Urban Challenges

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UK Shelter Forum
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ARUP

1. What do we mean by urban?
2. What is different about urban areas?
3. What are we trying to achieve?
4. What are we able to influence?
5. Who do we need to work with?
6. Who are we accountable to?

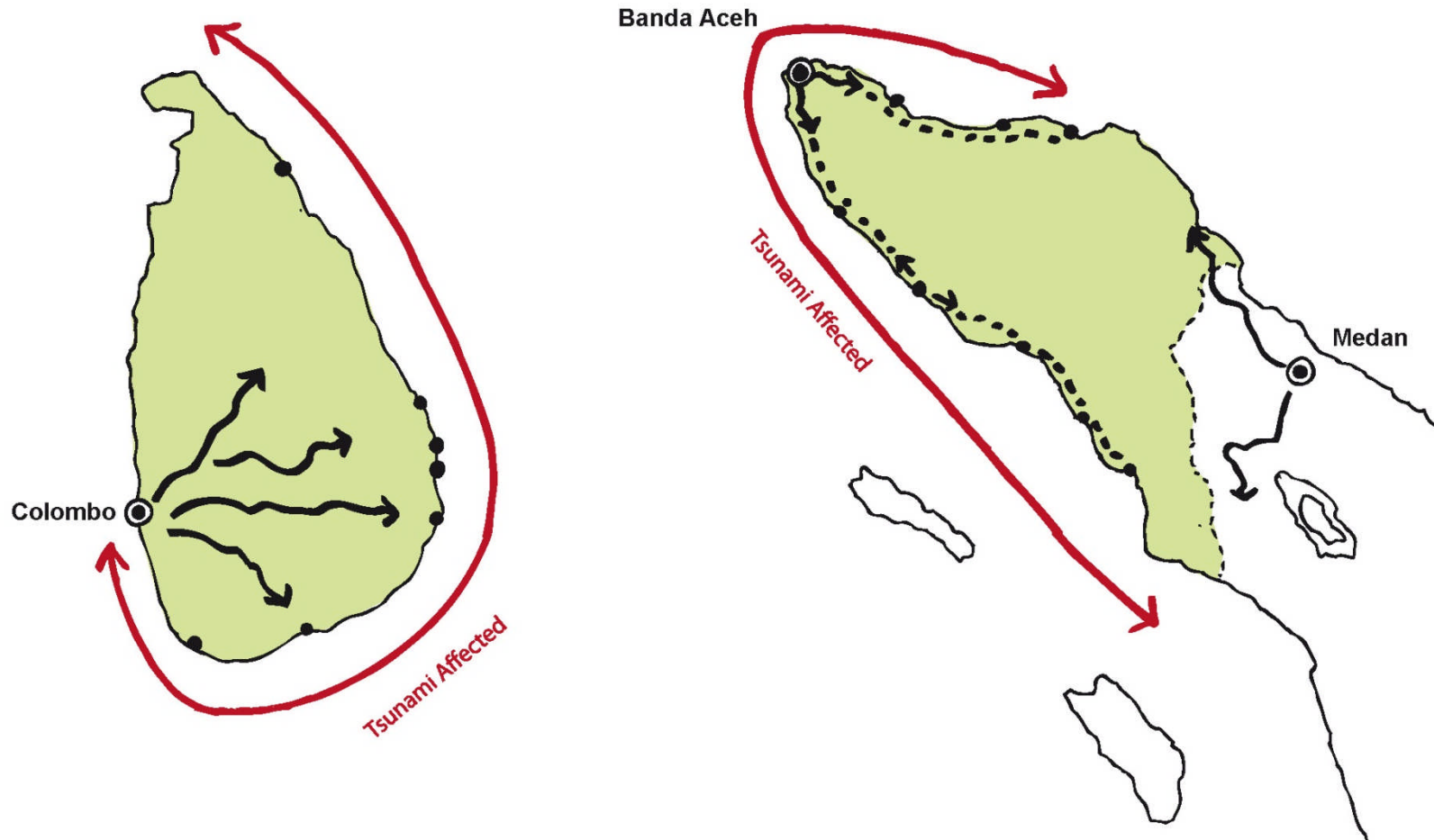# What do we mean by urban?

Haiti Earthquake (2010)

Syrian Civil War (2011)

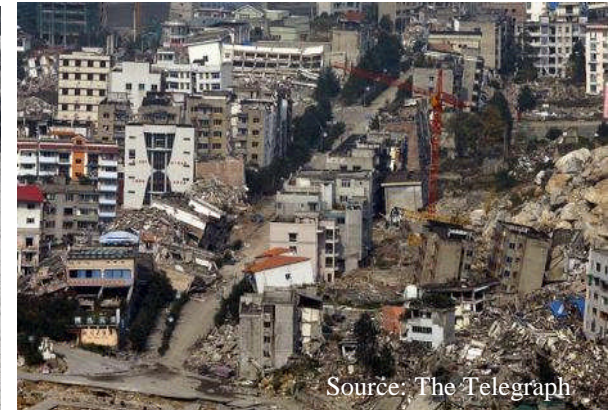# Indian Ocean Tsunami (2004)

© Arup

Pakistan Earthquake (2006)

Brisbane

Bangkok

Chengdu

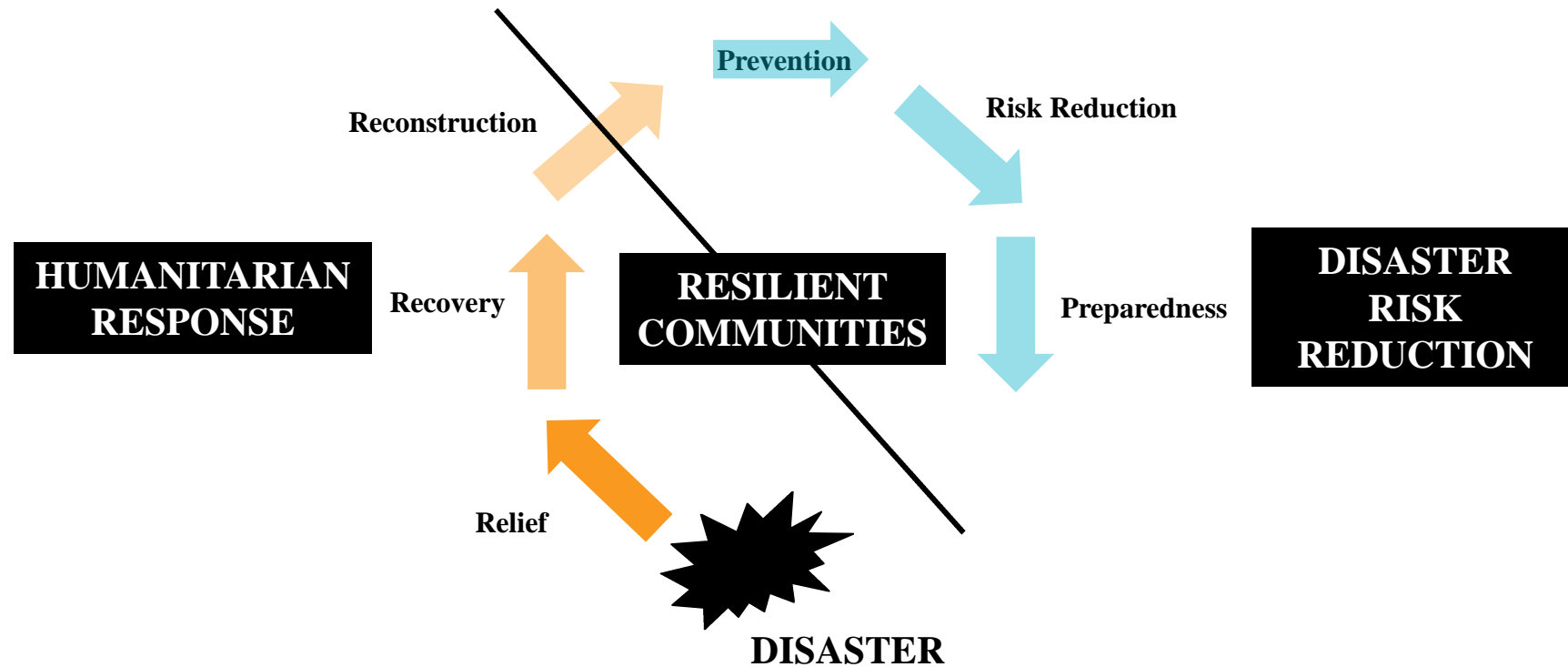Christchurch

Cedar Rapids

New Orleans

2. What is different about urban areas?

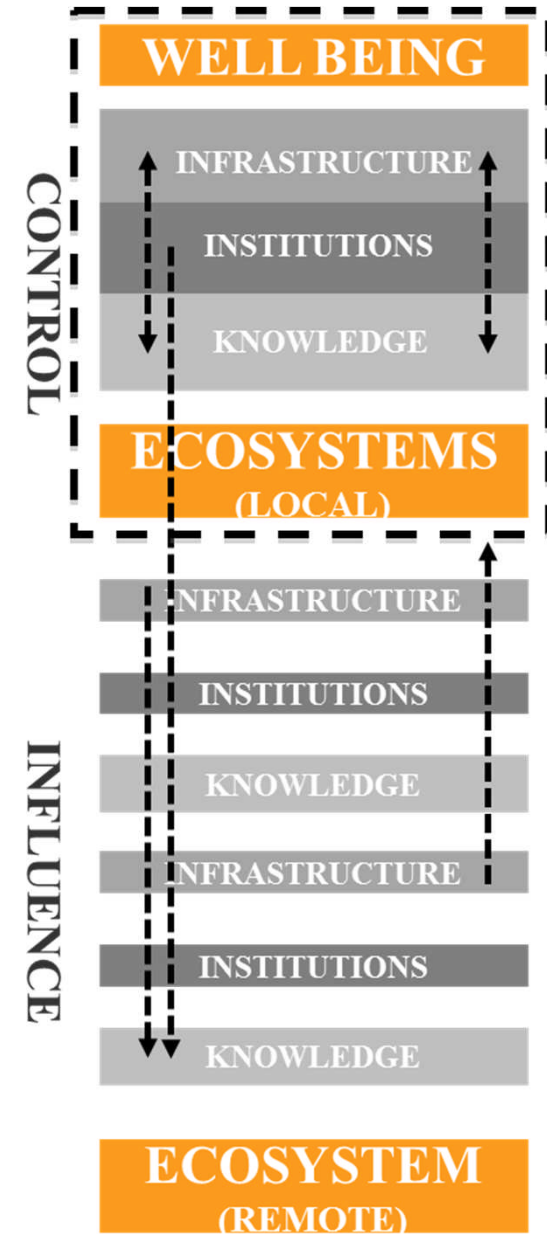| Challenges	Issues to consider	
Scale	• No. of people (demand/supply) • Effect on the surrounding area	• Requires an integrated approach • Multiple actors
Density	• Stress on services/infrastructure • Land tenure	• Vector borne disease • Vertical housing
Diversity	• Topography • Infrastructure and services	• Socio-economic circumstances • Neighbourhoods or networks?
Mobility	• Transient populations • Multiple means to meet their needs	• Less association with place • Renters and squatters
Complexity	• Multiple and diverse actors • Interdependent systems/services	• Cascading failure/unpredictability
Community	• Transient community • Less social cohesion	• Community representation?
Dependency	• Reliance on shared services • Less control at household/community	• Reinstate infrastructure
Analysis	• Availability of data • Spatial mapping (GIS)	• Stakeholder analysis • Systems analysis
Economy	• Cash based economy • Catalyse local markets	• Livelihood critical • Relocation not a critical issue?
Legitimacy	• Ability and mandate to act? • Government, service providers (public/private), NGOs	• Empower/work through existing institutions

Source: © Arup / Jo da Silva
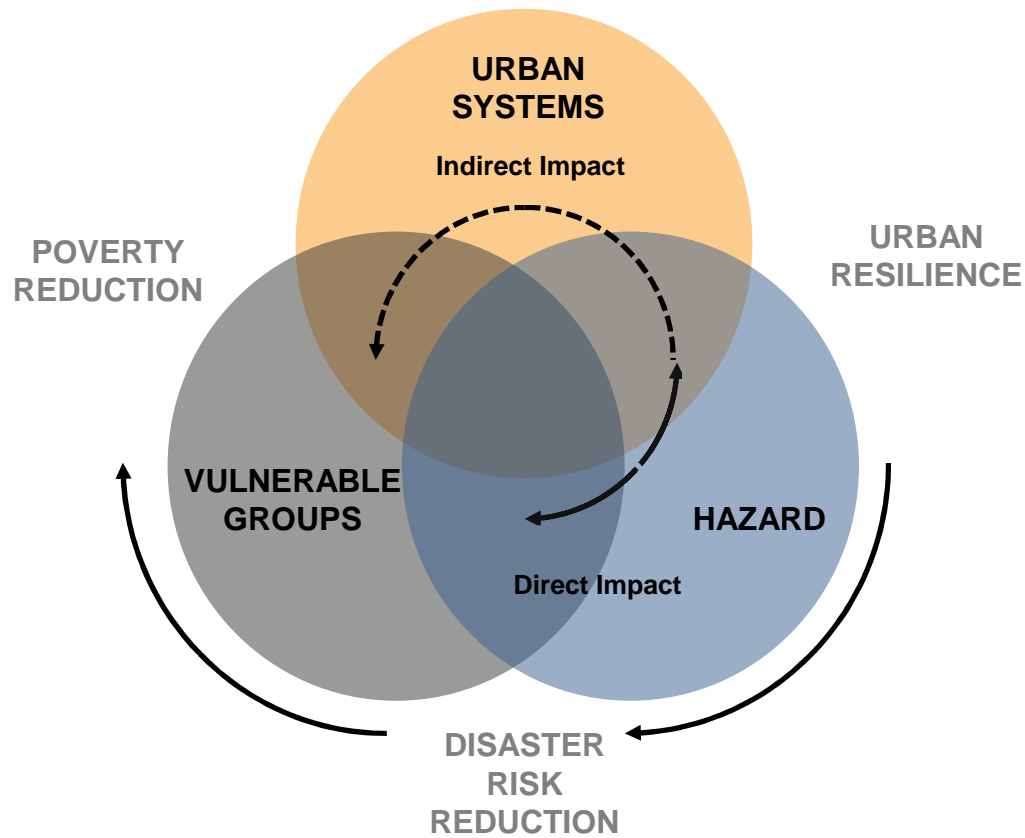
3. What are we trying to achieve?

Prevention

Risk Reduction

Reconstruction

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Recovery

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Preparedness

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Relief

DISASTER

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4. What are we able to influence?

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5. Who do we need to work with?

Collaboration: the act of working together with other people or organisations to create or achieve something (informal)

Partnership: an agreement between organisations, people, etc. to work together (formal)

6. Who are we accountable to?

Ngara, Tanzania (1994)

Thank you

Humanitarianism also implies a social conscience, a wish to do socially useful work, and to join hands with others fighting for the same values'

Arup: Key Speech

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