

Acknowledgements

The *Asia-Pacific Disaster Report* is a biennial flagship publication of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Its 2019 issue was prepared under the leadership and guidance of Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP. Kaveh Zahedi, Deputy Executive Secretary and Tiziana Bonapace, Director, ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division (IDD) provided direction and advice.

Members of the core drafting team led by Sanjay Srivastava, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction Section, IDD, consisted of Kareff Rafisura, Madhurima Sarkar-Swaisgood and Sanjay Srivastava (lead authors), Maria Bernadet K. Dewi, Laura Hendy, Hyun-mi Kang, Yuki Mitsuka and Jiwon Seo (co-authors).

The average annual loss datasets used in this report are from the probabilistic risk analysis undertaken by the Risk Nexus Initiative led by Andrew Maskrey with Omar Mario Cardona, Mabel Marulanda, Paula Marulanda, Gabriel Bernal, and team. Selim Raihan (University of Dhaka) developed the computable general equilibrium (CGE) model with peer review provided by Sandra Baquié (Columbia University). P.G. Chakrabarti (an independent consultant and former Secretary to the National Disaster Management Authority, Government of India) provided a background paper on empowerment and inclusion.

ESCAP staff and consultants who provided inputs and comments include Syed T. Ahmed, Elena Dyakonova, Atsuko Okuda, Keran Wang, Channarith Meng, Siopé Vakataki Ofa, Tae Hyung Kim and Ayeisha Sheldon of the ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division; Arun Jacob, Hitomi Rankine, and Katinka Weinberger of the Environment and Development Division; Patrik Andersson, Li Stephanie Choo, Marialaura Ena, Predrag Savic, and Ermina Sokou of the Social Development Division; Sweta Saxena and Zhanquian Huang of Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development; Michael Williamson, Kira Lamont and Sergey Tulinov of the Energy Division; Daniel Clarke and Yichun Wang of the Statistics Division; Rajan Ratna of the Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia; Letizia Rossano and Mostafa Mohaghegh of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management.

The report was enriched by the comments received from an eminent group of scholars and development practitioners acting as external peer reviewers, namely for chapter one: Mohsen Ghafory-Ashtiany (International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology); Mukand Singh Babel (Asian Institute of Technology); Yuichi Ono and Daisuke Sasaki (Tohoku University); Rajib Shaw (Keio University); and Saini Yang (Beijing Normal University); for chapter two: Madhavi Ariyabandu (Intermediate Technology Development Group); Pham Thi Thanh Hang (Food and Agriculture Organization Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific); and Bishwa Nath Tiwari (United Nations Development Programme); for chapter three: Ronilda Co (Department of Education, Philippines); Steven Goldfinch and Jaiganesh Murugesan (Asian Development Bank), and for chapter four: V Jayaraman (Former Director of National Remote Sensing Centre, Indian Space Research Organization); Manzul Kumar Hazarika (Asian Institute of Technology); Nitin Tripathi (Asia Institute of Technology), Kiyoung Ko (Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development, APCICT), Yasushi Kiyoki (Keio University) and International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management, ICHARM and Pacific Disaster Centre, PDC.

ESCAP's Editorial Board under the Chairmanship of Hong Joo Hahm, Deputy Executive Secretary also provided useful comments.

Peter Stalker provided technical editing. Anoushka Ali assisted in editing, proofreading and finalizing the publication.

Narada Kalra, Chonlathon Piemwongjit and Narathit Sirirat provided administrative assistance, supported by Yukhonthorn Suewaja. ESCAP interns Armita Behboodi, Yujin Jang, Yu Chong Nam, Jiyul Shin and Thessa Beck provided research assistance and support during the production process. Amin Shamseddini (AIT) also provided research assistance.

Acknowledgements continued...

The Cartographic Unit of the United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology provided guidance and reviewed the maps used in this report. The ESCAP Strategic Communications and Advocacy Section and Office of the Executive Secretary (OES) coordinated the media launch and report outreach. The launch of the executive summary of the report at the High-Level Political Forum side event on 16 July 2019 was hosted by the Philippine Mission in New York.

The financial support provided by ESCAP's Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management is gratefully acknowledged.