Year 9 HT1- Natural Disasters

Keyword	Definition
Impact	Something that will have a strong effect
Short term impact	a response in the days and weeks immediately after a disaster has happened
Long term impact	responses that go on for months and years after a disaster.
Social impact	the impact on people
Economic Impact	The impact on the wealth of an area
Environmental impact	the impact on the landscape
Vulnerability	a measure of the extent to which a community, structure, service or geographical area is likely to be damaged or disrupted, on account of its nature or location, by the impact of a particular disaster hazard
Social vulnerability	is the likelihood that people and the way they live will be harmed by a natural hazard e.g. not having the money to spend on a good quality house
Economic Vulnerability	is the effect money and development has on the vulnerability of a country to natural hazards i.e. the country not having funds to educate their population on the hazards and how to protect themselves.
Environmental	is the influence the natural landscape on the vulnerability to natural hazards i.e. being on a plate boundary.
Prediction	The countries ability to know when a natural hazard will happen
Protection	The countries ability to make sure buildings and people are safe from the natural disaster
Preparation	Making sure everybody is ready for the natural disaster i.e. earthquake drills.
Response	are how countries react to an natural disaster
Short term response	a response in the days and weeks immediately after a disaster has happened and involve search and rescue and helping the injured.
Long term response	responses that go on for months and years after a disaster. It involves rebuilding destroyed houses, schools, hospitals
International Organisation	is an organisation established by a treaty or other instrument governed by international law and possessing its own international legal personality, such as the United Nations, the World Health Organization and NATO.

Earthquake Case studies

Nepal 2015

When: 25.4.2015 @ 11.56am
Magnitude: 7.8
Deaths: 8632
Injured: 19009
Homeless: 3.5 Million
Damage: $10 bn
GDP per capita: $1034

Impacts on Infrastructure

•Centuries-old buildings were destroyed at UNESCO World Heritage sites in the Kathmandu Valley, including some at the Changu Narayan Temple and the Dharahara Tower.
•Thousands of houses were destroyed across many districts of the country

Social and economic Impacts

•8,632 dead and 19,009 injured.
•It was the worst earthquake in Nepal in more than 80 years.
•Temperatures dip in Nepal at night, and people chose to sleep outside due to aftershocks or the possibility of houses collapsing.
•Hundreds of thousands of people were made homeless with entire villages flattened.
•1.7 million children had been driven out into the open.
•Harvests were reduced or lost that season.
•The United States Geological Survey (USGS) initially estimated economic losses at nine per cent to 50 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), with a best guess of 35 per cent.
•Short term loss of tourist revenue, a major industry in Nepal.
•The earthquake triggered an avalanche on Mount Everest, killing approximately 20 people. Estimates put the number of trekkers and climbers at Base Camp at the time of the quake at up to 1000.
•The steep valleys of the area suffered many landslides, the village of Ghodatabela was covered, killing 250 people.

Short Term Responses

- International aid was provided by India and China who in total committed over $1 billion to help.
- The UK offered help and support. Over 100 search and rescue responders, medical experts, and disaster and rescue experts were sent for use by the Nepali government.
- Aid workers from charities such as the Red Cross came to help.
- Temporary housing was provided, including 'Tent city' in Kathmandu.

Long Term Responses

- A new government taskforce was created to help deal with future earthquakes.
- People are now being educated across Nepal to do earthquake drills.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) provided a $3 million grant to Nepal for immediate relief efforts, and up to $200 million for the first phase of rehabilitation.
- Aid was donated by a huge number of countries. The UK gave £73 million, of which £23 million was donated by the government and £50 million was donated by the public. The UK also provided 30 tonnes of humanitarian aid and eight tonnes of equipment.

Earthquake Case studies

New Zealand, 2011

When: 22.2.2011 @ 12.51pm
Magnitude: 6.2
Deaths: 181
Injured: 1500-2000
Homeless:
Damage: $20 bn
GDP per capita: $43000

Impacts on infrastructure

- Schools were closed for two weeks due to the damage.
- Over 50 per cent of the city's buildings were damaged.
- The city's cathedral spire collapsed.
- Train and bus services were severely disrupted.
- Water and sewage pipes were damaged.

Social and economic Impacts

- 181 people were killed.
- 2,000 people injured.
- Damaged sewage pipes contaminated water supplies which increased risk of disease.
- Businesses were closed for a long time.
- Christchurch could not host five Rugby World Cup matches.

Short Term Responses

- International aid was provided (around $6 to $7 million).
- Aid workers from charities such as the Red Cross came to help.
- 300 Australian police officers were flown in.
- Temporary housing was provided.
- Pop-up hospitals were set up which would be a short term but effective response.

Long Term Responses

- A new government taskforce was created to help deal with future earthquakes.
- Areas were zoned to assess damage.
- People are now being educated across New Zealand to do earthquake drills.
- The government of New Zealand is trying hard to raise money so that people can build homes and structures which could withstand earthquakes.
- Earthquake proof homes to be built