

# Farmers and Other Stakeholders' Perception Towards Disasters Involving Animals



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## Introduction

- ⊕ Natural and man-made hazards cause thousands of deaths, injuries and economic losses each year around the world and Chile is not the exception. Disasters frequency appears to be increasing.
- ⊕ Although main concerns are related to human lives, animals are vulnerable too.
- ⊕ In disasters involving animals, one important reason for the mismatch of resources needed for mitigation is the inadequate levels of preparedness by individual owners.

## Conclusions

- ⊕ There is a mismatch between risk perception of farmers and relative risk of disasters. It should be addressed for preparedness and future contingency plans in the area.
- ⊕ The global analysis was limited by issues of scale as well as by the availability and quality of data in terms of animal populations.
- ⊕ However, the results are adequate for identifying areas that are needed to be improved and work with.

## Objectives

- ⊕ To compare stakeholders' perceptions towards disasters involving animals against risk of occurrence of disasters.
- ⊕ To assess degree of overlap between stakeholders perception and the hazards occurred in the area.

## Material and Methods

- ⊕ The area under study concentrates about 70% of the dairy cattle of the country, 30% of beef production.
- ⊕ Community-based participation approach: provided a more secure diagnostic of the needs and real situation of the problem, plausible scenarios, and a posterior enhanced understanding an adoption of results.
- ⊕ Farmers' perception elicited through questionnaires and meetings ad-hoc.
- ⊕ Risk of occurrence of disasters: accounted by official statistics reports (\*\*\*)EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database) and regional records (\* "Oficina Nacional de Emergencia" ).

## Results

The disasters most frequently pointed out by farmers were: drought (29%), extreme cold (22%), infectious diseases (17%), floods (12%) and earthquakes (10%).

From historical data available these are the list of most frequent disasters recorded in the area (Source<sup>†</sup>): wind storm (79%), snowing (11%) and droughts.

For the country, the most frequent disasters are resumed in the following table (Source \*\*):

Event	# of Events	Persons Killed	Total Affected Persons	Damage U\$S (000s)
Earthquakes	3	23	52,800	5,000
Extreme temperature	4	6	25,000	10,000
Flood	6	65	531,078	238,900
Wild fires	2	--	1,285	360,000
Wind storm	2	47	2,512	--



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