

Reflections on Recovery Management

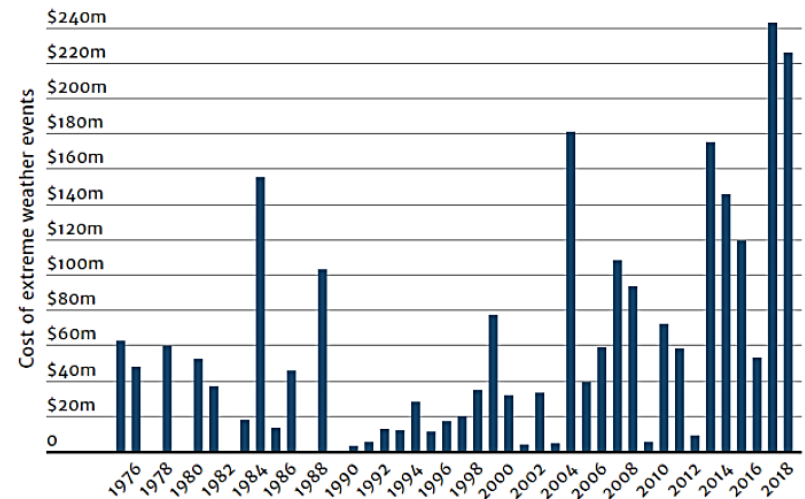
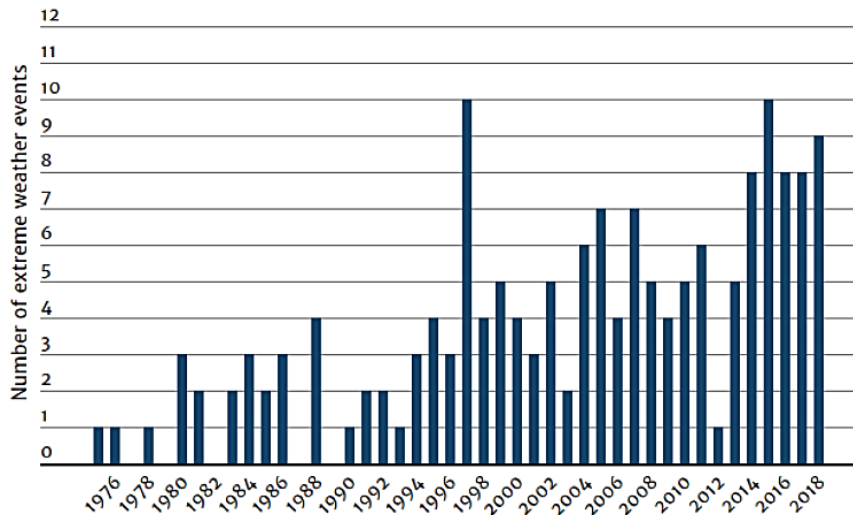
SOLGM Summit

Napier, 26 September, 2019

Simon Markham, Waimakariri District Council



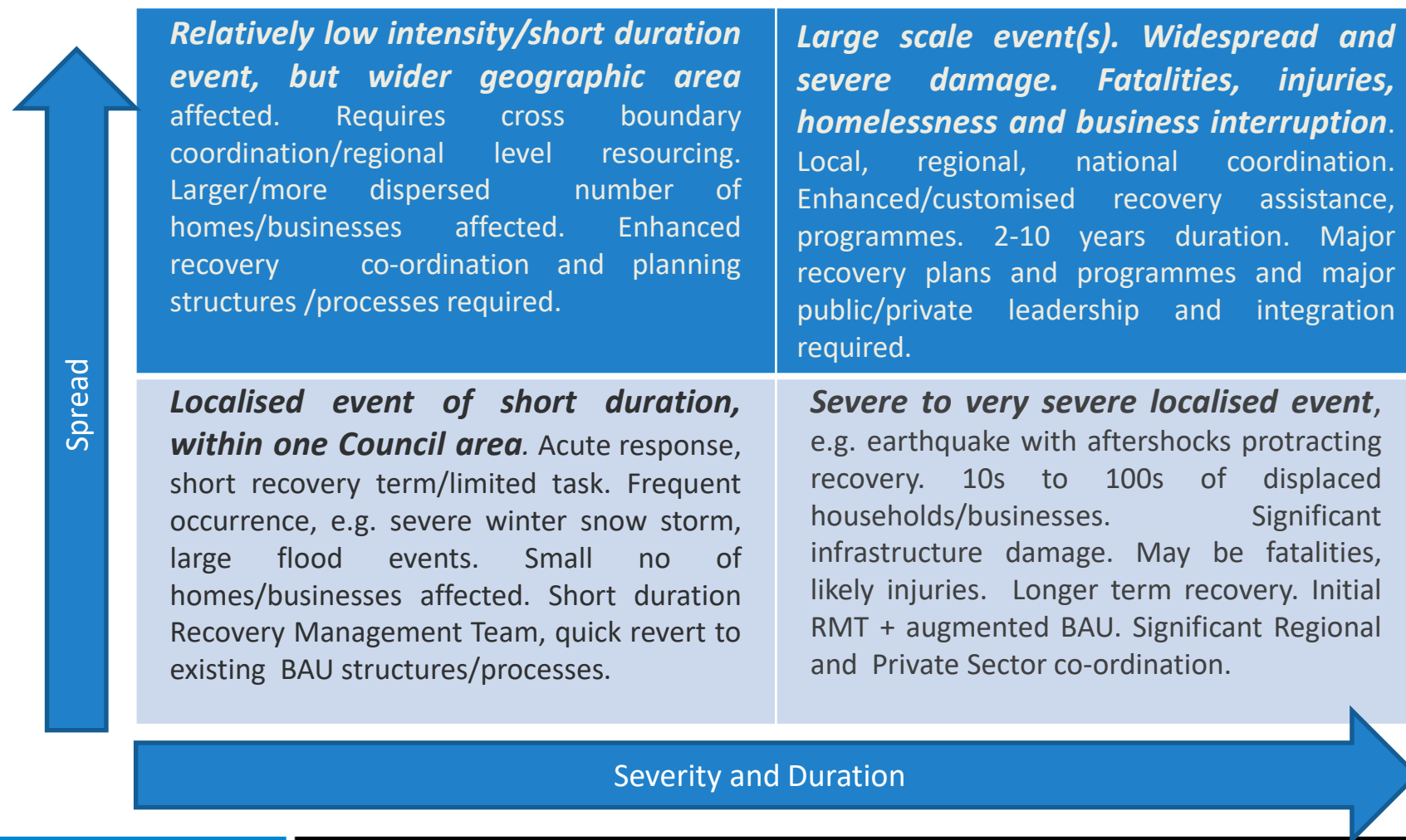
Incr. Frequency/Severity of Events



Source Costs have been adjusted for inflation.

Source: Insurance Council of New Zealand/stuff - <https://www.icnz.org.nz/natural-disasters/cost-of-natural-disasters/>

Contexts for Recovery Mgmt.



Damage Across the Community (1)

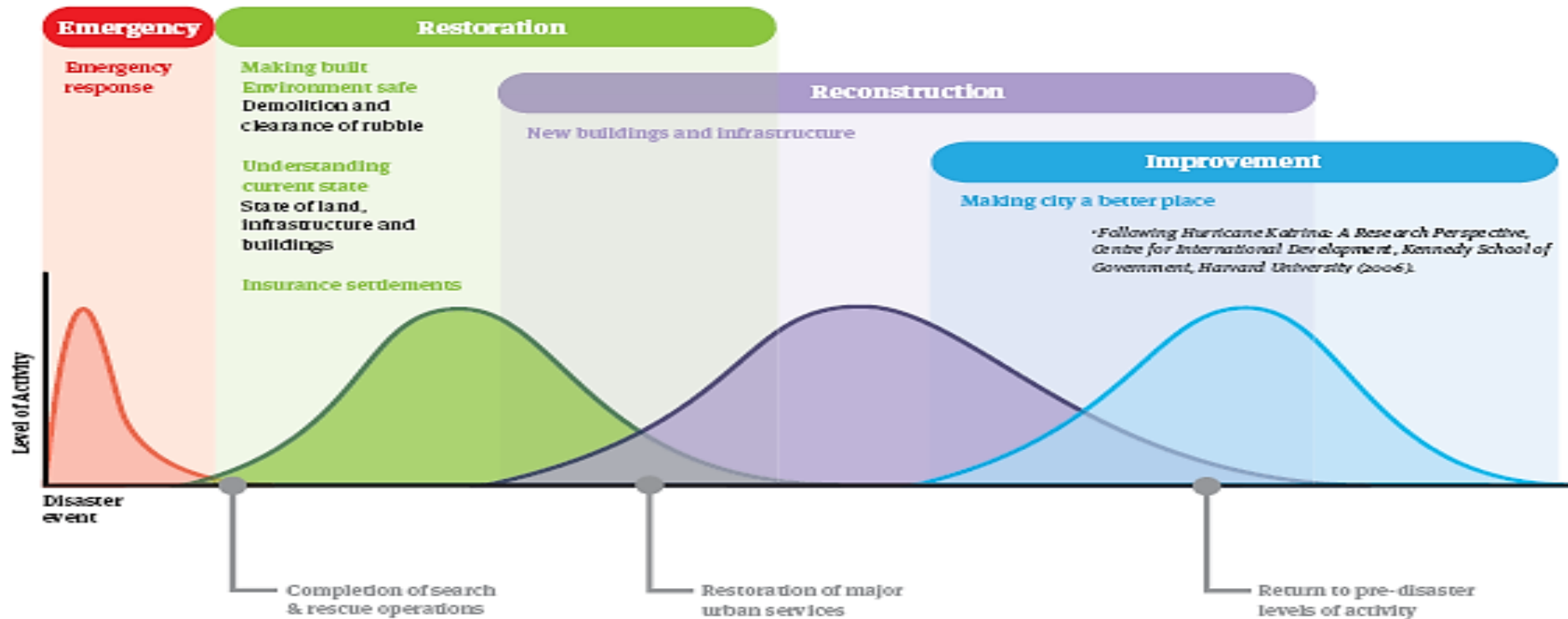


Damage Across the Community (2)





Response to Recovery Activation



Recovery Delivery Issues

- Transition from response to recovery – after the EOC closes
- What really is the scope/damage/skills/resources required
- Are you at the centre or the periphery of the main event?
- We should be good at infrastructure and facilities...its social and economic recovery where there are usually gaps and unfunded mandates
- If its big then your whole organisation is part of the recovery team
- Extent/nature of insurance issues and sector involvement is key
- Having and managing retreat is a game changer
- Recovery governance important but is overlooked.
- Just how long is this going to last and the twists and turns along the way – sustaining momentum and managing fatigue
- ‘Regeneration’ is a whole new recovery phase and challenge

Recovery Practice Implications

- 'Classic' CDEM RMT and Group structures work fine with localised/short duration/moderate impact events
- Major, longer lasting events require more customised structures, capable of rapid adjustment, involve an exponential increase in players and coordination.
- Resourcing requirements of major event recovery means unlikely to be able to implement through dedicated RMT approach – hybrid structures apply
- Essential public/private coordination cannot be achieved by hierarchical control structures – influence, collaboration and networking are key
- Secondary stressors and their impacts during recovery add uncertainty, complexity and challenge not well captured in recovery structures – effects on wellbeing and 'psychosocial' impacts are perhaps least well appreciated

Key Recovery Asset

“What most people believe and what actually happens in the aftermath of a disaster are two different things. The movies, the media, and the authorities have too often insisted that we are a chaotic, selfish species and ought to fear each other. Yet in the wake of almost every major disaster a wave of altruistic and brave improvisation saves lives, forms communities, and shapes many survivors experiences.

The most startling thing about disasters ... is not merely that so many people rise to the occasion, but that they do so with joy. That joy reveals an ordinarily unmet yearning for community, purposefulness, and meaningful work that disaster often provides.

These spontaneous acts, emotions, and communities suggest that many of the utopian ideals of the past century are not only possible, but latent in everyday life. A disaster can be a moment when the forces that keep these ideals from flowering, those desires from being realised, fall away.”

Rebecca Solnit 2009 (A Paradise Built in Hell: The Extraordinary Communities that Arise in Disaster)