

# **Networking in Disaster Management**

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## ***Abstract***

Effective health relief management depends on anticipating disasters before they arise and identifying likely problems. Disaster preparedness must be undertaken long ahead through situational analysis, operational planning, training and networking. Networking is essential for effective and efficient disaster management. The main requisites and components of networking and the essentials for the effective networking are discussed. Networking helps in inventory analysis of existing resources, knowledge augmentation of involved agencies and optimal utilization of resources. For efficient networking, the essential prerequisites are well established Standing Operative Procedures (SOP), predetermined allocation of resources and duties under various contingencies, regular training and rehearsals and efficient network linkages for communication, transport, materials and manpower.

*Key words:* disaster management, networking, communication, tele-medicine, mobile teams, systems approach.

