Sustainable Development and Natural Disasters

The number of people killed by natural disasters are categorized by income level in affected countries as shown in the Fig. 1-8. The figures show that 95% of people killed by natural disasters in the world concentrate in Low or Lower Middle Income countries.

Cf.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Classification (based on per capita GNI, 2000)</th>
<th>High Income</th>
<th>$9,266 and above</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upper Middle Income</td>
<td>$2,996 ~ $9,265</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Middle Income</td>
<td>$756 ~ $2,995</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Income</td>
<td>Less than $755</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: World Bank
The number of affected people by natural disasters, as in the Figures of 1-11〜1-13, is also likely to follow the similar trend as above.
Number of Totally Affected People (Income Class/Disaster Type) (1975-2000) World Summary

- Low Income: 2,237,777,288 (55.58%)
- Lower Middle Income: 1,655,512,440 (41.12%)
- Upper Middle Income: 82,328,879 (2.04%)
- High Income: 50,581,617 (1.26%)

Number of Totally Affected People (Income Class/Disaster Type) (1975-2000) Asia Summary

- Low Income: 1,940,937,267 (54.61%)
- Lower Middle Income: 1,600,939,598 (45.04%)
- Upper Middle Income: 6,222,210 (0.13%)
- High Income: 7,982,623 (0.22%)
Though the real economic damage caused by natural disasters is higher in developed countries which have accumulated social capital, the developing and lower income countries have more substantial impact when compared with GNI, divided with the amount of damages, as indicated by Fig.1-14＝1-16.

It is clear that poverty and damage by natural disasters are interconnected to each other.
Fig. 1-15: Ratio of Amount of Damage to GNI (Income Class) (1975-2000) (Asia Summary)

Fig. 1-16: Ratio of Amount of Damage to GNI (Income Class) (1975-2000) (Member Country Summary)