



Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu

Time for Preventive Action!

Position Paper Water Related Disaster Risk Reduction

17 – 10 - 2014

HELP- Washington

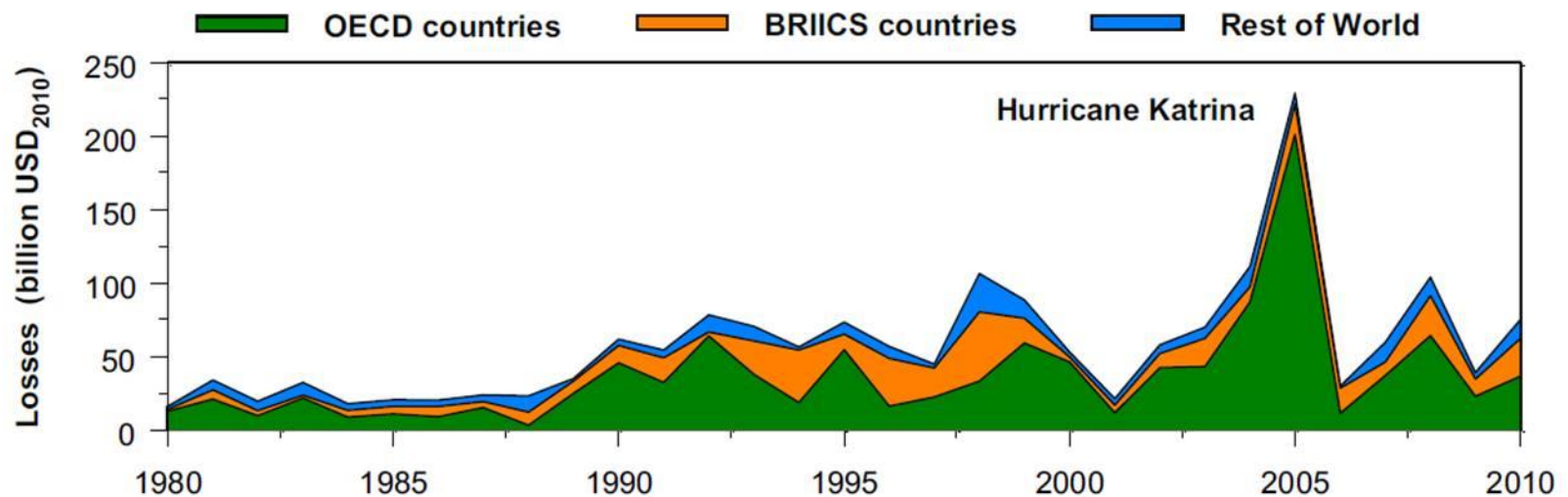
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Worldwide increase of flood frequency and damage

- More floods, more damage, increasing risk

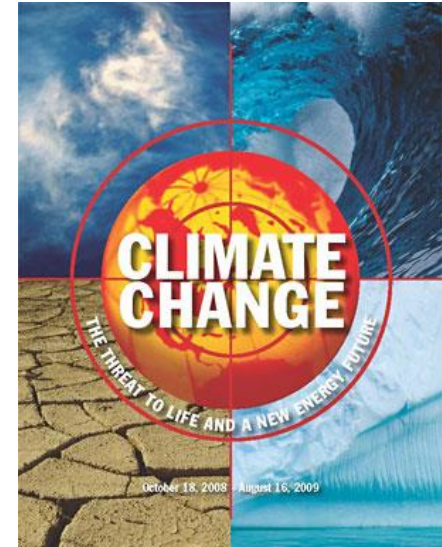


- Droughts



Causes

- Population growth
- Urbanisation
- Climate change,
- Inadequate land & water management





Lessons learned

- Importance of awareness / Sense of urgency
- Invest in understanding the problem and adopting adaptive approaches
- Take preventive measures:
Prevention pays!
- Zero risk doesn't exist





Message 1

Climate shifts and other global changes are already impacting water-related disasters

Message 2

Disaster Risk Reduction, Water Resources Management and Climate Adaptation should no longer be treated as separate topics



Message 3

Use new data and tools; optimize risk awareness and emergency planning

Message 4

Risk reduction, preparation and prevention pay off in terms of reduced loss of life, avoided damage, and long-term economic growth and stability



Message 5

Integrate risk prevention & long-term planning: create opportunities for synergies with planned investments, incl. plans for adaptation to climate change

Message 6

Uncertainties are no excuse for inaction: be flexible and adaptive



Discussion: What can HELP do?

- How can we add experiences from other countries ?
- How to improve exchange of basic information on policies, strategies ?
- How to advocate position paper and risk philosophy approach at global, regional and national level ?
- How to create clever coalitions for bilateral / regional / multilateral cooperation ?
- How to connect to ISDR, Hyogo-2, UNSGAB, WWF-7, ..?
- ? **Who, how, where, when**?