CRED CRUNCH

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Natural disasters[1] in 2015

In 2015, 346 natural disasters were recorded in the EM-DAT database. They claimed 22,773 lives, affected over 98 million others and caused economic damages of US$66.5 billion.

The largest disaster of 2015 in terms of mortality was the earth-quake in Nepal from April that resulted in 8,831 deaths. It was also one of the most expensive disaster with over 5 billion US$ losses reported.

Globally, Asia was once again the most affected continent by natural disasters, both in terms of occurrence (44%), persons killed (72%) and persons affected (60%). Asia counted also for 40% of the economic losses, just after the Americas with 44%.

2015, considered as the hottest year on record, was marked by significant weather related events such as heat waves, hitting Europe in summertime and causing 3,275 deaths in France and one of the most severe one, hitting India and Pakistan in May with, respectively, 2,248 and 1,229 deaths. In addition, 32 droughts were recorded, affecting over 50.5 million people and demonstrating the El Niño effect. Floods, which traditionally is the type of disaster causing the highest proportion of affected people, were this year ranked second, right after droughts, with 152 floods affecting 27.5 million people and claiming 3,310 lives.

Extreme temperatures, especially heat waves, will be a major challenge to take into account in terms of measurement and management in the upcoming years.

Debarati Guha-Sapir

Natural disasters[1] in 2015: summary

	2015	2005-2014 yearly average
No. of country-level disasters	346	367
No. of countries affected	113	116
No. of deaths	22,773	76,424
No. of people affected	98,580,793	173,241,621
Economic damages (US$)	66.5 billion	155.8 billion

[1].*The CRED CRUNCH newsletter does not include epidemics and insect infestations as natural disasters unless explicitly stated.*

Human impact in 2015

10 most affected countries

No. of deaths		No. deaths/100,000 inhabitants	
Nepal	9,046	Dominica	41
France	3,295	Nepal	32
India	3,271	Bahamas (the)	9
Pakistan	1,867	France	5
Guatemala	629	Micronesia (Federated States of)	5
China	483	Vanuatu	4
Afghanistan	433	Guatemala	4
Belgium	410	Belgium	4
United States of America	286	Cabo Verde	2
Malawi	283	Malawi	2

Economic impact in 2015

10 most affected countries

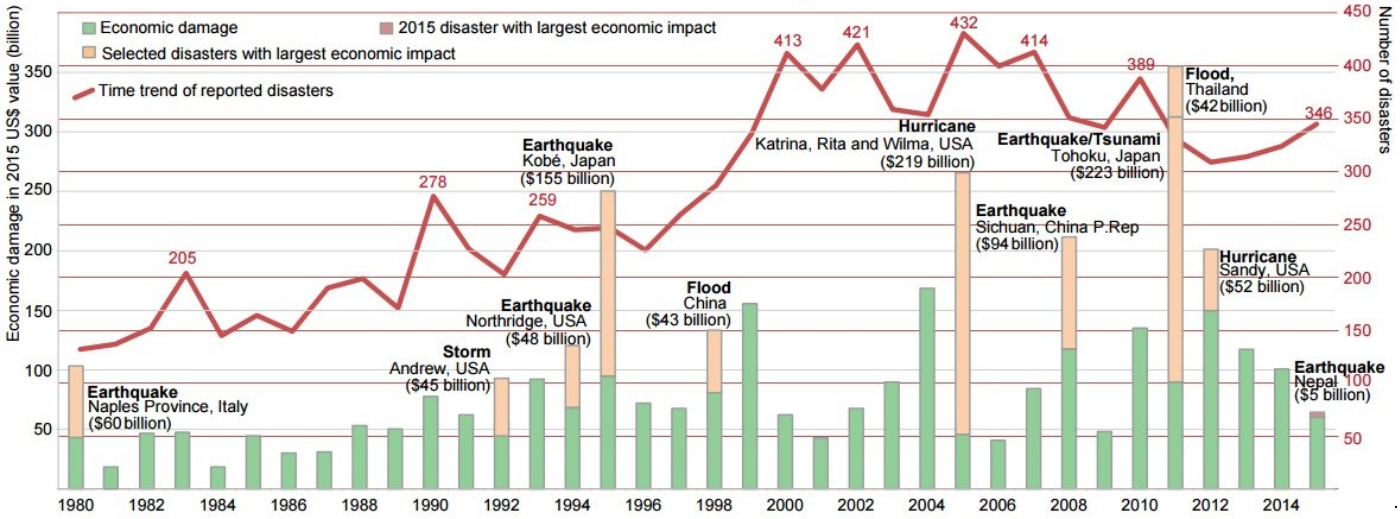
In absolute amounts (US$ billion)		As percentage of GDP	
United States	24.9	Dominica	92.1
China P Rep	13.7	Vanuatu	55.1
Nepal	5.2	Nepal	26.2
United Kingdom	3.6	Malawi	9.2
India	3.3	Chile	1.2
Chile	3.1	Bahamas (the)	1.2
Australia	2.4	Philippines (the)	0.7
South Africa	2.0	El Salvador	0.6
Philippines	1.9	South Africa	0.6
France	1.0	Madagascar	0.4

No. of people affected (million)		No. affected/100,000 inhabitants	
Dem. Rep. Korea	18.0	Dem. Rep. Korea	71937
India	16.6	Vanuatu	64122
Ethiopia	10.2	Dominica	39527
Nepal	5.6	Mongolia	33163
Bangladesh	4.4	Papua New Guinea	32424
Philippines	3.8	Tuvalu	30324
Malawi	3.4	Guyana	26051
China, P Rep	3.0	Lebanon	22031
Guatemala	2.8	El Salvador	22021
South Africa	2.7	Malawi	20599

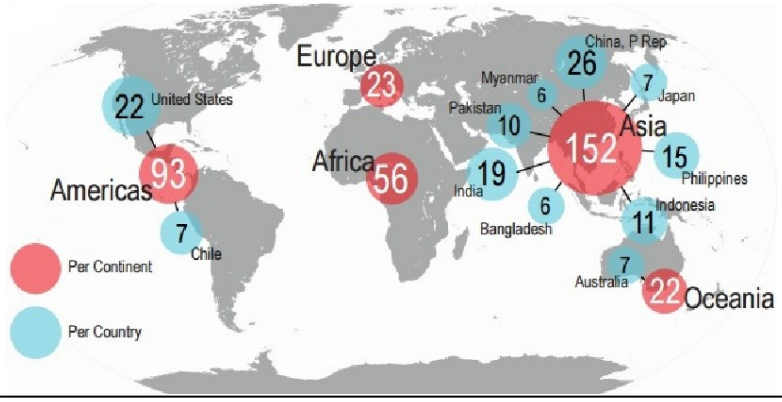
All figures presented in the CRED CRUNCH come from EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database"

Analysis for this issue was done by Régina Below & Alizée Vanderveken;
based on the the Press Release and Infographic produced in collaboration with UN-ISDR
Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED)
Research Institute Health & Society (IRSS), Université catholique de Louvain
30, Clos Chapelle-aux-Champs, Box B 1.30.15, 1200 Brussels, Belgium

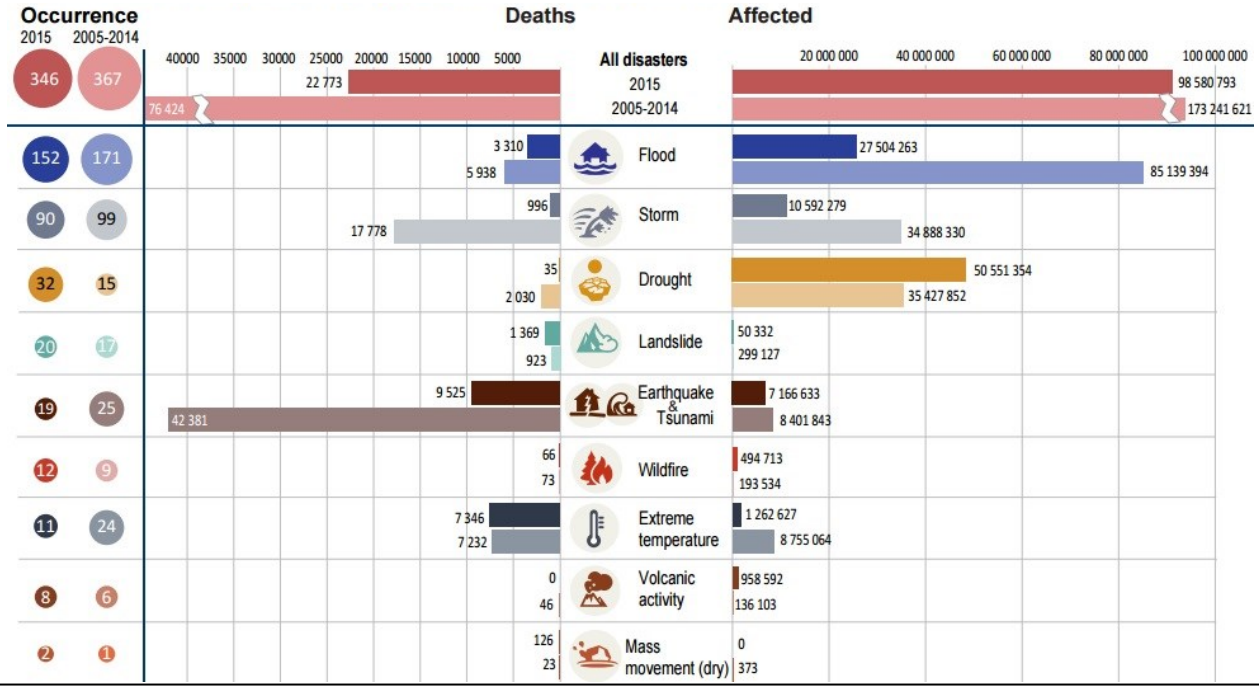
Annual occurrence and reported economic damages from disasters 1980-2015



TOP 10: Number of reported natural disasters by country



Human impact by disaster types (2015 versus average 2005-2014)



CRED News

♦CRED is delighted to present the 2016 Summer Course on Assessing Public Health in Emergency Situations (APHES). This course will take place on July 4-15, 2016 in Brussels, Belgium. More information at www.aphes.be.

♦ New report published by CRED in collaboration with UNISDR 'The human cost of weather related disasters'

Please note that disaster data are subject to change as validation and cross-referencing of the sources is undertaken and as new information becomes available. For any enquiries please contact contact@emdat.be or visit www.emdat.be