

How Natural Disasters Impact the Environment



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Can you name some natural disasters?

- Earthquakes
- Hurricanes
- Lightning
- Fire
- Tsunami
- Tornados
- Volcanoes
- Blizzards
- Floods
- Heat
- Drought



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Natural Disaster

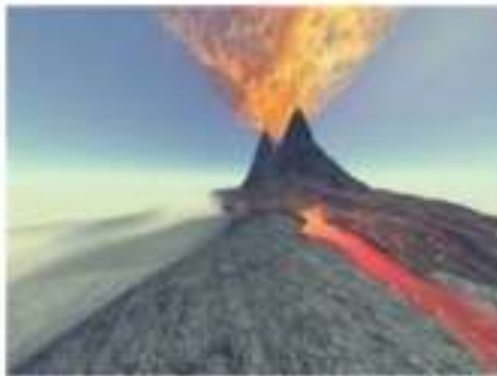
SDM



A natural disaster is a major effect of a natural hazard that affects the environment, and leads to financial, environmental and human losses.

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- **Floods**
- **Tsunami**
- **Tornadoes**
- **Hurricanes**
- **Cyclones**
- **Volcanic Eruptions**



- Earthquakes
- Heatwaves
- Droughts
- Wild Fires
- Landslides
- Blizzards
- Ice Storms
- Avalanches



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Natural Disasters that cause the most deaths

Earthquake

manifest themselves by vibration, shaking and displacement of the ground

- Caused mostly by slippage within geological faults
- Rarely kill people or wildlife
- Secondary events they trigger will, building collapse, tsunamis and volcanoes
- Could be avoided by better construction, safety systems, early warning and evacuation planning



Floods

- Regular natural disaster in Malaysia during monsoon season
- Result from the water within a body of water, such as river or lake, which overflows or breaks levees, with the result that the water escapes its usual boundaries
- Caused by inadequate drainage
- Could be prevent by reducing the di
garbage into river or lake



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Volcanic Eruptions

- May cause the explosion of volcano, the fall of rock, and lava may be produced
- Volcanic ash :-
 - May cause roofs to collapse under its weight
 - Even small quantities will harm humans if inhaled
 - Cause abrasion damage to moving parts such as engines
 - Pyroclastic flows (a cloud of hot volcanic ash) is the main killer of humans



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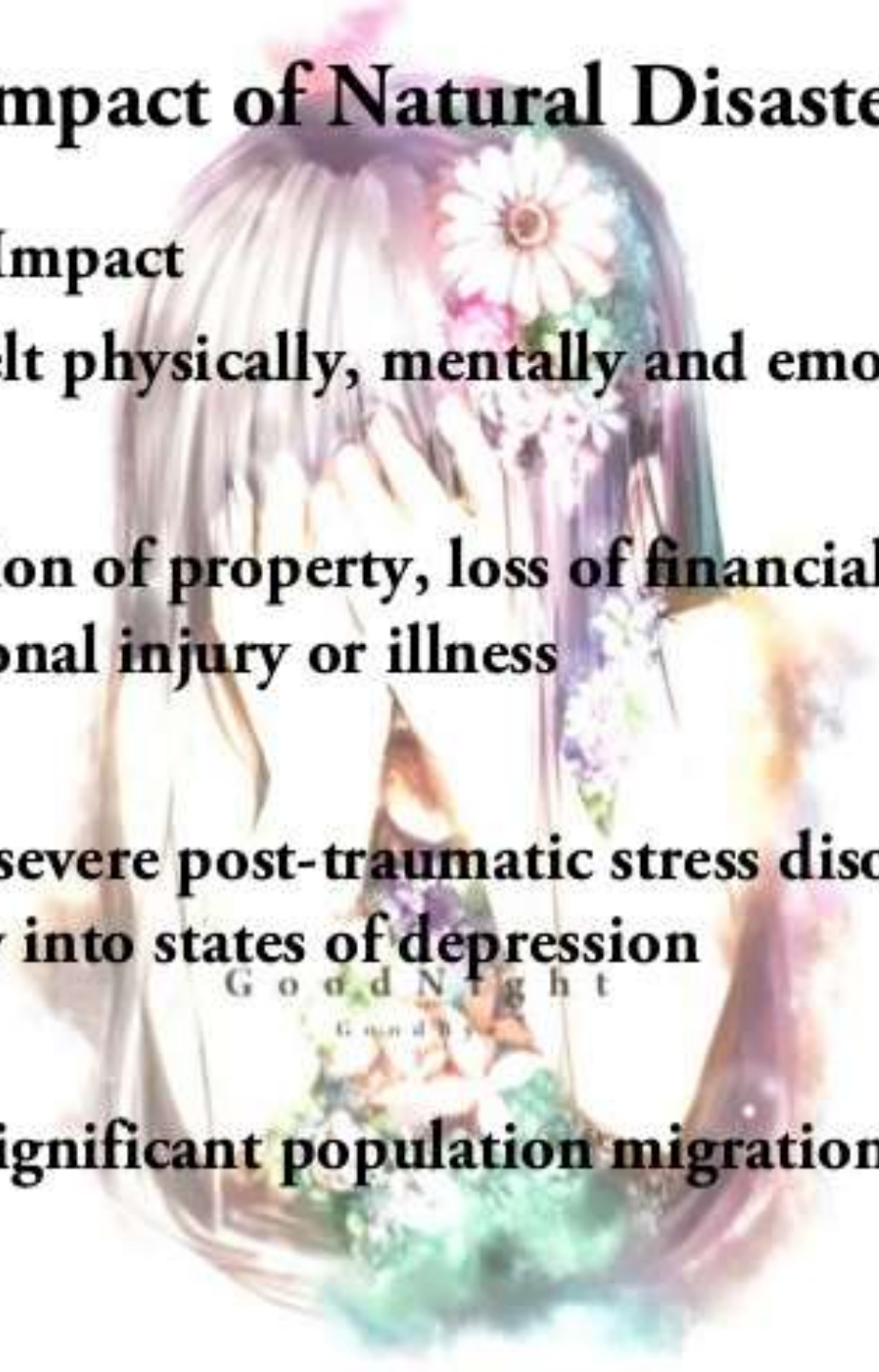


Impact of Natural Disasters

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Individual Impact

- Can be felt physically, mentally and emotionally
- Destruction of property, loss of financial resources and personal injury or illness
- Develop severe post-traumatic stress disorders or withdraw into states of depression
- Lead to significant population migrations





Community Impact

- **Loss of economic resources that recovery becomes difficult, if not almost impossible**
- **Opportunity in the aftermath of a disaster to rebuild better and stronger communities than before**
- **Population, demographic and cultural shifts are also result of the impact**

Economic Impact

- **Reduced tax revenue**
- **Loss of infrastructure**
- **Expense of reclamation efforts**
- **Loss of normal revenue**
- **Huge sums of federal assistance were necessary to held jump start recovery efforts**



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Environment

- **Our ecosystems can be dramatically damaged**
- **Global climate changes**
- **Sea level increases that will completely swamp some island nations**
- **Edible fish supply decreases**
- **Loss of coral reefs**

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Solution

Not all natural disasters can be prevented. Each natural disaster has its own factors and complications. Understanding the basic principles of ecology can provide keys to lessening their effects. Nature evolved with natural disasters and disturbance. The best prevention is looking at strategies found in nature.

