

Policymakers, practitioners, and researchers frequently cite an increase in shocks around the world as a reason for focusing on resilience. But have shocks actually increased or become more severe and far-reaching? What does the landscape of shocks look like?

Shocks are external, short-term disruptions from long-term trends—deviations that have substantial negative effects (which may be short-lived or long-lasting on people's state of well-being, most of assets, livelihoods, safety, and ability to withstand future shocks). Many shocks are unexpected, but in some cases, such as drought or conflict, the shock may be expected year after year, although the individual, community, or system lacks the resilience to prepare for or mitigate it. In other cases, such as climate change, the general shock could be expected but the effect on a particular individual, community, or area could be unexpected.

This brief examines five types of shocks—conflicts, natural disasters, climate change, food price volatility, and health crises—as they relate to food safety and agriculture. It assesses their frequency, severity, or both during the past few decades as part of a selective, nonsystematic review.

CONFLICTS

While the number of conflicts worldwide has, in general, decreased or remained stable since World War II, and the number of battle-related deaths has decreased, different forms of conflict may pose concerns for future trends. Moreover, the costs of conflict—on human capital, economic growth, poverty reduction, and more—continue to add a heavy toll on countries around the world.

Overall, the years 2000 to 2019 experienced the least conflict as a decade since the 1970s, though many conflicts that persist are expected to continue. Conflicts that were avoided after 2000 were measured from previous civil wars, and 50 percent of conflicts since 2000 have been in countries that have already experienced a civil war. The nature of conflict has changed over the decades; the number of armed conflicts leading to particularly high numbers of fatalities has decreased by nearly 50 percent from the 1980s to the first decade of the century, and battle-related deaths have decreased by 70 percent since 1989. However, conflicts in which external governments provide military support to one of two interstate warring parties are on average twice as deadly as similar conflicts without external intervention and account for a growing number of the world's active conflicts, increasing from 12 percent during 1950–1989 to 30 percent

during 2000–2019. While conflicts are not increasing, the ability to absorb or minimize externalized conflicts may be a concerning trend for the future.

NATURAL DISASTERS

Drought

There is not much agreement on historical drought trends. Some point measurements based on climate and hydrological model-based studies suggest that the number of droughts has been increasing during the past few decades, although the former lack sufficient geographic coverage to offer strong conclusions. A few observation- and satellite-based studies have found shifts in trends during the past 20–30 years in each region as the southern United States and central South America, but disagree on all other regions. Soil other research has found little change in the total area affected by drought during the past 60 years. The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report indicates that the frequency and intensity of droughts are likely to have increased in the Mediterranean and North Africa and to have decreased in central North America and northeast Australia since 1950. The report notes a high confidence that drying in the Mediterranean, southwestern United States, and southern Africa is likely in global temperature increases under climate change. While global data on the direct impacts of drought on food security, such as the effect of water scarcity on crop yields, are scarce, examples of the secondary effects of drought, such as food price spikes triggered by restrictive trade policies and panic purchases following a drought, suggest a serious impact on food security.

Floods

Studies have looked back at the past few decades show an increase in global precipitation and runoff, which greatly contribute to flooding. One study found an increase in rainfall extreme events globally during the past 30 years as well as an estimated 4 percent increase in extreme rainfall intensity for every 1°C increase in global atmospheric temperatures. The strongest increases were found in tropical countries, which tend to be some of the poorest in the world. Drought most weather stations use an increase. These authors report more frequent flooding around the world. Other studies report these general conclusions, finding that annual extreme precipitation events have been increasing in frequency, and that northern high latitudes face an increased risk of big

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Summary : Free are shocks actually on the rise pdf download - policymakers practitioners and researchers frequently cite an increase in shocks around the world as a reason for focusing on resilience but have shocks actually increased or become more severe and far-reaching what does the landscape of shocks look like shocks are external short-term deviations from long-term trends deviations that have substantial negative effects which may be short-lived or long lasting on people s state of well-being level of assets livelihoods safety and ability to withstand future shocks many shocks are unexpected but in some cases such as drought or conflict the shock may be expected year after year although the individual community or system lacks the resilience to prepare for or mitigate it in other cases such as climate change the general shock could be expected but the effect on a particular individual community or area could be unexpected this brief examines five types of shocks conflicts natural disasters climate change food price volatility and health crises as they relate to food safety and agriculture it assesses their frequency severity or both during the past few decades as part of a selective nonsystematic review

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