In 2012, 357 natural disasters were registered, affecting 124.5M people and causing $157B in economic damages.

In the past ten years, natural disasters affected more than 2.4B people and caused $910B in property damage. The Asia-Pacific region has suffered more than 80% of the world’s major disasters.

Learning how to cooperate for HADR is a great idea, it’s the right idea, and it’s the future of the security environment here in the Asia-Pacific.

-- ADM Samuel J. Locklear III
Commander, USPACOM
Remarks at Roundtable with East Asia Media Hub, 1 Feb 13
OUR MISSION

Facilitate collaborative partnerships, conduct applied research, and develop education, training and information sharing programs in order to enhance US and international civil-military preparedness, knowledge and performance in disaster management and humanitarian assistance.

OUR GOALS

• Work toward optimal civil-military relations in foreign DMHA activities, by providing education, training, information, and recommendations on international guidelines
• Expand current programs in a sustainable manner to service all of the tenets in the Center’s founding legislation from natural disasters to manmade CBRNE related events
• Facilitate unity of effort and cohesion in planning and capacity building coordination across USPACOM and component headquarters staffs by connecting DMHA providers and practitioners to ensure a ready and resilient Asia-Pacific region
• Be an internationally recognized focal point for DMHA information repositories, best practices, training and educational expertise; incorporate DMHA best practices into all education and training programs
• Provide DMHA subject matter expertise to HQ USPACOM for deliberate and crisis action planning and joint/interagency/multinational exercise design

CONGRESSIONALLY MANDATED

The U.S. Congress established the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance in Title 10, Section 182 in 1994.

KEY ROLES

As a direct reporting unit to the U.S. Pacific Command, the Asia-Pacific region is our priority of effort:

• Serve as USPACOM coordinating authority for DMHA events with foreign partners
• Provide HADR training and education to USPACOM staff and subordinate commands
• Support regional organizations in developing and executing DMHA programs that improve member countries’ response capability and regional cooperation
• Conduct applied research and assessment
• Develop and maintain Country Disaster Response Handbooks
• Starting in FY15, manage the global, OSD directed, and Geographic Combatant Command prioritized Civil Military Emergency Preparedness program

METHODS

• Collaborative civil-military partnerships
• Applied research
• Education and training
• Operational information sharing