# Disaster risk reduction and COVID-19 pandemic: Changing policy perspective

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10th Annual UN-SPIDER Conference

"Lessons learned during the unprecedented pandemic situation"
Organized by the United Nations Office for Outer
Space Affairs

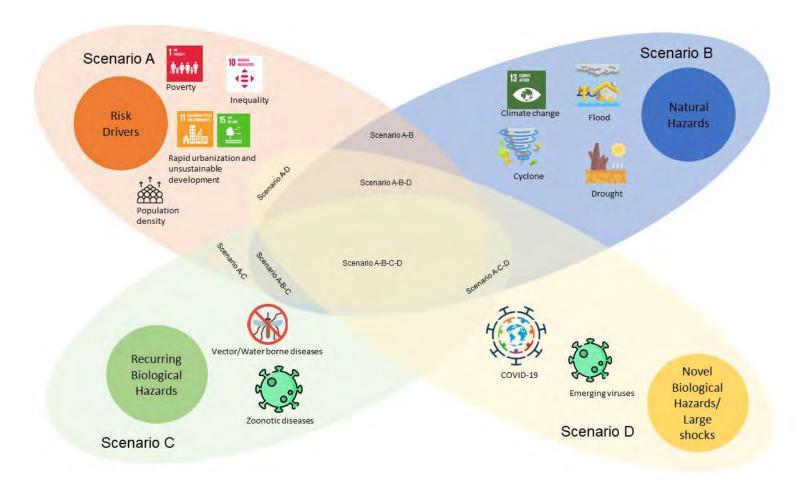




# Cascading risks – climate extreme, COVID-19 and vector/water-borne diseases

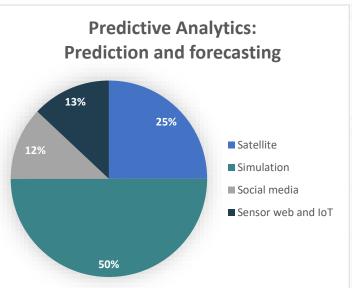


#### **CASCADING SCENARIO**

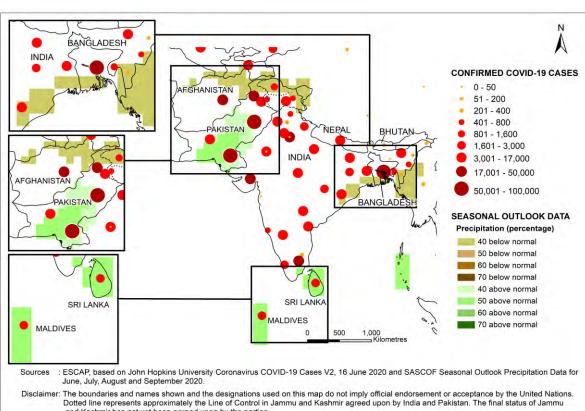




### **Predictive analytics** for visualizing cascading risk scenarios



Data sources and platforms

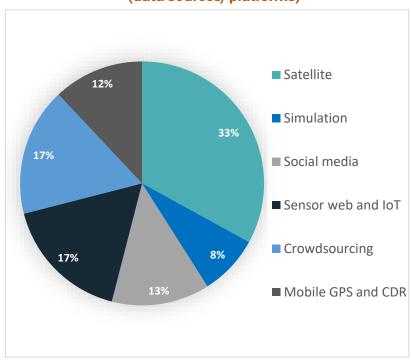


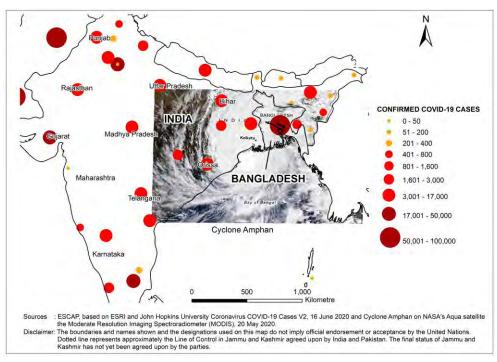
and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.



# Prescriptive analytics for visualizing cascading risk scenarios

#### Multi-hazard Risk Assessment and risk informed policies (data sources/platforms)



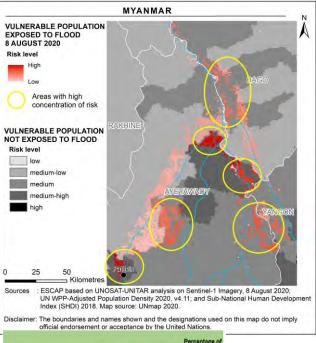


Cyclone Amphan colliding with COVID 19



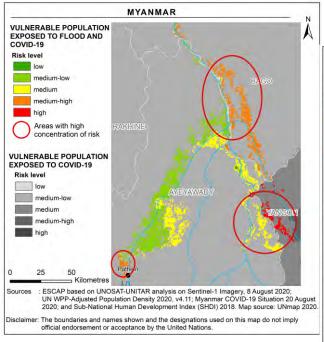
#### **SCENARIO 1: Risk Hotspots**

#### Flood affected vulnerable populations

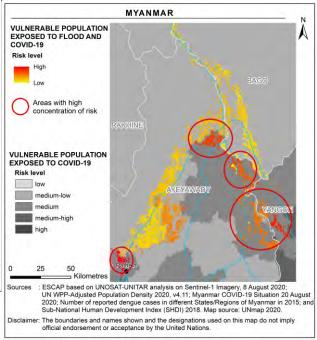




# SCENARIO 2: Cascading Risks Flood affected vulnerable confronting with COVID-19



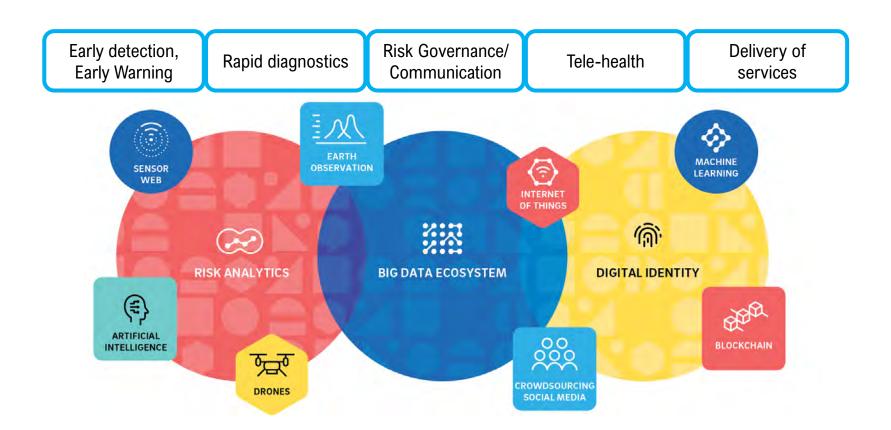
## SCENARIO 3: Systemic Risks Vulnerable in midst of floods and COVID-19 and @ risk of vector-borne diseases



8 per cent of the population in 6 districts affected by flood UNOSAT-UNITAR, 2020



Key message: With high transmissibility and no effective vaccine or therapy, countries have maintained low COVID-19 per-capita mortality rates by adopting digital technology and integrating it into policy and health care



### Systemic risks

Sendai Framework of Disaster
 Risk Reduction 2015-2030



### **System Approach for Building Resilience**





# Modeling Framework for Systemic Risks, Scenario-based Approaches





#### First,

Systemic risks are characterized by high complexity



#### Second,

Systemic risks are transboundary and global in nature.



#### Third,

Systemic risks are characterized by stochastic relationships between trigger and effects.



#### Fourth,

Systemic developments are non-linear and include tipping points.



#### Fifth,

Systemic risks are often underestimated in public policy arenas and public perception due to uncertainties of point of occurrence and extent of damage.



#### Sixth,

Established methods of science cannot identify the probability of occurrence. Instead, science utilizes **models of scenario building** to sketch out the stochastic nature of systemic risks.





# **Understanding Systemic Risks**

key to COVID-19 response and recovery



# A Scenario Development Framework for Systemic Risks





# How can systemic risk scenarios benefit stakeholders and enable policy response?

Improve Understanding of Risks
 To understand the various dimensions of a specified risk that cause negative impacts

**Support Decision Making**To inform and enhance effective disaster risk management strategies

Explore Emerging FuturesTo imagine and comprehend new, evolving, and novel combinations of risks.

Aid CommunicationTo contextualize complex risks and facilitate stakeholder engagement

**Address Uncertainty**To expand understanding and define a range of plausible future outcomes

O7. Allocate Resources
To plan what and where the effectively distribute resources

O4. Systems Thinking
To capture the controlling interconnections between complex systems

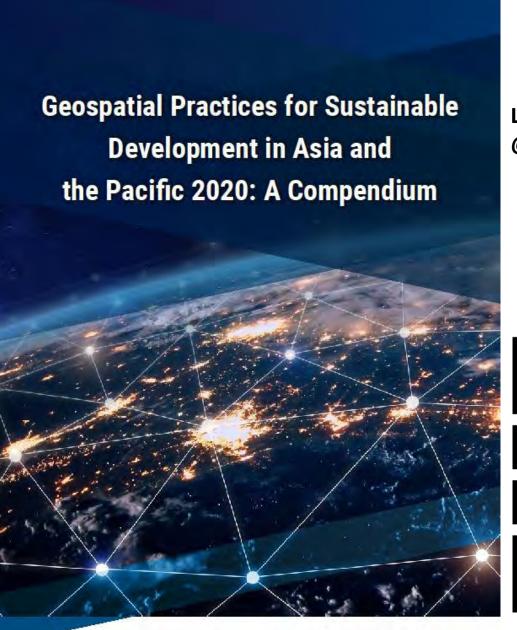
1dentify Biases
To ensure viewpoints and decisions remain objective



### **UNESCAP**

- Some related initiatives





Launched on 18 November @ GISTDA







1 Regional platform for Multi-hazard early warning systems

Asia-Pacific
Disaster
Resilience
Network
[APDRN]

2 Knowledge for policy – Asia-Pacific Disaster Report, Policy Researc

**3** Technology innovations and applications

4. Data and statistics – Multi-hazard risk hotspot analysis

5 Disaster and health nexus – cascading impacts, systemic risks



#### Managing risks is key to resilient future of Asia-Pacific

The 'riskscape' is rapidly emerging to be systemic: it is complex and cascading, interconnected and cyclical. The COVID-19 pandemic is a stark reminder.







Intersection of COVID-19 with climate extremes aggravates crisis and slows down the recovery

### Thank you for kind attention!

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