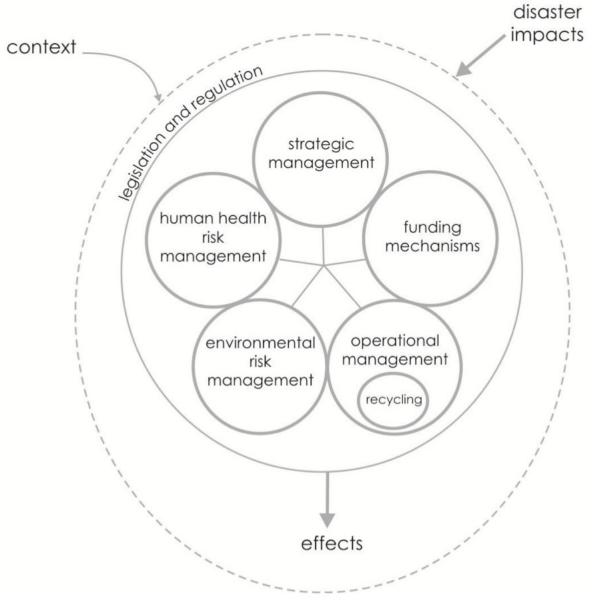
# After an earthquake: the impacts of disaster waste



## **Background**

- PhD thesis
- 5 international case studies incl. 2010/2011 Canterbury earthquakes





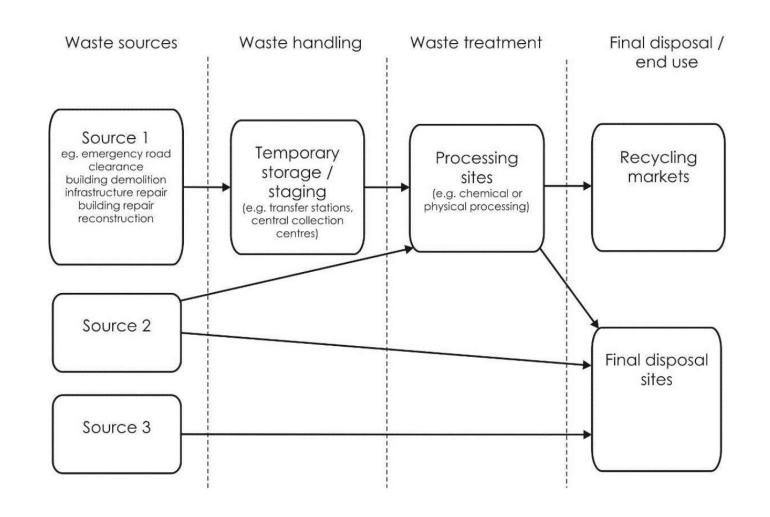
### **Overview of DWM**

- Waste generated from damage to built environment
- The way disaster waste is managed depends on
  - Size of event
  - Type of hazard
  - Funding (who is paying)
  - Governance and operational arrangements (private v public)
  - Legislation (pre and post event)
- How waste is managed impacts economic, social and environmental recovery
- Understanding DWM can potentially help to build case for functional recovery





## **Stages of DWM**





## **Recycling of DWM**

- Recycling rates depend on how demolition is carried out
- High value items recycled "pick'n'go"
- Low value materials mostly disposed
- Time:Cost:Safety:Environment



#### Rubble from the ruins stacked 25m high





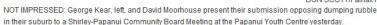
## **Disposal of DWM**

#### stuff.co.nz

#### **NATIONAL**

**ORGANISATIONS** 







- Landfill
- Specially created earthquake disposal facilities
- Illegal disposal



## **Environmental and human health risk**

- High risk situation
  - High volumes of waste
  - Cowboys (unqualified people doing demolition and waste management)
  - Mixed waste and hidden hazards
- Environmental and human health protections sometimes reduced for perceived savings (time and money)





## **Environmental and human health risk**



**ORGANISATIONS** 



## **Implications for Functional Recovery**

- C&D waste is 'not normal' following an earthquake
  - Lower recycling rates (more waste to landfill +CH4 emissions)
  - Higher degree of hazards (human and environmental)
- Costs of C&D waste can be higher than in BAU
- Disempowerment through demolition by 'others'
- Psychological impacts of destruction and time needed to enable rebuilding







## Thank you

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