Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Management

Recent Disasters

- Resources related to Japan Disaster 2011
- Resources related to Chile earthquake 2010
- Resources related to Haiti earthquake 2010
- Resources related to Disaster Preparedness in Hawaii
- Resources related to Timor-Leste

Myanmar Cyclone Nargis Response from various organizations

- ReliefWeb
- Reuters Alertnet
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
- USAID

Guidelines

- Damage and Loss Assessment Methodology
- IFRC International Disaster Response Guidelines
- UN Civil-Military Coordination Guidelines
- Oslo Guidelines On the Use of Foreign Military and Civil Defence Assets in Disaster Relief
- Use of Military or Armed Escorts for Humanitarian Convoys
- Annotations to the International Disaster Response Guidelines [unofficial]
- Disaster Management National Plans (search ESCAP DDR Policies database)
- Disaster Risk Reduction National Policy and Plans

Information Sources

- COE Disaster Assistance and Humanitarian Organization Links
- COE Reports – Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance Reports
- ReliefWeb – run by UN OCHA
- Virtual OSOCC [UN OCHA Virtual On-Site Operations Coordination Centre]
**Databases, Indexes, Reports, etc.**

**Assessments of Impacts and Adaptations to Climate Change in Multiple Regions and Sectors (data, methods and synthesis activity)** (AIACC)
This website facilitates access to extensive data, software and bibliographic resources related to climate impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability across multiple sectors. The Data, Methods, and Synthesis Activity is part of the AIACC Program (Assessments of Impacts and Adaptations to Climate Change in Multiple Regions and Sectors). The website synthesizes information on the sectors, systems, and groups studied, as well as methods utilized, for the 24 AIACC projects. Note: the AIACC program concluded in 2006. Final research reports are available from the profile pages for each project.

**Biomedical Literature Resources for Countries outside of the U.S.** April 2010
Access to biomedical literature in time of medical crisis can be challenging to countries without robust library systems. The National Institutes of Health has compiled a list of sources that provide free or low cost access to biomedical literature for underdeveloped or developing countries.

**Center for International Disaster Information**
Indexed and archived from current date to 10 years.

**Commitment to Development Index**
Rich and poor countries are linked in many ways by foreign aid, commerce, migration, the environment, and military affairs. The Commitment to Development Index (CDI) rates 21 rich countries on how much they help poor countries build prosperity, good government, and security. Each rich country gets scores in seven policy areas, which are averaged for an overall score.

**Disaster Info (English/Espanol)**
Disaster Info is the front page to a collection of mirror sites and/or direct access to web sites of many disaster organizations, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean. All web sites are hosted in their original language.

**Disaster Risk Management Group (World Bank)**
Ensuring disaster prevention and mitigation are integral parts of development requires critical support and action. The DRM team provides technical support to World Bank operations, promotes capacity-building, and establishes partnerships with the international and scientific community dedicated to disaster issues.

**Disaster through a different lens: Behind every effect, there is a cause.**
This manual for the media – compiled by journalists and disaster experts who understand that disaster risk reduction is a civic duty, government responsibility, national obligation and a good story – is for reporters and broadcasters who want to know more about those urgent, terrifying and all-too-often tragic moments when the fabric of national and civic government
encounters the forces of nature

**EM-DAT: the International Disaster Database (WHO)**
An initiative aimed to rationalise decision making for disaster preparedness, as well as providing an objective base for vulnerability assessment and priority setting. For example, it allows one to decide whether floods in a given country are more significant in terms of its human impact than earthquakes or whether a country is more vulnerable than another for computing resources is. EM-DAT contains essential core data on the occurrence and effects of over 12,800 mass disasters in the world from 1900 to present. The database is compiled from various sources, including UN agencies, non-governmental organisations, insurance companies, research institutes and press agencies.

**Funds for Peace Failed States Index 2011**
Annual Failed States Index – which has been expanded to include 177 countries. Hundreds of thousands of articles from global and regional sources are collected using Thomson Dialog.

**Failed States Index 2011 Interactive Grid**
Utilizing our CAST software to do initial analysis of these voluminous documents and with a review by experts, we compiled the scores below. “We encourage others to utilize the Failed States Index to develop ideas for promoting greater stability worldwide.” “We hope the Index will spur conversations, encourage debate, and most of all help guide strategies for sustainable security.”

**Global Identifier Number (Glide)**
To address both of these issues, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) proposed a globally common Unique ID code for disasters. This idea was shared and promoted by the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) of the University of Louvain in Brussels (Belgium), OCHA/ReliefWeb, OCHA/FSCC, ISDR, UNDP, WMO, IFRC, OFDA-USAID, FAO, La Red and the World Bank and was jointly launched as a new initiative “GLIDE”.

**Human Security Gateway**
The Human Security Gateway is a rapidly expanding searchable online database of human security-related resources including reports, journal articles, news items and fact sheets. It is designed to make human security-related research more accessible to the policy and research communities, the media, educators and the interested public. The Gateway is an initiative of the Human Security Report Project.

**International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies**
The Federation carries out relief operations to assist victims of disasters, and combines this with development work to strengthen the capacities of its member National Societies. The Federation’s work focuses on four core areas: promoting humanitarian values, disaster response, disaster preparedness, and health and community care.

**Lessons Learned Information Sharing**
[LLIS] system is a national knowledge base of lessons learned and best
practices serving the emergency responder community. Available at: http://www.llis.gov/ Register for password.

The Measuring ICT Website
Provides information on the development of information and communication technologies (ICTs) statistics and indicators worldwide, with an emphasis on supporting ICT policies and the information economies in developing countries. Core ICT indications, Global status, etc.

miniAtlas of Human Security
Produced by the Human Security Report Project and the World Bank, this at-a-glance guide to global security issues provides a wealth of information on armed conflicts since 1946. It maps political violence, the links between poverty and conflict, assaults on human rights – including the use of child soldiers – and the causes of war and peace.

Minorities at Risk
The Minorities at Risk (MAR) Project is a university-based research project that monitors and analyzes the status and conflicts of politically-active communal groups in all countries with a current population of at least 500,000. The project is designed to provide information in a standardized format that aids comparative research and contributes to the understanding of conflicts involving relevant groups.

National Defense White Papers
The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich has made a collection of Defense White Papers from many countries. Included in many of these documents are statements about the governmental policy and strategy for dealing with disasters and humanitarian aid issues.

Pacific Disaster Net
the DRM web portal for the Pacific. It is designed to become the largest and most comprehensive information resource in relation to disaster risk management in the Pacific. Launched on the 18th September 2008 in Suva, the PDN was developed by SOPAC, IFRC, UNDP-Pacific Centre and UNOCHA as an initiative of the Pacific Disaster Risk Management Partnership Network. Interactive Google maps are used and live CAP (Common Alert Protocol) Alerts are provided in near real time by the Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System. Current and live information in a range of formats and from different sources covers Documents (more than 4700), Events (more than 1200), Contacts (more than 500), Calendar (more than 300 entries) and Audio-Visual Media with Country Pages, Forum and Wiki for Governance, Risk Assessment, Early Warning and Monitoring, Disaster Risk Management, Training and Tools.

OECD in Figures (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development)
OECD in Figures contains key data on OECD countries, ranging from economic growth and employment to energy, trade and migration.

Reliefweb Communities of Practice
In order to encourage professional networking within the humanitarian sector, ReliefWeb has developed the following directory of peer groups, or 'Communities of Practice'.
Reliefweb Maps Centre
Clickable map of countries and current disasters

Responder Knowledge Base (U.S.)
National knowledge base of equipment-related information serving the emergency responder community.
Available at: http://www.rkb.mipt.org/ Register for password.

Securing Health: Lessons From Nation-Building Missions.
Seth G. Jones. 2006.

UNCTADStat
UNCTAD compiles, validates and processes a wide range of data collected from national and international sources. Through its data dissemination system, UNCTADstat, it provides free access to comprehensive statistical time series and indicators essential for the analysis of world trade, development, and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and durable development.

UNCTAD Trade and Development Index (TDI)
“The trade and development index is an attempt by the UNCTAD secretariat to capture the complex interaction between trade and development and, in the process, to monitor the trade and development performance of countries... The TDI is designed as a mechanism for monitoring the trade and development performance of countries, a diagnostic device to identify factors affecting such performance, and a policy tool to help stimulate and promote national and international policies and actions.” The estimates and corresponding ranking of the Trade and Development Index (TDI) for the whole sample of 110 countries are shown in the following table.

United Nations Environment Programme Geo Data Portal
The GEO Data Portal is the authoritative source for data sets used by UNEP and its partners in the Global Environment Outlook (GEO) report and other integrated environment assessments. Its online database holds more than 450 different variables, as national, subregional, regional and global statistics or as geospatial data sets (maps), covering themes like Freshwater, Population, Forests, Emissions, Climate, Disasters, Health and GDP. Display them on-the-fly as maps, graphs, data tables or download the data in different formats.

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
The Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction reflects a major shift from the traditional emphasis on disaster response to disaster reduction, and in effect seeks to promote a “culture of prevention”.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
Emergency Relief Services
OCHA develops and maintains an emergency response ‘toolkit’ – the expertise, systems and services that aim to improve humanitarian assistance in emergencies. OCHA’S Emergencies Services Branch, based in Geneva, is charged with developing, mobilizing and coordinating the deployment of international
rapid response and management capacities, covering the entire range of
disasters and emergencies.

**USAID International Database of Private Voluntary Organizations (PVO)**

**World Disasters Report**
Published annually since 1993, the World Disasters Report brings together the
latest trends, facts and analysis of contemporary crises – whether ‘natural’
or man-made, quick-onset or chronic.

**COE Reports – Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance Reports**

**PDC – Pacific Disaster Center**

**ReliefWeb – run by UN OCHA**

**Virtual OSOCC [UN OCHA Virtual On-Site Operations Coordination Centre]; requires registration**

“What is VCA? An Introduction to Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment.” The
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies,

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**Disaster Management Organizations**

**American Red Cross Asia and Pacific Region**
The American Red Cross works with a global network of Red Cross, Red Crescent
and equivalent societies to restore hope and dignity to the world’s
vulnerable people. This International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
brings emergency relief to disaster victims, and improves basic living
conditions of those in chronically deprived areas of the world. Guided by our
seven Fundamental Principles – Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality,
Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity and Universality – the American Red
Cross partners with countless organizations in the efficient and effective
relief of human suffering and the empowerment of people with the skills they
need to help themselves.

**ADPC Disaster Preparedness Center**
ADPC’s mission to reduce the impact of disasters on communities and countries
in Asia and the Pacific by: raising awareness and enhancing knowledge,
developing and strengthening sustainable institutional mechanisms,
facilitating exchange of information, experience and expertise; and
developing and demonstrating innovative disaster reduction practices. ADPC’s
goals are to mainstream disaster reduction in development, build and
strengthen capacity, facilitate partnerships and exchange of experiences, be
recognized as a proactive and responsive regional resource, achieve quality
service through a team approach.

**Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN)**
In February 2002, the Asia Disaster Reduction Centre (ADRC) Kobe and the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) in Kobe with the assistance of the ASEAN Foundation, brought together more than 30 NGOs from all over Asia to discuss the need for a network of NGOs for Disaster Reduction & Response in Asia. As a result, the Asian Disaster Reduction & Response Network (ADRRN) was formed. This loose body of NGOs was consolidated in December 2003 and in June 2004, the structure, content and direction of the ADRRN was clearly formulated and implemented.

**Asia Pacific Gateway for Disaster Risk Reduction and Development**

The Asia Pacific Gateway for Disaster Risk Reduction and Development (Gateway) promotes mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction (DRR) into development planning. It is an internet based portal which provides users with a platform for information sharing, building networks, accessing technical services and promoting regional cooperation among partners working on mainstreaming DRR in Asia and the Pacific.

**CARE International Crisis Response Team**

Clickable map of crisis activities and status

CARE is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty. We place special focus on working alongside poor women because, equipped with the proper resources, women have the power to help whole families and entire communities escape poverty. Women are at the heart of CARE’s community-based efforts to improve basic education, prevent the spread of HIV, increase access to clean water and sanitation, expand economic opportunity and protect natural resources. CARE also delivers emergency aid to survivors of war and natural disasters, and helps people rebuild their lives.

**Center for Contemporary Conflict**

As the research institute of the Naval Postgraduate School’s Department of National Security Affairs, the CCC analyzes current and emerging threats to U.S. national security. We convey our assessments through briefings, conferences, publications, our ship-board Regional Security Education Program, and our e-journal Strategic Insights.

**Center for Disaster & Humanitarian Assistance Medicine** (US)

The mission of the Center for Disaster and Humanitarian Assistance Medicine (CDHAM) is exactly what its name implies— to be the focal point for medical aspects of disaster relief and humanitarian assistance. Other centers, operate within the realm of humanitarian relief. However, they are focused on the broader issue of disaster management. By specializing in medicine and health-related topics worldwide, CDHAM compliments the work of these centers, as well as many other organizations that are improving the provision of relief and international health care.

**Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance** (US)

The Center’s mission is to promote effective civil-military management in international humanitarian assistance, disaster response and peacekeeping through education, training, research and information programs. Provides daily Asia-Pacific updates, reports, analysis, fact sheets, data, etc.

**Center for Humanitarian Cooperation**
CHC, a not-for-profit organization, was created to assist the international humanitarian community in developing models for greater cooperation. The Center for Humanitarian Cooperation has been created by a devoted and experienced group of professionals. The Center will serve as a neutral party, to foster functional cooperation among the growing group of organizations concerned with humanitarian issues. The CHC will: Provide briefings to members of the humanitarian community, the press, legislative bodies, the military, and other relevant parties upon request; assist in facilitating linkages between groups of organizations engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance so as to encourage shared allocation and application of resources; chair and organize face-to-face strategy and planning sessions for participating organizations and, assist in preparedness training exercises that will link governmental organizations — particularly military structures concerned with military operations other than war (MOOTW) — to private and international relief agencies.

**India Disaster Resource Network**

India Disaster Resource Network is an online inventory designed as a decision making tool for the Government administrators and crisis managers to coordinate effective emergency response operations in the shortest possible time.

**Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre**

Through its work, the Centre contributes to improving national and international capacities to protect and assist the millions of people around the globe who have been displaced within their own country as a result of conflicts or human rights violations. At the request of the United Nations, the Geneva-based IDMC has a chart providing comprehensive information and analysis on internal displacement in some 50 countries.

**International Committee of the Red Cross**

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of war and internal violence and to provide them with assistance. It directs and coordinates the international relief activities conducted by the Movement in situations of conflict. It also endeavors to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles.

**International Crisis Group**

The International Crisis Group (Crisis Group) is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organisation, with some 145 staff members on five continents, working through field-based analysis and high-level advocacy to prevent and resolve deadly conflict. Regional and Country reports available.

**International Medical Corps**

International Medical Corps’ mission is to improve the quality of life through health interventions and related activities that build local capacity in areas worldwide. By offering training and health care to local populations and medical assistance to people at highest risk, and with the flexibility to respond rapidly to emergency situations, IMC rehabilitates devastated health care systems and helps bring them back to self-reliance. Regional and country
International Recovery Platform
The International Recovery Platform (IRP) was conceived at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan in January 2005. As a thematic platform of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) system, IRP is a key pillar for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, a global plan for disaster risk reduction for the decade adopted by 168 governments at the WCDR. The key role of IRP is to identify gaps and constraints experienced in post disaster recovery and to serve as a catalyst for the development of tools, resources, and capacity for resilient recovery. IRP aims to be an international source of knowledge on good recovery practice.

International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG)
A network of disaster-prone and disaster-responding countries and organizations dedicated to urban search and rescue (USAR) and operational field coordination. Part of OCHA, INSARAG is mandated to: Render emergency preparedness and response activities more effective and thereby save more lives, reduce suffering and minimize adverse consequences. Improve efficiency in cooperation among international USAR teams working in collapsed structures at a disaster site. Promote activities designed to improve search-and-rescue preparedness in disaster-prone countries, thereby prioritizing developing countries. Develop internationally accepted procedures and systems for sustained cooperation between national USAR teams operating on the international scene. Develop USAR procedures, guidelines and best practices, and strengthen cooperation between interested organizations during the emergency relief phase.

International Tsunami Training Institute Archive
NOAA Tsunami preparedness training material

International Rescue Committee
The International Rescue Committee maintains an Emergency Response Team of 17 specialists with expertise in key areas necessary to assess critical survival needs and mount an effective response to sudden or protracted emergencies. The team includes coordinators, logisticians, doctors and water and sanitation experts. It also includes specialists who focus on human rights protection, the special needs of children in crisis, the prevention of sexual violence and aid for rape survivors. There are also focal points for grants development, program design, security, finance, human resources and communications.

Multinational Planning Augmentation Team (MPAT)
The Multinational Planning Augmentation Team (MPAT) Program is a cooperative multinational effort to facilitate the rapid and effective establishment and/or augmentation of a multinational task force headquarters. The MPAT provides responsive coalition/combined expertise in crisis action planning.

Natural Disaster Management, India Ministry of Home Affairs
Natural calamities, of one description or the other, affect nations all over
the world. Because of the large geographical size of the country, India often faces natural calamities like floods, cyclones and drought occurring fairly frequently in different parts of the country. At times, the same area is subjected to floods and drought situation in successive seasons or years. While not all natural calamities can be predicted and prevented, a state of preparedness and ability to respond quickly to a natural calamity can considerably mitigate loss of life and property and the human suffering and restore normalcy at the earliest. It is, therefore, of paramount importance that a plan of action for dealing with contingencies that arise in the wake of natural calamities is formulated and periodically updated.

**Pacific Disaster Center (US)**
The Pacific Disaster Center’s mission is to provide applied information research and analysis support for the development of more effective policies, institutions, programs, and information products for the disaster management and humanitarian assistance communities of the Asia Pacific region and beyond. Our evolving approach to emergency management shifts the emphasis from being reactive – focusing on response and recovery operations, to being proactive – focusing on mitigation and preparedness. This strategy is built on the United Nations approach to loss reduction that acknowledges public awareness and community partnerships, better assessments of natural hazard risks, and preventative action priorities as critical components that minimize identified risks. Our overall goal is to promote disaster management as an integral part of national to local economic and social development to foster disaster-resistant communities.

**Pan American Health Organization Regional Core Health Data**
The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is an international public health agency with more than 100 years of experience in working to improve health and living standards of the countries of the Americas. It serves as the specialized organization for health of the Inter-American System. It also serves as the Regional Office for the Americas of the World Health Organization and enjoys international recognition as part of the United Nations system.

**SAARC Disaster Management Center** The SAARC Disaster Management Centre would serve the Member Countries by providing policy advice and facilitating capacity building services including strategic learning, research, training, system development, expertise promotion and exchange of information for effective disaster risk reduction and management.

**United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations**
Each peacekeeping operation has a specific set of mandated tasks, but all share certain common aims – to alleviate human suffering, and create conditions and build institutions for self-sustaining peace. Peacekeeping operations may consist of several components, including a military component, which may or may not be armed, and various civilian components encompassing a broad range of disciplines. Depending on their mandate, peacekeeping missions may be required to: Deploy to prevent the outbreak of conflict or the spill-over of conflict across borders; Stabilize conflict situations after a cease fire, to create an environment for the parties to reach a lasting peace agreement; Assist in implementing comprehensive peace agreements; Lead states
or territories through a transition to stable government, based on democratic
principles, good governance and economic development.

**United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)**

As part of the Secretary-General’s programme of reform in 1998, DHA was
reorganized into the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs,
OCHA. Its mandate was expanded to include the coordination of humanitarian
response, policy development and humanitarian advocacy. OCHA carries out its
coordination function primarily through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,
which is chaired by the ERC. Participants include all humanitarian partners,
from UN agencies, funds and programmes to the Red Cross Movement and NGOs.
The IASC ensures inter-agency decision-making in response to complex
emergencies. These responses include needs assessments, consolidated
appeals, field coordination arrangements and the development of humanitarian
policies.

**US Agency for International Development (Asia and the Near East)**

USAID is an independent federal government agency that receives overall
foreign policy guidance from the Secretary of State. **Our Work** supports long-
term and equitable economic growth and advances U.S. foreign policy
objectives by supporting: economic growth, agriculture and trade; global
health; and, democracy, conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance.
Regional and country reports available.

**US Department of State**

Regional and country background and profiles

**World Health Organization Country Profiles**

The WHO Country profiles contain information on national cooperation
strategies, health systems and capabilities in terms of disaster management.

· “What is VCA? An Introduction to Vulnerability and Capacity
  Assessment,”

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies,