

Fire hazard response and mitigation plan

1. Background of the city/ region
 - City overview - population, density, land use, type of buildings, roads and accessibility;
 - Infrastructure, health care system, business and industrial locations, schools, educational institutions, and other land use, etc. Classify the vulnerable assets, people, housing and critical infrastructure; and
 - Resource and institutions - public and private that can help and support the fire hazard response system
2. Planning process, response and mitigation strategy
 - Goals, objectives and potential actions should be clearly spelt out in the plan;
 - Identify hazards by collecting historical hazard information (both natural and manmade);
 - Risk and vulnerability assessment - identification of city specific hazards and assessment of risks involved (vulnerability analysis); and
 - Assess own assets and capabilities - (administrative, financial, technical, regulatory, legal) and determine how the ULBs / fire services need to address the requirements.
3. Identification of resource *
 - Identify role of the government departments, existing institutions, expert agencies, NGOs, etc. along with their capacity assessment;
 - Identify key stakeholders in the community and surrounding areas;
 - Organize resources - identify hazard mitigation teams, agencies, community members;
 - Decide stages / steps for implementation of plan - key stages, actors, public participation training and capacity building, Public outreach & sensitization plan, involvement and participation of the community and role of ward committee and area Sabhas/ Panchayats etc.;
 - Review and incorporation of future developmental plans of the city and other information;
 - Preventive actions - property and natural resource protection techniques and strategies, appropriate equipment and facilities of their own at large colonies and high rise buildings, like water, fire extinguishers, escape routes, etc., public information and awareness plans and actions required;
 - Potential impact and damages - social, economical and environmental; and
 - Use of GIS for planning.
4. Evaluation and monitoring
 - For making the plan dynamic, integration of the community, continuous evaluation and monitoring is necessary. In towns interaction with the municipal council and in villages with the PRIs will prove very helpful. The plans should be discussed with them and suggestions obtained should be incorporated from time to time. Surprise mock exercises for fire emergencies will greatly help in evaluating and monitoring of the plan.