

Webinar - Information Gathering & Dissemination Process in Emergency Response.

21st April 2021 - Islamabad, Pakistan



Authentic and timely information in any emergency is a vital resource and its effective utilization can save lives. In order to inform participants of the various methods of information gathering and dissemination during and emergency response, NHN in collaboration with Pakistan Resilience Partnership held a webinar on the subject on 21st April 2021 at 11:30 hours Pakistan Standard Time (PST) under the “APP 2 Program”. A total of 23 individuals from different organizations attended the webinar.

The moderator Mr. Muhammad Hamayun, Resource Center Coordinator, NHN welcomed the participants and introduced the presenter and the objectives of the webinar.

The presenter Miss Sana Zulfiqar holds significant expertise in humanitarian coordination with efforts mainly focusing on negotiating local civil society space in the humanitarian architecture and advocating localization agenda on national and international platforms. She has done M.Sc. in Communication Sciences and has served in different positions for the last 11 years at various humanitarian organizations. On her credits, she conceived, designed and facilitated the first digital resource center (DRC) in-country and region as a one knowledge management window to galvanize communication for the humanitarian sector. She facilitated the development of the first national, sector experts roster titled as Surge Emergency Response Team (SERT) in Pakistan, development of Local Charter of Commitment derived from Charter 4 Change for Pakistan under localization agenda and introduced initiatives to capacitate females of local government and civil society as Women Leadership in Emergency Response. Currently, she is working as Project Coordinator at Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Pakistan for Climate Adaptation and Resilience (CARE) for South Asia, initiative.

The presenter briefed the participants on the importance of authentic information and how it should be collected and managed during and Emergency through a case study of Philippines floods 2012. She also highlighted the importance of information management by presenting different phases of converting raw data into information and by explaining in detail the information cycle that the raw data passes through in order to become information that can be utilized effectively in a humanitarian setting.

She also highlighted the information needs of different stakeholders including the government and other operational agencies during preparedness and response phases of a disaster. The challenges and risks involved in information gathering and dissemination, such as privacy, ethics, security, biasness and information overload were identified and various methods to overcome these challenges were also underlined by the presenter.

In the end the presenter recommended the ethical guidelines for managing information along with a list of available authentic information resources. The webinar recording along with the presentation can be accessed at:

<http://resourcecenter.nhnpakistan.org/index.php/webinars-records/344-information-management-er>

Screengrabs of the webinar

