

Avoidable Deaths Network



Annual Report

August 2025 - July 2026

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INTRODUCTION

This report documents the activities undertaken by members of the Avoidable Deaths Network (ADN) from 1 August 2025 to 31 July 2026. Members include the Operations Team, the Advisory Board, the Regional Coordinators, and the Interns.

The ADN was launched on 12 March 2019 at the 4th Summit of the Global Alliance of Disaster Research Institutes (GADRI) in Kyoto, Japan. This is the sixth annual report.

Our purpose (*why we exist*): To help policymakers, practitioners, and at-risk communities make better decisions to save lives and reduce avoidable injuries and deaths for sustainable development.

Our vision (*what we want to achieve by 2030*): To be recognised as global leaders in avoidable deaths for impactful research, solutions, and services.

Strategic areas: We focused on three interrelated areas to achieve our vision by 2030.

1. Promoting a global community for avoidable deaths.
2. Promoting research, networking and knowledge exchange.
3. Promoting the Global Campaign 'International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths' (IAD4AD) and the Campaign slogan 'Disaster Deaths Are Avoidable'.

To achieve these strategic areas, ADN conducts eight activities, as discussed below.

Milestones to support our strategic areas:

Since 2022, ADN has been a Member of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's (UNDRR) 'Sendai Framework Voluntary Commitments (VC) platform'. We provide a six-month progress report to the Sendai VC Platform. Our Commitments are for the Sendai Goals A (reduce disaster mortality) and B (reduce the number of people affected by disasters) at the interface with four Sustainable Development Goals (3, 11, 13 and 17). The last report submitted was for the period July to December 2025. ADN's page on the UNDRR's VC platform can be viewed through this link: [Avoidable Deaths Network \(ADN\) | Sendai Voluntary Commitments](#)

Since 2023, ADN has been a member of the WHO's Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH) and the HEUREKA Project – 'Civil Protection Knowledge Partnership Middle East'. In 2023, ADN also became part of the University of Leicester [Institute for Environmental Futures](#) research challenge, 'Climate Risk'.

Since 2024, ADN has been a member of the [United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs](#) (UNOCHA) Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Groups Leading-

Edge Programme. As a member, ADN affiliates/members can organise seminars and webinars at the 'Humanitarian Networks Partnerships Week' (HNPW) in Geneva, either in person or virtually.

On 12 December 2024, ADN became a member of the [Santiago Network's Loss and Damage](#).

The ADN-Santiago Network comprises 32 technical experts from 26 organisations across 10 countries. Seven of these 32 technical experts are our future leaders. The ADN-Santiago Network is led by the University of Leicester in collaboration with K2 Resilience and ICARS GNEC IIT-Roorkee.

MEMBERS

Members include the Operations Team, Interns, Regional Coordinators, Advisory Board, and Affiliates. As of 31 July 2025, the [Operations Team](#) (core and supporting members) comprised 26 members from ten countries (**Table 1**). This is two additional members compared to the previous academic year.

Table 1: List of Core and Supporting Operations Team Members

#	Name	Role	Country
Core Members			
1	Prof. Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett	Founding President and Convenor	United Kingdom
2	Dr. Hideyuki Shiroshita	Founding President	Japan
3	Dr. Denise Corsel	Supporting Operations Manager	United Kingdom
4	Mr. Matt Merry	Marketing Consultant	United Kingdom
5	Mr. Abdullahi O. Umar	Global Campaign Coordinator	Nigeria
6	Mr. Shahidul Hoque	Activity Coordinator	Bangladesh
7	Ms. Lauren MacLeod	Activity Coordinator; Research Administrator	United Kingdom
8	Master Arkoneil Ghosh	Junior Champion Magazine Editor; Administrator	India
9	Mr. Lasith Dissanayake	Activity Coordinator and Research Assistant	United Kingdom

10	Ms. Kelly Litsoung	Knowledge Exchange and Activity Coordinator	Germany
11	Mr. Krishna Clarke	Quantitative Research Coordinator	Barbados
12	Mr. Adewumi Otonne	Case Station (CaSA) Coordinator and Support Coordinator	United Kingdom
13	Ms. Giulia Cristina	Activity Coordinator	United Kingdom
14	Mr Adam Besner	Operations Manager	Canada
<i>Supporting Members</i>			
15	Mr. Alex Skinner	Administrative Coordinator	United Kingdom
16	Ms. Anushka Koner	Junior Champion Magazine Co-Editor and Design Coordinator	India
17	Ms. Prarthona Datta	Junior Champion Magazine Co-Editor	Canada
18	Dr. Winifred Ekezie	Evidence Synthesis Coordinator	United Kingdom
19	Dr. Aditya Ghosh	Science Society Interface Coordinator	United Kingdom
20	Mr. Shafkat Hossain	Research and Enterprise Activity Coordinator	Pakistan/ New Zealand
21	Dr. Te Klangboonkrong	Project Coordinator	United Kingdom
22	Dr. Nimra I. Choudhary	Project Volunteer	United Kingdom
23	Ms. Racheal Nantume	Project Volunteer	Uganda
24	Dr. Madhulika Sahoo	Project Volunteer	India
25	Dr. Biswajit Paul	Project Volunteer	India
26	Dr. Srashta Choudhury	Project Volunteer	India

Between 1 August 2025 and 31 July 2026, ADN has/ had five Future Leader interns (**Table 2**) from three countries and one Junior Champion from one country (**Table 3**). To read the Testimonials of our members, please see [ANNEX 1: TESTIMONIALS](#).

In the 2024/25 academic year, we introduced the Future Leaders Programme. They are emerging leaders, and their areas of research, advocacy, and campaign match ADN's research themes. Please see **Table 4** for the list of current Future Leaders.

Table 2: List of Future Leader Interns

#	Date of Joining	Name	Status	Country
1	March 2024	Ms. Sadia Afrin Sayfa Negaban	Completed	Bangladesh
2	March 2024	Mr. Mohammad Fahimul Islam	Completed	Bangladesh
3	October 2025	Mr Omri Shoshani	Completed	USA
4	October 2025	Mr Joy Chakrabarty	Ongoing	Bangladesh
5	October 2025	Dr. Flaviane Belval	Completed	France

Table 3: List of Junior Champions

#	Name	Role	Country
1	Master Arkoneil Ghosh	Junior Champion Magazine Editor; Administrator	India
2	Master Sidharth Vidyadhar	Global Campaign Advocate	United Kingdom

Table 4: List of Future Leaders

#	Name	Role	Country
1	Ms. Chloe Vasquez	Future Leader (avoidable snakebite deaths)	United States of America
2	Ms. Giulia Cristiana	Future Leader (avoidable plastic deaths)	United Kingdom
3	Mr. Eduardo Cardoso	Future Leader (food security for climate-affected farmers)	Portugal
4	Mr. Yunes Abou El Wafa	Future Leader (food security for climate-affected farmers)	Germany

The Regional Coordinator role is a two-year term. From 1 April 2025, a new cohort of 32 Regional Coordinators began their two-year tenure (2025-2027), with 11 Regional Coordinators from the previous tenure continuing in their positions (**Table 5**). In March 2026, two Regional Coordinators stepped down from this role and one Regional Coordinator joining in July 2026. Therefore, the total number of Regional Coordinators is 33 from 18 countries.

Table 5: List of Regional Coordinators (2025-2027)

#	Date of joining	Name	Country	Institution
1	April 2019	Dr Fatima Akter	Bangladesh	University of Dhaka
2	April 2025	Dr Fariha Haseen	Bangladesh	Bangladesh Medical University
3	April 2025	Dr Arifatul Kibira	Bangladesh	American International University-Bangladesh
4	March 2023	Mr Snehendu Koner	India	Auriga Research
5	March 2021	Dr Madhulika Sahoo	India	Kalahandi University
6	April 2025	Mr Samkeer Kumar Jena	India	Fakir Mohan University
7	April 2025	Dr Grace Mundu	India	Fakir Mohan University
8	June 2024	Dr Nikhil Paul	India	Outdoor Medics
9	April 2025	Mr Vishal Pathak	India	All India Disaster Mitigation Institute
10	March 2024	Muhammad Asad Tahir	Pakistan-UK	Sustainable Leadership Forum
11	April 2025	Ms Tahira Khan	Pakistan	Punjab Emergency Service Rescue
12	June 2024	Dr Franklin Babila Doh	Cameroon	Pan African Institute for Development-East and Southern Africa
13	April 2023	Dr Ranjan Datta	Canada	Mount Royal University
14	April 2025	Dr Pukar Gupta	Nepal	National Health Action Force Nepal
15	April 2025	Ms Patience Andrew	Nigeria	Custodians Of African Literature
16	March 2019	Dr Azukaego Nnaji	Nigeria	APIN Public Health Initiatives
17	April 2025	Ms Rachael Nantume	Uganda	Uganda's Ministry of Works and Transport
18	April 2025	Prof Chen Jie-Ru	Taiwan	National Chi Nan University

19	April 2025	Dr Lin Yi-Tzue	Taiwan	National Chi Nan University
20	April 2025	Lt. Zain Dueheney	Belize	Galen University
21	April 2025	Ms Fidan Hasanova	Azer Baizan	Deloitte (Private)
22	April 2025	Ms Moza Almarhoobi	Oman	Oman's Directorate General of Meteorology
23	April 2025	Dr Yiarayong (Te) Klangboonkrong	Thailand	Thammasat University
24	April 2025	Dr Carlos Primero Gundran	The Philippines	University of the Philippines
25	April 2025	Dr Winifred Ekezie	United Kingdom	Aston University
26	April 2025	Dr Jebunessa Chapoloa	Canada	University of Regina
27	March 2019	Dr Edris Alam	UAE	Disaster and Development Organisation
28	April 2025	Dr Megumi Fujii	Japan	Japanese Red Cross Toyota College of Nursing in Japan
29	April 2025	Ms. Chifundo Katanga	Malawi	Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences
30	April 2025	Master Arkoneil Ghosh	India	Ryan Global School
31	February 2026	Dr. Ramya Pinnamaneni	India	School of Public Health at KIIT Deemed to be University
32	February 2026	Dr. Pratap Kumar Jena	India	School of Public Health at KIIT Deemed to be University
33	July 2026	Ms. Khulood Hamed	Oman	Oman Medical Specialty Board

On 31 July 2025, the [Advisory Board](#) comprised 17 multi-disciplinary world-renowned Members from eight countries (**Table 6**).

Sadly, we lost our founding Advisory Board Member, Professor Peter Jackson, on 22 August 2022.

Table 6: List of Advisory Board Members

#	Date of Joining	Name	Institution	Country
1	March 2024	Professor Vinod Sharma	Indian Institute of Public Administration and Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority	India
2	October 2023	Dr. Amarendra Mohapatra	Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) – Regional Medical Research Centre	India
3	October 2023	Dr. Ravinder Kumar Soni	Dayanand Medical College and Hospital Ludhiana, Punjab	India
4	July 2023	Col. Sanjay Srivastava	Climate Resilient Observing-Systems Promotion Council (CROPC)	India
5	July 2023	Dr. Matthew Lewin	Ophirex, Inc. USA	United States of America
6	July 2023	Dr. Stephen Paul Samuel	Ophirex, Inc. USA and NHS-England	United Kingdom
7	March 2022	Professor Alois Hirschmugl	Disaster Management, Advice and Training (DMAT) Consulting KG	Austria
8	July 2021	Mr. Mohammed Ali Said Albadi	YAS Centre for Health and Environment	Oman
9	February 2021	Professor Michael G. Petterson	Auckland University of Technology	United Kingdom/ New Zealand
10	January 2020	Mr. Steve Glovinsky	PeerConnect	United States of America
11	July 2019	Professor Daniel Ladley	University of Leicester	United Kingdom
12	March 2019	Professor Norio Okada	Kyoto University	Japan
13	March 2019	Dr. Ambika Prasad Nanda	Tata Steel	India
14	March 2019	Mr. Mihir R. Bhatt	All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI)	India
15	March 2019	Ms. Aditi Ghosh	ChildFund International	Sri Lanka/ India
16	March 2019	Ms. Patience Fyne Andrew	Custodians for African Literature (COAL)	Nigeria/ South Africa
17	March 2019	Professor Heiko Balzter	University of Leicester	United Kingdom

As of July 31, 2026, there were 1,121 members, an increase of 28 (2.5%) since July 2025. This total includes 28 Operations Team Members, 17 Advisory Board Members, 30 Regional Coordinators, 21 [Collaborator and Partner Organisations](#), and [Affiliates](#).

The ADN Awards highlight the exceptional work of our members. Launched on 13 March 2023 in Izumiotsu, Osaka, Japan, the Awards featured two awards: the President's Award and the Future Leader Award. The following year, on 12 March 2024 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India, two additional awards were introduced: the Regional Coordinator Award and the Junior Champion Award. The Hero Award was introduced in 2024.

Selection Criteria:

- The President's Award and Hero Award are chosen by ADN Presidents, Professor Nibedita Ray-Bennett and Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita.
- The Future Leader Award is chosen by the Future Leaders. Each Future Leader can cast one vote.
- The Regional Coordinator Award is chosen by the Regional Coordinators. Each Regional Coordinator can cast one vote.
- The Junior Champion Award is chosen by the Junior Champion. Each Junior Champion can cast one vote.

The Hero Award is nominated by individuals and organisations and selected by a panel of members.

Winners:

Thus far, there have been four winners of the President's Award, three winners of the Future Leader Award, two winners of the Regional Coordinator Award and the Junior Champion Award and one winner of the Hero Award. The winners for 2025/2026 are listed in **Table 7**.

Table 7: List of ADN Award Winners

Year	President's Award	Future Leader Award	Regional Coordinator Award	Hero Award
2026	Ms. Kelly Litsoung	Ms. Sadia Afrin Sayfa Negaban	Master Arkoneil Ghosh (India)	José Njuki-Imwe Ngunjiri for transforming community safety from an abstract concept into practical, lifesaving action in Kenya

GLOBAL CAMPAIGN: INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS DAY FOR AVOIDABLE DEATHS

[International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths \(IAD4AD\)](#) was launched on 13 March 2023 at Texpia Osaka, Izumiotsu, Osaka, Japan. IAD4AD was launched in collaboration with the City of Izumiotsu and was headlined by a message from the then Head of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), Ms Mami Mizutori.

The purpose of this global campaign is:

- To raise the visibility of disaster deaths, indirect deaths and missing persons and capture their impact on the lives and livelihoods of the deceased family members;
- To capture the causes and circumstances surrounding indirect disaster deaths so that context-specific interventions can be put in place to save lives; and
- To promote the slogan 'Disaster Deaths Are Avoidable'. They are avoidable through preventable, amenable and risk governance measures.

Update on Year 3 of the Global Campaign

The 2026 edition marked the third year of the International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths (IAD4AD) campaign, closing on 31 March 2026. Regional Coordinators led activities across 16 countries, delivering over 30 activities, including the launch of two new country chapters, in Taiwan and India. During the campaign, ADN also launched its Monitoring and Evaluation (MEL) Framework for the Global Campaign, developed to track the impact of the 10-year initiative, with ethics approval secured from the University of Leicester.

To mark the global campaign, 33 activities took place across 15 countries (four continents), including Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belize, Cameroon, Canada, India, Japan, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, and the UK.

These activities include awareness programmes, community engagement efforts, training sessions, creative advocacy campaigns, and academic discussions on disaster prevention and preparedness. This year, the campaign activities focused on road safety, drowning prevention, heatwave awareness, and snakebite response, featuring country-specific interventions tailored to local challenges.

The events were featured in several [press](#) articles, and the IAD4AD 2026 Highlight Report will be available on: [IAD4AD 2026 - International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths](#).

COUNTRY CHAPTERS

Country Chapters are the local chapters of the ADN, responsible for local activities. Each Chapter brings together a range of actors to form a community representing different sectors, networks, and at-risk groups involved in reducing avoidable deaths. A Chapter can be hosted by a single organisation or a group of organisations, and must be led by a Regional Coordinator, who serves as the host organisation's point of contact. As of 31 July 2026, ADN had four Country Chapters (Table 8). The India Chapter was relaunched on 19 March, and we are actively seeking a new host for the Oman Chapter.

Table 8: List of Country Chapters

Date of Inauguration	Country	City	Host
19 March 2026	India	Bhubaneswar	KIIT (Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology)
12 March 2026	Taiwan	Nantou	National Chi Nan University
25 June 2023	Oman	Al Buraimi	YAS Centre for Health and Environment, YAS Hospital (<i>inactive currently</i>)
18 June 2023	Bangladesh	Dhaka	Department of Meteorology, University of Dhaka

Research Hubs: Due to a change in ADN's strategy from 1 August 2025, we have de-established our Hub in India and are focusing on Case Stations for Avoidable Deaths.

A **Case Station for Avoidable Deaths** (CaSA) is the smallest unit for long-term research, outreach, and impactful work, typically operating for 10 years or more. This unit can be a school, a community health centre, a small hamlet within a village, or similar localised entities. A case station is place-based and issue-based. For example, a specific location might experience a high incidence of snakebites or drownings due to its unique geography, among other contributing factors. As of 31 July 2026, we have three CaSAs and one in progress.

Table 9: List of Case Stations for Avoidable Deaths

Date of Inauguration	Full Title	Country	Location	Host
March 2019 to present	Izumitsu Case Station for Avoidable Deaths (ICaSA)	Japan	Izumitsu City	Dr. Hideyuki Shiroshita
September 2023 to present	Burujhari Case Station for Avoidable Snakebite Deaths (CaSA)	India	Burujhari village of Ganjam District in Odisha	Professor Nibedita Ray-Bennett
March 2025 to present	Ahmedabad Case Station for Avoidable Deaths due to Extreme Heat (ACaSA)	India	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI)
April 2026 to present	Sunamganj Case Station for Avoidable Deaths (SCaSA)	Bangladesh	Sunamganj	Dr Fatima Akter (Associate Professor, University of Dhaka)

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2025/2026

To achieve the ADN's purpose, eight activities were undertaken, as follows:

- 1) Foster trans-disciplinary ideas, partnerships and solutions to reduce avoidable disaster deaths and people affected by disasters for sustainable development in low-and middle-income countries, through knowledge exchange events (conferences, symposiums and webinars).
- 2) Raise visibility and awareness of the Sendai Framework's first two targets, through publications, knowledge exchange events, and a global campaign.
- 3) Develop capacities of disaster responders and other stakeholders, through continuing professional development courses, knowledge exchange events and an information repository.
- 4) Develop lifesaving tools, kits, interventions, innovative technologies, governance models and theories to reduce the burden of maternal mortality, snakebite mortality, drowning mortality during disasters, and tsunami mortality through evidence-based pioneering research on hazards, exposures, vulnerability and risks.
- 5) Strengthen connections between disaster responders through leveraging existing and promoting novel networking platforms.
- 6) Nurture future leaders for avoidable deaths and improve their leadership and employability skills through expert mentoring and engaging interns for activities related to 1-5.
- 7) Publishing a Newsletter and Bulletins for knowledge exchange; and
- 8) Actively soliciting and securing private and public funds to promote the above activities.

Activity 1: Foster trans-disciplinary ideas, partnerships and solutions to reduce avoidable disaster deaths and people affected by disasters for sustainable development in low-and middle-income countries, through knowledge exchange events (conferences, symposia and webinars).

Special Session Webinars: The Special Session on *Avoidable Deaths* was launched on 4th December 2020 at the '*International Conference on Geographical Science for Resilient Communities, Ecosystems and Livelihoods under Global Environmental Change*' organised by Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. The Special Sessions are knowledge exchange and engagement webinars delivered virtually to the public for free with the aim of raising awareness on the concept of avoidable deaths and their avoidance through theoretical and practical solutions, or both. The Special Sessions also increase knowledge and awareness of those deaths that are often not on the mainstream agenda of policymakers, practitioners, and even academia. World-class researchers, experts and practitioners are invited to speak at the Special Sessions.

The ADN's Core Team, in collaboration with Regional Coordinators, Organisational Partners and Advisors, organised 5 Special Sessions (**Table 10 and Figure 1**). The sessions drew **280** registered participants and featured more than **30** expert speakers who discussed strategies to reduce avoidable disaster deaths.

Before and after the ADN-led five Special Sessions, the participants were asked to answer questions using their own digital device about their confidence level and knowledge of the topics covered in the Special Sessions. The questions were asked using a 5-level Likert scale, where 1 = not at all confident, and 5 = very confident. The results showed a significant increase in positive responses (very confident and moderately confident) after the Sessions (**Table 10**). It can be concluded that the Special Sessions provided the participants with expert knowledge related to avoidable deaths. The increased percentage of positive responses and the complete absence of "not at all confident" ratings suggest the Special Sessions were meaningful, regardless of participant experience. However, the findings must be accepted with caution. Participation barriers, such as a lack of smartphones or other digital devices and a steady supply of electricity, may have prevented some individuals from the Global South from taking part in the poll questions, potentially impacting the representativeness of the data.

Table 10: List of Special Sessions 2025 – 2026

Between August 2025 and July 2026, ADN expanded its Special Sessions programme, deepened engagement through two new country chapter launches, and continued to grow its social media presence in support of the Sendai Framework's first two targets.

Date	Title of Special Session	Facilitating Organisation	Impact
13 October 2025	Release of the ADN Junior Champion Magazine, Volume 4: Children and Youth's Experiences of Disasters in Taiwan	ADN, Kansai University, National Chi Nan University	1. Number of registered participants: 60 2. Number of speakers: 4 3. Attendees described the session as insightful and asked how to join the network. 4. Recording made publicly available on YouTube.
8–10 December 2025	Online CPD Course: Disaster Resilience, Disaster Deaths and Creative Methodology for Risk Reduction	K2 Crisis and Resilience, in collaboration with ADN	1. Three-day programme covering disaster resilience, avoidable disaster deaths, and creative risk-reduction methodologies. Number of registered participants: 8 2. Delivered by speakers from India, Japan, Nigeria and the UK, including Prof. Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett, Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita, Mr Tom Mecrow, Mr James Brown, Ms Andrew Patience, Mr Alex Skinner and Dr Winifred Ekezie. 3. Participants invited to join a professional network of risk reduction and disaster resilience practitioners supported by ADN.
3 March 2026	Debate: Whether the climate crisis is a communication crisis?	UNOCHA-Humanitarian Networks Partnerships Week	1. Number of registered participants: 74. 2. Number of speakers: 4 (1 Chair + 3 Speakers). 3. Expert debate examined whether climate change is primarily a communication, political, or structural challenge, highlighting the role of

			digital media, misinformation, governance, and climate justice. 4. Participants reported increased understanding of climate communication, with 80% feeling moderately confident and 20% feeling very confident after the session. 5. Recording made publicly available on YouTube.
4 March 2026	Campaigning to reduce avoidable deaths in a climate-challenged world	UNOCHA-Humanitarian Networks Partnerships Week	1. Number of registered participants: 73. 2. Number of speakers: 9 (1 Chair + 8 Speakers). 3. Session showcased global and grassroots campaigns addressing climate-related avoidable deaths, emphasising equity, early warning systems, youth engagement, and community resilience. 4. Participants reported increased confidence and understanding of the role of campaigns in reducing avoidable deaths, with most indicating moderate to high confidence after the session. 5. Recording made publicly available on YouTube.
26 March 2026	Release of the ADN Junior Champion Magazine, Volume 5: Children and Youth's Experiences of Disasters in Pakistan	ADN, Sustainable Leadership Forum, District Emergency Office (Pakistan)	1. Number of attendees: 26 2. Number of speakers: 12 3. Results of confidence poll (5-level Likert scale, n=9): 77.8% very confident; 22.2% moderately confident; 0% somewhat, only slightly, or not at all confident. 4. Recording made publicly available on YouTube.

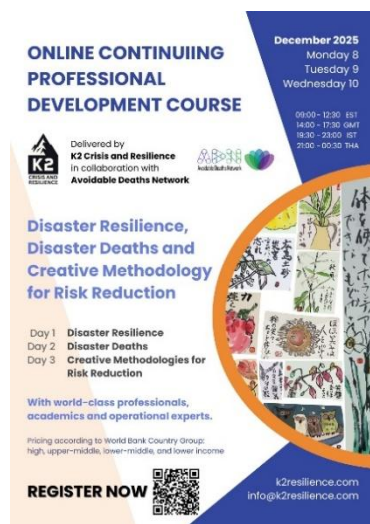


Figure 1: Flyers of the Special Sessions

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Beyond the Special Sessions above, ADN engaged its network and partners through several further activities.

- On 12 November 2025, the Feichang DRR Reading Club Hosted a Mandarin-language follow-up session on JCM Volume 4, bringing together 40 participants, including students from Puli and Chiayi, to discuss earthquake preparedness; attendees praised the session for inspiring empathy and stronger community engagement.
- On 4 March 2026, ADN delivered two sessions at UNOCHA HNPW 2026, attracting 147 registered participants and 12 speakers in total, representing the UK, Pakistan, and across Asia.
- On 12–13 March 2026, the ADN Taiwan Chapter was launched at National Chi Nan University, drawing approximately 40 participants and 9 speakers, including both ADN Presidents and JCM Founding Editor Master Arkoneil Ghosh. Delegates also visited the Paper Temple, a symbol of post-earthquake resilience.
- On 19 March 2026, the ADN India Chapter was launched at the KIIT School of Public Health, Bhubaneswar, bringing together approximately 30–40 participants, including representatives from UNDP and UNICEF, for keynote and panel sessions on avoidable deaths in India.

Academic and Institutional Engagement

Beyond the Special Sessions series, ADN's leadership contributed to academic and institutional engagement throughout the period, including a guest lecture on Children's Rights in Environmental Governance for the University of Nairobi's MA programme (44 students and academics from Kenya, Zimbabwe, and Malawi) and a public lecture to eight early-career researchers of the NEREIDS Network on the findings of *Avoiding Disaster Deaths: Why do so many people die?* (Springer Nature, 2025).

Meetings with Stakeholders

Projects:

Proof of concept: Using RHCC Intervention in Facilities to Reduce Maternal Mortality and Morbidity in Bangladesh

Stakeholder engagement for the pilot phase intensified in the second half of the reporting period. On 25 May 2026, the project was selected to showcase its Facility and Mobile Kits, alongside the Avoidable Deaths Lab, at the UK Global Research and Development and Science Investment Summit, held at The Royal Society, London, on 9 June 2026 and co-chaired by Professor Dame Angela McLean DBE FRS and the Rt Hon. Greg Clark, with a range of national and international investors in attendance. On 10 July 2026, Prof. Ray-Bennett delivered a successful elevator pitch, securing the Medical Research Council Impact Accelerator Account Prize to advance the project; the team is now establishing new collaborations in India, Sri Lanka, and Nepal to generate health economics data ahead of a planned future trial.

Facility and Mobile Reproductive Health Kits for Disasters and Crises

Between August 2025 and January 2026, the project team maintained active engagement with stakeholders in preparation for the piloting phase. On 11 August 2025, the team met with mentors from the ESRC/AHRC SHAPE Catalyst programme, delivered by the ARC Accelerator, to discuss developing promotional and user-focused video content for the Kits. On 25 November 2025, Prof. Nibedita S. Ray-Bennett presented the project's Final Pitch to the ARC Accelerator Team. The most substantial stakeholder engagement of the period occurred on 30 December 2025, when the team delivered an Orientation Workshop in Moulvibazar, Sylhet District, Bangladesh, in collaboration with the Reproductive Health Services Training and Education Programme (RHSTEP). The workshop was attended by senior officials from the Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP), including Dr Nasir

Ahmed (Director, MCH-Services Unit) and Dr Md. Monjur Hossain, alongside district-level Family Planning and Civil Surgeon representatives. It brought together 32 medical doctors, nurses, midwives, and Family Welfare Assistants from primary health facilities across Kulaura Upazila, in preparation for the intervention's rollout.

The Avoidable Deaths Lab (AD Lab)

The Avoidable Deaths Lab (AD Lab), a not-for-profit spin-out of ADN/University of Leicester, had its proposal approved by the University of Leicester's Innovation Board (chaired by Prof. Richard Thomas) on 27 May 2026. AD Lab was selected (1 of 200 spinouts) to showcase at the UK Global R&D and Science Investment Summit at The Royal Society, London, on 9 June 2026 as part of London Tech Week, which drew over 200 researchers, spinouts, industry representatives, and political leaders from across the Midlands. The showcase led to new connections with Barclays Eagle Labs and a mentor from a local multinational company.

Study Groups:

Avoidable Disaster Deaths (ADD) Study Group

Two years of engagement with new and existing partners in preparation for the Wellcome Discovery Proposal, comprising 13 consultative meetings and nine Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) events held in India and Japan (2024–25), led to the launch of the Avoidable Disaster Deaths (ADD) Study Group on 22 January 2026. The ADD Study Group brings together 24 members from 14 institutions across the UK, South Asia, and Japan. It was proposed by Dr Pratap Jena (KIIT), and the proposal was unanimously approved at the launch meeting. The Group applies the Avoidable Disaster Deaths Framework to open data on disaster-related deaths and is currently conducting a rapid review of more than 50 causes and circumstances of disaster-related deaths across India, Bangladesh, and Japan.

Activity 2: Raise visibility and awareness of the Sendai Framework's first two targets (A&B) through publications and knowledge exchange events.

Knowledge exchange events

See Activity 1 above.

Publications related to the Sendai Framework's first two targets by the core team:

Ray-Bennett, N.S. et al. (2026) "Novel Mobile and Facility Reproductive Health Kits: enhancing safe abortion and post-abortion care during disasters and humanitarian crises," *Reproductive Health* [Preprint]. Available at: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12978-026-02419-5>.

Engagements with external organisations to raise awareness of Sendai Framework's first two targets

See Activity 1 and the section on 'Conferences, Seminars, Workshops and Presentations'.

Between 1 August 2025 and 30 June 2026, ADN's media outlets continued to disseminate news, research, and innovative solutions to international, national, regional, and local audiences. On LinkedIn, ADN's primary social media channel, content generated 166,579 impressions, 1,214 reactions, 81 comments, and 52 reposts, and followers grew to 2,088, an increase of 350 over the period, continuing the strong growth seen the previous year (1,729 followers, up 40.5%, as of July 2025). On Facebook, the page recorded 17,479 views and 1,047 interactions (a 24% increase), reaching 767 total followers, a net increase of 39 (+5.5%) against 25 unfollows.

ADN's website hosts a dedicated Resources section, comprising: (i) Innovations, (ii) Newsletter, (iii) ADN Junior Champion Magazine, (iv) Bulletins, (v) Annual Reports, (vi) Annual Achievements Posters, (vii) Project Outputs, (viii) Event Outputs, (ix) Relevant Publications, (x) Repository of Snakebite Information, (xi) Repository of COVID-19 Information, (xii) Photo Gallery, and (xiii) Season's Greetings. Through this range of outputs, ADN continues to shine a light on the Sendai Goals A and B.

Activity 3: Develop capacities of disaster responders and other stakeholders, through continuing professional development (CPD) courses, knowledge exchange events and an information repository.

CPD:

In collaboration with K2 Crisis and Resilience, the ADN delivered a three-day online Continuing Professional Development (CPD) course, "Disaster Resilience, Disaster Deaths and Creative Methodology for Risk Reduction," from 8–10 December 2025. The course was led by Mr Alexander Skinner (Director, K2 Crisis and Resilience), with contributions from Mr James D. R. Brown (Disaster Response and Humanitarian Assistance Specialist) and Mr Tom Mecrow (Senior Evidence Manager, Royal National Lifeboat Institution).

Professor Peter Jackson's Annual Lecture:

The fourth lecture honouring the late Professor Jackson is planned to be hosted at the University of Dhaka.

Knowledge exchange events

Please see Activities 1 and 2 above.

Activity 4: Develop lifesaving tools, kits, interventions, innovative technologies, governance models and theories to reduce the burden of maternal mortality, snakebite mortality, drowning mortality during disasters, and tsunami mortality through evidence-based pioneering research on hazards, exposures, vulnerability and risks.

The previous and ongoing innovations of the Core Team are outlined below:

1. **Knowledge-Exchange Network (KEN) Platform** (ongoing): Also referred to as a Knowledge-Sharing Network (KSN) in older documents. A KEN fosters i) dialogue and discussion within and across stakeholder locations; ii) coordination, cooperation, and communication amongst stakeholders for resource-sharing and response at local levels; iii) identification of scope for transformative interdisciplinary research; and iv) improvement of the capacity of local stakeholders.

The KEN Platform for 'Avoidable Snakebite Deaths' is implemented through a WhatsApp group of 76 members from over 10 countries, representing more than 40 organisations (as of 31 July 2026).

- 2. Local-Level Action Network (LAN) Platform** (ongoing): LAN Ambassadors are being trialled with high-risk groups, including women, schoolchildren, farmers and herders, to empower the local community to prevent snakebites and deaths in Odisha, India. LAN Ambassadors are trained to prevent snakebites and deaths using information, education, and communication (IEC) and behaviour change communication (BCC) materials. This information is then shared with villagers through home visits and community meetings. Through these meetings, Ambassadors identify local problems requiring solutions from technical experts. Ambassadors from a respective Gram Panchayat meet regularly, and field coordinators monitor these meetings.

As of 31 July 2026, in addition to the existing 35 Ambassadors across 13 villages of Kodala Block, we have explored new ambassadors at Puroshotampur Block of Ganjam District ([CaSa-Highlight-Redacted-1.pdf](#)).

- 3. Reproductive Health Kits for Disasters and Crises** (work in progress): With funding from the ESRC/AHRC SHAPE Catalyst, delivered through the ARC Accelerator's fund (which concluded in January 2026), Prof. Ray-Bennett developed a business model to bring the Kits to the global market. This has since progressed to a Proof-of-Concept pilot (January 2026 – October 2027), funded by the ESRC Impact Acceleration Account and trialling the Kits across five primary health facilities in Kulaura Upazila, Bangladesh, with expanded collaborators including Bangladesh Medical University and Dycine Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (India). On 28 June 2026, Prof. Ray-Bennett was awarded a £15,000 Medical Research Council Impact Accelerator Account (MRC-IAA) Prize to accelerate the translation of the Kits into a scalable, real-world solution. A successful elevator pitch on 10 July 2026 further secured funding to extend health economics data collection to India, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. By the end of the reporting period, ethics approval had been granted by the University of Leicester's Overseas Complex Ethics Committee (23 July 2026), with review by the Institutional Review Board at Bangladesh Medical University ongoing.

Publication/s:

Ray-Bennett, N.S. et al. (2026) "Novel Mobile and Facility Reproductive Health Kits: enhancing safe abortion and post-abortion care during disasters and humanitarian crises," Reproductive Health [Preprint]. Available at: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12978-026-02419-5>.

4. **Integrated intervention package RHCC**: is designed to improve the quality and availability of post-abortion care during a major flood at primary health care facilities with the overall aim of reducing maternal mortality and morbidity (SDG3, Sendai Target A). The RHCC has three components: i) pre-positioning of **R**eproductive **H**ealth Kit prior to flooding; ii) **C**apacity building of health workers; and iii) **C**ommunity awareness raising. The evidence-based RHCC package was first tested in Belkuchi, Bangladesh. This intervention package comes with a Structured Facility Assessment Tool and a Two-Step Checklist Facility Assessment Tool. These tools are designed to assess the capacity of the facilities for sexual and reproductive services, including menstrual regulation and post-abortion care, during disasters and humanitarian crises. The RHCC intervention is currently under trial with the use of the Facility and Mobile RH Kits in Kulaura Upazila, Bangladesh.

Publications:

Ray-Bennett, N.S., Ekezie, W., Biswas, I. Choudhary, N.I., Cowie, D., Dissanayake, L., MacLeod, L, Nnaji, A., and Sahoo, M. (2024) Sexual and Reproductive Service Interventions for Menstrual Regulation, Safe Abortion and Post-Abortion Care and Their Effectiveness During Disasters: A Global Systematic Review. *International Journal for Disaster Risk Science* (2024) 15: 359-373 DOI 10.1007/s13753-024-00565-7

Ray-Bennett, N.S., Corsel, D., Goswami, N. and Bhuiyan, M. 2021. 'RHCC Intervention: Strengthening the delivery and coverage of sexual and reproductive health care during floods in Bangladesh' *International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare*, 14(4): 327-347 doi.org/10.1108/IJHRH-11-2020-0098

Ray-Bennett, N.S., Corsel, D., Goswami, N. and Ghosh, A. 2019. 'Understanding reproductive health challenges during a flood: Insights from Belkuchi Upazila, Bangladesh', *Gates Open Research* 2019(3): 788. [dx.doi.org/10.12688/gatesopenres.12920.2](https://doi.org/10.12688/gatesopenres.12920.2)

Ray-Bennett, N.S., Corsel, D., Goswami, N. and Jackson, P. 2019. 'Challenges and opportunities around reproductive health during a flood: Insight from Belkuchi upazila, Bangladesh'. Contributing Paper to *Global Assessment Report (GAR) 2019*.

Ray-Bennett, N.S., Corsel, D.M. and Goswami, N. 2019. *Exploring the Challenges and Opportunities Around Reproductive Health in Disasters in Belkuchi Upazila, Bangladesh*. IPPF Publication: London. [ippf.org/resource/improving-quality-and-availability-post-abortion-care-humanitarian-crisis](https://www.ippf.org/resource/improving-quality-and-availability-post-abortion-care-humanitarian-crisis)

Ray-Bennett, N.S., Corsel, D.M. and Goswami, N. 2019. *RHCC: Facilitating Opportunities for Reproductive Health Care during a Flood in Bangladesh*. IPPF Publication: London. [ippf.org/sites/default/files/201904/IPPF%20Innovation%20Policy%20Brief%20PAC.pdf](https://www.ippf.org/sites/default/files/201904/IPPF%20Innovation%20Policy%20Brief%20PAC.pdf)

Ray-Bennett, N.S., Corsel, D.M. and Goswami, N. 2019. *RHCC: Improving the Quality of Post Abortion Care during Floods in Belkuchi, Bangladesh*. IPPF Publication: London. [ippf.org/sites/default/files/20104/IPPF%20Innovation%20Policy%20Brief%20RHCC%20Approach_0.pdf](https://www.ippf.org/sites/default/files/20104/IPPF%20Innovation%20Policy%20Brief%20RHCC%20Approach_0.pdf)

Ray-Bennett, N.S., Corsel, D.M. and Goswami, N. 2019. *What do I do If I experience Complications After Receiving Post Abortion Care*, IEC Poster, IPPF Publication: London. (English and Bengali).

[ippf.org/sites/default/files/201904/IPPF%20Innovation%20Policy%20Brief%20PAC.pdf](https://www.ippf.org/sites/default/files/201904/IPPF%20Innovation%20Policy%20Brief%20PAC.pdf)

- 5. Systems Failure Approach (2018):** The research monograph *Avoidable Deaths* presents systems failure as an analytical tool to explain why deaths occur in disasters and how they may be reduced. The systems failure approach demonstrates that deaths in disasters are socio-technical failures, and that deaths can be prevented by rectifying systems failures and promoting systems alignment.

Publications:

Coetzee, J. and McLeod, L. (2022) 'The Key Role of Women in Preventing Disaster Related Avoidable Deaths', *Intersectionality of Women Led Disaster Preparedness and Resilience*, 197: Southasiadisasters.net. reliefweb.int/report/india/intersectionality-women-led-disaster-preparedness-and-resilience-southasiadisastersnet

Ray-Bennett, N.S. and Shiroshita, H. 2019. Disasters, Deaths and the Sendai Framework's Target One: A Case for Systems Failure in Hiroshima Landslide 2014, Japan. *Disaster Prevention and Management*, 28 (6): 764-785 doi.org/10.1108/DPM-09-2019-0302

Ray-Bennett, N.S. and Shiroshita, H. 2019. Disasters, Deaths and the Sendai Framework's Target One: A Case for Systems Failure in Hiroshima Landslide 2014, Japan. Contributing Paper to *Global Assessment Report (GAR)* 2019. preventionweb.net/files/66627_f424finalnibeditas.raybennettdisast.pdf

Ray-Bennett, N.S. 2018. *Avoidable Deaths: A Systems Failure Approach to Disaster Risk Management*. Springer Nature: Switzerland. Environmental Hazard Series. link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-66951-9

Ray-Bennett, N.S. 2017. Disasters, Deaths and the Sendai Goal One: Lessons from Odisha, India. *World Development*. 103(2018): 27-39. doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2017.10.003

Ray-Bennett, N.S. 2016. Learning from Deaths in Disasters: The Case of Odisha, India. MEI Middle East-Asia Project (MAP) on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief: Rising to the Challenge? *MAP Bulletin*. mei.edu/content/map/learning-deaths-disasters-case-odishaindia

Activity 5: Strengthen connections between disaster responders through leveraging existing and promoting novel networking platforms.

Projects that aim to promote novel networking platform/s

Exploring the Feasibility and Value of Pioneering Partnerships to Reduce Avoidable Snakebite Deaths in India (ongoing):

The Avoidable Snakebite Deaths Project (January–August 2023), led by Prof. Nibedita Ray-Bennett, brought together 14 collaborating organisations from academia, disaster management, and public health across the UK, Germany, Japan, and India. The project concluded on 31 August 2023, having expanded ADN's network to include nine additional institutions and two independent snake rescuers.

The project's lasting outputs endure: a 76-member cross-sectoral WhatsApp group on Avoidable Snakebite Deaths, still active and growing, which feeds ADN's published Repository of Snakebite Information; and the Case Station for Avoidable Snakebite Deaths in Odisha, launched as a direct result of this work. In December 2025, the Leicester Institute for Advanced Studies featured an update on the project in its published anthology.

PROF NIBEDITA RAY-BENNETT



Avoidable Snakebite Deaths in India

India is the global hotspot for snakebite deaths with annual deaths around 58,000 and a further 140,000 incidents leading to various disabilities including limb injuries and amputations.

Envenoming occurs when particular types of snakes inject a toxic secretion via a bite delivered to victims. About 75% of snakebite deaths in India occur in rural areas before reaching hospitals, and half of all deaths occur from June to September during the monsoon season.



Avoidable Deaths Network

AVOIDABLE SNAKEBITE DEATHS IN INDIA

This season is notorious for flooding in the South Asian sub-continent. Deaths from snakebites during floods or disasters are known as indirect disaster deaths. Reducing disaster deaths is currently the United Nations 'Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction' first global target. This global target is consistent with the World Health Organisation's Snakebite Envenoming Strategy for Prevention and Control, which urges national governments to halve snakebite deaths by 2030. The Government of India has ratified both Frameworks, as such, it is imperative that reducing snakebite deaths is given utmost priority for disaster-resilient sustainable development.

The project led by Professor Nibedita Ray-Bennett in collaboration with 14 organisations explored who are responsible for reducing snakebite deaths and how can they be leveraged for networking to bring positive change. The project found six broad categories of stakeholders who are responsible for reducing snakebite deaths. Funded by the Institute for Environmental Futures

and the Institute for Precision Health, the findings of this project were disseminated through six outreach workshops in March and April 2024 in the district of Ganjam in Odisha, India. Ganjam District carries the highest burden of snakebite deaths in Odisha. The target groups for these workshops included high-risk populations: rural women, children, farmers, and herders.

The outcome of this project includes

- the launching of a Case Station for Avoidable Snakebite Deaths (CaSA) in Burujhari village of Ganjam District (SEPTEMBER 2024)
- the launching of a Knowledge Exchange Network (KEN) for technical experts (APRIL 2024)
- the mobilisation of 21 community ambassadors or doots for Local-level Action Network (LAN) or Sthanryo Kormo Solanjhojona (SKS) for high-risk groups (MARCH 2024)
- a short film using spoken words poetry to raise awareness on snakebite deaths in Sub-Saharan Africa (MARCH 2024).

Figure 2: Anthology Feature

Ganjam [Case Station for Avoidable Snakebite Deaths \(CaSA\)](#) (September 2023 - Present)

Led by Prof. Nibedita Ray-Bennett:

The Case Station for Avoidable Snakebite Deaths (CaSA) was launched on 19 September 2023 in Burujhari village of Ganjam District in Odisha, India. The CaSA exists to promote a social learning laboratory at the village level; foster village-level communities of practice (aka local-level action network (LAN)) to find solutions at scale; and develop the capacity of primary and secondary responders to reduce avoidable snakebite deaths.

On 15 October 2025, Prof. Ray-Bennett and Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita, together with Ms Usha Behera and Mr Blorin Mohanty of Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS), visited Raipur Gram Panchayat in Puroshotampur Block, Ganjam District, meeting 13 BGVS volunteers from eight blocks and engaging 35–40 local participants aged 10–55 in a workshop addressing myths about snakebites and the importance of the "golden hour" for anti-venom treatment. A parallel workshop for local schoolchildren led to an agreement with the Head Teacher to host a new school-based CaSA, with activities planned to launch in January 2026. This reflects a strategic shift away from the original three-village model (Chachina, Su Mondol, Burujhari), which had faced declining engagement following the departure of ADN's field coordinator and the end of the partnership with the Orissa State Volunteers Social Workers Association, replaced by a new collaboration with BGVS and a school-based approach informed by ICaSA's model in Japan.



Figure 3: At the Workshop

Ahmedabad Case Station for Avoidable Deaths due to Extreme Heat (ACaSA) (March 2025 - Present) Led by Vishal Pathak (AIDMI):

The All-India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI) launched the Ahmedabad Case Station for Avoidable Heatwave Deaths (ACaSA) on 17 March 2025 to address the rising risks of extreme heat in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India. The launch of ACaSA marked a major step in creating a heat-resilient Ahmedabad, driven by community action, government support, and data-informed decision-making. With ACaSA, AIDMI, in collaboration with ADN, aims to prevent avoidable deaths and build a safer future for high-risk populations in the face of climate change.

On 13 October 2025 (International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction), ACaSA reported that more than 50 small businesses in Ahmedabad had committed to extreme-heat preparedness measures, installing shade nets, reflective sheets, and insulated storage, and adjusting working hours, aligning with the IDDRR 2025 theme, "Fund Resilience, Not Disasters," and ADN's mission. Health workers, civil hospitals, and ward offices were linked through Ahmedabad's Heat Action Plan, using the India Meteorological Department's Museum and NDMA's SACHET early-warning apps to reach at-risk residents. On 12 March 2026, aligned with IAD4AD, ACaSA delivered a capacity-building initiative with Ahmedabad Municipal Transport Services, training 348 transport workers to interpret early-warning alerts and translate them into protective actions: hydration, rest breaks, and symptom recognition, with a follow-up programme planned for the end of 2026.



Figure 4: The ACaSA Launch Event

[ICaSA \(Izumitsu Case Station for Avoidable Deaths\)](#): Led by Dr Hideyuki Shiroshta (Kansai University):

ICaSA works with the "at-risk" community of Izumitsu, a port city on the coast in Osaka Prefecture, to reduce tsunami deaths through school-based disaster risk reduction (DRR) education.

[Junior Champions in Hama Elementary School, Japan:](#)

As the main component of ICaSA, Dr Hideyuki Shiroshta, Founding President of the Avoidable Deaths Network, together with his Kansai University students, delivered DRR education at Hama Elementary School to 44 fifth-grade pupils, certified this year as Junior Champions. The Junior Champions adopted a two-pronged approach, addressing both "concrete" and "abstract" dimensions of preparedness.

Concrete initiative: the Izumitsu City Disaster Warehouse. The Junior Champions planned and managed an open-house preview of the city's new disaster warehouse, nicknamed "Ozu-Bo" from "Ozu," the historical name of Izumitsu, and "bo," from bousai (disaster risk reduction), established in November 2025.

The city of Izumitsu: [見て、触れて、体験できる防災倉庫 おづぼう OZU-BO／泉大津市](#)

The warehouse was developed in response to lessons Izumitsu officials learned while supporting recovery efforts after the 2024 Noto Peninsula Earthquake, where relief supplies had proven hard to deliver, and residents had struggled to operate emergency equipment such as portable toilets; the warehouse was designed not just for stockpiling but as a facility where people can learn to use the supplies effectively during a real disaster. To prepare, the children studied the warehouse's contents and purpose in detail, compiling their findings into slides for live presentations on the day. The open house attracted more than 80 visitors, including the Mayor of Izumitsu, city officials, council members, and representatives of voluntary DRR organisations, who praised the initiative and the students' efforts.



Figure 5: The open-house preview of Ozu-bo

(Faces are masked for privacy protection)

Abstract initiative: the song "117 Hopes." Osaka Prefectural Government projections suggest that if everyone in Izumiotsu evacuated immediately after a Nankai Trough earthquake, no lives would be lost to a tsunami, but delayed evacuation could claim up to 2,000 lives. Rather than convey this message directly, the Junior Champions chose to do so indirectly, through songwriting. Working in small groups, the students developed key messages for the lyrics, which Kansai University students then organised and set to music. The children named the finished song "117 Hopes" ("117 no Kibo"), a number representing the combined character count of all participants' given names, paired with their hopes for the future. The song was performed for parents and guardians during a school observation day, and in February 2026 for city officials and for students at Shuangxi Elementary School in Chiayi County, Taiwan, Hama's sister school, leading to an online performance at Shuangxi's graduation ceremony after the school's principal requested it. Exchange and expansion. Through the ADN Taiwan Chapter, mutual exchange visits between the two sister schools were realised: five Hama students visited Shuangxi in December 2025, and fourteen Shuangxi students visited Hama in February 2026, with both groups presenting their respective DRR learning outcomes. Plans are now underway to formalise an "ADN Schools" framework, elevating these school-centred initiatives into an international system for inter-school exchange. In 2026, ICaSA also expanded to a new DRR learning initiative at Kusunoki Elementary School, and Dr Shiroshita

supervised a DRR education event for the city's "Bosai Joshi-bu" (DRR Women's Club), alongside the continuing children-led "Happy Smile Izumiotsu" public-awareness initiative.



Figure 6: Performance of "117 Hopes"

(Faces are masked for privacy protection)

SCaSA (Sunamganj Case Station for Avoidable Deaths): Led by Dr Fatima Akter (University of Dhaka):

SCaSA is Bangladesh's first Case Station, established to address recurring lightning and flash-flood-induced drowning deaths among farmers, fishermen, and children in the haor region of Tahirpur Upazila, Sunamganj. In April 2026, ADN Future Leaders Sadia Afrin Sayfa Negaban, Mohammad Fahimul Islam, Maisha Farzana Methila, and Jayeef Rahman Muaz facilitated a Pre-Launch Engagement Session at Moddho Tahirpur Government Primary School, engaging 40 Class 4 and 5 students in disaster-awareness activities and encouraging them to act as safety messengers within their households and communities.



Figure 7: Pre-launch Engagement Event

Projects that aim to leverage existing networking platform/s

[Leading Edge Programme - United Nations Office for the Coordination for Humanitarian Affairs \(UNOCHA\)](#) (2024): On 8 May 2024, ADN gained membership with UNOCHA's Networks and Partnerships Group. ADN's membership is coordinated by Prof. Nibedita Ray-Bennett and ADN Advisory Board Member Professor Alois Hirschmugl from the Disaster Management Assistance Team. In 2026, two sessions were organised at the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week under the ambit of ADN and virtually (**Table 10**).

[HEUREKA Project – Civil Protection Knowledge Partnership Middle East](#) (2022): This network is led by ADN Advisory Board Member, Professor Alois Hirschmugl (Disaster Management Assistance Team) and Organisational Partner, Dr. Albrecht Beck (Prepared International) in the Middle East. ADN is a member of HEUREKA.

Disaster Response

None this year

Activity 6: Nurture future leaders for avoidable deaths and improve their leadership and employability skills through expert mentoring and engaging Interns for activities related to 1-5.

Leaders for avoidable deaths

Leaders for avoidable deaths are of two types: Junior Champions (10-17 years old) and Future Leaders (18 years plus). They join ADN as interns. The aims of this scheme are: i) to promote social consciousness amongst leaders for avoidable deaths by involving them in various disaster risk reduction, health and development projects, knowledge exchanges and engagement activities; ii) to equip them with confidence, knowledge, experience and belief that they can be agents for change, and that they can make the planet a better place to live; and iii) to give opportunities to the youths and leaders (current and future) in relation to activity (i) especially from socio-economically challenged circumstances.

Junior Champions

[ADN Junior Champion Magazine \(ISSN 2759-0380\)](#) (August 2023 – Present):

Master Arkoneil Ghosh (Founding Editor), Miss Prarthona Datta (Deputy Editor), and Miss Anushka Konar developed the fourth and fifth issues of the Magazine, which featured stories from Taiwan and Pakistan.

Volume 5: Children and Youth Stories from Pakistan (published 12 March 2026): Listening to the experiences of Pakistani youth affected by devastating floods, highlighting their resilience, challenges, and reflections on climate change and disaster impacts. Volume Editors: Master Arkoneil Ghosh and Miss Anushka Konar; Special Guest Editors: Mr Muhammad Asad Tahir and Ms Tahira Khan; Advisory Board: Prof. Nibedita Ray-Bennett and Dr Hideyuki Shiroshta.

Volume 4: Children and Youth Stories from Taiwan (published 13 October 2025): Listening to stories from schoolchildren in Taiwan about earthquakes and typhoons, aligned with the IDDRR 2025 theme, "Fund Resilience, Not Disasters." Volume Editors: Master Arkoneil Ghosh, Miss Anushka Konar, and Miss Prarthona Datta; Special Guest Editor: Dr Yi-Tzu Lin (Assistant Professor, Centre for General Education, National Chi Nan University, Taiwan); Advisory Board: Prof. Nibedita Ray-Bennett and Dr Hideyuki Shiroshta.

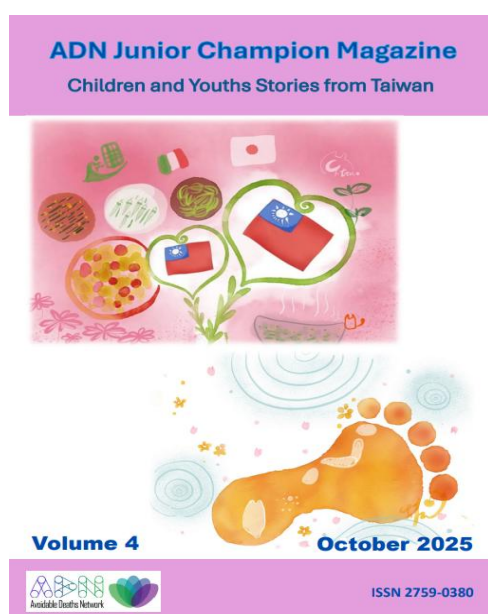


Figure 8: Front cover volume 4

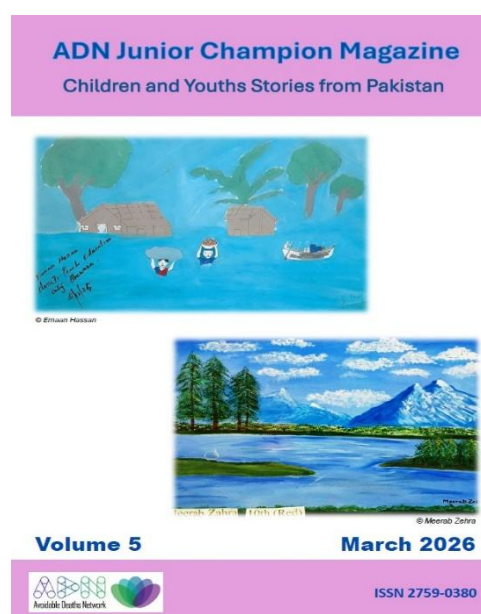


Figure 9: Front cover volume 5

Future Leader Interns (August 2025 – July 2026)

The Future Leader Interns (Table 2) supported a range of operational activities, knowledge exchange initiatives, communication efforts, and global campaigns throughout their internship period.

Knowledge Exchange Events (August 2025 – July 2026): Ms Sadia Afrin Sayfa Negaban and Mr Mohammad Fahimul Islam provided technical support for online knowledge exchange events, including managing participant interactions, moderating chat discussions, documenting event outcomes, and monitoring engagement. Ms Negaban also designed promotional graphics, flyers, and other communication materials to support event promotion. Mr Joy Chakrabarty supported the ADN winter school activities. Mr Omri Shoshani provided support for the ADN Network on Loss and Damage's COP30 Blog Series.

Global Campaign: IAD4AD: International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths (IAD4AD) (January – March 2026): Ms Negaban and Mr Islam provided technical support for online campaign events, overseeing participant engagement and documenting campaign activities. Dr Mohammed Maryam Samaila and Ms Negaban supported the campaign through social media management, including developing campaign content, designing promotional graphics and communication materials, and publishing content across ADN's digital platforms. In Bangladesh, Ms Negaban and Mr Islam organised an awareness campaign and a rally to mark IAD4AD. Ms Flaviane Belval translated guidance documents into French and established new contacts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to celebrate the campaign.

ADN Junior Champion Magazine (August 2025 – March 2026): Ms Negaban and Mr Islam served as Supporting Editors for Volumes 4 and 5 of the ADN Junior Champion Magazine, contributing to content development, editorial review, and publication. Mr Joy Chakrabarty contributed to the magazine's launch and distribution.

Activity 7: Publishing Newsletter and Bulletins

Two Bulletins and one Newsletter were published from August 2025 to July 2026:

- Avoidable Deaths Network's Autumn - Winter 2025 Bulletin: [ADN-Autumn-Winter-2025-Bulletin-FINAL.pdf](#)
- Avoidable Deaths Network's Winter - Spring 2026 Bulletin: [ADN-Winter-Spring-2026-Bulletin.pdf](#)
- Avoidable Deaths Network (2025). *Newsletter* ISSN 2435-2608: [ADN-Newsletter-2025-Final-Version-for-RELEASE-1.pdf](#)

Activity 8: Actively soliciting and securing private and public funds to promote the above activities.

The details of successful grant awards (including contract research, research consultancy) for the period August 2025 – July 2026 follow:

Project Title: Proof of Concept: Using RHCC Intervention in Facilities to Reduce Maternal Mortality and Morbidity in Kulaura Upazila, Bangladesh (Pilot of Facility and Mobile Kits)

Funder: ESRC Impact Acceleration Account (ESRC IAA – C4)

Duration: January 2026 – October 2027

Project Title: Facility and Mobile Reproductive Health Kits for Disasters and Crises (health economics data extension: India, Sri Lanka, Nepal)

Funder: Medical Research Council Impact Accelerator Account (MRC-IAA) Prize

Date Awarded: 28 June 2026

Unsuccessful Grants

- None

Unsuccessful Public Engagement Bids

- None

Activity 9: ADN Membership Model

ADN is preparing to launch a formal Annual Membership Scheme in the 2027/28 academic year. The aim of the scheme is to place the Secretariat's core operations currently reliant on grant funding and volunteer effort on a more sustainable, predictable financial footing.

The scheme has two main aims: first, to generate predictable annual revenue to directly fund two part-time roles: an Operations Manager (2.5 days/week) and an Administrator (8 hours/week), ensuring continuity of the Secretariat's day-to-day functions. Second, the revenue would support ADN's programme work more broadly: micro-grants and fieldwork, the Case Stations for Avoidable Deaths, International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths (IAD4AD) activities, and new high-impact grassroots initiatives aimed at raising visibility and reducing avoidable deaths.

Beyond funding, the scheme is framed to embed frugal innovation, experimentation, and capacity-building among high-risk and vulnerable populations and first responders, while sustaining ADN's global engagement through webinars, conferences, and training, ultimately reinforcing ADN's position as a world-leading knowledge and practice network in this space. A member survey is currently gathering feedback to inform the scheme's design ahead of the 2027/28 launch.

PROJECTS: AT A GLANCE

From 1 August 2025 to 31 July 2026, the ADN team conducted four projects (two complete, two ongoing) and four enterprises (ongoing). **Table 11** shows details of the projects and enterprises.

Table 11: List of Projects and Enterprises 2025 – 2026

#	Dates	Project Title	Project Aim/s	Status
Projects				
1	February 2026- October 2027	Proof of Concept for the Facility and Mobile Kits for Disasters	To evaluate the effectiveness of the Kits in Kulaura Upazila, Bangladesh	Ongoing
2	March 2025 - February 2026	Facility and Mobile Kits for Disasters and Crises	-To engage with potential customers, stakeholders, and pharmaceutical companies to develop a comprehensive business model for introducing the Facility and Mobile Kits in the global market. -To explore the ventures that need to be adopted.	Complete
3	December 2020 – Ongoing	ICaSA	To reduce avoidable tsunami deaths by engaging with school pupils and “at-risk” communities, raise awareness on tsunami prediction, and create a culture of preparedness by producing Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials, magazines and continuous exercises and drills.	Ongoing.
Enterprise				
1	September 2023 - Ongoing	Case Stations for Avoidable Deaths (CaSA)	Case Station for Avoidable Snakebite Deaths (CaSA): Ahmedabad Case Station for Avoidable Deaths due to Extreme Heat (ACaSA) Izumitsu Case Station for Avoidable Deaths (ICaSA) Avoidable Deaths	Ongoing.

			Network Sunamganj Case Station for Avoidable Deaths (SCaSA) Avoidable Deaths Network	
2	August 2023 - Ongoing	ADN Junior Champion Magazine (ISSN 2759-0380)	ADN Junior Champion Magazine (ISSN 2759-0380) Avoidable Deaths Network	Ongoing
3	July 2021 - Ongoing	Future Leaders Interns	Five interns participated in the ADN Operations Team as Future Leaders Interns. See <i>Table 2: List of Future Leader Interns</i> .	Ongoing
4	October 2020 - Ongoing	Knowledge-Exchange Events	26 March 2026: Release of the ADN Junior Champion Magazine, Volume 5: Children and Youths' Experiences of Disasters in Pakistan 11 Decembre 2025 – IEF Webinar 8-10 December 2025 – Online CPD Course 13 October 2025 – Release of the ADN Junior Champion Magazine, Volume 4: Children and Youths' Experiences of Disasters in Taiwan	Ongoing.

PUBLISHED OUTPUTS

Below is a small selection of peer-reviewed publications by ADN's Core Team and Regional Coordinators in Bangladesh, Canada, Sri Lanka, India, Japan, Uganda, and the UK.

Journal Articles (Selected)

Acharibasam, J.B., **Datta, R.**, Hurlbert, M., Strongarm, S., Starblanket, E. and Starr, R., 2026. Indigenous meanings of drinking water governance and resiliency: learning reflections from First Nation perspectives. *Local Environment*.

Datta, R. and Billah, M. (In Press). Rethinking Arctic disaster preparedness through relational belonging: Black and racialized immigrant perspectives from Inuvik. *Arctic*.

Datta, R., Haque, C.E., Charles, C.J. and Chapola, J., 2026. Indigenous land-based camp as decolonizing forest-fire disaster adaptation pathways. *Explore*.

Datta, R., Kairi, B. and Hurlbert, M., 2026. Flood disasters, minority health, and community-led adaptations in Bangladesh's wetlands: an intersectional and relational analysis. *Water Development Perspectives*.

Dolui, M., Sarkar, S., Chambhare, A., **Jena, S.K.** and Kazmi, N.H., 2025. Decomposition of socioeconomic inequalities in zero-dose children aged 12–23 months in India. *Scientific Reports*, 15, 43551.

Dolui, M., Sarkar, S., Chambhare, A., **Jena, S.K.** and Kazmi, N.H., 2026. Correction: Decomposition of socioeconomic inequalities in zero-dose children aged 12–23 months in India. *Scientific Reports*, 16, 3596.

Ekezie, W., Czyznikowska, B., Cassambai, S., Curtis, F., O'Mahoney, L., Chudasama, Y., Khunti, K., Willis, A. and Farooqi, A., 2025. Fostering inclusive research partnerships: empowering marginalised communities. *European Journal of Public Health*, 35(Suppl. 6).

Ekezie, W., Gogoi, M., Papadopoulou, N. et al. and Pareek, M., 2026. Community-based interventions for management of antimicrobial resistance in Europe: a systematic review. *European Journal of Public Health*

Ekezie, W., Pan, D., Baggaley, R.F., Chudasama, Y., Smith, A.J., Welford, A., Hopwood, E.V., Jenkins, S., Butt, A.A., Sze, S., Nazareth, J., Nellums, L., Khunti, K. and Pareek, M., 2025.

Prevalence and patterns of multiple long-term conditions amongst migrants in high-income countries: a systematic review. *European Journal of Public Health*, 35(Suppl. 6).

Gouda, L.K., **Jena, S.K.** and Mundu, G.B., 2025. Association between Digital Literacy and Utilization of Healthcare Services among Women in India. *Health and Population: Perspectives and Issues*, 48(4).

Jena, S.K. and Ao, M., 2026. Beyond the scar: a qualitative study on the physical, psychosocial and economic impacts of caesarean section in Keonjhar District of Odisha. *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*. (Advance online publication)

Jena, S.K., Ao, M., Reja, T. and Pradhan, J., 2025. A gendered analysis of waist-to-hip ratio and its association with diabetes and hypertension in India. In: *Women in India*, pp.99–116.

Pradhan, J., Bera, T., Mahali, S., Dwivedi, R., Chabra, H. and **Jena, S.K.**, 2025. Nutritional Inequalities Among Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Children: Evidence from Aspirational Districts, India. In: *Nutrition and Food Security in India: Enriching the Cycle of Research*.

Ray-Bennett, N.S., Dissanayake, L., Ekezie, W., MacLeod, L., Mecrow, T., Saunders, C., Sindall, R., Oporia, F., Rahman, A., Choudhary, N.I., Nantume, R.M., Nnaji, A.N., Chowdhury, S., Paul, B., Buckett, E., Biswas, I., Hoque, S. and Sahoo, M., 2025. Verbal autopsy instruments for 'causes and circumstances' surrounding drowning deaths in low- and middle-income countries: a scoping review. *BMJ Injury Prevention*.

Books

Datta, R. (2025). *Decolonizing climate adaptation – Indigenous land-based perspectives in Bangladesh*. Springer Nature.

Datta, R., Lewis, K., Hurlbert, M., Chapola, J., Whitstone, M., & Acharibasam, J. (2026). *Rethinking Water Sustainability with Indigenous Land-Based Knowledge and Practice*. IGI Global Scientific Publishing.

International Policy Report

Datta, R. (Contributor). (2025). *Global Environment Outlook (GEO-7)*. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Invited keynote addresses/ lectures/ speeches

Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita delivered a commemorative lecture on 'Three Types of Learning for Disasters: Prevention, Reduction, and Resilience', organised by Kishiwada School Health Association on 30 June 2026.

Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita delivered a lecture on '31 Years Since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake: What We Should Learn About Disaster Risk Reduction', organised by Senior Academy of Natural Science on 5 June 2026.

Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita delivered a lecture on 'School Disaster Prevention and Disaster Education' for the JICA Latin America and the Caribbean Training Program on 6 October 2025.

Dr Hideyuki Shiroshita delivered a lecture on 'Practical Evacuation Drills' for the Kyoto Prefectural Board of Education 2025 School Safety Instructor Training Seminar on 6 August 2025.

Prof. Nibedita Ray-Bennett delivered a lecture 'Avoiding Disaster Deaths: Why do so many people die' to the early-career researchers of the NEREIDS Network, led by Drs David Ortiz Haro and Joshua Nicholas at the UK Alliance for Disaster Research, on 14 April 2026.

Prof. Nibedita Ray-Bennett, along with ADN's Future Leader Miss Anushka Konar, delivered a lecture on 'Children's Rights in Environmental Governance' for the University of Nairobi's MA programme in Women, Children and Nature Rights, on 21 April 2026. The lecture was chaired by Prof. Sara M. Kinyanjui.

PRESS, MEDIA AND IMPACT

Between 1 August 2025 and 31 July 2026, ADN was featured in radio, TV and 34 press articles, reaching audiences in Bangladesh, India, Taiwan, Pakistan and the UK.

Press (Selected)

The press articles in English comprised one each from the University of Leicester and the University of Dhaka, and 13 from PreventionWeb, the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's global knowledge-sharing platform. The following are selected examples.

University of Leicester. (2026) [International day to mark the issues behind avoidable deaths | News | University of Leicester](#)

University of Dhaka. (2026) [Early Warning and Awareness Are the Key to Reducing Avoidable Deaths: International Awareness Day for Avoidable Deaths \(IAD4AD\) in Bangladesh 2026.](#)

PreventionWeb (2026): [ADN at the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks \(HNPW\) 2026.](#)

Press (Bangla)

The press articles in Bangla comprised 13 items, largely covering IAD4AD 2026 events at the University of Dhaka. The following are selected examples.

কালের কণ্ঠ. (2026) পরিহারযোগ্য মৃত্যু রোধে সচেতনতা বাড়ানোর আহবান. <https://www.kalerkantho.com/print-edition/news/2026/04/01/1665795>

সময়ের আলো. (2026) ঢাবিতে 'পরিহারযোগ্য মৃত্যু রোধে আন্তর্জাতিক সচেতনতা দিবস' পালিত. <https://www.shomoyeralo.com/news/355125>

প্রতিদিনের সংবাদ. (2026) ঢাবিতে 'পরিহারযোগ্য মৃত্যু রোধে আন্তর্জাতিক সচেতনতা দিবস' পালিত. <https://www.protidinersangbad.com/education-premises/561313>

Press (Odia)

The press articles in Odia comprised 8 items, largely covering the launch of the ADN India Chapter at KIIT. The following are selected examples.

Suryaprava. (2026) KIIT-তে আন্তর্জাতিক নেটওয়ার্কিং শুভারম্ভ.

The Political and Business Daily. (2026) KIIT Launches India Chapter of Avoidable Deaths Network.

Press (Mandarin)

The press articles in Mandarin comprised 9 items, largely covering the launch of the ADN Taiwan Chapter at National Chi Nan University. The following are selected examples.

經濟日報 (Economic Daily News). (2026) 暨大攜手英日學術重鎮 打造全球防災韌性新基地.

<https://money.udn.com/money/story/5723/9386874>

中央社 (Central News Agency, CNA). (2026) 暨大攜手英日學術重鎮 打造全球防災韌性新基地

. <https://www.cna.com.tw/Postwrite/Chi/428379>

Press (Urdu)

The press articles in Urdu comprised 2 items, covering IAD4AD 2026 awareness events in Pakistan. The following are selected examples.

Daily Dunya. (2026) قابل تدارک اموات کے عالمی دن کے موقع پر آگاہی سیمینار

<https://dunya.com.pk/index.php/city/faisalabad/2026-03-13/2642342>

چنیوٹ، قابل تدارک اموات سے آگاہی کے عالمی دن کے موقع پر چناب کالج میں آگاہی سیمینار (2026) UrduPoint.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/daily/livenews/2026-03-12/news-4742963.html>

Radio

National Education Radio (Taiwan). (2026) 暨大攜手英日大學 共同打造全球防災韌性新基地.

<https://www.ner.gov.tw/CultureNews/Content/?id=26031814572886833>

TV

Kalinga TV (India). (2026) KIIT School of Public Health Launches India Chapter of the Avoidable Deaths Network (ADN). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DxI9dICgGel>

ANNEX 1: TESTIMONIALS

Lauren MacLeod (Operations Manager)



My engagement with the Avoidable Deaths Network began in 2021 as a Future Leader Intern, where I was introduced to the organisation's focus on avoidable deaths as a cross-cutting concern in disaster risk reduction and public health. This early stage provided a foundation for understanding how interdisciplinary collaboration, evidence generation and community-centred outreach can support risk governance. As I progressed to Activity Coordinator and later Operations Manager, I became involved in a wider range of activities that reflected ADN's growing research and knowledge-exchange portfolio.

During this period, I contributed to the organisation of symposia, consultations and outreach programmes that brought together emergency services, defence actors, humanitarian organisations, researchers and policy influencers. These activities offered insight into how diverse actors negotiate priorities and how knowledge exchange supports institutional learning. My responsibilities expanded to include the coordination of campaign activities, the organisation of large-scale events and support for the establishment of country chapters and case stations. These experiences strengthened my understanding of stakeholder mapping, participatory outreach and the development of communication materials that respond to local risk perceptions.

In parallel, I joined the University of Leicester as a Research Administrator and later advanced to Project Coordinator for ADN projects. In these roles, I managed international research projects from inception to completion. This included ethics approval, data management, budget oversight and the development of sustainability outputs such as stakeholder tools and knowledge-exchange networks. I contributed to literature reviews, data screening, policy briefs and peer-reviewed publications, and supported research activities across Bangladesh, the Caribbean, India, Kenya and Uganda. These responsibilities deepened my understanding of how research systems can support policy dialogue and institutional learning across multiple regions.

My secondment to Odisha, India with the OSVSWA, marked the next stage in this trajectory. During this period, I held a Visiting Fellowship with the Institute of Environmental Futures at the University of Leicester. The combined experience provided opportunities to engage with local authorities and NGOs, technical experts and high-risk groups. I observed how community-centred approaches can support effective risk communication and safer practices. The work involved mapping stakeholder networks, developing information materials on loss

and damage, drowning, snakebite and reproductive health, and contributing to the establishment of case stations. I designed and delivered educational workshops for secondary school students and developed communication materials informed by research on climate-linked snakebite mortality. This period illustrated how ADN's methods can be applied in settings where risk is shaped by environmental, social and institutional factors.

The development of a monitoring, evaluation and learning framework for ADN's global campaign took place during the later stages of this progression. This work showed how structured learning systems support accountability, ethical data practices and strategic decision-making. The process reinforced the value of systematic reflection and informed my approach to project coordination and evidence generation.

Across these roles, ADN has shaped my professional development by providing opportunities to engage with interdisciplinary research, multi-stakeholder coordination and community-centred outreach. The organisation's methods and values have influenced my approach to analytical work, project coordination and engagement with diverse actors. This trajectory reflects the influence of an organisation that prioritises inclusive engagement, methodological rigour and sustained learning, and shows how such an environment can shape both individual development and wider sectoral practice.

Joy Chakrabarty (Future Leader Intern, Bangladesh)

My journey with the Avoidable Deaths Network (ADN) has been truly transformative. Before joining ADN as a Future Leader Intern, I was already passionate about disaster risk reduction, environmental sustainability, and community service. However, being part of ADN helped me see these issues from a global perspective and understand how research, collaboration, and advocacy can work together to reduce avoidable deaths.



Throughout the internship, I had the privilege of working with an inspiring international team and contributing to several communication and coordination activities. One of my most valuable experiences was supporting the IDRiM Podcast collaboration by coordinating speaker availability and helping facilitate communication between different stakeholders. I also contributed to dissemination initiatives and participated regularly in the weekly Drop-in Sessions, where I learned from researchers and practitioners working across different countries and disciplines. These experiences strengthened my communication,

organisational, and leadership skills while deepening my understanding of disaster risk reduction.

What makes ADN unique is its culture of mentorship and collaboration. The guidance of Professor Nibedita Ray-Bennett, Dr. Hideyuki Shiroshita, and colleagues across the Network has inspired me to think beyond borders and recognise that preventing avoidable deaths requires not only scientific knowledge but also compassion, cooperation, and collective action.

As I continue into Year 2, I hope to become more involved in research, international collaborations, and awareness campaigns. I look forward to learning from this exceptional global community and contributing to ADN's mission of creating a world where avoidable deaths are prevented through knowledge, innovation, and partnership.