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**Natural Hazard:** A hazardous event that causes unacceptably large numbers of fatalities and/or overwhelming property damage is a natural disaster, Natural hazards are defined as environmental phenomena that have the potential to impact societies and the human environment. These should not be confused with other types of hazards, such as manmade hazards.



Natural hazards can be classified into several broad categories: [geological hazards](#), [hydrological hazards](#), [meteorological hazards](#), and [biological hazards](#).

**Disasters:** are serious disruptions to the functioning of a community that exceed its capacity to cope using its own resources.











**Natural processes:** are interactions among plants, animals, and the environment. These interactions, which include photosynthesis, pollination, decomposition , and others, help create and shape natural communities .

# Natural Processes

- **Lightning**
- **Flooding**
- **Hurricanes**
- **Volcanic eruptions**
- **Drought**
- **Extended Cold Period**



**Human response to hazards:** Following disaster, people frequently feel **stunned, disoriented or unable to integrate distressing information**. Once these initial reactions subside, people can experience a variety of thoughts and behaviors. Common responses can be: Intense or unpredictable feelings.

## Management of hazards takes a number of forms:

### Prediction

It is possible to give warnings of some hazards and action can therefore be taken to reduce their impact.

Improved monitoring, information and communications technology have made prediction and issuing of warnings more useful.

### Prevention

Unrealistic for most hazards.

The best that can be achieved is through control - modifying the environment

### Protection

Aim - to protect people and property from the impact of the hazard

Insuring against losses

Supply of aid

**Global climate and hazards** :Climate change is already impacting health in a myriad of ways, including by leading to death and illness from increasingly frequent extreme weather events, such as heatwaves, storms and floods, the disruption of food systems, increases in zoonoses and food- , water- and vector-borne diseases, and mental health issues.

Climatic hazards are agents of disaster in terms of what they may do to human settlements or to the environment. Potentially hazardous atmospheric phenomena include **tropical cyclones, thunderstorms, tornadoes, drought, rain, hail, snow, lightning, fog, wind, temperature extremes, air pollution, and climatic change.**

Climate change is already having visible effects on the world. The Earth is warming, rainfall patterns are changing, and sea levels are rising. These changes can increase the risk of heatwaves, floods, droughts, and fires.





