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## Annual General Meeting 2025 Report



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## Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network

### 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.

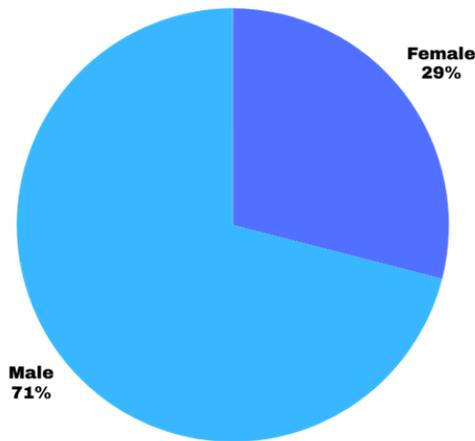
ADRRN has a [strategic plan 2021-2030](#) focused on “Transforming Asia to be the Most Resilient Region by 2030”. Furthermore, ADRRN functions through its 3 core strategic objectives:



- 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*: the effective implementation of global frameworks at the national and local level, and facilitate disaster risk governance and enhance accountability.
- c. *Knowledge*: Enhancing the range of knowledge and practice on resilience.

## 2. ADRRN Annual General Meeting 2025

ADRRN held its Annual General Meeting on December 7, 2025, in Bangkok, Thailand. 70 representatives from 51 member and partner organizations attended the meeting. The meeting was characterized by strong coordination among partners and members, summarizing 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.



**Fig 1: Gender Chart**

(Out of 70, 20 females and 50 male participated)

Afghanistan		4
Azerbaijan		1
Bangladesh		5
India		15
Indonesia		5
Iran		2
Japan		3
Malaysia		2
Myanmar		2
Nepal		8
Pakistan		12
Philippines		3
Sri Lanka		2
Thailand		1
United Kingdom		1
Yemen		1
Others		3
<b>Total</b>		<b>70</b>

**Fig 2: Country wise participation**

( 51 Org from 16 countries and others)



### 3. AGM Proceedings

The registration for the AGM 2024 started from 08:30-09:30 AM at Hotel Rembrandt, Bangkok, Thailand. The AGM also accommodated the online representation of its partners and members through a Zoom call. 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, a suggestion box, and the overall agenda of the AGM.

#### 3.1 Welcome by the General Secretary, ADRRN

Anastasia Maylinda Titilestari, General Secretary of ADRRN, formally welcomed all participants and presented the agenda for the day. She further emphasized that the AGM serves as a key platform for ADRRN, its members, partners, and regional hubs to reflect on the achievements and challenges of the past year, renew collaboration, and collectively determine strategic priorities moving forward.

#### 3.2 Opening remarks from the chairperson, ADRRN

The Chair expressed appreciation to World Vision Thailand for facilitating all visa letters, particularly for Afghan colleagues, and formally welcomed all participants to the AGM while acknowledging the contributions of the Secretariat, Executive Committee, and partner organizations. An update was provided on the Regional Humanitarian Partners Workshop (RHPW), beginning on the 8th, highlighting its evolution from the Regional Innovation Forum (RIF) and its growth from 200 to 500 participants. The Chair





reaffirmed ADRRN's identity as a collective movement rather than a traditional organization and emphasized the AGM as a key moment to review progress and set priorities for 2026, underscoring the significant expectations placed on the network and the importance of continued collaboration to strengthen resilience and meet these expectations.

### 3.3 ADRRN: A year in review

ADRRN's major year's achievement was highlighted through a short video. Watch the video [here](#). The announcement of the hub's display tables was made for co-sharing and connecting. Further, a quick snap of ADRRN's update was shared, described as below:

#### 3.3.1 LLA Grants

In 2025, ADRRN launched a grant-making facility under the SIDA-supported project “*Strengthening Inclusive Disaster Risk Governance for Climate Resilience in Asia (SIDRRA)*”. Following the discussions during the December 2024 AGM, a call for proposals accompanied by guidelines, thematic areas, FAQs, and eligibility criteria was finalized and issued. ADRRN received 25 applications from six countries, of which 4 were selected: SEEDS (India), words rhythms images (India), YAKKUM Emergency Unit (Indonesia), and DiMaNN (Nepal). The projects focused respectively on coastal bio shields, community storytelling for action, locally led climate preparedness and adaptation, and community-driven water resource management.

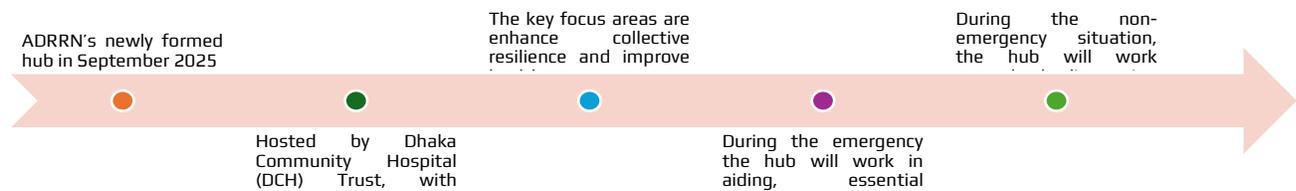
#### 3.3.2 Hub Convening

ADRRN reported the operation of eight thematic hubs across the region, including Community-Based DRRM (Philippines), Earthquake Risk Management (Nepal), Digital Storytelling (India), Drones (India), Leadership in Emergency Action and Surge (India), Localization (India), Innovation (Japan), and Quality and Accountability (Pakistan). Notably, the ERM hub and Digital Storytelling hubs, together with the Quality and Accountability Hub, are leading projects on seismic resilience in marginalized communities and the Digital Storytelling Showcase for RHPW 2025, respectively.

#### 3.3.3 New Hub



ADRRN also introduced its newest platform, the Health and Response Networking Hub hosted by Dhaka Community Hospital (DCH) Trust, Bangladesh, expanding the network's thematic focus on regional health preparedness and response.



### 3.3.4 *HELP Library Announcement*

ADRRN formally announced the launch of the ADRRN Knowledge Hub on ALNAP's HELP Library. The HELP Library serves as an online resource hub designed to enhance program quality, strengthen evidence-informed practice, and facilitate organizational learning. It functions as a dynamic, continuously updated platform where members can both contribute resources and access tools with ease. Members were encouraged to review the HELP Library and contact the Communications helpdesk for any further information or support related to how they can contribute their resources. Take a look at ADRRN's Knowledge Hub on the HELP Library [here](#).

### 3.3.5 *Membership Update*

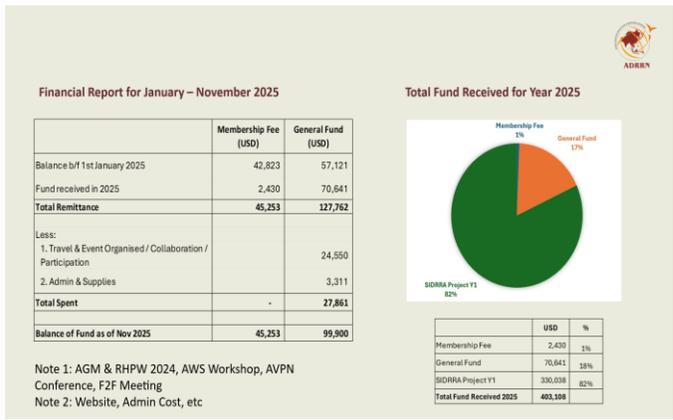
ADRRN reported a notable expansion of ADRRN's membership in 2025, with the network growing to 84 member organizations across 18 countries. Of these, 74 are active members and 10 hold observer status, reflecting a broad and diverse regional representation. Membership increased substantially from 64 organizations in 2024 to 84 in 2025, demonstrating strengthened engagement, increased visibility of ADRRN's initiatives, and rising interest in regional collaboration and locally led action. A visual overview of newly admitted members was presented, highlighting the varied technical expertise and thematic strengths they bring to the network. This continued growth reinforces ADRRN's commitment to fostering an inclusive and dynamic membership base that contributes to collective resilience and improved disaster risk governance across Asia.



Country	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2012	2013	2014	2016	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	# of Members
Afghanistan			1	3											1							5
Bangladesh		2			1								1					1			1	6
Cambodia						1	1															2
India	1		2					2	2						2				2	2	3	16
Indonesia				1	2				1				1									2
Iran														1								1
Japan									1							1	1					3
Malaysia	1																		1			2
Maldives								1		1												2
Myanmar										1												1
Nepal	1													3			1	1			4	10
Pakistan			1		2			1	1		1				1		1	1		2	8	19
New Zealand						1																1
Philippines				2			1															3
Singapore																					1	1
Sri Lanka							1	1														2
Taiwan				1																		1
Yemen																		1			1	2
<b># of Members</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>84</b>

### 3.3.6 Finance Update

ADRRN presented a summary of ADRRN’s finances for January–November 2025, noting that funds received during the year were allocated to major activities such as the AGM and RHPW 2024, the AWS Workshop, the AVPN Conference, and key in-person coordination meetings. Essential operational costs, including administration and website management, were also covered. Overall, the update confirmed sound financial stewardship, with expenditures aligned to ADRRN’s strategic priorities and program commitments.





### 3.4 Getting to Know Each Other

During the session, ADRRN members, partners, and hub representatives were given dedicated time to reconnect and strengthen their professional relationships. The open-floor, informal format encouraged meaningful interaction, allowing individuals to engage in dialogue, exchange experiences, and better understand each other's ongoing work. This approach fostered a collaborative atmosphere and helped build a more cohesive and informed network across the participating organizations.

### 3.5 Panel discussion: “Collaborations that work – Partnering for Impact in the Humanitarian Reset.”

A panel discussion was held during the AGM, guided by questions from a pre-event survey to address priority topics identified by members and partners. The session featured subject matter experts, including Vincent Omuga(OCHA), Dr. Dharam Uprety (Practical Action Nepal), Dr. Manu Gupta, Ikue Ikie(CWS Japan), Dr. Avianto Amri, Sameera Noori, and Malen Serato (online).



The key thematic summary and key insights are summarized below:



Synthesis	Key Insights
<b>Changing Humanitarian Landscape &amp; Rationale for the Reset</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Humanitarian needs are rising while global funding declines due to geopolitical shifts and donor domestic priorities.</li> <li>- Previous reforms (e.g., Grand Bargain) fell short, requiring a reset focused on efficiency, reduced duplication, and clearer comparative advantages.</li> <li>- The shift includes renewed emphasis on localization, cash assistance, and anticipatory action.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Current financing models are no longer sustainable.</li> <li>- Needs are increasing; donor interests are changing</li> <li>- Efficiency and leveraging national capacities are central.</li> <li>- Regional funds and anticipatory models offer scalable solutions.</li> </ul>
<b>Localization, Shifting Power &amp; Redefining Leadership</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local actors called for meaningful leadership roles supported by direct funding, decision-making power, and long-term capacity investment.</li> <li>- Donor reluctance, under-resourced local systems, and political restrictions, especially in fragile contexts, continue to impede progress.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Localization must include authority,</li> <li>- Direct funding to local organizations remains limited.</li> <li>- Effective transition requires system-wide capacity support.</li> <li>- Excluding national authorities creates operational gaps.</li> </ul>
<b>Coordination Architecture &amp; National Leadership</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transitions from UN-led to nationally led coordination are complex and often rushed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transitions are politically sensitive and often under-resourced.</li> <li>- Civil society needs protected spaces for coordination.</li> </ul>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Countries like Indonesia face challenges rebuilding inclusive systems.</li> <li>- Civil society requires safe, independent spaces for alignment and critical reflection without political influence.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reforms must reflect actual local capacities.</li> <li>- Need for strategic government engagement.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Climate Crisis, Disaster Trends &amp; Resilience Integration</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Climate risks are escalating, yet the reset insufficiently incorporates climate science.</li> <li>- Humanitarian planning must integrate anticipatory action, long-term climate scenarios, and ecosystem impacts.</li> <li>- Community-based climate adaptation demonstrates effective bottom-up resilience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Climate extremes require integrated humanitarian–climate action.</li> <li>- Shifts are needed from reactive relief to resilience-building.</li> <li>- Anticipatory and community-led models are effective.</li> <li>- Planning must include future climate scenarios, not only current risks.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Decolonisation, Mindset Shifts &amp; Regional Leadership</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Panelists noted persistent colonial-era mindsets, with many countries still looking outward for leadership.</li> <li>- A meaningful reset requires regional self-reliance, stronger local narratives, and recognition of longstanding Asian-led humanitarian initiatives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mindset and narrative change are essential.</li> <li>- Regional actors must position themselves as leaders, not beneficiaries.</li> <li>- Decolonization and localization must be mutually reinforced.</li> <li>- Strong communication and regional solidarity are critical.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Community-Led Action, Bottom-Up Innovation &amp; Funding Models</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community-led approaches such as micro-grants, community-led response,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Communities are primary responders and central to the reset.</li> </ul>



<p>and innovation hubs demonstrate rapid, relevant, and sustainable solutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Empowering communities enhances resilience, strengthens local governance, and reduces dependency on external actors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Micro-grants and local innovation strengthen resilience.</li> <li>- Empowered communities influence local governance positively.</li> <li>- Supporting bottom-up coordination is key to transforming funding models.</li> </ul>
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### 3.6 ADRRN LLA Grants Storytelling

ADRRN showcased the locally led adaptation pilot projects through quick video storytelling. The LLAs are being implemented under the SIDA-funded SIDRRA consortium SEEDS (India), words. rhythms. images (India), YAKKUM Emergency Unit (Indonesia), and DiMaNN (Nepal). The projects focused respectively on coastal bioshields, community storytelling for action, locally led climate preparedness and adaptation, and community-driven water resource management. A short video story on each of the LLA projects can be accessed [here](#).

*Climate-related hazards are increasing, underscoring the need to prevent them from becoming disasters by strengthening adaptation and mitigation efforts – Takeshi*

The session was opened by the chairperson of ADRRN, highlighting the importance of the locally led initiatives.

The locally led adaptation initiative aims to identify effective community-based practices, generate evidence, and use this learning to influence policy and collective action. By shifting from reactive to proactive approaches, the program seeks to support scalable solutions. The speaker expressed a strong interest in learning from grantees about what works and why.



*During the project's early days, a Dalit women's group in the village gathered to test the new rainwater harvesting system. When the first tank filled after a brief monsoon shower, one of the women remarked that it was the first time in years she did not have to walk hours to fetch drinking water. That moment simple but transformative quickly caught the attention of ward officials, who later requested the same model for neighboring communities, proving how a small, community-led initiative can spark broader government adoption- Dayasagar Shrestha, DiMaNN Nepal*

*Community knowledge regarding hazard and risk is highly empirical and accumulated through generations - Agnes Meiria Manggo - YEU Indonesia*

*In a coastal community facing sea-level rise and beach erosion, a tree-planting project not only provided immediate protection but also empowered residents to organize collectively, connect with government schemes, and pursue broader aspirations—demonstrating the transformative potential of locally led adaptation - Dr. Manu Gupta, SEEDS India*



*In a community unfamiliar with the risks of heat waves, children learned about climate resilience through translated educational books. Guided by local teachers and experts, they began to understand the problem, devise practical coping strategies, and document their solutions transforming awareness into action that could benefit not only their community but also others facing similar challenges – Ajay Govind, WRI India*

### 3.7 Members' Café: Priority Initiatives by Members Towards 2026



As part of the interactive segment, ADRRN facilitated a structured group exercise to promote engagement and peer learning. Participants were divided into six groups; each was assigned a thematic area aligned with ADRRN's strategic agenda and asked to reflect on their organizational efforts and identify opportunities for collective action. The discussions highlighted good practices and areas for strengthened collaboration. Key points from the session are summarized below:

Knowledge sharing and collaborative learning	
Ongoing efforts	Proposed collaborative actions
Members highlighted efforts to build collective evidence on risks, resilience, and protection, supported by capacity-building and multi-stakeholder engagement.	Proposed collaborative actions included continued evidence consolidation, developing a regional or global advocacy paper, strengthening safe programming, and enhancing the capacities of local organizations and government actors.
Climate resilience	
Organizations reported initiatives such as climate-resilient farming, contributions to climate assessments and technologies, native species preservation, and the use of energy-	Suggested collaborative actions included developing cross-border programs, joint resource mobilization, knowledge exchange, skills development, hazard mapping, and



efficient irrigation and innovative methods like vertical tunnel farming	exploring the links between climate change and mental health.
<b>Localization, accountability and safeguarding</b>	
Participants noted efforts such as forming advisory groups, translating resources into local languages, providing contextualized disaster response training, strengthening community engagement, and conducting after-action reviews.	Proposed collaborative actions included enhancing local leadership, coordinating advocacy through media and digital platforms, improving capacity mapping, and further contextualizing safeguarding and accountability frameworks.
<b>Participatory and peer-led approaches</b>	
groups emphasized ongoing collaboration with diverse stakeholders and investments in participatory methodologies	Future collaborative steps identified included delivering tailored capacity-building based on organizational strengths, engaging ADRRN members and local authorities in participatory learning, and ensuring inclusive representation across initiatives.
<b>Regional advocacy and collective voice</b>	
Groups highlighted continued collaboration with diverse stakeholders and the use of participatory methods.	Suggested joint actions included tailored capacity-building based on organizational strengths, involving ADRRN members and local authorities in participatory learning, and ensuring inclusive representation across all initiatives.
<b>Addressing shrinking resources</b>	
The group highlighted the importance and continuation of working together with the government	Groups stressed the need to work closely with governments in changing contexts, explore alternative and innovative funding sources, including private sector partnerships, and advocate for reforms to national and international financing mechanisms to ensure more equitable resource flows.



Taken together, the session highlighted strong alignment among members on the need for joint action, shared learning, and continued collaboration. The exercise reinforced the value of collective intelligence within the network and underscored ADRRN's role in convening diverse actors to co-create solutions for building resilience across Asia.

### 3.8 Collaborating for Resilience: Experience sharing and expectation from ADRRN with insights from the partner

During the session, partners provided detailed reflections on their ongoing collaboration with ADRRN, sharing key experiences, accomplishments, and lessons learned from their joint initiatives. They also outlined their expectations for continued partnership and discussed strategic priorities and planned activities for 2026. This exchange offered valuable insights into collective needs and aspirations, helping to align future efforts and strengthen coordination across the network. ADPC had to leave after the morning session, so their comments were acknowledged and shared by ADRRN as well.





Organisation	Top highlights
Elrha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ADRRN is the largest and strongest partnership in the last 16 years.</li> <li>- Transformative change comes from social movements, and with shrinking funding and fewer international actors, ADRRN is well-positioned to fill the region’s knowledge and collaboration gap</li> </ul>
ICVA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ICVA works collaboratively with ADRRN in advancing localization and community-level resilience across regions.</li> <li>- The speaker stressed strengthening local networks and community voices, reaffirming commitment despite funding challenges.</li> </ul>
OCHA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The speaker recognized ADRRN’s long-standing partnership, growth, and vital role in regional coordination.</li> <li>- The speaker emphasized strengthening community resilience and ADRRN’s role in uniting diverse regional voices.</li> </ul>
IRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The speaker praised ADRRN for pushing more equitable partnerships and challenging traditional power dynamics, strengthening collaboration and community impact and the need to continue this effort.</li> </ul>
Duryog Nivaran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The speaker emphasized the strong, long-standing partnership and shared commitment to research and community-led resilience, noting the powerful synergy between the networks despite shrinking resources.</li> <li>- The speaker called for continued collaboration, sustained ADRRN hubs, and a stronger focus on urban poverty and urban resilience.</li> </ul>
GNDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The speaker underscored the networks’ long-standing, mutually supportive partnership and emphasized continuing regional collaboration.</li> <li>- Further, the speaker stressed the need for strong, evidence-based regional advocacy and greater learning and knowledge-sharing across countries and regions, reaffirming commitment to continued collaboration.</li> </ul>



ALNAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The speaker emphasized integrating ADRRN’s knowledge into the HELP Library to expand learning access and improve knowledge equity.</li> <li>- The speaker invited members to share learning resources with the HELP Library as part of a pilot to explore broader global collaboration.</li> </ul>
Education in Emergencies (SCI Philippines)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The program is partnering with ADRRN to pilot a new climate-resilient education course and strengthen local education actors across the region.</li> <li>- It offers decade-long expertise, multilingual training materials, and a large alumni network, with plans to expand participation from local and national organizations</li> </ul>

### 3.9 Thematic Help Desk

During the AGM, thematic help desks on GESI, MEAL, Communications, and Business Development were established. Each desk was facilitated by the respective ADRRN thematic lead. The main highlights, concerns, and key queries raised by participants under each theme are summarized below:

- a. Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL): Basic MEAL templates aligned with the ADRRN MEAL Framework were shared with interested participants. These included a lead MEAL questionnaire, project accountability plan, project M&E plan, project learning plan, and a project learning log.

Queries	Answers/ mutual discussion
1. When can these templates be used?	These templates are essential across all stages of the project cycle. They establish minimum MEAL standards while supporting impact measurement and accountability.



2. Can I use these templates if the original plan of the project changes?	Irrespective of project type, changing contexts, or revisions to project plans, the use of these templates is strongly recommended.
3. Are there templates for Post-distribution Monitoring?	ADRRN does not have a standardised PDM template. However, PDM questionnaires vary based on project outputs, outcomes, and activities. Technical support can be provided to develop context-specific PDM tools as needed.

- b. Communication Help Desk: The Communications Help Desk focused on the HELP Library with a live demo of the platform so that members could understand how they can participate. Additionally, new members were also told about ADRRN’s social media platforms and website. Members were encouraged to submit blogs to the Substack. Many members who visited the help desk showed interest in continuing the conversation in 2026 and having their content featured by ADRRN.
- c. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI): Members were invited to brainstorm on what they could offer to ADRRN and what they needed in return. They highlighted that they could contribute human resources, provide platforms for collaboration, and share case studies, lessons learned, and advocacy experiences from their respective contexts. At the same time, members expressed the need for training of trainers (ToT) on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), covering the full project cycle from needs assessment to monitoring and evaluation. They also emphasized the importance of opportunities to share experiences across networks and requested leadership development training for GESI-focused professionals to strengthen their influence and impact.
- d. Business Development: A questionnaire was made available for members to indicate which areas of Business Development they would like support with. A toolkit and guidance were



also designed, which will be shared with members early in 2026, along with a series of more tailored webinars based on the results of the questionnaire and specific areas of support required. There will also be the opportunity for some 121 mentoring for those members who request it.

#### 4. Closing Session

The closing session reaffirmed ADRRN's strength as a member-led network and movement grounded in collaboration, learning, and collective action. Founding members highlighted the network's journey toward proactive disaster risk reduction, stressing the importance of implementation, government engagement, and unified advocacy, particularly on climate change. Key priorities outlined included evidence-based advocacy, locally led adaptation and anticipatory action, stronger emergency response collaboration, and effective operationalization of thematic hubs. The session also introduced the Humanitarian Story Circle, emphasizing ethical and participatory storytelling from local actors.

The session concluded with a call for focused action, strengthened partnerships, and shared leadership to advance impact in 2026 and beyond.

**Photo Gallery: Take a look at the AGM photo gallery [here](#).**