

RCC member countries

China



Country Information

Region: East Asia

Population: Approximately 1.3 billion

Capital: Beijing

GDP (US\$): \$12.238 trillion

Geography: Due to its size, the geographical characteristics of China are varied. Mountains, high plateaus and deserts can be found in the West, whereas broad plains, deltas and wetlands are mostly found in the Central and Eastern parts of the country.

General climate: The climate differs substantially from tropical in the South to subarctic in the North.

INFORM Risk Rating: 4.4

Risk Summary

- China is exposed to a range of natural hazards including volcanoes, typhoons, severe cold fronts, landslides, heatwaves, floods, earthquakes and drought.

- Between 2000 and 2015, disasters caused around \$300 billion in damages.
- Sichuan Province has experienced some of China's most severe earthquakes. The magnitude 8.0 Wenchuan Earthquake (2008), killed over 69,000 people and caused \$128 billion in economic losses.
- Seasonal storms and typhoons regularly hit the country's coast. The Saomai Typhoon (2006) sunk and damaged nearly 2,000 vessels and caused 241 fatalities.
- Due to climate change, risks of hydro-meteorological hazards are predicted to increase, especially in rapidly growing urban areas.
- 130 million coastal inhabitants are exposed to sea-level rise, tropical storms and flooding.

Disaster Management System

National Level

- **China National Commission for Disaster Reduction (NCDR)**

The NCDR is headed by a Vice Premier of the State Council. It is composed of 34 ministries and departments, including relevant military agencies and social groups. It functions as an inter-agency coordination body under the State Council, which is responsible for studying and formulating principles, policies and plans for disaster reduction, coordinating major disaster activities, giving guidance to local governments in their disaster reduction work, and promoting international exchanges and cooperation.

- **Expert Board of the NCDR**

The expert board provides policy consultation, theoretical and technical support, and scientific research for national disaster prevention and relief.

- **National Disaster Reduction Center of China (NDRCC)**

The NDRCC is one of the leading scientific and technical centers providing support to the government in addressing disaster-related issues. It uses space technology, UAVs and other cutting-edge technology to support data management, risk assessments, emergency response and post-disaster recovery. The NDRCC also undertakes policy research, advocacy campaigns and educational activities for capacity-building and to increase public awareness.

- **National Technical Committee on Disaster Reduction and Relief of Standardization Administration of China (NTCDRRSAC)**

The NTCDRRSAC is part of the NDRCC and is responsible for the standardization of work in the field of disaster reduction and relief. It has released 6 national standards and 20 civil administration standards since 2007.

Helpful Links and Sources

China country profile:

<https://data.worldbank.org/country/china>

China National Commission for Disaster Reduction:

<http://www.jianzai.gov.cn/DRpublish/ywzsy/0001002300010003-1.html>

China Risk Profile:

<https://www.gfdr.org/china>

Disaster Risk Reduction in China:

<http://www.adrc.asia/nationinformation.php?NationCode=156&Lang=en&NationNum=22>