



Disaster loss data – the case of Swiss Re Institute’s sigma

Lucia Bevere

Swiss Re, Swiss Re Institute, Switzerland (lucia_bevere@swissre.com)

Swiss Re Institute’s sigma has been collecting data on the insured and economic losses resulting from natural and man-made catastrophes events across the world since 1970. Our aims are to track how disaster-related claims at the industry level develop over time, identify long-term trends, and monitor how expected losses based on probabilistic models compare with actual loss outcomes. We also follow the development of the protection gap, that is, the difference between insured and economic losses, a key variable in our broader commitment to improving global resilience. The data we collect form the basis of our annual sigma publication on natural catastrophes and man-made disasters.

Based on the experience of Swiss Re Institute, this session will discuss the challenges of loss data generation, collection and curation in a world that on one hand promotes the sharing of freely available data and on the other recognizes data assets as having strategic value.