

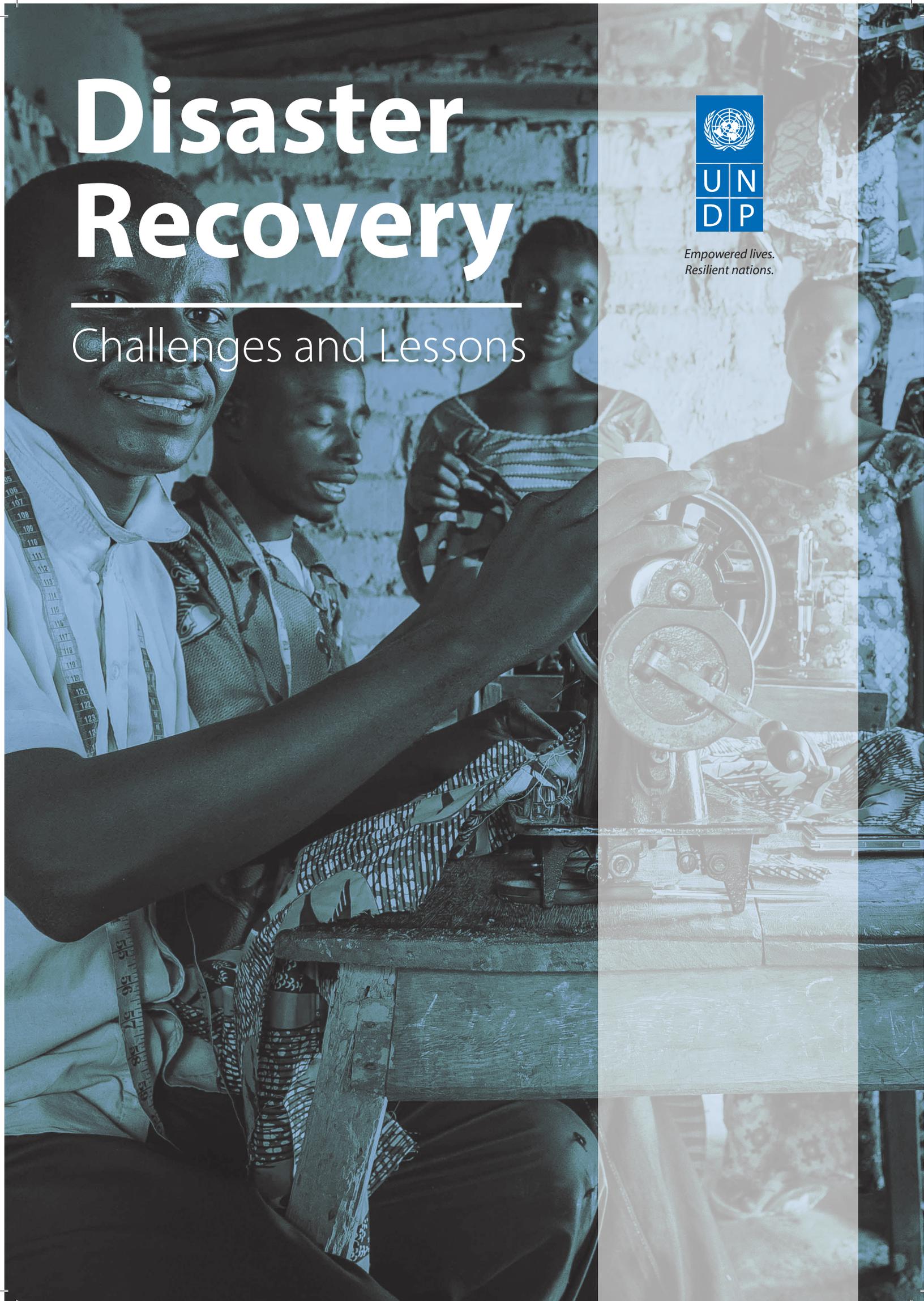
Disaster Recovery

Challenges and Lessons



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*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*







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THE COST OF DISASTER IS HIGH

Disasters occur around the world on a continual basis and cause large-scale damage and losses to countries and communities, destroying public infrastructure, disrupting basic services, impacting livelihoods and causing loss of lives. Disasters often make the world's poor fall further into poverty. Developing countries with highly vulnerable populations face the highest risk, though overcrowded urban centres due to rapid population growth and more people living in cities are putting people, assets and critical infrastructure at extreme risk.

THE GLOBAL IMPACT OF DISASTERS

- On average, 218 million people are affected by disasters each year.¹
- In 2018, there were 281 climate-related and geophysical events recorded in the Emergency Events Database (EM-DAT) that resulted in 10,733 deaths and affected over 60 million people worldwide.²
- From 2005 to 2015, approximately 23 million people were left homeless due to the impact of disasters.³
- Low- and lower-middle-income countries are disproportionately affected: up to 325 million extremely poor people are expected to live in the 49 most hazard-prone countries by 2030.⁴

Disasters have profoundly different impacts on women, men, girls and boys. Women and children are more likely to die during a disaster than men. In the 2014 Solomon Islands flash floods, 96 percent of those affected were women and children. In Myanmar, women accounted for 61 percent of fatalities caused by Cyclone Nargis in 2008, 70–80 percent in the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and 91 percent in the 1991 cyclone in Bangladesh.



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1 Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), *The Human Cost of Natural Disasters – A global perspective* (2015). Available at https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/PAND_report.pdf

2 See <https://www.cred.be/#pager>

3 United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030* (2015). Available at: http://www.unisdr.org/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordrren.pdf

4 ChildFund, *The Devastating Impact of Natural Disasters* (2013). Available at <https://www.childfund.org/Content/NewsDetail/2147489272/>

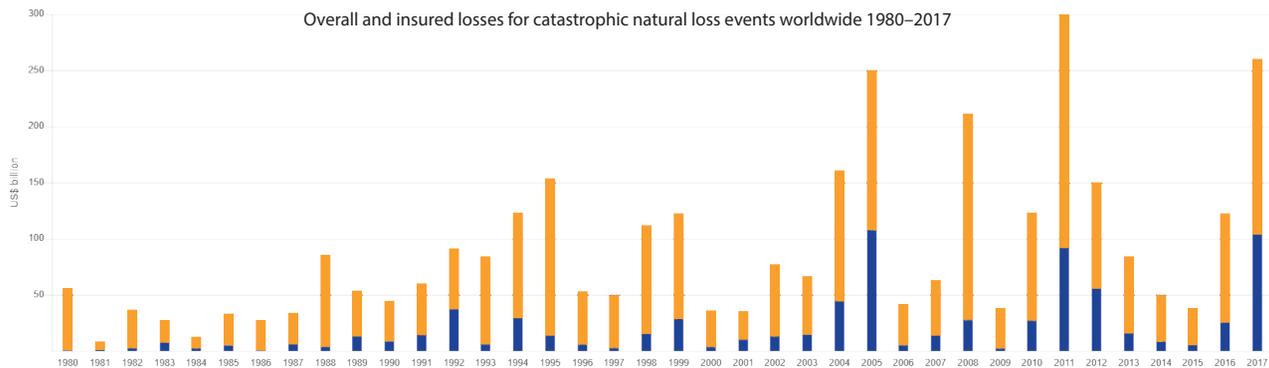
THE ECONOMIC COST OF DISASTERS

- 2017 values: Overall losses totalled \$340 billion worldwide, with insured losses totalling \$138 billion. There were **318 natural disasters**, which impacted **122 countries** and resulted in **9,503 deaths** and affected **96 million people**.⁵
- Losses due to disasters have risen significantly in the last three decades.⁶
- The second most costly year recorded is 2017, due to the impact of three hurricanes – Harvey (\$95 billion), Irma (\$66 billion) and Maria (\$69 billion) – affecting the United States and the Caribbean.⁷
- Economic losses resulting from tropical cyclones were 396 percent higher than the 2000–2016 average of \$47 billion.⁸

2017 values: Overall losses totalled \$340 billion worldwide, with insured losses totalling \$138 billion.



There were 318 natural disasters, which impacted 122 countries and resulted in 9,503 deaths and affected 96 million people.



Source: Munich Re, NatCatSERVICE (2018). Available at <https://natcatservice.munichre.com/overall/2?filter=eyJ5ZWZyRnJvbSI6MTk4Mk4wVWVhclRvIjoyMDE3fQ%3D%3D&type=1>

DISASTERS AFFECT LIVELIHOODS AND BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY

Over 60 percent of the population in Somalia is dependent on livestock. After four consecutive seasons of poor rain, over 900,000 livestock-dependent households were affected in 2017, with an estimated \$875 million of direct income lost in the livestock sector alone.⁹

A total of \$35 million in income and 3.1 million work days are estimated to have been lost after Hurricane Maria hit the Caribbean in 2017. Overall consumption is expected to decline by 25 percent, which will cause the poverty head count to rise from 28.8 percent to 42.8 percent, with the number of impoverished individuals doubling from 2,253 to 4,731.¹⁰

5 CRED, "Natural disasters in 2017: Lower mortality, higher cost". *Cred Crunch, Issue No. 50* (2018). Available at https://www.cred.be/publications?field_publication_type_tid=66

6 Munich Re, *Loss events worldwide from 1980–2017* (2018).

7 CRED, "The constant influx of hurricanes". *Cred Crunch, Issue No. 49* (2017). Available at https://www.cred.be/publications?field_publication_type_tid=66

8 Aon Benfield, *Weather, Climate & Catastrophe Insight. 2017 Annual Report* (2017). Available at <http://thoughtleadership.aonbenfield.com/Documents/20180124-ab-if-annual-report-weather-climate-2017.pdf>

9 *Somalia Drought Impact and Needs Assessment, Volume 1, Synthesis Report* (2017). Available at https://www.gfdr.org/sites/default/files/publication/GSURR_Somalia%20DINA%20Report_Volume%201_180116_Lowres.pdf

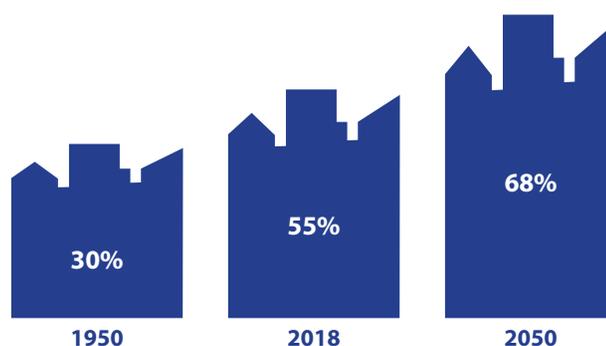
10 Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica, *Post-Disaster Needs Assessment Hurricane Maria. A Report by the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica* (2017). Available at <https://www.gfdr.org/sites/default/files/publication/dominica-pdna-maria.pdf>

EXPOSURE TO DISASTER RISK IS GROWING

As a result of climate change, the frequency and intensity of hydrometeorological-related disasters are increasing. Changing temperatures, extreme weather patterns, variations in precipitation and rising sea levels are altering hazard levels and exacerbating disaster risks. Heat waves, droughts, floods, cyclones, wildfires and other such disasters are having a greater impact on human and natural environments. Future predictions suggest that these trends will not only continue, but will dramatically worsen. These trends threaten to increase poverty levels worldwide, fuelling more rural to urban migration and further destroying ecosystems to dangerous and unpredictable levels.

HOW RISKS ARE INCREASING

In 2018, 55 percent of the world's population resided in urban areas, compared with only 30 percent in 1950 – a trend which is predicted to increase to 68 percent by 2050.¹¹ Unplanned urbanization often results in the poorest living in slums with inadequate housing and civic amenities, and results in more people and assets being at risk in a disaster. Estimates suggest that by 2050, 40 percent of the world's population will live in river basins exposed to severe droughts or floods, which will mostly affect African and Asian countries.¹²



Human settlements are often more concentrated in coastal areas than elsewhere, due to the economic benefits that populations can accrue from access to navigation, coastal fisheries, tourism and recreation. At present, around 40 percent of the world's population lives within 100 miles of the coast. Estimates project that almost 75 percent of the world's population, or 6 billion people, will live along coasts within the next three decades, exposing a huge number of people to storm surges, typhoons, floods and tsunamis.



- By the end of the 21st Century, it is predicted that global warming will likely cause cyclones to increase in intensity by 1–10 percent, which means such storms will have much higher destructive potential.¹³ The productivity of fisheries, wheat, rice and maize is predicted to

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