



# Enhancing Resilience through Early Warning Systems

An approach to Disaster Risk Reduction

**Date: 13 August 2020 / Time: 15:00-17:00 hrs IST**

## Background

Climate change over the longer term will make extreme weather events more frequent and widespread. In the past, most countries have dealt with single events at a time but as climate change concerns become more exaggerated, there is a need for countries to prepare themselves to deal with compounding risk multiplying the deadly impacts. Climate change and global warming is one of the most talked about and discussed agenda in the scientific, political and social discourses; yet we are still looking for an effective strategy to communicate about it in the public domain. The climate information sharing has been very selective and sporadic in nature as far as its coverage is concern. This led to us to the problem of acceptance of the relevant scientific findings which would have been a better strategy to deal with climate challenges at large scale if executed otherwise; so much so the common man is remains sceptic whether to use that information for their own betterment and in their planning.

In recent years our communication strategies have seen a shift from selective to proactive and from sporadic to frequent as the means of communication have been improved significantly with the introduction of ICT tools and its universal reach. Science communication and early warning have become and proven an effective method to improve resilience towards various risks and hazards. The recent technological developments have enabled us to anticipate, prepare for and respond effectively to any hazardous events or risks emerge due to climate change and weather extremes. The trans-boundary nature of climatic disasters in most cases calls for sharing knowledge, and resources at a global or regional scale to enhance resilience and reduce losses due to disasters.

Against this background, TERI in collaboration with NDMA is organizing a webinar inviting scientists, policy makers, practitioners, implementation and funding agencies with an objective to discuss initiatives, measures, best practices and challenges related to science based tools and effective communication of climate risks assessments and impacts and their role in designing policies for targeted actions.

The two hours discussion will focus on the following aspects followed by the Launch of Flood Early Warning System developed for predicting urban floods for Guwahati City,

- How science-based tools on risks assessments can be used by policy makers to manage disasters?
- How do we design specific communication products/tools to meet the stakeholders' specific needs?
- How can scientific knowledge regarding disaster and climate risks be enhanced to support effective communication and trigger adaptation actions by individuals?
- How can an effective data sharing and communication strategy for managing and averting disasters are integrated in the developmental policy or measures?



## Agenda

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1500-1510	Welcome address by <i>Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI</i>
1510-1520	Key note address by <i>Shri G V V Sarma, Member Secretary, NDMA</i>
1520-1530	<p>Launch of Flood Early Warning System (FEWS) for Guwahati</p> <p>About FEWS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Praseon Singh, Project Lead and Associate Fellow, TERI</li> <li>• Dr Vinay Sinha, Associate Prof, TERI-SAS</li> </ul>
1530-1645	<p><b>Panel Discussion</b></p> <p>Moderated by <i>Mr R R Rashmi, Distinguished Fellow and Programme Director, TERI</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Shri M S Manivannan, Chief Executive Officer, ASDMA</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Shri B P Yadav, DGM – Hydrology; IMD New Delhi</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Shri P L N Raju, Director, North East Space Application Centre</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Shri Devajyoti Hazarika, Commissioner; Guwahati Municipal Corporation*</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Prof P K Joshi, Chairperson, Special Centre for Disaster Research (SCDR) Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)</i></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Dr Diganta Barman, Scientist F, North East Space Application Centre</i></li> </ul>
1645- 1655	Discussion and questions from participants
1655- 1700	<b>Vote of Thanks:</b> Mr Karan Mangotra, Associate Director, TERI
Coordinator: Ms Neha Bharti, Associate Fellow, TERI	