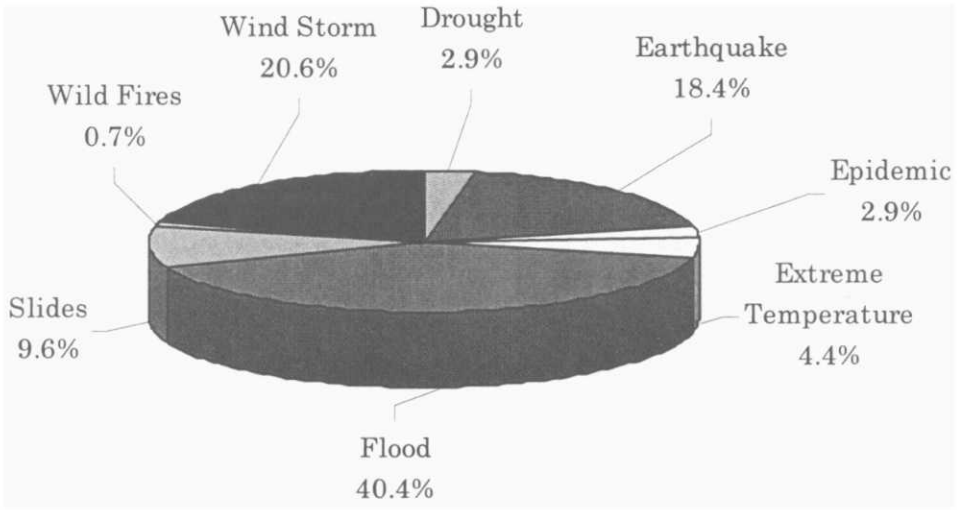
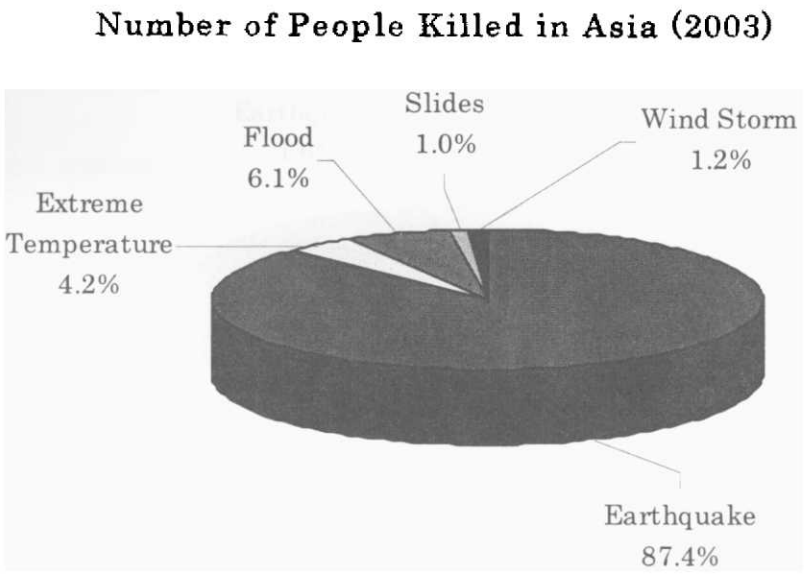
Figure 35:



Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

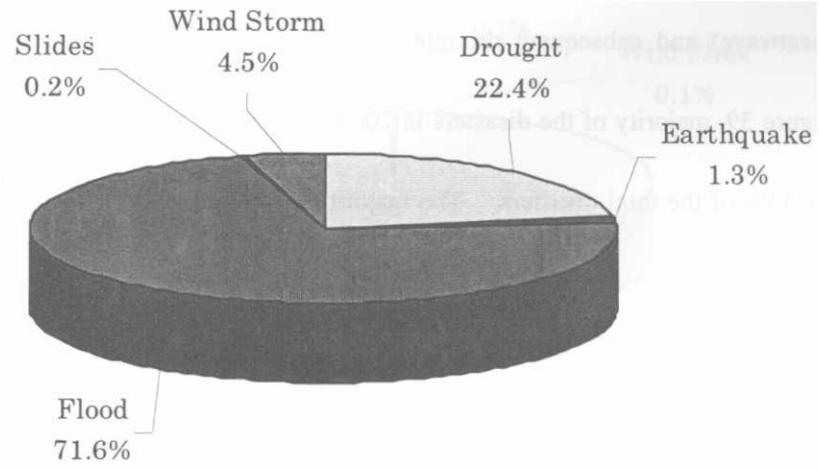
Figure 36:



Source- ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

Figure 37:

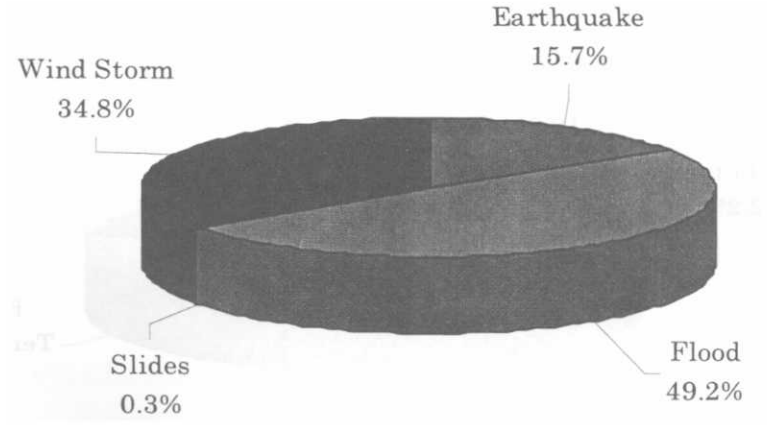
Number of Totally Affected People in Asia (2003)



Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED·EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

Figure 38:

Amount of Damage in Asia (2003)



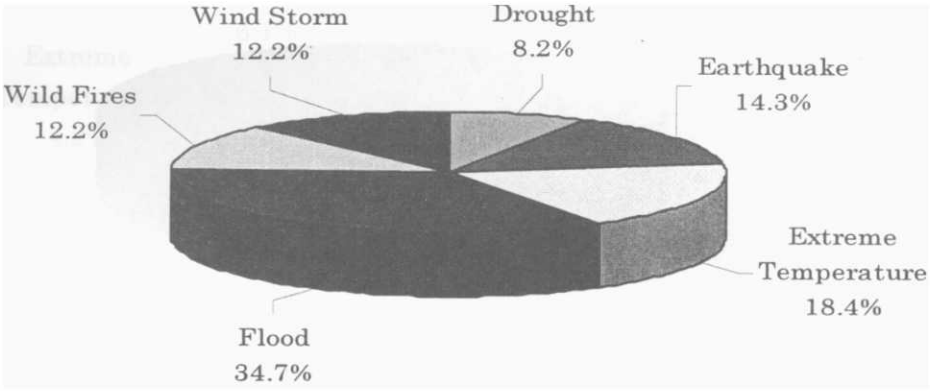
Source· ADRC, Japan and CRED·EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

3.2.4 Characteristics of Disasters in Europe:

As we know, the year 2003 was a difficult year for Europe after the 2002 devastating flood. Seen from the following figures from Figure 39 to Figure 42, extreme temperatures (heatwave) and subsequent droughts caused severe human loss in the region. According to Figure 39, majority of the disasters in 2003 were floods and extreme temperatures, which account for 53% of the total disasters. The majority of the human loss was due to extreme temperatures (heatwave) as explained in Figure 40. All of these disasters caused about 99% of the total human loss in the region in 2003. Further, as seen in Figure 41, 95% of the *totally* affected people were affected by droughts contrast to the situation of previous year (In 2002 many people (84%) were affected by floods). According to the Figure 42, the floods made heavy economic loss in the region Thus it can be concluded that the year 2003 was tumultuous for Europe, as hydro meteorological disasters once again caused severe damage.

Figure 39.

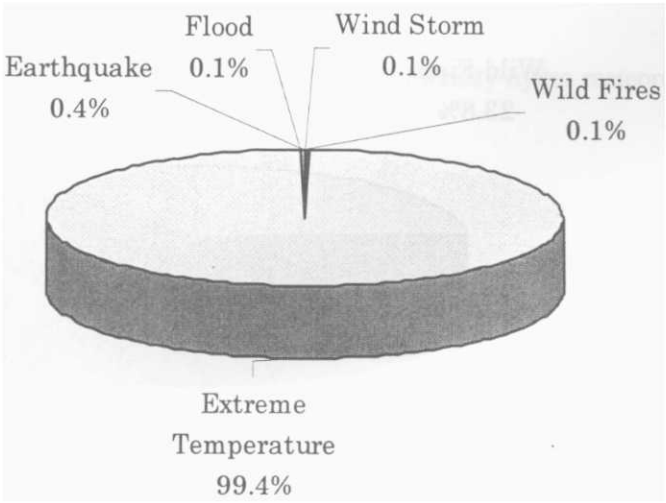
Number of Disasters in Europe (2003)



Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

Figure 40:

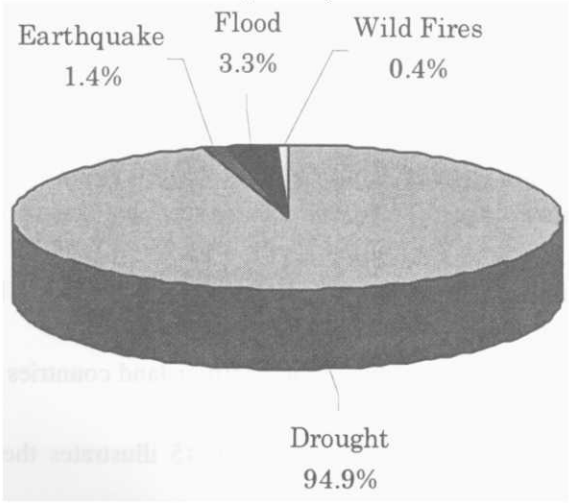
Number of Killed People in Europe (2003)



Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

Figure 41:

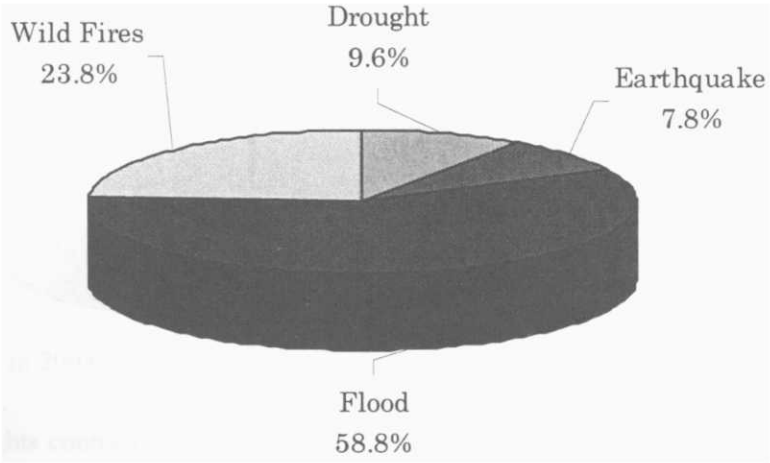
Number of Totally Affected People in Europe (2003)



Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

Figure 42:

Amount of Damage in Europe (2003)



Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

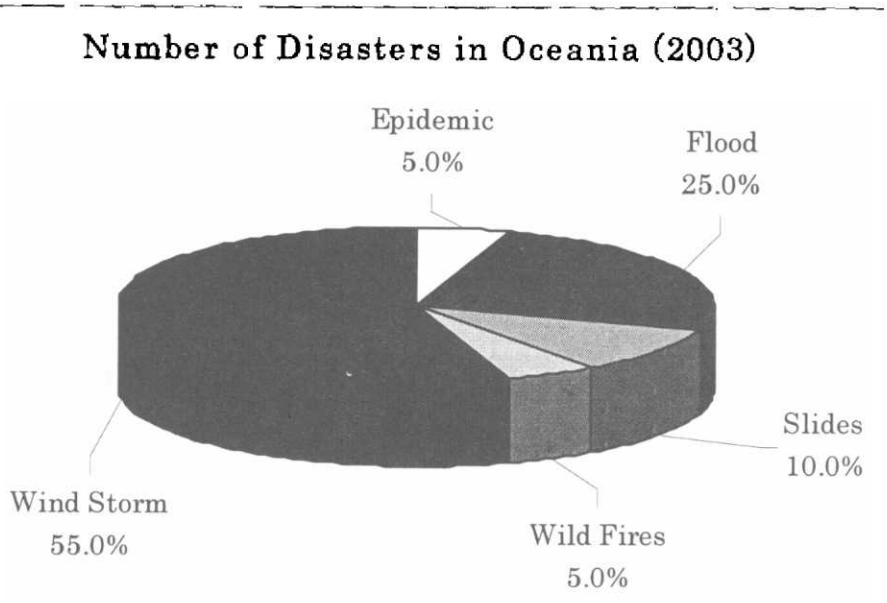
3.2.5 Characteristics of Disasters in Oceania:

Disaster trends in Oceania are a bit different compared to those in other regions in the year 2003. Natural disasters in the year 2003 were different from the average pattern of occurrence of natural disasters in Oceania. Almost all types of natural disasters have occurred in the region except earthquakes, but the majority of them are windstorms, floods, slides and wild fires totaling 95% among them. This trend can be seen in Figure 43 According to the Figure 44, majority of the human loss is from windstorms (48%) followed by slides (28%) and floods (15%). The reason is due to the storms in the pacific island countries (Fiji and American Samoa) and slides in Papua New Guinea in 2003. Figure 45 illustrates the pattern of *totally* affected people in Oceania in 2003, with windstorms, and wild fires causing the majority (96%) of the human suffering. The reason for this unusual picture is the severe windstorm in Fiji and Australia,

and wild fires in Australia and slides in Papua New Guinea. Further majority of the economic damage has been caused by the wild fire (50%) followed by windstorm (28%) and flood (22%) (Figure 46).

It is concluded that in 2003, Oceania experienced mostly hydro meteorological, almost in equal dimensions due to the geographical location.

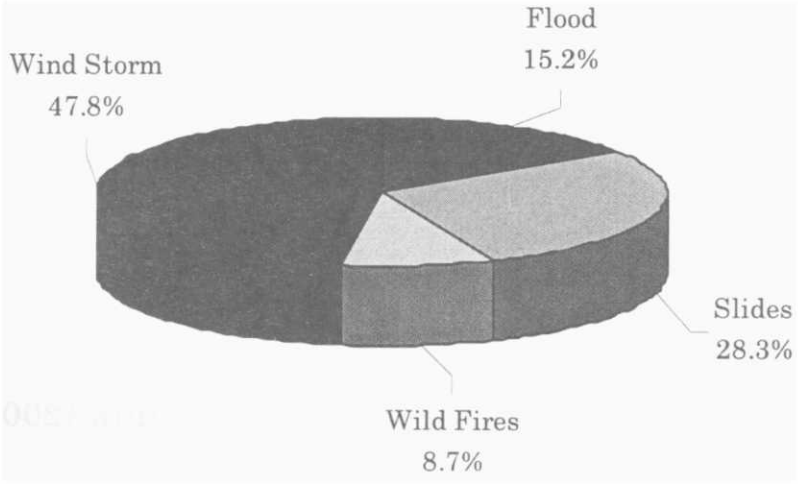
Figure 43:



Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

Figure 44:

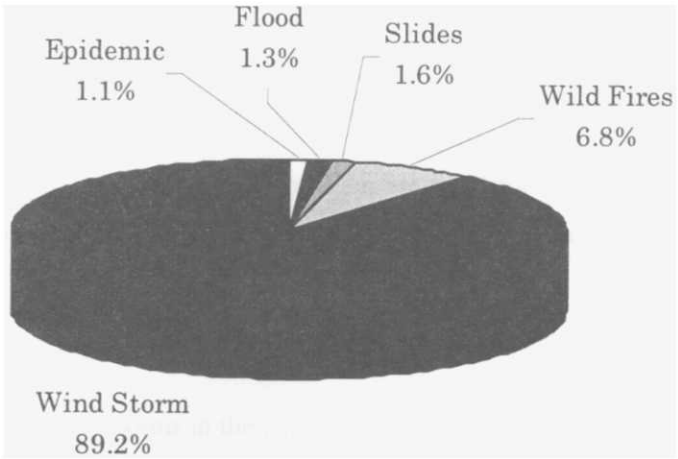
Number of People Killed in Oceania (2003)



Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

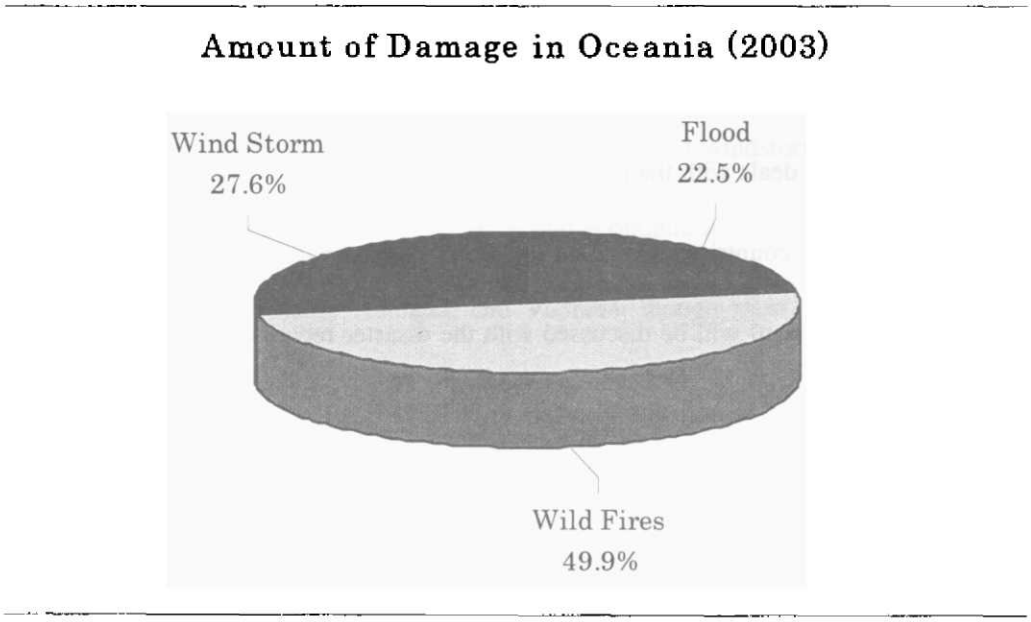
Figure 45:

Number of Totally Affected People in Oceania (2003)



Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

Figure 46:



Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

This section provides summary of patterns of natural disasters in the world with regional perspectives Tables 2 and 3 in the Chapter 1 also provide these figures in a tabulated form It can be said that in 2003, the world was affected by both hydro meteorological disasters and geophysical disasters in all the regions, while Oceania also experienced mostly hydro metoreological disasters. It is easily understood from these sections that Asia is an extremely disaster prone region of the world in terms of human loss and suffering. It is evident when we see the most severe disasters in the year 2003 such as Bam Earthquake in Iran, Typhoon Maemi in Korea, and floods in China, India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, which were occurred in the Asian region. It can be said that affected populations are deprived of their benefits of the socio-economic development thus considerably hindering efforts towards sustainable economic development in the region and throughout the globe.