

### 4.3 Conclusion:

Though developing countries in regions vulnerable to disasters received many development initiatives and investments, the increased frequency and magnitude of natural catastrophes associated with economic loss and human sufferings have considerably hindered those initiatives. This book has sought to derive conclusions from empirical evidence in order to integrate disaster risk management initiatives into development objectives. It can be seen in the preceding chapters that human development and income levels of a country are crucial determinants for deciding upon how to effectively implement risk management approaches and post disaster management initiatives. In addition, it was found that participation by women in dynamic risk management process is imperative for any meaningful disaster counter measures, especially in the least developed countries.

These generic phenomena can be seen not only in ADRC member countries but also through out Asia. The obvious vulnerability of this region to geo-physical and hydro-meteorological disasters in terms of demographic, socio-economic, and geo-physical factors justifies the need for prudent development policies and proactive risk management practices and also further investment for disaster reduction. This book also advocates the urgent need for country specific and regional initiatives to be integrated into cohesive disaster management approach with on going socio-economic development activities. Since disasters impact every single socio-economic characteristics of a country, it can be concluded that designing development-oriented disaster prevention measures that incorporate the strength of human and economic resources would be an appropriate method of ensuring effective and pragmatic sustainable development.

**Natural Disasters Data Book-2002  
(An Analytical Overview)**

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