

MORE DAMAGES IN ASIA AND AFRICA

More than 90 % of the total victims from 1965 to 1992 were in Asia and Africa. More than half of the victims in the world were recorded in Africa, mostly by drought. Asia made up 40 % of the total victims in the world, and half of those were killed by tropical cyclones and storms; one fifth by floods; and the rest by earthquakes. The number of deaths per head of population is extremely large in Africa, which is six times as many as in Asia, nine times that of America, and some twenty eight times that of Europe and Oceania.

As for the number of sufferers, Asia is the most affected region where 87 % of the total sufferers were witnessed. Drought brought about half of the sufferers in Asia while there were very few victims of drought compared to the large number in Africa. Floods caused nearly 40 % of the sufferers in Asia. The number of sufferers per head of population is largest in Asia which is twice that of six times that of America, twelve times that of Oceania, and forty three times that of Europe.

The largest direct economic losses could be seen in America, followed by Asia and Europe. These three regions account for 91 % of the total direct economic losses. Direct economic losses in Africa and Oceania are relatively negligible compared with the other three regions. However, the ratio of direct economic losses to GNP is larger in Africa and Oceania, being 2.0 times larger than Asia, 2.3 times larger than America, and 3.7 times larger than Europe.

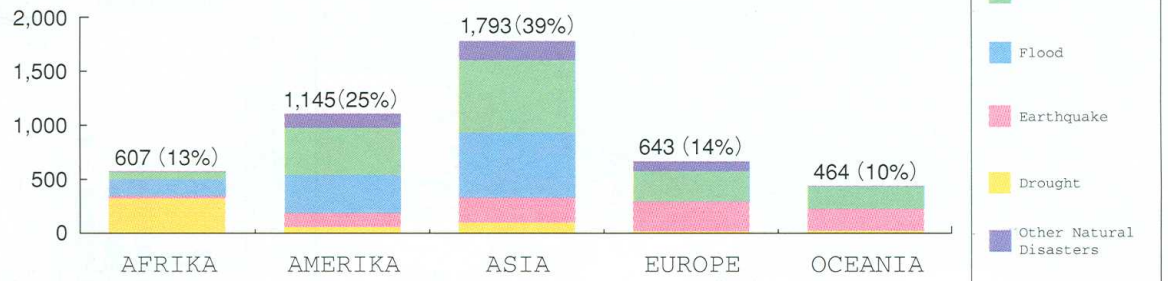
The frequency of natural disasters, especially tropical cyclones, storms and floods has increased sharply in Asia, America and Europe. Although direct economic losses have increased in all three regions, a sharp increase in sufferers is observed only in Asia. In Africa, sufferers from drought have risen remarkably since the 1980s, but victims have decreased in the same period.

Regions		AFRICA	AMERICA	ASIA	EUROPE	OCEANIA
Population (million)	a	662	734	3,061	843	27
Area (10,000 km ²)	b	2,386	3,982	2,615	3,004	879
GNP (in billion US\$)	c	40	734	528	784	335
Number of Natural Disasters (1965-1992)	d	607	1,145	1,793	643	464
Number of Natural Disasters per Area (number of events per 10,000 km ²)	d/b	0.25	0.29	0.69	0.21	0.52
Victims (1965-1992, thousands)	e	1,853	220	1,447	87	3
Victims as a proportion of 1,000,000 People (e / 1000 / 28) / a		100.0	10.7	16.9	3.7	4.0
Sufferers (1965-1992, millions)	f	265	113	2,613	14	2
Sufferers as a proportion of 1,000 people (f x 1000 / 28) / a		14.3	5.5	30.5	0.6	2.6
Direct Economic Losses (1965-1992 million US\$)	g	15,692	124,701	103,943	83,722	13,108
Ratio to GNP (in per cent) (g / 28) / c / 10		1.40	0.61	0.70	0.38	1.40

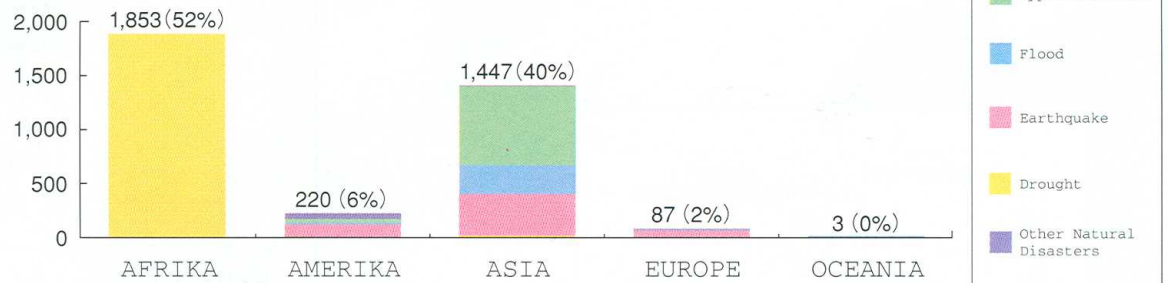
a,b,c: figures in 1991, by the World Bank

d,e,f,g: figures from 1965 to 1992, by CRED (partially modified)

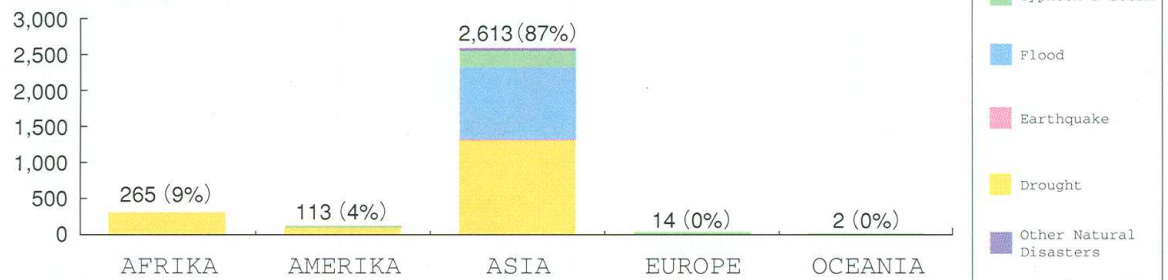
Occurrence of Natural Disasters by Regions
(1965-1992, number of events)



Victims by Natural Disasters by Regions
(1965-1992, thousands)



Sufferers from Natural Disasters by Regions
(1965-1992, millions)



Direct Economic Losses caused by Natural Disasters by Regions
(1965-1992, billion US\$)

