



Avoidable Deaths Network

Newsletter

Issue No. 7

Contents

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

Authors

Comments from Our Readers

ADN News

ADN Events

Shine a Light on ADN Projects

Country Chapter Updates

Updates on Sendai Goals A and B

Perspectives on Avoidable Deaths



Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

December 22, 2025

Dear readers and the ADN community,

Welcome to our seventh Newsletter for the Avoidable Deaths Network (ADN). I am delighted to step into the role of Editor-in-Chief, following Professor Nibedita Ray-Bennett, who has done a fantastic job of launching and leading this Newsletter since 2020. It is truly a privilege to continue this journey and share the incredible activities and achievements of 2025.

ADN is a global-local membership network comprising over 1,100 members representing more than 800 organisations across 94 countries. The network is committed to identifying both theoretical and practical solutions to reduce avoidable deaths from disasters.

The ADN community has experienced a notable and dynamic year. We commemorated the second anniversary of our global initiative, the 'International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths (IAD4AD)', under the theme 'Do One Thing'. The campaign achieved remarkable success, being observed in more than 20 countries through over 40 activities. In 2026, our objective is to expand the scope of celebration through additional activities. We invite you to join in commemorating this significant global campaign; please contact us for further details.

ADN successfully conducted multiple research projects this year, yielding benefits to community members, academics, and policymakers. All project updates are documented in the newsletter, with links to the publications.

This Newsletter presents a brief overview of notable work undertaken by the ADN Team, Regional Coordinators, Advisors, and Organisational Partners across the globe. Photographs have been included to offer a visual sense of the location, timing, and context wherever feasible.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Professor Anil Kumar Gupta, Professor of Policy-Strategies and Capacities at the Department of Water Resources Development and Management, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for graciously accepting our invitation to participate in an interview concerning the section on 'Perspectives on Avoidable Deaths.'

Additionally, I extend my appreciation to all the contributing authors for their efforts in bringing this Newsletter to fruition.

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

I wish you all a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Lasith Dissanayake

Editor-In-Chief

Authors

Mr Abdullahi O. Umar is the Global Campaign Coordinator for IAD4AD, supporting ADN Chapter development and overseeing the implementation of the ADN's IAD4AD Strategy alongside the Operations Team. Abdullahi is based in Abuja, Nigeria.

Mr Adewumi Otonne is the Research and Enterprise Coordinator at ADN. Adewumi is based in Nottingham, United Kingdom.

Mr Alex Skinner is an Administrative Coordinator for ADN. Alex is based in Leicester, United Kingdom.

Professor Anil Kumar Gupta is a Full Professor at IIT Roorkee and leads the Gol's Centre of Excellence ICARS at the Gr. Noida campus. He is a global DRR leader with extensive and pioneering contributions to mainstreaming CCA-DRR integration, sectoral and national-level planning in DRR and adaptation, and capacity-building innovations.

Miss Anushka Konar is a B.Tech Biotechnology undergraduate with a strong foundation in science and communication. As the Co-Editor of Junior Champions Magazine, Anushka plays a key role in shaping youth voices and narratives. Anushka is based in Kolkata, India.

Mr Arkoneil Ghosh is a multilingual youth leader fluent in English, Spanish, Hindi, Bengali, and Chinese, with additional skills in Japanese. Arkoneil is the Founding Editor of the Junior Champion Magazine and a Regional Coordinator for ADN. Arkoneil is based in Mumbai, India.

Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita is one of the Founding Presidents of ADN. He leads the Case Station for Avoidable Tsunami Deaths in Japan. Hideyuki is based at Kansai University, Osaka, Japan.

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

Mr Lasith Dissanayake is an Activity Coordinator and Editor-in-Chief of the Newsletter at ADN. Lasith is based in Wales, United Kingdom.

Ms Lauren MacLeod is an Operations Manager at ADN. Lauren is based in Scotland, United Kingdom.

Professor Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett is one of the Founding Presidents of ADN. She currently convenes the Network and is based at the University of Leicester, United Kingdom.

Miss Prarthona Datta is a first-year student at the University of Calgary. Her work interests include anti-racism, youth actions to build climate change resilience, children's land-based learning activities and youth-led cross-cultural community gardens. Prarthona is based in Calgary, Canada.

Dr Te Klangboonkrong is the ESRC-IAA and ESRC/AHRC-funded project coordinator on 'Reproductive Health Kits for Disasters and Crises.' Te is currently a lecturer at the School of Global Studies, Thammasat University, Thailand.

Mr Vishal Pathak is a Senior Coordinator at the All-India Disaster Mitigation Institute in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India.



Comments from Our Readers

Comments from Our Readers

No comments were gathered from our readers over the last year, but we would like to adopt this practice 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



ADN News

ADN News

- The ADN Community has experienced steady growth. Currently, ADN comprises 17 Advisory Board Members, 28 Operations Team Members, 32 Regional Coordinators and 1106 Affiliates, representing a 17% increase compared to the previous year.
- As of December 2025, ADN has attracted 1927 followers on [LinkedIn](#) (45.54% increase from last year) and 745 followers on Facebook (261.65% increase from last year).

- On June 26, July 2, and July 4, 2025, Prof. Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett launched her book [Avoiding Disaster Deaths: Why Do So Many People Die? | SpringerLink](#) at Bangladesh Medical University, Kobe City College of Nursing, and Kochi Medical School in Japan, respectively.
- On August 14, 2025, Prof. Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett was awarded an ESRC-IAA grant to trial the 'Facility and Mobile Reproductive Health Kits for Disasters and Crises' in the Kulaura Upazila of Bangladesh.
- On October 1, 2025, Prof. Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett and Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita were awarded the Integrated Disaster Risk Management's (IDRiM) prestigious "Professor Norio OKada Distinguished Implementation Science Award." The press release for this Award can be read through this link: [Leicester Professor honoured with global award for life-saving disaster risk work | News | University of Leicester](#)



Figure 1: Photo collage designed by Ms Anushka Koner to celebrate the IDRiM Award

- On March 12, 2025, the ADN Awards were announced. The Junior Champion Award was awarded to Mr Arkoneil Ghosh; the Future Leader Award to Miss Anushka Konar; the Regional Coordinator Award to Dr Fatima Akter; the Hero Award to Ms Tahira Khan, and the President's Award to Mr Lasith Dissanayake.



ADN Events

- Mr Arkoneil Ghosh has written a short article titled: ***International Drowning Prevention Day Celebrations***. To read this article, please click [here](#).
- Ms Kelly Litsoung has written a short article titled: ***Special Sessions Update***. To read this article, please click [here](#).



Shine a Light on ADN Projects

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

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

Mr Vishal Pathak and Prof. Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett have written a short article titled: ***Case Station for Avoidable Heatwave Deaths***. To read this article, please click [here](#).

Ms Lauren MacLeod has written a short article titled: ***Future Leaders for Avoidable Deaths***. To read this article, please click [here](#).

Mr Arkoneil Ghosh, Miss Anushka Konar, and Miss Prarthona Datta have written a short article titled: ***Junior Champions for Avoidable Deaths***. To read this article, please click [here](#).

Ms Lauren MacLeod has written a short article titled: ***ADN Network on Loss and Damage***. To read this article, please click [here](#).

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

Prof. Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett, Dr Te Klangboonkrong, and Mr Alex Skinner have written a short article titled: ***Maternal Deaths***. To read this article, please click [here](#).

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



Country Chapters

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



Perspectives on Avoidable Deaths

An interview was conducted to gain perspectives on avoidable deaths. To read Prof. Anil Kumar Gupta's interview transcript, please click [here](#).



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