Accelerating Climate and Disaster Resilience and Low-carbon Development Through the COVID-19 Recovery

This edited book approaches the threat and impact of environmental disasters on Asia’s urban populations from a governance perspective. It multiplies a sector- and multi-dimensional approach to disaster governance that emphasizes the importance of multiple stakeholders in preparing for, responding to and recovering from unexpected impacts. The contributors to this volume take a broad view of the multifaceted causalities and the interconnected threats and vulnerabilities of environmental disasters in Asia. As such, the book is an invitation to advance scholarship in the search for more effective, comprehensive and inclusive disaster preparedness agendas, recovery programs and development priorities.

The Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2015

In Planung Asian Cities: Risks and Resilience, Stephen Hummert and Dean Forbes have brought together some of the region’s most distinguished urbanists to explore the planning history and recent development of Pacific Asia’s major cities. They show how globalization, and the competition to achieve global city status, has had a profound effect on all these cities. Tokyo is an archetypal world city, Singapore, Hong Kong and Seoul have acquired world city characteristics. Taipei and Kuala Lumpur have been at the centre of expanding economies in which nationalism and global aspirations have been intertwined and expressed in the built environment. Beijing, Hong Kong and Shanghai have played key, sometimes competing, roles in China’s rapid economic growth. Bangalore’s amenity economy is currently threatened by political instability, while Jakarta and Manilla are the core city-regions of less developed countries with sluggish economic growth, severe institutional problems and high values of unemployment. But how real are these cities to the risks that they face? How can they manage continuing pressures for development and growth while risk are a threat to potential crisis? How well prepared are they for climate change? How can they build social capital, so important to a city’s recovery from shocks and disasters? What forms of governance and planning are appropriate for the vast mega-regions that are emerging? And, given the tradition of top-down, centralized, state-directed planning which drove the economic growth of many of these cities in the last century, what prospects are there of them becoming more inclusive and sensitive to the needs of their populations and to the importance of culture, heritage and local places in creating livable cities?

Green Finance Strategies for Post-COVID-19 Economic Recovery in Southeast Asia

This volume contains papers presented at the 25th FAEA Annual Conference, held in Singapore in September 2006.

Post-Disaster Governance in Southeast Asia

The factor that makes some countries rebound quickly from disasters while others fall apart: “A fascinating book on an important topic”—E.L. Hirsch, in Choice Each year, natural disasters threaten the stability and strength of communities worldwide. Yet responses to the challenges of recovery vary greatly and in ways that aren’t explained by the magnitude of the catastrophe or the amount of aid provided by national governments or the international community. The difference between resilience and despair, as Daniel P. Aldrich shows, lies in the depth of communities’ social capital. Building Resilience highlights the critical role of social capital in the ability of a community to withstand disaster and rebuild both the infrastructure and the ties that are at the foundation of any community. Aldrich examines the post-disaster responses of four distinct communities—Tokyo following the 1923 earthquake, Kobe after the 1995 earthquake, Tamil Nadu after the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, and New Orleans post-Katrina—and finds that those with robust social networks were better able to coordinate recovery. In addition to quickly disseminating information and financial and physical assistance, communities with an abundance of social capital were able to mobilize the resources and the leadership of people and organisations in the most effective way. With governments increasingly overstretched and natural disasters likely to increase in frequency and intensity, a thorough understanding of how communities are experienced and dealt with on a local level. It examines survivors’ experiences of rituals and ceremonies that became a part of the survivors’ lives in new ways after the tsunami, offering psychological reasures and religious efficacies as well as communication links between themselves and the deceased. Using observations, narratives and material from in-depth interviews with survivors, bereaved family members, relief workers, officials and Buddhist monks and nuns, this book contributes to the research on anthropology of disaster and to the development of research on cultural resilience and religion in post-disaster recovery. It will be of interest to scholars of Disaster Studies, Buddhist Studies and Asian Studies.

This book showcases research in disaster response in Southeast Asia of particular interest to those studying disaster and mental health, and for providers of mental health and psychosocial support. Contributors cover topics ranging from resilience to recovery from mental and psychological trauma.

Planning for Community-based Disaster Resilience Worldwide

All of the huge natural disasters that claimed the lives of thousands in Asia, the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004 was the largest, estimated to have killed more than 230,000 people. The scope of damage brought that this natural disaster urges focus on recovery and post-disaster reconstruction from several perspectives. Here we find an in-depth ethnography of Thailand and the role of culture and religion in addressing an underlying issue in post-disaster recovery. Following the tsunami recovery over five years, the book provides knowledge on socio-cultural responses from affected local communities after natural disasters, and on the local material collected in Thailand following the 2004 tsunami. With a focus on how culture and religion interact in the processes of building resilience and decreasing vulnerability, it gives a deeper understanding of how disasters are experienced and dealt with on a local level. It examines survivors’ experiences of rituals and ceremonies that became a part of the survivors’ lives in new ways after the tsunami, offering psychological reassurance and religious efficacies as well as communication links between themselves and the deceased. Using observations, narratives and material from in-depth interviews with survivors, bereaved family members, relief workers, officials and Buddhist monks and nuns, this book contributes to the research on anthropology of disaster and to the development of research on cultural resilience and religion in post-disaster recovery. It will be of interest to scholars of Disaster Studies, Buddhist Studies and Asian Studies.

This book presents practical approaches for tackling the threats from climate change and disaster to urban growth in Pacific island countries and Asian nations. With chapters written by leading scholars and practitioners, Urbanisation at Risk presents research and case studies from island countries across the Pacific, Cambodia, Nepal and the Philippines. The book explores and presents the theory, policy and practice of how governments, civil society, aid organisations and people themselves prepare for, withstand and recover better from urban disasters including windstorms, floods, earthquakes and fires, and the effects of climate change. This book is written for urban policy makers, researchers, humanitarian aid and development workers, and anyone interested in urbanisation, participatory approaches, disasters, resilience and climate change adaptation.

Urbanisation at Risk in the Pacific and Asia

Throughout the Asia-Pacific, the pace of human and economic growth is faster than the pace of development of physical infrastructure. As a result, the region is becoming increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. This book presents a series of case studies from Pacific island countries and the Asia-Pacific, illustrating the diverse ways in which communities are responding to climate change and disaster risks. The book explores how communities are adapting to changing conditions, and how these adaptations are informing policy and practice. It also examines the role of international organisations and aid agencies in supporting these community-based efforts. The book concludes with a series of recommendations for future research and policy.

This book provides a comprehensive overview of the current state of knowledge regarding the threats from climate change and disaster to urban growth in Pacific island countries and Asian nations. With chapters written by leading scholars and practitioners, Urbanisation at Risk presents research and case studies from island countries across the Pacific, Cambodia, Nepal and the Philippines. The book explores and presents the theory, policy and practice of how governments, civil society, aid organisations and people themselves prepare for, withstand and recover better from urban disasters including windstorms, floods, earthquakes and fires, and the effects of climate change. This book is written for urban policy makers, researchers, humanitarian aid and development workers, and anyone interested in urbanisation, participatory approaches, disasters, resilience and climate change adaptation.

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Asian Development Outlook 2019

This book considers the challenges of building disaster resilience in South Asia – a region that frequently experiences some of the most severe and devastating impacts of disasters. Despite significant work to assist affected communities, many smaller South Asian countries remain particularly vulnerable in terms of fostering disaster resilience. Drawing on examples from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka, this book offers rich insights and narratives on disaster-resilience policy and practice. It considers the possibilities for advancing community resilience and capacity building through an exploration of different aspects of governance and policy. Given the diversity of these countries and recent disasters, a variety of perspectives are considered: institutional and policy frameworks, risk management, governance, recovery operations, building codes, and policy and media discourses. The book offers a collective understanding of practice, which can offer global lessons to other regions increasingly beset by disasters and with uncertain environmental futures. This book will be a valuable resource for scholars, practitioners and students in the fields of disaster risk management and mitigation, climate change adaptation, public policy and sustainable development.

Disaster Resilience in Asia: A Special Supplement Of Asia's Journey to Prosperity

This book establishes a new, holistic framework for disaster recovery and mitigation, providing a multidisciplinary perspective on the field of risk management strategies and societal and communal resilience. Going beyond narrow approaches that are all too prevalent in the field, this book builds on an optimum combination of community-level networks, private market mechanisms and state-based assistance strategies. Its chapters describe best practices in the field and elucidate cutting-edge research on recovery, highlighting the interaction between government, industry and civil society. The book uses new data from a number of recent disasters across southeast and east Asia to understand the interactions among the state, the market, and catastrophe, drawing on events in Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Japan, China and Thailand. Grounded in theories of risk mitigation and empirical research, the book provides practical guidance for decision-makers along with future research directions for scholars. The Asian region is highly prone to natural disasters which devastate large and mostly poor populations. This book deals with some of the root issues underlying the continued vulnerability of these societies to catastrophic shocks. The book is unusual in that it comprehensively covers resilience and fragilities from community levels to market mechanisms and governance and it analyses these issues in very different economic and structural settings. Recommended for development and disaster risk managers—without question. Professor Debabrata Guha-Sapir Director, Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED); Professor, University of Louvain, Research Institute Health and Society.

Post-Tsunami Recovery in Thailand

This book presents a comprehensive framework and indicators that can be used to assess a city’s degree of resilience. Based on surveys using bottom-up assessment tools, it proposes the concept, framework and indicators of a resilient policy model (including some participatory approaches). It also presents case studies of this and similar tools applied to Asian and African cities, the highlights include information on green infrastructure and adaptation, their possible challenges and some lessons from various countries. It can help people in the process of developing their own policies and tools for assessing cities’ resilience performance. The book is a joint contribution of the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

Southeast Asian Affairs 2011

This book is based on the papers presented and discussions held at a high-level regional workshop organized by the Asian Development Bank in January 2010 to discuss the impact of the global economic and financial crisis on developing Asia. It provides a clear and thought-provoking analysis of the global economic crisis from the perspective of 19 Asian countries. The book presents case studies of various Asian economies and suggests how Asia can make better and more resilient recovery. The book proposes that Asian economies can capitalize on the global economic crisis by using it as an opportunity to move from crisis management to gradually assuming global economic leadership. It spells out a broad strategy for strengthening recovery efforts, ensuring inclusive growth and open regionalism, rebalancing Asia's growth model, and creating greater regional cooperation for a prosperous and resilient Asia. This book is the first ever book in the market to undertake an in-depth discussion about the impact and the long-term implications of the global financial crisis on economies in Asia.

Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Report 2021

The Asia and Pacific region has seen tremendous economic and social progress since the 1990s. Yet, the region remains vulnerable to disaster risk that threatens its hard-won gains. Over the years, developing Asia has endured a number of disasters triggered by natural hazards. As a result, numerous lives, livelihoods, and communities have been damaged or lost. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has further tested the resilience of such a disaster-prone region, as people and businesses, governments and businesses have been disrupted, stopped, or, in some cases, closed. The book presents new data on how the region is faring in terms of recovery efforts, ensuring inclusive growth and open regionalism, rebalancing Asia’s growth model, and creating greater regional cooperation for a prosperous and resilient Asia. This book is the first book in the market to undertake an in-depth discussion about the impact and the long-term implications of the global financial crisis on economies in Asia.

Urban and Resilient Asia

The Asian Development Outlook, now in its 30th year, analyzes economic performance in the past year and forecasts performance in the next 2 years for the 45 economies in Asia and the Pacific that make up developing Asia. Growth prospects in developing Asia remain strong despite persistent external headwinds that could weigh on growth in the advanced economies and the People’s Republic of China. Though the risk of sharp increases in US interest rates has subsided, policymakers must remain vigilant. Disasters are shaped by natural hazards and the dynamics of the economy, society, and environment in which they occur. They pose a growing threat to development and prosperity in the region, their consequences disproportionate and severe in developing countries and the poor for the marginal and marginalized. As developing Asia's trajectory of development continues to move toward greater economic and social cohesion, the region must find new ways to reduce its vulnerability to hazards and build economic resilience.

Resilient Policies in Asian Cities

This edited volume addresses how transnational interactions among civil society actors in Asia and its sub-regions are helping to strengthen common democratic values and transform dominant processes of policymaking and corporate capitalism in the region. The contributors examine transnational civil society’s role in advancing transnational policies for both information and power-sharing governments and businesses to adopt, modify, or abandon certain policies or positions. This volume investigates the role of such networks through a range of interdisciplinarity approaches, bringing together case studies on Asia’s transnationalism from South, Southeast, and Northeast Asia across four key themes: local transformations and connections, diaspora politics, cross-regional initiatives and networks, and global actors and influences. The book demonstrates how transnational civil society is connecting people in local communities across Asia, in parallel to emerging tensions between nation-states and civil society. By highlighting the grassroots regionalism emerging from ever-increasing information exchange between civil society actors across borders – as well as concrete transnational initiatives uniting actors across Asia – the volume advances the intellectual mandate of redefining ‘Asia’ as a dynamic and interconnected formation. Transnational Civil Society in Asia will appeal to students and scholars of international relations, politics and Asia studies more broadly.

Resilient Asia Amidst Global Financial Crisis

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has seen governments across developing Asia move significant amounts of resources to support economic and social stability. Through these measures, the region has been able to move beyond a phase of stabilizing its economies with nudge policies and has reached the early stages of recovery. This book draws on the 19 economies in Asia that make up the region’s diverse market economies and presents lessons and examples from across the region on how Asia’s resilience can serve as a model for the world. The book presents a comprehensive framework and indicators that can be used to assess a city’s degree of resilience. Based on surveys using bottom-up assessment tools, it proposes the concept, framework and indicators of a resilient policy model (including some participatory approaches). It also presents case studies of this and similar tools applied to Asian and African cities, the highlights include information on green infrastructure and adaptation, their possible challenges and some lessons from various countries. It can help people in the process of developing their own policies and tools for assessing cities’ resilience performance. The book is a joint contribution of the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.
Resettlement Challenges for Displaced Populations and Refugees

In this volume, contributors look at response, recovery and adaptation to climate-induced disasters, in Asia-Pacific - the world's most disaster-prone region. Chapters examine case studies from Cambodia, Fiji, Solomon Islands and Samoa.

Creating Livable Asian Cities

The main focus of this book is to help better understand the multidimensionality and complexity of population displacement and the role that reconstruction and recovery knowledge and practice play in this regard. According to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), the total number of people forcibly displaced due to war and conflicts, disasters, and climate change worldwide, exceeded 68 million in 2016. Many of these displaced populations may never be able to go back and rebuild their houses, communities, and businesses. This text brings together recovery and reconstruction professionals, researchers, and policy makers to examine how displaced populations can rebuild their lives in new locations and recover from disasters that have impacted their livelihoods, and communities. This book provides readers with an understanding of how disaster recovery and reconstruction knowledge and practice can contribute to the recovery and reconstruction of displaced and refugee populations. This book will appeal to students, researchers, and professionals working in the field.

Monetary and Financial Management in Asia in the 21st Century

In Planning Asian Cities: Risks and Resilience, Stephen Hammatt and Dean Forbes have brought together some of the region's most distinguished urbanists to explore the planning history and recent development of Pacific Asia's major cities. They show how globalization, and the competition to achieve global city status, are putting all of Asia's cities at risk of becoming high-cost world cities. Tokyo, Hong Kong and Seoul have acquired world city characteristics. Taipei and Kuala Lumpur have been at the centre of expanding economies in which nationalism and global aspirations have been intertwined and expressed in the built environment. Beijing, Hong Kong and Shanghai have played key, sometimes competing, roles in China's rapid economic growth. Bangalore's amenity economy is currently threatened by political instability, while Jakarta and Manila are the core city-regions of less developed countries with overlapping economies and significant unmet potential. What do these cities have in common, and what do they have in the way of the risks that they face? How can they manage continual pressures for development and growth while reducing their vulnerability to a range of potential crises? How well prepared are they for climate change? How can they build social capital, so important to a city's recovery from shocks and disasters? What forms of governance and planning are appropriate for the vast mega-regions that are emerging? And, given the tradition of top-down, centralized, state-directed planning which drove the economic growth of many of these cities in the last century, what prospects are there of them becoming more inclusive and sensitive to the diverse needs of their populations and to the importance of culture, heritage and local places in creating livable cities?

Resilience and Recovery in Asian Disasters

This report explains how the quality of infrastructure investments in developing Asia can be enhanced and why this is vital for the region's sustainable recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. It emphasizes the need to balance urgent demand for infrastructure financing with governance approaches that focus on boosting efficiency and improving investment outcomes. The report explores how the Asian Development Bank can strengthen its support for quality infrastructure in the region through its financing instruments, programs, and projects.

Tourism Crisis and Disaster Management in the Asia-Pacific

This report reviews the impact of trade facilitation initiatives in Asia and the Pacific since the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic began and discusses how to increase supply chain resilience. Supply chain disruptions caused by the pandemic have underscored the need for digital and paperless trade processes in support of national and regional Supply Chain Resilience Index. The report examines the pandemic's impact on the supply chains of critical goods such as vaccines, personal protective equipment, and food, and provides policy suggestions for enhancing supply chain resilience and trade facilitation. This is the third biennial progress report on trade facilitation implementation in Asia and the Pacific jointly prepared by the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

Disaster Resilience in Asia

The Asia-Pacific area is one of the fastest growing tourism regions and a major driver of global tourism in general. Tourism Industries in Asia Pacific have been challenged in recent years by a number of major crises and disasters including terrorism, outbreaks (e.g. SARS and Bird Flu), natural disasters (e.g. tsunami, bushfires, flooding), and political crisis (e.g. protests and political instability). This book contributes to the understanding of disaster and management generally, but with a specific focus on the Asia-Pacific. With contributions by international scholars and practitioners, the book discusses the theoretical and practical approaches towards successful crisis and disaster management.

Accelerating Climate and Disaster Resilience and Low-Carbon Development through the COVID-19 Recovery

The 2021 edition of the Outlook addresses reallocation of resources to digitalisation in response to COVID-19, with special focuses on health, education and industry 4.0. During the COVID-19 crisis, digitalisation has proved critical to ensuring the continuity of essential services.

Strong, Safe, and Resilient

Disaster risk management is essential in the fight against poverty. Disasters can, in an instant, wipe out decades of hard-fought poverty reduction and development gains and push countries deeper into poverty. Disasters disproportionally affect the poor: Vulnerable and marginalized groups, including women, children, the elderly, and people with disabilities, are at particular risk. East Asia and the Pacific is the most disaster-stricken region in the world, suffering from small recurrent as well as rare high-impact events. East Asia is rapidly urbanizing, and cities are becoming disaster hotspots. Unplanned or poorly planned urbanization exposes populations to increased disaster risk. Urbanization and human-made assets, such as river banks, roads, buildings, and utilities, have been the largest and single largest driver of disaster risk. There is deep uncertainty about future disaster and climate risks, challenging our ability to adapt to new developments and changing the physical and natural environment. Decision makers can make a significant difference by effectively managing disaster risk and building resilience. With education and communication, preparedness, and investments, urbanization can be channeled as a tremendous positive force for development. By decreasing disaster exposure and vulnerability through systematic assessments and communication of risks, better land-use planning, and many other practical measures, the impacts of natural hazards can be reduced significantly. At the same time, it is necessary to recognize that the risks of disasters cannot be entirely eliminated, and countries need to plan for failure by considering different scenarios, especially within complex systems and networks. Preventive investments in risk reduction and emergency preparedness can be extremely cost-effective and can greatly reduce the impact of the natural hazards. Governments can prioritize actions based on informed decisions about the level of disaster risk in different locations. Accelerating Climate and Disaster Resilience and Low-Carbon Development through the COVID-19 Recovery

World Bank South Asia Economic Update 2010

The World Bank South Asia Economic Update 2010: Moving Up, Looking East is the World Bank a comprehensive annual report on the region's economies. In this first edition, the Bank finds that South Asia a strong rebound since March 2009 is comparable to that in East Asia. Government policy, external support, resumption of private spending and global recovery are driving the rebound. Robust and timely policy interventions were, ... strengths and forms of global integration not the lack of it were the main factors that allowed greater resilience. As...
Resilience and Recovery in Asian Disasters: Community Ties, Market Mechanisms, and Governance

Why Was Asia Resilient? Lessons from the Past and for the Future

Disaster Resilience in South Asia

Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2011

Building Resilience

Transnational Civil Society in Asia

Disaster Resilience in South Asia


Resilience, Resistance, and Recovery from Disasters

Asia proved to be remarkably resilient in the face of the global financial crisis, but why was its output performance stronger than that of other regions? The paper shows that better initial conditions—in the form of lower external and financial vulnerabilities—contributed significantly to Asia’s resilience. Key pre-crisis factors included moderate credit expansion, reliance on deposit funding, enhanced bank asset quality, reduced external financing, and improved current accounts. These improvements reflected the lessons from the Asian financial crisis in the late 1990s, which helped reshape both public policies and private sector behavior. For example, several countries stepped up their use of macroprudential policies, well before they were recognized as an essential component of the financial stability toolkit. They also overhauled financial regulations and strengthened oversight of financial institutions, which helped reduce risk-taking by households and firms before the global financial crisis. Looking ahead, Asia is in the process of adjusting to more volatile external conditions and higher risk premiums. By drawing lessons from its past-crisis experiences, Asia’s economies will be better equipped to address new risks associated with increased cross-border capital flows and greater integration with the rest of the world.