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**Ian Davis** (editor), *Disaster Risk Management in Asia and the Pacific*. New York: Routledge. 2015, 360 pp., including references and index. ISBN 978-1138785021.

This recently published volume, edited by Ian Davis, is a much-needed contribution to the study of disaster risk management in the Asia-pacific region. It sets out to inform the dialogue on international frameworks, such as the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005). Furthermore, this book could influence the actions that governments can take to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which was adopted in 2015. *Disaster Risk Management in Asia and the Pacific* is built around four threads that run throughout: expanding risks; innovative solutions; holistic approaches; and the pivotal role of national governments.

The introductory chapter provides an excellent background to the field and highlights gaps in disaster risk management within governmental structures and policies. It emphasizes the importance of integrating climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk management (DRM) into regional policies.

The second part of the book, Trends and Challenges (chapters 2-4), provides an overview of the trends and patterns of disasters in the region, along with details of losses and impacts. Chapter 3 provides a detailed guide to understanding vulnerability. It presents good case studies from different countries in the region, using the Crunch model. This leads to a discussion of the links between CCA and DRM, as well as suggestions for how to address the vulnerability challenge. Chapter 4 takes the vulnerability discussion into the context of the socio-economic challenge. It also uses case studies and highlights the need for social safety nets and for a clear focus on the micro level.

The third part of the book (chapters 5-6) is titled Responding to Major Concerns in the Region. Chapter 5 looks at the under-researched topic of compound disasters and their devastating impacts. Chapter 6 makes an important contribution to recent discussions on financing risk issues in the region. While most studies have highlighted the need for more finance, there is little discussion about to address that addresses the gap to ensure more financing for DRM.

The final part of the book, Governance Structures for Disaster Risk Management (chapters 7-10), analyses the different levels, from the local to the international, to discuss gaps in governance structures. Chapter 7 discusses the importance of community participation and local level engagement in disaster response. It also highlights the changing na-

ture of disasters and critical issues in DRM. Chapter 8 elucidates the role of coordination at national level DRM, focusing on coordination and cooperation as the key tenets to DRM. In Chapter 9, disasters are presented as trans-boundary issues; the need for improved coordination between intergovernmental organizations is emphasized. Chapter 10 provides an overview of existing international frameworks and the nature of dialogue at the international level. While the author argues for a successful momentum of international attention to DRM, this chapter also emphasizes the need for investments in national governments to advance risk reduction measures.

Overall, the book argues that new governance approaches are needed at various levels. It highlights the failure of existing structures and the need for governments to take a pivotal role in DRM. Furthermore, each of the chapters offers strong recommendations to policy makers, designed to enhance approaches to DRM. However, much of the challenge lies with governments and policy makers at all levels in adopting a holistic approach to developing long-term solutions for addressing and reducing risk.

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