

# TWO-DAY SYMPOSIUM:

*Exploring the Feasibility and Value of Pioneering Partnerships and a Knowledge-Sharing Network to Reduce Avoidable Snakebite Deaths in India*

**20 - 21 June 2023**

Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India

**Tuesday 20 June:** Brainstorming Workshop

**Wednesday 21 June:** Experts Presentation



## Facilitator

Mr. Dillip Pattanaik, Avoidable Deaths Network India Hub and Orissa State Volunteers and Social Workers Association

Deaths from snakebites are avoidable and yet millions of people die globally.

India is the global hotspot for avoidable snakebite deaths with annual deaths of around 58,000 and a further 140,000 incidents leading to various disabilities including limb injuries and amputations. The states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, and Rajasthan carry the high burden of snakebite deaths in India (*aka* eight high-burden states).

Avoidable Deaths Network (ADN) advocates avoidable snakebite deaths can be reduced through: i) preventable, ii) amenable, or timely intervention measures, and iii) disaster risk governance. These three components (i-iii) form the avoidable deaths framework (ADF) (Ray-Bennett, 2018; Ray-Bennett and Shiroshita, 2023). To realise ADF we posit that context-specific pioneering partnerships and knowledge-sharing network (KSN) amongst snakebite mitigation communities can play a vital role. To assess the feasibility of KSN, ADN is holding a two-Day Symposium on 20 and 21 June 2023 in Bhubaneswar, India.

The Symposium will bring together local at-risk communities with professionals from the systems of health care, anti-venom, snakebite, public awareness, education, emergency services, and snake behaviour and habitats to understand the role that each

stakeholder plays in reducing avoidable snakebite deaths in India.

The Symposium is organised by ADN India Hub, which is led by Orissa State Volunteers and Social Workers Association (OSVSWA).

Day one (20 June) of the Symposium will take place at Hotel New Marrion and will focus on the nitty-gritty of context-specific knowledge-sharing network (KSN) by exploring:

1. "Who are we?" (the focus)
2. "What issues do we talk about?" (the scope)
3. "Who are the members?" (membership)
4. "Who are the leaders?" (leadership)

Day two (21 June) will take place at Hotel Suryansh and will feature over 18 expert speakers who will present challenges and opportunities to reduce snakebite deaths in India and their level of acceptability to own and lead context-specific knowledge-sharing network in Odisha, Assam and Madhya Pradesh.

## Note

Description of the concept note is written by Dr. Nibedita Ray-Bennett, Ms. Lauren MacLeod and Ms. Isha Biswas. © Avoidable Deaths Network (2023). Image: © Vivek Sharma (2023).

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## More Information

Website: [avoidable-deaths.net](https://avoidable-deaths.net)

LinkedIn: [avoidable-deaths-network](https://www.linkedin.com/company/avoidable-deaths-network)

Twitter: [AvoidableN](https://twitter.com/AvoidableN)

Instagram: [avoidabledeathsnetwork](https://www.instagram.com/avoidabledeathsnetwork)

Facebook: [AvoidableDeathsNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/AvoidableDeathsNetwork)

ADN Voluntary Commitments SFDRR: [20211123\\_001](https://www.adnvoluntarycommitments.com/commitments/20211123_001)



## References

Ray-Bennett, N.S. (2018) *Avoidable Deaths: A Systems Failure Approach to Disaster Risk Management*. Switzerland, Springer Nature.

Ray-Bennett, N.S. and Shiroshita, H. (2023) *International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths (IAD4AD): Guidance for Campaigners*. UK and Japan: Avoidable Deaths Network Publication.

[https://iad4ad.avoidable-deaths.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/IAD4AD\\_Guidance\\_for\\_Campaigners.pdf](https://iad4ad.avoidable-deaths.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/IAD4AD_Guidance_for_Campaigners.pdf)