# MERIT: Helping Communities Understand Social & Economic Consequences of Disruption Events, and Assess Mitigation Options

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### ECONOMICS of RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

 Developed 2012-16 Economics of Resilient Infrastructure MBIEfunded research programme

Developing an understanding of the economic impacts of infrastructure failure in a disruption context

- Utilised throughout NZ by infrastructure providers, government, and councils
- Jointly owned and managed by GNS Science, ME Research & Resilient Organisations
- New ideas and development through Resilience NSC, MBIE Endeavours, PhD students etc

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# What MERIT does that other tools don't

- *Dynamic Through Time* Transition pathways over time (up to 100 years)
  - Evaluate different Futures
  - Conceptualise what the options are
- Across Space Impacted area, communities, districts, regions and the nation
- Multiple Stakeholders
  - 40-60 industries, infrastructure providers, govt, NGOs
- Accommodates emergent behaviours
  - Felt impact of the end-user vs direct damage
- Based on General Equilibrium
  - Equilibrium-seeking pricing
  - Adaptations can be built in





## History and Evolution of MERIT Tools





### DISASTER IMPACTS / 2000-2012



Source: https://reliefweb.int/map/world/world-disaster-impacts-2000-2012





Source: NIWA





9.15 ML/day 35 ML 60 5.3 ML /day 4.47 ML /day 4 ML /day 9.5 ML RAP WAP 212 Marsden Point JUHI Wiri Auckland Marsden Point Airport Refinery Wharf 0 Source: dia/govt/nz

#### Photo of Petroleum Leak Source: dia/govt/nz



### The global coronavirus recession



Note: Data for 2020 and beyond are estimates Source: International Monetary Fund World Economic Outlook







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# **Original MERIT objectives**

• Economics of Resilient Infrastructure (MBIE programme)





### **Business Behaviours**



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## **Multi-Infrastructure Disruptions**

#### Kaikoura Quake



#### Alpine Fault Scenario



Wellington Resilience Programme Business Case





## **Resilience NSC – PhD Programmes**







## **Current MERIT-Involved Programmes**



## **New Extensions (1)**

## Probabilistic Assessment Scenarios Exploration System Multi-hazard Uncertainty Quantification Robust Decision Making Model Emulation



## **New Extensions (2)**

## Wellbeing

### **Multi-Capital**

## Household Disaggregation

### Distributional Impacts

Multi-indicators

**Risk Preferences** 

Robert Y. Cavana · Brian C. Dangerfield · Oleg V. Pavlov · Michael J. Radzicki · I. David Wheat *Editors* 

## Feedback Economics

Economic Modeling with System Dynamics





## Wellington Resilience Programme Business Case



## **Case Study: Wellington Resilience**



### WELLINGTON LIFELINES REGIONAL RESILIENCE PROJECT







## Direct impacts and recovery over time

Days since event = 0



Water Supply

**Electricity** 

Loss Modelling + Workshops with lifeline utilities





## **Transport impacts**

### Fuel, Road, Rail, Air, Ports



## **ERIT**

## Reporting

#### Days since event = 0

No Quake Base Run Quake High Investments Quake Low Investments Quake No Investments



## **Investment benefits**

- Improved capacity for businesses to adapt
  - $\rightarrow\,$  The process of recovery commences earlier, faster return to normal levels of productivity
- Reduced balance-of-trade implications
  - → Relatively less disruption to domestic transportation coupled with higher levels of domestic production/exports
- Improved 'liveability'
  - → Number of people temporarily relocated still high, but number of permanent relocations almost halved
- Improved business 'viability'
  - ightarrow Less likely for businesses to choose to relocate; relocation is costly
- Reduced isolation
  - ightarrow Less disruption to tourism



## **Future Directions**



Integration across the Hazard-Wellbeing Assessment Chain



## Climate Change (Adaptation and Mitigation)



Source: NIWA

#### **Delivery Mechanisms**





MERIT as a process (for decision making)



## For more information ...



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