PRESENTATION

To accompany the *Disaster Zone* resource for secondary schools
WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
Children play on the beach created when floods from tropical storm Agatha opened a new estuary in 2010. Communities who live on the Pacific coast of Guatemala are at risk of flooding every year.
The devastation in Port-au-Prince, the capital of Haiti, following a massive earthquake that struck on 12 January 2010.
Many areas of the Philippines are vulnerable to flooding and other extreme weather events – around 20 typhoons hit the country every year.
WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

Questions for discussion

⚠️ What do the pictures show?

⚠️ What do they not show?

⚠️ In what ways might the impacts of different disasters be similar?

⚠️ In what ways might they be different?

⚠️ What have we learnt?

⚠️ What information would we need to understand a disaster situation properly?
DEFINING DISASTER

Questions for discussion

⚠️ What is the difference between a hazard and a disaster?

⚠️ What might the impacts of a disaster be?

⚠️ If a disaster causes damage, but does not kill anyone, is it still a disaster?

⚠️ If an event only affects a few people, is it still a disaster?
DEFINING DISASTER

Disasters are usually defined as events on a significant scale that cause harm to people through injury or death or through damage or loss to their property, environments or livelihoods.
WHAT MAKES A DISASTER?

- **Hazardous event**
  - Natural or human-made

- **Population density**
  - The number of people relative to the size of the place

- **Vulnerability**
  - The extent to which people are at risk of damage and harm
Is there a pattern between disaster death tolls and economic development?
DISASTERS IN THE NEWS

Questions for discussion

⚠️ Do the majority of articles describe disasters in Britain and Ireland or disasters overseas?

⚠️ Is there any difference in the way that disasters in Britain and Ireland and disasters overseas are reported?

⚠️ Is there any difference in the way that the same disaster is reported in different newspapers?
DISASTERS IN THE NEWS

Questions for discussion

⚠️ Can you identify what help was provided to people experiencing disaster in Britain and Ireland?

⚠️ Can you identify what help was provided to people experiencing disaster overseas?

⚠️ Who provided this help?

⚠️ Is it clear what made people vulnerable to disaster in the first place? And were those things different in different countries?
POVERTY AND DISASTERS

Not all disasters are equal

Click here to download the Earthquake Animation

Why might the death toll in Haiti have been so much higher than in Chile?
POVERTY AND DISASTERS

‘Earthquakes don’t kill people, buildings do’.
Elizabeth Hausler, seismologist
COPING WITH DISASTER

Questions for discussion

⚠️ After a disaster, which things would be most important in the first few days and which would be most important for the longer term?

⚠️ Do the needs of people affected by disaster change over time?

⚠️ What things would help to protect people from future disasters?
COPING WITH DISASTER

Questions for discussion

⚠️ What are the emotional, as well as physical, impacts of a disaster?

⚠️ Who should be responsible for providing the things that people need to cope with disasters?

⚠️ From where should resources, such as the money, equipment and labour, come to provide the things people need after a disaster?
**DISASTER ZONE**

**CASE STUDY:**  
**EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI**

The following resources will help you to explore the impact of the 2010 earthquake on Haiti:

- Haiti case study
- Film clips.

Use the ‘Disaster analysis’ worksheet to help explore this disaster.
CASE STUDY: FLOODING IN THE PHILIPPINES

The following resources will help you to explore the impact of the 2012 flooding in the Philippines:

- Philippines case study
- *Big River Rising* multimedia resource.

Use the ‘Disaster analysis’ worksheet to help explore this disaster.
ARE DISASTERS NATURAL?

Questions for discussion

⚠️ What human factors were shown to have made both the earthquake in Haiti and the flooding in the Philippines more disastrous?

⚠️ How might the risk of future disasters be reduced?
How does climate change blur the distinction between ‘human-made’ and ‘natural’ disasters?

What role might new technologies play in reducing environmental disasters?
RESPONDING TO A DISASTER

There are lots of ways you can help respond to disasters.

⚠️ For more information on emergencies that Christian Aid is responding to right now, visit christianaid.org.uk/emergencies

⚠️ Can you think of any creative ways to raise awareness about emergencies?