

# Global Warming



Is global warming occurring throughout the planet? If so, is it a natural cycle or is it due to our effect on the environment? What we need is more data so the questions surrounding changes in the weather can be better understood. ***Historical weather data can increase our understanding of worldwide, as well as local area, weather conditions. and trends.***

# Halt Disease Spread

Researchers can correlate the spread of past disease outbreaks with historic weather conditions. In areas of the world where outbreaks of malaria and other wind-borne diseases still prevail, historical weather information is lacking. By collecting old weather records, we could ***predict the spread of diseases and save thousands of lives annually.***



# Accurate Flood Forecasts



Except for starvation, ***more people die from flooding than any other single cause.*** River flood computer models, largely based on historical information, provide ample warning in the U.S., where we have kept decades of precipitation and river stage information. ***Adding historic***

***precipitation data to developing country databases would greatly improve the accuracy and timeliness of weather and flood warnings to those areas of the world.***

# Safer Bridges, Towers & Buildings

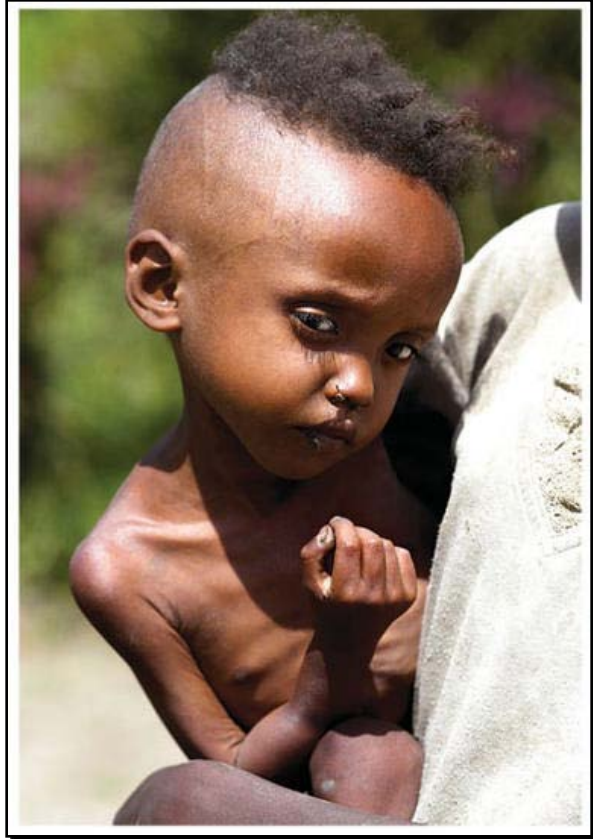
Architects and engineers design skyscrapers and bridges; cell phone, TV and air traffic control towers and other structures to withstand known environmental stressors.

***Historic weather data helps to anticipate extremes*** so that structures can be designed and built to



withstand maximum winds, flooding, temperatures, and precipitation.

# Starvation Prevention



*Over 2 million people could be saved from starvation every year* if 1 farmer out of 1,000 was told the real expected frequency of drought in their respective countries and alter their planting and storage practices accordingly. Before we can start information campaigns, we need to retrieve and digitize many years of historic weather records for specific areas to determine local drought frequencies.

# Other Key Benefits

Historical events and change in cultures can be explained by extreme weather events and climate change. A storm destroyed the Spanish Armada as it set about



to attack England; a severe Russian winter defeated the Germans in WWII. ***Locating and rescuing historical weather information could change our understanding of history.***