**Virtual Training on Digital Technologies for Disaster Risk Management**
**1-5 March 2021**
9:00 am (Amsterdam), 1:30 pm (New Delhi), 3:00 pm (Bangkok), 5:00 pm (Seoul)

**Background**

Asia-Pacific is among the world's most disaster-impacted regions and the number of disasters caused by the natural hazards in the region has increased drastically in recent years. According to UNDRR's Global Assessment on Risk 2019, the risk is systemic and crises are cascading. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) have tremendous potential in disaster risk management due to its ability to instantly and continuously facilitate the rapid flow of information in real-time. The use of ICTs during all phases of disaster risk management presents substantial opportunities to reduce disaster risks, enhance resilience, and facilitate inclusive preparedness and response.

The full potential of ICTs, however, can only be realized if individuals and institutions have the capacities to integrate and utilize it appropriately. To address the need to build capacities in disaster risk management, APCICT/ESCAP has developed an Academy Module on "ICT for Disaster Risk Management" to equip the policymakers and civil servants at the national and local government levels with the essential knowledge and skills to understand the overall framework of disaster risk management and the practical use of ICTs in disaster mitigation and preventions, preparedness, response and recovery.

In an effort to strengthen the capacities of government officials from ministries and departments responsible for disaster risk management, planning, health, home affairs and other concerned ministries, DRM practitioners, training institutes and academia of South and South-west Asia countries, APCICT in collaboration with the Geoinformatics Center/Asian Institute of Technology and ITC-University of Twente will conduct a virtual training from 1-5 March 2021.

**Objectives**

By the end of the virtual training, participants will:

- Be familiar with DRM and its associated terminologies, including the linkages between the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Sustainable Development Goals;
- Be able to identify the data necessary for DRM, such as remote sensing data, digital elevation data, thematic data and historical disaster data;
- Understand how risk information can be used for selecting appropriate disaster risk mitigation and prevention measures at various levels, and for making decisions by considering likely future risk scenarios;

- Be aware of the freely available satellite-based resources and products for emergency mapping, mobile apps for reporting disaster incidents, and robots for search and rescue operations;
- Know the ways in which ICTs can be used to support the disaster recovery, including post-disaster building damage assessment and post-disaster recovery monitoring; and
- Recognize the role of ICTs in addressing issues related to gender inequality in DRM

**Resource Persons**
Prof. Cees van Westen, Department of Earth System Analysis (ITC), University of Twente
Dr. Manzul Hazarika, Director, Geoinformatics Center, Asian Institute of Technology

**Participant profile**
The virtual training is open to government officials from ministries and departments responsible for disaster management, urban planning, home affairs and other concerned ministries, disaster management professionals, and representatives from academic and training institutions working on disaster risk reduction.

**Modality**
The virtual training will be organized into 5 days (2.5 hours per day, 8 sessions).

**Certification**
A certification of completion will be issued to participants who met the evaluation criteria.

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## Programme

| Day | Topic | Lecturer | Practical exercise |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Introduction to ICT for DRM (Chapter 1) | Cees van Westen/Manzul Hazarika | Interactive presentation of participants, with questionnaire on their current role and knowledge on ICT for DRM |
| 2 | Data necessary for DRM | Manzul Hazarika/ Cees van Westen | Discussion on data requirements Web-searches for data-sources |
| 3 | ICT for Risk Assessment & Visualisation | Cees van Westen | Tajikistan demo |
| 4 | ICT for Disaster Mitigation & Prevention & Preparedness | Cees van Westen/Manzul Hazarika | Demo of SDSS. Discussion of Risk |
| 5 | ICT for Disaster Recovery | Cees van Westen/Manzul Hazarika | Satellite-based examples of recovery monitoring |