

# MAJOR NATURAL HAZARDS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



The Asia-Pacific region is one of the most disaster-prone areas in the world, with frequently occurring natural disasters including earthquakes, tsunamis, tropical storms, flooding, landslides and volcanic eruptions affecting millions of people every year.

Although countries in the region have developed varying capacities to reduce risk and respond to disasters, many communities are still vulnerable. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) provides support to governments, the United Nations system and other partners in Asia-Pacific through a network of offices which collectively cover 36 UN member countries and an additional 16 countries and territories totaling over 3 billion people.

Mandated by UN General Assembly Resolution 46/182, OCHA aims to facilitate national disaster preparedness, advocate for policy change in favor of vulnerable communities, strengthen UN/IASC agency coordination and capacity, and promote regional cooperation for enhanced emergency response.

Since 2005, the OCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) has provided support and assistance in response to major emergencies including the Pakistan earthquake, Indonesia (Yogyakarta & Padang earthquakes), Timor-Leste political unrest, Philippines typhoons (Ketsana & Haiyan) and the Solomon Islands tsunami.

OCHA ROAP is also working with key partners to support the implementation of the Cluster approach; roll out the Emergency Response Preparedness (ERP); facilitate use of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF); support Humanitarian Coordinators and build partnerships (including the Regional IASC Humanitarian Network).

OCHA ROAP offers a wide range of technical expertise including disaster response coordination, humanitarian reporting, funding mobilization, civil-military coordination, communication with communities, information management, public information and advocacy coordination. For more information on OCHA ROAP or to see more reports and maps, the office maintains a regionally-focused website (<http://www.unocha.org/roap/>).

## OCHA Offices



The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Dotted Line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

Projection: Behrmann  
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Reinsurance / NATHAN, UNEP/GRID, UNISYS, Pacific Disaster Center, Smithsonian Institute

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - Regional Office for Asia Pacific (OCHA - ROAP)  
Executive Suite, 2nd Floor, UNCC Building, Rajamangala Nok Ave, Bangkok 10200, Thailand  
<http://ochaonline.un.org/roap> | Email: [ocha\\_roap@un.org](mailto:ocha_roap@un.org)

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - Regional Office for the Pacific (OCHA - ROP)  
Level 5, Kadavu House, 414 Victoria Parade, c/o UNDP Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji Islands  
<http://www.unocha.org/rop> | Email: [ochapacific@un.org](mailto:ochapacific@un.org)

