Chapter 15
Chad's Global Disaster Risk Map

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the transformation of global disasters into social catastrophes in Chad through Beck's "Risk Society" and Giddens's "Reflexive Modernity" theories. Despite being non-industrialized, Chad bears "manufactured risks" from climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, and global inequalities. Geographic vulnerability (Sahara-Sahel location, 90% Lake Chad shrinkage, 4% arable land) creates cycles of drought, hunger, water scarcity, mass migration, and epidemics. Using qualitative document analysis from World Bank, UN, and academic sources, a disaster risk map was constructed. Findings show tribal structures provide both resilience and conflict, while weak state capacity increases international aid dependency. The study recommends institutional reform, sustainable resource management, climate-resilient livelihoods, and locally-focused international cooperation. Chad exemplifies how unequally distributed global risks create social disaster laboratories.

INTRODUCTION

The hierarchy of beings refers to the entirety of systems that functionally contribute to the preservation of ecological integrity, thereby supporting the continuity of diverse species. Theories regarding the origin of life on Earth are scientifically grounded through the analysis of ecological traces and their surviving remnants. These data support the argument that life on Earth has been interrupted at different points in time and subsequently reemerged. While humans were historically passive

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actors in the face of natural disasters, technological development and changing living conditions have transformed them into active agents shaping both the scale and frequency of disasters. Unconscious human intervention in natural systems has disrupted ecological balances, pushing both humanity and other species toward catastrophic consequences. This disruption has been instrumental in transforming recent disasters into a global phenomenon that threatens all forms of life.

As these threats intensify, global disasters continue to generate destructive impacts across physical and human geography, becoming increasingly difficult to manage over time. With the growing influence of human and technological factors, disasters now occur more frequently and over wider areas, posing threats not only to human populations but also to ecosystems and other species. The social dimension of this crisis is particularly visible in countries where access to basic necessities is already limited. In such contexts, environmental disasters such as drought, water scarcity, floods, wildfires, hurricanes, and soil degradation accelerate social transformation processes, particularly by triggering migration and deepening social vulnerability. This vicious cycle gradually depletes essential resources for sustainable life—namely clean water, sufficient food, and breathable air. Consequently, the concept of catastrophe as a social phenomenon has acquired new and increasingly destructive dimensions.

Recognizing the urgency of these challenges, the escalation of global disasters has placed environmental issues at the center of international agendas. Emergency action plans, environmental platforms, and both individual and institutional initiatives with high levels of awareness play a crucial role in enhancing the effectiveness of disaster policies. Similarly, recycling projects and large-scale global campaigns require coordinated action plans aimed at expanding environmentally conscious social groups. For these efforts to succeed, designing initiatives in accordance with region-specific disaster impacts while embedding them within a global framework is essential for developing holistic and sustainable approaches.

African countries exemplify regions where the physical and social destruction caused by global disasters is most visible (). Within this continental context, this study focuses on Chad, where multiple intersecting factors such as geographical location, climate-sensitive livelihoods, widespread poverty, and unequal access to basic needs interact with global disasters to heighten the risk of social catastrophe. The country faces a persistent cycle of deprivation marked by drought, water scarcity, hunger, and epidemics that intensifies social vulnerability. As one of the world's poorest countries, Chad provides a critical case for examining how global disaster risks translate into localized social disasters. To illuminate these dynamics, this study employs qualitative research methods to analyze visual, written, and electronic documents from the literature in order to explore the relationship between global disaster risks and social crises in Chad. The findings are thematically categorized and presented in sub-sections, culminating in the development of a disaster risk map

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