

MYANMAR

**The Impacts of Extreme Natural Events: S&T Awareness, Development
and Education in Myanmar**

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Managing disaster risks and disaster events is heavily dependent on science knowledge and evidence-based techniques. The application of science and technology can substantially reduce losses of lives and property. Information technology based Science, Remote sensing and Geographic information system can provide a variety of solutions to reduce human disasters caused by extreme natural events. Even though developing country like Myanmar are realised to mitigate human disasters by using technologies, the knowledge and technology is not sufficient to utilize effectively. To reduce the threat of disasters, policies and investments for scientific knowledge and technology is important because neglect it can cause great loss of life, severe property losses and potentially economic and political consequences.

Myanmar is one of the largest countries in South East Asia with 57 million people. Myanmar has made significant progress in its disaster management policies, plans, and procedures since 2008, when Cyclone Nargis impacted the country leaving devastation in its aftermath. Myanmar is affected by many natural hazards, destructive earthquakes, cyclones, flooding, landslides and periodic droughts. Over the last decades, Myanmar has been impacted by two major earthquakes, three severe cyclones, floods, and other smaller scale hazards. So, Health and Education program are implemented for health care system and capacity building and training for natural disaster. When Science and Technology (S&T) use in disaster risk reduction, it has barrier including lack of political and public awareness, inadequate institutional mechanisms and technical capacities and an absence of sustainable funding. It may difficult to apply S & T in situation of chronic or extensive risk. However, Myanmar Action Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction (MAPDRR) developed and endorsed in 2012 by Myanmar Government. MAPDRR is in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and

Emergency Response (AADMER). Myanmar Disaster preparedness management working committee have been organized for National Disaster Management. The Government of Myanmar continued to demonstrate its commitment to DRR by introducing a Disaster Management Law. A comprehensive training is given to young people who are selected from hazardous areas and helping communities to prepare themselves for future hazards and ways to decrease. DRI and MES provide advice on scientific and technical issues related to the reduction of disaster risks, implementation and also to assist the coordination of scientific and technical activities. Myanmar is planning to establish monitoring stations. But Instruments, human resources and capacity building are needed to upgrade. This paper gives an overall understanding of disaster risk reduction in Myanmar concerning with S & T awareness, development and education.