



Loss and Damage: Estimations

Akshit Sangomla, Correspondent, Down To Earth



Estimations of Loss and Damage

- DTE analysis shows that in nine months of 2022 extreme weather events have caused 10,000 deaths and affected 75 million people. No consolidated economic loss figures.
- Pakistan floods that killed 1700 people and affected 33 million, alone have cost \$30 billion (initial estimate).
- 1970-2019 saw 11,000 climate-related disasters, with 2 million deaths and losses worth \$3.6 trillion
- Researchers at Basque Centre in Spain have estimated that annual estimate of loss and damage could be between \$290-580 billion by 2030.
- Currently done through the Post Disaster Needs Assessment and Rapid Needs Assessment processes which are global accepted and led by World Bank, IMF, UNDRR and European Union.



PDNA and RNA

- Both are carried out by respective national governments in accordance with procedures laid out by global bodies
- RNAs are conducted immediately after a disaster for relief measures and budget allocations and PDNAs are conducted over longer periods
- Various government departments are involved in collecting and collating the data on loss of lives, impact on livelihoods such as agriculture and fisheries, damage to infrastructure such houses, roads and bridges and economic losses across other sectors
- The estimations are different in different countries. Developed countries face more losses in terms of infrastructure damage while developing countries face more loss of lives and livelihoods



Challenges in Estimation

- Cohesion between different national government departments and international organisations is difficult
- Does not currently account for non economic losses such as loss of culture, language and ecological losses such as coral reefs and forests
- The only example of an enhanced PDNA with ecological losses was done by Vanuatu in 2020 after tropical cyclone Harold
- They accounted for marine ecosystems and forests. Marine eco system losses around \$8.2 billion. Official PDNA was only \$617 million.