

NATURAL DISASTER, DISASTER RELIEF

Natural disaster, any calamitous occurrence generated by the effects of natural, rather than human-driven phenomena, that produces great loss of human life or destruction of the natural environment, private property, or public infrastructure. A natural disaster may be caused by weather and climate events or by earthquakes, landslides, and other occurrences that originate at Earth's surface or within the planet itself. No spots on Earth is immune from a natural disaster; however, certain types of disasters are often limited to or occur more frequently in specific geographic regions.

Tropical cyclone in the North Atlantic Ocean and the eastern North Pacific. Tropical cyclones are called hurricanes, and, in the western North Pacific, these storms are referred to as typhoons.

Weather -and climate- driven natural disasters include flooding caused by heavy rains associated with hurricanes and typhoons (tropical cyclones) and other intense storms; drought, famine, and wildfires brought on by heat waves and shifts in precipitation patterns; wind-generated devastation caused by tropical cyclones, tornadoes, derechos, and other windstorms; and damage and loss of life caused by blizzards and heavy snowfalls.

Earth-driven natural disasters include large volcanic eruptions (which produce lava flows, explosions, toxic gas clouds, ash falls, and pyroclastic flows that damage populated areas) and strong earthquakes (which result from the sudden fracturing of Earth's crust) powerful enough to damage or destroy built-up areas near their origin points.

Reference:

Metych, M. (2025). Natural disaster. Britannica. Retrieved from: <https://www.britannica.com/science/natural-disaster-?text=Weather-and-climate-driven-natural-devastation-caused-by-tropical-cyclones>.