



ADRC Highlights

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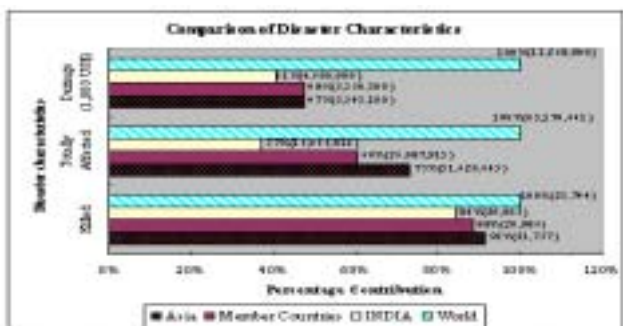
August 1, 2001

➤ **Natural Disasters in First half of the year 2001**

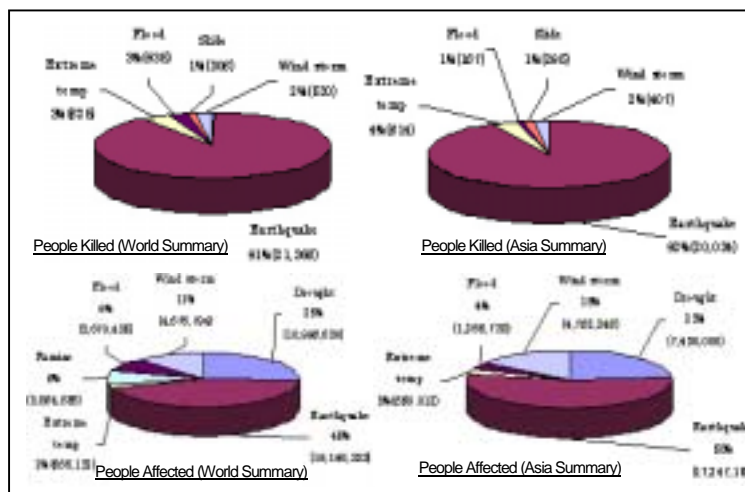
Top 10 Disasters in the First Half of the year 2001 (Excluding Epidemic)

Rank	No. of People Killed				No. of Totally Affected People				Amount of Damage (1,000 US\$)			
	Country	DisType	Date	Killed	Country	DisType	Date	TotAff	Country	DisType	Date	DamageUS ('000s)
1	India	Earthquake	Jan. 26th	20,005	India	Earthquake	Jan. 26th	16,066,812	India	Earthquake	Jan. 26th	4,600,000
2	El Salvador	Earthquake	Jan. 13th	844	Afghanistan	Drought	May	3,800,000	United States	Earthquake	Feb. 28th	2,000,000
3	Afghanistan	Extreme temp	January	500	Niger	Famine	April	3,584,558	El Salvador	Earthquake	Feb. 13th	1,500,000
4	El Salvador	Earthquake	Feb. 13th	315	China, P Rep	Wind storm	June 23rd	3,108,000	El Salvador	Earthquake	Jan. 13th	1,300,000
5	Peru	Earthquake	June 23rd	168	China, P Rep	Drought	March	3,000,000	United States	Wind storm	June 8th	1,000,000
6	Afghanistan	Extreme temp	January	150	China, P Rep	Wind storm	Jan. 1st	1,640,800	China, P Rep	Wind storm	June 23rd	473,000
7	India	Extreme temp	January	125	El Salvador	Earthquake	Jan. 13th	1,334,529	Korea, Rep	Wind storm	Jan. 8th	149,000
8	China, P Rep	Wind storm	June 23rd	125	Pakistan	Earthquake	Jan. 26th	914,292	China, P Rep	Flood	June 9th	47,000
9	Indonesia	Slide	Feb. 11th	122	Sudan	Drought	January	900,000	China, P Rep	Earthquake	May 24th	36,000
10	Thailand	Flood	May 4th	83	Zambia	Drought	March	830,630	Peru	Earthquake	June 23rd	28,500

Source: EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database-www.md.ul.ac.be/cred - Universite Catholique de Louvain - Brussels - Belgium.



Here we present the latest disaster trends in the first half of the year 2001 based on CRED data. More than 90% of the people were killed by earthquakes occurred in the first half of 2001. Specially, 84% and 92% of the killed people in World and Asia are due to the Great Gujarat earthquake occurred in India on January 26. This is the most tremendous disaster in terms of People Killed, People Affected and Damage caused. And the damage of this earthquake in terms of monetary value is 41% of total damage. Further, among the top 10 disasters occurred world wide, around half of them occurred in the member countries thus stressing the vulnerability to disasters in the member countries.



(Mr. Fumiaki Yoshimura, Senior Researcher, ADRC)

➤ **2001 Earthquake/Volcano World Children's Summit**

The world children's summit on Volcanoes and Earthquake is an annual event sponsored by the Seismology Society of Japan. The summit brings together children from Volcano and Earthquake prone areas in the world to learn about these natural hazards. Two staff members of ADRC and I participated as observers to this year's summit held from the 20th – 22nd July 2001 on Oshima Island, 120 km south of Tokyo with about 250 children participants. The three days summit was basically filled with activities such as field trips and discussions. The field trips gave clear understanding of the lectures presented and enabled the children to find answers to their assignments.

The overall program was educational because the study of Mihara-yama Volcano on Oshima Island gave an opportunity for all participants to learn more about the phenomenon. It was also challenging because the education level of the children in one team ranged from primary to university. However, with good teamwork through cooperation, the summit was a success.

For my personal experience, it was very educational as well as inspiring because I came to learn more about volcanoes and the simple mitigation methods for emergency cases. The summit provided me with knowledge which will be utilized in my training and educational programs.

(Philomena Miria, ADRC Visiting Researcher)

➤ **Consultative Meeting on Regional Cooperation in the Field of Natural Disasters**

From 4-6 July 2001, Consultative Meeting on Regional Cooperation in the Field of Natural Disasters was held in Kathmandu, Nepal. It was organized by ADRC and UNOCHA, and attended by representatives from ADB, ADPC, ADRC, ICIMOD, OFDA-USAID, UNDP-Nepal, UN-OCHA, WFP, and WHO. The aims of the meeting are to: (1) enhance and strengthen regional cooperation in the field of natural disasters, including preparedness, reduction, capacity building, response and recovery, (2) provide a forum for regional organizations and the regional offices of international organizations to share views and experiences related to natural disasters, and (3) achieve a shared vision of regional cooperation.

After the organizational presentation of each participant, we had a discussion on the current status of the regional cooperation, barriers to the regional cooperation, and priority needs in the regional cooperation. The recommendation in this meeting is to establish an inventory or database of who is doing what, where in disaster management, to prepare a calendar of key disaster management events and make this readily available through the web, etc. ADRC will play the lead role supported by other participants. There was a consensus that this type of an informal regional forum is valuable and should continue. It was proposed that the next meeting be co-hosted by ADRC and ADPC and held in Bangkok in the second quarter of 2002.

(Akiko Nakamura, Researcher)

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