

CARE | SOUTH ASIA



SOUTH ASIA HYDROMET FORUM

Program to Support South Asia Regional Development in Operational Forecasting and Service Delivery

DR. ANSHUL AGARWAL
Lead-SAHF
RIMES





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OVERVIEW

THE SOUTH ASIA HYDROMET FORUM (SAHF)

- Established to support regional engagement, promote collaboration and enhance capacity at the regional and sub-regional levels towards improving hydromet, early warning, and climate service delivery in South Asia (SA).

Member countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka

- Seeks to strengthen the capacity of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) and promote shared solutions to regional climate risks.
- Fosters joint action to enhance resilience, disaster preparedness, and climate-informed decision-making.

THE SOUTH ASIA HYDROMET FORUM (SAHF)

2018

- SAHF was initiated through regional consultations to identify joint priorities in hydrometeorological modernization
- Conducted **SAHF I**

2019

- Conducted **SAHF II**

Identified priorities for collaboration in hydromet and service delivery modernization efforts

2021

- **SAHF Phase I** initiated

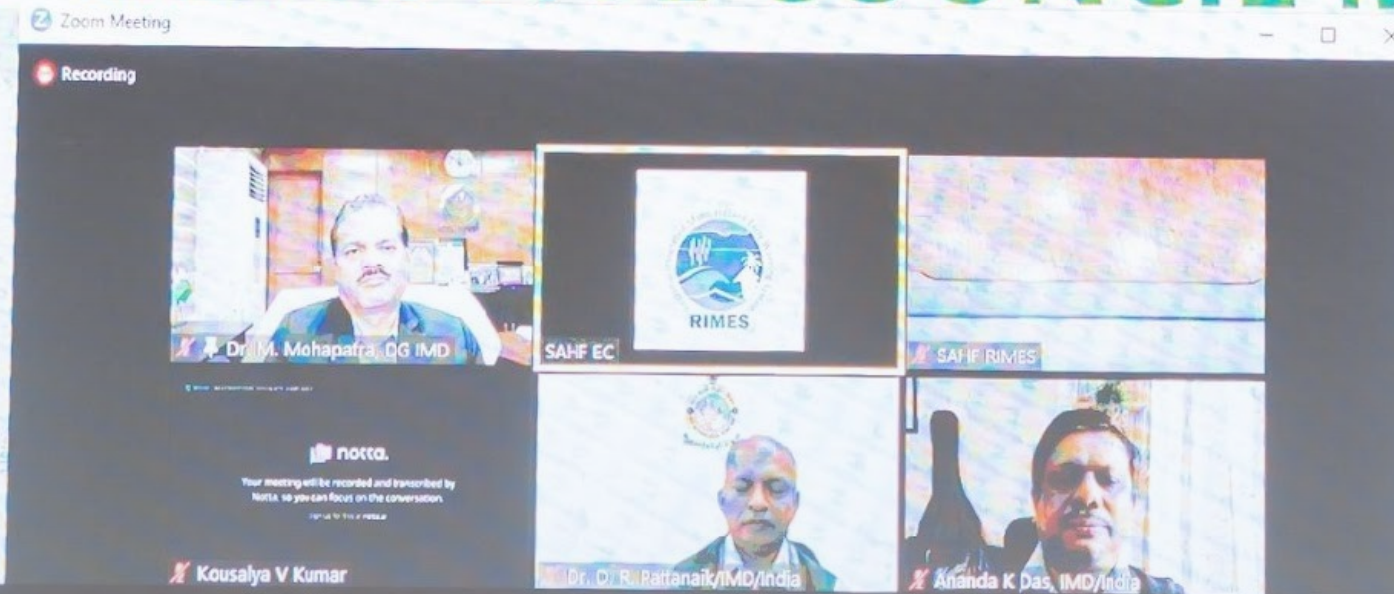
2023

- **MARCH:** Concluded Phase I – laid the solid foundation for regional engagement and capacity enhancement
- **APRIL:** Integrated into Climate Adaptation and Resilience (CARE) for South Asia Component 1 Project for Phase II

PROGRAM TO SUPPORT SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN OPERATIONAL FORECASTING AND SERVICE DELIVERY

THIRD EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

CAREI SOUTH ASIA



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INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE

SAHF INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (DGs/ Directors of NMHSs)

Working Group: Impact-Based Forecasting

Working Group: Numerical Weather Prediction

Working Group: Observational Networks

Working Group: Capacity Enhancement

Working Group: Hydrology

Working Group: Climate Services

RIMES & Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

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Working Group: Hydrology

Working Group: Climate Services

RIMES & Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

- ✓ Governs SAHF implementation; composed of heads of NMHSs in SAHF member countries
- ✓ Responsible for overseeing the implementation of SAHF's vision and objectives
- ✓ Provides strategic leadership to ensure SAHF initiatives align with regional and global priorities.

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Working Group: Hydrology

Working Group: Climate Services

RIMES & Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

RIMES serves as SAHF's Technical Secretariat and the TAG provides advisory support to SAHF



SAHF COMPONENTS



Executive Council (EC) and Working Groups (WGs)

Governance and technical bodies guiding strategic decisions and implementing regional hydromet improvements across six thematic areas.



NMHS Assessment

Biannual evaluations of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) to identify capacity gaps and prioritize support.



Capacity Building Activities

NMHSs staff are trained in SAHF's priority capacity enhancement areas.

Forecasters' Forum (FForum)

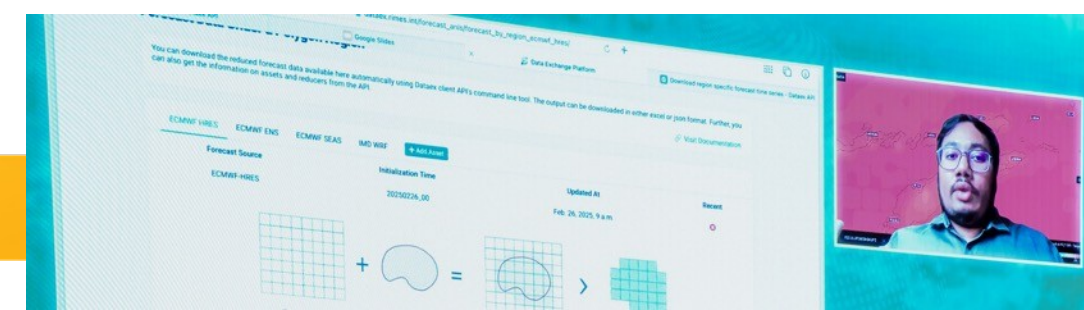
The Forecasters' Forum (FForum) is a weekly platform under SAHF that facilitates knowledge sharing and collaboration among weather forecasters from South Asia's National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to improve forecasting and early warning capabilities.

SAHF Knowledge Hub (SKHub)

The SKHub is a centralized platform that provides learning resources and tools across SAHF's thematic areas, designed to promote knowledge sharing and enhance capacity building

Data Exchange Platform (DataEx)

DataEx is a secure, real-time data exchange and analytics platform that enhances regional forecasting and collaboration among South Asia's meteorological services.





KEY MILESTONES & ACHIEVEMENTS

CREATION OF REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND DATA PLATFORMS

- ✓ Launch of the SAHF Knowledge Hub (SKHub) in September 2022 as a centralized platform for learning, resources, and expert engagement.
- ✓ Development and Deployment of the Data Exchange Platform (DataEx) for real-time regional data sharing, forecast hosting, and analysis.
- ✓ Initiation and Continuation of the Forecasters' Forum (FForum) from 2022 onward, offering weekly sessions for collaborative forecasting and crisis event response.

STRENGTHENING TECHNICAL CAPACITIES THROUGH TRAINING

Nine specialized trainings have been successfully conducted under SAHF, strengthening regional capabilities in hydrometeorological services:

- ✓ SAHF IBF Training Series: This series included three levels of training: Introductory, Basic-Level, and Mid-Level, Jan- Mar 2023.
- ✓ Training on Customization of Ocean Forecast Products: Jointly organized with INCOIS, 20-24 May 2024, Hyderabad, India.
- ✓ Regional Training Workshop for SAHF FForum Expanded Service Support: 29-30 July 2024, Bangkok, Thailand.
- ✓ SAHF DataEx Platform and ECMWF Data Extraction Orientation: 24 June 2024, Virtual.
- ✓ Training on Forecast Interpretation and Verification: Jointly organized with NCMRWF, 23-27 September 2024, Noida, India.
- ✓ Planning Workshop on IBF and CS: Jointly organized with UKMO, 21-24 January 2025, Bangkok, Thailand.
- ✓ SAHF Knowledge Hub and DataEx Platform Training Workshop: 27 February 2025, Bangkok, Thailand

ADVANCEMENT IN OBSERVATIONAL & FORECASTING INFRASTRUCTURE

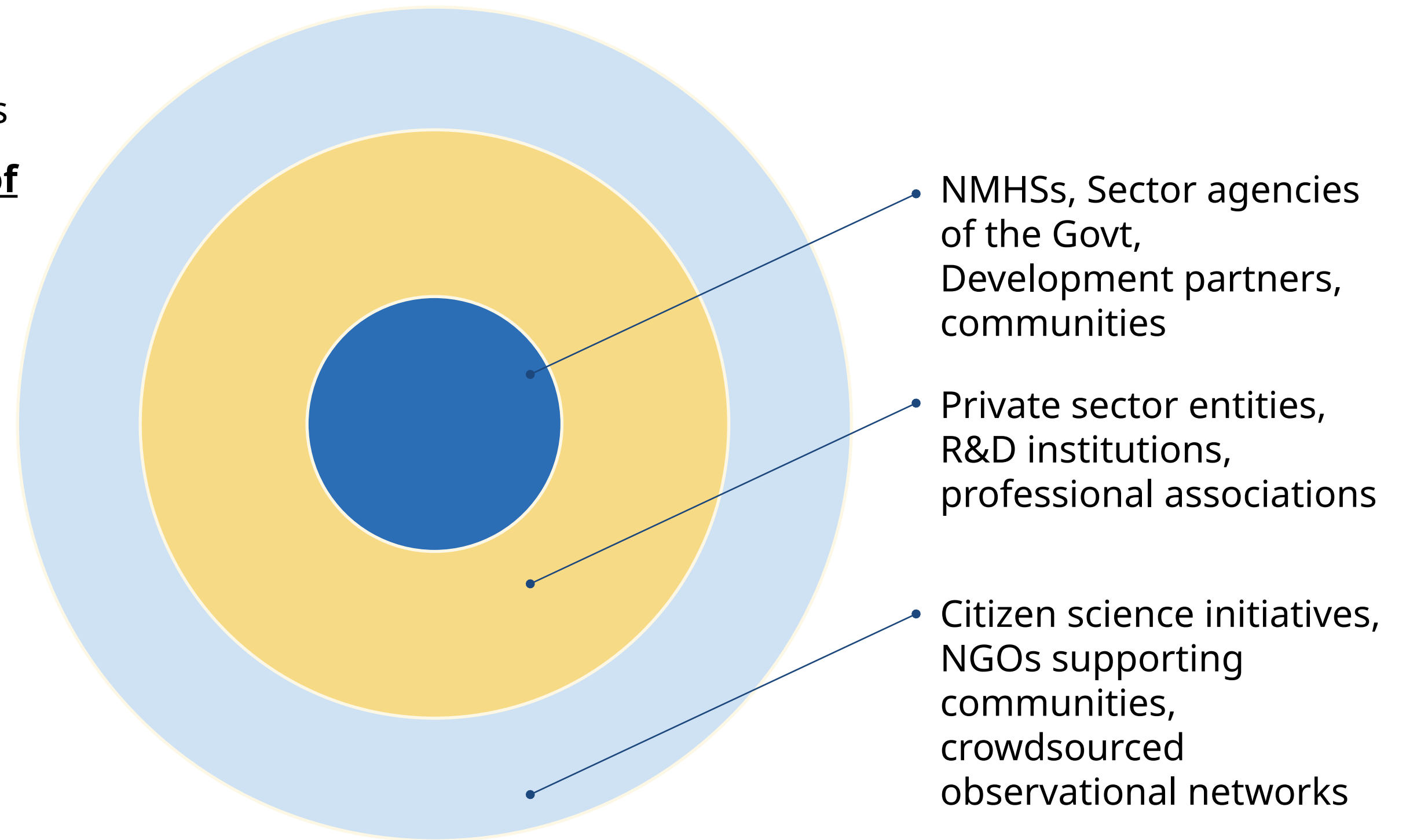
- ✓ Improved integration of over 3000+ observation stations across the region within DataEx
- ✓ Implementation of Automated Quality Control Systems (AQCS) for real-time data accuracy
- ✓ Enhanced support for impact-based forecasting and climate services at both regional and national levels

CONVENING HIGH-LEVEL REGIONAL CONFERENCES

- ✓ SAHF III Annual Conference (2021, Virtual): Focused on observation networks and capacity building.
- ✓ SAHF IV Annual Conference (2024, Colombo): Marked deepened regional synergies and strategic planning under CARE.

ENHANCING COLLABORATION AND PARTICIPATION TO STRENGTHENING SERVICES

- **Progressively** involve a wide range of stakeholders
- SAHF's "**widening circles of inclusion, influence and synergy**"





THANK YOU!