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Policy, institutional advancements and challenges in making critical infrastructure disaster resilient

[Abstract]

Critical infrastructure such as hospitals, water supply, electricity, transportation (road, railways, airports etc), telecommunication, education facilities etc are backbone of any society and economy. Economic losses due to disasters are mainly attributed to loss in infrastructures. According to World Bank (2019), infrastructure disruptions impose costs between \$391 billion and \$647 billion a year in low and middle-income countries. Studies suggest that natural hazards typically are responsible for 10 to 70 percent of the disruptions. Investing in disaster risk reduction is thus a precondition for developing sustainably in a changing climate. The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 puts a significant emphasis on critical infrastructure. The Target D of the framework which is about substantial reduction of disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030. Countries globally have put an enormous effort into managing disasters and reducing disaster risk. They have made progress in putting building codes and incorporating standards for safe and strong infrastructures in their traditional practices of infrastructure development. However, disaster risk being dynamic and often exacerbated by climate variability requires a more dynamic and upgraded approach in tackling risk to infrastructures due to the emerging risks.



The proposed presentation will mainly highlight the policy and institutional advancements made by countries in making critical infrastructure disaster resilient and will also discuss the gaps and challenges in the same in the context of emerging risk landscape globally.

[Keywords]

disaster risk reduction, resilient infrastructure, critical infrastructure, economic impact of disasters