

AN INTRODUCTION OF URBAN DESIGN AS A TOOL FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE

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ABSTRACT

Importance of resilience is more and more felt in various aspects of built environment in the ever changing, unpredictable complex world. The concept of resilience is now the new catch word brought up as part of the vision statements in many cases in local, national and international levels to present solutions for the world's complex problems, in this case, urban areas. This concept has started a long journey from various disciplines, and its use is spreading through many disciplines as its capacity to deal with complex and unpredictable issue is becoming more tangible. The aim of this article is to introduce the concept of urban resilience in the field of urban design that is still unclear on the level of general goal setting statements even in the international ongoing campaigns. We need to extract attributes of urban resilience from resilience studies that usually come from other disciplines with the aim of implementing its principles in the world of design. Studying the process of managing urban form in relation to adaptation capacities has become an important priority in the global scene too. A preliminary introduction to urban resilience capacities is the goal of this research. Therefore, this research has tried to unveil the resilience attributes which sync with urban design principles and introduce them as a set of features that can be used to build up guidelines and documents for delivering resilience.

INTRODUCTION

The concept of resilience has found its place among the priorities of most international to local agendas in cities and regions. The concept of resilience has many aspects from resistance to adaptation which all have a role in disaster risk reduction, although a big part of the current discourse comes from socio-ecological systems' concept and complex adaptive systems theory. A closer look at resilience attributes in the literature shows how related the characteristics of cities are to adaptation capacities. More clarification of resilience is needed in practices such as urban planning and design because.

There are many groups of scholars and organizations, movements and NGOs are dedicated to discuss the issues related resilience and its attributes now including but not all: the Stockholm resilience centre, Rockefeller foundation, UNISDR, ICLEI and most major universities around the world as it has become an important and popular issue. Many key scholars of resilience have coedited articles and books relating the basic concepts to the mentioned issues. One of the most general definitions of resilient cities which is a summary if almost all the main mentioned agendas is about keeping or promoting capacities which enables them to bounce back or absorb chronic or sudden disturbances in any part of their system or the whole and yet function and keep the existing structures and identity or even move to a higher more adaptable state.

The knowhow of the synthesis of urban design with resilience concepts will help disaster resilience. Studying the process of managing urban form in relation to adaptation capacities has become an important priority in the global scene too. A preliminary introduction to urban resilience capacities is the goal of this research.