

## Disasters database

### *Definitions of disaster*

The following definitions, compiled at the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, are based on the glossary of terms developed at a workshop organised by the United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation-Department of Humanitarian Affairs in Prague in 1991, as well as on detailed discussions and documents from the World Health Organisation, the World Meteorological Organisation and technical staff of UNDRO. The Scientific Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction has contributed significantly to the formulation of these terms.

#### DISASTER TYPES

##### Sudden natural

###### **Avalanche**

Rapid and sudden sliding and flowing of masses of usually incoherent and unsorted mixtures of snow, ice and/or rock material.

###### **Cold wave**

Long-lasting period with extremely low surface temperature.

###### **Earthquake**

Sudden break within the upper layers of the earth, sometimes breaking the surface, resulting in the vibration of the ground, when strong enough will cause the collapse of buildings and destruction of life and property. There are two scales for measuring the impact of an earthquake: the Richter scale and the Mercalli scale

###### **Aftershock**

A smaller earthquake that follows the main shock and originates close to its focus. Aftershocks generally

decrease in number and magnitude over time. Aftershocks that follow the main shock have to be considered as the same event as the main earthquake

###### **Floods**

Significant rise of water level in a stream, lake reservoir or a coastal region. A flood is a harmful inundation of property and land utilised by man and may be of two types:

Slow flood, caused by an increase in the volume of water produced by rain in rivers and lakes over a long period, days or weeks, mainly affecting property such as houses and cattle, and displace the inhabitants from their usual dwelling places;

Sudden flood, caused by an increase in the volume of water in rivers and lakes, causing deaths, injuries and violent destruction of property. It may be the result of torrential rain, cyclones, structural failures such as the collapse of walls of a reservoir or the embankment of a river proving insufficiently robust to contain the strong flow of water.

###### **Flash flood**

Is a sudden and extreme volume of water that flows rapidly and causes inundation, and because of its nature is difficult to forecast.

###### **Dam collapse**

May be caused by a shifting of a dam foundation after an earthquake, nearby oil drilling or due to faulty construction. Earth dams are more likely to collapse when excessive rainfall fills the reservoir to overflowing. The excess water then pours over the top of the dam, gradually washing it down and cutting deep channels into it. This weakens the entire structure so that it then gives way entirely. The result of a

dam collapse is a sudden release of large amounts of water which sweep over low-lying villages, causing many deaths and injuries

**Heat wave**

Long-lasting period with extremely high surface temperature

**High wind cyclone**

This type includes hurricane and typhoon. Large-scale closed circulation system in the atmosphere with low barometric pressure and strong winds that rotate counter clockwise in the northern hemisphere and clockwise in the southern hemisphere. The system is referred to as a cyclone in the Indian Ocean and South Pacific, hurricane in the western Atlantic and eastern Pacific and typhoon in the western Pacific. Hurricanes and typhoons are the same storm types as tropical cyclones. They are the local names for storms which originate in the Caribbean and China Sea region respectively. Hurricanes are large atmospheric vortices with wind speeds of more than 100kph; they develop in the doldrums of the tropics and move in an often erratic way towards higher latitudes;

**Storm**

Atmospheric disturbance involving perturbations of the prevailing pressure and wind fields, on scale ranging from tornadoes (one km across) to extra tropical cyclone (2,000-3,000km across);

**Hail**

Derives from the impact of hailstones, precipitated particles of ice and is most commonly associated with thunderstorms;

**Sand storm**

Dust or sand energetically lifted to great heights by strong and turbulent winds,

**Storm surges**

A sudden rise of sea as a result of high winds and low atmosphere pressure; sometimes called a storm tide, storm wave or tidal wave (this name indicates waves caused by the tidal action of the moon and the sun in the same way as regular ocean tides. It is often erroneously given to tsunamis). Generally affects only

coastal areas but may intrude some distance inland;

**Thunderstorm**

A large cumulus cloud on which localised centres of electrical charge have developed;

**Tropical storm**

Formed over open seas and is characterised by extreme wind damage, intense downpours of rain, wave storms at sea, severe coastal wave action, marine flooding, riverine flooding, lightning and thunderstorms;

**Tornado**

Localised and violently destructive windstorm occurring over land. Characterised by a long funnel-shaped cloud composed of condensation and debris extending to the ground and marking a path of greatest destruction.

**Insect infestation or animal infestation**

Pervasive influx and development of insects or parasites affecting humans, animals, crops and materials.

**Landslide**

Downhill sliding or falling movement of dry soil and rock. Landslides are difficult to estimate as an independent phenomenon. It seems appropriate, therefore, to associate landslides with other hazards such as tropical cyclones, severe local storms and river floods. The term "landslide" is used in its broad sense to include downward and outward movement of slope-forming materials (natural rock and soil). It is caused by heavy rain, soil erosion and earth tremors and may also happen in areas under heavy snow (avalanches).

**Earth flow**

A mass movement characterised by slow down-slope translation of soil and weathered rock within a landslide.

**Power shortage**

Total or partial disruption of electrical power for an extended period causing significant damage to services and normal livelihood

**Tsunami and tidal wave**

Series of large sea waves generated by sudden displacement of seawater

(caused by earthquake, volcanic eruption or submarine landslide); capable of propagation over large distance.

#### **Volcanic eruption**

Discharge of fragmentary ejecta, lava and gases from a volcanic vent. The most common consequences are displacement of population, temporary food shortage and volcanic ash landslides called lahar.

#### **Glowing avalanches**

Hot pyroclastic flows formed from freshly erupted magma, with temperatures of up to 1,200 degrees. The pyroclastic flow is formed from rock fragments derived from a volcanic explosion which, when suspended in a cloud of rapidly expanding gas and dust, surges down the flanks of the volcano at speeds of up to several hundred kilometres per hour, to distances often up to 10km, and rarely as far as 40km from the event. This is the most dangerous type of volcanic eruption.

### **Long term natural**

#### **Epidemics**

An unusual increase in the number of cases of an infectious disease which already exists in the region or population concerned. The appearance of a significant number of cases of an infectious disease introduced in a region or population that is usually free from that disease. Epidemics may be the consequence of disasters of another kind, such as tropical storms, floods, earthquakes, droughts, etc. Epidemics may also attack animals, causing local economic disasters.

#### **Drought**

Period of deficiency of moisture in the soil such that there is inadequate water required for plants, animals and human beings. A drought causes malnutrition, epidemics and displacement of populations from one area to another.

#### **Desertification**

The processes by which an already arid area becomes even more barren, less capable of retaining vegetation, and progressing towards becoming a desert. This is often a cause of long-term disasters. This type of dis-

aster will normally be entered as a consequence.

#### **Famine**

Catastrophic food shortage affecting large numbers of people due to climatic, environmental and socio-economic reasons. The cause of the famine may produce great migrations to less-affected regions.

#### **Food shortage or crop failure**

Abnormal reduction in crop yield such that it is insufficient to meet the nutritional or economic needs of the community. This type of disaster is always a consequence of another disaster type and will therefore be classified under the major cause.

### **Sudden man-made**

#### **Transport or structural accident**

##### **Structural collapse**

The disaster type "structural collapse" is used when the structure collapse results independently, without any outside force. If the collapse is due to an outside force such as an earthquake, tornado, or explosion, then it is classified under the initial causal factor.

##### **Building collapse**

Entails the sudden falling apart of a building in the absence of any outside force.

##### **Mine collapse or a mine cave-in**

Takes place in an excavation below the earth's surface. In a cave-in, parts of the overlying rocks fall down and tunnels are blocked.

#### **Transport accidents**

##### **Air disasters**

Involve violent impacts of aircraft which transport passengers or freight.

##### **Land disasters**

Include collisions or derailments of freight or passenger trains or vehicles in towns and in the country.

##### **Sea disasters**

Involve ships. Ships may sink in a storm, explode, burn, crash into each other, crash into an iceberg or rock, capsize, or vanish without explanation. Note: sea disasters caused by conflict are classified under Conflict. Those which result in oil slicks are classified under Industrial/technological accident (pollution).

**Industrial / technological accident**

Accidental release occurring during the production, transportation or handling of hazardous chemical substances.

**Explosions**

Disasters will only be classified as explosions when the explosion is the actual disaster. If the explosion is the cause of another disaster, the event will be classified as the resulting disaster.

**Chemical explosions**

Result in violent destruction caused by the explosion of combustible material, nearly always of chemical origin

**Nuclear explosions or thermonuclear explosions**

Accidental release of radiation occurring in civil nuclear facilities, exceeding the internationally established safety levels

**Mine explosions**

Occur when natural gas or coal dust reacts with the air.

**Pollution**

Degradation of one or more elements or aspects in the environment by noxious industrial, chemical or biological wastes, from debris or man-made products and from mismanagement of natural and environmental resources.

**Acid rain**

A washout of an excessive concentration of acidic compounds in the atmosphere, resulting from chemical pollutants such as sulphur and nitrogen compounds. When deposited these increase the acidity of the soil and water causing agricultural and ecological damage.

**Chemical pollution**

A sudden pollution of water or air near industrial areas, leading to internal body disorders which may be fatal, or to external disorders with permanent damage of the skin

**Atmosphere pollution**

Contamination of the atmosphere by large quantities of gases, solids and radiation produced by the burning of natural and artificial fuels, chemicals and other industrial processes and nuclear explosions.

**Chlorofluoro-carbons (CFC)**

A group of chemical compounds used in industry and in the household, of which the excessive and universal use is believed to be one of the causes of ozone depletion, with resulting environmental damage.

**Oil pollution**

Pollution of oceans, lakes or rivers

This results from the discharge of hydrocarbons (often petroleum or crude oil) from tanks, tankers or pipelines during transportation or storage. Oil spills are accidental discharge often resulting from storms or collisions. Oil pumping is intentional discharge from flushing the holds of tankers. Oil slicks are generally small discharges on the water's surface. Black tide are substantial deposits on tidelands from oil spills or dumping.

**Fires**

Usually caused by man but may occasionally occur through natural causes; for example, forest fires can be caused by lightning in thunderstorms. Note: when a fire is a result of a natural cause, it will be classified under the natural cause.

**Forest/grassland fire**

Fires in forest or bush grasslands that cover extensive areas and usually do damage. They may start by natural causes such as volcanic eruptions or lightning, or they may be caused by arsonists or careless smokers, by those burning wood or by clearing a forest area.

**Long-term man-made****National (civil strife, civil war)**

Warlike encounters between armed groups from the same country which take place within the borders. This may pose large-scale medical problems such as epidemics, lack of water, accumulation of rubbish, displaced persons, refugees, food shortage, hunger, etc.

**International**

Warlike encounters between two or more armies from different countries. These may cause large-scale mass movements of refugees and displaced persons.

**Displaced population**

Persons who for different reasons or circumstances have been compelled to leave their homes. They may or may not reside in their country of origin, but are not legally regarded as refugees. They may be forced out by natural disasters, industrial disasters, international conflicts or strife. There are three sorts of mass movements: exodus, expulsion, and returnees. The displaced populations are listed under the country which received the displaced persons. This type of disaster is always a consequence of another disaster type. The classification will be made by the original cause.

**Displaced persons**

Refers specially to people who have been displaced but remain within the territory of their own country.

**Refugees**

According to international legislation, persons having a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion mostly outside the country of nationality and unable to return or avail themselves of the protection of that country. Includes mass exodus of peoples for reasons of conflict and natural disasters moving outside their country of origin.

**Disaster effects****Dead**

Persons confirmed dead and persons missing and presumed dead (official figures when available). Comments: The number of missing is usually not included in the "dead" figure if the source used gives preliminary figures. The figure has accordingly to be updated as missing persons are determined to be dead. The figure is expected to be exclusive.

**Primary affected population**

People requiring immediate assistance during an emergency situation. Comments: Immediate assistance means meeting basic "life-line" needs, such as food, water, shelter, sanitation and immediate medical assistance. This information has to

be available as soon as possible for the launching of appeals. For epidemics, all persons who have contracted the disease and fallen ill but have not died from it will be considered as primary affected. It is important to distinguish "primary affected" populations from the following categories of populations concerned by the disaster:

**Exposed population**

The total population potentially susceptible to the effects of a hazard;

**Population at risk**

Population whose life, property and livelihood are directly threatened by a hazard;

**Target population**

The group of people to whom relief services and supplies are provided.

**Secondary affected population**

People who at a certain point will require long-term social and economic assistance as a direct consequence of a disaster situation. Comments: The assistance could include agricultural support (eg seeds and tools), housing and infrastructure rehabilitation, environmental clean-up and medical rehabilitation. The category of "secondary affected" population includes the "primary affected" population.

**Injured**

People with physical injuries/trauma/illness requiring medical treatment (therapeutic feeding included) as a direct result of a disaster. Comments: This category will include the severely malnourished as well as victims of radiation exposure and chemical intoxication. The injured are always part of the primary affected population.

**Homeless**

People needing immediate assistance with shelter. Comments: The definition applies also to displaced populations/refugees to which shelter has to be provided. This figure is necessary for operational purposes. Homeless people are always part of the primary affected population. ■

## Disasters database

### *Disaster statistics*

**T**he need for systematic data for disaster response and management has been an increasing concern of both international and national relief agencies. Until recently, each agency approached the problem in a relatively ad hoc manner, collecting the information at the time of the emergency. The time pressure to respond quickly for fund raising or relief planning was usually paramount and the quality and availability of information suffered.

With the increase in the number of disasters requiring external assistance and the recurrent nature of some disaster, donors are increasingly aware of the need for a rational approach to disaster relief.

CRED has explored the feasibility of a system of databases for the global disaster management. Its EM-DAT Disaster Events Database was developed using resources provided by the University of Louvain and CRED. Additional support was provided by the World Health Organisation, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the government of Belgium and DHA-UNDRO. The existing computer support and documentation collection at CRED provided the basis for the start-up. Staff supported by the university provided daily management and data entry services for the system. Additional staff support was provided by CRED.

EM-DAT is now operating with its own menu for updates, modifications and retrievals. It has 5,870 records of events starting in 1900 and is being checked case by case for redundancies, inconsistencies and completion of missing data.

The categorisation of disasters is important to ensure the validity and accuracy of information. The specific typology used for the EM-DAT has been formulated to provide a basis for beginning data collection. The main consideration is that there should be enough detail for it to be useful without being so detailed that it is too complicated for the ordinary user.

The criteria currently used for entering an event in the database are: "A disaster has to have killed 10 or more persons or affected 100 or more persons. An international appeal for assistance, however, takes first precedence for entry, even if the first two criteria are not fulfilled."

Where there is conflicting information, priority is given to data from the government of the affected country, followed by UNDRO and the US Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance, in that order. If, however, two of the above sources provide the same estimate, this figure would then have priority over the third regardless of its source.

It should be emphasised that this does not reflect the value placed on the quality of data. Most reporting sources have a vested interest in the numbers they report. Figures are inflated or deflated according to socio-political considerations.

Finally, dates have been a source of ambiguity. The declared date for an event such as a famine, is both necessary and almost meaningless. Neither famines nor population displacements occur on one particular date. Civil strife on occasion erupts on a precise date, but it also builds up over time. Similarly, there is rarely an exact date for the outbreak of an epidemic. For these events, the

declaration of an emergency by an appropriate body has to be used as the date for entry. Further information is entered in the comments section.

The number of persons killed as an immediate consequence of the disaster should include all confirmed dead and all missing and presumed dead. Frequently, if the event is entered immediately after it took place, the number of "missing" is not usually included in the estimated dead, particularly if the source provides preliminary figures. Currently, estimates of dead include confirmed dead in the immediate post-impact period. Later estimates of dead will include those missing for a lengthy period. With no international standards, this definition varies from source to source. Currently, CRED checks each entry for clarification on this point.

Persons injured are meant to include those physical injuries requiring medical attention or hospitalisation. It remains to be defined whether first aid at the site of a disaster to those who require no further treatment should be included. Care provided by paramedics and other auxiliary medical personnel is often the main form in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. Whether all persons receiving these services would qualify as injured is also an issue.

Homelessness is defined by loss of personal residence. However, another discrepancy in reporting units arises in the cases of affected and homeless where the units may be individuals or families. The current procedure is to convert all figures into individuals by multiplying the families by the average family size of the region.

Defining "persons affected" is extremely difficult, as there are many different standards. For example, in famines and civil strife, major structural breakdowns in the social and economic framework are the essential elements responsible for the human impact. The numbers estimated as affected will always

remain an estimation.

Disparities in units of reporting have also posed a problem. For example, the monetary value of damages may be provided in US dollars or local currencies. While it is simpler to leave the currency as it was reported and convert only when the event is of interest, that slows comparisons or computations that are often required by users.

All the above caveats should be borne in mind when considering the data presented in the following table and used for many of the graphs in this report. Great efforts have been made by CRED to verify, cross-check and review data on a case by case basis. However, the quality of this data is only as good as it reported. The efforts to piece together the essential data coherently from numerous sources requires a great investment, which could be avoided if field agencies decide to follow some functional conventions for reporting. The data presented here are all recorded at CRED and while no responsibility can be taken for a figure, the source from where it was drawn can always be provided. ■

*Please note: percentages may not always add to 100 because of rounding*

**TABLE 1**  
**1967-1991: Average number of people reported killed by  
disasters per country per year**

COUNTRY	Number
ETHIOPIA	48,517
NIGERIA	40,720
BANGLADESH	40,408
CAMBODIA	40,005
SUDAN	16,195
MOZAMBIQUE	15,763
CHINA	12,755
PAKISTAN	8,688
IRAN	5,801
INDIA	5,044
NICARAGUA	4,619
BURUNDI	4,229
PERU	4,140
COLOMBIA	2,967
IRAQ	2,937
LEBANON	2,577
PHILIPPINES	2,558
TURKEY	2,045
SOMALIA	1,695
EX-SOVIET UNION	1,367
EL SALVADOR	994
GUATEMALA	981
INDONESIA	856
USA	837
HONDURAS	830
MEXICO	652
ANGOLA	552
SRI LANKA	535
BRAZIL	527
AFGHANISTAN	432
LIBERIA	426
CHAD	404
VIETNAM	388
SOUTH AFRICA	363
CAMEROON	306
BURMA	286
JAPAN	255
ITALY	250
NEPAL	250
KOREA REP. OF	241
ROMANIA	232
YEMEN	221
SPAIN	142
JORDAN	141
CHILE	136
THAILAND	134
ALGERIA	132
ZAIRE	122
ECUADOR	105
MALI	102
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	98
SAUDI ARABIA	96
NIGER	85

COUNTRY	Number
VENEZUELA	82
DOMINICAN REP.	82
FRANCE	79
TANZANIA	76
BURKINA FASO	73
CHINA REP OF	70
MALAWI	69
EGYPT	68
ZAMBIA	64
AUSTRALIA	64
GREECE	63
CANADA	61
MADAGASCAR	57
UNITED KINGDOM	57
PUERTO RICO	46
YUGOSLAVIA	45
TUNISIA	44
UGANDA	44
ARGENTINA	40
HAITI	39
BOLIVIA	38
PORTUGAL	37
GUYANA	36
KENYA	36
CANARY ISLANDS	35
POLAND	33
BELGIUM	32
HONG KONG	31
GAMBIA	28
GERMANY	25
SIERRA LEONE	25
SWAZILAND	25
MALAYSIA	23
SOLOMON ISLANDS	22
RWANDA	22
NORWAY	21
BENIN	21
MAURITANIA	20
KOREA DEM REP	19
JAMAICA	17
ALBANIA	16
IRELAND	16
CUBA	16
SENEGAL	16
MOROCCO	16
FIJI	14
GHANA	13
DJIBOUTI	13
GUINEA	12
TAJIKISTAN	12
ZIMBABWE	12
COSTA RICA	11
HUNGARY	12

COUNTRY	Number
CONGO	11
IVORY COAST	11
PANAMA	11
DENMARK	10
AZORES	10
TOGO	10
SWEDEN	10
OMAN	9
MALDIVES	9
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	8
BOTSWANA	8
SAO TOME & PRIN.	7
MAURITIUS	7
SURINAME	7
SWITZERLAND	6
UNITED ARAB EMIR	6
LIBYAN A.J.	5
LAOS	5
BAHRAIN	5
NAMIBIA	5
BULGARIA	5
COMOROS	5
AUSTRIA	4
ISRAEL	4
VANUATU	4
BAHAMAS	4
REUNION	4
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	4
SYRIA	4
GRENADA	3
GABON	3
GUINEA BISSAU	3
CAPE VERDE IS	3
MARTINIQUE	3
LESOTHO	2
GEORGIA	2
ST LUCIA	2
MONGOLIA	2
FINLAND	2
DOMINICA	2
NEW ZEALAND	2
ANGUILLA	1
CEN AFRICAN REP	1
MALTA	1
SAMOA	1
SINGAPORE	1
WESTERN SAMOA	1
KIRIBATI	1
NETHERLANDS	1
ICELAND	1
URUGUAY	1
TONGA	1
EQ GUINEA	1



**TABLE 2**  
**1967-1991: Average number of people reported affected by  
disasters per country per year**

COUNTRY	Number
INDIA	59,161,135
CHINA	22,279,966
BANGLADESH	11,438,888
ETHIOPIA	2,971,937
MOZAMBIQUE	2,361,134
BRAZIL	1,884,605
PHILIPPINES	1,760,570
SUDAN	1,517,767
VIETNAM	1,353,131
SRI LANKA	674,810
PAKISTAN	641,417
ARGENTINA	566,143
GHANA	531,421
PERU	500,937
CHAD	490,005
THAILAND	465,980
SOUTH AFRICA	463,294
INDONESIA	357,103
NIGERIA	322,350
NIGER	318,985
MAURITANIA	302,031
SENEGAL	297,056
CAMBODIA	292,400
BURKINA FASO	279,027
LEBANON	272,460
KOREA REP OF	268,323
COLOMBIA	242,694
BURMA	242,176
MADAGASCAR	236,695
NEPAL	236,196
SOMALIA	233,829
MALAWI	231,168
UGANDA	229,205
ANGOLA	223,665
MALI	209,188
LAOS	192,000
YEMEN	187,560
RWANDA	183,845
GUATEMALA	176,598
BENIN	175,623
CHILE	170,553
BOTSWANA	169,242
BOLIVIA	161,308
ALBANIA	140,040
HAITI	127,094
IRAN	120,289
DOMINICAN REP	111,366
JAPAN	110,411
TANZANIA	105,034
EL SALVADOR	97,495
MEXICO	88,003
PANAMA	85,320

COUNTRY	Number
NICARAGUA	84,803
ITALY	78,080
AFGHANISTAN	75,198
JAMICA	60,072
ROMANIA	50,291
EX-SOVIET UNION	57,954
JORDAN	57,549
ECUADOR	57,494
LIBERIA	56,985
IRAQ	52,249
SWAZILAND	51,960
ZAIRE	50,168
GAMBIA	49,016
HONDURAS	48,199
FIJI	45,038
GUINEA	41,086
CAMEROON	40,828
MAURITIUS	49,326
LESOTHO	39,380
ALGERIA	37,678
ZAMBIA	34,713
TURKEY	34,305
KENYA	34,120
FRANCE	33,331
CUBA	31,924
SPAIN	31,499
TOGO	31,019
DJIBOUTI	30,484
GREECE	29,885
USA	28,447
BURUNDI	26,205
YUGOSLAVIA	21,987
CEN AFRICAN REP	20,556
MALAYSIA	19,985
CANADA	19,723
TUNISIA	18,402
MOROCCO	17,638
COMOROS	17,359
IVORY COAST	16,676
PORTUGAL	13,648
EGYPT	12,046
GUYANA	10,859
COSTA RICA	10,181
SOLOMON ISLANDS	10,173
EQ GUINEA	10,013
SYRIA	9,367
CYPRUS	8,984
VENEZUELA	8,042
SAO TOME & PRIN	7,483
VANUATU	6,944
WESTERN SAMOA	6,880
REUNION	6,728

COUNTRY	Number
TONGA	5,220
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	4,504
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	4,000
BELIZE	3,731
DOMINICA	3,600
AUSTRALIA	3,199
CHINA REP OF	3,170
GUADELOUPE	3,000
ANTIGUA	3,000
ST LUCIA	2,920
URUGUAY	2,224
ST. VINCENT	1,726
HONG KONG	1,423
MALDIVES	1,416
MARTINIQUE	1,100
POLAND	894
AZORES	852
SIERRA LEONE	840
GERMANY	780
GUINEA BISSAU	581
NEW ZEALAND	426
GABON	405
CAPE VERDE	388
UNITED KINGDOM	310
ICELAND	208
FRENCH POLYNESIA	200
OMAN	200
SURINAME	184
WALLIS & FUTUNA	180
PUERTO RICO	80
GRENADA	80
COOK ISLANDS	80
NEW CALEDONIA	80
TAJIKISTAN	68
KIRIBATI	42
BELGIUM	41
TUVALU	40
ZIMBABWE	33
CANARY ISLANDS	25
GUAM	20
CONGO	20
ISRAEL	16
BARBADOS	8
IRELAND	5
SWITZERLAND	5
DENMARK	4
SEYCHELLES	4
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	4
SAUDI ARABIA	4
KOREA DEM REP	2

**TABLE 3**  
**1967-1991: Total number of events for each type of disaster**

<b>TYPE</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage of total</b>
Accidents	1,284	16.5
Avalanche	29	0.4
Chemical Accident	271	3.5
Civil Strife	207	2.7
Cold Wave	92	1.2
Cyclone	394	5.1
Displaced Persons	97	1.3
Drought	430	5.5
Epidemic	291	3.8
Earthquake	758	9.8
Famine	15	0.2
Fire	729	9.4
Flood	1,358	17.5
Food Shortage	22	0.3
Hurricane	120	1.6
Heat Wave	41	0.5
Insect Infestation	66	0.9
Landslide	236	3.0
Power Shortage	5	0.1
Storm	819	10.6
Tsunami	20	0.3
Typhoon	380	4.9
Volcano	102	1.3

**TABLE 4**  
**1967-1991: Total number of people killed by each type of disaster**

Type	Number killed
Accidents	71,745
Avalanche	1,237
Chemical Accident	15,787
Civil Strife	3,007,154
Cold Wave	4,926
Cyclone	846,240
Displaced Persons	68,741
Drought	1,333,728
Epidemic	124,338
Earthquake	646,307
Famine	605,832
Fire	81,970
Flood	304,870
Food Shortage	252
Hurricane	15,139
High Wind	13,904
Insect Infestation	0
Landslide	41,992
Power Shortage	0
Storm	54,500
Tsunami	6,390
Typhoon	34,684
Volcano	27,642

**TABLE 5**  
**1967-1991: Total number of people injured by type of disaster**

Type	Number injured
Accidents	36,971
Avalanche	146
Chemical Accident	175,715
Civil Strife	92,481
Cold Wave	10
Cyclone	181,171
Displaced Persons	6,797
Drought	18
Epidemic	267
Earthquake	741,420
Famine	0
Fire	16,626
Flood	266,336
Food Shortage	0
Hurricane	15,798
High Wind	0
Insect Infestation	0
Landslide	3,435
Power Shortage	0
Storm	96,031
Tsunami	30
Typhoon	45,134
Volcano	6,868

**TABLE 6**  
**1967-1991: Total number of people affected by type of disaster**

Type	Number injured
Accidents	418,557
Avalanche	500,000
Chemical Accident	1,202,536
Civil Strife	135,653,524
Cold Wave	71,000
Cyclone	80,485,116
Displaced Persons	25,611,475
Drought	1,426,239,250
Epidemic	5,791,234
Earthquake	42,943,009
Famine	12,950,000
Fire	814,341
Flood	1,057,193,110
Food Shortage	28,320,267
Hurricane	6,028,833
High Wind	2,960
Insect Infestation	446,000
Landslide	3,603,580
Power Shortage	1,825,000
Storm	68,122,580
Tsunami	918
Typhoon	63,321,930
Volcano	1,938,270

**TABLE 7**  
**1967-1991: Total number of disaster events per global region**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage of total</b>
Africa	1,168	15.0
Americas	1,730	22.3
Asia	3,244	41.8
Europe	1,124	14.5
Oceania	500	6.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,766</b>	<b>100</b>

**TABLE 8**  
**1967-1991: Total number of people killed by disasters per global region**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Africa	3,631,804	49.7
Americas	434,131	5.9
Asia	3,120,025	42.7
Europe	116,375	1.6
Oceania	5,223	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,307,558</b>	<b>100</b>

**TABLE 9**  
**1967-1991: Total number of people affected by disasters per**  
**global region**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage of total</b>
Africa	324,339,545	10.9
Americas	115,364,673	3.9
Asia	2,509,142,168	84.7
Europe	12,559,751	0.4
Oceania	2,007,353	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,963,483,490</b>	<b>100</b>



**TABLE 10**  
**1967-1991: Total number of people injured by disasters per**  
**global region**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage of total</b>
Africa	24,855	1.5
Americas	399,273	23.7
Asia	1,142,482	67.8
Europe	105,578	6.3
Oceania	13,060	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,685,254</b>	<b>100</b>

**TABLE 11**  
**Annual number of reported deaths due to disasters per global region**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>Africa</b>	<b>Americas</b>	<b>Asia</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>Oceania</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>1967</b>	1,000,174	2,643	7,175	1,429	674	1,012,095
<b>1968</b>	224	480	20,662	631	9	22,006
<b>1969</b>	13,898	3,248	6,211	181	0	23,538
<b>1970</b>	1,109	88,606	529,123	2,076	30	620,944
<b>1971</b>	2,812	2,630	216,655	1,046	263	223,406
<b>1972</b>	950,148	86,912	13,878	1,129	21	1,052,088
<b>1973</b>	200,308	6,762	7,150	812	85	215,117
<b>1974</b>	219,285	20,643	57,585	463	76	298,052
<b>1975</b>	10,222	613	1,043,926	6,417	213	1,061,391
<b>1976</b>	416	26,108	263,632	10,446	10	300,612
<b>1977</b>	1,363	904	20,660	2,882	138	25,947
<b>1978</b>	1,442	3,792	60,830	524	11	66,599
<b>1979</b>	451	34,520	8,720	918	83	44,692
<b>1980</b>	3,362	5,286	10,937	3,799	18	23,402
<b>1981</b>	2,488	1,456	22,027	982	29	27,027
<b>1982</b>	991	24,628	35,304	743	36	61,702
<b>1983</b>	2,619	4,389	13,634	2,736	214	23,592
<b>1984</b>	560,412	4,598	23,598	1,280	19	589,907
<b>1985</b>	103,953	34,042	33,997	2,459	181	174,632
<b>1986</b>	90,122	2,237	5,749	663	245	99,016
<b>1987</b>	113,847	2,202	20,432	2,576	103	139,160
<b>1988</b>	288,409	3,910	33,341	26,570	104	352,334
<b>1989</b>	35,612	4,378	10,948	5,579	114	56,631
<b>1990</b>	14,329	24,819	66,845	1,645	119	107,757
<b>1991</b>	26,216	38,267	702,650	10,504	1,791	779,428

**TABLE 12**  
**Annual number of people reported injured due to disasters per**  
**global region**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>Africa</b>	<b>Americas</b>	<b>Asia</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>Oceania</b>	<b>Total</b>
1967	24	3,443	3,437	1,072	100	8,076
1968	0	831	112,048	611	34	113,524
1969	612	3,502	17,195	1,566	0	22,875
1970	3	144,309	17,094	2,936	0	164,342
1971	0	3,364	6,511	1,200	0	11,075
1972	272	20,320	8,981	100	0	29,673
1973	0	948	15,703	94	0	16,745
1974	0	3,913	15,505	89	640	20,147
1975	109	690	20,156	3,550	0	24,505
1976	36	78,537	175,579	16,983	0	271,135
1977	161	200	21,954	12,783	101	35,199
1978	2,397	1,048	10,363	765	6	14,579
1979	858	10,451	10,034	2,186	300	23,829
1980	3,362	3,001	8,833	10,277	290	30,880
1981	112	2,960	72,058	20,789	0	95,919
1982	1,027	21,150	43,433	1,642	139	67,391
1983	2,135	8,276	33,956	1,494	11,051	51,403
1984	530	5,131	104,324	1,260	0	111,245
1985	1,283	40,030	5,987	1,901	100	49,301
1986	1,240	22,373	9,549	1,418	0	33,680
1987	269	146	27,843	282	74	29,614
1988	133	9,817	19,666	13,110	0	42,726
1989	2,558	11,276	36,038	4,907	115	54,894
1990	758	2,011	140,028	1,550	5	144,352
1991	1,862	5,397	196,754	3,013	100	207,126

**TABLE 13**  
**Annual number of people reported affected by disasters per**  
**global region**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>Africa</b>	<b>Americas</b>	<b>Asia</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>Oceania</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>1967</b>	4,840,183	837,346	5,094,735	272,640	3,000	11,047,904
<b>1968</b>	601,600	707,836	27,590,149	76,697	5,124	28,981,406
<b>1969</b>	2,619,297	412,379	2,448,895	2,000,000	0	5,680,571
<b>1970</b>	372,718	18,564,780	26,927,875	1,619,675	0	47,485,048
<b>1971</b>	1,506,476	2,878,936	35,989,577	6,412	6,000	40,445,109
<b>1972</b>	3,141,200	2,080,300	8,794,160	274	121,400	14,137,334
<b>1973</b>	2,224,740	475,309	214,392,262	10,200	18,550	227,121,061
<b>1974</b>	2,241,500	1,843,260	39,338,840	3,000	45,000	43,471,600
<b>1975</b>	1,704,199	758,907	38,785,642	1,360,280	23,000	42,632,028
<b>1976</b>	1,000,568	4,478,110	14,193,900	262,172	10,000	271,135
<b>1977</b>	7,357,779	1,175,140	16,876,492	329,868	16,443	25,755,722
<b>1978</b>	8,324,125	626,000	99,759,185	616,032	10,100	109,335,442
<b>1979</b>	2,678,782	9,903,510	207,826,652	347,460	26,800	220,783,204
<b>1980</b>	34,131,543	1,370,950	58,090,326	494,652	28,000	94,115,471
<b>1981</b>	7,520,166	1,333,276	24,725,519	91,204	86,700	33,756,865
<b>1982</b>	16,184,732	2,076,439	253,581	755,000	161,500	272,759,375
<b>1983</b>	19,879,644	35,426,574	236,581,438	581,011	487,132	292,955,799
<b>1984</b>	44,358,376	1,080,900	53,977,328	70,335	2,600	99,489,539
<b>1985</b>	17,218,642	4,207,971	22,098,995	8,628	378,800	43,913,036
<b>1986</b>	13,822,599	1,735,918	26,594,166	233,000	404,100	42,789,783
<b>1987</b>	20,417,100	796,911	355,576,607	17,650	71,571	376,879,839
<b>1988</b>	31,439,691	14,481,061	173,732,772	1,107,685	3,700	220,764,909
<b>1989</b>	31,050,475	4,475,518	156,731,826	18,257	0	192,276,076
<b>1990</b>	28,155,187	2,782,962	92,695,871	335,708	178,900	124,148,628
<b>1991</b>	14,533,233	656,719	300,353,652	3,683,703	24	319,227,321

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Calle "E", No. 11-50  
Apartado 668  
PANAMA 1  
Panama

**Cruz Roja Peruana**

Av. Camino del Inca y Nazarenas  
Urb. Las Gardenias - Surco  
Apartado 1534  
LIMA  
Peru

**Papua New Guinea Red Cross  
Society**

Taurama Road  
P.O. Box 6545  
PORT MORESBY/BOROKO  
Papua New Guinea

**The Philippine National Red Cross**

Bonifacio Drive, Port Area  
P.O. Box 280  
MANILA 2803  
Philippines

**Pakistan Red Crescent Society**

Sector H-8  
ISLAMABAD  
Pakistan

**Croix-Rouge polonaise**

Mokotowska 14  
00-950 VARSOVIE  
La République de Pologne

**Croix-Rouge portugaise**

Jardim 9 de Abril, 1 à 5  
1293 LISBONNE CODEX  
Portugal

**Cruz Roja Paraguaya**

Brasil 216 esq. José Barges  
ASUNCION  
Paraguay

**Qatar Red Crescent Society**

Embassy Road  
P.O. Box 5449  
DOHA  
Qatar

**Croix-Rouge de Roumanie**

Strada Biserica Amzei, 29  
BUCAREST  
Roumanie

**Croix-Rouge rwandaise**

B.P. 425  
KIGALI  
Rwanda

**Saudi Arabian Red Crescent Society**

General Headquarters  
RIYADH 11129  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**The Solomon Islands Red Cross**

P.O. Box 187  
HONIARA  
The Solomon Islands

**Seychelles Red Cross Society**

P.O. Box 52  
VICTORIA  
MAHE  
Seychelles

**The Sudanese Red Crescent**  
P.O.B. 235  
Al Mak Nimir Str./Baladiya Str.  
Plot No 1, Block No 4  
EAST KHARTOUM  
Sudan

**Swedish Red Cross**  
Box 27316 - Oesthammarsgatan 70  
S-102 54 STOCKHOLM  
Sweden

**Singapore Red Cross Society**  
Red Cross House, 15 Penang Lane  
SINGAPORE 0923  
Singapore

**Sierra Leone Red Cross Society**  
6 Liverpool Street  
P.O. Box 427  
FREETOWN  
Sierra Leone

**Croix-Rouge République de Saint Marin**  
Via Scialoja, Cailungo  
SAINT MARIN  
Rép. de Saint Marin, 47031

**Croix-Rouge sénégalaise**  
Boulevard F Roosevelt  
B.P. 299  
DAKAR  
Sénégal

**Somali Red Crescent Society**  
c/o ICRC  
Box 73226  
NAIROBI  
Kenya

**Red Cross Society of Suriname**  
Gravenberchstraat 2  
Postbus 2919  
PARAMARIBO  
Suriname

**Croix-Rouge de Sao Tomé et Príncipe**  
Avenida 12 de Julho No. 11  
B.P 96  
SAO TOME  
Sao Tomé et Príncipe

**Cruz Roja Salvadoreña**  
17C. Pte y Av. Henri Dunant  
Apartado Postal No. 2772  
SAN SALVADOR  
El Salvador

**Croissant-Rouge Arabe Syrien**  
Bd Mahdi Ben Barake  
DAMAS  
Rép arabe Syrienne

**Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society**  
National Headquarters  
104 Johnstone Street  
P.O. Box 377  
MBABANE  
Swaziland

**Croix-Rouge du Tchad**  
B.P. 449  
N'DJAMENA  
Tchad

**Croix-Rouge togolaise**  
51, rue Boko Soga  
Boîte postale No. 655  
LOME  
Togo

**The Thai Red Cross Society**  
Paribatra Building,  
Central Bureau  
Rama IV Road  
BANGKOK, 10330  
Thailand

**Croissant-Rouge tunisien**  
19, rue d'Angleterre  
TUNIS 1000  
Tunisie

**Tonga Red Cross Society**  
P.O.Box 456  
NUKU'ALOFA  
Tonga  
South West Pacific

**The Turkish Red Crescent Society Genel Baskanligi,**  
Karanfil Sokak no. 7  
06650 KIZILAY-ANKARA  
Turkey

**The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society**  
Lot 7A, Fitz Blackman Drive  
Wrightson Road  
P O Box 357  
PORT-OF-SPAIN  
Trinidad and Tobago, W.I.

**Tanzania Red Cross National Society**  
Upanga Road  
P.O. Box 1133  
DAR ES SALAAM  
Tanzania

**The Uganda Red Cross**  
Plot 97, Buganda Road  
P.O.Box 494  
KAMPALA  
Uganda

**Red Crescent Society of the United Arab Emirates**  
P.O Box No. 3324  
ABU DHABI  
United Arab Emirates

**American Red Cross**  
17th and D Streets, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20006  
USA

**Cruz Roja Uruguay**  
Avenida 8 de Octubre, 2990  
11.600 MONTEVIDEO  
Uruguay

**Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Red Cross**  
P O. Box 431  
ST. VINCENT  
St. Vincent and the Grenadines, W.I.

**Sociedad Venezolana de la Cruz Roja**  
Avenida Andrés Bello, 4  
Apartado 3185  
CARACAS 1010  
Venezuela

**Croix-Rouge du Viet Nam**  
68, rue Ba Triêu  
HANOI  
La Rep. Soc du Viet Nam

**Western Samoa Red Cross Society**  
P.O.Box 1616, APIA  
Western Samoa

**Yemenite Red Crescent Society**  
Head Office, Building No. 10  
26 September Street  
P O. Box 1257  
SANAA  
Republic of Yemen

**Red Cross of Yugoslavia**  
Simina ulica broj 19  
11000 BELGRADE  
Yugoslavia

**The South African Red Cross Society**  
Essanby House, 6th Floor  
175 Jeppe Street  
P.O Box 8726  
JOHANNESBURG 2000  
South Africa

**Zambia Red Cross Society**  
2837 Brentwood Drive  
P.O. Box 50001  
Longacres, LUSAKA  
Zambia

**Croix-Rouge de la République du Zaïre**  
41 Avenue de la Justice  
Zone de la Gombe  
B.P. 1712  
KINSHASA 1  
Rép du Zaïre

**The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society**  
Red Cross House  
98 Cameroun St.,  
P.O. Box 1406  
HARARE  
Zimbabwe

**Red Cross Society of the Russian Federation**  
Tcheremushkinski Proezd 5  
117036 MOSCOW  
The Russian Federation

## **RED CROSS & RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES IN FORMATION**

**Croix-Rouge andorrane**  
C/ Prat de la Creu 30  
Esc. D. Baixos  
ANDORRA LA VELA  
Principat d'Andorra

**Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross Society**  
Red Cross House, Old Parham Road  
P.O. Box 727  
ST. JOHNS  
Antigua, W.I.

**Red Cross Society of Armenia**  
Antarain str. 188  
YEREVAN 375019  
Armenia

**Red Crescent Society of Azerbaidjan**  
Prospekt Azerbaidjan 19  
BAKU  
Azerbaidjan

**Red Cross Society of Belarus**  
35, ulitsa Karla Marxa  
220030 MINSK  
Belarus

**Croissant-Rouge comorien**  
Comité National  
Place de France  
B P. 240  
MORONI  
Les Comores

**Cook Islands Red Cross Society**  
P.O. Box 888  
RAROTONGA  
Cook Islands

**Cyprus Red Cross Society**  
"Z" Compound,  
Ofi Prodromos Street  
P.O. Box 5374  
NICOSIA  
Cyprus

**Czech Red Cross**  
Thunovska 18  
118 04 PRAHA 1  
The Czech Republic

**Croix-Rouge gabonaise**  
B P. 16410  
LIBREVILLE  
Rép Gabonaise

**Cruz Roja de Guinea Ecuatorial**  
Alcalde Albiio Balboa 92  
Apartado postal 460  
MALABO  
Guinée Equatoriale

**Estonia Red Cross**  
Lai Street 17  
200001 TALLIN  
Estonia

**Red Cross Society of Georgia**  
15, ulitsa Krilova  
TBILISI  
Georgia

**Red Cross and Red Crescent Society of Kazakhstan**  
86, ulitsa Karla Marxa  
480100 ALMA ATA  
Kazakhstan

**Kiribati Red Cross Society**  
P O Box 213  
BIKENIBEU / TARAWA  
Kiribati

**Red Cross and Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan**  
10, ulitsa Dzerdjinskogo  
720000 BISHKEK  
Kyrgyzstan

**Latvian Red Cross**  
28, A. Upisha  
226300 RIGA  
Latvia

**Malta Red Cross Society**  
2 Hughes Hallett Street  
SLIEMA  
Malta

**Red Cross Society of Moldova**  
67a ulitsa Dzerzhinsti  
CHISINAU  
Moldova

**Namibia Red Cross**  
100 Leutwein Street  
P.O. Box 346  
WINDHOEK 9000  
Namibia

**Red Cross Netherlands Antilles and Aruba**  
Trompetbloemweg 25  
CURACAO  
Neth. Antilles

**Tuvalu Red Cross Society**  
P.O.Box 14  
FUNAFUTI  
Tuvalu

**Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan**  
120, ulitsa Omara Khayyama  
DUSHANBE  
Tajikistan

**Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan**  
48 st A. Novoi  
744000 ASHKHABAD  
Turkmenistan

**Red Cross Society of Ukraine**  
30, ulitsa Pushkinskaya  
252004 KIEV  
Ukraine

**Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan**  
33, ulitsa Suleimanova  
700017 TASHKENT  
Uzbekistan

**Vanuatu Red Cross Society**  
P.O. Box 618  
PORT VILA  
Vanuatu

## **NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS**

**CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS**  
Piazza San Calisto, 16  
00153 ROME  
Italy

**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES**  
209 West Fayette Street  
BALTIMORE  
MARYLAND 21201 - 3443  
USA

**FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY INTERNATIONAL**  
108, route de Suisse  
1290 VERSOIX/GENEVA  
Switzerland

**INTERNATIONAL SAVE THE CHILDREN ALLIANCE**  
147, rue de Lausanne  
1202 GENEVA  
Switzerland

**LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION**  
Department of World Service  
150, route de Ferney  
1218 GRAND-SACONNEX  
Switzerland

**OXFAM**  
274, Banbury Road  
OXFORD OX2 7DZ  
United Kingdom

**WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**  
P.O. Box 2100  
1211 GENEVA 2  
Switzerland

**WORLD VISION INTERNATIONAL**  
6, ch de la Tourelle  
1209 GENEVA  
Switzerland

**MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES INTERNATIONAL**  
209, Blvd Léopold III  
1080 BRUSSELS  
Belgium

**INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE**  
386 Park Avenue South  
NEW YORK, NY 10016  
USA

**CARE USA**  
660 1st Avenue  
NEW YORK, NY 10016  
USA

**ACTIONAID**  
Hamlyn House, Archway  
LONDON N19 5PS  
United Kingdom

**ACORD**  
Francis House (3rd F1)  
Francis Street  
LONDON SW1P 1DQ  
United Kingdom

## **UNITED NATIONS BODIES**

### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

One United Nations Plaza  
NEW YORK, NY 10017  
USA

### **UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)**

Three United Nations Plaza  
NEW YORK, NY 10017  
USA

### **FOOD & AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)**

Via delle Terme di Garacalla  
00100 ROME  
Italy

### **WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP)**

426, Via Cristoforo Colombo  
00145 ROME  
Italy

### **WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO)**

Av Appia, 20  
1202 GENEVA  
Switzerland

### **PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANISATION (PAHO)**

525, 23rd Street N.W  
WASHINGTON, DC 20037  
USA

### **UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)**

154, rue de Lausanne  
1201 GENEVA  
Switzerland

### **DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS (DHA)**

Palais des Nations  
Av. de la Paix, 8-14  
1202 GENEVA  
Switzerland

### **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO)**

Route des Morillons, 4  
1202 GENEVA  
Switzerland

### **INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION (ITU)**

Palais des Nations  
Av. de la Paix, 8-14  
1202 GENEVA  
Switzerland

### **UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC & CULTURAL ORGANISATION (UNESCO)**

7, place de Fontenoy  
75700 PARIS  
France

### **WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION (WMO)**

41, Av Giuseppe-Motta  
Case postale 2300  
1211 GENEVA 2  
Switzerland

### **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

P.O. Box 30552  
NAIROBI  
Kenya

## **RESEARCH AND TRAINING BODIES**

### **RELIEF & DISASTERS POLICY PROGRAMME**

Overseas Development Institute  
Regents College  
Regents Park  
Inner Circle  
LONDON NW1 4NS  
United Kingdom

### **DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CENTRE (CRANFIELD)**

Royal Military College of Science  
Shivenham  
SWINDON SH6 8LA  
United Kingdom

**NATURAL HAZARDS  
RESEARCH & INFORMATION  
APPLICATIONS CENTRE**  
Institute of Behavioural Science no 6  
Campus Box 482  
BOULDER  
COLORADO 80309  
USA

**GLOBAL INFORMATION EARLY  
WARNING SYSTEMS  
(GIEWS)**  
Via delle Terme di Garacalla  
00100 ROME  
Italy

**DISASTER RESEARCH CENTRE**  
University of Delaware  
NEWARK  
DELAWARE 19716  
USA

**SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION**  
SEAN, NHB MRC 129  
WASHINGTON, DC 20560  
USA

**NOAA/NESDIS**  
National Geophysical Data Centre  
325 Broadway  
BOULDER  
COLORADO 80303-3328  
USA

**FEWS - USAID**  
1611 North Kent Street  
Suite 511  
ARLINGTON  
VIRGINIA 22209  
USA

**DISASTER MANAGEMENT  
CENTRE**  
Oxford Brookes University  
Gipsy Lane  
Headington  
OXFORD OX3 0BP  
United Kingdom

**WISCONSIN UNIVERSITY  
DISASTER MANAGEMENT  
CENTER**  
432 North Lake Street  
MADISON  
WISCONSIN 53706  
USA

**CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON  
THE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF  
DISASTERS**  
Catholic University of Louvain  
School of Public Health  
Clos Chapelle-aux-Champs, 30-34  
1200 BRUSSELS  
Belgium

*If any of the above details are incorrect  
or require updating, or if an organisa-  
tion has been inadvertently omitted,  
please write to the World Disasters Re-  
port at the Federation (contact details,  
page 4).*



# **The Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement**

## **Humanity**

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavours, in its international and national capacity, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation, and lasting peace among all peoples.

## **Impartiality**

It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class, or political opinions. It endeavours to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

## **Neutrality**

In order to continue to enjoy the confidence of all, the Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious, or ideological nature

## **Independence**

The Movement is independent. The National Societies, while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times to act in accordance with the principles of the Movement.

## **Voluntary Service**

It is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.

## **Unity**

There can be only one Red Cross or Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory

## **Universality**

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other, is worldwide.