



Disaster risk reduction – linking humanitarian, development and climate change goals

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Disaster risks – the overview

- The world is a risky place, losses are rising, all countries are vulnerable.
- Is an issue for development, security and humanitarian concern.
- Solid scientific and technical basis for action.
- Growing awareness + action: communities, local government, cities, business, NGOs, with Hyogo Framework for Action as the common guide.
- Scale of investment is inadequate – what will be the effect of the financial crisis?
- Climate change as powerful new ingredient.

Climate change – risk or opportunity?

- IPCC observations and projections of greater extremes. Adding to the disaster risk mix.
- Conversely, disaster risk reduction is a key tool for adaptation.
- Bali Action plan includes “disaster reduction strategies”, and “risk management”.
- Proposed IPCC Special Report “Extreme Events and Disasters: managing the Risks” (proposed by UNISDR.)
- Now need to quickly put together sound approach as part of UNFCCC post-2012 regime.

What UNISDR is doing

- **The evidence base: global assessment, indicators and monitoring, economics of risk reduction, terminology, PreventionWeb.**
- **Advocacy and knowledge authority: Getting the message across, showing what can be done, supporting key actors, mobilizing commitments.**
- **Forging links with climate change, through UNFCCC, IPCC, national dialogue, etc.**
- **Galvanising partnerships – governments and local authorities, NGOs, science and technical organisations, UN agencies, investment instruments. Global Platform as innovative tool.**

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Geneva, 16-19 June, 2009

What is the Global Platform?

- Main body of the ISDR system.

Aim?

- To increase commitment and action to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action.

Who takes part?

- Multi-stakeholder – governments, UN, science and technical bodies, private sector, IFIs, regional organizations, NGOs and national platforms (1200+ participants)

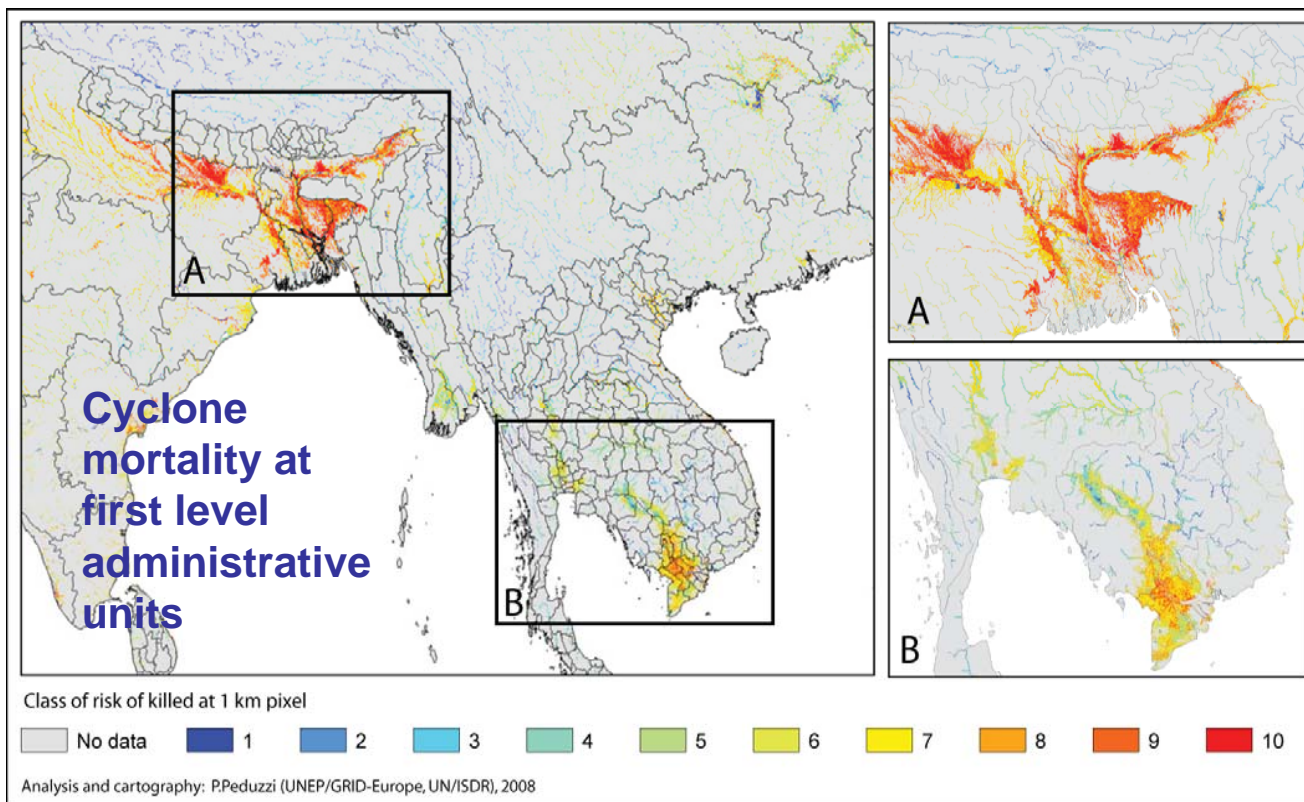
What to expect

- **Opening Ceremony: UN Secretary-General, Heads of State, Under-Secretary-General**
- **Progress reporting session - Global and Regional perspectives.**
- **Five High Level Panels**
- **Pre-Session and Side Events**
- **BBC Debate, Hyogo Hard Talk, Film Festival**
- **Informal Plenary**
- **Chair's Summary**

Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction

- **Joint effort of UNISDR, UNDP, World Bank, UNEP, ProVention, WMO and many others.**
- **New data model of global disaster risk for tropical cyclones, floods and landslides. Covers mortality risk and economic loss.**
- **Special analysis of local level risk in 12 Asian and Latin American countries.**
- **To be launched in Bahrain on May 17, 2009.**

...disaster risk is intensively concentrated.....

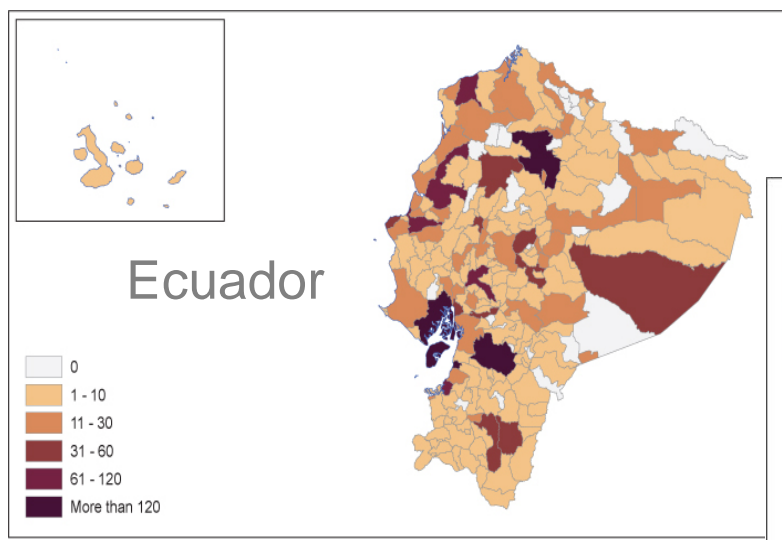


75% of all flood deaths Bangladesh, China, India

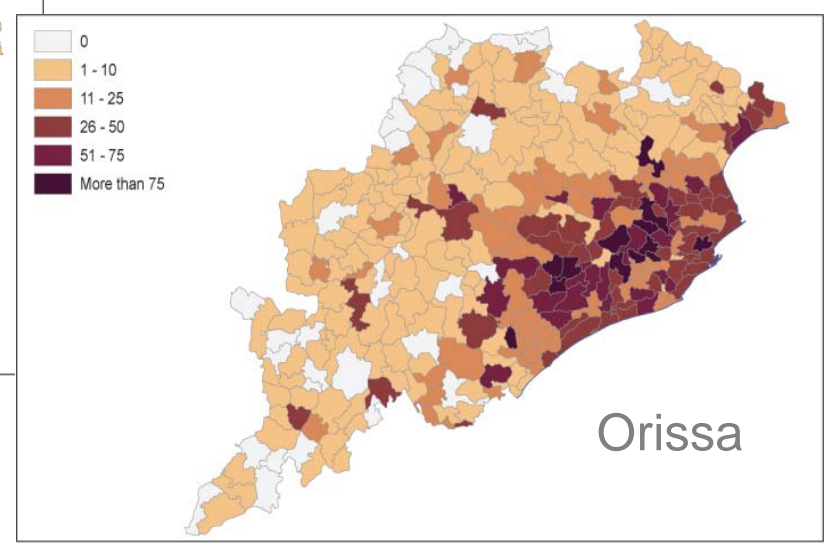
But highest per capita in SIDS, small countries.

...but is also extensively spread.....

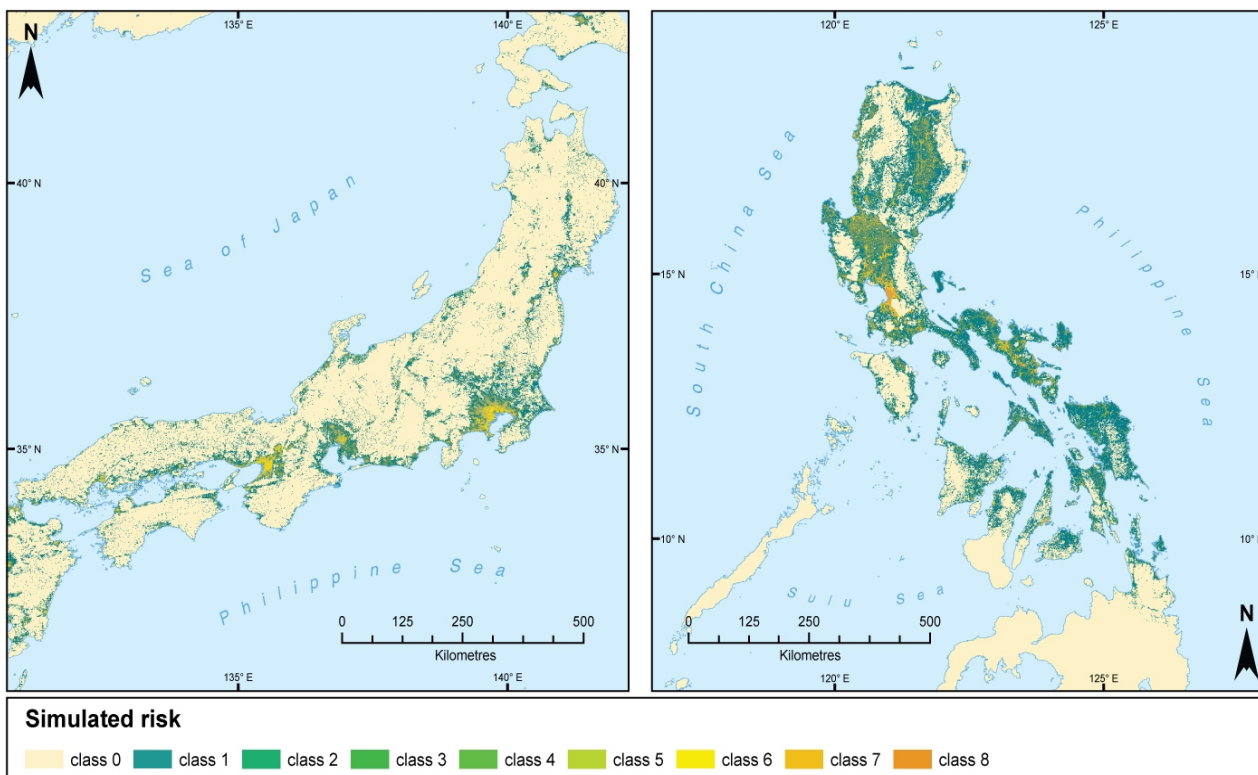
- 80% of local areas affected at least once. 50% affected 6 times or more. 97% are weather related.
- 34% of economic losses in the housing sector; high damage to schools, hospitals and roads.



Number of local government loss reports with less than 50 deaths or 500 destroyed houses 1970 - 2007



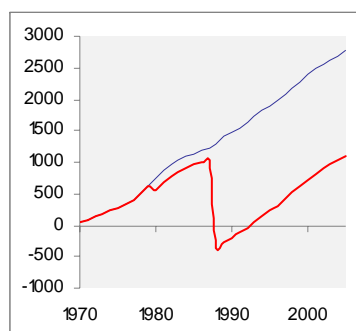
...it is unevenly distributed...



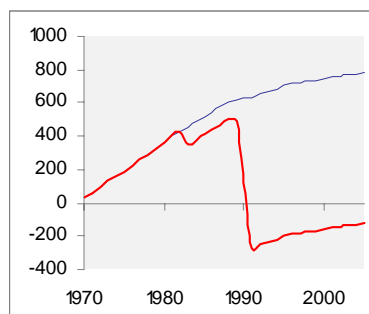
Tropical cyclone mortality risk is 200 times greater in low-income countries than in OECD for the same exposure.

Per unit of GDP, South Asia, experiences 15 times more economic losses.

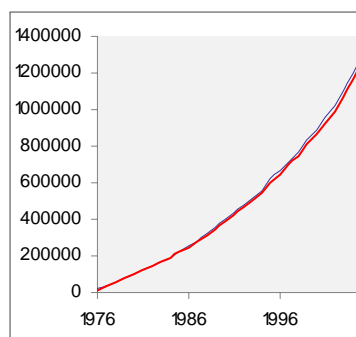
...hits small countries hardest...



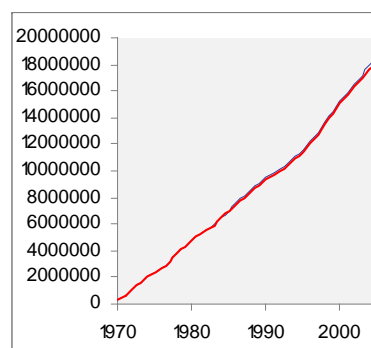
St. Lucia



Samoa



India



USA

Cumulative net capital formation (NKF) from 1970 to 2006, in Millions of Constant 2000 USD, with and without the effect of economic losses in disasters

- **Economic vulnerability is associated with low national savings and extreme trade limitations.**
- **59% of SIDS and 67% of LLDCs have high or very high vulnerability to economic loss.**

...feeds back into poverty...

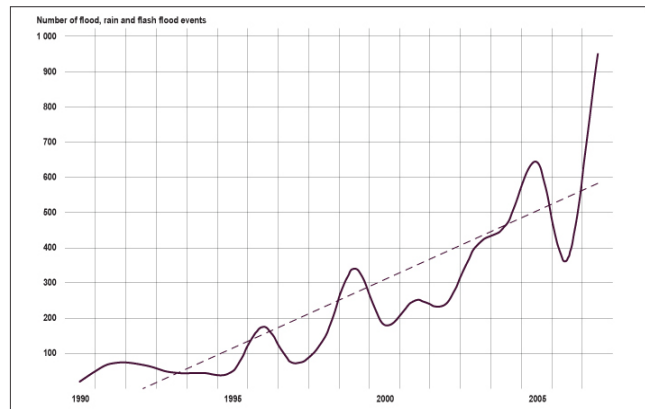
- **areas with the highest deprivation suffer disproportionately.**
- **measurable decreases in income and consumption for all households but skewed towards the poorest households.**
- **longer term impacts on health, education and other human development indicators.**
- **difficulties in recovery particularly in rural areas suffering repeated disasters.**

...and is increasing

Globally

1990 – 2008 Exposure of population to floods: +28%	1990 – 2008 Exposure of GDP to floods: +98%
Flood mortality risk: +13% (assuming constant hazard)	Economic loss risk: +33% (assuming constant hazard)

Locally



Flood and rain loss reports in Costa Rica 1990-2007

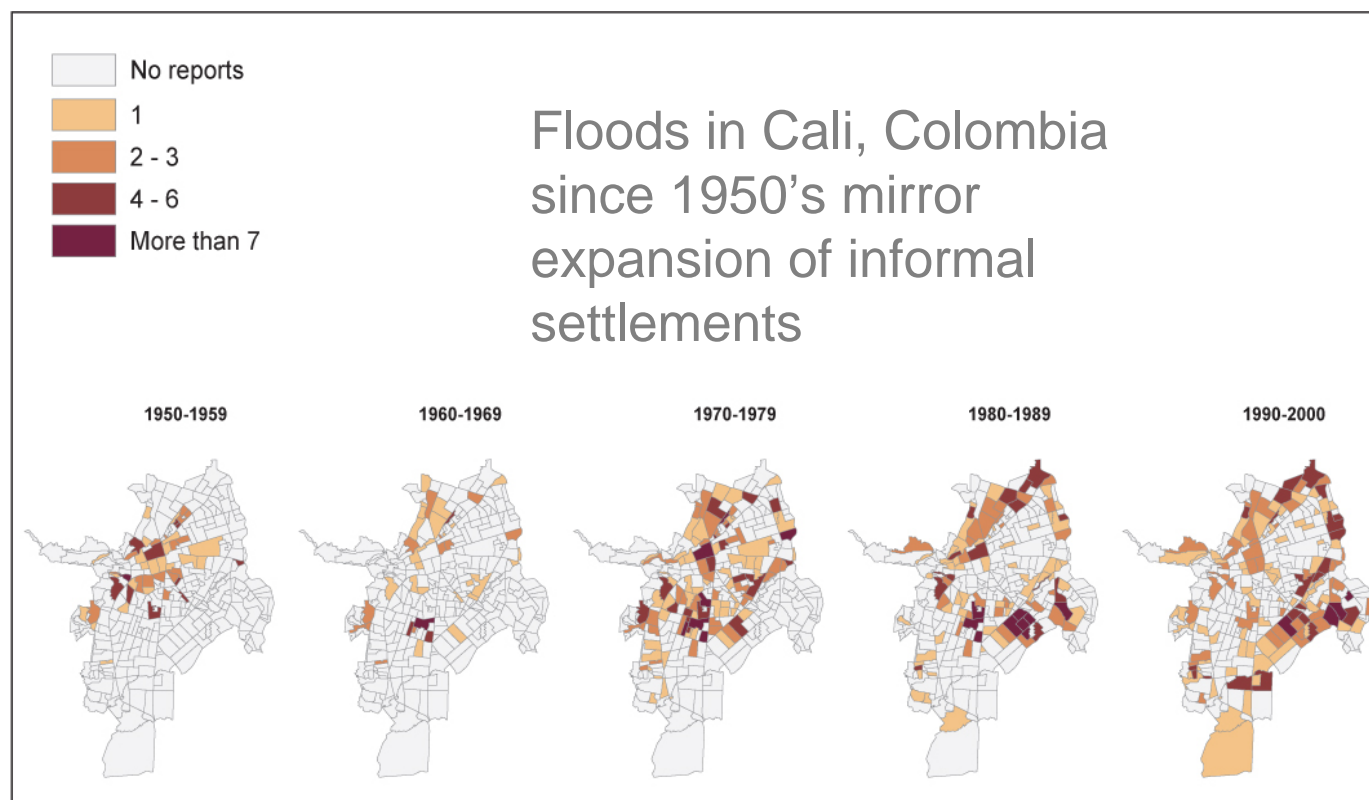
1980-2007 (12 countries)
Weather-related local loss reports: 2.5 times greater
Houses damaged: up 5 times

...globally driven by...

- **Negative GDP per capita + weak governance.**
- **As countries develop: exposure increases faster than vulnerability can be reduced.**
- **Increasing risk in low and low-middle income countries with rapid economic and urban development and weaker governance.**

...and locally by...

➤ Poor urban governance.



➤ Environmental change and degradation.

the report's key messages

It is essential to address the underlying risk drivers such as:

- **poor urban governance;**
- **ecosystem decline;**
- **vulnerable rural livelihoods.**

In order to:

- **Reduce disaster risk and achieve the Hyogo Framework of Action;**
- **Adapt to climate change**
- **Achieve the Millennium Development Goals.**

Overall Conclusions

- **Development, climate change and disaster risk are intertwined issues.**
- **The tools and policy instruments for disaster risk reduction are already available.**
- **Big role for the USA; extensive relevant technical knowledge, development assistance programs and international networks.**
- **Potential to invest today for a safer tomorrow.**