

Job Description

Director – Technical Assistance

Organization	Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)
Location	New Delhi, India
Grade and No. of position	Director (1)
Salary and Benefits	Competitive
Contract	Fixed Term Contract (3 years), extendable for up to another 3 years, Full-Time, Open to both International/National Hire.
Applications Closing date	Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, with priority given to early submissions during the shortlisting and selection process. The position will remain open until it is filled.

About CDRI

The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) is a partnership of national governments, UN agencies and programs, multilateral development banks and financing mechanisms, the private sector, and knowledge institutions that aims to promote the resilience of new and existing infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks in support of sustainable development.

Mission

"To support countries to upgrade their systems to ensure disaster and climate resilience of existing and future infrastructure."

Impact (that CDRI aims to achieve)

By 2050, over US\$10 trillion of new and existing infrastructure investments and services are resilient to natural hazards and climate change through enhanced capacity, informed policy, planning, and management, leading to improved quality of environment, livelihood, and life of over 3 billion people.

CDRI Mandate & Value Proposition

CDRI has been envisioned and established as a global network to advance the agenda, support coordinated action among stakeholders, and focus on bringing voices from vulnerable geographies and populations to international policy forums. Internationally agreed-upon goals in the SFDRR, the SDGs, and the Paris Climate Agreement provide the foundational framework that guides the Coalition's vision and mission.

As a global partnership, the Coalition aims to ensure that the investments of its members and partners are aligned and well-coordinated in support of the shared ambition of disaster and climate resilience of new and existing infrastructure. The two unique yet interconnected roles that CDRI shoulders in this direction are:

- A Strong Coalition Driving Collaborative DRI Action: In 2025, CDRI stands as a partnership of 46 national governments and seven international organizations. The Coalition enjoys robust political support, which propels its efforts to advance the interests of its members and partners.
- A Solution-Focused Centre of Excellence for DRI: As a Centre of Excellence for DRI, the Coalition strengthens the individual and collective capacities of its members and partners by aggregating and sharing knowledge, brokering need- based partnerships, and strengthening capacities through collaborative learning and action.

Strategic Work Plan 2023-2026

CDRI's Strategic Work Plan 2023-26 describes the broad contours of its priority actions and planned initiatives in the next four years. The Strategic Work Plan sets out a clear direction for the Coalition to pursue a transformational agenda for DRI in response to a changing risk landscape and evolving on-ground realities of its members. In the next four years, the Coalition will continue to leverage the expertise of its Member Countries and partners to develop context-specific, innovative solutions for resilient infrastructure towards the achievement of national priorities and global commitments of its members.

With the strategic work plan for 2023 – 2026, CDRI has set out the following strategic outcomes.

Strategic Outcome 1: A strong Coalition that has the membership, resources, and global leadership to drive global, national, regional, and local DRI action.

Strategic Outcome 2: Global DRI research, Coalition-led peer engagement, and CDRI- curated and generated knowledge promote risk-informed policy and practice.

Strategic Outcome 3: Enhanced capacities of government, private enterprises, and communities to implement post-disaster recovery and DRI action at scale.

CDRI Headquarters (Secretariat)

The CDRI headquarters is established in New Delhi, India, to act as the Secretariat of the Coalition. The Secretariat functions under the direction of the International Governing Council and Executive Committee to implement the programmes of CDRI.

Position

The position is open to candidates of all nationalities.

For candidates demonstrating considerable international experience, an international salary and benefits package will be offered. Candidates will have to demonstrate considerable experience in at least 5 countries across two UN geographic regions (from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Northern America, and Oceania) to meet the criteria for international hire.

Objective of the position:

- CDRI seeks an experienced professional for the role of Director – Technical Assistance to lead and manage the Coalition's core technical expert teams across critical infrastructure sectors, including

transport, power, telecommunications, and water. The candidate should have a strong engineering and infrastructure development background, with expertise in disaster resilience, climate adaptation, design standards, planning, and global best practices. The position requires demonstrated leadership in overseeing multi-sector technical teams, technical assistance, and guiding the integration of resilience measures into infrastructure planning, design, and implementation.

- The position is responsible for providing strategic and technical leadership to CDRI’s infrastructure resilience initiatives, ensuring the scientific and technical credibility of outputs. The incumbent will manage and mentor technical experts in their respective domains and ensure alignment of their work with international standards, climate resilience frameworks, and risk-informed infrastructure development. The Director will also lead the development of sector-specific guidelines, technical assistance, risk assessments, and technical knowledge products that support capacity building and decision-making at the global and national levels.
- The incumbent will play a critical role in supporting the delivery of Strategic Priority 3 of the Strategic Work Plan 2023–2026, focused on enhancing the resilience of infrastructure systems. The role will also contribute technical leadership to other strategic priorities as needed, ensuring consistent quality and innovation across CDRI’s programs. The ideal candidate will bring a combination of deep technical expertise, global exposure, and strong leadership to strengthen CDRI’s position as a thought leader in disaster and climate-resilient infrastructure.

Key Roles and Responsibilities:

- **Leadership & Oversight**
 - Lead and mentor a technical experts team comprising infrastructure sector experts (transport, power, telecom, water other relevant areas).
 - Provide strategic guidance on infrastructure resilience and technical innovation across CDRI programs.
 - Promote cross-sectoral coordination and ensure alignment of infrastructure resilience goals across technical portfolios with the CDRI mandate.
- **Technical Strategy & Standards Integration**
 - Provide technical leadership and direction, defining and implementing activities to achieve the greatest impact toward project goals and objectives.
 - Ensure adoption and adaptation of global codes, standards, and climate-resilient design practices into programmatic workstreams.
 - Lead technical reviews of reports, design frameworks, risk assessments, and resilience strategies to maintain technical quality and credibility.
 - Guide the development of CDRI’s technical frameworks, model codes, and knowledge products.
- **Programmatic Engagement**
 - Provide technical leadership to ongoing and upcoming programs under Strategic Priority 3 of the Strategic Work Plan 2023-2026, while also providing leadership to other strategic

- priorities as appropriate.
- Collaborate with international and regional stakeholders, including governments, multilateral institutions, and technical agencies, to ensure program relevance and global resonance.
- Work closely with the other internal teams to integrate technical inputs into program design, budgeting, and implementation plans.
- **Capacity Development & Knowledge Exchange**
 - Drive institutional learning by curating and disseminating best practices on infrastructure resilience, disaster risk reduction, and technical innovation.
 - Oversee capacity-building initiatives including technical training modules, guidance documents, and sector-specific resilience assessments.
 - Engage in global forums, technical advisory panels, and expert committees representing CDRI's thought leadership.
- **Quality Assurance & Monitoring**
 - Develop and implement internal technical quality assurance protocols.
 - Review technical deliverables and ensure alignment with project milestones and international expectations.
 - Monitor emerging trends, technologies, and innovations in infrastructure engineering and resilience.
- **Management:**
 - Contribute to Secretariat's management functions, including:
 - Program and Project management.
 - Developing Key Results Areas and Key Progress Indicators for the practice and program team.
 - Reporting to CDRI governing bodies and funding agencies.
 - Representing CDRI in global dialogues related to resilient infrastructure.
 - Convening and conducting strategic consultations with external stakeholders, as required.

Skills

- Proven leadership in managing multi-sectoral infrastructure resilience programmes across countries, with a strong background in infrastructure engineering, resilience planning, and technical program management.
- Demonstrated ability to design and deliver complex infrastructure programs focused on infrastructure resilience, climate adaptation, including oversight of technical assistance, project design, risk assessment, stress modeling, and implementation of integrated infrastructure solutions.
- Deep expertise in infrastructure engineering principles, performance-based and climate-adaptive design, and application of national and international codes and standards for resilient infrastructure development.
- Demonstrated ability to drive transformative impact in the resilience of critical infrastructure sectors through strategic technical leadership, by guiding cross-sectoral teams, advancing infrastructure resilience solutions, and mainstreaming risk-informed, climate-adaptive design

across programs and projects.

- Advanced technical proficiency in disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, sustainable infrastructure planning, and integration of nature-based and hybrid engineering approaches into critical infrastructure systems.
- Proficient in the use of geospatial technologies, hazard risk modeling, project management tools, and methodologies for vulnerability assessment and risk-informed planning.
- Experienced in developing sector-specific technical guidance documents, resilience assessment frameworks, engineering toolkits, and decision-making checklists tailored to infrastructure systems.
- Strong track record of engaging with global and national stakeholders, including governments, private sector, international development agencies, UN bodies, multilateral institutions, and regulatory authorities to mainstream resilience and sustainability in infrastructure policies, programs, and planning.
- Proven capability to align infrastructure strategies with international frameworks such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Agreement.
- Adept in inter-agency collaboration, establishing technical partnerships, and contributing to the design and development of donor-funded infrastructure programs, including drafting technical proposals and investment plans.
- Experienced in working with international organizations, governments, the UN system, multilateral development banks, financial institutions, research institutions, and industry bodies across multi-country settings
- Strong analytical, strategic planning, and technical writing skills with the ability to synthesize complex technical data into policy-relevant recommendations and high-level deliverables.
- Track record in fostering innovation within technical teams, ensuring quality assurance, and applying project management tools (e.g., MS Project, Primavera) to monitor and report impact on round.

Qualifications:

- Master's in transport, energy, power, telecommunications, water resource engineering, infrastructure planning, disaster risk management, or a related technical field relevant to disaster risk management (DRM). Candidates with international education are highly desirable.

Experience required:

- 15+ years of relevant professional experience, including a minimum of 6 years in senior leadership roles at the national or international level, managing multi-sectoral technical teams and leading infrastructure resilience projects or initiatives with demonstrated expertise across key sectors such as transport, telecommunications, power, and water.

Reporting Line:

- The incumbent will report to the Senior Director or the appropriate role per the approved organizational structure.

Language Requirements:

- Fluency in English, both oral and written.
- Proficiency in UN languages other than English will be an asset.
