

Critical Review in Institutionalizing Disaster Loss Data & Data Bases in Sri Lanka

In National Perspectives



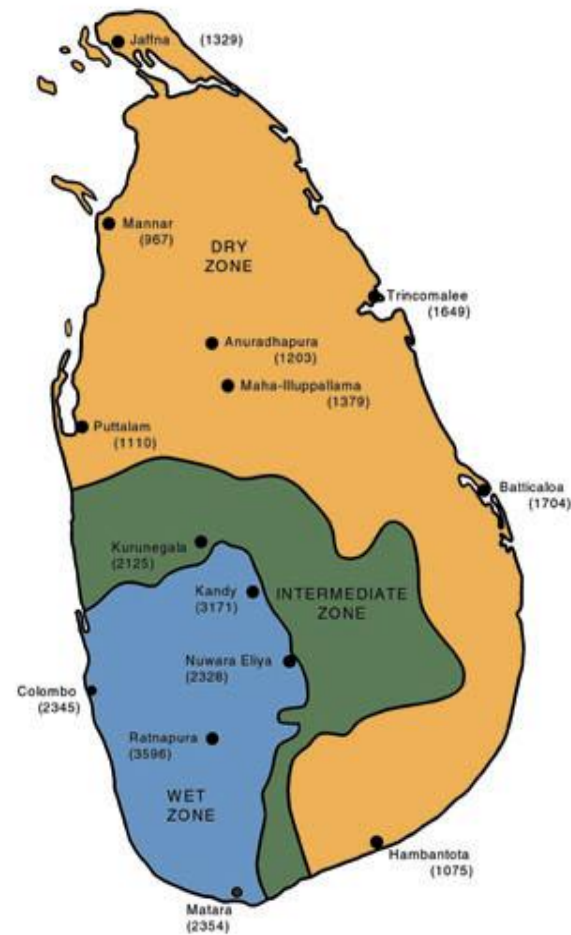
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Content

- Background
- Data Collection and Coordination (Scenario I – Before Tsunami)
- New Developments (Scenario II – After the Tsunami)
- New Opportunities for Institutionalizing National level database - DesInventar

Climatic Zones of Sri Lanka

- Rainfall
 - below 1,750 mm - Dry zone
 - 1,750 - 2,500 mm - Intermediate zone
 - above 2,500 mm - Wet zone



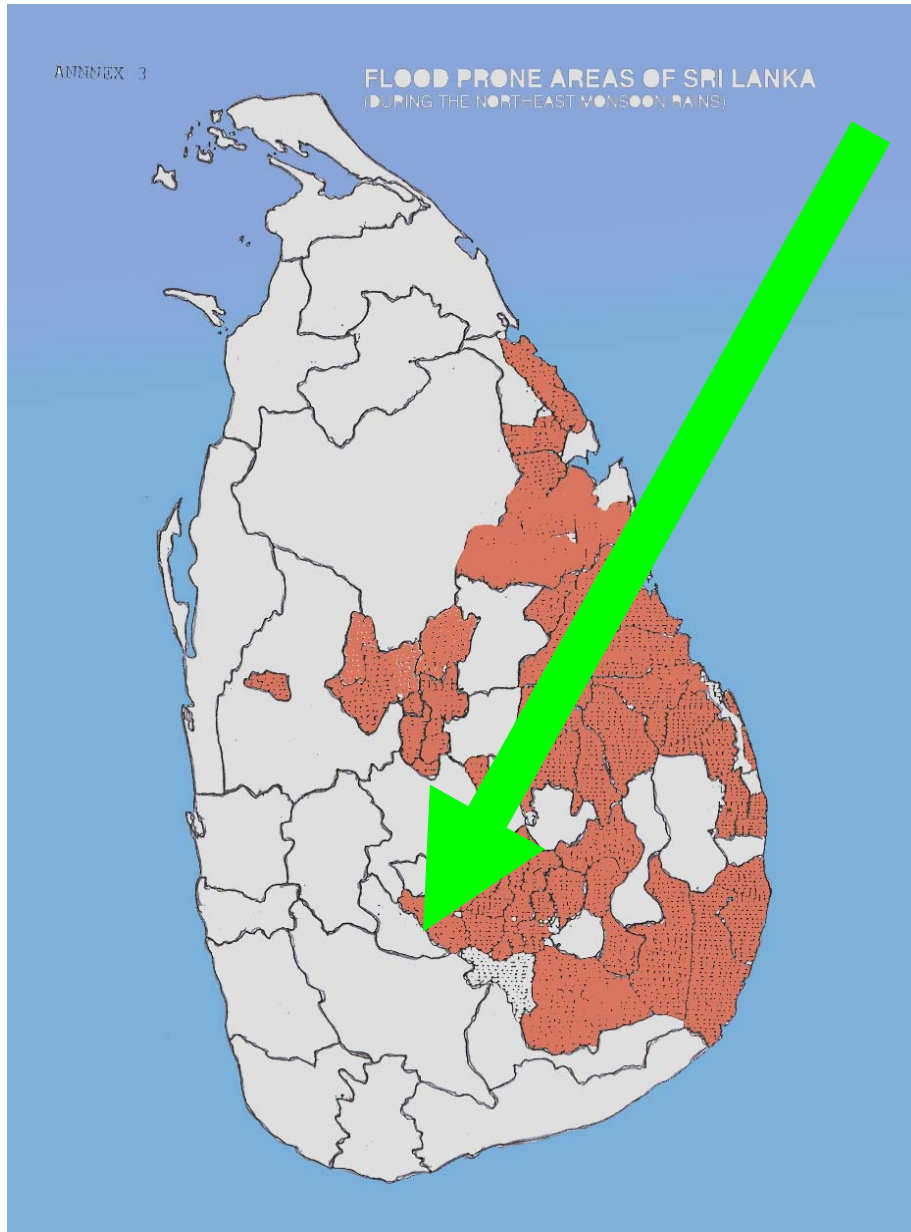
Multi Hazards in Sri Lanka



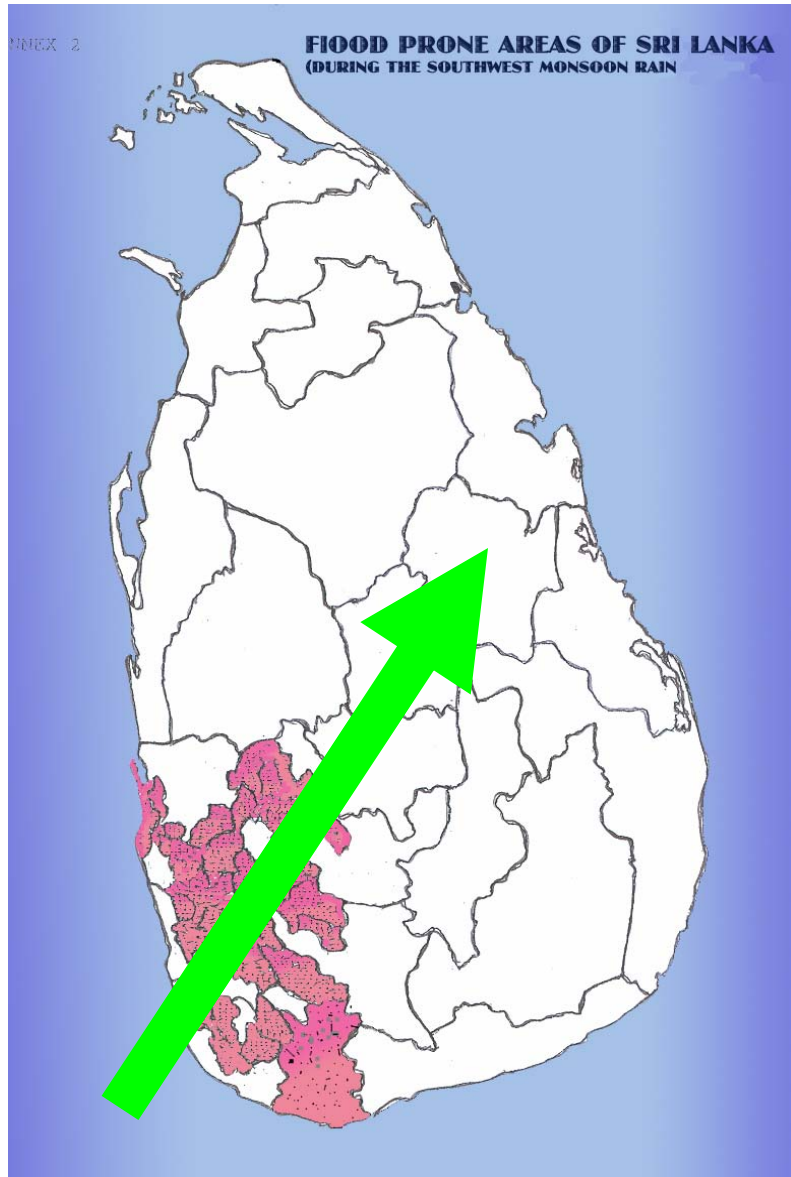
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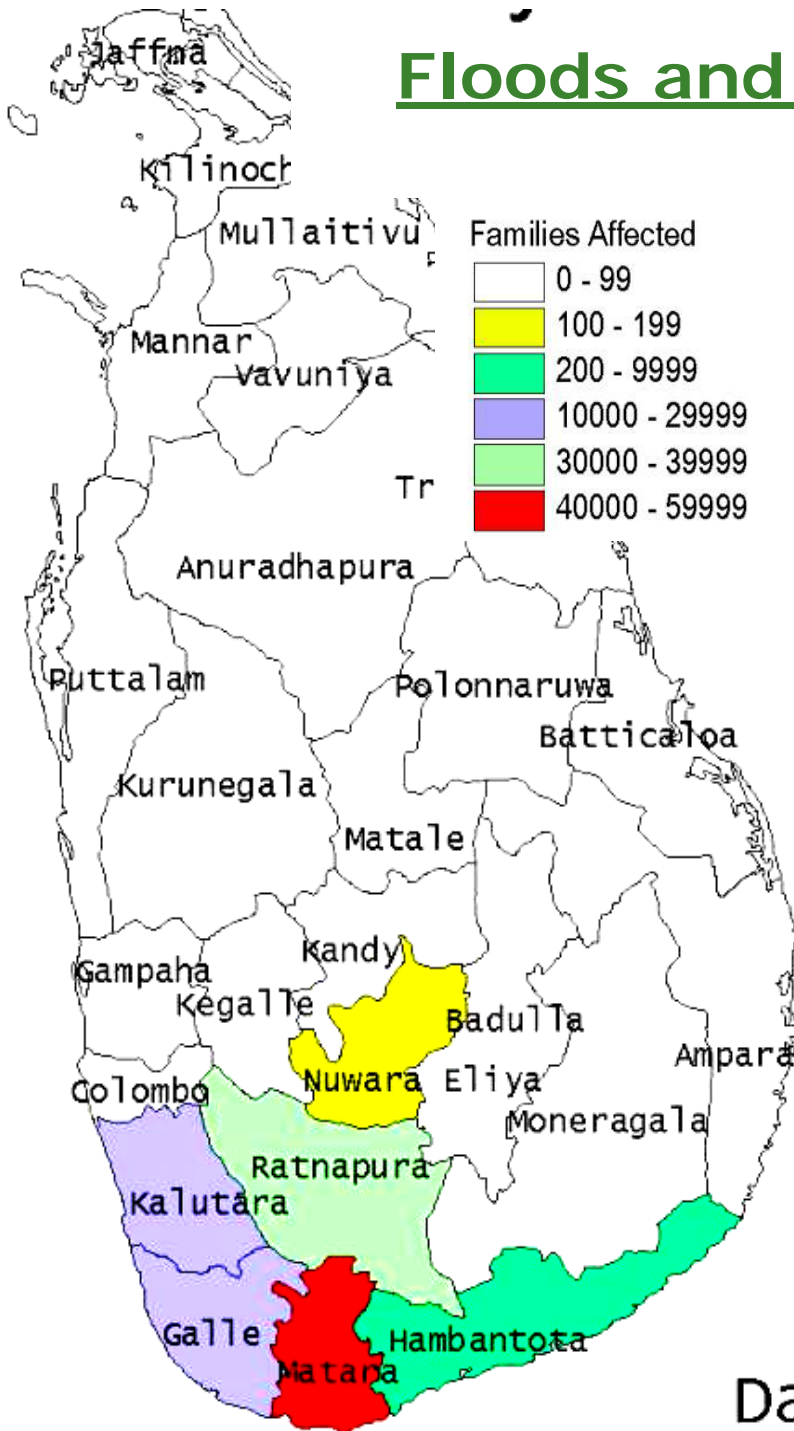
Floods during the Northeast Monsoon



Floods during the Southwest Monsoon

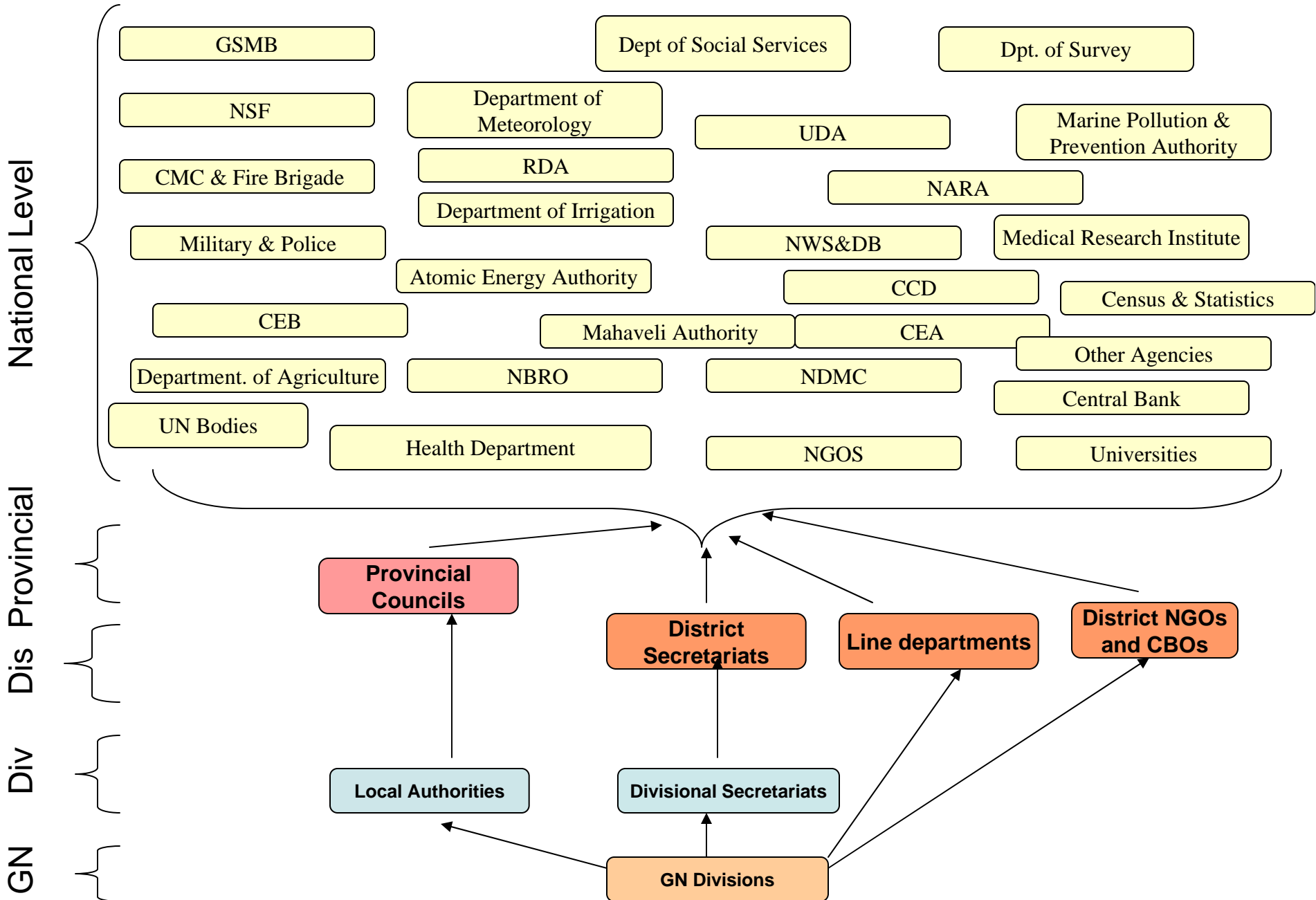


Floods and Landslides (17 May 2003)



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Disaster Loss Data Mess (Before Tsunami) – Scenario I



Issues (Before Tsunami – Scenario I)

- ❖ No National data base on Disaster Impacts or Disaster Losses
- ❖ No National level coordination body or focal point
- ❖ No National or sub national level coordination among the agencies
- ❖ Two parallel administrative systems (Central Government Administration & Provincial Government Administration
- ❖ Data exaggerations by the GN Officers
- ❖ No consistency, continuity or reliability
- ❖ No mainstreaming or use in the development planning

DesInventar - In Scenario I

- Introduced in 2004 under the UNDP project as a pilot project
- Implemented by the NDMC which was a unit under the Women Empowerment & Social Welfare
- Coverage – Whole country (24 Districts)
- Collected historical data over 31 years (1974 – 2005)
- Resolution – Province → District → Division
- Disaster data on both Natural & Technological disasters

- Source: Archives (Only National/ Government/News Papers). No consistent and reliable historical data available in the country.
- Data:
 - 14160 records
 - 6015 records entered to the Natural disaster database related with 32 events from 1974 January to 2005 September (Animal attack, Avalanche, Biological, Coastline, Cyclone, Drought, Earthquake, Electric storm, Epidemic, Explosion, Failure, Fire, Flood, Forest fire, Frost, Grown, Hailstorm, Heat wave, Landslide, Leak, Lighting, Other, Panic, Pollution, Rains, Sedimentation, Snake bite, Storm, Strong wind, Structure Surge, Tsunami).
 - 8145 records are discovered in the Accident database relate with 6 events. (Rail, drowning, electrocution, tree, fire, other).
 - But no assessment made for DesInventar other than primary assessment

Issues – Scenario I

- Less reliability of data – From news papers
- Focal point for DM of SL changed. But ownership of the data base has not been changed
- No system in place to continue the data collection across the country
- Ownership and hidden nature. Reluctant to share with any agency other than just showing
- No assessment made available at the national level
- Lack of awareness about the use of database
- Nationally driven. No use for local planners
- No mainstreaming in the decision making process or development planning at the national level.
- Low resolution – Only up to D.S. levels. Not use for sub national planners

New Developments (After Tsunami) – Scenario II

Legislative Background for DM in SL

- ❖ Tsunami (2004), floods and landslides (2003) and various small to medium scale disasters over the past few years have brought back into focus the fact that Sri Lanka is a disaster prone country.
- ❖ Need to strengthen all aspects of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) – both proactive risk reduction as well as reactive disaster response mechanisms
- ❖ Tsunami has reaffirmed the urgent need for a DRM legislation in Sri Lanka. The Sri Lankan Parliament passed the “Sri Lanka Disaster Management Act No 13 of 2005.”

- The National Council for Disaster Management (NCDM) was established, as per the act
- The Disaster Management Centre (DMC) was established under the National Council for Disaster Management (NCDM) as the lead agency on disaster risk management in the country in implementing the directives of NCDM
- In December 2005, the Ministry for Disaster Management was established. On January 2006, above Ministry was renamed as the Ministry of Disaster Management & Human Rights with human right portfolio being added to the Ministry

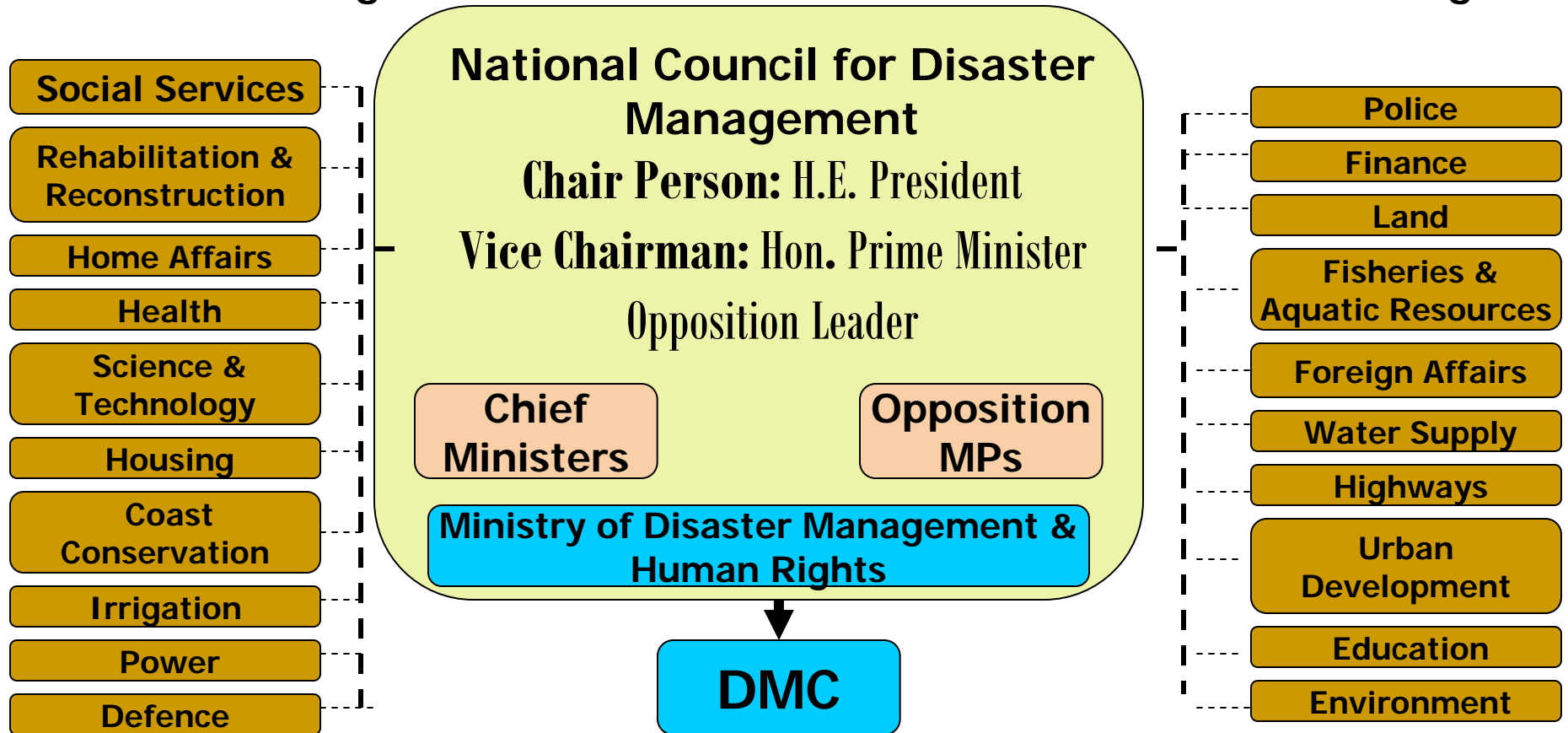
Sri Lanka Disaster Management Act; No.13 of 2005

- Framework for Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in Sri Lanka
- Addresses Disaster Management (DM) holistically, leading to a policy shift from response based mechanisms to a proactive approach

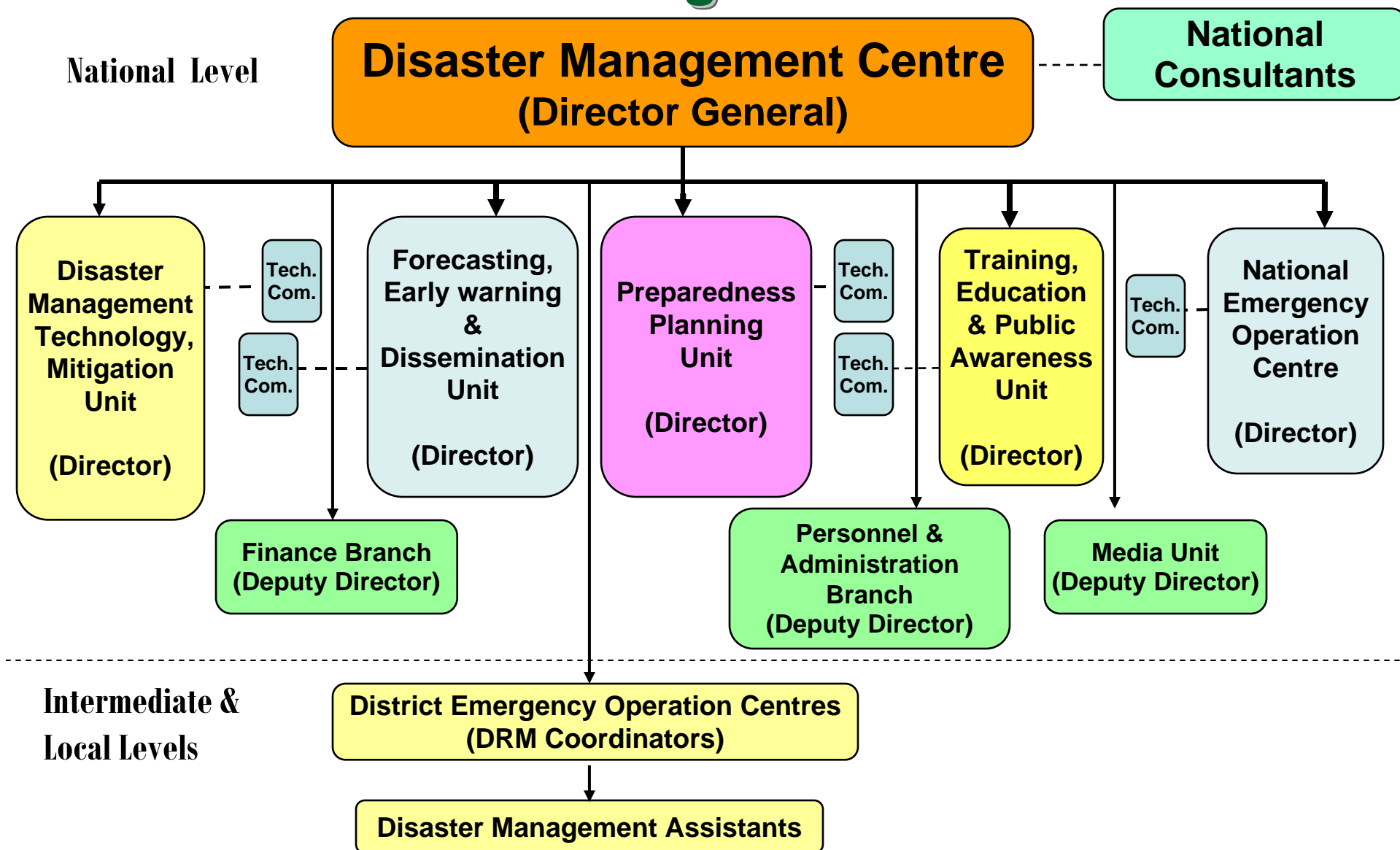
National Council For Disaster Management

Ministers in charge of

Ministers in charge of



Organizational Structure Disaster Management Centre



DISASTER MANAGEMENT CENTRE (DMC)

Vision:

Disaster Risk Management for safer communities and sustainable development in Sri Lanka

The Broad Mission:

To create a culture of safety among communities and the nation at large through systematic management of natural, technological and man-made disaster risks

Main Activities of the DMC

DMC will be directing, issuing guidelines, facilitating, coordinating, monitoring , where necessary directly implementing or enforcing activities related to:

1. Disaster Management Technology, Long-term Mitigation & DRR
 - Hazard Mapping and Risk Assessment
 - Information and Data Collection
 - Research and Analysis
 - Building Technology
 - Long term Disaster Risk Reduction
 - Specific risk reduction projects to reduce specific identified risks that can cause future disasters
 - DRR integration in Development
 - Long-term action planning

2. Early Warning

- Have systems in place for receiving forecasting and early warning
- Forecasting of impending disasters
- Early warning and Dissemination

3. Emergency Operations in case of a disaster

- Establishment of National Emergency Operation Centre
- Establishment of Emergency Operation Rooms at provincial, district and divisional levels
- Carrying out Emergency Operations, coordinating with armed forces, police and other related agencies at national and all sub levels

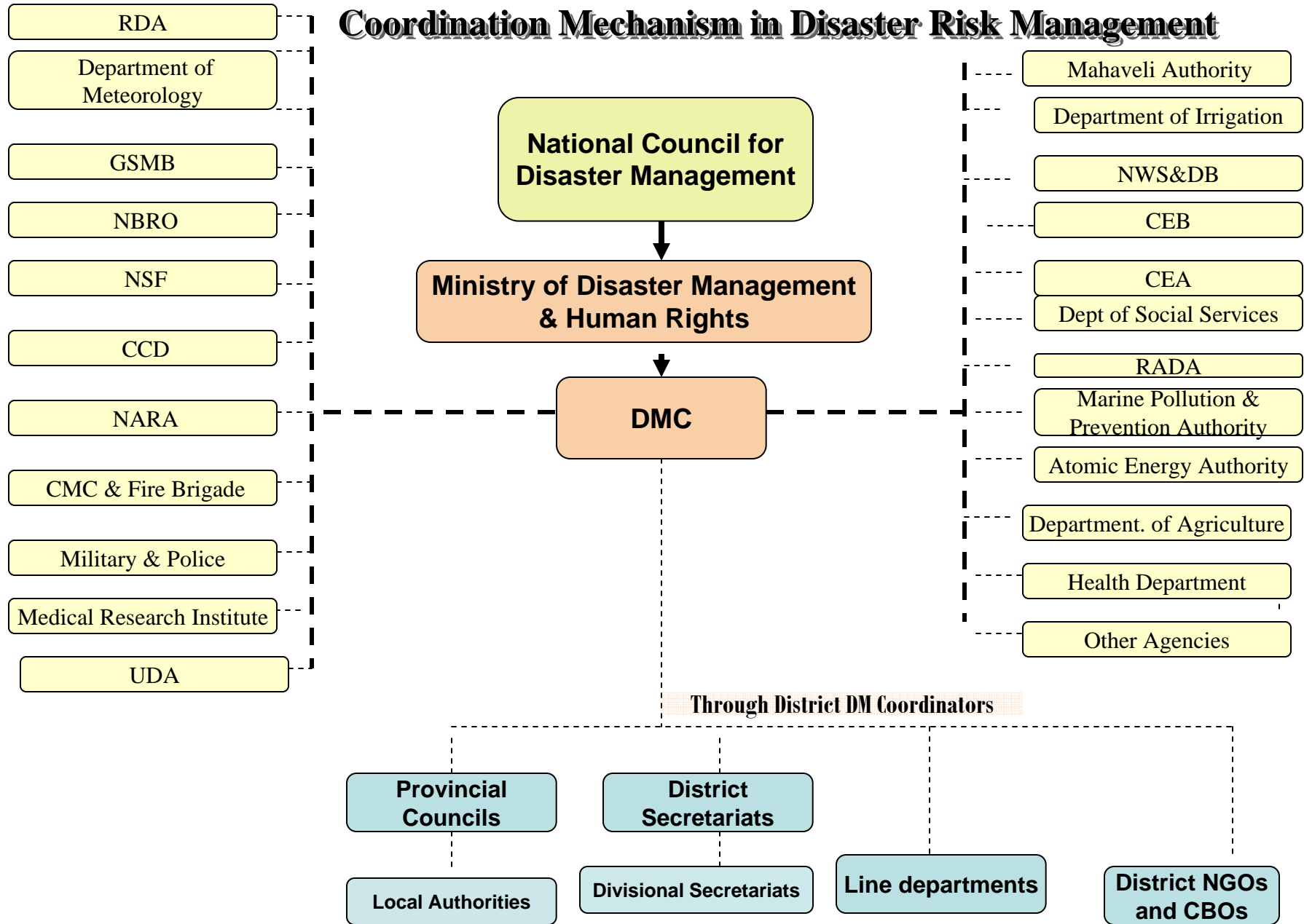
4. Preparedness Planning (National and other levels)

- Preparation of **National Disaster Management Plan and Emergency Operation Plans**
- Facilitating, issuing guidelines, coordinating, directing and monitoring of preparation of disaster preparedness and response plans at provincial, district, local authority, divisional and village levels
- Preparedness for timely and effective response, equitable relief distribution, speedy recovery, timely rehabilitation and reconstruction at national level and all sub levels

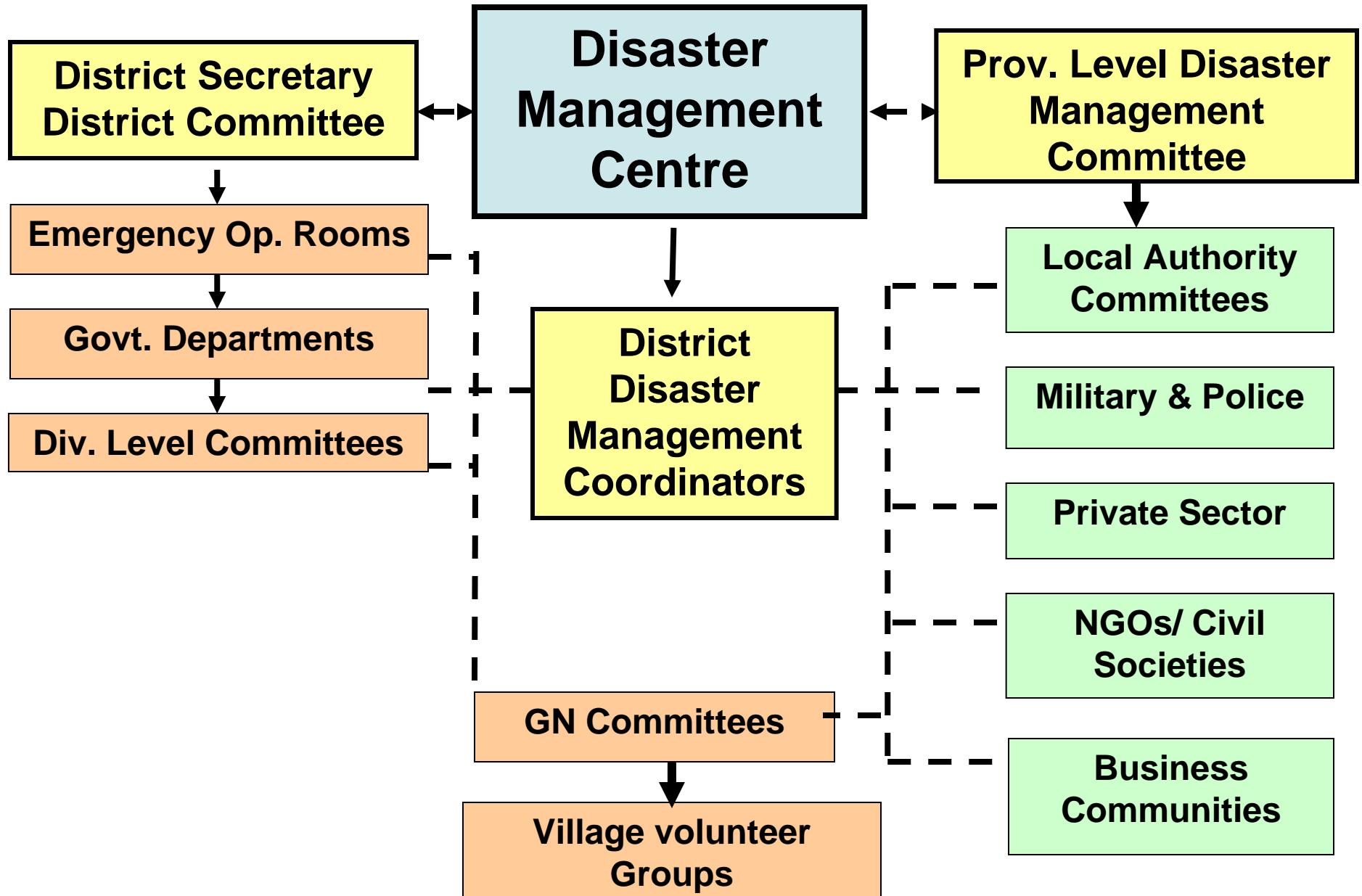
5. Training, Education & Public Awareness

- Training – Disaster risk reduction related training at all levels
- Education – integration of disaster risk reduction in school curricula and in university curricula as appropriate
- Social Marketing (Public Awareness) – Programmes for officials at all levels, school children and community level

Coordination Mechanism in Disaster Risk Management



Coordination Mechanism at the Sub national levels



Opportunities to institutionalize DesInventar!!!

- National Data Collection, Analysis and Research Centre under the DMC to be established
- DesInventar has been recognized by the DMC as a National Database on Disaster Loss
- Full authority has been given by the DMC for UNDP SL and UNDP RP to institutionalize DesInventar in the Country at national and sub national levels
- All necessary arrangements by the DMC has been taken to customize, institutionalize and improve the DesInventar
- Roadmap for Safer Sri Lanka (2005 -2015 Master Plan for the Country) – Integrated Approach across the sectors and administrative boundaries
- National Policy on DM is being developed for the country
- National DM Plan is being developed

New Initiatives

- Institutionalize DesInventar by the DMC
- Development of Resource Network for the country
- Incident Reporting System and Incident Command System



Thank You