There were an average of 173 million people per year affected by natural disasters from 2005 to 2014.

In the last 10 years, natural disasters have caused an average of $180 Billion in damages each year.

Asia is the most affected continent. In 2015 six out of ten deadliest disasters occurred in the continent.

In recent years, floods, landslides, tsunamis and coastal erosion are becoming more frequent and with greater intensity. Furthermore, there is a close interaction between these different natural disasters so that they tend to occur together or one can trigger another, increasing the potential damage and loss.

These disasters not only affect people and communities but also economies, governments and the international systems on which we all rely. Any response to floods and emergencies must be rapid and effective in order to restore the natural status of the impacted region, to contain the damage and lives can be restarted.

It is argued that global warming over the last century has affected the frequency and the scale of natural disasters. This climate change has impacted sea levels which have been rising about 3mm per year since 1993 and a total increase of 200mm in the global average sea level since 1870.

Natural disaster occurrence by disaster type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Natural disaster</th>
<th>Average 2005-2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flood</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drought</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landslide</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earthquake &amp; Tsunami</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild Fire</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extreme Temperature</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volcanoes</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass Movement: Dry</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>367</strong></td>
<td><strong>346</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Maccaferri FlexMac® DT offers an efficient and effective response to these phenomena.

**FlexMac® DT** for flood and emergency works:
- Rapid and simple to deploy
- Flexible and light
- Simple connection between units
- Uses locally available fill material
- Easy transportation
- Re-usable

FlexMac® DT is used to rapidly construct large barriers to protect assets from rising flood water. Filled on-site using locally available materials, FlexMac® DT is up to 40 times faster to construct than sandbags.

The versatility of FlexMac® DT enables it to be an effective solution for many emergency situations involving flooding. The main applications of FlexMac® DT are as follows:
- Floods
- Emergency river works
- Landslide and erosion control or emergency works
- Bank restoration
- Emergency dam problems
- Coastal erosion
- Protection of plants and storage facilities
- Provision of basins for sediment storage
- Ground failure control

Within these emergency situations, FlexMac® DT can also be used in sympathy with other Maccaferri solutions and products.

**RELIABILITY**

Since 1893, with the installation of early gabions on the River Reno in Italy, Maccaferri has developed and enhanced its know-how in hydraulic and flood engineering.

The heritage of FlexMac® DT can be traced back to the early 1900’s, when the solution was used in place of sandbags.

Maccaferri solutions are used successfully every day around the world. Its products are made with high quality materials and comply with the most rigorous international standards.

“**To deal with flood and emergency situations, speed and efficiency of installation are vital.**”
The versatility, simplicity and rapid deployment of Flexmac®DT make it ideal for emergency situations.

FlexMac®DT is a multicellular structure engineered from double twisted wire mesh which is reinforced with vertical steel bars and internally lined with geotextile. The geotextile lining enables FlexMac®DT to be filled with locally available materials such as sand, general fill or other materials. These can be easily placed within the structure using mechanical means or by workers.

The simplicity of the structure as well as its lightness enables FlexMac®DT to be deployed easily and quickly assembled without the need of trained labour or special equipment. As it does not have a base panel (the fill material is placed on the geotextile skirt within the cells), FlexMac®DT can be easily emptied and removed for storage and reuse.

The global presence and manufacturing facilities of Maccaferri around the world support a rapid and cost effective response to an emergency. FlexMac®DT is delivered to site in wrapped bundles, ready for use.
Manual and rapid transportation of the unit

FlexMac® DT unit ready for filling (5.0x1.0x1.0m type)

Filling operation
The great advantage of FlexMac®DT is clear when compared with traditional sandbags. In 3 hours, 30 people can construct a 10m embankment using sandbags, compared with 5 people constructing a 60m embankment using FlexMac®DT units. To deploy and assemble a single unit requires only 2-3 people and 20-30 seconds.
TECHNICAL DETAILS OF PRODUCT

FlexMac® DT is a modular structure made from double twisted, heavily galvanised steel wire mesh panels, reinforced with vertical steel bars. The cells are connected together in the factory and then folded to reduce shipping volume and facilitate rapid deployment.

Each cell within the FlexMac® DT unit, is lined with a geotextile which is fastened to the double twist wire hexagonal mesh during the manufacturing process. Flexmac® DT units are supplied in bundles and wrapped in plastic for protection during freight and storage.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FlexMac® DT characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mesh Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical reinforcing bars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geotextile liner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height (when deployed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length (when deployed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Width</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RETURNING THE AREA TO NORMAL

After temporary use, FlexMac® DT can be folded up and efficiently stored for another emergency.

FlexMac® DT can be a temporary or permanent solution. When used as a permanent solution after the emergency has passed, FlexMac® DT would be covered and re-vegetated in harmony with the environment.

Other Maccaferri solutions are also used as part of post-hazard rehabilitation measures:

- Erosion protection (TRM) blankets and mats
- MacTube® containment tubes
- Retaining structures
- Soil reinforcement
- Ground stabilisation

Advantages of hexagonal double twist mesh

1. More flexible compared to welded mesh units
2. Minimal foundation preparation required prior to deployment & filling
3. Damage to wires does not compromise overall stability of system
4. Can accommodate differential settlements
5. Integral reinforcing bars, stiffen the structure
6. 250 g/m² geotextile provides robust containment of fill materials
PROJECT EXPERIENCE
GREAT FALLS,
WASHINGTON DC, USA

SOLUTION

*Protection of ancient building*

Hurricane Isabel caused increased water levels in the Potomac River, threatening buildings in the C&O National Park. FlexMac® DT was deployed with waterproof membranes to protect structures.
PROJECT EXPERIENCE
SAMOGGIA RIVER, ITALY

SOLUTION

_Raising and repair of breached embankment_

Rising water breached the left embankment of the river. The embankment also experienced seepage through it. The embankment was raised and seepage contained and repaired.
PROJECT EXPERIENCE
GDANSK, POLAND

SOLUTION

River bank protection

Extreme rainfall caused washout of structures. FlexMac® DT was used to shore up defences, increase channel capacity and contain flows.

The filled units were then covered with soil to form a reinforced embankment.
PROJECT EXPERIENCE
PESCIA ROMANA, ITALY

SOLUTION

*River bank protection*

The crest level of the river embankment was raised to increase the capacity of flow.

The structure was covered in soil and revegetated to blend back into the environment.
Maccaferri’s motto is ‘Engineering a Better Solution’; We do not merely supply products, but work in partnership with our clients, offering technical expertise to deliver versatile, cost effective and environmentally sound solutions. We aim to build mutually beneficial relationships with clients through the quality of our service and solutions.

Maccaferri Ltd
Building 168, Harwell Campus, Didcot,
Oxfordshire, OX11 0QT
T: +44 (0) 1865 770555
F: +44 (0) 1865 774550
E: oxford@uk.maccaferri.com
www.maccaferri.com/uk

Officine Maccaferri S.p.A.
Via J.F. Kennedy, 10
40069 Zola Predosa (Bologna) – Italy
T: +(39) 051 643 6000
F: +(39) 051 643 6201
E: info@hq.maccaferri.com
www.maccaferri.com

Engineering a Better Solution

OFFICINE MACCAFERRI GROUP PROFILE
Founded in 1879, Officine Maccaferri soon became a technical reference in the design and development of solutions for hydraulic works and retaining structures.

Since then, through technological innovation, geographical expansion and focused diversification, Maccaferri now offers solutions at a global level for a wide range of civil, geotechnical and environmental engineering applications.

MACCAFERRI APPLICATIONS

- Retaining Walls & Soil Reinforcement
- Hydraulic Works
- Rockfall Protection & Snow Barriers
- Erosion Control
- Soil Stabilisation & Pavements
- Basal Reinforcement
- Coastal Protection, Marine Structures & Pipeline Protection
- Environment, DeWaturing & Landfills
- Drainage of Structures
- Tunnelling
- Landscape & Architecture
- Safety & Noise Barriers
- Fencing & Wire
- Aquaculture Nets/Cages
- Concrete Flooring, Precast & Other Uses

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