Join experts from Swiss Re and the Insurance Information Institute as they review 2016's global natural catastrophe and man-made disaster losses and explain what they could mean to the insurance industry.

Last year, economic losses from these events nearly doubled to USD 175 billion. Insured losses also jumped from to USD 54 billion from USD 38 billion. These numbers were at their highest since 2012 and mark a reversal from the recent below-average years. Economic losses and insured losses were back close to their 10-year averages, with about 30% of total losses covered by insurance. Some areas fared much better because of higher insurance penetration.

The wildfires in Fort McMurray, Canada, provided a strong reminder of the value of insurance. With USD 4 billion in economic losses, the disaster was the largest ever insured loss in Canada. Some 70% were covered by insurance, demonstrating that communities with insurance protection are able to bounce back and recover significantly quicker than those without.

By contrast, last year's multi-billion dollar flood events in Mississippi and Louisiana showed that even developed countries like the US are not immune to underinsurance. Less than a third of USD 10 billion in economic losses – around USD 3 billion – were covered by insurance. With these events fresh in mind, and the NFIP re-authorization looming this year, we'll have a special focus on US flood.

Register today to save your seat for Swiss Re's Study Hall, “Natural Catastrophes: tornados, earthquakes, wildfires & floods – the story of 2016" presented by Dr. Steven N. Weisbart, Dr. Thomas Holzheu & Dr. Joshua Woodbury on Thursday, April 27, 2017, from 11-12 PM EST.