

*Note: These concept notes are as received from partner organizations*



**Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2016**  
**New Delhi, India**  
**02-05 November 2016**

**Concept Note for Thematic session**

<b>Event title</b>	<b>Child-centered Disaster Risk Reduction</b>
<b>Event code</b>	THEM-21
<b>Date and Time</b>	Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> November, 13.00-14.30
<b>Venue/ Room no.</b>	Dining Hall, Annexe, Vigyan Bhawan
<b>Organizers</b>	<p><b>Lead:</b> United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)</p> <p><b>Collaborators:</b> UN MGCY, Save the Children, Plan International, SAARC Disaster Management Center (SDMC), Child Fund India, AIDMI, SEEDS India, Action for Children’s Environment, World Vision</p> <p>Contact Details* (lead): Name: Pressia Arifin-Cabo Designation: Regional Emergency Specialist Email id and phone number: <a href="mailto:parifincabo@unicef.org">parifincabo@unicef.org</a>; +977-9801030071 Organization name and address: UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia, Lainchour, Kathmandu, Nepal</p>
<b>Session Objectives</b>	<p>The objectives of the session are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) To provide an overview on the SAARC Framework, Road Map on Child Centered Disaster Risk Reduction, Young Scientists Roadmap on DRR and examples of youth engagement in Disaster Risk Reduction</li><li>2) To update on the progress in South Asia in terms of Child-centered/inclusive risk assessment; comprehensive school safety; children’s participation in DRR and child protection in DRR; systematic and systemic youth participation in planning, implementation, follow up and review of the Sendai Framework.</li><li>3) To facilitate a discussion on the key challenges and opportunities of</li></ol>

	<p>implementing a child and youth centered approach to DRR in the region, including</p> <p>4) Articulate a set of recommendations detailing specific calls for the inclusion of child rights; children, adolescent youths’ needs and capacities in DRR, in implementation of the Sendai Framework, SAARC Framework on CCDRR and Young Scientists Roadmap on DRR.</p>
<p><b>Background and context</b></p>	<p>As per SAARC Disaster Management Centre’s South Asia Disaster Report 2011, the region accounted for 96.5% of the total number of disasters recorded globally in 2011 alone (291 out of 302), killing 2317 people, affecting 23,23,7,989 people and costing an estimated USD 4796 million in terms of economic damages (CRED data in SDMC, 2013, p. 3-7) . In the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004, Maldives lost more than 60% of its GDP, postponing its emergence from being categorized as a Least Developed Country for five years. In Pakistan, the damage resulting from the 2010 floods was close to USD 10 billion representing 5.8% of the country’s 2009/2010 GDP” (Velasquez, 2012, p. xxiii). Yet, these high-profile emergencies are only part of the challenge. Despite significant cumulative impacts on lives and livelihoods, most localized high frequency and low-intensity disasters remain unrecorded.</p> <p>Although disasters potentially affect all, they do not affect people equally. Marginalized groups - based on age, gender, disability, caste, ethnicity, religion, class and geographical location - are particularly vulnerable to disaster risk. Poverty is a critical factor that makes these groups vulnerable. This is evident from the fact that most excluded groups live and work in fragile environments and hazard-prone areas, their houses and surroundings are of poor quality and insufficiently maintained. It is therefore no surprise that children and some extent young people are disproportionately affected by emergencies. Without concerted action, millions of children in South Asia will remain vulnerable to compounding risk factors such as collapsing structures, water scarcity, communicable disease, malnutrition and poor social services.</p> <p>Children and youth have though also been known to be drivers of behavioral change, have regularly provided innovative solutions, and shared perspectives that are vital in building resilience. The sixth AMCDRR held in Bangkok in 2014 recognized the importance of children and youth’s role in DRR and called upon all government ministries, civil society and other stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific to support and strengthen the meaningful participation of children and youth in DRR and in the efforts towards reducing future disasters and climate change risks. Children and youth were additionally recognized in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 (referred as Sendai Framework).</p> <p>In September 2015, SAARC convened an experts meeting and a high level</p>

	<p>policy dialogue on Child Centered Disaster Risk Reduction (CC-DRR). A Framework and Roadmap on CC-DRR for SAARC was presented and endorsed by all Member States. This was adopted by the SAARC countries and some progress are made and reported on the different pillars of CC-DRR.</p> <p>During the UNISDR Science and Technology Conference on DRR the Young Scientists Roadmap on DRR was launched.</p> <p>The event would like to showcase how a child and youth centered approach on DRR looks like in the context of South Asia, what were the achievements to date, and what are the key challenges and opportunities in the implementation in the region.</p>
<p><b>Session format and programme</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the SAARC Framework and Road Map on CCDRR (SAARC DMC), Young Scientists Roadmap on DRR and institutionalized Youth engagement in DRR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Children’s Rights in Disasters (India Alliance for Child Rights)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Key note address on the relevance of children and adolescent centered DRR (UNICEF India) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Presentation of four pillars – CCRA (UNICEF); School Safety (Save the Children/SEEDS/AIDMI/UNICEF); Children’s Participation (Plan International); Child Protection in DRR (UNICEF/NDMA). Some presentations will take form of short documentaries (5 or 7 minutes) and comparative case studies across different countries in the region</li> <li>○ Panel discussion on the key challenges and opportunities in the implementation of DRR in the region (panel members TBC as per confirmation with NDMAs)</li> <li>○ Theater of the Oppressed: How children are affected by disasters</li> </ul> </li> <li>• UNICEF, Save the Children and Plan International: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Art exhibition of children’s drawings on children and disasters</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Intended main outcome and Key messages</b></p>	<p>Intended main outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governments will consider a child centered approach to DRR in their countries, its inclusion in their countries’ development plans and budgeting.</li> <li>• Governments will consider enhanced and institutionalized engagement of youth in DRR</li> </ul> <p>Key messages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A child and youth centered approach to DRR is a good investment towards the resilience of future generations and in securing a country’s development gains.</li> <li>• Children and youth are agents of change in disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and in promotion of resilience.</li> <li>• It is critical to improve the understanding of the</li> </ul>

	<p>multidimensional impact of disasters on children. Children have specific vulnerabilities to disasters and capacities in coping with disasters, and that a targeted approach to reducing their risk is an imperative towards the realization of children’s right to life and survival.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement and support to young scientists in DRR enhance the evidence based implementation of the Sendai Framework.</li> </ul>
<p><b>List of Speakers and their interventions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NDMA representatives in South Asia</li> <li>• Director, SAARC Disaster Management Center (SDMC)</li> <li>• Key experts from all listed partner INGOs/NGOs on child centered risk assessment, comprehensive school safety, children and adolescent participation in DRR and child protection in DRR</li> <li>• Youth engaged in platforms with institutionalized youth engagement in DRR</li> <li>• Asian young scientists in DRR</li> </ul>
<p><b>Technical Equipment</b></p>	<p>Projector, computer, microphones, sound system, pin boards</p>