

REGIONAL COOPERATION TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE IN SOUTH ASIA

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14 March 2014

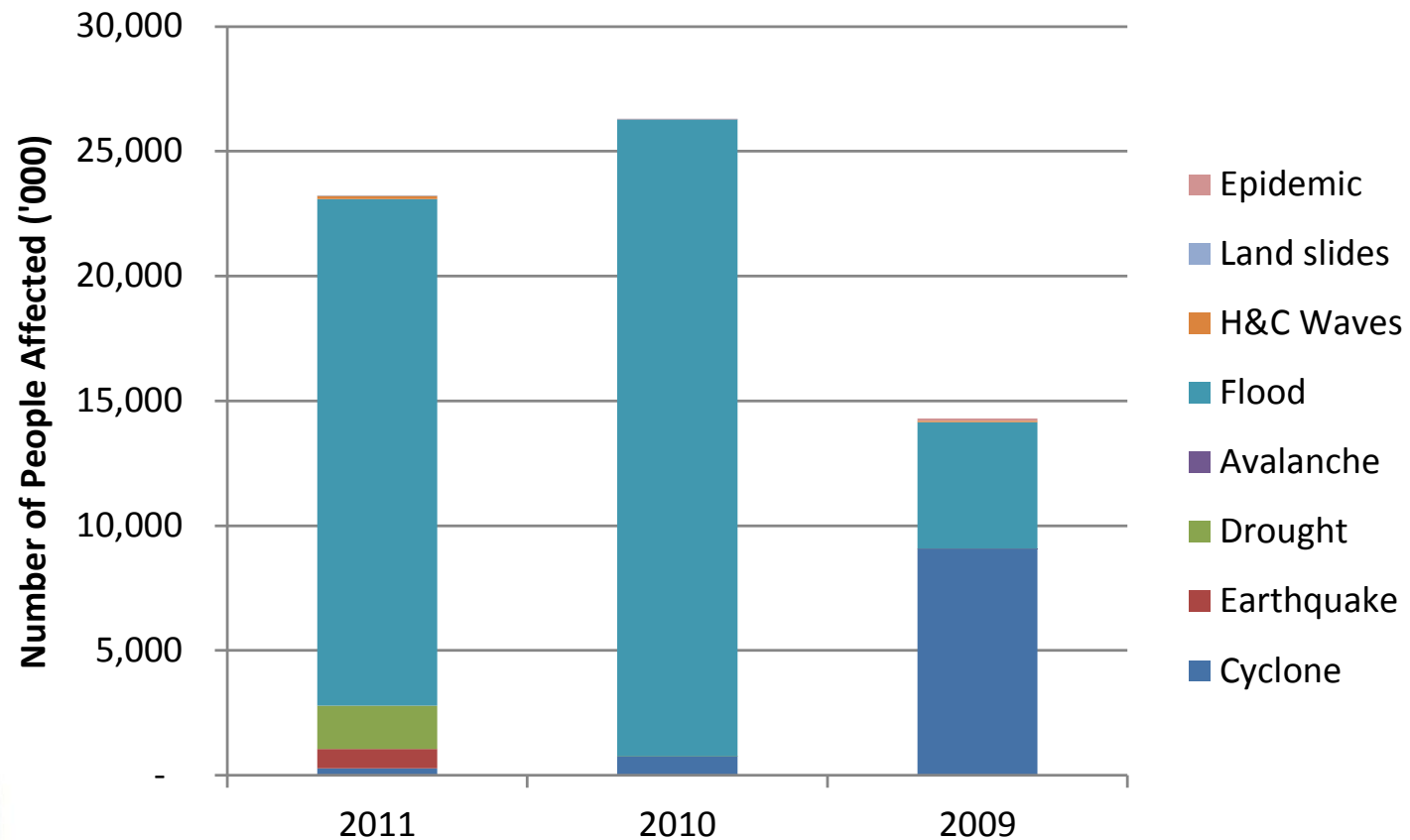
Kathmandu

Thimphu statement on climate: A mere rhetoric?

- Vulnerability
- SAARC statement
- Regional approach



South Asia is a highly vulnerable region



Source: South Asia Disaster Report (2009,2010 and 2011), SAARC Disaster Management Centre, New Delhi

From Dhaka to Colombo to Thimphu but any progress?



14th SAARC Summit, 2007
“Year of Green South Asia”
Dhaka Declaration



15th SAARC Summit, 2008
Head of state adopt Dhaka declaration
To be implemented
between 2009-2011

16th SAARC Summit, 2010
“Towards a Green and Happy
South Asia”
Thimphu Declaration
Calls for review of Dhaka
Declaration



Photo: SAARC Secretariat

Dhaka declaration built around 4 key pillars



Commit to promoting programmes on advocacy and awareness that lead towards a low carbon society



Resolve to cooperate on climate change issues



Agree to initiate and implement programmes and measures

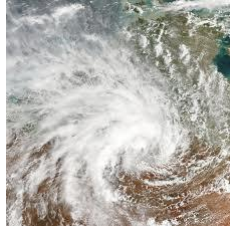


Adopt the SAARC Action Plan on Climate Change

Chakra of SAARC Action Plan on Climate Change



Thimphu builds on four initiatives



Disaster Initiative:
Integrate adaptation with
disaster risk reduction

SAARC
Disaster
Management
Centre



Monsoon Initiative:
Assess vulnerability of
monsoon to climate change

SAARC
Meteorological
Centre



Mountain Initiative:
Contribution of mountain
ecosystem to sustainable
development

SAARC
Forestry Centre



Marine Initiative:
Understanding of shared
oceans and crucial role in
sustainable living

SAARC
Coastal Zone
Management
Centre

Action Point	(Low)	Progress	(High)
Review Dhaka Declaration			
Establish Expert Group on Climate Change			
Study on Climate Risks in the Region			
Advocacy & awareness programs			
Assess mechanism to provide capital for low carbon technologies			
Improve education on climate			
Plant ten million trees			
Evolve national plans to protect archaeological & historical infrastructure			
Establish institutional linkages			

Action Point	(Low)	Progress	(High)
Marine initiative	■	■	■
Conservation of bio-diversity and natural resources	■	■	■
Mountain initiative	■	■	■
Monsoon initiative	■	■	■
Climate change adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction	■	■	■
Ratification of SAARC Convention on Cooperation on Environment	■	■	■
Expert group review and monitor this statement	■	■	■
Expert Group meets twice a year to monitor implementation of this statement	■	■	■

Member State	National Climate Policy
Afghanistan	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA) and National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change (NAPA), 2009
Bangladesh	National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change, 2005; Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP), 2009
Bhutan	National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change (NAPA), 2006
India	National Action Plan on Climate Change, 2008
Maldives	National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change, 2006 Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) that integrates Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), 2011
Nepal	National Adaptation Programme of Action for Climate Change, 2010 National Climate Change Policy, 2011
Pakistan	National Climate Change Policy, 2013
Sri Lanka	National Climate Change Adaptation strategy for Sri Lanka 2011 – 2016, 2010 National Climate Change Policy of Sri Lanka, 2011

Regional approach to Climate

- Regional goals
 - Based on national laws, implementation capacity
- Variation in capacity and maturity
- Global aspiration and international affiliation
- Non – political scientific collaborative networks may be more effective

THANK YOU

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