



# Preparedness and Disaster Response: ECHO's Tools, Funding Instruments and Policies

World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe / Japan, 18-22 Jan 2005  
Thematic Session 5.2: Humanitarian Preparedness

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# ECHO: mandate and *modus operandi*

- ECHO is a Directorate-General of the European Commission. It provides emergency assistance to victims of natural and man-made disasters (conflict) outside the EU and finances disaster preparedness programs through its DIPECHO budget line
- ECHO adheres to humanitarian principles of neutrality, impartiality and non-discrimination
- Annual budget +/- 550 mio € + reserve
- ECHO works through partners (NGOs, UN and Red Cross) in more than 50 countries
- 80% of ECHO funding currently goes into man-made disasters (conflicts), 20% into natural disasters

# How ECHO addresses preparedness and response: basic principles



- Appropriate forward planning instruments and methodologies
- Alert mechanisms
- Rapid decision-making process (e.g. primary emergency procedure: 3 mio € within 72 hrs)
- Effective implementation of assistance through high quality partners
- Close cooperation with other key humanitarian players
- Enhance preparedness and smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development

# ECHO's disaster management tools and means: overview

- Forward Planning: GNA methodology (annual strategy)
- “Classical” alert mechanisms:
  - regular reporting from EC Delegations and ECHO's 60 field experts
- ECHO “crisis room”: 24h/24h duty system, sophisticated communication technology
- Internet-based crisis monitoring and detection
  - ICONS (ECHO intranet only)
  - GDAS
  - HEWS

# ECHO annual strategy:

- Field level assessment:
  - Fully inclusive consultation with stakeholders
    - Local, sub-national, national and regional level
    - DIPECHO partners, other practitioners, government institutions, mass organizations, civil society, UN agencies, donor institutions
    - Civil defense institutions, scientific/academic institutions
  - ECHO expert network
    - Sectorial expertise
    - Regional support office
- Complemented by: Global needs assessment:
  - Comparative approach (« country ranking ») across 130 countries
  - Use of global indicators
- Both approaches are combined when ECHO designs its annual strategy

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	II	Global Index for humanitarian Needs Assessment		VI VII	VIII IX	X XI	XIV XV	XVII XVIII	XIX XX	XXII XXIII	XXIV XXV	XXVI XXVII	XXVI XXVII	
2		 Humanitarian Aid Office 	GINA 2004	UNDP HDR 2003 HDI	UNDP HDR 2003 HPI	CRED Natural Disasters	HIK Conflicts 1990 2003	Refugees / GDP per capita	IDP / Total Population	Children under WEIGHT for age (as % of Total population)	UNICEF Children Mortality Rate under 5	OECD ODA / Capita	OECD ODA / Capita	
3		Country ranking included ODA		2003	1995-2001	1995-2001	2003	1990-2003						
4		Country	Average	HDI Score	HPI Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score uw	Score	Score	Score	
5	1	Congo, Democratic Republic of the	2,80000	3	3	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	
6	2	Burundi	2,70000	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	
7	3	Ethiopia	2,60000	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	
8	4	Sudan	2,60000	2	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	
9	5	Afghanistan	2,57143	x	x	3	3	1	2	x	3	3	3	
10	6	Bangladesh	2,50000	2	3	3	3	2	1	3	2	3	3	
11	7	India	2,50000	2	2	3	3	3	1	3	2	3	3	
12	8	Iraq	2,50000	x	2	0	3	3	3	x	3	3	3	
13	9	Nigeria	2,50000	3	2	2	3	2	1	3	3	3	3	
14	10	Liberia	2,42857	x	x	1	3	3	3	x	3	2	2	
15	11	Somalia	2,42857	x	x	3	3	2	2	x	3	2	2	
16	12	Pakistan	2,40000	3	2	2	2	3	1	3	2	3	3	
17	13	Angola	2,37500	3	x	2	2	2	3	x	3	2	2	
18	14	Korea Dem.People's Rep.	2,33333	x	x	3	1	x	2	x	2	3	3	
19	15	Central African Republic	2,30000	3	3	0	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	
20	16	Chad	2,30000	3	3	3	2	2	0	3	3	2	2	
21	17	Indonesia	2,30000	2	2	1	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	
22	18	Kenya	2,30000	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	
23	19	Nepal	2,30000	3	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	
24	20	Niger	2,30000	3	3	3	2	2	0	3	3	2	2	
25	21	Philippines	2,30000	2	2	3	3	1	1	3	2	3	3	
26	22	Algeria**	2,30000	2	2	3	3	2	2	1	2	3	3	
27	23	Myanmar, Union of	2,22222	2	2	0	3	x	2	3	2	3	3	
28	24	Russian Federation (Chechnya)*	2,22222	2	x	2	3	2	3	1	1	3	3	
29	25	Eritrea	2,20000	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	

# The ECHO « crisis room »

- 24h/24h rota ensuring duty staff permanently on call
- Sophisticated communication facilities
- Linked with other Commission Services (e.g. MoU with DG ENV Civil Protection Unit) and ECHO expert network
- Used mainly in case of major crises

# Crisis information system (ICONS)

- Monitoring man-made crises
  - Daily updates of imminent crises and “hot spots”
  - Monitoring long term trends
  - 120 country files
  - 2000 links to public domain sources
  - Maps and statistics
- Daily updates on natural disasters



Updated: 10/04/2003

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**Man-made disasters**

**Natural disasters**

**Political crises**




[Methodology](#)

**Current hot spots**

Country	Updated	Status	Trend
<a href="#">Iraq</a>	10/04/03	war	-
<a href="#">Israel</a>	10/04/03	war	=
<a href="#">Ivory Coast</a>	10/04/03	violent crisis	+
<a href="#">Korea (North)</a>	10/04/03	crisis	=
<a href="#">Yugoslavia</a>	10/04/03	crisis	=

[OTHER COUNTRY PROFILES](#)

**Earthquakes**




[Methodology](#)

**Current hot spots**

No earthquakes of significance

**Floods**




[Methodology](#)

**Current hot spots**

No floods of significance

**Droughts  
Food shortages**




[Methodology](#)

**Current hot spots**

Eritrea

**Tropical storms**




[Methodology](#)

**Hot spots**

No storms of significance

**Volcanoes**




[Methodology](#)

**Hot spots**

No eruptions of significance

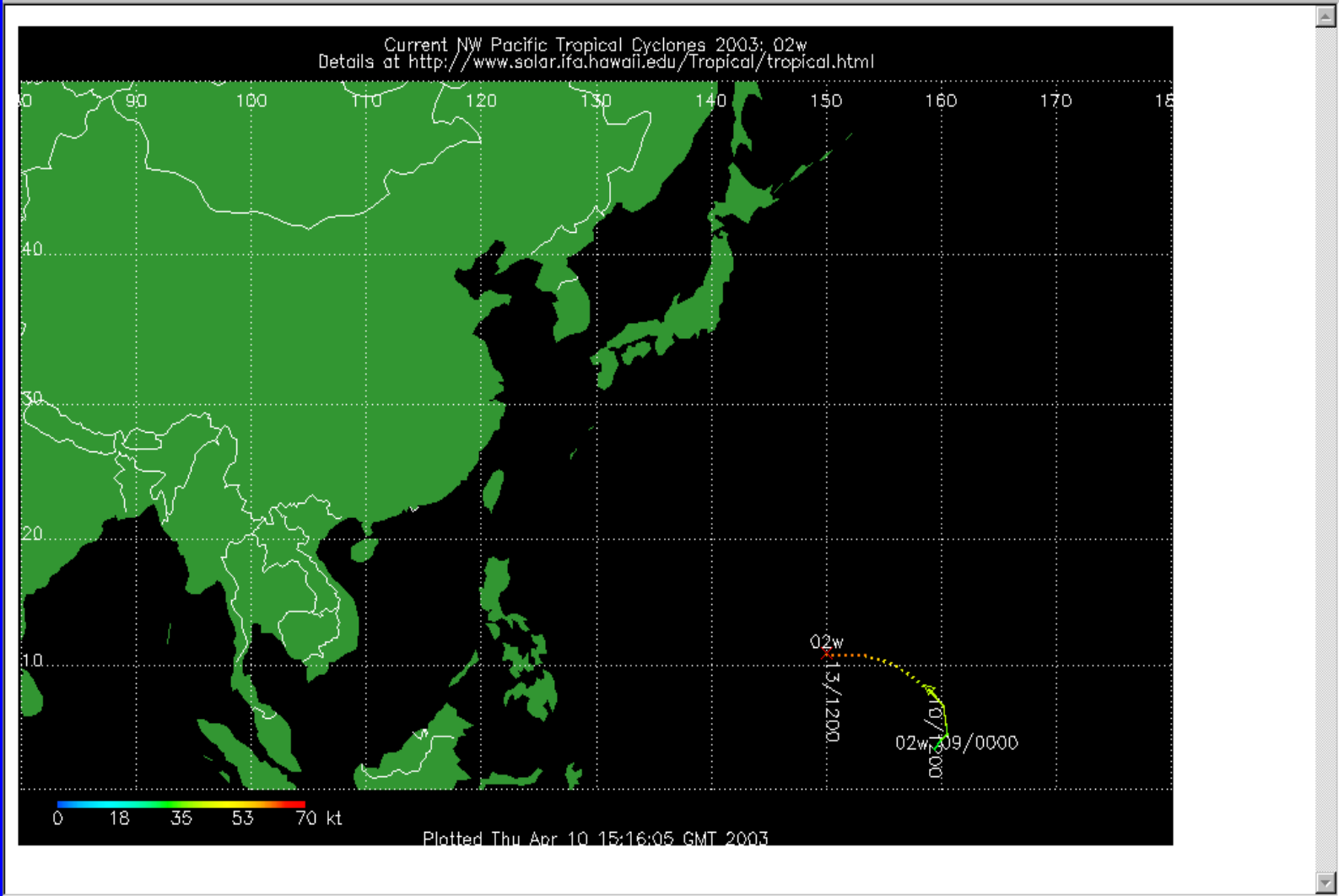
**Epidemics**



[Methodology](#)

**Hot spots**

Congo, Multi-country outbreak



# Emerging tools: Global Disaster Alert System (GDAS)

- ECHO has started to finance development of GDAS through thematic funding decision with OCHA (€420.000) in March 2004.
- GDAS combines existing disaster information management systems under one umbrella.
- GDAS encompasses natural, technological and environmental disasters (so far an earthquake and a tropical storm alert tool have been created, see <http://dma.jrc.it/Services/GDAS>)
- Open to the public, automatic e-mail/SMS alerts around the clock. GDAS test site sent red alert 90 min after the 26/12 earthquake
- GDAS needs to be further expanded and supported by disaster-prone countries.



# Red Earthquake Alert Indonesia



## Summary

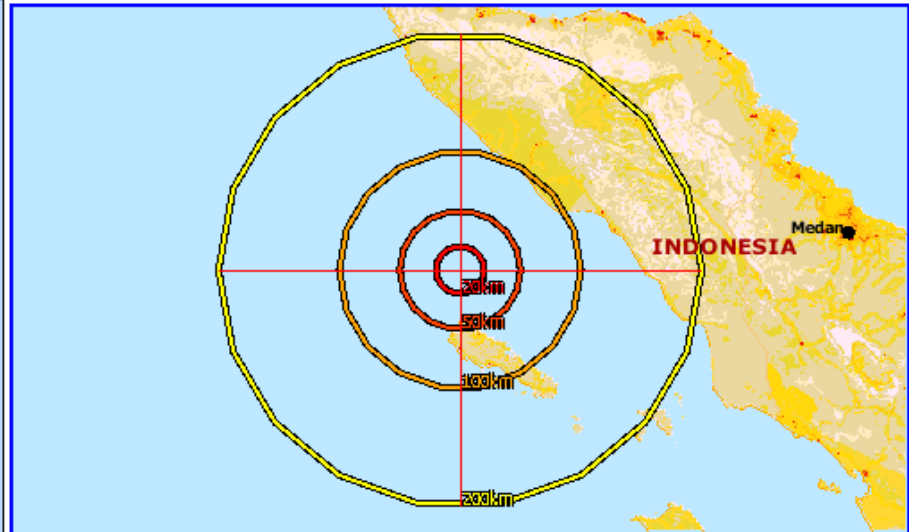
On 12/26/2004 12:58:50 AM UTC an earthquake of magnitude 8.5 has struck the sparsely populated region of Off W Coast Of Northern Sumatra in Indonesia.

Whether international humanitarian aid is needed must be decided by an expert. However, the following automatically calculated elements can help. This earthquake has potentially a **high humanitarian impact** and the affected region has **high vulnerability** to natural disasters.

Humanitarian Impact	
Vulnerability	

More detailed analysis below:

- [Earthquake Event](#)
- [Earthquake Impact](#)
  - [Affected People](#)
  - [Damage](#)
  - [Resilience and vulnerability](#)
  - [Exposure](#)
  - [Secondary Effects](#)
- [Location](#)
  - [Getting there and away](#)
  - [Maps](#)
- [Disclaimer](#)



Population Density near epicenter (people/km<sup>2</sup>). Image area: 6x4 decimal degrees (approx. 650x450km<sup>2</sup>).



Legend of symbols in this page:



Accuracy of information (move mouse over symbol to see value)

## Earthquake Event

### Characteristics



### About the data



# Funding aspects: ECHO's approach to support preparedness

- Until 2003 main focus was on DIPECHO programme
  - ± 8 million € p.a. since 1996
  - Action Plans in 6 regions
    - Central America, Andean Community, Caribbean, Central Asia, South Asia, South East Asia
  - Directly addressing local populations at risk by, e.g.:
    - Local early warning systems
    - Small-scale mitigation works (e.g. dams)
    - Establishment of risk maps
    - Awareness raising and training of local populations

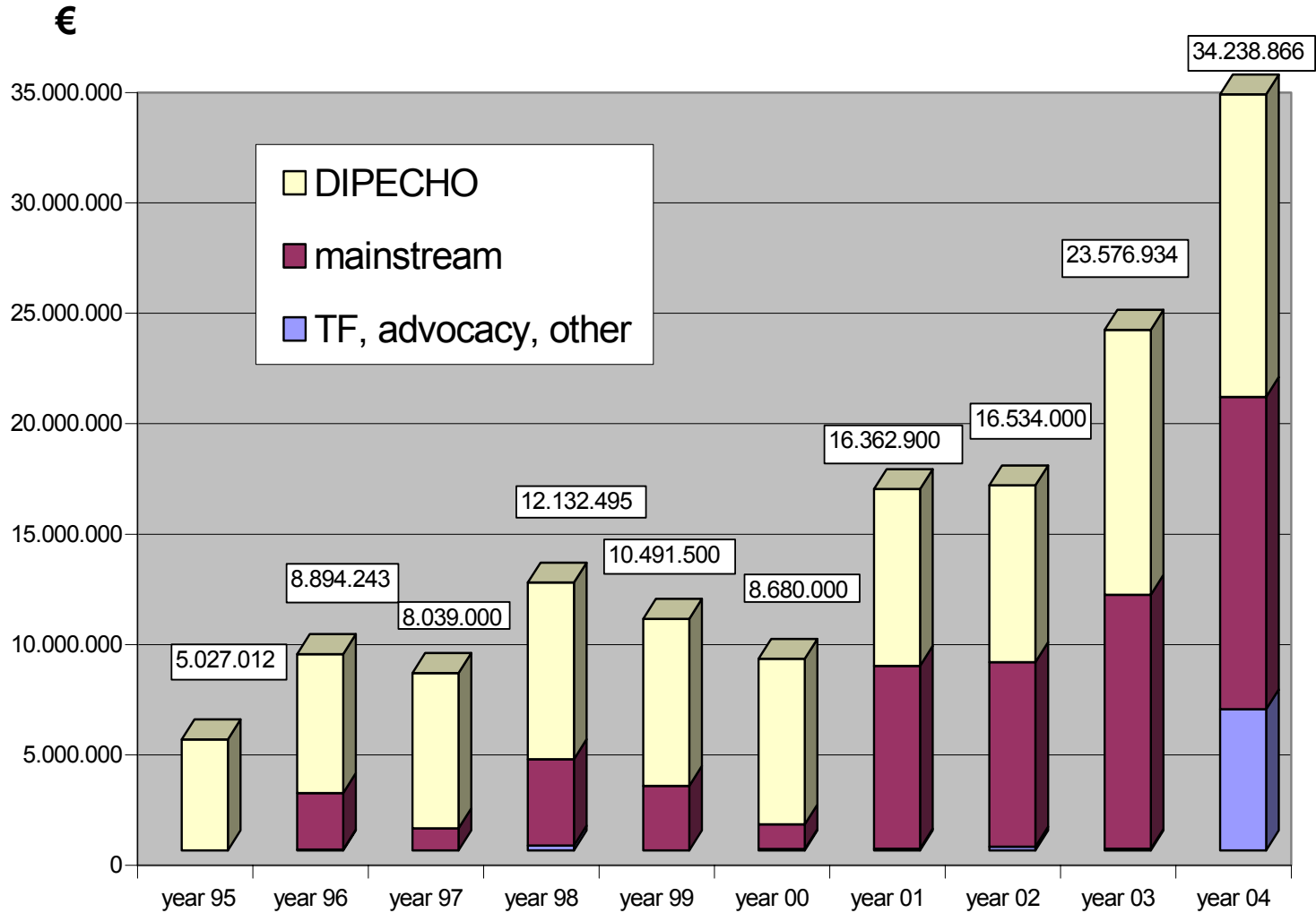
# Reinforcing ECHO's preparedness policy: new developments since 2003

- In 2003 ECHO reviewed its approach towards disaster reduction to reinforce its preparedness policy:
  - better division of labour between Commission Services
  - ECHO DR strategy to rest on 3 pillars: DIPECHO, mainstreaming, advocacy
  - Establishment of Inter-Service LRRD/DR group (advocacy)
  - Design methodology to mainstream DR in relief operations
  - Streamline ECHO's decision-making procedures
  - Establish methodology to better identify disaster areas (DRI)
  - Increase budget for DIPECHO (13.7 million € in 2004)
- Strategic evaluation by external consultants (Dec. 2003)

# Emerging policies

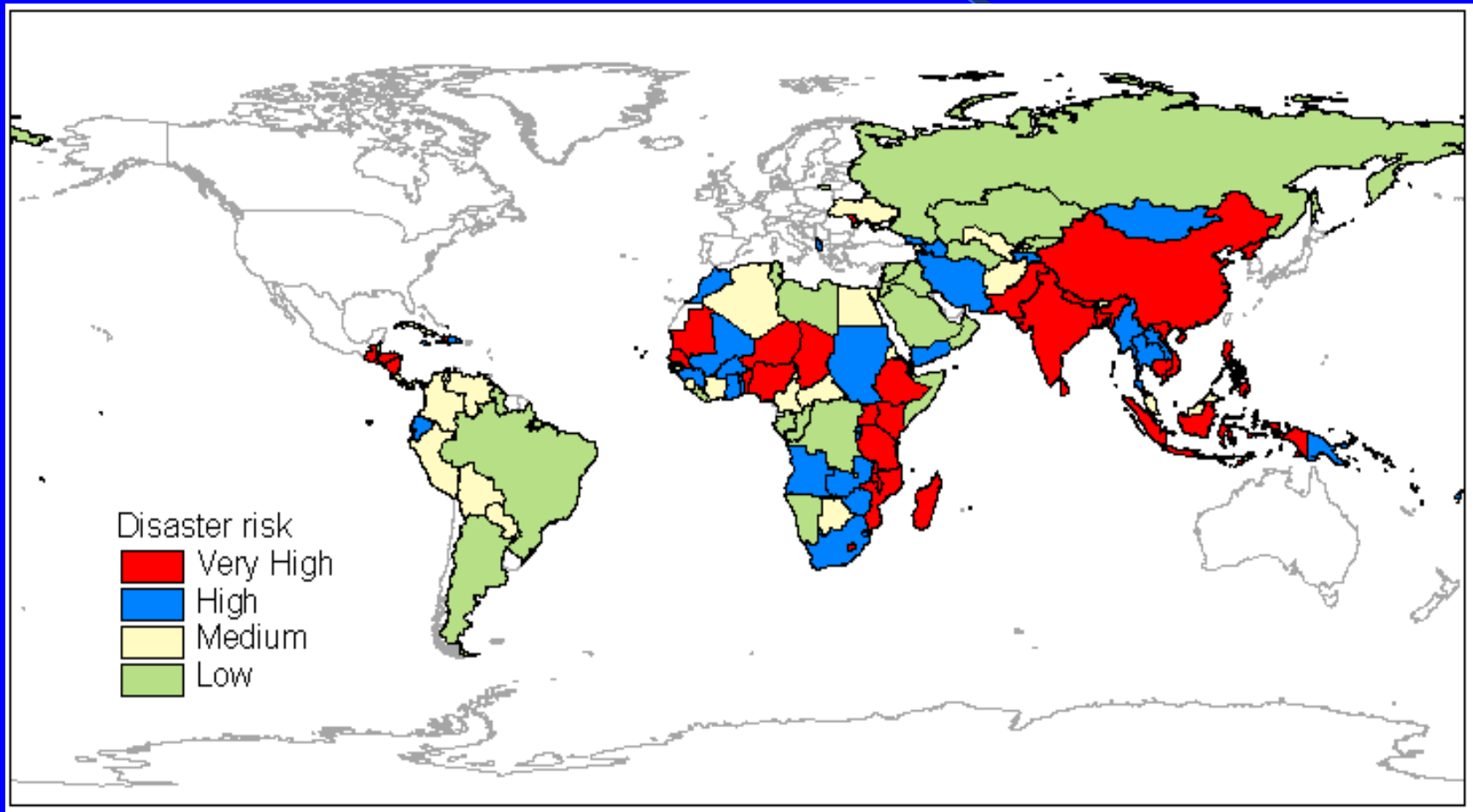
- Humanitarian trends require strengthening preparedness and response capacity of humanitarian organizations:
- « Institutional » preparedness of mandated international organizations becomes fourth pillar of ECHO's DR strategy, complementing DIPECHO's bottom-up approach
- Examples of emerging policies:
  - Global Disaster Alert System (OCHA)
  - Stockpiling of essential drugs and preparedness plans for country offices (UNICEF)
  - Health Action in Crisis (WHO)
- ECHO attempts to integrate DR language into the new financial instruments discussed at Commission level

## Evolution of ECHO Funding for Disaster Reduction Activities

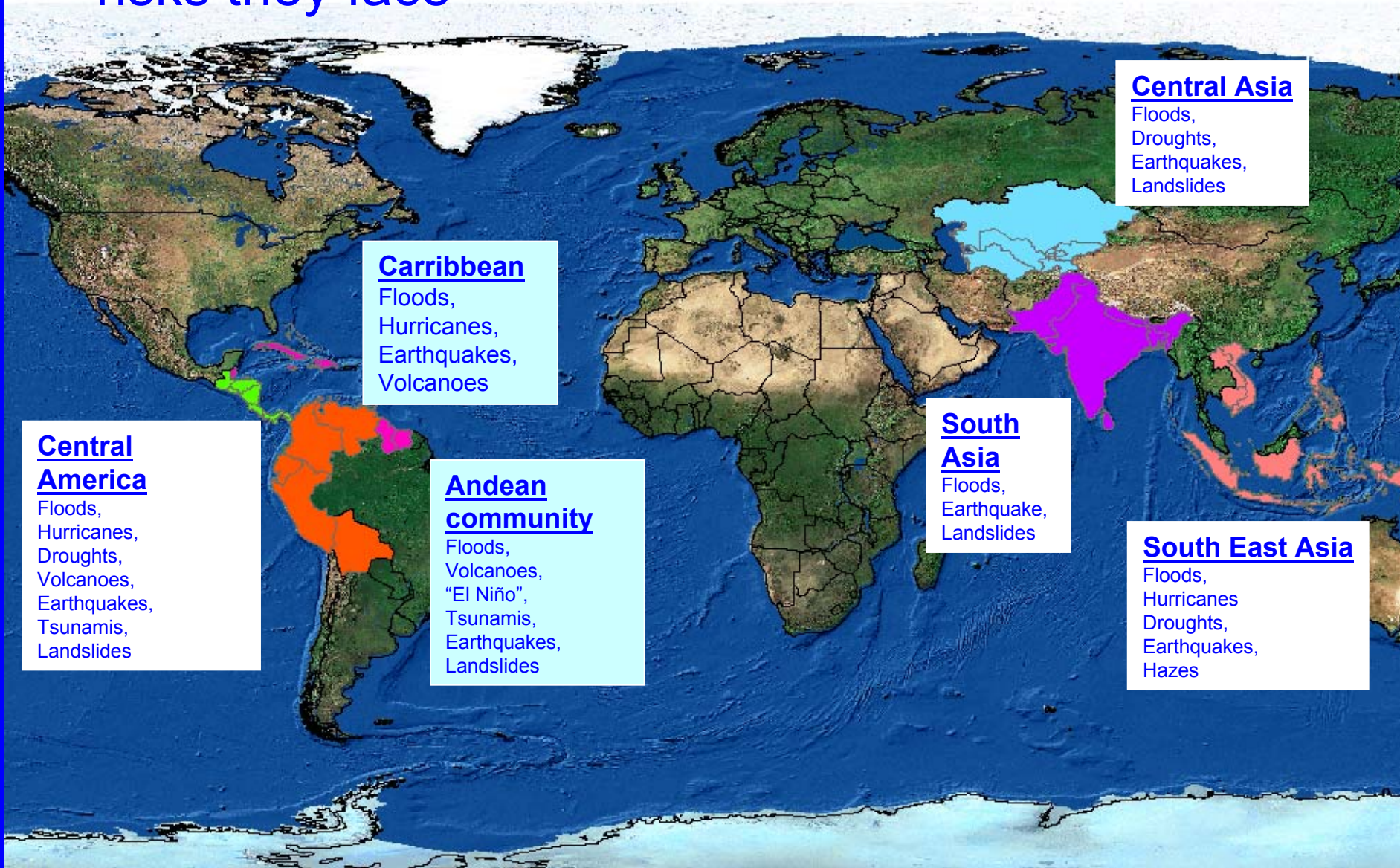




# ECHO Disaster Risk Index (DRI) Model



# Regions targeted by DIPECHO and the major risks they face



## Central America

Floods,  
Hurricanes,  
Droughts,  
Volcanoes,  
Earthquakes,  
Tsunamis,  
Landslides

## Caribbean

Floods,  
Hurricanes,  
Earthquakes,  
Volcanoes

## Andean community

Floods,  
Volcanoes,  
"El Niño",  
Tsunamis,  
Earthquakes,  
Landslides

## Central Asia

Floods,  
Droughts,  
Earthquakes,  
Landslides

## South Asia

Floods,  
Earthquake,  
Landslides

## South East Asia

Floods,  
Hurricanes  
Droughts,  
Earthquakes,  
Hazes

# Conclusions

- Early warning systems are increasingly available, but
  - the performance of those systems needs to be further enhanced
  - the link from early warning to early action needs to be improved
- Disaster preparedness has climbed up the political agenda, but
  - Preparedness is still too much an issue for the humanitarian community.
  - Development players' commitment to disaster preparedness is only lukewarm (with notable exceptions in some regions)
- Stronger advocacy is necessary, both with disaster prone states and with development donors to mainstream preparedness into development cooperation

# Recommendations for humanitarian donors

- More preparedness
- Better mainstreaming in relief programmes
- Reinforce advocacy towards development donors
- Upgrade response capacity of mandated international organizations
- More consistency in early warning actions

# Thank you for your attention



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