

# UNDRR/ISC Hazard Information Profiles: usable, useful and used tool for standardizing hazard information



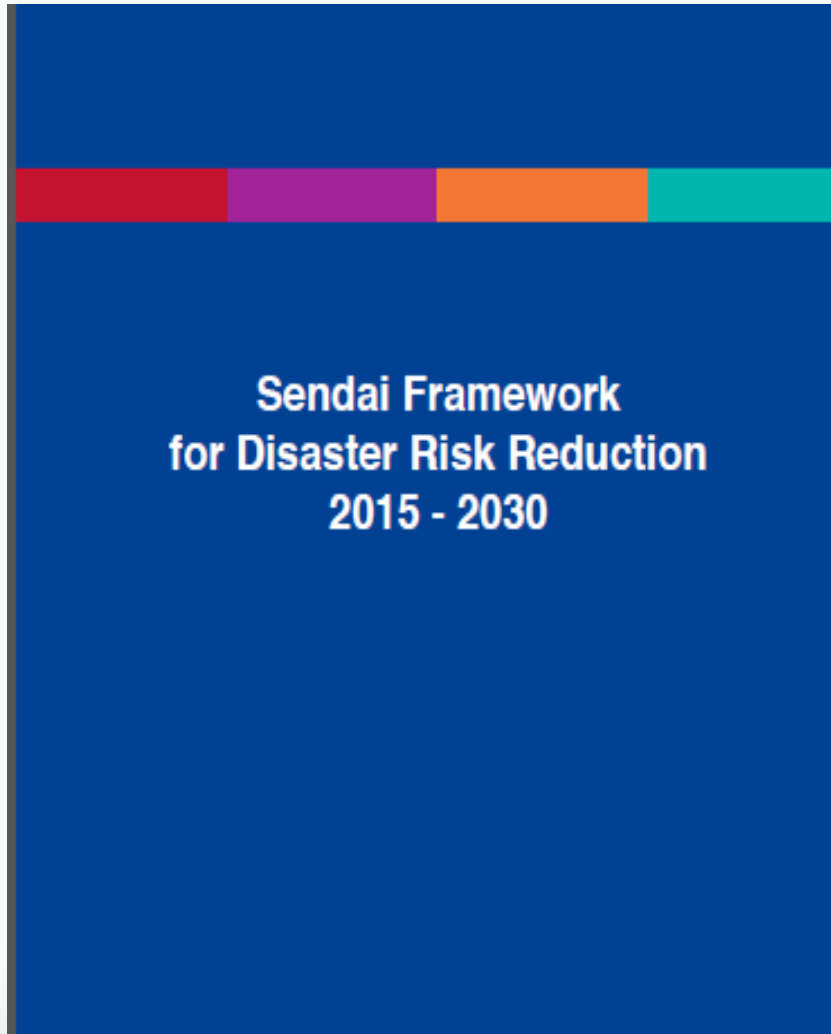
Teresa OLIVEIRA, Open University in Lisbon, Portugal, member of the CEAUL, Chair of ISI Committee on Risk Analysis

On behalf of Virginia Murray, Chair of the Steering Group, ISC and our many partners

30 October 2024 | 4<sup>th</sup> Expert Forum on Disaster Related Statistics I



# THE GENERAL CONTEXT



- The Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030 was adopted by 187 countries in 2015 during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Platform for DRR in Sendai, Japan.
- It replaced the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015

# THE GENERAL CONTEXT



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**Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction  
Priorities for Action**

**1. Understanding disaster risk**

*Encouraging Parties to identify potentially hazardous activities to be able to target preventive measures, preparedness and response.*

**2. Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk**

*Providing a governance mechanism for regional cooperation to address transboundary disaster risk reduction.*

**3. Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience**

*Promoting investments in preventive measures, which cost less than remedying the consequences of disasters.*

**4. Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to "Build Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction**

*Ensuring preparation, review and periodical update of disaster preparedness and contingency policies, plans and programmes.*

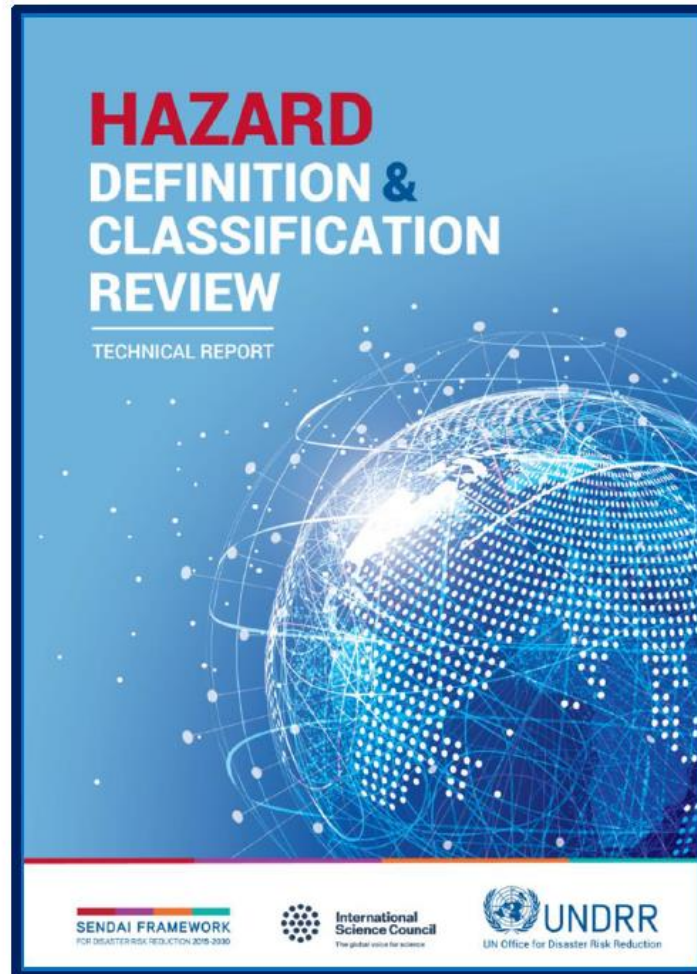
# THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HIPs

The Sendai Framework specifically mentions the need

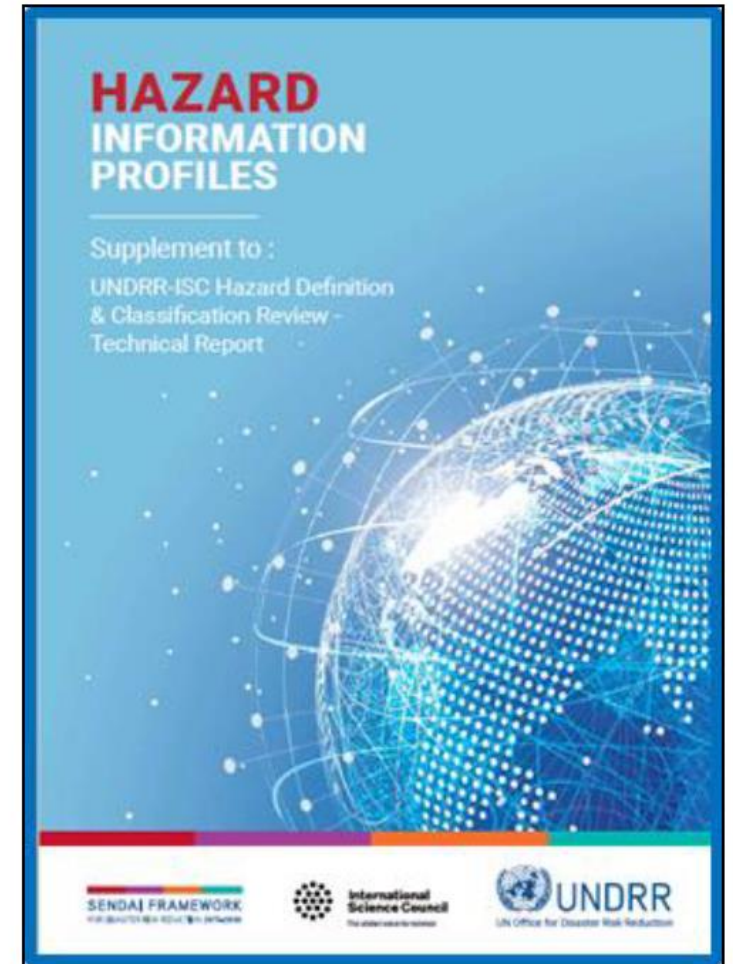
**To strengthen technical and scientific capacity** to capitalize on and consolidate existing knowledge and to develop and apply methodologies and models **to assess disaster risks, vulnerabilities and exposure to all hazards;**

*(paragraph 24 j)*

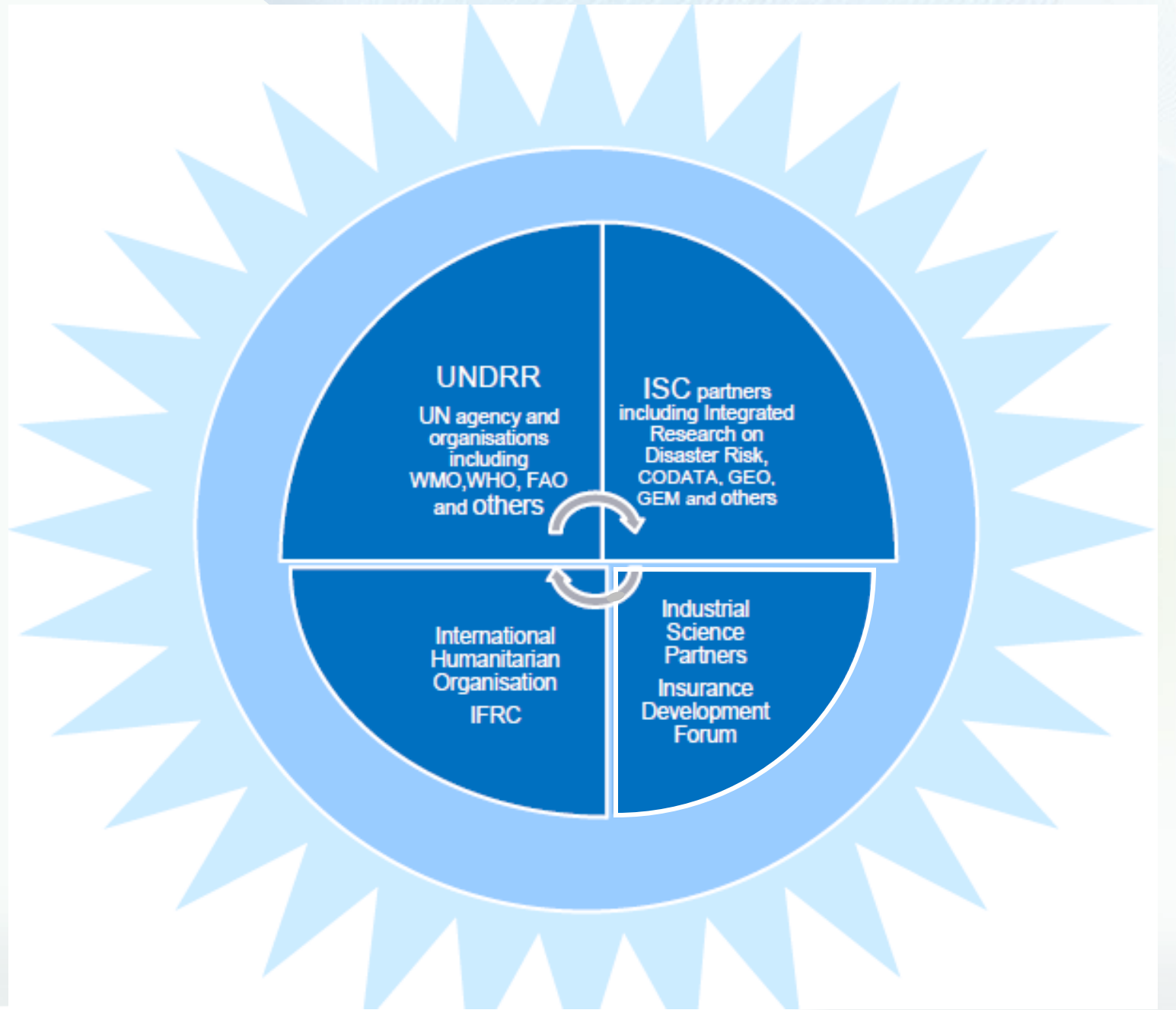
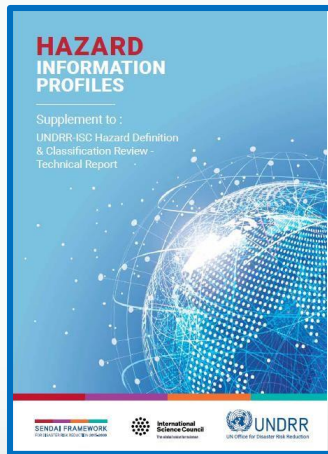
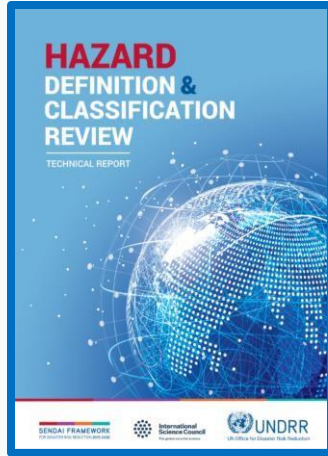
- To address this need, scientists decided to review the existing lists of hazards to check they met the needs of users.
- This effort, supported by UNDRR and ISC bringing together hundreds of experts, resulted in two outcomes

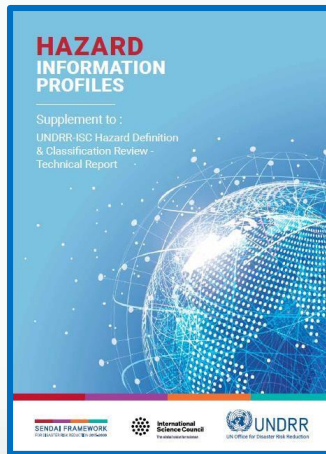


UNDRR / ISC Hazard  
Definition and Classification  
Review  
Technical Report  
July 2020



UNDRR / ISC Hazard Information  
Profiles Supplement to UNDRR / ISC  
Hazard Definition and Classification  
Review  
October 2021







# WHAT ARE THE HIPs?

The HIPs are concise documents (1-4 pages) providing information on hazards.

The HIPs are organized in different sections:

- Definition and associated reference
- Annotation
  - Synonyms
  - Additional Scientific Description
  - Metrics and numeric limits
  - Key relevant UN convention / multilateral treaty
  - Examples of drivers, outcomes and risk management
- References

MH0027 / METEOROLOGICAL AND HYDROLOGICAL / Marine

## Storm Surge

### Definition

A storm surge reflects the difference between the actual water level under the influence of a meteorological disturbance (storm tide) and the level which would have occurred in the absence of the meteorological disturbance (i.e., astronomical tide) (WMO, 2008, 2011, 2017).

### References

WMO, 2008. Technical Regulations, Volume III: Hydrology, WMO No. 49. World Meteorological Organization (WMO). [www.wmo.int/pages/prog/hwrr/publications/technical\\_regulations/49\\_III\\_E\\_supplement1.pdf](http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/hwrr/publications/technical_regulations/49_III_E_supplement1.pdf) Accessed 26 November 2019.

WMO, 2011. Guide to Storm Surge Forecasting, WMO No. 1076. World Meteorological Organization (WMO). [https://library.wmo.int/doc\\_num.php?explnum\\_id=7747](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=7747) Accessed 12 August 2020.

WMO, 2017. Regional Association IV - Hurricane Operational Plan for North America, Central America and the Caribbean, WMO-No. 1163. World Meteorological Organization (WMO). [https://library.wmo.int/doc\\_num.php?explnum\\_id=3781](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=3781) Accessed on 26 November 2019.

### Annotations

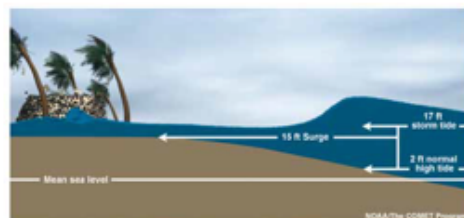
#### Synonyms

Not identified.

#### Additional scientific description

A storm surge is the rise in seawater level caused solely by a storm. It is the abnormal rise in seawater level during a storm, measured as the height of the water above the normal predicted astronomical tide. The surge is caused primarily by a storm's winds pushing water onshore. The amplitude of the storm surge at any given location depends on the orientation of the coastline with the storm track, the intensity, size, and speed of the storm, and the local bathymetry (NOAA, 2019a). This is illustrated in the graphic below (NOAA, 2019a).

A storm tide is the water level that results from the combination of the storm surge and the normal (astronomical) tide. A 3-metre (9.8 feet) storm surge on top of a high tide that is 2 metres (6.6 feet) above the mean sea level will produce a storm tide that is 5 metres (16.4 feet) above mean sea level. Storm surge should not be confused with storm tide. This rise in water level can cause extreme flooding in coastal areas, resulting from storm tides reaching up to 6 meters (20 feet) or more in some cases (NOAA, 2019b).



Storm Surge vs. Storm Tide

### Metrics and numeric limits

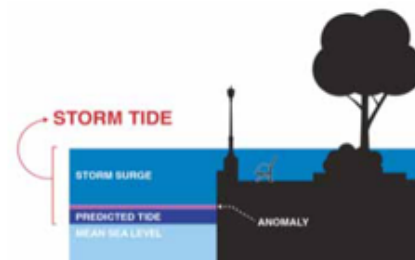
Not available.

### Key relevant UN convention / multilateral treaty

Not available.

### Examples of drivers, outcomes and risk management

On top of a storm tide are pounding waves generated by the powerful winds. The area of seawater flooding may extend along the coast for over 100 km, with water pushing several kilometres inland if the land is low lying. The combined effects of the storm tide and surface waves can destroy buildings, wash away roads and run ships aground (Australian Government, 2020).



Examples of National Alerting Parameters include storm surge warning issued in Canada (Government of Canada, 2019) and an Advisory for storm surge watch/warning issued by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO, 2017).

### References

Australian Government, 2020. Storm Surge. Bureau of Meteorology. [www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/tropical-cyclone-knowledge-centre/understanding/storm-surge](http://www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/tropical-cyclone-knowledge-centre/understanding/storm-surge) Accessed 13 October 2020.

Government of Canada, 2019. Storm Surge: Criteria for Public Weather Alerts. [www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/types-weather-forecasts-use/public/criteria-alerts.html#stormSurge](http://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/types-weather-forecasts-use/public/criteria-alerts.html#stormSurge) Accessed 26 November 2019.

NOAA, 2019a. What is storm surge? National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). <https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/stormsurge-stormtide.html> Accessed 26 November 2019.

NOAA, 2019b. Storm Surge Overview. National Hurricane Center and Central Pacific Hurricane Center, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). [www.nhc.noaa.gov/surge](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/surge)







WMO, 2017. Regional Association IV - Hurricane Operational Plan for North America, Central America and the Caribbean, WMO-No. 1163. World Meteorological Organization (WMO). [https://library.wmo.int/doc\\_num.php?explnum\\_id=3781](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=3781) Accessed 26 November 2019.

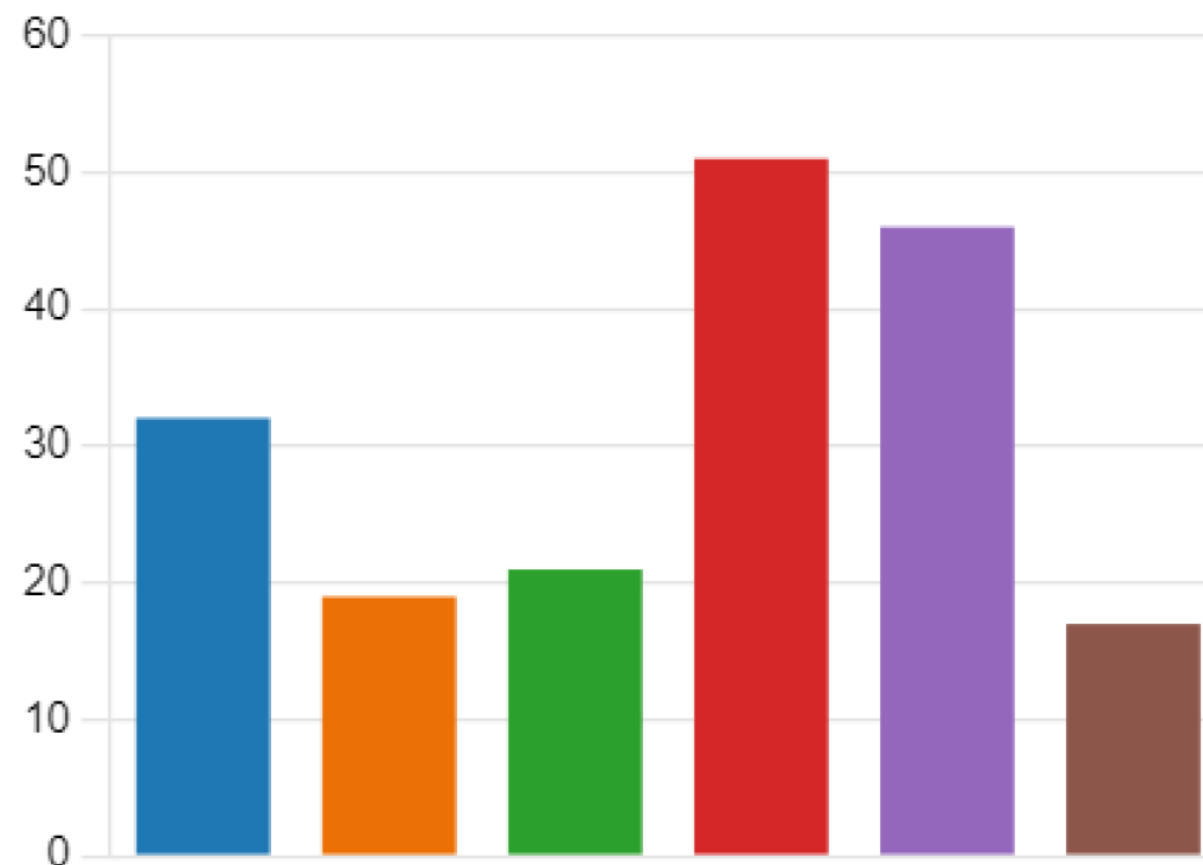
### Coordinating agency or organisation

World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

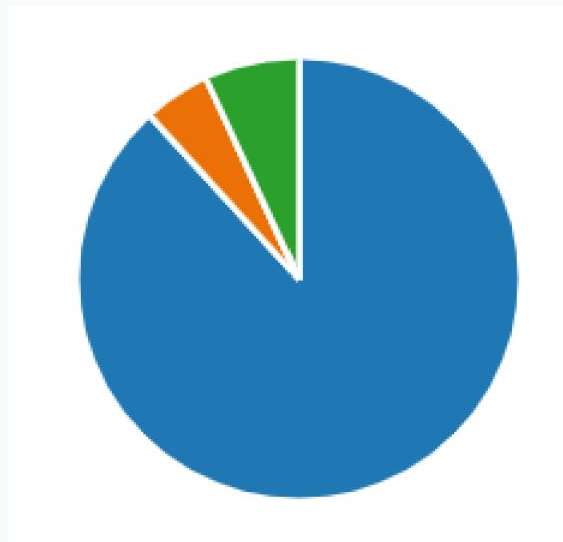
MH0004 / METEOROLOGICAL	ET0001 / EXTRATERRESTRIAL	GH0001 / GEOHAZARD	EN0005 / ENVIRONMENTAL	CH0002 / CHEMICAL	BI0010 / BIOLOGICAL	TL0007 / TECHNOLOGICAL	SO0006 / SOCIETAL / Behavioural
<b>Coastal Flooding</b>	<b>Airburst</b>	<b>Earthquake</b>	<b>Soil Degradation</b>	<b>Carbon Monoxide</b>	<b>Antimicrobials</b>	<b>Structural Failure</b>	<b>Violence</b>
<b>Definition</b> Coastal flooding is the raising of the sea level by the raising of the water level and retarding the flow of water out to sea.	<b>Definition</b> An airburst is the explosion of a meteoroid or comet in the atmosphere.	<b>Definition</b> An earthquake is the resulting ground motion caused by the slip, or by volcanic activity.	<b>Definition</b> Soil degradation is the loss of soil's beneficial properties.	<b>Definition</b> Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that is highly toxic to humans.	<b>Definition</b> Antimicrobials are substances that kill or inhibit the growth of microorganisms.	<b>Definition</b> Structural failure is the loss of stability of a structure.	<b>Definition</b> Violence refers to the intentional or unintentional use of force whether physical or psychological, threatened or actual, against an individual, oneself, or against a group of people, a community, or a government.
<b>Reference</b> WMO, 2011. Manual on Tropical Cyclone Preparedness (MOTCP) (WMO/10072).	<b>Reference</b> Lexico Dictionary 2019.	<b>Reference</b> USGS, no date. Earthquake Hazards Program (EHP) ( <a href="https://www.usgs.gov/learn/g">https://www.usgs.gov/learn/g</a> ).	<b>Reference</b> FAO, 2020. FAO Status of the World's Soil Resources (FAO) ( <a href="http://www.fao.org/soils-reports/">http://www.fao.org/soils-reports/</a> ).	<b>Reference</b> WHO, 1999. Environmental Health Criteria 185 ( <a href="http://www.who.int/publications/ehc/">http://www.who.int/publications/ehc/</a> ).	<b>Reference</b> FAO, 2011. Guide to Antimicrobial Resistance ( <a href="http://www.fao.org/fao-learn/topic/antimicrobial-resistance/">www.fao.org/fao-learn/topic/antimicrobial-resistance/</a> ).	<b>Reference</b> Rossetto, T., 2013. Springer ( <a href="https://link.springer.com/">link.springer.com</a> ).	<b>Reference</b> Krug, E.G., L.L. Dahlberg, J.A. Mercy, A.B. Zwi and R. Lozano (eds.), 2002. World Report on Violence and Health. World Health Organization ( <a href="https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/42495/9241545615_eng.pdf;jsessionid=902EBEECF2B1889D5AD4F12CF554B2E4?sequence=1">https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/42495/9241545615_eng.pdf;jsessionid=902EBEECF2B1889D5AD4F12CF554B2E4?sequence=1</a> ).
<b>Annotations</b> Major deltas such as the Ganges-Brahmaputra, the Amazon, and the Mississippi are highly sensitive to sea level rise.	<b>Annotations</b> None identified.	<b>Annotations</b> None identified.	<b>Annotations</b> None identified.	<b>Annotations</b> None identified.	<b>Annotations</b> None identified.	<b>Annotations</b> None identified.	<b>Annotations</b> None identified.
<b>Synonyms</b> Storm Surge, Coastal Flooding, Sea Level Rise, Inundation, Coastal Inundation.	<b>Synonyms</b> Air-blast, Fireballs, Boomburst.	<b>Synonyms</b> Earth tremor.	<b>Synonyms</b> None identified.	<b>Synonyms</b> None.	<b>Synonyms</b> None.	<b>Synonyms</b> Structural collapse, Structural failure.	<b>Synonyms</b> None identified.
<b>Additional scientific information</b> Major deltas such as the Ganges-Brahmaputra, the Amazon, and the Mississippi are highly sensitive to sea level rise. Coastal flooding is a major hazard in low-lying coastal areas.	<b>Additional scientific information</b> Research has revealed that airbursts can occur in the atmosphere and can be detected by meteor radar.	<b>Additional scientific information</b> Earthquake hazards are those phenomena that result from the rupture of geological faults and include ground shaking, tsunamis, landslides, and volcanic eruptions.	<b>Additional scientific information</b> Soil degradation consists of highly degraded soils that are affected by soil erosion, soil compaction, soil salinization, soil acidification, soil alkalization, soil nutrient depletion, soil organic matter loss, and soil structure degradation.	<b>Additional scientific information</b> Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that is highly toxic to humans. It is a product of the incomplete combustion of carbon-containing fuels.	<b>Additional scientific information</b> Antimicrobial resistance is the ability of a microorganism to resist the effects of an antimicrobial drug.	<b>Additional scientific information</b> Structural failure affects buildings, bridges, and infrastructure. It can be caused by various factors such as overloading, material defects, and poor design.	<b>Additional scientific information</b> Violence can be categorized into individual, interpersonal, and collective violence. It can be physical or psychological, and it can be intentional or unintentional.
<b>Key relevant UN codes</b> None identified.	<b>Key relevant UN codes</b> None identified.	<b>Key relevant UN codes</b> None identified.	<b>Key relevant UN codes</b> None identified.	<b>Key relevant UN codes</b> None identified.	<b>Key relevant UN codes</b> None identified.	<b>Key relevant UN codes</b> None identified.	<b>Key relevant UN codes</b> None identified.
<b>Examples of drivers</b> None identified.	<b>Examples of drivers</b> None identified.	<b>Examples of drivers</b> None identified.	<b>Examples of drivers</b> None identified.	<b>Examples of drivers</b> None identified.	<b>Examples of drivers</b> None identified.	<b>Examples of drivers</b> None identified.	<b>Examples of drivers</b> None identified.

# WHAT ARE THE HIPs USED FOR?

	Disaster risk reduction planning	32
	Disaster response planning	19
	Disaster risk monitoring	21
	Research	51
	Training/education	46
	Other	17



# USER FEEDBACK ON THE HIPs



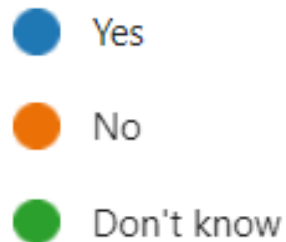
- Useful
- Not Useful
- Don't Know

The HIPs are useful because they are:

agreed  
detailed  
comprehensive  
single-point  
well-referenced  
standardised  
concise  
reliable  
well-structured

# USER FEEDBACK ON THE HIPs

The structure of the HIPs is clear because they are:



logical  
user friendly  
clear structure  
harmonised  
concise  
easy to navigate  
straightforward  
standardised

However, respondents also suggested refinements around:

- Interoperability with IT systems
- Simplification
- Suggestions that sections within each profile may need to be separated out.

# WHY ARE STATISTICS USEFUL FOR THE HIPs?

- **The Importance and Role of Statistics in Hazard Information Profiles (HIPs)**
- Data Standardization and Consistency
- Risk Assessment and Analysis
- Decision-Making Support
- Resource Allocation and Planning
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Communication and Public Engagement
- Interdisciplinary Collaboration

# WHY ARE THE HIPs USEFUL FOR STATISTICIANS?

- **The Importance of Hazard Information Profiles (HIPs) for Statisticians**
- HIPs help in assessing and quantifying risks associated with various events or conditions, which is essential for statistical modeling and analysis.
- HIPs are crucial in identifying potential hazards, and thus statisticians can better understand the underlying data and its variability.
- HIPs can guide the design of experiments and studies, ensuring the consideration of relevant factors and that data collection is robust.
- HIPs enhance the reliability of statistical conclusions.



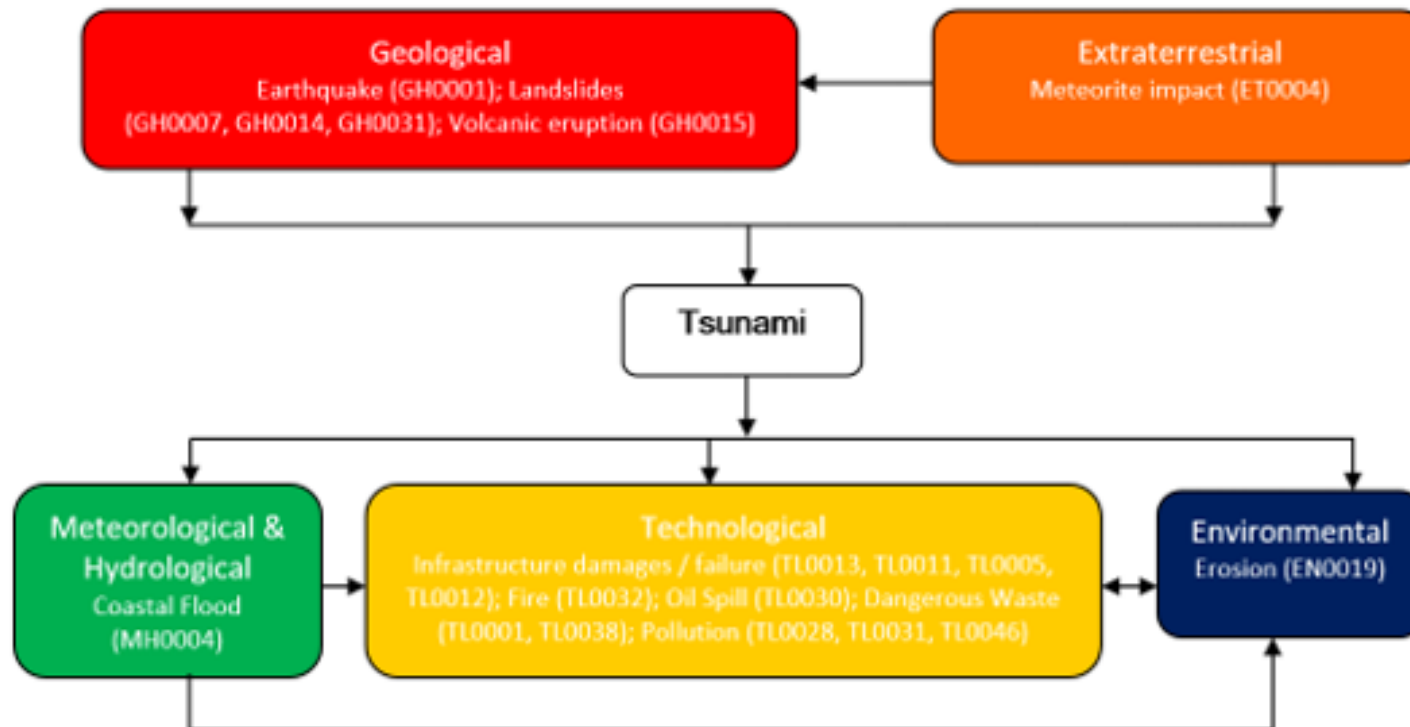
# THE 'LIGHT-TOUCH' REVIEW PROCESS

- The HIPs are being updated through a 'light touch' process.
- Some HIPs may be added, and others removed
- The format will be kept but
  - New scientific information will be added where relevant
  - Outcomes will be replaced by impacts in the 'examples of drivers, outcomes, and risk management' section
  - More information on the multi-hazard context will be added
  - References will be updated
  - All sections will be reviewed and revised if needed

# ADDITION OF A MULTI-HAZARD CONTEXT SECTION

## Multi-hazard Context


Some of the scientifically evidenced interactions between tsunamis and other hazards are summarized in the figure below. This is not an exhaustive list and should not be used alone for Disaster Risk Management planning. Specific examples of multi-hazard Context can be found in the 'Drivers' and 'Impacts' sections below.




# ADDITION OF AN EARLY WARNING SECTION

- The monitoring/early warning section is aligned with the [Early Warnings for All](#) initiative led by different UN Agencies
- It focuses only on Pillar 1 Disaster risk knowledge and management and Pillar 2 Detection, observation, monitoring, analysis, and forecasting of this initiative
- There may not be information on early warning available for all 300 hazards in the HIPs, but information on the monitoring of hazards may be available more broadly

 1. Which institution(s) produce Disaster Risk Data/Information?

 2.a. How is the Hazard Monitored/Observed/Forecast?

 2.b. What is the lead time of the EWS?

# THE 'LIGHT-TOUCH' REVIEW PROCESS

- A Steering Group is tasked to lead the process.
- Eight (8) Technical Teams made of experts are established, one for each type of hazards (Hydrological & Meteorological, Extraterrestrial, Environmental, Geological, Chemical, Biological, Technological, Societal).
- Experts from UN agencies, academia, NGOs, Sector, from different regions of the world are members of these technical teams.
- Once revised HIPs are prepared, a review by experts AND by users will be organized. The review process will be transparent, and all submitted comments will be answered.
- The final version will be launched at the Global Platform for DRR in June 2025.

# THE 'LIGHT-TOUCH' REVIEW PROCESS

## *Timeline*

<b>2023 Q4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finalize TORs for 8 Technical teams</li><li>• Define common review protocol</li><li>• Scoping of HIPs that need to be changed and added/removed</li></ul>
<b>2024 Q1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Edit the HIPs</li></ul>
<b>2024 Q2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review changes and refine HIPs</li></ul>
<b>2024 Q3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finalise HIPs</li></ul>
<b>2024 Q4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Copy edit and Design of HIP publication</li></ul>
<b>2025 Q1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Finalise HIPs and overall report</li></ul>
<b>2025 Q2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Launch updated Hazard Definition and Classification Review &amp; HIP Supplement</li></ul>

# THE 'LIGHT-TOUCH' REVIEW PROCESS

## *The role of the User Group*

- The HIPs need to be useful, usable and used by a broad range of users.
- User's feedback is essential to achieve this.
- A User Group has been established with members from different continents representing different stakeholders.
- The members of the User Group provide feedback on the format of the HIPs, on some of the content, making sure that the HIPS can be understood and used by a large number of users with different backgrounds.
- They make suggestions to the Steering Group which makes the final decision.
- In addition to the User Group, a call to review the HIPs will be disseminated through different networks

# THE 'LIGHT-TOUCH' REVIEW PROCESS

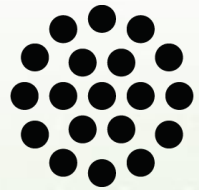
## *How to get involved?*

- The HIPs are available:
- here: <https://council.science/publications/hazard-information-profiles/>
- Or here: <https://www.preventionweb.net/drr-glossary/hips#>
- If you are an expert on one of the hazards in the 302 HIPs, you can become an expert reviewer
- If you are not an expert but you use or plan to use the HIPs in your work, you can become a user reviewer
- Let us know you are interested, and we will include you in the call

# NEXT STEPS

- The draft updated HIPs will be available soon
- A review process will then start with call for reviewers shared in the next couple of weeks
- We would like to request you to answer the call and participate in the review of the updated HIPs
- You may become an expert reviewer for the hazards in your area of expertise
- You may also become a user reviewer for the hazards you are not an expert of but are of concern for you and colleagues





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**f** InternationalScience



# Thank you!

For more information, or if you have  
questions

Contact us:

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[virginia.murray@ukhsa.gov.uk](mailto:virginia.murray@ukhsa.gov.uk)