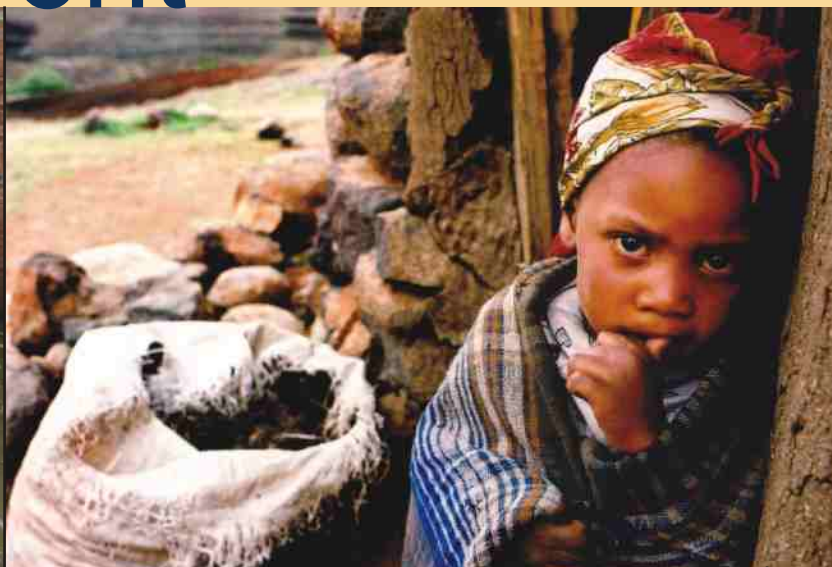


Invest to prevent



disaster

Microfinance is a tool that has successfully been utilized to improve livelihood options and reduce poverty. It has hardly been used yet as a tool for reducing risk vulnerability to natural hazards. Leading up to the International Day for Disaster reduction (12 October 2005), the ISDR secretariat will promote dialogue with the microfinance community on the possibility of using these tools to reduce disaster risk and increase community resilience to disasters.