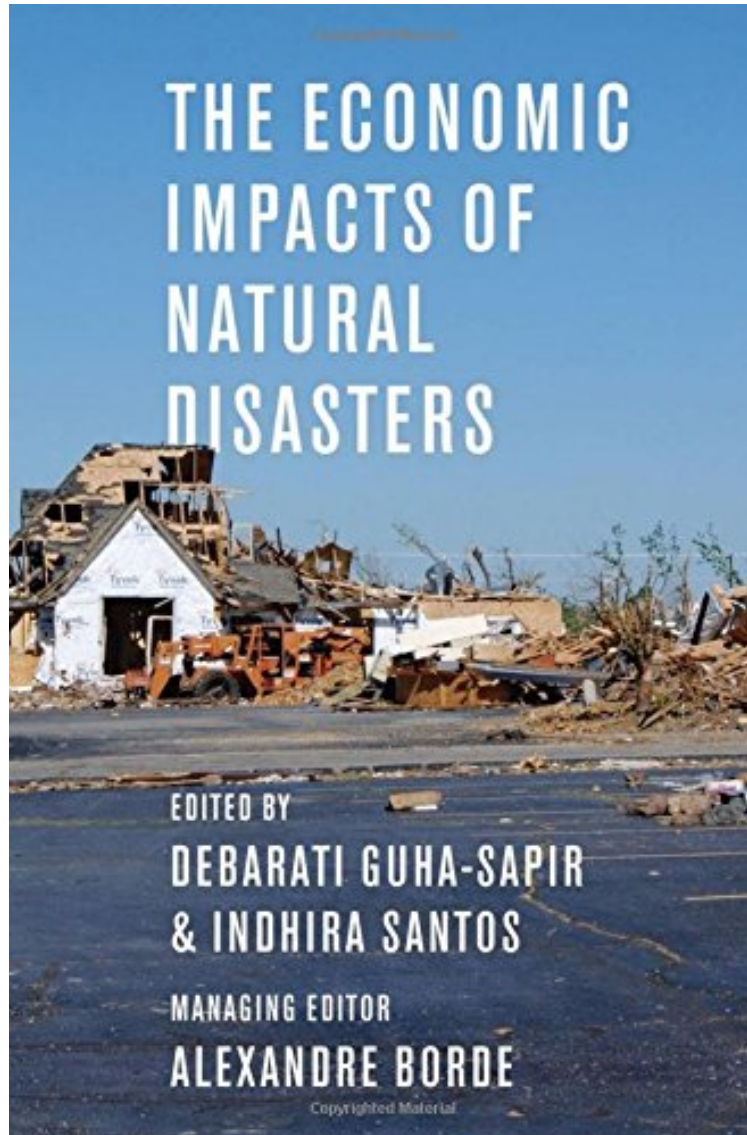


(Free) The Economic Impacts of Natural Disasters

The Economic Impacts of Natural Disasters

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Since the turn of the millennium, more than one million people have been killed and 2.3 billion others have been directly affected by natural disasters around the world. In cases like the 2010 Haiti earthquake or the 2004 Indian

Ocean tsunamis, these disasters have time and time again wrecked large populations and national infrastructures. While recognizing that improved rescue, evacuation, and disease control are crucial to reducing the effects of natural disasters, in the final analysis, poverty remains the main risk factor determining the long-term impact of natural hazards. Furthermore, natural disasters have themselves a tremendous impact on the poorest of the poor, who are often ill-prepared to deal with natural hazards and for whom a hurricane, an earthquake, or a drought can mean a permanent submersion in poverty. The *Economic Impacts of Natural Disasters* focuses on these concerns for poverty and vulnerability. Written by a collection of esteemed scholars in disaster management and sustainable development, the report provides an overview of the general trends in natural disasters and their effects by focusing on a critical analysis of different methodologies used to assess the economic impact of natural disasters. *Economic Impacts* presents six national case studies (Bangladesh, Vietnam, India, Nicaragua, Japan and the Netherlands) and shows how household surveys and country-level macroeconomic data can analyze and quantify the economic impact of disasters. The researchers within *Economic Impacts* have created path-breaking work and have opened new avenues for thinking and debate to push forward the frontiers of knowledge on economics of natural disasters.

"Major points the editors of this excellent volume make are how little people understand about how to evaluate natural disasters and how much more research needs to be done. One theme laced throughout this fine collection of scholarly articles concerns the devastating impact that natural disasters have on the poorest members of a society. Having assembled 'varied expertise' from many different countries, the editors' intent is to 'improve our management of natural disasters.' Highly recommended." CHOICE "This highly valuable publication for researchers, academics, experts, and policy professionals addresses the short and long term economic effects of natural disasters. The book clearly demonstrates various approaches towards measuring such impacts at both macroeconomic and microeconomic levels and discusses ways of reducing risks and increasing resilience." --Peter Hppe, Head of Geo Risks Research/Corporate Climate Centre, Munich RE "Understanding the risks and impacts of natural disasters is critical for the insurance industry, as well as production and global trade, as recent events in Japan and Thailand have shown. This book provides our sector and other industries with valuable insights and analyses from different socioeconomic and business perspectives. Definitely a recommended read." --Michael Kainzbauer, CEO and Managing Director, Toyota Insurance Management Europe "This book, designed and written as a reference text on both the theory and practice of the economics of natural disasters, provides an up-to-date account of many of the most relevant issues on the topic for both developed and developing countries. It comes at the right time to fill a gap in the literature on disasters. For policy-makers, students, and the public interested in natural disasters, including those that might be related to climate change, it is a must-read." --Jean-Pascal van Ypersele, Vice-chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Professor, Universit Catholique de Louvain, Belgium About the Author Debarati Guha-Sapir is Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) and Professor at University of Louvain School of Public Health, Brussels. Indhira Santos is a member of The World Bank. Alexandre Borde is the Managing Director of Carbonium, a climate change and carbon finance consulting company based in Paris, France.