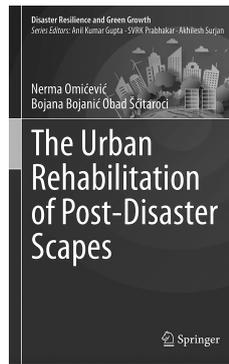


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## THE URBAN REHABILITATION OF POST-DISASTER SCAPES

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Publisher: Springer Singapore, 2023  
Part of the book series: Disaster Resilience and Green Growth

Series editors: Ani Kumar Gupta, SVRK Prabhakar, Akhilesh Surjan

Book editors: N. Omićević, B. Bojanić Obad Šćitaroci

Date of publishing: 14 March 2023 (ebook)  
15 March 2023 (Hardcover)

XI+165 pages, 22 figures, 22 tables  
[23.5/15.5 cm, English, printing office]

ISBN eBook 978-981-19-9505-7

ISBN Hardcover 978-981-19-9504-0

<https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-19-9505-7>

The book *'The Urban Rehabilitation of Post-Disaster Scapes'* presents research developed as international cooperation between Assist. Prof. Nerma Omićević, Ph.D. from the International University of Sarajevo, the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences and Prof. Bojana Bojanić Obad Šćitaroci, Ph.D. from University of Zagreb Faculty of Architecture. This cooperation, focused on the topic of post-disasters combining urban and landscape planning perspectives, began with the doctoral research "The Urban Rehabilitation Model of Post-War Urbanscape – Defining Sarajevo as the Memorial" done by the first author Nerma Omićević under the mentorship of Prof. Bojana Bojanić Obad Šćitaroci at the Faculty of Architecture in Zagreb (defence 2020). Both book and dissertation are examples of applying *'Heritage Urbanism'* research approach and *'Urbanscape Emanation'* concept developed under the HERU research project. The project *'Heritage Urbanism – Urban and Spatial Planning Models for Revival and Enhancement of Cultural Heritage'* (2014-2018) was financed by the Croatian Scientific Foundation (HERU-HRZZ-2032) and led by academic Mladen Obad Šćitaroci with the aim to explore and define spatial criteria, methods, and models for the revitalisation and implementation of new projects of cultural heritage, which may contribute to their enhancement. The concept of *'urbanscape emanation'* has evolved as a research framework aimed at identifying latent layers within urban and natural landscapes, subsequently integrating them across various thematic planning perspectives. In that research context, this book gives the first extensive examination of the use of the urbanscape during the disaster process in all phases: the pre-disaster (prevention and mitigation) phase, the disaster event impact phase, and the post-disaster recovery phase.

In overall 12 chapters, authors develop awareness and understanding about the complexity and importance of the holistic approach to disaster planning through elaboration of 18 relevant disaster case studies which occurred from 1991 to 2021 around the world. The structure of the book is organised in the form of individual chapters whereby each chapter

includes the abstract, key words and references which enables non-linear reading approach too. The research questions and terminology are explained in the 'Introduction' (chapter 1) and 'Literature' (chapter 2). The context for the case studies in the third chapter explains the main selection and analysis criteria as the research framework for the analytical part of the book (chapters 4-9). The case studies are divided according to their origin on natural and man-made disasters. Furthermore, the natural disaster case studies are analysed according to four types (in chapters 4-7): hydrological, meteorological, geophysical, and climatological. The analysed man-made disaster case studies are a part of two analytical chapters (8 and 9) as sociological and technological disaster types. Authors divided research discussion in two thematic reviews: a methodological review on the comparative analysis of case studies (chapter 10) and a contribution review on the rehabilitation models (chapter 11). The last book chapter is the conclusion where authors underline the most important part of their research, best summarised in their words, as: "... the rehabilitation of the disrupted urbanscape identity in natural case study, refers to its rebuilding or recovery, whereas in man-made disaster case studies, the rehabilitation of the disrupted urbanscape identity refers to its redefinition, reconstruction or reaffirmation" (p. 157). This summary of rehabilitation models is a systematic contribution to the underexplored topic of post-disaster landscapes. Rebuilding and recovery, established on 12 analysed cases, together with the redefinition, reconstruction, and reaffirmation, which derived from 6 examples, additionally accentuate present and evident differences in natural vs. man-made disasters. The differences are visually expressed through tabular and diagrammatic comparisons of population and property impacts – death toll and property destruction (pp. 136-138). These comparisons provide a unique perspective on the COVID-19 pandemic, thereby confirming the significance of incorporating this most recent event into the book's comprehensive overview of disasters.

Each case study chapter consistently brings a story and evaluation of three cases. Hydrological disasters were represented by floods along the Gulf Coast in the USA (2005), floods and landslides in Switzerland (2005), and floods in Pakistan (2010). Meteorological disasters were represented by cyclones in Bangladesh (1991) and Australia (2017) and hurricane 'Sandy' in the USA (2012). Geophysical disasters deal with volcanic eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in the Philippines (1991), earthquake and tsunami in Japan (2011) and earthquake with landslides in Nepal (2015). Climatological disasters analyse wildfires in Indonesia (1997) and California, USA (2017 and 2018) as well as heat wave and wildfires in Russia (2010). Sociological man-made disasters are analysed based on the siege of Sarajevo (1992-1996), the battle of Grozny (1994-1995) and the September 11 terrorist attacks in New York (2001). The selected technological man-made disasters are Deepwater horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico (2010), COVID-19 pandemics (beginning from 2019) and Beirut port explosion (2020). The list of analysed case studies shows the effort of authors to gather recent important events in a comprehensive manner within comparative and typological approach.

The special contribution of this book is found in the form of how figures and tables have been developed. Each case study is graphically analysed through a collage with overlapped three photos in a diagrammatic way which suggest and represent all three disaster phases (pre-during-post disaster period). The authors have decided to distribute tables in book chapters instead of making them an appendix, nevertheless, the tables have kept their catalogue form and value. The cross-comparability and a possibility to read this book through tables is especially valuable for any further continuation of this type of research.

Methodologically, the book targets the academic audience and disaster experts. However, its typological structure and extensive geographical scope of examples, with a focus on rehabilitation goals and questions, may, and hopefully will extend audience reach beyond these specific groups.