

This year's World Disasters Report takes an in-depth look at the consequences for humanitarian action of the dramatic surge in the numbers of people living in cities and towns which will be the hallmark of the 21st century. It examines the issues around this irreversible trend as the world comes to terms with the fact that more people now live in cities and towns than in the countryside for the first time in human history. Has development aid kept pace with this dramatic shift? Why are almost a billion people worldwide still living in slums? How can vulnerable cities protect themselves from climate change? What are the emerging health issues of rapid urbanization? Can anything be done to turn back the tide of violence sweeping many inner cities and ghettos? The World Disasters Report 2010 features: * Avoiding the urbanization of disasters * Urban disaster trends * Starting over: Community rights and post-disaster response * Urban violence * Urban risk to health * Urbanization and climate change risk * Urban governance and disaster risk reduction Plus: photos, tables, graphics and index Published annually since 1993, the World Disasters Report brings together the latest trends, facts and analysis of contemporary crises – whether natural or man-made, quick onset or chronic. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies promotes the humanitarian activities of National Societies among vulnerable people. By coordinating international disaster relief and encouraging development support it seeks to prevent and alleviate human suffering. The International Federation, the National Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross together constitute the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

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