



Acronym: CRED-EMDAT

Full Name: Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters. Emergency Events Database

Website: <http://www.cred.be/> <http://www.emdat.be/> <http://www.cred.be/cred1/index.htm>

Established: 1973

Location: Brussels

Areas of expertise: Research, training, and information dissemination on disasters

Main Partners and Collaborations: United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-DHA), European Union Humanitarian Office (ECHO), the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA-USAID) International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Croissant (ICRCRC, Switzerland). Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, Asian Disaster Reduction Center, ASEAN - Disaster Management.

Short Description:

CRED promotes research, training, and information dissemination on disasters, with a special focus on public health, epidemiology, structural and socio-economic aspects. It aims to enhance the effectiveness of developing countries' disaster management capabilities as well as fostering policy-oriented research. CRED has a long history of standardized data compilation, validation and analysis. It provides free and open access to its data through its website. One of CRED's core data products is the EM-DAT Disaster Database. Since 1988 the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) has been maintaining an Emergency Events Database EM-DAT. The main objective of the database is to serve the purposes of humanitarian action at national and international levels. EM-DAT contains essential core data on the occurrence and effects of over 16,000 mass disasters in the world from 1900 to present. The database is compiled from various sources, including UN agencies, non-governmental organisations, insurance companies, research institutes and press agencies. EM-DAT provides an objective basis for vulnerability assessment and rational decision-making in disaster situations.

Main activities:

As part of the evaluation of the OFDA/CRED initiative related to EM-DAT - Emergency Event Database - Technical Advisory Meetings have been implemented and are held once a year. The objective of the TAG meetings is to discuss and share with the TAG members different aspects related to the EM-DAT initiative and development. Those meetings produce a series of extremely useful recommendations for the continuous improvement of EM-DAT database and its related proposed services.

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