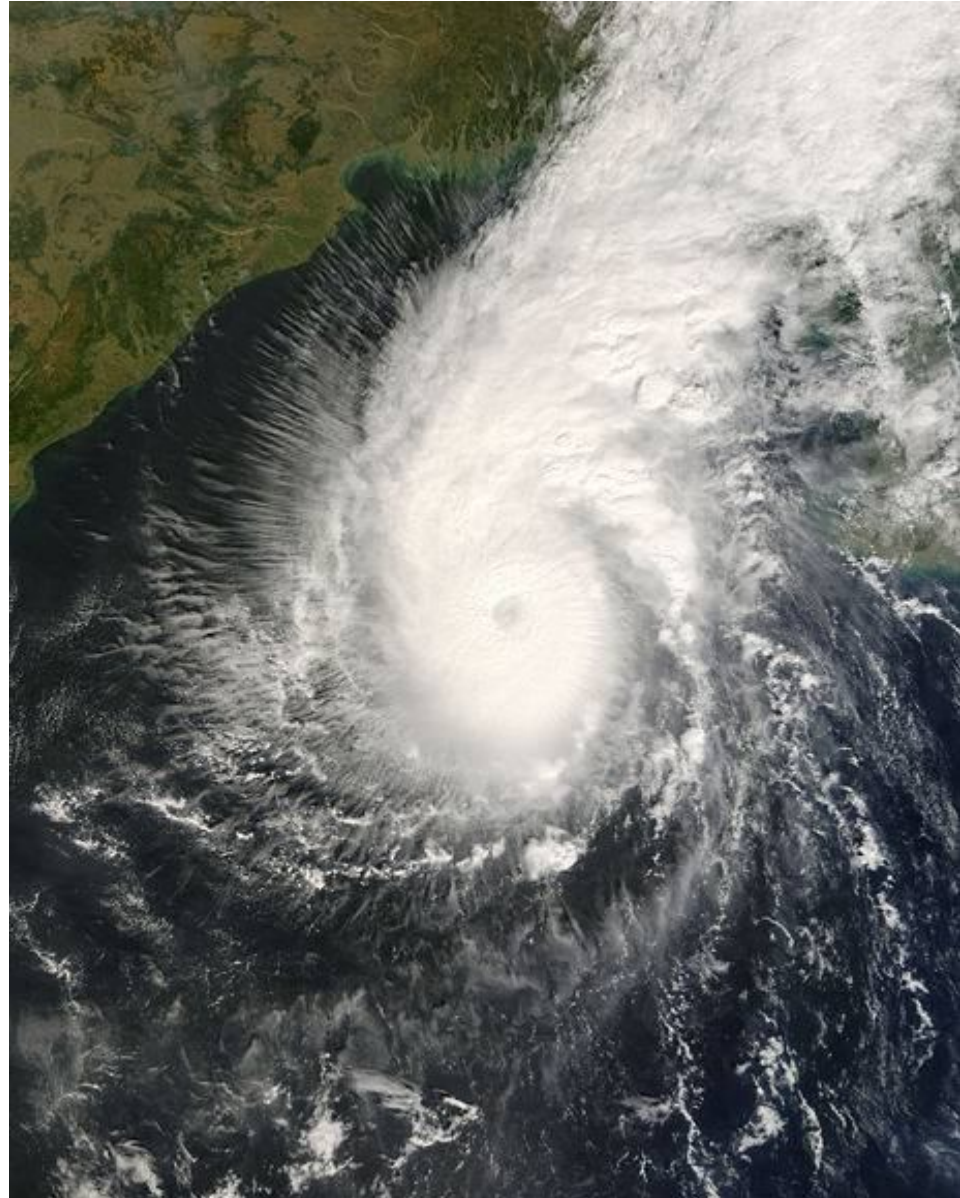


# LIRNE*asia* and disaster risk reduction



# Cyclone Sidr



# Same Bangladesh, more people, stronger storms: why declining deaths?

Year	Cyclone	Strength	Deaths
1970	Bhola	Category 3	300-500,000
1970+21	Gorky	Category 4	~138,000
1970+37	Sidr	Category 4	~3,447

# Previous work by LIRNEasia

- Public warning (2005-06)
  - NEWS.SL report on how to set up an effective early warning agency, March 2005
    - Samarajiva, R. (2005) information and communications technologies for effective disaster warning: Lessons from the 2004 tsunami, *New Media and Society* 7(6); 731-47. <http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/APCITY/UNPAN022464.pdf>
    - Samarajiva, R. M. Knight-John, P. Anderson & A. Zainudeen (2005), National Early Warning System: Sri Lanka (NEWS:SL) , a participatory concept paper for the design of an effective all-hazard public warning system, version 2.1, <http://www.lirneasia.net/2005/03/national-early-warning-system/> .
  - Recommendation of dam safety
    - Samarajiva, R., D. Goswami & R. Ennen (2006), Concept paper for a dam-related hazard warning system in Sri Lanka, A participatory study on actions required to avoid and mitigate dam disasters, version 2.0. <http://www.lirneasia.net/2006/01/dam-safety-concept-paper-released/>

# Previous work by LIRNEasia

- First-responder communication (2006-08)
  - IDRC funded multi-year project on last-mile hazard information dissemination (HazInfo) completed in 2006-08 in collaboration with Sarvodaya
    - Multiple technologies tested for closed-user groups/first responder warning, including DEWN
    - Knowledge sharing in Bangladesh, India and Indonesia, 2007-08
    - DEWN implemented in 2009
  - Almost-funded proposal for hotel training and certification, including village support, 2008
- Public warning (2008-10)
  - Cell Broadcasting study for Communication Authority of the Maldives 2008-09
    - Waidyanatha, R. (2010). Towards a typology of integrated functional early warning systems. *International Journal of Critical Infrastructures*, 6(1): 31-51.
    - Samarajiva, R. (2009). Peace of mind for a tourist paradise, *World Disasters Report 2009: Focus on early warning, early action*, pp. 29-30. Geneva: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. [http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/lib.nsf/db900sid/EDIS-7T3KR3/\\$file/ifrc\\_world\\_disasters\\_rpt2009.pdf?openelement](http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/lib.nsf/db900sid/EDIS-7T3KR3/$file/ifrc_world_disasters_rpt2009.pdf?openelement)
    - Samarajiva, R. & N. Waidyanatha (2009), Two complementary mobile technologies for disaster warning, *Info*, 11(2): 58-65.

# Chanuka Wattegama was an international expert on ICTs & disaster risk reduction even before joining us

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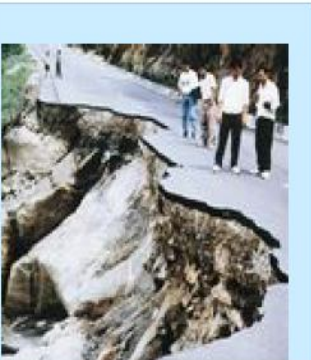
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 **ICT in Disaster Management**

APDIP e-Note 16 / 2007



**Summary**

*Looking at disaster events of the last few years it is evident that by no means natural or man-made disasters can be fully prevented. Only the loss caused by these events can be prevented.*

*Information and Communications Technology (ICT) can be used to minimize this impact in many ways. ICT is used in almost all phases of the disaster management process. In the disaster mitigation and preparedness process, ICT is widely used to create early warning systems. An early warning system may use more than one ICT media in parallel and these can be either traditional (radio, television, telephone) or*

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