Beyond Disasters: Creating Opportunities for Peace

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Number of Disasters 1987–2006

Number of Disasters Worldwide, 1987-2006

Source: EM-DAT
Disaster Toll, 1987–2006

Total Affected and Killed by Natural Disasters, 1987-2006

Source: EM-DAT
Comparing Recent Disasters

Table 1. The Impact of Selected Major Disasters, 2004–2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Deaths (Number)</th>
<th>Total People Affected</th>
<th>Deaths (Percent of all disasters during year)</th>
<th>Total People Affected (Percent of all disasters during year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Yogyakarta Earthquake</td>
<td>5,778</td>
<td>2,340,745</td>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Kashmir Earthquake</td>
<td>74,648</td>
<td>3,026,265</td>
<td>84.4</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Hurricane Katrina</td>
<td>1,833</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Indian Ocean Tsunami</td>
<td>226,408</td>
<td>2,431,807</td>
<td>93.3</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Natural or Un-natural Disasters?

- Environmental degradation
- Climate change
- Population and housing
- Poverty and inequality
### Table 6–1. Ten Most Populous Cities in 2005 and Associated Disaster Risk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Population (million)</th>
<th>Earthquake</th>
<th>Volcano</th>
<th>Storms</th>
<th>Tornado</th>
<th>Flood</th>
<th>Storm Surge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tokyo</td>
<td>35.2</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico City</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>São Paulo</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>18.2</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanghai</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jakarta</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Landslides in Sri Lanka
Vulnerability

- **Women**: disproportionate fatalities; contend with social roles, harassment
- **Elderly**: may have impaired mobility; often dependent on families
- **Children**: schools often unsafe; may face exploitation, economic hardship
## Disaster and Conflict Impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Aceh</th>
<th>Sri Lanka</th>
<th>Kashmir</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
<td>4 million</td>
<td>20 million</td>
<td>16 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conflict Impacts</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Killed/Missing</strong></td>
<td>13,000 +</td>
<td>81,000</td>
<td>42,000 +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Displaced</strong></td>
<td>150,000¹</td>
<td>447,000²</td>
<td>480,000³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disaster Impacts</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Killed/Missing</strong></td>
<td>167,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>74,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Displaced</strong></td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>516,000</td>
<td>3.5 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

² Jan 2006, prior to new conflict (peak: 800,000).
³ As of 2005 (peak in 2002: up to 625,000)
Province of Aceh / Indonesia
Incidents of Conflict in Aceh: 2005-2007

Source: World Bank
Sri Lanka Displacements:
Tsunami - Conflict

Source: UNHCR
Number of Displaced Persons
100,000-200,000
50,000-100,000
25,000-50,000
1,000-25,000
1-1,000

Worldwatch Institute
www.worldwatch.org
Deaths in Sri Lanka’s Civil War, 2000-2007

Source: South Asia Terrorism Portal
Kashmir: Political Division and Earthquake Zone
Killings in Jammu and Kashmir

Source: South Asia Terrorism Portal
Recommendations

For donor governments and disaster relief agencies:
- Integrate conflict-sensitive strategies into disaster relief plans, and implement the lessons of the Do No Harm Project.
- Promote ongoing collaboration among aid organizations to avoid “turf wars” and duplication of effort.
- Minimize relief inequities between disaster- and conflict-affected communities, and ensure that both are adequately represented in all decision-making.
- Conduct assessments of the opportunities and problems associated with using aid to encourage peacemaking.
Recommendations

For conflict resolution groups:

• Use post-disaster relief as an opportunity for conflict resolution; analyze and learn from previous cases.

• Raise awareness among diplomats of unconventional factors that can trigger or worsen conflicts, such as livelihood loss, environmental degradation, and climate change.

• Ensure strong international support for mediation and monitoring efforts, and create multi-disciplinary training programs.
Recommendations

Opportunities for collaboration:

- Undertake a comprehensive study of lessons emerging from disaster-conflict interfaces; generate recommendations for all actors concerned (akin to the Tsunami Evaluation Coalition reports).
- Establish a forum where these recommendations and their implementation can be discussed, bringing together the perspectives and expertise of various fields (including disaster mitigation, development, environment, and conflict resolution).
- Create plans for aid-sharing scenarios in advance of disaster.
Online Portal
www.worldwatch.org/features/disasters