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# Multi-hazard preparedness and resilient cities: Challenges and lessons learnt from the

## COVID-19 pandemic in Sri Lanka

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### Background

The Covid-19 pandemic has sparked the need for multi-hazard preparedness and resilient city planning to mitigate cascading impacts of combined hazards in Sri Lanka. This paper presents a variety of core challenges and effective practices examined in Sri Lanka, in the context of covid-19 pandemic preparedness with a special focus on city planning.

## Methodology

Challenges

RESILIENCE

Two desk studies were conducted using systematic literature review techniques

Increasing multi-hazard events

Issues in EW systems and dissemination process

Inadequate integration of biological hazard in to DRR

Unplanned urban development

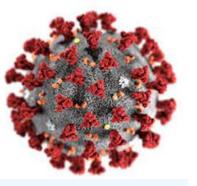
Missing link between upstream and downstream

#### Aim

To share the experience of two COVID-19 related research projects are being implemented on down streaming multi-hazard early warning and urban planning in Sri Lanka, leading by the Global Disaster Resilience Centre, University of Huddersfield, UK

#### **Effective practices**

- Well established DRR protocol of the country for natural hazards
- Multi-sectoral
- Proactive
- Decentralized
- Resilience thinking approaches



#### Suggestions

Land use planning

Incorporate biological hazards in to the existing DRR policy

Planned urban and infrastructure development

Effective EW systems and dissemination

Increase of stakeholders' participation in DRR

GADR

Global Alliance of Disaster Research Institute

Strengthening interactions between upstream and downstream

Sendai Framework Priority 4



Lack of stakeholders'

participation in DRR







Unplan