

Introduction to International Disaster Management, Second Edition

By Damon P. Coppola

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Disaster management is a vibrant and growing field, driven by government spending in the wake of terrorist attacks and environmental debacles, as well as private-sector hiring of risk managers and emergency planners. An ever-increasing number of practicing professionals needs a reference that can provide a solid foundation in ALL major phases of supervision – mitigation, preparedness, response, communications, and recovery. As climate change leads to further costly catastrophes and as countries around the world continue to struggle with terrorism, the demand for solutions will only grow. This revised edition of Coppola's revered resource meets said demand head-on with more focused, current, thoughtfully analyzed, and effective approaches to disaster relief.

- Expanded coverage of global approaches to disaster management with enhanced data and research on disasters around the world, including Cyclone Nargis, the H1N1 pandemic, and the tsunami in American Samoa
- More material on risk management, mitigation, myths that affect behavior during crises, and post-disaster evaluation of the response
- Up-to-date information on the role of aid organizations and international financial institutions like the World Bank in disaster response, as well as commentary on the latest research in disaster management and policy studies

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Featured Excerpt on Vulnerability from the Second Edition of *Introduction to International Disaster Management*

The concept of vulnerability was first presented in Chapter 1 and defined as a measure of the propensity of an object, area, individual, group, community, country, or other entity to incur the consequences of a hazard. As this section illustrates, measurement of vulnerability results from a combination of physical, social, economic, and environmental factors or processes. These factors are the primary determinant features that dictate how the likelihood and/or consequences components of risk are increased or decreased.

It is important to first clarify the difference between the concepts of vulnerability and exposure, which are often confused. The two words are used interchangeably to describe how a country, region, or community is likely to experience a certain hazard. However, this is incorrect, as the discussion on vulnerability factors shows. The United Nation's risk reduction document *Living with Risk* embodies this concept, saying, "While most natural hazards may be inevitable, disasters are not" (ISDR, 2004).

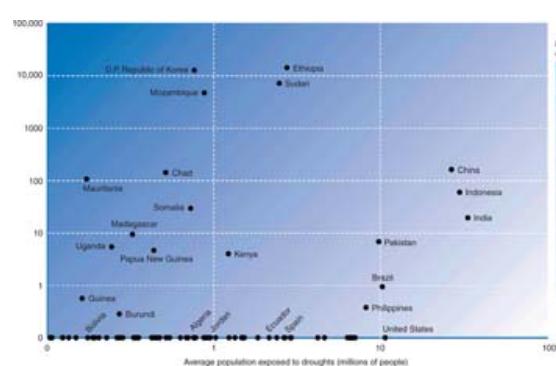


FIGURE 3-9 National vulnerabilities to drought risk as a factor of population exposure. (From the International Disaster Database, [http://www.idb.org](#).)

Figure 3-9

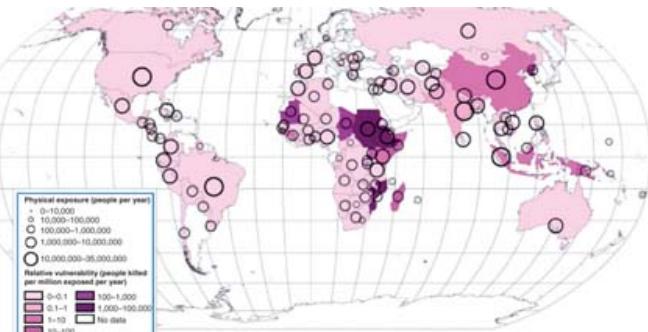


FIGURE 3-10 National vulnerabilities to drought risk as a factor of population exposure. (From the International Disaster Database, [http://www.idb.org](#).)

Figure 3-10

While vulnerability defines the propensity to incur consequences, exposure merely suggests that the individual, structure, community, nation, or other subject will be exposed to the hazard. For instance, one might say, "The Spanish are vulnerable to drought," meaning that Spain regularly experiences the drought hazard. But this statement implies more than the speaker intended. The use of the word "vulnerable" implies that the population is likely to incur negative consequences as a result of factors that make it less likely to protect its citizens and built and natural environments from harm, not simply that drought happens there. The reality, as Figures 3-9 and 3-10 illustrate, is that while Spain is regularly exposed to drought, the nation is not vulnerable to its consequences.

Read the rest of this featured excerpt on Vulnerability. [\[PDF\]](#)

Read a featured excerpt on "Recognizing That Recovery Is an Opportunity in Disguise." [\[PDF\]](#)

Review

""Damon Coppola's massive effort to present disaster management as an international endeavor from a practitioner's perspective combines the classic framework espoused by disaster researchers with the reality of the field... Yet the book incorporates basic information that has evolved in the field of disaster management and places it within easy grasp for practitioners.""-**Alan Kirschenbaum, Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Volume 4, Issue 3 (2007)**

""Damon Coppola's *Introduction to international disaster management* is a single volume sourcebook that makes excellent use of full colour graphics and has numerous inset boxes highlighting aspects of the topics under discussion. The book follows a logical progression starting with the history of disasters and ending with details of disaster management agencies (governments, NGOs, multilateral organisations), where they are located within national government structures, and what they do. The bulk of the book is given over to consideration of hazards, risks and vulnerability, and the four stages of traditional disaster management namely: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. A final chapter deals briefly with special considerations in relation to disasters covering such diverse topics as the media, political will, donor fatigue, state sovereignty, climate change, terrorism, and pandemics. This book is an excellent starting point for the study of disaster planning providing both global perspective and local detail.""-**Colin Perry, The Brunei Times**

""Disaster management is a discipline and a profession that is growing and evolving rapidly; and international disaster management is a subdiscipline. This text is intended as a guide and reference for students and practitioners involved at any level. The specifics of all facets of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery are covered clearly and in detail, beginning with general background and proceeding to the various types of hazards, assessment of vulnerability and risk (and disparities among countries), forms of structural and nonstructural mitigation, the practicalities of preparedness (communications, training, animal care, public warning), the complexities of international response, and the recovery period. Three chapters discuss the players: government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and multilateral and international financial institutions. The concluding chapter covers special issues (sovereignty, distribution of relief, emerging epidemics, among other topics). Coppola is a well-seasoned practitioner and works now as a systems engineer with a disaster management consulting firm.""-**SciTechBookNews**

""This monograph provides practitioners, educators and students with a comprehensive overview of the players, processes and special issues involved in the management of large-scale natural and technological disasters. The book discusses special issues encountered in the management of international disasters, and explains the various private, non-governmental, national, and international agencies that assist in preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery during national and regional events. Concentrating on the four major phases of emergency management – mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery – the author deals with such timely topics as Hurricane Katrina, the 2004 Asian tsunami, and SARS. It also serves as a reference to governmental and other agencies involved in international disaster management activities.""-**MCEER Information Service**

""Updated to reflect the latest data in global disaster trends, this second edition offers a comprehensive overview of the complex issues surrounding preparedness, response and relief during international disasters. It will be a useful reference for students, practitioners and anyone interested in international humanitarian response and recovery.""-**Foreign Service Journal**

From the Back Cover

*Introduction to International Disaster Management, Second Edition*continues to serve as the sole

comprehensive overview of global emergency management. This second edition contains updated information on disaster trends as well as on management structures and advancements around the world. Coppola includes changes that reflect the dual theme of the book: universal principles of global emergency management practice and advances in the field worldwide, and lessons from disasters and other watershed events that have occurred since the first edition was published. This text includes new case studies and updated disaster, risk, and vulnerability data, as well as insightful discussions of recent national and international initiatives, and of progress towards improving non-governmental organization (NGO) and private sector cooperation and professionalism. This text approaches the practice of emergency management from a global perspective, making it the only introductory book without bias towards the emergency management system or history of a single country or region.

Users Review

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The book untitled Introduction to International Disaster Management, Second Edition is the publication that recommended to you you just read. You can see the quality of the guide content that will be shown to you. The language that author use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The author was did a lot of research when write the book, so the information that they share for your requirements is absolutely accurate. You also could get the e-book of Introduction to International Disaster Management, Second Edition from the publisher to make you far more enjoy free time.

Lynn Kelley:

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