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- One of the most disaster prone regions of the world
- Home to one quarter of humanity and roughly 40% of the global poor.
- Vulnerable to frequent calamities such as flood, cyclone, earthquake
- Located on the seismic fault-line (April 25, 2015 great earthquake bears an example)

- In line with the Hyogo Framework of Action (2005-15) a comprehensive framework on disaster management was adopted in 2006.
- The SAARC Disaster Management Centre, located in New Delhi, was launched in the same year
- The 15th SAARC Summit (held in Colombo, August 2008) decided that Natural Disaster Rapid Response Mechanism (NDRRM) shall be created under the framework of SDMC

- Two important regional capacity building projects implemented by the SDMC are:
- ◆ South Asia Disaster Knowledge Network
- ◆ Digital Vulnerability Atlas of South Asia

- The 7th SAARC Summit held in 2011 signed the milestone Agreement on South Asia Rapid Response to Natural Disaster (SARRND) which has been ratified by all SAARC Member States except Afghanistan.
- The Agreement's successful implementation to:
- ✓ put in effective regional mechanism for rapid response to disaster
- ✓ ensure significant reduction in losses of lives and properties
- ✓ better respond to disaster emergencies

Recent training and education promotion initiatives from SDMC:

<u>2014</u>

- 1) Regional Consultation Workshop for South Asia Road Map for DRR beyond-2015 (India)
- 2) Training Programme on Techniques for Retrofitting & Earthquake Resistant Structures in South Asia (India)
- 3) Training Programme on GIS & Remote Sensing Technology in Disaster Risk and Emergency Management in South Asia (India)
- 4) Training Programme on Post Disaster Need Assessment in South Asia (Sri Lanka)

2015

- 1. SAARC Regional Training Programme of Key Planning Officers on Child Centred Risk Assessment (India)
- 2. Implementation of SAARC Training of Trainers for Mainstreaming DRR and Climate Change (India)
- 3. SAARC Regional Training/Refresher Course on Child Centred Risk Assessment and Child Centred DRR
- 4. Training on Post Disaster Rapid Impact Assessment for SAARC Region: Development of tools, techniques and way forward

The following four Regional Centres of SAARC are to be merged under the proposed "SAARC Environment Disaster Management Centre (SEDMC):

- 1 SAARC Coastal Zone Management Centre (located in Maldives)
- 2 SAARC Forestry Centre (located in Thimpu, Bhutan)
- 3 SAARC Meteorology Research Centre (located in Dhaka, Bangladesh)
- 4 SAARC Disaster Management Centre (located in New Delhi, India)
- ◆ The venue of the new Centre yet to be decided

Initiative from the SAARC Development Fund (SDF)

- ❖ Regional Inter-Professional Masters Programme on "Rehabilitation Science" offered by the Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP), Bangladesh
- ♦ Scholarships are offered to students from SAARC Member countries
- ♦ The programme has successfully entered its second phase

Thanks a lot for your kind attention!

For any queries:

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