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**Canadian Safety
and Security Program**

Canada's Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction: S&T Working Group

Presentation to the 1st Consultative
Meeting of IRDR National and Regional
Committees

November 11-12, 2014



Led by Defence R&D Canada – Centre for Security Science

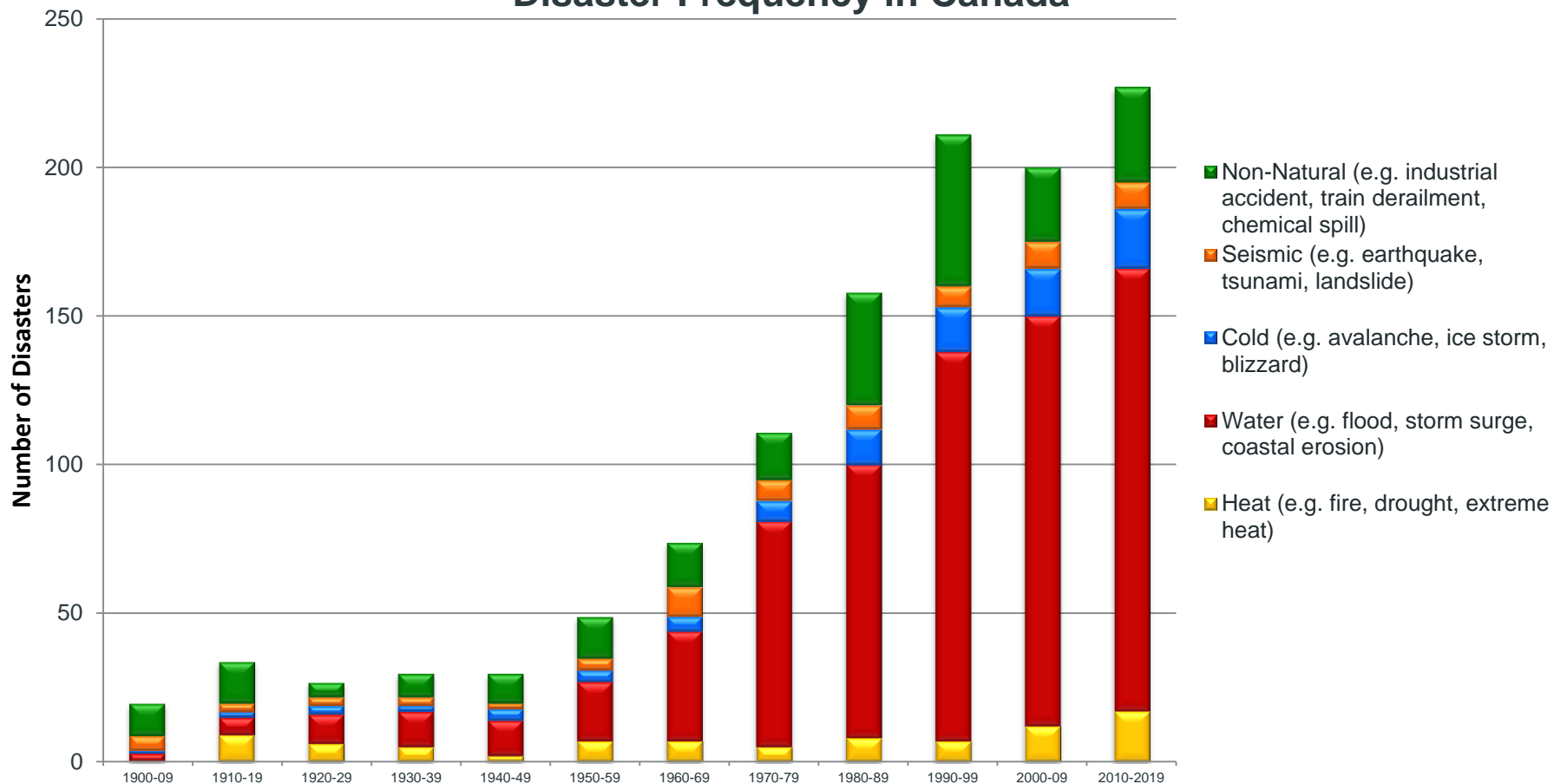
Canada

Purpose

- To provide background on Canada's disaster context.
- To highlight the structure and work of Canada's Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), and the Science and Technology (S&T) Working Group.
- To discuss linkages to the IRDR.

Disasters Context

Disaster Frequency in Canada



* Adjusted to 2010 dollars.

Disasters Context cont'd



Canada's Platform for DRR

- **Launched:** October 26, 2010 as collaborative national body.
- **Vision:** A safer and more resilient Canada through the reduction of risks and leveraging of capacities and opportunities across all levels of government, the private sector, academia, NGOs, professional associations, Aboriginal groups, and the general public.
- **Scope:** All-hazards, in accordance with *Emergency Management Act*
- **Members:** 500+ members across four components
 - Advisory Committee
 - Working Groups
 - Secretariat
 - General Membership
- **Plenary:** Annual National Roundtable for DRR



Canada's Platform for DRR: Advisory Committee

A committee, consisting of representatives from key DRR sectors, guides and supports the development, implementation and operation of Canada's Platform.

Permanent	Rotating
Public Safety Canada	IBM Canada
Federal Emergency Management Committee	University of Toronto
Provincial/Territorial Senior Officials Responsible for Emergency Management	Royal Roads University
National Critical Infrastructure Cross-Sector Forum	Disaster Recovery Information Exchange
Domestic Group on Emergency Management	Canadian Risk and Hazards Network

Canada's Platform for DRR: Working Groups

Platform members can assemble working groups based on specific issues or priority activities. All working groups are connected to the Platform via a sponsoring Advisory Committee member.

1. **Resilient Communities Working Group** – Works to implement UN/ISDR Resilient Cities Campaign; hosts Aboriginal sub-group.
2. **Voluntary Sector Working Group** – Focused on engaging and increasing resilience of Canada's voluntary sector.
3. **Private Sector Partnerships Working Group** – Supports development of economic resilience in the private sector.
4. **Science and Technology Working Group** – Provides Platform with informed advice on relevant S&T priorities and activities.

Canada's Platform for DRR: S&T Working Group

Co-chairs:

- **DRDC, Centre for Security Science:** Canada launched the Canadian Safety and Security Program in June 2012, to “*strengthen Canada’s ability to anticipate, prevent/mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism, crime, natural disasters, and serious accidents through the convergence of S&T with policy, operations and intelligence.*”
- **Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction (ICLR) at the University of Western Ontario:** The ICLR was established by Canada’s property and casualty insurance industry as an independent, not-for-profit research centre for multi-disciplinary disaster prevention research and communications.

Canada's Platform for DRR: S&T Working Group cont'd

Since 2010, the S&T Working Group undertook two streams of work:

1. Advancing distinct research projects through member institutions (e.g. Canadian Disaster Database; Canadian HAZUS; seismic loss)
1. Coordinating, collaborating and connecting the work of other stakeholders and working groups under the Platform.

The S&T Working Group is now entering its fifth year, and will be undertaking an exercise to re-envision its role in light of 3rd World Conference on DRR, this may include:

- Focus on role as national DRR research hub;
- Developing consolidated national DRR research priorities; and
- Supporting implementation of national a aggregate risk and resilience assessment.

Areas of particular interest to the S&T Working Group:

- **Existing:** IRDR Risk Interpretation and Action (RIA) Working Group – Canada is increasingly looking to close the gap between knowledge and behavioural change in DRR. Specifically, exploring how best national and regional governments can support local resilience.
- **New:** Social Innovation and Social Finance - a research agenda focused on using alternative finance mechanisms (i.e. social impact bonds, catastrophic loss bonds; disaster insurance etc.) to positively transfer disaster financial exposure and incentivize behavioural change.

Questions / Follow-up

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