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

Concept Note for Thematic session

Event title	Integrated Disaster Risk Reduction, Response to Climate Change and Sustainable Development
Event code	THEM-22
Date and Time	Friday, 4 th November, 13.00-14.30
Venue/ Room no.	Plenary Hall, Ground Floor, Vigyan Bhawan
Organizers	<p>Lead: All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI)</p> <p>Collaborators:</p> <p>Alliance for Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (AADRR)</p> <p>Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA)</p> <p>Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN)</p> <p>Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG)</p> <p>START Network</p> <p>Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)</p> <p>UNICEF</p> <p>All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI)</p> <p>Contact Details* (lead):</p> <p>Name: Mihir R. Bhatt</p> <p>Designation: Director</p> <p>Email id and phone number: mihir@aidmi.org; bestteam@aidmi.org; +91 79</p>

	<p>26582962.</p> <p>Organization name and address: AIDMI, 411 Sakar Five, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad 380009. India.</p>
<p>Session Objectives</p>	<p>To share experience and draw lessons from actions and cases, and to discuss the promotion and strengthening implementation of SFDRR, with focus on transformation and sub-national agenda, local knowledge, building evidence, nature of crises, and social safety nets aspects of integrated DRR.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To deliberate on the possible roadmap in Asia to integrate climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction elements in development policies and practices. 2. To map increasing impacts of slow onset events in South Asia and discuss ways to work with vulnerable groups to address the issues. 3. Present an innovative conceptual framework for transforming the relationship between development and disaster risk. 4. To share experiences from South Asian countries on climate-disaster risk informed development planning and hierarchical governance. 5. To discuss how communities can be practically involved in disaster and climate risk planning and action. 6. To discuss disaster risks and financing for disasters taking into consideration the NDC, and SDGs.
<p>Background and context</p>	<p>The SFDRR in its priorities recognised the importance of integrated DRR for sustainable development. The priorities are highly emphasising on community resilience to enhance the economic, social, and cultural resilience of persons, communities, countries and their assets, as well as the environment. One of guiding principles are directly linked with the agenda of integrated DRR that the development, strengthening and implementation of relevant policies, plans, practices and mechanisms need to aim at coherence, as appropriate, across sustainable development and growth, food security, health and safety, climate change and variability, environmental management and DRR agendas. DRR is essential to achieve sustainable development.</p> <p>In the session, various stakeholders – government, CSOs, networks, academic and donor institutions – will share their experiences and suggestions through the panel discussion to further facilitate integrated DRR, response to climate change, and sustainable development.</p>

<p>Session format and programme</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome, Introduction and Opening Remarks by Dr. Frank Thomalla, Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI Asia Centre), and Mr. Sam Bickersteth, Chief Executive, Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) - 15 minutes. 2. Panel Discussion <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Integrated Approach to DRR by Dr. Deepti Sastry, Head of Evidence, START Network (10 Minutes) II. Integration from concept to action by Ms. Nandita Hazarika, Joint Secretary, ASDMA and Mr. Dipak Kumar Sarma, CEO, ASDMA (10 Minutes) <p>Open discussion (10 Minutes)</p> III. South Asian perspective on slow onset events by Mr. Harjeet Singh, Chair, AADRR in collaboration with CANSA and Alternative Futures (10 Minutes). IV. Sub-national Agenda by Dr. Shiraz Wajih, President, GEAG in collaboration with ISET and NIDM (10 Minutes). <p>Open discussion (10 Minutes)</p> V. Concluding Remarks by Mr. Mihir R. Bhatt, Director, AIDMI with Mr. Lars Bernd, Chief, DRR Section, UNICEF (15 Minutes) <p>A note will be circulated among panelist as a part of the preparation. The discussion will be moderated by the chair.</p>
<p>Intended main outcome and Key messages</p>	<p>Key messages from the session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transformation Agenda: The relationship between development and disaster risk needs to be transformed so that development process and results better take into account existing and future disaster risks and underlying causes that exacerbate them. DRR measures must therefore support transformative choices in development that do not perpetuate or create new risks. Transform development. • Local knowledge: More needs to be done to enable and recognize local-level responses and needs to disaster risk and climate change in Asia. Communities are endowed with local knowledge and insights on how to reduce risk from local hazards. Recognizing and integrating them in local efforts, financing opportunities and disaster management policy and response infrastructure is essential.. Invest in citizens.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutions: Sub-national agenda of active engagement with people and institutions must be transformative. SFDRR implementation processes must include a comprehensive and system wide approach to climate change adaptation that reduces risk for communities, thereby enhancing resilience. • Evidence: To demonstrate the need for and importance of risk preparedness it is essential that we derive good quality evidence on the relationship between crisis preparedness and response and preparedness activities. • Nature of crises: We need to identify increasing climate induced slow onset events such as sea level rise, ocean acidification and increasing pace of desertification that are affecting people within countries and across borders. Balance actions between slow-onset and extreme events. • Social safety nets: Social protection measures have much to offer in helping the poorest reduce their vulnerabilities to current risks and future climate shocks. Create, enhance and expand the role of social protection in disaster risk reduction.
<p>List of Speakers and their interventions</p>	<p>Each of the following panelist will make a brief presentation and discussion will be moderated by the Chair.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Sam Bickersteth, CEO, CDKN, working in Asia, Africa and Latin America, leading climate compitable development for rapid and resilient economic growth in 38 countries. 2. Dr. Frank Thomalla, Senior Research Fellow, SEI. Dr. Thomalla has over 20 years of experience in hazard, vulnerability and climate change research with a strong regional focus on Asia, Australia. He has been a principal investigator in several large collaborative research and capacity-building projects. 3. Dr. Deepti Sastry, Start Network. The Start Network is a consortium of 39 global influential humanitarian relief organizations. Ms. Sastry is the Head of Evidence at the Start Network. She supports the experimental programmes at the Start Network to generate and use evidence to both enhance the interventions and to communicate the work more effectively. 4. Ms. Nandita Hazarika, Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA). The ASDMA is the state authority of Government of

	<p>Assam, India. Ms. Hazarika is the Joint Secretary. She is the guiding force behind number of actions on disaster response and risk reduction including linking with adaptation to climate change in Assam state of India.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Mr. Dipak Kumar Sarma, ASDMA. Mr. Sarma is the CEO of ASDMA. ASDMA initiated number of action research and pilot that reflecting useful lessons to be shared from Assam to Asia for promoting and strengthening integration of DRR and CCA. 6. Mr. Harjeet Singh, Alliance for Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (AADRR). Mr. Singh is one of the founder-directors of the AADRR, India and presently chairs the network. He is also the global lead on climate change for ActionAid. 7. Dr. Shiraz Wajih, Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG). Dr. Wajih is the president of GEAG. He has been a development professional working on issues of sustainable development since 35 years. He has been part of National Teams on evaluation of DRR programme in states of Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. 8. Mr. Mihir R. Bhatt, Director, All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI). Mr. Bhatt is leading initiatives on DRR across 35 urban and 49 rural locations in India as well as 7 countries in Asia on reducing disaster and climate change risk since 1995. He guides, climate compatible development work, including on urban resilience, clean energy finance, green private sector growth. 9. Mr. Lars Bernd, UNICEF. Mr. Bernd is leading DRR section of UNICEF India. He has been part of many national and international efforts in the field of DRR.
<p>Technical Equipment</p>	<p>Projector, computer, and microphones.</p>