. Recommended to develop Terms of references for those seeking hub membership with ADRRN
- b. Complementarities within hubs and working together with the members is essential to amplify the impact, enhance outreach and garner resources.
- c. Recommended to have the scope for pool funding, joint proposals and bidding consortia approach.
- d. Recommended ADRRN to conduct learning and sharing events across hubs.
- e. A separate hub-space, to be created for the hubs to meet in regular intervals (remote and in-person), review and plan activities together.
- f. Each hub could sponsor training for all members depending on their expertise or funded by a project.
- g. Robust monitoring and evaluation and financing should be developed.
- h. Identify and unlock the pathways for hub's direct funding to local CSOs.

The hub-wise suggestions and recommendation shared by the participants of AGM are as follows:

Hubs	Specific suggestions/recommendation
Innovation hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint collaboration for communicating the impact of community-led innovations - "Scale up" the innovations to widespread practices - Institutionalized innovations (collective sharing and engagement in the country network - Ensure innovation hubs have some seed support in the initial years - In addition to supporting members' innovations, create initiatives to share proven innovations and support replication.
Disaster Response and preparedness hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prioritise shock responsive cash programming and anticipatory action response - Volunteers support
Localization hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working together with other hubs to better communicate the impact of locally led actions.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the membership criteria for localization hub
Quality and Accountability hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Important to have safeguarding policy of ADRRN members - Capacity building on revised CHS - Practices on institutionalizing Q&A in NGO platforms.
Earthquake Risk Management hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify scope of monitoring earthquake related innovations of innovation hub - Identify complementarities with hubs and the Japanese government's private-public consortium for promoting EWS in Asia Pacific, especially by involving local communities. - Preparation of disaster loss repositories, early warning systems.
Drone hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scale up response and permissions from government system (in context to India) - Identify potential collaboration with Indonesia and Philippines initiation through exchanging drone regulation and policy overview. - Explore collaboration with existing networks, documenting case studies from ADRRN
Community based Disaster Risk Reduction and Management hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify opportunities to scale up joint collaboration and mutual activities. - Develop database of CBDRRM experience of all members

6. Collaborating for resilience: Experience with and expectations to ADRRN – Insights from Partners

This session was dedicated to sharing the experience with and expectation to ADRRN. Insights from the ADRRN partners was shared during this session. Mr. Takeshi Komino, the chairperson of ADRRN during the session reiterated that the major aspect of being a network is its members and the works of the members. At the same time, it is also very important for the network to have an enabling environment which allows the network to expand its impact and hence, partnership is crucial. As such, this session during AGM allowed an opportunity to hear from its partners.



ADRRN partners emphasised the importance of amplifying local voices, leveraging synergies and strengthening networks. They highlighted the importance of making community-driven DRR practical while drawing inspiration from collective action, shared learning, and collaboration. A few video bytes from partners and ADRRN members can be viewed [here](#).

The experiences shared are as follows:

a. International Rescue Committee (IRC)

- Working with ADRRN has provided engaging opportunities to work with multiple partners.
- The collaboration and partnership that ADRRN brings has been strongly grounded in communities.
- The members of the network are committed to the communities and the sense of collaboration completely relates to the work of all.
- ADRRN as a part of the consortium partner to IRC, has a lot to offer to the consortium and to the broader humanitarian community throughout the region to create spaces and opportunities for local voices to really be heard and replicating the voices of those communities.
- ADRRN can further focus on drawing forward the synergies that are already there between the different networks for a much bigger and broader impact in the region.

b. Duryog Nivaran (DN)

- The networks such as ADRRN, DN, are committed to promoting alternative perspective mainly on disasters and vulnerabilities. Hence, DN brings the gender and intersectionality element in disaster risk reduction. Similarly, understanding the society, risks and livelihood, risk governance and accountability, regional cooperation and capabilities is important.
- DN developed its strategy last year, bringing the community and disaster risk reduction at the center. The 3 main pillars are community, gender and intersectionality and governance.



- In the joint project with IRC and ADRRN, there is a lot to learn and share and opportunities to build as a network.

c. Elrha

- ADRRN's approach of shared ownership for collective impact is an effective way and the way forward for humanitarian action and disaster risk reduction.
- It is important to keep learning together throughout the next years as the center of disaster risk reduction and disaster management is community work, which ADRRN is already leading.

d. UN OCHA

- UN OCHA is one of the founding members of ADRRN. Being connected with ADRRN and the extent to which ADRRN and UN OCHA have been collaborating throughout the years, is complimentary. And, it is a good opportunity to revisit this partnership and identify more concrete ways of working together.
- The works of ADRRN hubs has provided a lot of interesting ideas to work on Accountability for Affected Population (AAP).
- The amount of advocacy working with local organizations, Civil Society Organization, that ADRRN is doing in the region is in line with the accountability component of UN OCHA and has further contributed to great collaboration.
- For a more systematized approach, it is important to identify ideas to build repository of a larger community of practice and linking it up to the UN and other organizations with similar efforts. This might further support in securing funding and enhance the continuous learning process.
- The innovations of ADRRN can serve as an inspiration for UN agencies, such as localization hub's ideas on requesting communities to write their own stories.
- The collaborative work of UN OCHA and ADRRN will sincerely contribute to the agenda to help Asia be more resilient.

e. Network for Empowered Aid Response (NEAR)

- ADRRN is a founding member of NEAR. At present, NEAR is working around movement building. The experiences of ADRRN hub and NEAR initiatives can bring synergies to networks' efforts and build this momentum.

f. Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in humanitarian action (ALNAP)

- ADRRN has been a strong platform to build connections and has inspired ALNAP to do more at the local and regional level.
- Valuable research and learning exchanges are most important and need to be carried forward in the years to come.

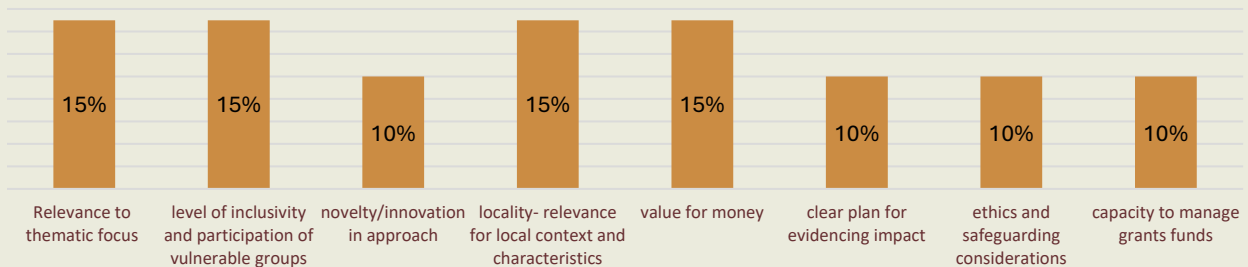


7. Flagship program for 2025: Locally led climate adaptation grants

The locally led climate adaptation grants through the SIDRRA project were introduced to the participants, and the feedback/suggestions were collected on the standard operating procedure and call for proposal. Through the SIDRRA project, for Year 1, ADRRN has allocated USD 80,000 for grant size of up to a maximum of USD 20,000 and for the period of maximum of 12 months, that can be secured by ADRRN members through a competitive tender, which is aimed to launch in January 2025.

Eligibility criteria	Thematic focus
Must be ADRRN members from Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Maldives, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines and Sri Lanka	Proposals for locally led climate adaptation initiatives that strengthen community resilience while ensuring meaningful inclusion of vulnerable groups. Example may include (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community based Early Warning System - Climate-resilient agriculture practices - Water resource management - Eco-system-based adaptation approaches - Extreme heat adaptability measures
Must have demonstrated experience in climate adaptation and inclusive approaches	
Must have demonstrated capacity to manage grants of a similar size	
Must have the capacity to implement proposed activities within time frame	
Not currently receiving SIDA funding	
Application process	Selection process
Submit the completed application form via online platform/email	Eligibility screening by ADRRN secretariat
Attach a detailed budget and work plan	Technical review by expert panel
All proposals have to be submitted in English language	Final selection by ADRRN Executive Committee

Assessment Criteria



The queries and suggestions the participants and its addressal by ADRRN are follows:

Queries/suggestions	Response
Can a group of ADRRN members apply?	Yes, groups of all ADRRN members can apply and partnering with locally led organizations is encouraged.



What is the provision of in-kind contribution?	There is no in-kind support planned. However, if this funding can leverage other funding/co-financing, it is of benefit.
Suggestions	
Include health and climate related topics as it is community-based project	
Explore the possibilities of increasing the funding amount and considering weather conditions of different countries for the launching the call for proposal. In some countries, January brings about harsh cold climate, making it difficult to implement, likewise in June with the Monsoon.	
Incorporate an aspect of capacity building on disaster management, drills, poverty alleviation/reduction, retrofitting, safe zones etc.	
Mention the specific overhead cost that will be received and provide templates from budget and WP	
The assessment criteria in CfP for USD 20,000 is lengthy, suggested to reduce to maximum of 4-5 points and mention some of these points as mandatory including capacity to manage grants, ethics, inclusion, safeguarding etc)	
In CfP, disclose the type of due diligence expected and whether ADRRN, SIDA or IRC would do this.	
Replace “gender inclusive” with “gender transformative” and “adaptation” with “resilience”. The term “local” needs to be mentioned in CfP.	

8. Members café: Priority initiatives by members towards 2025

During the session, ADRRN’s 6 key approaches were shared with the participants that includes – localization, collaboration and partnerships, linking climate adaptation and disaster resilience, capacity enhancement through tangible mechanism, strengthening accountability and evidence and innovation. The participants, through the group shared their views of key approach and in relation to sharing suggestions/ideas to ADRRN, including keeping the hubs active. Some of the major suggestion received are as follows:

- Capacity sharing among members and hubs is essential
- Formulation of change based on community aspiration
- Ensuring funding reached to needed and allocated people through enhance transparency
- Strengthening accountability through building reporting culture and understanding its importance

9. Secretariat’s technical support: focusing on business development, GESI, MEAL and communication

Through the SIDRRA project, ADRRN is progressing with building the secretariat capacities. Some of the most recent developments/updates on business development, GESI, MEAL and communication were shared with all participants and suggestions were collected. The details are as follows:

9.1 ADRRN’s business development: Plan and progress till date

Plans	Progress
Fundraising in ADRRN’s own right	Donor pipeline set up, approach made to ADB
Partnership approach for joint funding with ADRRN or lead organization	Links established with E27 (Singapore) and Ohio University for potential collaboration



Membership income	18 new requests to join ADRRN after APMCDRR consultation
Events income	To be explored
Service provision	To be explored

9.2 ADRRN’s GESI: Current practices/strengths, capacity needs/challenges and opportunities

ADRRN’s GESI strategy aims to promote inclusivity and equality in disaster risk reduction efforts, characterized by: inclusive participation, capacity sharing, data driven decision making, policy advocacy and partnerships and collaboration.

Some of the GESI practices, challenges and opportunities of ADRRN members highlighted during the AGM are as follows:

Current practices/strengths	Capacity needs/challenges	Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are ongoing activities focused on GESI, most attention has primarily been directed toward gender issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of ideas how GESI can be incorporated in a context where GESI is a nation-wide barrier. eg: Afghanistan 	<p>Establishing a GESI-Focused Hub/Community of Practice Platforms: There was a strong call for the creation of a regional GESI-focused hub or network to facilitate collaboration among institutions and organizations working in this area. Such a network could serve as a platform for sharing best practices, resources, and innovative approaches to GESI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The concept of GESI, which encompasses a broader understanding of inclusion beyond just gender, remains relatively new in many contexts. Some efforts related to disability inclusion were noted; however, comprehensive strategies that address various marginalized groups are still lacking. 	<p>Capacity Building Initiatives: There is a critical need for holistic and comprehensive blended capacity-building programs that equip stakeholders with knowledge and skills related to GESI.</p>



	- Lack of GESI related policies in organizations and practice of available policies only for the due diligence process and not for GESI mainstreaming	
	- International Sanctions on countries limits GESI relates interventions in countries like Iran	Advocacy programs for such countries at various forums.
	- Need to consider displaced and undocumented people for effective GESI.	- Localize the early warning messages in line to the needs of different groups such as children, persons with disabilities, women.

9.3 ADRRN’s MEAL: current focus and identified areas of ADRRN’s support

ADRRN’s MEAL framework was finalized in 2024. The major focus of ADRRN’s MEAL framework is to enhance accountability and learning stands on ADRRN’s strategic objectives, strategic action areas and key approaches. The initial aspects where ADRRN is equipped to support its members, presented during the AGM (but not limited to) are:

- Providing accompaniment to partners/members to witness the progress of the network.
- Support in well defining of program goals, technical support and capacity building.
- Support quality and result based management of the programs.
- Ensure feedback and response mechanism and safeguard transparency.
- Support improved programming through effective evaluation.
- Provide all relevant information for program optimization.
- Amplify learning agenda(s).
- Include all possible opportunities where ADRRN can be utilized as a platform where members and stakeholders can co-learn, co-plan and co-produce solutions to ever increasing disaster risks in the region.

Some of the updates shared by the participants are follows:

- Has identify areas of improvement through project lesson learnt report – MFCD
- Project specific MEAL plan/framework and MEAL methodologies has been developed – NSET
- Designed MEAL policy through the participation of affected communities – NFD



- Has developed local innovation, strengthening women's leadership and decision making in disaster risk, particularly on local leadership and post disaster monitoring to identify the impacts – CDP
- Has conducted the data collection, progress tracking and post disaster monitoring to identify the impact and community led innovation partners meeting for knowledge sharing – CDP
- For accountability, appreciative inquiry processes in M&E for learning is conducted and has set of supporting organizational policies/norms- AIDMI
- Has MEAL policy, off site and on-site monitoring tools for project monitoring, in place accountability, learning and sharing mechanism in place – COAST
- Suggest for MEAL around public and community emergency and health – CIS
- Suggested for MEAL for extreme event – AIDMI
- Established skills lab to enhance staff's capacities – DCH Trust
- Establishing baselines for flagship program, setting outcomes in line with organizational goals – CFSI

Some of the suggestions mutually shared by the participants for MEAL (to all) are follows:

- Suggested for MEAL around public and community emergency and health – CIS
- Suggested for MEAL for extreme event – AIDMI
- Suggested linking hubs to specific Community of Practice (CoP)
- Conduct assessments on what is working well and the way to continue the efforts of hubs effectively.
- Develop and revisit the TOR and mechanism to monitor and evaluate the progress of the hubs.
- Ensure regular and effective reporting and sharing by the hubs.
- Continue information sharing and mutual learning and improvements.
- Create digital tools for M&E so that the local organization can use them, employ local people and local languages for monitoring and evaluation – DFY
- Develop a common platform where all organization can co-share and co-learn – DFY
- Conduct learning exchanges among innovators and indigenous people – CDP
- Documentation and publication of best practices (books, articles, short videos, films)
- Ensure participation of the community group in national, regional and global platform to directly share on their practices of resilience.
- Link local community groups to government programs for sustainability
- Develop repository on the local knowledge and practice on resilience.
- Involve local people in decision making process – NWHO
- Share the best practices and lesson learns with all stakeholders – MM, DP Net, Atullaya Foundation
- Ensure meaningful participation of stakeholders in relation to international framework and conduct evaluation assessment to track the progress – MM, DP Net, Atullaya Foundation.

9.4 ADRRN's Communication: Update, outreach channels, current focus and areas of support

ADRRN's communication strategy is in place, this year, together with the development of branding guidelines. And the visibility of network's activities is being leveraged through multiple channels. The key outreach channels of ADRRN are: website updates on key events, news, announcements, social media platforms such as LinkedIn, X, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube channels and Substack blogs.



The current focus of ADRRN’s communication and areas for support (but not limited to) are:

Current support	How ADRRN’s comm can support
Support visibility of ADRRN priorities and activities and strengthen network’s identity	Comms, visibility, and branding strategizing support
Promote member activities and highlight power of collaboration with partners.	Promote its members/partners activities through social media, website, blogs, and YouTube.
Support secretariat functions for advocacy, business development, capacity building, network strengthening etc.	Internal communications training for teams
Facilitate smoother communication between secretariat and members and other partners.	Build a shared communication resource pool for members with photos, templates, guidelines, etc.



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