

Setting the Context: Community Resilience and Human Security

Sofiah Jamil

Adjunct Research Associate

RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies

S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

Nanyang Technological University

Ponder the Improbable



**S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL
OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

A Graduate School of Nanyang Technological University

Human Security

1994: UNDP Human Development Report

1. economic security
2. food security
3. health security
4. environmental security
5. personal security
6. community security
7. political security

“The objective of human security is to safeguard the vital core of all human lives from critical pervasive threats, in a way that is consistent with long-term human fulfilment”
(Alkire, A Conceptual Framework for Human Security, 2003)

2003: Human Security Commission

1. Freedom from fear
2. Freedom from want

2005: UN Secretary- General Kofi Annan

3. Freedom to live in dignity

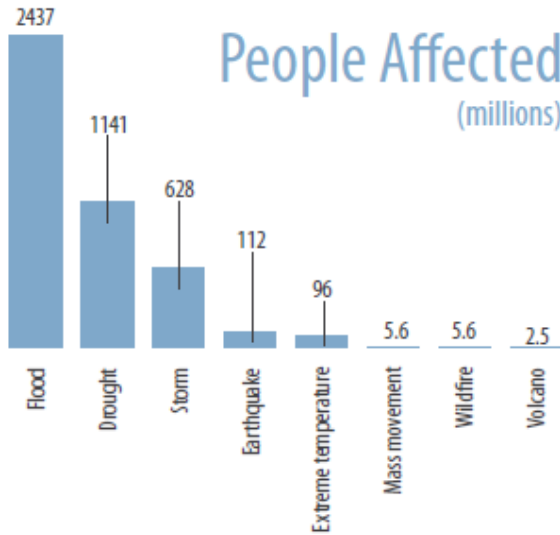
2005: Bogardi & Bauch; GECHS, UNU-EHS

4. Freedom from hazard impact

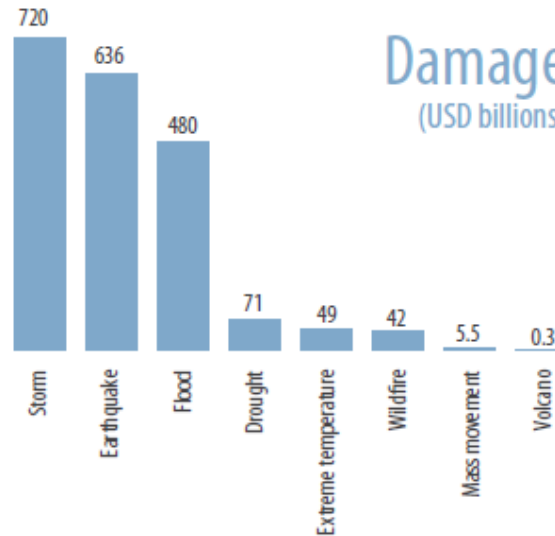
*“**Vulnerability** as a result of poverty, disease and lack of economic options (characterised by weak governance and underdeveloped infrastructure)*
- UNGA, 2004 -

Disasters (1992 – 2012)

People Affected
(millions)



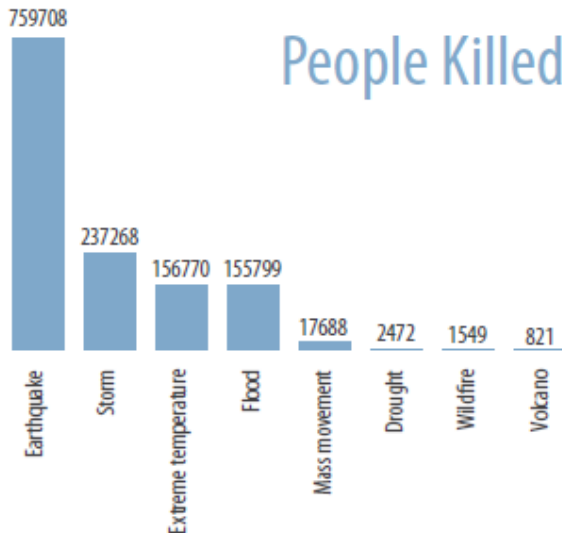
Damage
(USD billions)



USA
560 BILLION
in damage (USD)

Japan	402 billion
China P Rep	331 billion
Thailand	45 billion
India	43 billion
Italy	36 billion
Germany	31 billion
France	31 billion
Chile	31 billion
Australia	28 billion

People Killed



\$2.0
TRILLION
DAMAGE (USD)

Similar to 25 years of total Overseas Development Aid².



4.4
BILLION
AFFECTED

Equal to 64% of the world's population¹.

China
2.5 BILLION
people affected

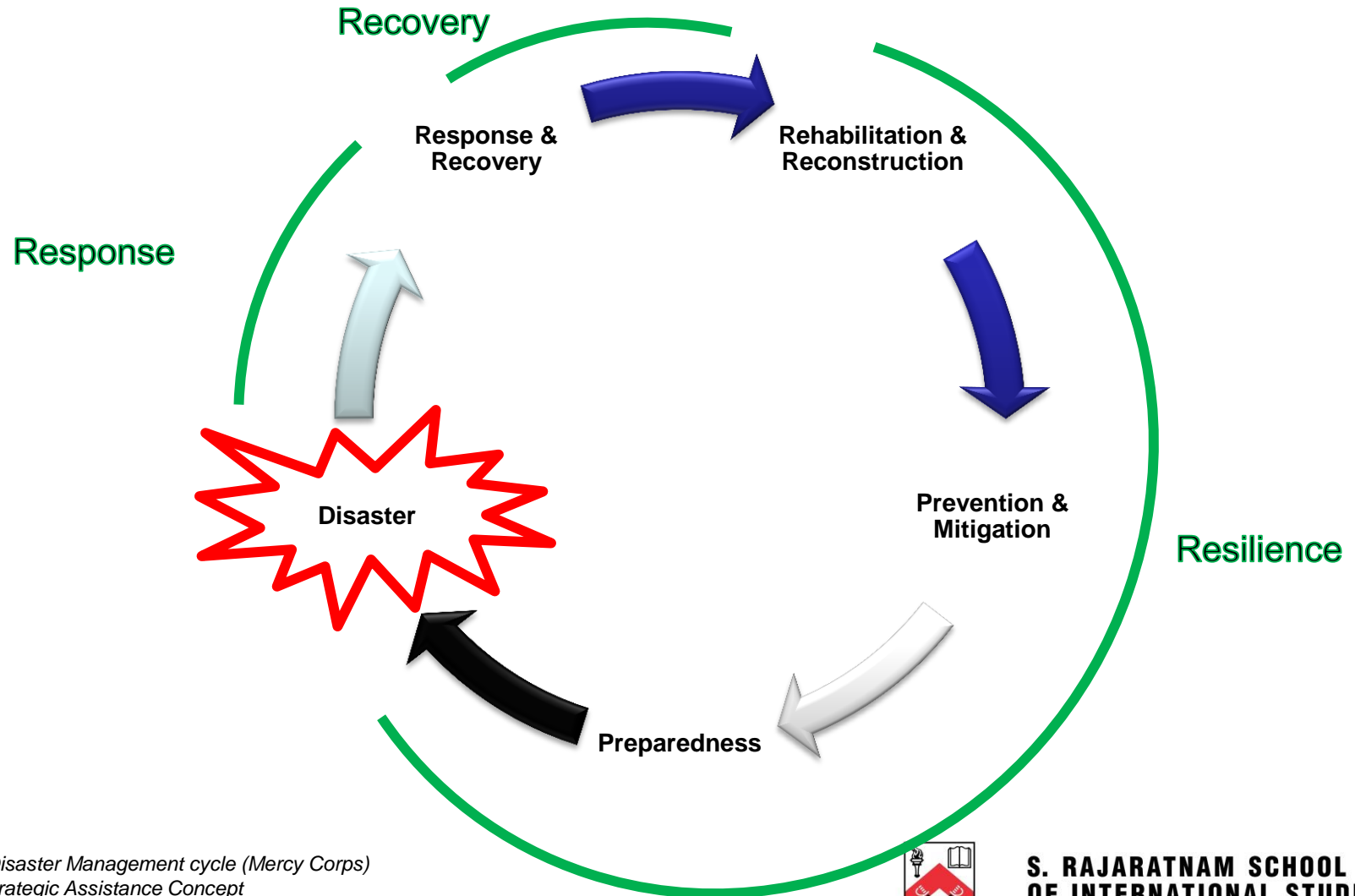
India	928 million
Bangladesh	136 million
Philippines	92 million
Thailand	72 million
Pakistan	64 million
Ethiopia	46 million
Kenya	44 million
Iran Islam Rep	40 million
Viet Nam	39 million

Haiti
230675
people killed

Indonesia	185152
Myanmar	139351
China P Rep	128298
India	103182
Pakistan	85332
Russia	61152
Sri Lanka	36000
Iran Islam Rep	32680
Venezuela	30463

UNDER THE IMPOSSIBLE

Issue of Time and Money?



Inner cycle = Disaster Management cycle (Mercy Corps)
Outer cycle: Strategic Assistance Concept

Ponder the Improbable



**S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL
OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**
A Graduate School of Nanyang Technological University

Community Resilience (CR)

CR for operational purposes (DFID, 2007)

- capacity to absorb stress or destructive forces through resistance or adaptation
- capacity to manage, or maintain certain basic functions and structures, during disastrous events
- capacity to recover or 'bounce back' after an event

World Economic Forum Global Risks Report (2013)

- 5 Subsystems in a country: Economic, Environmental, Governance, Infrastructure, Social
- Resilience Characteristics: Robustness, Redundancy, Resourcefulness
- Resilience Performance: Response, Recovery

Two strands of CR in academic literature

- Based on multi-level systems
- Based on community strengths, agency and self-organization

Effects of urbanisation on CR

- Doctrine of independence → reduces community strengths
- Limited access to social capital

Urban Resilience

(Tyler & Moench, 2012)

Systems Resilience

- flexibility and (spatial and functional) diversity
- redundancy and modularity
- 'safe failure'

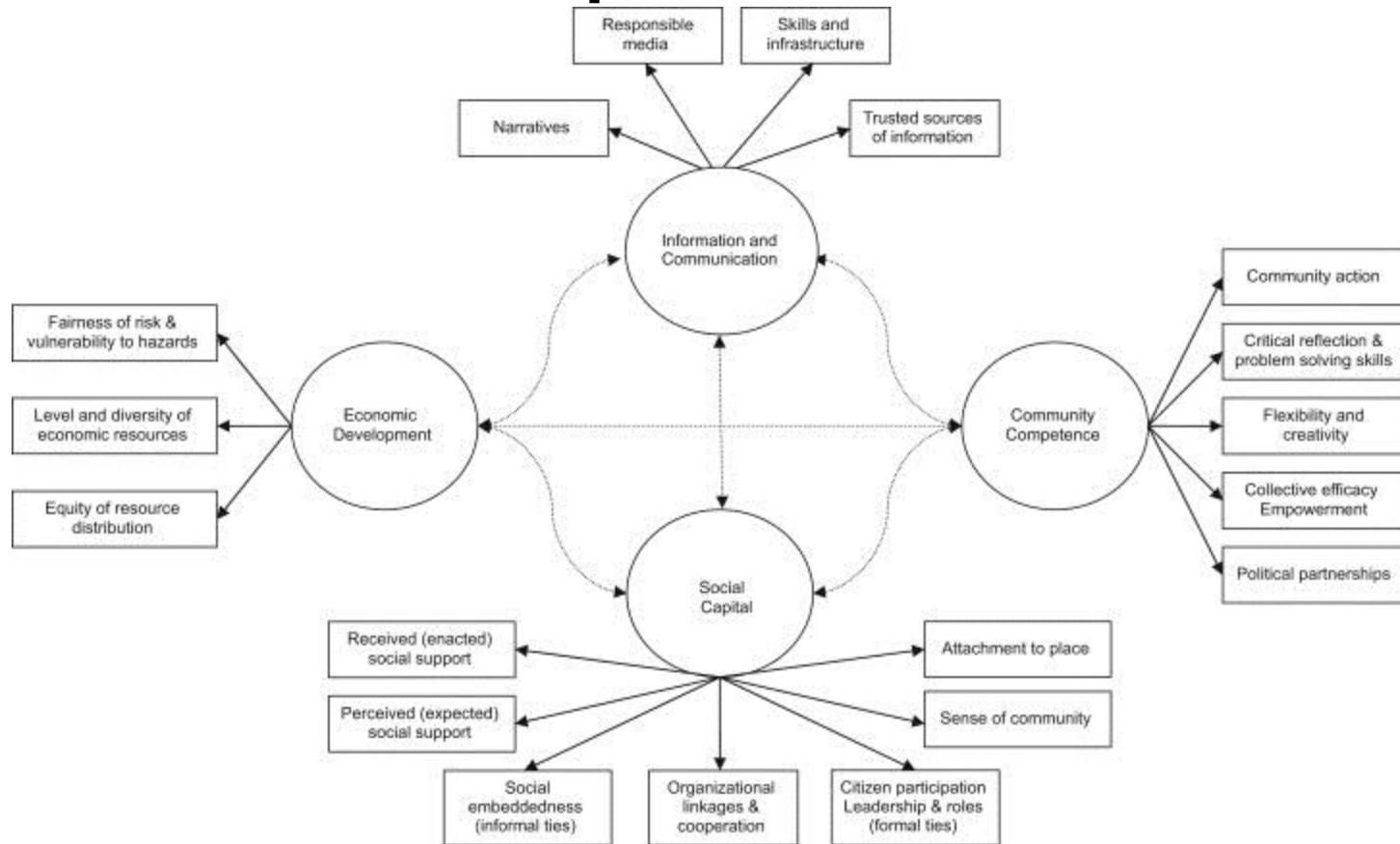
Social Resilience

- responsiveness
- resourcefulness
- capacity to learn

Institutional Resilience

- rights and entitlements linked to system access
- decision-making processes
- information flows
- application of new knowledge

CR as a set of adaptive capacities



Community resilience as a “network of adaptive capacities” (Norris, 2008)



**S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL
OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

A Graduate School of Nanyang Technological University

Tomorrow's Break out session

- I. **How does Community Resilience inform Human Security?**
- II. **Asian Cities have limited success in implementing equitable and sustainable urban housing plans. What are the challenges and how does this affect the level of community resilience in urban areas?**
- III. **Can transport systems in Asia be safe and environmentally sustainable as well as accessible and affordable? If yes, how? If no, why not?**
- IV. **What effect does privatisation of public utilities have on the sustainability of community resilience and in disaster situations?**
- V. **How can health systems remain resilient in disaster and conflict situations?**

Thank you 😊



RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies

www.rsis.edu.sg/nts

Sofiah Jamil

issofiah@ntu.edu.sg

Ponder the Improbable



**S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL
OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

A Graduate School of Nanyang Technological University