

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

for the 21st century

With the global population exceeding 7 billion, natural disasters and emergency events are inevitable.

Not only are there more people on the planet, but they are also building in regions prone to floods, earthquakes, hurricanes and fires, increasing the likelihood of a natural hazard turning into a major catastrophe. These events threaten lives, damage critical infrastructure, destroy property and interrupt essential public services.

## WORLDWIDE DISASTERS BY THE NUMBERS

### THE FINANCIAL COST

Global economic losses range up to **\$300 billion annually**<sup>1</sup>

**\$300B**

**\$314B**

Governments need to save **\$314 billion per year** to cover future losses from disasters<sup>1</sup>

**\$360B**

Annual global investment of **\$6 billion** in disaster risk management strategies would generate upwards of **\$360 billion** in risk reduction<sup>2</sup>

### THE HUMAN COST

In 2014, **102 million people** worldwide were affected by natural disasters<sup>3</sup>

**102M**

Flooding accounted for **43%** of disasters in the past 20 years, impacting nearly **2.5 billion people**<sup>3</sup>

**2.5B**

**80%**

**More than 80%** of people killed by natural disasters are from low and middle-income countries<sup>2</sup>

### THE ENVIRONMENTAL COST

In 2014, **87%** of worldwide natural disasters were **climate-related**<sup>3</sup>

**87%**

**TOP 5**

Over the past two decades, **climate-related events** outnumbered **geophysical disasters** in the top 5 disaster-affected countries<sup>3</sup>



**40%**

By 2050, **40% of the global population** will be living in river basins that experience severe water stress<sup>2</sup>

## 21ST CENTURY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

What can emergency management do to reduce the risk and impact of these events?

### FOUR PHASES OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

**1. Prepare for an impending event**

**2. Respond quickly to citizens' needs**

**4. Mitigate the next disaster**

**3. Begin recovery efforts**

IBM has developed a comprehensive vision for smarter cities in the 21st century so they can shift from reacting to emergencies to applying a predictive, proactive approach. Using advanced analytics, you can increase situational awareness, accelerate collaborative responses and streamline recovery.

## LEARN MORE

Enhancing public safety is one of the most important strategic objectives of municipal governments.

Learn more about the IBM vision for a safer planet and the future of emergency management.

[Download the 21st Century Emergency Management white paper](#)