



Avoidable Deaths Network

Newsletter

Issue No. 6

Contents

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

Authors

Comments from Our Readers

ADN News

Research and Reflective Articles: Shine a Light on ADN Projects

Perspectives on Avoidable Deaths

Updates on Sendai Goals A and B



Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

19 December 2024

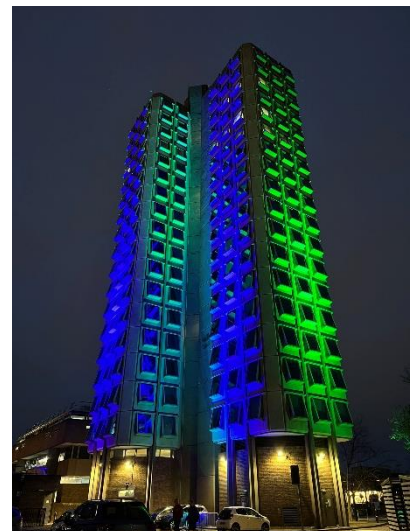
Dear readers and the ADN community,

Welcome to our sixth Newsletter for the Avoidable Deaths Network (ADN). ADN is a global-local membership network of 900+ members representing 800+ organisations across 94 countries. ADN is dedicated to finding theoretical and practical solutions to reducing avoidable deaths from disasters.

As I reflect on 2024, it has been an eventful year for the ADN community.

We marked the first year of our global campaign 'International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths (IAD4AD)' and the theme was 'Do One Thing'. We have had a fantastic outcome. The campaign was celebrated across 13 countries with 50+ activities. The iconic Attenborough Tower at the University of Leicester's main campus was lit up blue and green on 12 March at 6.30 pm to celebrate the campaign. In 2025, we aim to celebrate this campaign across 20 countries. If you would like to celebrate the global campaign, please contact us.

This Newsletter showcases a small vignette of newsworthy work conducted by the ADN Team, Regional Coordinators, Advisors, and Organisational Partners worldwide. We have provided photos to give you a sense of the place, time, and context wherever possible.



This newsletter provides updates on ADN's projects; it will be a regular feature from now on.

I would like to thank Mr Mihir Bhatt, Director of the All-India Disaster Management Institute, for accepting my invitation to be interviewed for the section on 'Perspectives on Avoidable Deaths'.

I would also like to thank all the authors and the ADN editorial team, Mr Lasith Dissanayake, Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita, Mr Alex Skinner, Mr Shahid Hoque, Ms Kelly Litsoung and Dr Denise Corsel for bringing this newsletter to fruition. Thanks are also due to Krishna Clarke for reviewing one of the articles for this newsletter. This is most likely my last letter, as I am looking for a successor to lead this newsletter in 2025. If you are interested, please get in touch with us.

I hope you will enjoy reading and viewing the photos in this Newsletter.

I wish you all a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett

Editor-In-Chief

Authors

Dr Aditya Ghosh is a Teaching Fellow at the University of Leicester's School of Geology, Geography, and Environment, and a Science Society Interface Researcher at ADN. He is based in Leicester, UK.

Master Arkoneil Ghosh is an Administrator for the Global Campaign and founding editor of the ADN Junior Champion Magazine. Arkoneil is based in Bangalore, India.

Miss Anushka Konar is one of the Future Leader Interns at ADN. She co-edits the ADN Junior Champion Magazine. Anushka is based in Kolkata, India.

Mr Abdullahi O. Umar is a Global Campaign Coordinator at ADN. Abdullahi is based in Abuja, Nigeria.

Ms Lauren Macleod is an Activity Coordinator at ADN. She was the Research Administrator for the RNLI-funded project 'Identifying Gaps in Drowning Data Collection in Low-and Middle-Income Countries and the Actors Addressing Them.' She was a Visiting Research Fellow at the Institute for Environmental Futures from January to July 2024. Lauren is based in Scotland, UK.

Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita is one of the Founding Presidents of ADN. He leads the Junior Champion Project from Tsunami Deaths in Japan. Hideyuki is based in Osaka, Japan.

Ms Kelly Litsoung is an Activity Coordinator at ADN. She is based in France.

Mr Lasith Dissanayake is an Activity Coordinator at ADN. He was the Research Assistant for the RNLI-funded project 'Identifying Gaps in Drowning Data Collection in Low-and Middle-Income Countries and the Actors Addressing Them.' Lasith is based in Wales, UK.

Mr Mihir Bhatt is the Director of All India Disaster Mitigation Institute. He has been part of shaping and taking the Sendai Framework ahead in India with a particular focus on avoidable extreme heat deaths. Mihir is based in Gujarat, India.

Prof Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett is one of the Founding Presidents of ADN. She currently convenes the Network and is based in Leicester, UK.

Dr Te Klangboonkrong is the ESRC-IAA and ESRC/AHRC-funded project coordinator on 'Reproductive Health Kits for Disasters and Crises.' She is based in Bangkok, Thailand.



Comments from Our Readers

Comments from Our Readers

No comments were gathered from our readers over the last year, but this is a practice we would like to adopt going forward. Therefore, we welcome your comments and suggestions on this Newsletter, which we can then feature in our next edition. Please email us at: contact@avoidable-deaths.net



Noteworthy News

ADN News

- The ADN Community has steadily grown. ADN has attracted 24 Advisory Board Members, 27 Operations Team Members, 19 Regional Coordinators, 21 Collaborator and Partner Organisations, and 912 Affiliates (a 19 % increase from last year).
- As of December 2024, ADN has attracted 1324 followers on [LinkedIn](#) (34.35% increase from last year) and 206 followers on [Instagram](#) (22% increase from last year).
- This year, ADN welcomed one new Operations Member, four Future Leaders Interns, four Future Leaders, one Field Research Coordinator and four Regional Coordinators.
[Operations Members](#): Mr Rajesh Kumar Patro as [Field Research Coordinator](#)
[Regional Coordinators](#): Dr Nikhil Paul, Dr Franklin DOH, Mr Sameer Kumar Jena and Dr
[Future Leaders](#): Ms Chloe Vasquez, Ms Giulia Cristiana, Mr Eduardo Cardoso, and Mr Yunes Abou El Wafa
[Future Leader Interns](#): Ms Maryam Samaila Mohammed, Ms Sadia Afrin Sayfa Negaban, Mr Mohammad Fahimul Islam and Mr Shadrack Ayuk TABE.
- On 11 January 2024, 59 ADN Junior Champions in Osaka screened their disaster awareness film for international guests. These Champions are fifth-grade students from Hama Elementary School. They created this film over three months, focusing on disaster risk reduction to prevent tsunami-related deaths. The screening, attended by guests from Yunlin, Taiwan, and parents, was a success and moved viewers emotionally.
- On 31 March 2024, ADN's global campaign, 'International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths,' concluded with over 50 activities across 13 countries.
- On 8 May 2024, ADN joined UNOCHA's Networks and Partnerships Group under the Leading-Edge Programme. Starting in 2025, members of ADN can organise sessions at the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks (HNPW) in Geneva or virtually.

- On 28 October 2024, Prof Nibedita Ray-Bennett secured ESRC/AHRC Accelerate Fund for the project “Reproductive Health Kits for Disasters and Crises”.
- On 19 November 2024, Prof Nibedita Ray-Bennett and her collaborators, Data Management Aid and Reproductive Health Services Training and Education Program (RHSTEP), presented the two prototyped RH Kits (Facility and Mobile) with 15+ technical experts at the Directorate General of Family Planning in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- On 12 December 2024, ADN secured membership in the Santiago Network. Prof Nibedita Ray-Bennett led the application for membership in collaboration with ADN’s 32 technical and future leaders from 26 organisations. In addition to Leicester, the leading organisations for the Santiago Network are K2 Resilience and ICARS-Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee.

Congratulatory News

We want to congratulate the following ADN members on their achievements:

- On 1 August 2024, Prof Nibedita Ray-Bennett started her new role as Chair of Risk Management at the University of Leicester School of Business.
- On 30 October 2024, Prof Nibedita Ray-Bennett became a Global Expert for the International Science Council.
- On 28 October 2024, Prof Nibedita Ray-Bennett won the ESRC/AHRC Accelerate Fund for the project “Reproductive Health Kits for Disasters and Crises”.
- On 12 March 2024, the ADN Awards were announced. The Junior Champion Award was given to Master Arkoneil Ghosh; the Future Leader Award to Ms Lauren MacLeod; the Regional Coordinator Award and the President’s Award to Mr Dillip Pattanaik.
- Mr Abdullahi O. Umar was awarded the Future Leader Award 2024 and AIG Public Leaders Programme Scholarship 2024/2025 through a partnership between the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation and Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford.
- Ms Sadia Afrin Sayfa Negaban was awarded the ISWA-SWIS Winter School 2025 Scholarship from the University of Texas at Arlington and the Student Champion Award from the South Asian Meteorological Association.
- Ms Anusha Manahil was awarded the Teach for Pakistan Fellowship 2024.
- On 31 October 2024 Ms Kelly Litsoung completed her MSc Risk, Crisis, and Disaster Management from the University of Leicester School of Business.

News from the Regional Coordinators and Advisory Board Members

- On May 6, 2024, ADN Advisors Professor Alois Hirschmugl and Dr Stephen Samuel and Organisational Partner Dr Albrecht Beck, in collaboration with Prof Nibedita Ray-Bennett and Dr Winifred Ekezie, organised the “QI Quizzes for Avoidable Disaster Deaths” session at UNOCHA’s Humanitarian Networks Partnerships Week in Geneva. 78 participants registered for this event. Participants praised the interactive, engaging format and found it valuable for capacity building.

- On January 17, 2024, ADN Advisor Col. Prof Sanjay Srivastava and Prof Nibedita Ray-Bennett organised an awareness-raising webinar on 'Snakebite Deaths Are Avoidable' for The Art of Living Volunteers. 131 participants attended this webinar.
- On August 17, 2024, ADN Advisors Col. Prof Sanjay Srivastava, Dr Ravinder Kr Soni, and Prof Nibedita Ray-Bennett delivered a panel discussion on preventing snakebite deaths on Green India TV. The panel discussion, conducted in Hindi for rural North India, was viewed by 1600 people.
- On September 26, 2024, eight ADN Advisors, two Regional Coordinators, and six Future Leaders took part in the bid to become a Member of the Santiago Network for Loss and Damage. Prof Nibedita Ray-Bennett and Mr Alex Skinner from K2 Resilience led this bid.
- On October 5, 2024, ADN Advisor Dr Amarendra Mohapatra delivered the second outreach workshop for the "Avoidable Snakebite Deaths" Ambassadors in Kodhala Tehsil, Ganjam district, Odisha. Forty-six participants attended the outreach workshop.
- On October 13, 2024, ADN Regional Coordinator Dr Ranjan Datta played a critical role in the publication of the ADN Junior Champion Magazine (Issue 2). He gathered seven stories from the Sundarbans youth for this issue and acted as the guest editor.
- On November 23, 2024, ADN Advisor Dr Stephen Samuel and ADN Regional Coordinator Dr Madhulika Sahoo attended a day-long meeting at the Case Station for Avoidable Snakebite Deaths (CaSA) in Ganjam District of Odisha, India. Twenty-two Ambassadors attended this meeting.
- On November 21, 2024, ADN Advisor Dr Stephen Samuel, ADN Regional Coordinator Mr Snehendu Koner and Prof Nibedita Ray-Bennett delivered a joint lecture on "Avoidable Deaths" at the All-India Institute for Public Administration in New Delhi, India. Twenty-two elite participants (civil servants, senior officers of the navy and air force) attended the lecture.



Research and Reflective Articles

Shine a Light on ADN Projects

Ms Lauren Macleod and Prof Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett have written a short article titled: **Case Station for Avoidable Snakebite Deaths (CaSA)**. To read this article, please click [here](#).

Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita has written a short article titled: **Tsunami Deaths Project**. To read this article, please click [here](#).

Mr Lasith Dissanayake has written a short article titled: **Drowning in LMIC Settings**. To read this article, please click [here](#).

Prof Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett and Dr Te Klangboonkrong have written a short article titled: **Reproductive Health in Disasters Project**. To read this article, please click [here](#).

Arkoneil Ghosh and Anushka Konar have written a short article titled: **ADN Junior Champion Magazine**. To read this article, please click [here](#).

Abdullahi O. Umar has written a short article titled: **Global Campaign: International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths**. To read this article, please click [here](#).

Dr Aditya Ghosh has written a short article titled: **Affiliate Project Update**. To read this article, please click [here](#).

Abdullahi O. Umar has written a short article titled: **ADN Country Chapter Updated**. To read this article, please click [here](#).



Perspectives on Avoidable Deaths

An interview was conducted to gain perspectives on avoidable deaths. To read Mr Mihir Bhatt's interview transcript, please click [here](#).



Updates on Sendai Goals 1 and 2

As part of the Sendai Update, Prof Nibedita S. Ray-Bennet has written a short article titled: **Updates on Sendai Targets A & B: Snapshot of Sendai Framework Monitor 2014-2023**. To read this article, please click [here](#).



© 2024, Avoidable Deaths Network

ISSN 2435-2608

Head Offices

Japan: Kansai University, Takatsuki

UK: University of Leicester, Leicester

Our mailing address is:
contact@avoidable-deaths.net