

# Preface

This book is a part of the Ph.D. thesis published in March 2013 at Politecnico di Milano. The thesis is about enhancing resilience of the transportation system against natural disasters and includes two case studies: London and Istanbul. The book provides you with the results of the London case study. I have tried as a foreigner to understand the current disaster risk management system in London. In addition to reading the literature and reports open to public, to observe the real situation and to produce primary data I decided to include interviews as one of the tools in the survey. Then, I found myself sending emails around and talking to people directly on the street. Actually, this is not a standard procedure in London; however, the result was surprising and I found institutions and individuals becoming very interested in the content of my work. The three-levelled approach of the survey was constructed during the study so as to see the links between organizational, tactical, and public levels in a society and effects of decisions coming from this interaction on the spatial pattern. The construction of the survey and accordingly the results of it are based on my perspective. It is very likely that as a foreigner I could not grasp the current situation entirely and I might miss some issues. For this reason, in addition to the insights acquired from the survey, the original questionnaires and the pure results are given at the end of the book. The results were attained in 7 months and provide an external perspective to the current disaster risk management system. It is my hope that this book will contribute positively to the current system in London.

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A Case Study of London's Transportation System

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