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Factors shaping the link from climate-related disasters to forced migration and violent conflict

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World Natural Disasters 1980-2016

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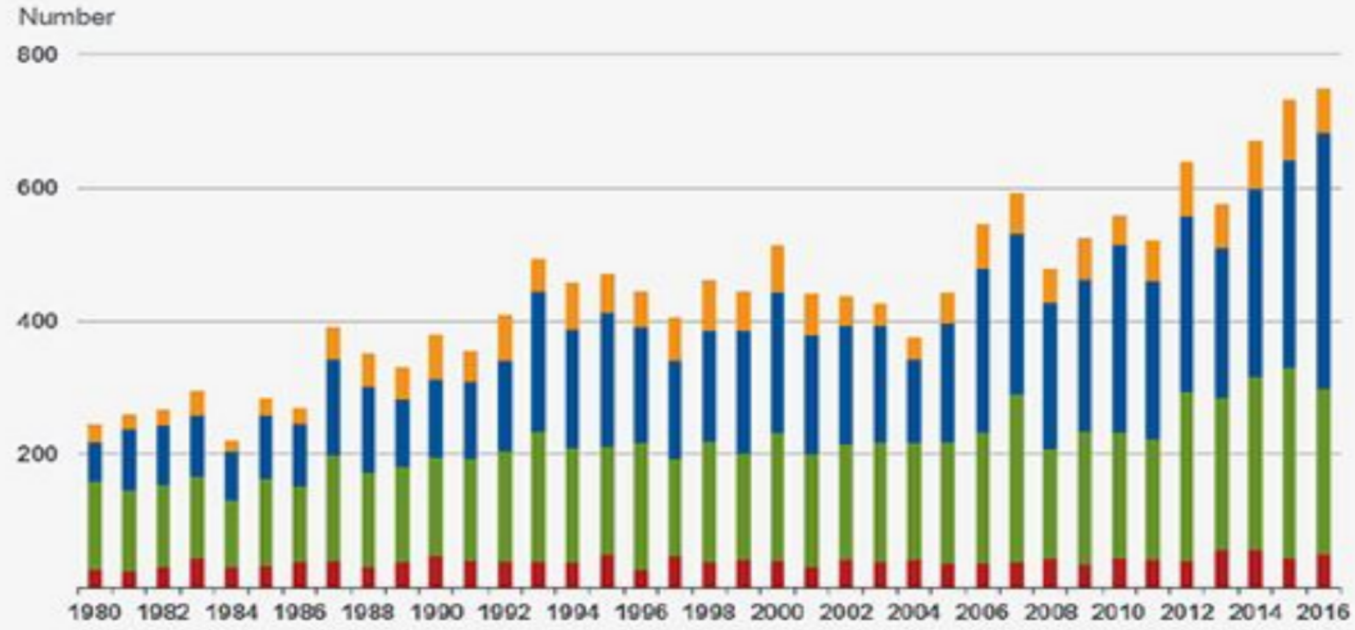


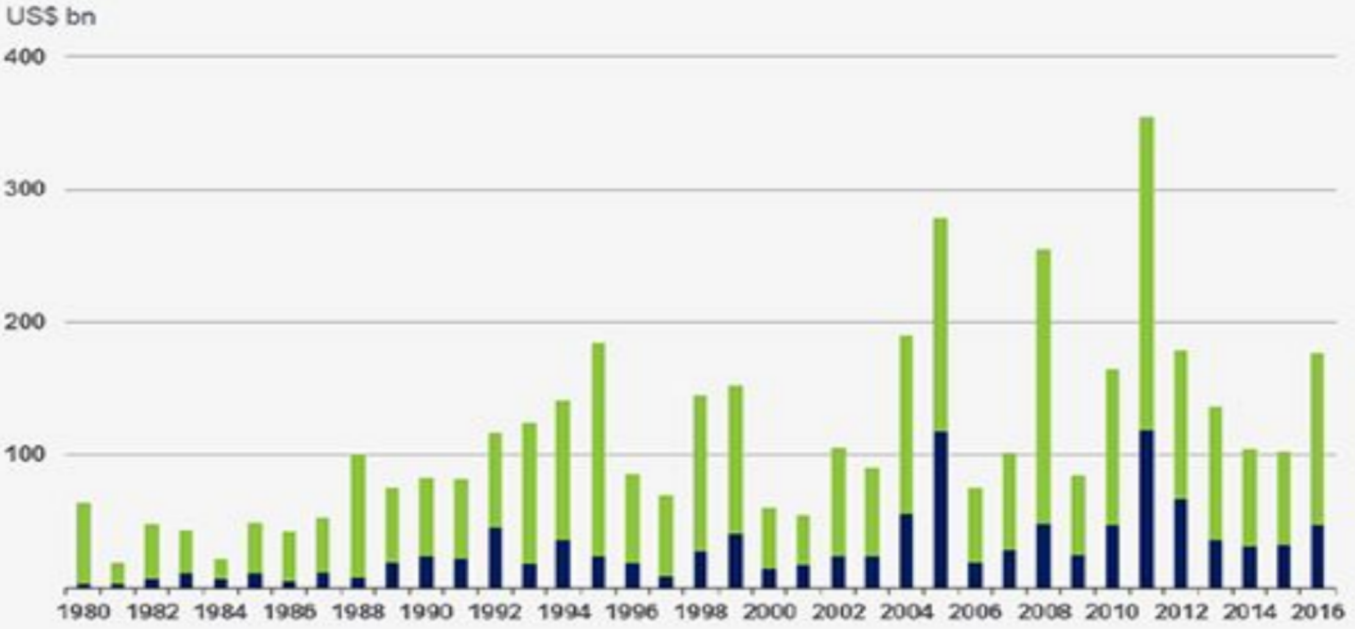
Geophysical events (Earthquake, tsunami, volcanic activity)

Meteorological events (Tropical storm, extratropical storm, convective storm, local storm)

Hydrological events (Flood, mass movement)

Climatological events (Extreme temperature, drought, forest fire)

Accounted events have caused at least one fatality and/or produced normalized losses ≥ US$ 100k, 300k, 1m, or 3m (depending on the assigned World Bank income group of the affected country).



Overall losses (in 2016 values)

Insured losses (in 2016 values)

Inflation adjusted via country-specific consumer price index and consideration of exchange rate fluctuations between local currency and US$.

Source: © 2017 Munich Re, Geo Risks Research, NatCatSERVICE

Weather-related disasters

Disaster type	*Number of events*	*Total deaths (in thousands)*	*Total affected (in millions)*
Drought	293	21	1.347
Extreme temperatures	369	161	94
Flood	2.790	93	1.462
Landslide	313	14	4
Storms	1.705	193	556
Wildfire	198	1	3
Total	**5.668**	**483**	**3.466**

Source: Created from **Guha-Sapir, D., Below, R. and Hoyois, P.,- EM-DAT: The CRED/OFDA International Disaster Database (Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels),** www.emdat.be.

Global Climate-Risk-Index (1996–2015)

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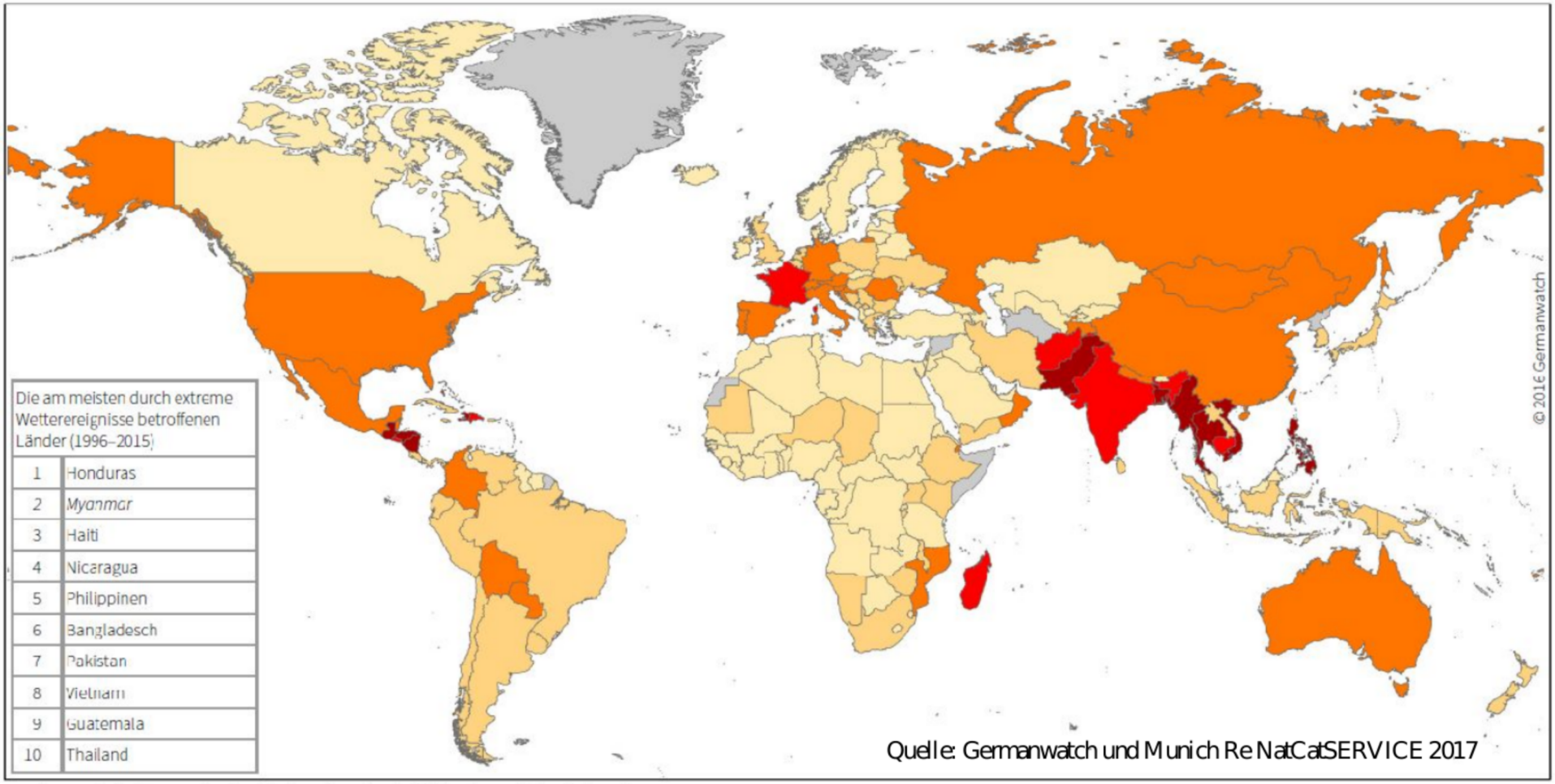

Die am meisten durch extreme Wetterereignisse betroffenen Länder (1996–2015)	
1	Honduras
2	*Myanmar*
3	Haiti
4	Nicaragua
5	Philippinen
6	Bangladesch
7	Pakistan
8	Vietnam
9	Guatemala
10	Thailand

Kursiv: Länder, in denen mehr als 90 % der Verluste/Todesfälle in einem Jahr/Ereignis auftraten.

Klima-Risiko-Index: Ranking 1996–2015 1–10 | 11–20 | 21–50 | 51–100 | >100 | Keine Daten

Based on disaster impact: casualties and GDP loss (percent and total)

World Natural Disasters 2016

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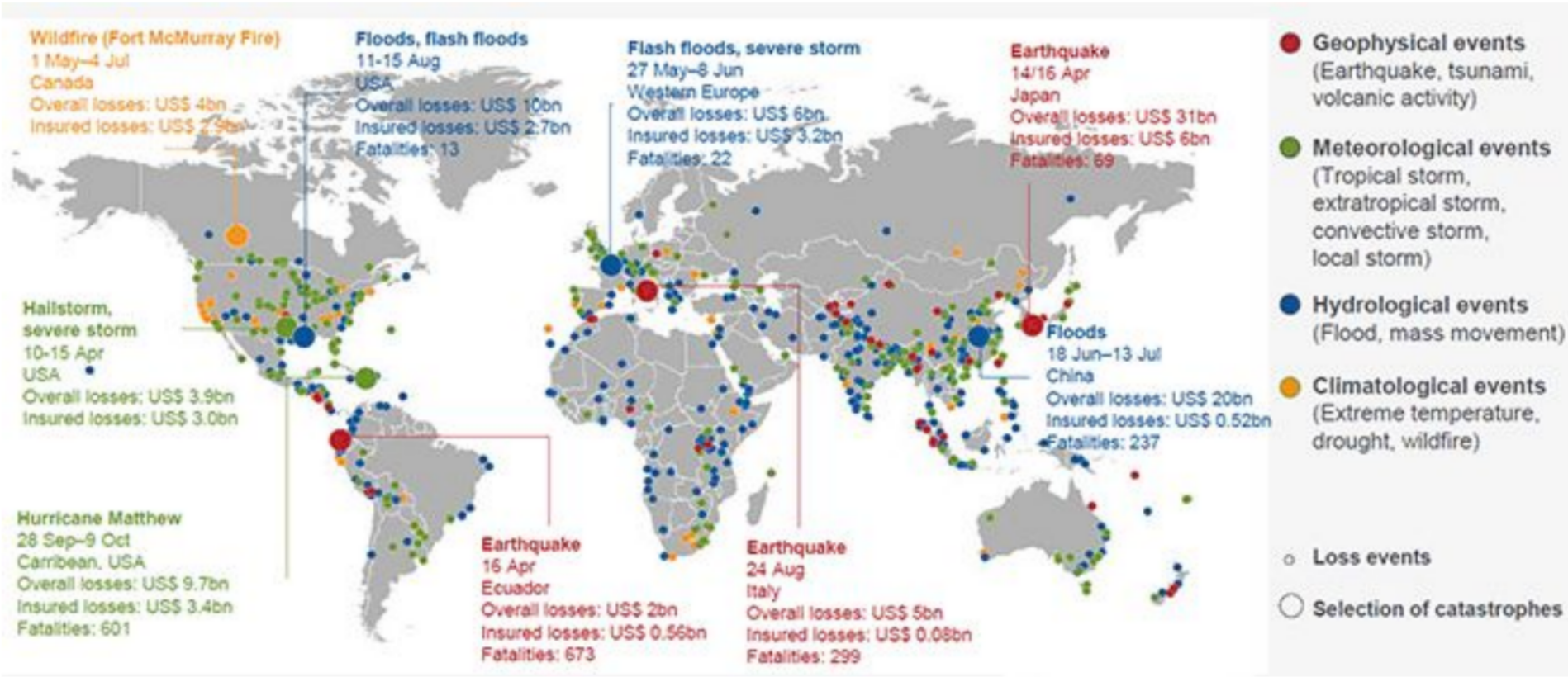

Source: © 2017 Munich Re, Geo Risks Research, NatCatSERVICE

New displacements by conflict and disasters in 2016

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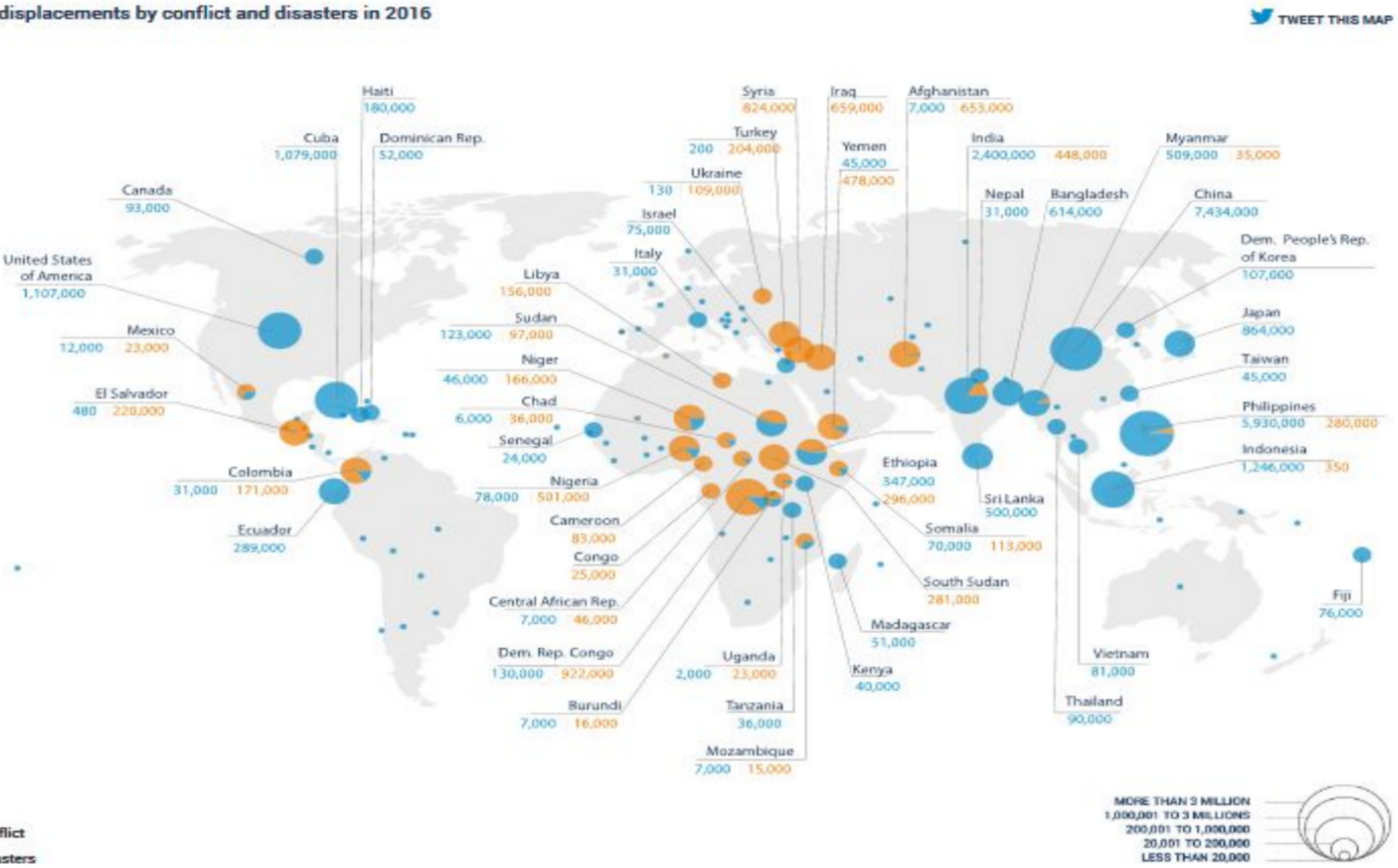

Source: IDMC, GRID 2017

New forced displacements per year since 2008

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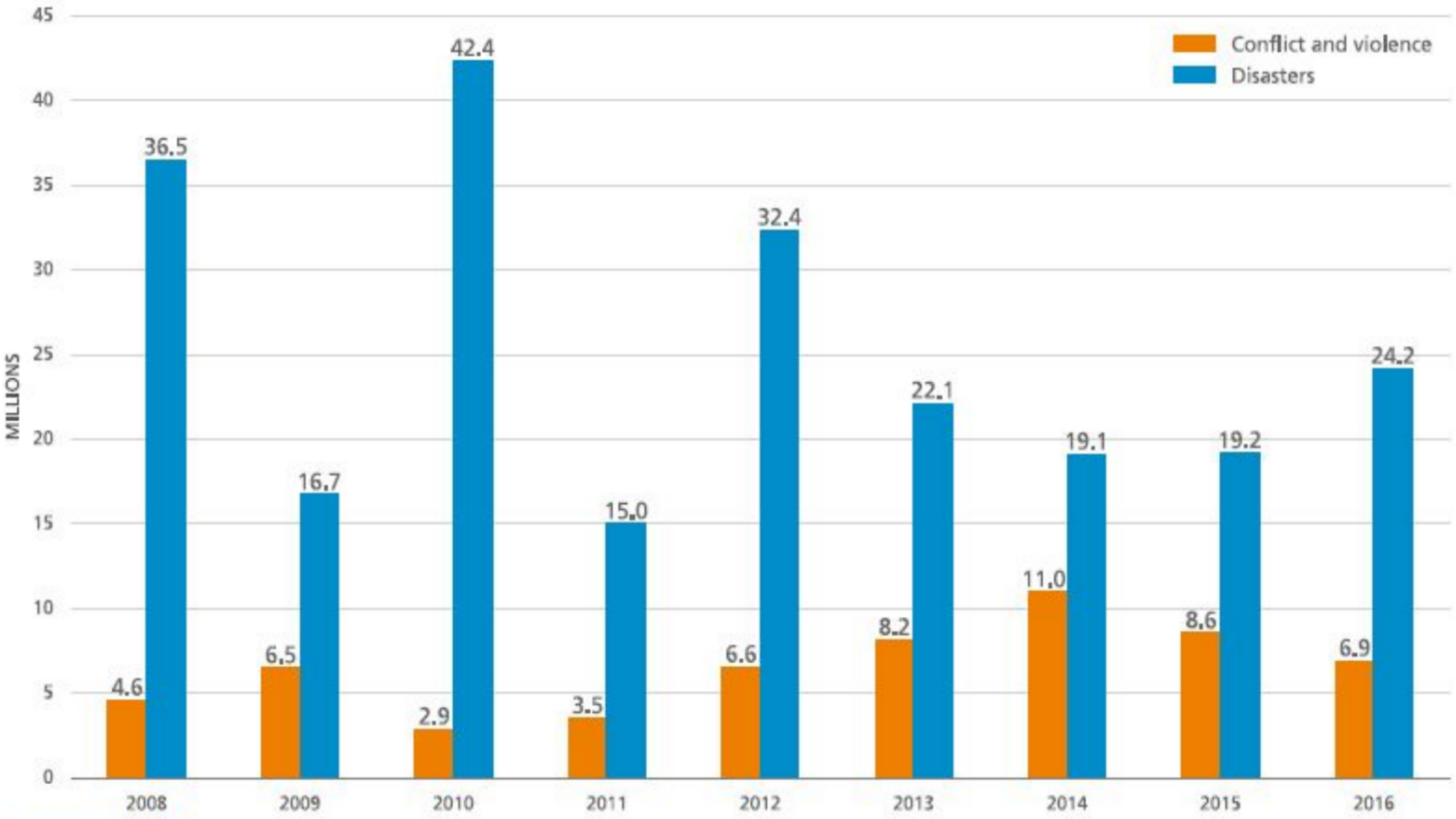

Source: IDMC, GRID 2017

Models linking disasters and violent conflict

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- Disasters as conflict drivers
  - Examples: Somalia drought 2011, India-Bangladesh
- Disasters as social unifiers
  - Example: Philippine (Mindanao) cyclones 2013-2015
- Disasters as transformation accelerators
  - Examples: Haiti 2004, Egypt 2011

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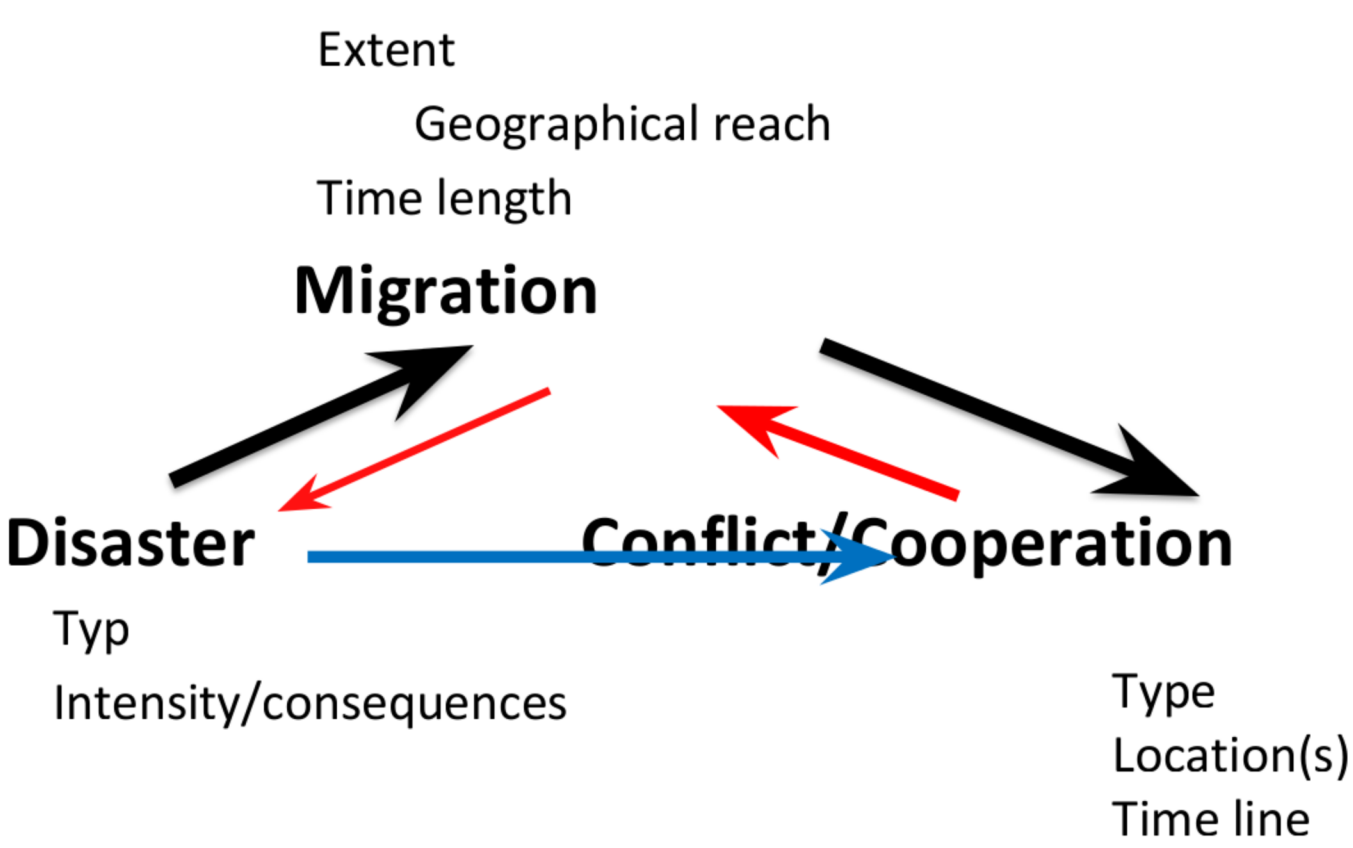

Empirical analysis

- **Environmental disasters have only** rarely initiated **political violence.**
- **They more often, but still rarely, have** fueled existing **internal armed conflicts.**
- Low—level political violence **is rare but more likely to emerge than armed conflicts.**
- **Disasters have also sometimes** facilitated the ending **of armed conflict.**
- Migration **does not seem to independently exacerbate the likelihood that disasters are linked to violence but can aggravate/dampen conflicts in origin and destination regions because of its characteristics.**

Empirical analysis

- State capacity and political system **affect the relationship between disasters and violent conflict.**
- **There is limited evidence that** scarcities, with migration as a contributing factor, **are driving violent conflict. In addition, perceptions about distributional effects are important. Furthermore, extreme weather events can have translocal effects on the availability and prices of relevant goods, particularly food.**
- Humanitarian assistance **often shapes the availability of goods and services to both migrant and host populations and thus affects patterns of migration and resource scarcity and also interacts with conflict.**
- **Both the immediate disaster situation and** post-disaster recovery **can be conflict-prone.**

Factors shaping the disaster-migration-conflict/cooperation nexus

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- Pre-disaster levels of social cohesion and/or conflict
- Differences among and organisation of social groups (migrants and others)
- Distribution (and perceptions of distribution) of costs of disasters in relationship to existing (potentially migration-enhanced) conflict fault lines
- Effects of disasters (and induced migration) on distribution (and perceptions of distribution) of goods, services, revenues and wealth in and post disasters
  - Management of humanitarian assistance
  - Divisiveness of post-disaster recovery