

Concept Note

2nd In-Country Consultation Meeting for Health Emergency Alliance

HEAL – South Asian Region | 9th March 2018, Friday

Invitation

Dear Friends

Disaster events are increasing with its growing impacts on healthcare institutions in the region.

EHA is organizing a consultation meeting @Kolkata to discuss and understand the need for health emergency alliance in the region and how to go about it. This initiative was launched by EHA in Nepal along with WHO, NCO during 2017 and a follow up meeting was held in Delhi, India last August.

To have a meaningful outcome, we are inviting senior level (decision-making level) leaders from the region (Nepal, India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Srilanka & Myanmar) and East and North East India.

We are pleased to invite you to the consultation meeting scheduled for 9th March 2018, Friday.

In case if you are willing to participate in Hospital Disaster Management workshop scheduled for 8th March 2018 (morning 09:00AM), please indicate your decision in the registration form. EHA shall arrange your logistics accordingly.

To confirm your participation, kindly return the filled registration form **before 21st January 2018** for our team to coordinate and arrange necessary logistics.

Thanking you.

Regards

Peniel Malakar.

Emmanuel Hospital Association

By filling this registration form , you are accepting the invitation and confirming your participation.			
1	Full name		
	Designation	(CEO/Dy CEO/Medical/Admin/Nursing Director/Supdt/Director/Dy Director)	
2	Mobile (active) # Email ID:		
3	Hospital with full postal address		
4	Kindly indicate if you are willing to participate from 8 th morning beginning with the workshop on Hospital Disaster Management.	Yes/ No	If yes, we shall arrange logistics accordingly. Arrival 8 th morning 9am. If no, we shall arrange from 9 th March morning only.
5	Consultation on Health Emergency Alliance	Essential	Departure in any case is on 10 th March morning.
6	Logistics request	1. Based on the above information, EHA shall book your return economy air tickets in the shortest route. 2. No reimbursements shall be made. 3. Request to submit the board passes.	
7		For participants from outside India, kindly send scanned copy of your valid passport. Kindly mention the nearest departure airport for you.	
Kindly mail this to : ehadmmu@gmail.com			
Note : EHA holds the right to finalize on the participant. Participant must be from senior decision making level.			

“The region we care”

BACKGROUND

Asia region is very prone to natural hazards such as cyclones, typhoons, earthquakes, drought and floods. The first Asia-Pacific Disaster Report, launched in 2010, found that people in the Asia-Pacific region are four times more likely to be affected by natural disasters than those in Africa and 25 times more likely than those in Europe or North America.

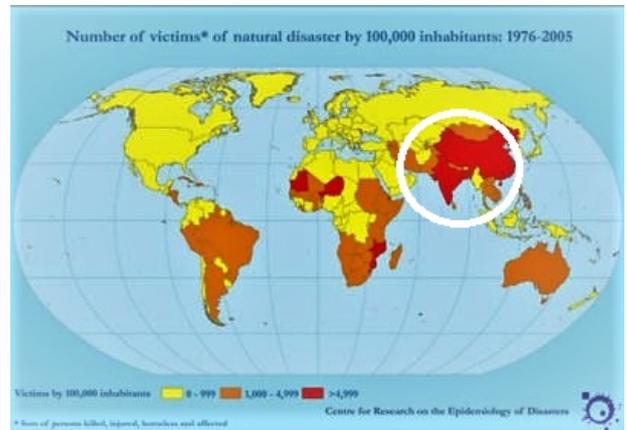
Between 1970 and 2011, almost 75% of all world deaths from disasters were in our region. Even more worrying, between 1970 and 2010, the average number of people exposed to yearly flooding in Asia more than doubled, from 29.5 million to 63.8 million; and the number of people living in cyclone-prone areas grew from 71.8 million to 120.7 million.

Back to our own region: 2015 Nepal earthquake destroyed 446 health facilities and partially damaged 701 public health facilities along with 64 private health establishments. More than 500 hospitals and clinics have been damaged and destroyed in flood-affected areas of Pakistan while Jammu & Kashmir and Chennai floods in 2014 and 2015 heavily damaged many hospitals, destroying many other critical infrastructures leaving a historic impact on the population.

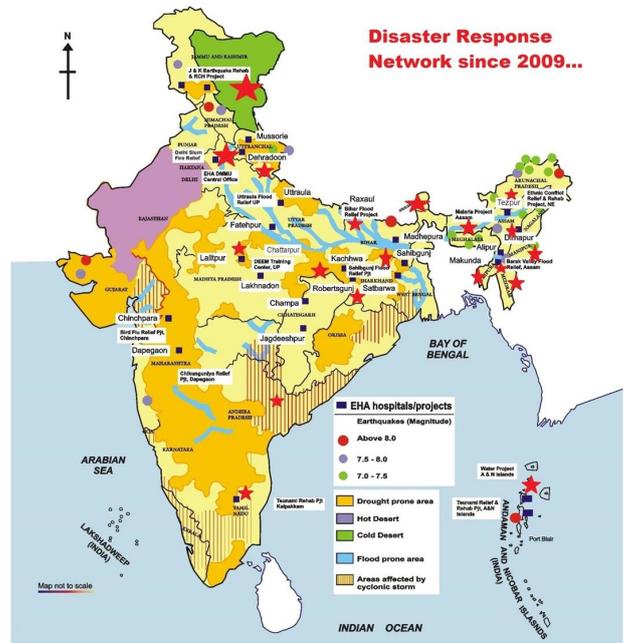
Once again ‘**lack of adequate coordination**’ emerged as one of the major lessons learned across these events.

EHA has been working on building up disaster response network (DRN) in India and raising partner’s disaster response capacity located at high disaster risk regions in India since 2009 (see the map above). The DRN program was enhanced to Nepal post 2015 earthquake.

However, the area of emerging need is that of medical emergency response capabilities of hospitals. The main **objective** of the Health Emergency Alliance (HEAL) initiative is to develop a strategy that would enable effective medical emergency response through i. identifying hospitals and health emergency personnel with their existing potentials for effective medical emergency response, ii. identify gaps and needs for enhancing medical response capacity of potential hospitals and iii. build up emergency medical teams (EMTs).



EMMANUEL HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
Hospital & Project locations in Hazard Map of INDIA



HEALTH EMERGENCY ALLIANCE INITIATIVE

Continuity of healthcare services is critical in a post disaster situation. In terms of a large scale disaster event covering a large portion of a country, state or even a city such as public health emergencies, earthquake and civil unrest/riots/internal conflicts, there is a need for clarity in terms of *what action where and how much is required*.



The 2015 Nepal earthquake saw huge flow of emergency medical personnel & resources. Nepal was not prepared for such a huge flow of support through the only functioning airport in the capital city. The airport was found choked and so also the critical supplies and services. Helicopter services were critical to reach inaccessible mountains with

larger number of casualties remained unattended.

In such a situation, a well-defined proactive collaboration mechanism would have enabled appropriate allocation of resources making optimum use of resources made available.

The Health Emergency Alliance (**HEAL**) – South Asian Region project is a small initiative to explore building up a pre-disaster collaborative mechanism among the healthcare institutions and emergency personnel in the region with specific focus in emergency medical response.

Toward this initiative, EHA has already had its first in-country consultation meeting in Nepal on 18th April 2017 @Kathmandu in partnership with WHO's Nepal Country Office (Report: http://ehadmmu.com/assets/uploads/downloads/20170608_1496896857.pdf). This was followed by the second consultation meeting in Delhi on 25th August 2017 with participants from Nepal and Srilanka.

The Kolkata Consultation Meeting

The Kolkata consultation meeting is facilitated to engage healthcare leaders from East and North-East Region including potential representatives from the neighbouring countries such as – Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Srilanka and Myanmar, to discuss the need and potentials for such alliance and articulate a strategic document as a way forward. The main objectives of the consultation meeting are –

- To understand the critical roles hospital play during and after a disaster event takes place and the need for coming together proactively
- To explore developing a pre-disaster collaborative coordination mechanism for effective medical emergency response in the region

Thank you.

Peniel Malakar | Project Director | Project HEAL
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