



## **Vivek Benegal**

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**Dr. Vivek Benegal, Professor of Psychiatry, is currently the Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at and previous head of the Department of Psychosocial Support in Disaster Management at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, India. He has been head of the National Centre of Excellence for Climate Change and Mental Health, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India and continues to be a member of the Technical Expert Group on Mental health related illness under the National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health.**

**He is one of the authors of the National Guidelines on Climate Change And Mental Health and drafted the National Action Plan For A Monitoring And Evaluation System for climate sensitive mental illnesses, and has contributed to the National Disaster Management Authority guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services in Disasters.**

**Dr. Benegal is Principal Investigator on the National Mental Health Surveys of India, which have a special emphasis on mental health in climate sensitive zones. He also leads the Task Force Project of the Indian Council of Medical Research, Pathways to Resilience and Mental Health (PARAM) which is a large longitudinal multi-site study assessing the impact of the exposome on neurodevelopmental trajectories and downstream vulnerability to mental illness, in a cohort spanning antenatal to young adult stages in subjects across India.**