



read

# Natural Hazards

## Types of Hazard

quiz



### The Big Picture



### Key Terms



**Atmospheric hazard** – Hazards to humans created in the atmosphere.



**Biological hazard** – Hazards posed by living things e.g. forest fires.



**Geomorphological hazard** – Hazards that originate on or near the Earth's surface.



**Hazard risk** – The probability or chance that a natural hazard may take place.



**Natural hazard** – A natural event that has the potential to cause damage, destruction or death.



**Tectonic hazard** – Hazards created through the movement of the Earth's tectonic plates.



### Factors Affecting Risk

Natural events, such as volcanic eruptions or earthquakes that occur away from humans and properties are not natural hazards. When they happen close to human populations and property they are considered natural hazards. Different factors affect natural hazard risk.

#### Development

Hazard risk is affected by standard of living and quality of life. Areas with low developed are less likely to be well prepared.

#### Climate change

The magnitude and frequency of some climatic hazards, including droughts and tropical storms, will be affected by climate change.

#### Urbanisation

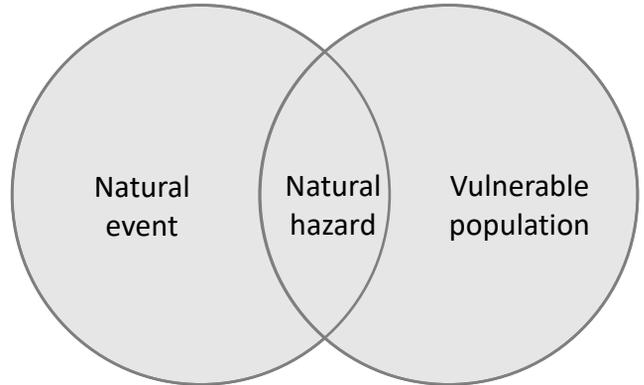
Urban areas face the most significant risk due to high population densities. Urbanisation is rapid in LICs and NEEs.

#### Land use

Changes in land use, e.g. deforestation and urbanisation, can increase hazard risk for climatic and geomorphological hazards.



### What is a Natural Hazard?



A natural hazard is a natural event (for example flood, volcanic eruption, earthquake, tropical storm) that threatens people or has the potential to cause damage, destruction and death.



### Types of Natural Hazard

