



*20<sup>th</sup> September, 2024 at 14:00-15:00 Hrs*

*Venue: IHC, Silver Oak, New Delhi*

## **Safe in School: A panel discussion on Integrated risk management for safe and sustainable schools**

### **Background:**

Children are most vulnerable in times of disaster, facing physical harm, emotional distress, and the disruption of their education. While schools serve as safe spaces and provide essential services, such as food, health care, and psychosocial support, the destruction or closure of schools due to disasters both natural and induced can leave children without vital resources. It is crucial to prioritize the creation of safe learning environments for our children, including implementing disaster-resilient infrastructure, ensuring access to basic services during emergencies, and providing mental health support to help children recover from traumatic experiences. Collaboration between governments, policymakers, educators, and communities is essential to develop comprehensive strategies that address the unique needs and vulnerabilities of children.

Integrated Risk Management (IRM) is a comprehensive method that unifies several risk management practices to address multiple hazards consistently and coherently. IRM recognizes, evaluates, and ranks risks - social, technological, environmental, and economic - highlighting their independence. By integrating risk management into decision-making processes, a school can build the capacity to handle uncertainties and improve preparedness for both natural and induced disasters.

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030) emphasizes the importance of education in reducing disaster risks and advocates for a more proactive and preventative approach to managing risks. It outlines four priorities for action: understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk governance, investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience, and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery. School safety is a critical component within the context of the Sendai Framework, emphasizing the need to make educational facilities safer by incorporating disaster risk reduction measures into school planning, construction, and management.

Mobius Foundation and Momentum India are organizing the Panel discussion on “Safe In School” to create a forum for like-minded experts to deliberate on this issue and develop a strategy to take ahead of enabling teachers, management, and children to improve understanding of risks and the strategies for creating a safe school environment.

### **Objectives:**

1. Raise Awareness of Integrated Risk Management (IRM)
2. Strengthen Education's Role in Risk Management

3. Align with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
4. Incorporate the Sendai Framework
5. Enhance School Safety

**Expected Outcomes:**

1. Increased Risk Awareness
2. New Risk Management Programs
3. Alignment with Global Goals
4. Improved School Safety