



Contribution to Suggestions for Future Commission Priorities

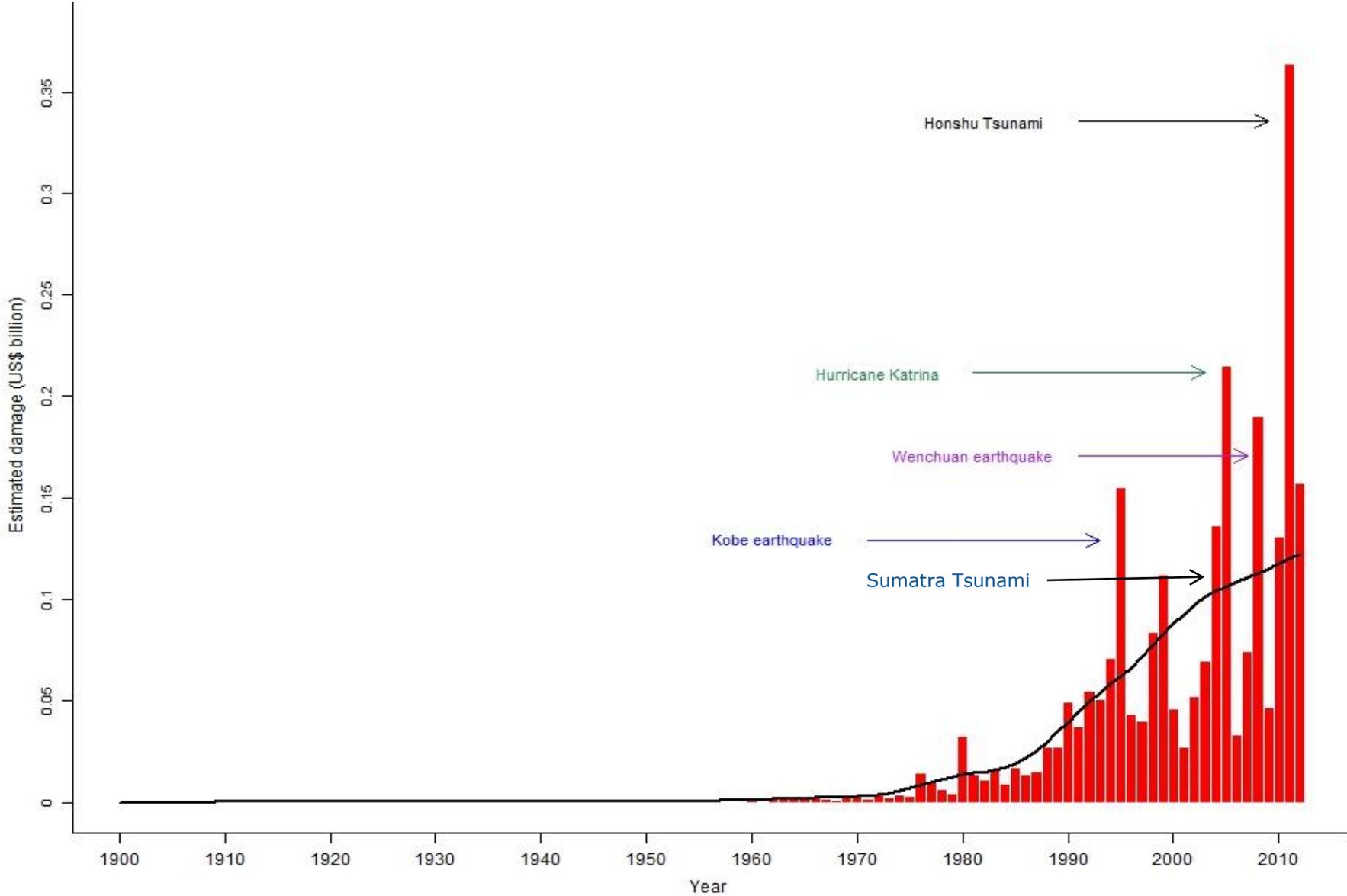
Disaster Risk Knowledge Centre

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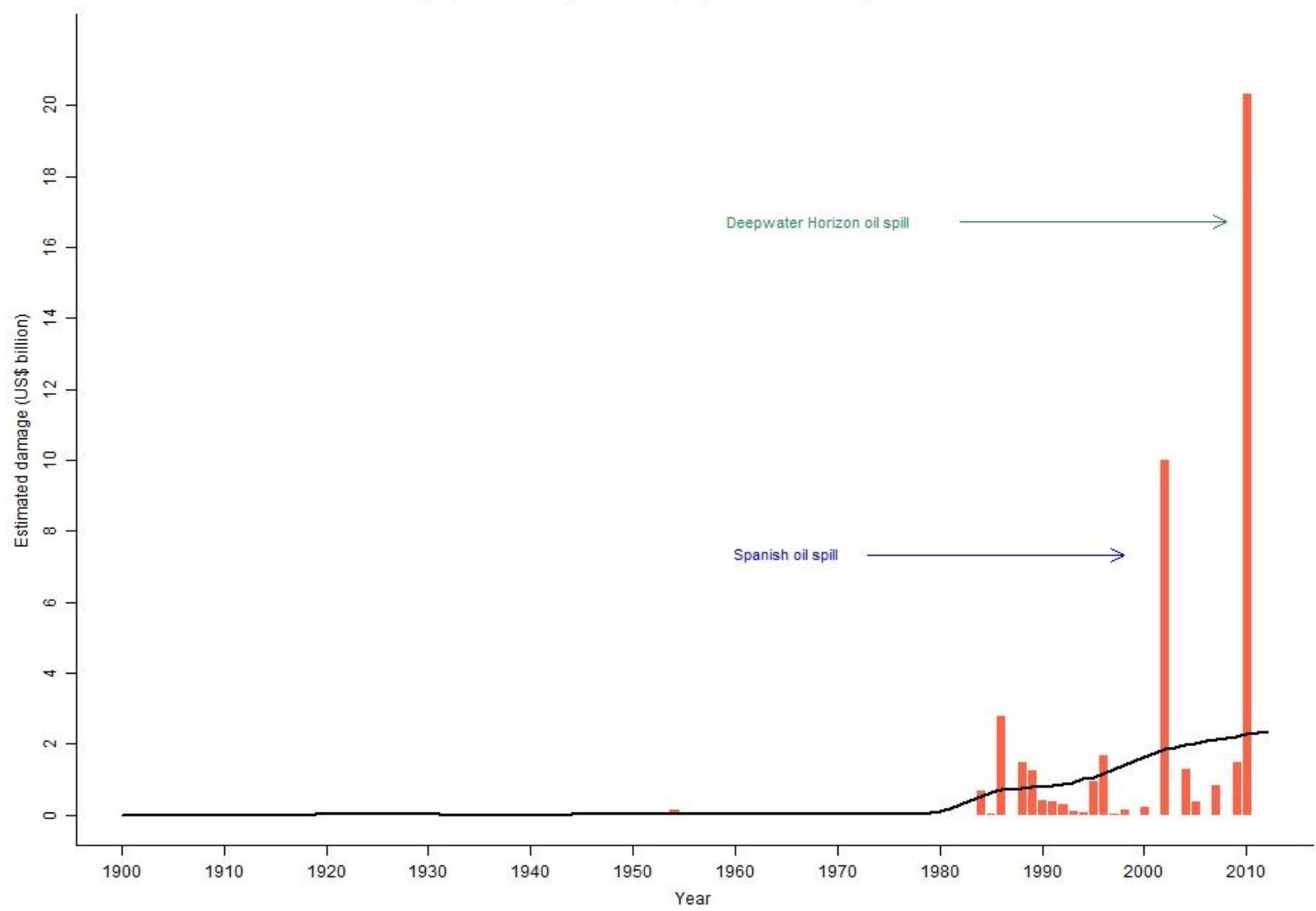
Factors to be taken into account

- **Rising exposure** to disasters of people and assets in hazard prone locations
- Increase in **frequency and severity** of many hazard types
- Need for improving **authoritative science-based advice** for disaster risk management policies as well as **timely and reliable scientific-based information** for emergency response
- Need to develop, bring together and exploit efforts, technologies, national capabilities on disaster challenges of a trans-boundary nature.

Estimated damage (US\$ Billion) caused by Natural Disasters 1900-2012 (source CRED)



Estimated damage (US\$ Billion) caused by Technological Disasters 1900-2012 (source CRED)



The '***Disaster Risk Knowledge Centre***' (**DRKC**) is a joint initiative of the Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (**ECHO**), the Directorate General for Enterprise (**ENTR**) and the Joint Research Centre (**JRC**) for

- enabling and enhancing the **use of scientific information** in the implementation of EU disaster risk management policies (from risk reduction and prevention to response and recovery)
- for **identifying gaps in knowledge** in Disasters Risk Management

Policies and strategies include

- Civil Protection Mechanism (Decision No 1313/2013/EU)
- Humanitarian Aid Instrument (REG. (EC) No 1257)
- European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid (Official Journal C 25/1 30.1.2008)
- EU Strategy for supporting disaster risk reduction in developing countries (COM2009, 84 Final)

- The objectives of the Disaster Risk Knowledge Centre are:
 - to become the **focal point of reference** at the service of the EC and the MSs
 - Providing **authoritative science-based advice** for disaster risk management policies
 - Provide **timely and reliable scientific-based information** for emergency response in the Commission and Member States.

- The policy context reinforces the need for a stronger interface between science and policy in disaster risk management, both at European and national level.
- The Commission proposes to achieve the above-mentioned objectives through a networked approach to **support translating complex scientific data and analyses** into usable information
- These activities could be brought together in a knowledge centre that could become a focal point of reference at the service of the European Commission and the Member States.
 - E.g. InfoRM – Index for Risk Management (<http://inform.jrc.ec.europa.eu>) for vulnerability and needs assessments in the humanitarian field, an innovative tool funded by the European Commission;
 - Community of Users in Disaster Risk and Crisis Management;
 - FP7 Project DRIVER

3 initial Clusters



Improving Science Based Services for EWS and Risk Assessment



Improving the use and uptake of research and operational knowledge



Advancing Science and Technology in DRM

- Development of European Science Partnership
 - Inventory of existing network of scientific centres
 - Facilitate information flow
 - Create a set of laboratories ready to help with scientific support on case of major events
 - Support to the **ERCC**
- Best practices and methodologies in DRM
 - Disasters loss accounting
 - Risk Assessment
- Knowledge sharing
- Lessons learnt

Examples:

- Global Flood Partnership
- Global Tsunami Informal Monitoring System



- Database of existing European Projects dealing with DRM
- Losses Database harmonization
- Knowledge sharing
- Creation of monthly and annual report of DRM activities

Examples:

- InForm activity



Cluster 3: Advancing Science and Technology in DRM



- Innovative Technologies developments
 - Early Warning Systems
 - Last Mile approaches
 - Front-end modelling
 - Loss data accounting
 - New materials for resilient constructions
- Use of operational research knowledge
 - Exercise
 - Training activities, modules and material sharing
 - Use of scientific support in operational centres
- Assessment of current State of the Art of DRM Science and Technology
 - Technological and operational challenges and gaps identification

Examples:

- JRC ECML
- DRIVER Project (ENTR)



Conclusions



- The maturity reached by some organizations in the development of monitoring systems and EWS policy support tools demands for an **harmonization of the methods**
- The more and more frequent use of **Risk Assessment methods in the use of resources, territory use planning and insurance field** needs to have a reference point where public administration, industries and citizens can consult and converge to agreed methods and standards
- The Disasters Risk Knowledge Center is aimed at facilitating and improve the interface exchanges between the **Scientific Community and the Decision and Policy Makers**