**Explanation of Variables**

In this section, we provide definitions and context for the variables and numbers given in our data set.

**Disaster entry criteria:**

The primary criteria for a disaster to be included in the data set is one of more of the following:

* at least 10 deaths
* at least 100 people affected (including injured or homeless)
* the declaration of a state of emergency or an appeal for international assistance.

In the event that exact numbers were missing, secondary criteria were also considered, e.g. if a disaster was recognized as the worst in that category for the given country.

**Economic Damage**

The figures for total economic damage are derived from the following:

* the total estimated damages (i.e. economic losses from damaged property, infrastructure, environmental, etc.)
* reconstruction costs (the cost of *replacing* lost assets, which differs from the previous in that it involves the present cost of goods, and any costs associated with prevention or mitigation measures regarding future disasters)
* insured losses (economic damages covered by insurance companies).

*All amounts are given in thousands of U.S. dollars, as valued in 2019.*

**Data Sources**

\*\*Of course we got our subset from Kaggle, so I’m not sure how to phrase this exactly, but it seems relevant\*\* Our data is a subset of a more comprehensive disaster dataset maintained by EM-DAT, the International Disaster Database.

It is drawn primarily from UN agencies, national governments and the International Red Cross / Crescent. The data is updated on a daily basis but updates are made available publicly every three months.