

2016 *6th International Conference on*
BUILDING RESILIENCE
Building Resilience to Address the Unexpected



**7th-9th September, 2016 | University of Auckland
Auckland, New Zealand**

Edited by:

Dr. Niluka Domingo

Prof. Suzanne Wilkinson

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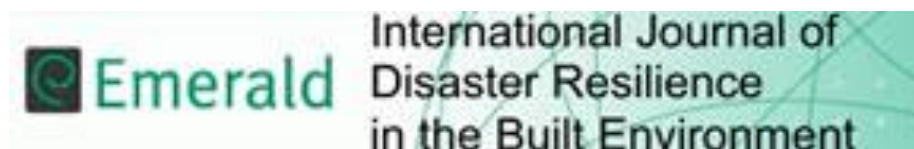
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Welcome

We would like to welcome you to the 6th International Building Resilience Conference 2016, with the theme "Building Resilience to Address the Unexpected". The conference is proudly organised by the University of Auckland's Centre for Disaster Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction (CDRRR), and the Construction Management Groups at Massey University and the University of Auckland. The Global Disaster Resilience Centre (GDRC), School of Art, Design and Architecture at the University of Huddersfield, UK, is a key partner of this event.

The Building Resilience Conference is an annual international conference exploring resilience as a useful framework of analysis for how society can cope with the threat of natural and human induced hazards. This is the sixth event in the Building Resilience Conference Series and follows on from previous successful events.

With increasing numbers of people being affected by shocks, stresses and strains, resilience building has become one of the key themes for governments. This vibrant annual international Building Resilience Conference brings together researchers, educators and industry practitioners involved in natural hazards and disaster resilience across the globe, providing participants with a strong platform for knowledge sharing, collaboration, disciplinary reflections, institutional exchange and collective growth.

We have been overwhelmed with the interest and enthusiasm shown for this conference. The conference programme contains over 150 papers, 7 workshops and plenty of opportunities to network with old friends, and to make new ones. We are particularly pleased to see so many overseas delegates, and offer a special welcome to those people from countries recently affected by disasters such as the Philippines, Italy, United States, Indonesia, Vanuatu, Sri Lanka, Japan, Nepal and Fiji. We hope you will be able to take some valuable lessons away from the conference to assist you with your continuing recovery. We also welcome those people travelling from neighbouring Pacific Islands, Australia and the Asia-Pacific and hope to see future regional and international collaborations arise from this conference.

We would particularly like to thank all our sponsors who have helped make this conference possible. To the hard working conference committee, we would like to offer our sincerest thanks. To the scientific committee and reviewers, we could not have been more impressed with your dedication. To our conference attendees and presenters, we offer a very warm welcome and hope you will enjoy the conference as much as we have enjoyed bringing the 6th International Building Resilience Conference to Auckland.

We look forward to meeting you at the conference and welcome you to the beautiful city of Auckland.

Suzanne Wilkinson and Niluka Domingo Conference Convenors

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Contents

	Pg.
MEASURING RESILIENCE: "WHY" IS AS IMPORTANT AS "HOW"	1
MEASURING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FOR COMMUNITY ACTION: WHAT WORKS, WHAT DOESN'T	11
IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSPORTATION RESILIENCE ASSESSMENT TOOL: NORTHLAND FLOOD CASE STUDY	21
HOW DO WE MEASURE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCE?	31
EVALUATING WASTEWATER SYSTEM FUNCTIONALITY AND RECOVERY PERFORMANCE FOLLOWING MAJOR DISRUPTIONS	40
WHAT GETS MEASURED GETS DONE: RESILIENCE BENCHMARKING AND MONITORING	51
SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE AND DEFINE PROJECT SUCCESS IN THE AUSTRALIAN STATE LEVEL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SECTOR.	62
PSYCHOMETRIC EVALUATION OF DISASTER IMPACT	76
BUSINESS RECOVERY FROM DISASTER: THE ROLE OF INSURANCE	87
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AS A PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY: A REVIEW OF RELATED TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROVISION FOR BUILT ENVIRONMENT PRACTITIONERS IN THE UK AND AUSTRALIA	88
ANALYSING COMMUNITY HAZARD IN URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEM	98
MAKING CITIES RESILIENT TO DISASTERS: "NEW" TEN ESSENTIALS	109
IMPROVING THE RESILIENCE OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SME'S)	130
CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE RESILIENCE OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY	131
HEALTH RISK ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONALLY DEPLOYING FIRST RESPONDERS FOLLOWING A NATURAL DISASTER	132
ENGINEERING DESIGN PARAMETERS FOR TRANSITIONAL SHELTER STRUCTURES IN THE PHILIPPINES	144
SHARED LEADERSHIP AND RESILIENCE ENGINEERING - A TALE OF TWO TEAMS	155
INTEGRATING DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION INTO THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT	156
MEASURING SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF ROAD STRUCTURE FAILURE	165
DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT DECISION-MAKING: A REVIEW	177
DISASTER RESILIENCE: IS IT THE SAME FOR EVERYBODY?	189
DEVELOPING A CULTURE OF PREPAREDNESS: EMBRACING VULNERABILITY TO BUILD RESILIENCE	190
GRASSROOTS LEADERSHIP TO BUILD RESILIENCE IN SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES	203
REBUILDING NEPAL: TRADITIONAL AND MODERN APPROACHES, BUILDING OR DIMINISHING RESILIENCE?	215
BUILDING CHRISTCHURCH'S WATER INFRASTRUCTURE BACK BETTER	226
MODELLING BUSINESS BEHAVIOURS FOLLOWING THE 2010-2011 CANTEBURY EARTHQUAKES	236
MULTI-HAZARD COASTAL RISK ASSESSMENT FOR BUILDING RESILIENCE- A CASE STUDY	246

LAND USE PLANNING FOR RISK, RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY	247
APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE SENDAI FRAMEWORK	257
COMMUNICATING UNCERTAINTY FOR FLOOD LOSS AND DAMAGE ASSESSMENT	258
RESILIENT COMMUNITIES: IMPLICATIONS FOR PROFESSIONALS	269
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE: A TOOLKIT	279
FRAMEWORKS FOR UNDERSTAND THE LONG-TERM ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF DISASTERS	287
A SYSTEMATIC METHOD OF PLANNING EMERGENCY EXERCISES TO ENHANCE HEALTHCARE RESILIENCE	288
SUSTAINABILITY IN THE CONTEXT OF RESILIENCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING STRATEGIES	299
URBAN RESILIENCE THROUGH SPATIAL SYNTAX	308
DISASTER IMPACTS ON THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT: A SYSTEMS PERSPECTIVE	319
COUNTERMEASURES TO IMPROVE HOSPITAL BUSINESS CONTINUITY IN A DISASTER	329
MEASURING ORGANISATIONAL RESILIENCE: EBB AND FLOW OF ONSHORE GAS INVESTMENTS	341
EDUCATION TO ENSURE CONTINUOUS HEALTHCARE SERVICES DURING A DISASTER	351
CONSEQUENCES OF INVOLUNTARY RELOCATIONS THAT AFFECT THE PROCESS OF RECOVERY: A LITERATURE REVIEW	361
CULTURE AND RESILIENCE: LESSONS FROM NEW ORLEANS AND JAPAN	372
COMPARING AND EVALUATING HONG KONG'S ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE POLICIES	386
BUILDING BACK BETTER IN GAZA	402
RESILIENT PRODUCTIVITY-PERFORMANCE CONSTRAINTS IN NEW ZEALAND ROAD MAINTENANCE AND REHABILITATION PROJECTS	413
ANALYSING DROUGHT RESILIENCE THROUGH THE COMMUNITY CAPITALS FRAMEWORK: CASE STUDY; EASTERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA	433
ENHANCING NETWORKS FOR RESILIENCE - UNDERSTANDING FORMAL AND INFORMAL NETWORKS IN A RURAL SETTING	445
POST-DISASTER RECONSTRUCTION IN CHRISTCHURCH: A 'BUILD BACK BETTER' PERSPECTIVE	446
TEXT MINING FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE DPROF PROGRAMME	447
INTELLIGENT MOOC FOR THE DISASTER RESILIENCE DPROF PROGRAMME	457
QUANTIFICATION OF SEISMIC EXPOSURE AND VULNERABILITY OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN METRO MANILA	467
CALM OVER CALAMITY: THE EFFECT OF KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS ON RESILIENCE	478
DO GREEN BUILDING RATING TOOLS ADDRESS SUSTAINABILITY? A PARADIGM SHIFT	492
A REVIEW: CRISIS INFORMATICS AND MOBILE APPLICATIONS IN BUILDING RESILIENCE	504
COMMUNITY OBLIGATIONS IN SHARED RESPONSIBILITY: POLICY PATHWAYS FOR RESILIENCE	517
INTRODUCING THE CHRISTCHURCH BUILD BACK SMARTER INITIATIVE	529
CAMPERVANS, TEMPORARY VILLAGES AND STUFF	539
REVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES IN DISASTERS: NEW ZEALAND CASE STUDY	540

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT	550
RESILIENCE BEYOND DISASTERS	561
INTEGRATING ADAPTATION STRATEGIES INTO POST-DISASTER RECOVERY: LESSONS FROM ASIA-PACIFIC COUNTRIES	571
MAPPING BUILT ENVIRONMENT PROFESSIONAL SKILLS AND NEEDS TO SENDAI FRAMEWORK	572
PRIORITIZATION OF CRITICAL FACTORS FOR RESILIENCE OF TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE: THE SENDAI FRAMEWORK	582
BUILDING RESILIENCE IN A POST-DISASTER SITUATION: LESSONS FROM CYCLONE IAN IN TONGA	590
A PROCEDURE FOR SELECTING WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM RESILIENCE INDICATORS	591
VULNERABLE AND RESILIENT? IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IN DISASTERS	599
SIMULATION OF POST-DISASTER RECOVERY FOR BUILDING A RESILIENT TOKYO	607
LIDAR-BASED FLOOD MAPPING FOR AGRICULTURAL RESILIENCE AND FOOD SECURITY	617
MAPPING VULNERABILITY FOR KELUD VOLCANO, INDONESIA – APPROACH TOWARDS DISASTER RESILIENCE	626
URBANIZATION AND DISASTER RISK: TOWARDS RESILIENT URBAN COMMUNITIES IN AUCKLAND	635
CANTERBURY QUAKE 2011: STRUCTURAL DESIGN LESSONS PAUP 2013	644
MANAGING JAKARTA’S FLOOD RISK AFTER HYOGO: POLICY & PLAN ANALYSES	653
THE RESILIENCE OF PLACE AND SOCIAL CAPITAL OF RAPAKI	663
TRAINING AND EDUCATION FOR RESILIENCE TO GEOLOGICAL DISASTERS: BEST PRACTICES FROM INDONESIA	664
DISASTER RECOVERY AND THE RESILIENCE NARRATIVE: WHERE IS VULNERABILITY?	673
BUILDING BACK BETTER IN HAIYAN-AFFECTED AREAS IN LEYTE ISLAND, PHILIPPINES	680
THE ROLE OF ACCOUNTABILITY WITHIN DISASTER RISK GOVERNANCE	688
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: A CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK	699
AGGREGATED RESPONSES OF HUMAN MOBILITY TO SEVERE WINTER STORMS: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY	710
COMMUNICATING DANGEROUS KNOWLEDGE, KEY POINTS FOR ENGAGING WITH COMMUNITIES	721
BUILDING RESILIENCE TO NATURAL HAZARDS: STRATEGIC DECISION MAKING FOR RISK OWNERSHIP	722
POST-DISASTER CONSTRUCTION WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES: CASE STUDY CANTERBURY EARTHQUAKE	733
DISASTER RISK AND RESILIENCE IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS: THE CASE OF GUINEA-BISSAU	744
WELLINGTON CORE SHELTERS: AN ANALYSIS OF NEED	754
A LOW COST RESILIENT CITY: JAKARTA	766
SYSTEMATIC IDENTIFICATION OF BARRIERS TO PPP SUCCESS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: APPLICATION OF SLEPT FRAMEWORK	778
SETTING THE PRIORITY OF RISK AND IMPACTS TO COMMUNITY BASED SAFETY AND SECURITY IN SLUM UPGRADING INITIATIVES: THE CASE OF LPUPAP, BANGLADESH	788
	800

FISHERMEN COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT INTEGRATION IN STRENGTHENING THE RESILIENT CITY – SURABAYA	810
ENHANCING RESILIENCE OF CRITICAL ROAD STRUCTURES UNDER NATURAL HAZARDS	811
EXOGENOUS AND ENDOGENOUS DRIVERS IN CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION POLICY MAKING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES	812
SPATIO-TEMPORAL VARIATION IN CHRISTCHURCH’S EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY: INTERACTIONS BETWEEN BUILT, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS	820
DISASTER ETHICS AND THE MANAGEMENT OF VULNERABILITIES: AN ASIAN PERSPECTIVE	821
CHALLENGES IN MANAGING RESIDENTIAL EARTHQUAKE INSURANCE: A POST-DISASTER REVIEW	831
PRIVATE SECTOR COMPETENCY NEEDS FOR BUILT ENVIRONMENT RESILIENCE	832
THE UNTAPPED POTENTIAL OF INFORMATION FLOWS FOR LONG-TERM URBAN RESILIENCE POLICY	842
BUILDING RESILIENT QUEENSLAND COMMUNITIES	851
RETHINKING SCHOOLS AS COMMUNITY HUBS IN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY	852
WAVES OF ADVERSITY, LAYERS OF RESILIENCE, ADAPTATION PATHWAYS IN THE ANTHROPOCENE	853
BUILDING BACK BETTER	854
HISTORY AND APPLICATION OF EMERGENCY LIGHTING IN NEW ZEALAND	855
A CRITICAL REVIEW OF EARTHQUAKE PLANNING IN NEW ZEALAND’S LOCAL COUNCILS	862
IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY AND VIABILITY OF SME CONTRACTORS: RESILIENCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK	872
<u>DOCTORAL WORKSHOP</u>	
TOWARDS EARTHQUAKE-RESILIENT BUILDINGS: EXPOSURE/DAMAGE DATABASE FOR THE 2013 BOHOL PHILIPPINES EARTHQUAKE	883
THE IMPACT OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF POST-EARTHQUAKES CHRISTCHURCH ON CREATIVE IDEA ENACTMENT: ENABLERS AND OBSTACLES	895
ACCEPTABLE FLOOD RISK IN RESIDENTIAL LAND-USES IN IPSWICH, QUEENSLAND	904
INFLUENCE OF RISK COMMUNICATION ON INTENTION TO PREPARE FOR FLOOD HAZARDS IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS	917
CHALLENGES FACING THE RELOCATED COMMUNITIES FOLLOWING THE 2004 INDIAN OCEAN TSUNAMI: A STUDY IN INDONESIA	929
GOVERNANCE OF CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION INTEGRATION: STRATEGIES, POLICIES, AND PLANS IN AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	939
EXPLORING HOW VISUAL INFORMATION SUPPORTS COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT	947
THE EFFECTS OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ON SAMOA’S ARCHITECTURAL RESILIENCE	958
EVALUATE HOMES IN PUBLIC HOUSES USING QUALITY OF LIFE TOOL, TALK TO THE BUILDING AND SPACE SYNTAX	969
A SUEVEY ON ECONOMIC VULNARABIITY AND RESILIENCE TO NATURAL HAZARDS	980
SEISMIC RESILANCE OF INDONESIAN VERNACULAR ACHITECTURE IN A NEW ZEALAND CONTEXT	990

TWENTY YEARS OF RESILIENCE RESEARCH: FROM MODELS TO MEASUREMENT	1001
ANALYSING THE CONSEQUENCES OF POST CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION	1012
THE USE OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACES TO ENHANCE THE COASTAL URBAN CITIES' RESILIENCE TO TSUNAMIS	1022
COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS OF FLOOD RESILIENCE AS REPRESENTED IN COGNITIVE MAPS	1031
HOW RESILIENT ARE POOR HOUSEHOLDS?	1044
THE ARCHITECTURAL GAPS IN POST-DISASTER RECONSTRUCTION	1056
PLACE ATTACHMENT AND VALUE AWARENESS AS MEANS OF BUILDING RESILIENCE WITHIN A COMMUNITY	1057
IMPACT OF INCREASED DESIGN WIND SPEEDS ON RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION COSTS IN THE PHILIPPINES	1067
IMPACTS OF WATERLOGGING AND ADAPTATION MEASURES IN KHULNA, BANGLADESH	1076
REVERSE LOGISTIC IN SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT	1085
CADRE WORKSHOP	
KNOWLEDGE GAPS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TO INCREASE SOCIETAL RESILIENCE TO DISASTERS	1086

THE USE OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACES TO ENHANCE THE COASTAL URBAN CITIES' RESILIENCE TO TSUNAMIS

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ABSTRACT

Tsunami is a rapid-onset natural hazard that can be considered as one of the extremely destructive hazards. Depending on the location of the origin of Tsunami, there can be limited time available to evacuate people to safe places and to make appropriate response decisions in timely manner. Therefore, it is imperative to increase the inherent capacity of a city to respond this type of a natural hazard.

Planning and designing spatial elements are one of the directives to increase the inherent capacity of a city to resist, absorb, accommodate and recover from the effects of a Tsunami. Accordingly, this research paper emphasizes the importance of public open spaces as one of the key spatial elements of a city which can be used as a strategy to enhance the coastal urban cities' resilience to Tsunamis, as an agent of recovery, as a mode to provide essential life support, as a primary place to rescue, shelters and potential for adaptive response.

Moreover, this ongoing research study analyses the current literature on use of public open spaces for Tsunami resilience and also the current problems and issues associated with it. Finally, the analysis suggests set of recommendations to enhance the use of public open spaces to increase the coastal urban cities' resilience to Tsunamis.

Key words: Coastal Urban Cities, Disaster Resilience, Planning and Designing, Public Open Spaces, Tsunami Resilience

INTRODUCTION

The growth of world population and the increase of human migration towards the coastal urban cities, result rapid population growth in coastal urban cities. Therefore, these coastal urban cities will contain an increasingly large proportion of the world's human population (World Bank Group, 2016). Confirming this fact, population distribution studies indicate that half of the world's population lives within 60 km of the sea, and three-quarters of large cities are located on the coast (UNEP, 2015). However, this growing population in coastal urban cities, create significant challenges to both natural and built environments by polluting the coastal zone, putting more pressure on land and destabilizing the coastline by damaging mangroves, coral reefs, sea grass beds and sand dunes.

Further, the implications of climate change set all coastal locations at risk with the impacts of accelerated global sea-level rise, changes in storm frequency and other related coastal hazards (Neumann, Vafeidis, Zimmermann, & Nicholls, 2015). Moreover, the combined implication of the population growth in urban cities and the climate change, increase the exposure of coastal urban dwellers to natural coastal hazards such as coastal floods, storms, erosion, tsunamis, saltwater intrusion and subsidence.

Out of these coastal hazards, Tsunami is a rapid-onset coastal hazard that can be considered as ever-present threat to lives, infrastructure, and property along the coasts (Taubenböck et al., 2009). It is infrequent, but extremely destructive natural hazard. Historical records indicate that hundreds of thousands of people were killed by tsunamis worldwide (National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, 2001). Further, Tsunami 2004 reminded the world to be more proactive by claiming nearly 275 000 lives and destroying billions of dollars' worth properties (Barber, 2005).

However, regardless of these threats of coastal hazards, rapid urbanization gathers more people towards coastal urban cities due to the internationalization of finance, service and products, growth of international ports and high-density developments near harbors. For instance, the estimations display that 489 cities within the Pacific states of Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington are vulnerable to tsunamis and 900,000 people in these cities have the risk of being inundated by a 50-foot tsunami (National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, 2001).

Therefore, it is an increasingly important, but critical task, to make coastal urban cities resilience to Tsunamis, especially with the challenges of urbanization. When making cities resilience to disasters, León and March (2014) state that urban planning and designing can play a vital role through its ability to integrate the multi-dimensional aspects affecting disaster risk reduction. Adding to this, UNISDR (2012) states that strategic planning and design of spatial elements and their influence on the natural and built environment are directives of city's capacity to absorb and recover from the effect of disasters.

While urban design and planning solutions play a vital role in creating resilient cities, public open spaces have become one of the key elements in spatial planning and designing which play an important role in urban cities. However, the use of public open spaces for disaster resilience has not been fully revealed yet to the research field (Hossain, 2014). Specifically, lack of consideration has been given to identify the role of Public open spaces to make cities resilience to Tsunamis. Accordingly, this research paper explores the potential use of public open spaces to make coastal urban cities resilience to Tsunamis and current problems associated with it, through the analysis of current literature.

RESEARCH METHOD

This paper presents the findings of an initial literature analysis based on a critical literature review and a synthesis which was conducted as part of an ongoing PhD research study. In order to ensure that the literature review is complete and comprehensive, the researcher has critically reviewed journal papers, book chapters, conference papers as well as local and international reports which discuss the current issues, problems and potentials in the subject area. At the same time, this literature review has been presented in different national and international audiences where the literature review has been critically examined and modified according to the feedback received. Accordingly, this paper presents current research need on planning designing public open spaces with a new focus on enhancing Tsunami resilience coastal urban cities.

MAKING COASTAL URBAN CITIES RESILIENCE TO TSUNAMIS

'Tsunami' is a series of long waves generated by a sudden displacement of a large volume of water (National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, 2001). Tsunamis are activated mostly by submarine earthquakes, submarine volcanic eruptions, underwater landslides or slumps of large volumes of earth, meteor impacts, and even onshore slope failures that fall into the ocean or a bay. National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (2001) and UNESCO (2015) state that submarine earthquakes are the most common causes for Tsunamis. Even though, Tsunami is a natural hazard, Tsunami events become a disaster when they harm people, damage properties and act beyond the ability of the communities to cope. Confirming this fact, Table 1 presents the overview of Tsunami disasters from 1980-2015.

Overview of Tsunami Disasters from 1980-2015	
No. of Events:	27
No. of People Killed:	250,471
No. of People Effected:	1,819,357
Economic Damage (US\$ X1000) :	221,995,540

Table 28- Tsunami Disasters from 1980-2015, (EMDAT, 2016)

Further, table 2 describes the effect of Tsunamis on various countries which were caused by numerous tsunami events during the period of 1980 to 2015. Accordingly, it can be noted that, during the time period of 1980-2015, the most devastating tsunami event was recorded in 2004 which has taken the lives of more than 275,000 people and destroyed millions of dollars' worth of property (Prevention web UNISDR, 2008).

Year	Country	Total Deaths (No. of People)	Economic Damage (US\$X1000)
2004	Indonesia	165,708	4,451,600
2004	Sri Lanka	35,399	1,316,500
2011	Japan	19,846	21,000,000
2004	India	16,389	1,022,800
2004	Thailand	8,345	No Data
1998	Papua New Guinea	2,182	No Data
2006	Indonesia	802	55,000
2010	Indonesia	530	No Data
2004	Somalia	298	100,000
2004	Maldives	102	470,100
2004	Malaysia	80	500,000

Table 29-Loss of human lives and economic loss by Tsunami events 1980-2015 (EMDAT, 2016)

Further, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (2011) has stated that North Pacific Coast Tsunami in Japan 2011 has killed more than 12,000 human lives while claiming 15,000 people missing. In addition to that, one of another devastating tsunami events was the Tsunami in 2010 in Chili. Accordingly, it can be noted that the destruction caused by three major tsunamis – Indian Ocean 2004, Chile 2010 and Japan 2011 have exposed the weaknesses of capability of communities to cope with these catastrophic events.

Moreover, Tsunamis cannot be confidentially predicted as they are generated by the movements on faults in the earth's crust. Therefore, depending on the location of the tsunami's origin, there can be limited time is available to evacuate people to places of safety and to make appropriate response decisions. Thus, to plan for such events, an extra effort needs to be taken by looking at each and every aspect of a city.

Further, as it was discussed before, the rapid coastal urbanization gather more people towards the coastal urban cities generating significant challenges to both natural and built environments. Hence, the vulnerabilities and impact are extremely high on urban coastal cities. Therefore, it is an imperative task to make coastal urban cities resilient to Tsunami hazards.

When making coastal urban cities resilience to Tsunamis, the focus can be given on various elements of a city including Public awareness on actions, Preparedness, built environment elements, Technological inputs, institutional capacity and ecological integrity, etc. Out of these elements, strategic planning and design of spatial elements and their influence on the natural and built environment are directives of city's capacity to absorb and recover from disasters (UNISDR, 2012). These spatial strategies can be focused on different spatial elements such as building structures, road networks, open spaces, forests and natural reserves. In this context, this particular study specifically focuses on Public open spaces as one of the key

spatial elements which can be significantly used to make coastal urban cities resilience to Tsunamis.

PUBLIC OPEN SPACES TO MAKE CITIES RESILIENCE TO TSUNAMIS

The current literature which discusses the potential use of public open spaces for disaster resilience reveal, that the public open spaces have a significant potential to be used in three main stages in disaster cycle; emergency response, recovery and mitigation.

Emergency Response and Recovery

In an event of a Tsunami, people may have very limited time to response including gathering to a safer place, sheltering and to distribute the necessary goods and services, etc. Therefore, community's ability to response and to make appropriate decision, timely manner will be highly determined by the arrangement of the spatial elements.

Accordingly, León and March (2014) emphasize the need of public open spaces with adequate location, capacity, and terrain qualities for Tsunami evacuation. They state that the most crucial two elements of Tsunami emergency are streets and Open spaces, because open spaces provide shelters for evacuees sometimes for hours to days depending on the extent of the tsunami warning or any resulting damage, while streets deliver the movement network for emergency services as well as for evacuees.

Further, Taubenböck et al. (2009), emphasize the need of identification of natural safe areas for emergency evacuation by overlapping the land use maps with tsunami hazard maps using remotely sensed data and these natural safe areas are defined as open spaces accessible by the street network and larger enough to accommodate the people in a rescue situation. Accordingly, open spaces which are accessible by the street network and have the capacity to accommodate people, are an asset for emergency evacuation in an event of a Tsunami. However, most of these literature which discuss the use of public open spaces for Tsunami resilience, do not discuss the practical implementation of this strategy to an urban context.

Allan and Brytan (2010) highlight that, recovery planners plan these open spaces, considering it as a part of the natural environment, but not as part of the built environment. They further identify that these strategies may end up with large quantities of unstructured open spaces which contradict with the strategies to achieve liveable, diverse and sustainable urban environments and also rather impractical with urban city form. Accordingly, it can be understood that to enhance use of public open spaces for emergency response and recovery, these Public open spaces need to be planned and designed to function well during both emergency and non-emergency times. Confirming this, Allan and Bryant (2010) discuss that the emergency management plans and recovery plans become more effective when it is aligned with everyday life of the city through urban planning and

designing strategies. Accordingly, when these emergency management plans and recovery plans are integrated into the day to day life, the city become more resilient to disasters.

This applies even more, when making urban cities resilience disasters. Tsunami is an infrequent event, therefore, provision of large quantities of open space for the only purpose of emergency management planning is not practical. It is even more difficult to apply to an urban city where the land scarcity is a major issue. Further, Allan and Bryant (2010) state that those places will not function well in an emergency if it is not well connected with the street network and in the long run those places will become neither physically prepared and will not be identified by the public in an emergency event. Accordingly, it can be understood, the necessity of planning and designing public open spaces to function well during both emergency and non-emergency times.

Further, León and March (2014) suggest, that Tsunami rescue open spaces need to be identified with an objective of providing safe assembly spaces, basic emergency services and utilities, such as first aids, fresh water, electricity, and communication. In supporting this, Allan and Bryant (2010) state that, different types of open spaces can be used for different functions in emergency response and recovery, providing simple to complex services such as gathering, sheltering, temporary inhabitation and so on. Accordingly, the need of these public open spaces may vary according to the type varying from small squares to parks and play grounds.

At the same time, Allan and Bryant (2010) highlight the use of Open Spaces network for disaster resilience through their study on the earthquake event of San Francisco. Further, they state that after a major earthquake, city's open space network have the potential to act as a 'second city' by providing simple to complex services. Consequently, this concept of open space network can be cross compared with the previously discussed need of having different types of public open spaces for Tsunami resilience. Accordingly, in order to enhance the use of Public open spaces to make coastal urban cities resilience Tsunamis, the concept of network of public open spaces can be used as a mode to facilitate different functions of Tsunami emergency response and recovery.

Mitigation

In addition to the use of public open spaces for emergency response and recovery, current literature point out the potential use of Public open spaces as a mitigation strategy.

To mitigate the risk of Tsunami, UNESCO (2015), propose that Tsunami mitigation strategies need to be formed using the land-use planning and regulation strategies. Further, they introduce a guideline presenting the necessity of setting up development setback line through the integration of Tsunami inundation modelling into land use planning. Further, National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (2001), also emphasizes the use of

open spaces as an element to mitigate the Tsunami Risk. They introduce seven basic principles of planning and designing for Tsunami events. Out of these 7 principles, the second principle describes, that Tsunami hazard areas need to be allocated for open-space uses (National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, 2001). However, most of these discussions, emphasize the need of acquiring Tsunami Hazard Areas for Open-Space Uses and confine the uses in conservation and preservation perspective.

Further, some of these arguments even suggest to use these open spaces for agriculture or scenic easement, but less consideration has been given on use of 'public open spaces'. Specially, in a coastal urban city where the land is a scarce resource, allocating open spaces only for the purpose of mitigation cannot be considered as the best practice. In this context, using preserved hazard areas for public open space uses of a city can be considered as a sustainable and practical solution. In supporting this view, Ardekani and Hosseini (2012), emphasize that development should be prevented in high-hazard areas wherever possible through land use regulations, nevertheless these preserved Tsunami hazard areas need to be used for open-space uses such as scenic amenity and recreational activities. However, this does not mean to promote an additional development in vulnerable areas, but it should be planned and designed to make the use of hazard-prone areas safer to the community and to get the highest and best use of the space in urban cities.

CONCLUSION

Above literature synthesis emphasizes that there is a significant potential of using Public open spaces to make coastal urban cities resilience to Tsunamis as a facilitator for emergency planning, as an agent of recovery and as an enabler for mitigation. However, most of the current studies identify the use of Public open spaces discretely in two places; 1) emergency management and recovery, 2) mitigation, but not as an interconnected system of a city. At the same time, as discussed before, the concept of public open spaces network can be potentially used for emergency response and recovery. Accordingly, amalgamating this strategy with mitigation strategy, a network of Public open spaces can be developed contributing to both emergency rescue, recovery and also to mitigation strategies. Development of this type of interconnected network of public open spaces can significantly contribute to create coastal urban cities resilience to Tsunamis.

In conclusion, this paper identifies current problems and issues, and suggest set of approaches which can be used to enhance the use of public open spaces to enhance the coastal urban cities' resilience to Tsunamis. Accordingly, these identified potentials, constrains and proposed strategies can be summarized as follows.

Potentials	Constrains	Proposed Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency response and recovery – Gathering, Shelter, Distribution of goods and services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of open spaces without connecting everyday life of the cities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan and design public open spaces to function well during both emergency and non-emergency times.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of different typologies of Public open spaces for different functions of Tsunami resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Result large quantities of unstructured open spaces contradicting to sustainable cities concept 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an public Open Spaces Network contributing different functions of Tsunami resilience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tsunami hazard areas can be allocated for open-space uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designation for the only purpose of conservation and preservation Constrains in practical implementation to urban context 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum utilization of Tsunami Hazard Prone areas for public open space uses rather than just keeping them for preservation and conservation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can significantly contribute to make coastal urban cities resilience to Tsunamis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the uses of Public Open spaces discretely without an interlink 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of Open Spaces Network which works as an interconnected system of the city

Figure 3- Summary of Discussion on current use of POS for Tsunami Resilience

Further, these initial findings will be critically evaluated at the next stage of the research where the researcher will incorporate the viewpoints of urban planners, coastal planners, disaster resilience experts and Tsunami effected communities on to these initial findings. Finally, the research findings will be used to develop a framework to plan and design public open spaces to enhance the coastal urban cities’ resilience to Tsunamis.

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