

## A Study on the Optimized Evaluation Criteria for a Disaster-Prevention Urban Renewal Area in Yongkang District, Tainan City

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### 1. Introduction

Since the 921 earthquake struck Taiwan in 1999, Disaster-Prevention Urban Renewal Area (DPUR) become one of the major considerations in disaster-prevention policy. The DPUR projects by the Ministry of the Interior in 2013 aims to introduce an incentive for urban areas with higher disaster risks. However, the need for clear and its criteria for DPUR area selection is crucial. Controversial debates regarding designating the renewal area might result in high-risk area being undervalued and low-risk area could be overvalued and stigmatized. Therefore, this research is to explore proper evaluation criteria for DPUR areas in order to balance the possible negative impact on the renewal area.

This research will be based on the second phase of the DPUR Research Project in Yongkang District, Tainan City, which was brought up by the Ministry of the Interior. The first phase is to build a buildings risk map, blocks with higher ratio of high-risk buildings per block will be identified as the potential DPUR areas. Secondly, cost-benefit analysis will be conducted for different ratio of the high-risk buildings. If benefit exceeds cost then it may be worth to further invest in reducing the risk of disasters. Renewal cost will consider the cost of buildings, construction cost and land expropriation cost, etc. Renewal benefit will consider the potential disaster loss. This research is expecting to establish a better evaluation criteria to facilitate the designation of DPUR area that could consider both the moral and economic feasibility.

#### 1.1 Delivering Concept of Disaster-Prevention Urban Renewal

Taiwan is located at the Circum-Pacific Seismic Zone, which has earthquakes a magnitude of 6.0 or more than 200 times per year. The earthquake in Chiayi in 1906 caused 1,258 deaths, and 1,258 buildings were completely destroyed; the earthquake in Hsinchu in 1935 caused 3,000 deaths and 17,907 buildings were completely destroyed; the earthquake in Tainan in 1964 caused 1,000 deaths and 10,924 buildings were completely destroyed. On 21, September 1999, the earthquake on record in Taiwan in the 20th century struck Taiwan and took 2,415 lives and 10,000 buildings were completely destroyed, which also impacted the industry and economy of Taiwan. This fatal earthquake awakened the consciousness of urban disaster prevention and forced the government to face the necessity and exigency to review the urban disaster prevention and disaster impact.

In 2013, the Ministry of Interior of Taiwan proposed a new idea Disaster-Prevention Urban Renewal (DPUR), which is an attempt to review the existing urban renewal area and to consider the consideration of criteria related to the impact of seismic disasters in order to

and increase the resilience these areas via building renovation or reconstruction (the Interior of Taiwan, 2013) Therefore, the primary concern of DPUR is to protect areas where there are high seismic disaster risks that urgently need to be evaluated. However, the existing designation criteria for urban renewal areas in Taiwan are not enough to clearly identify the DPUR areas.

## 1.2 Urban Renewal Designation Criteria in Taiwan

The urban renewal designation criteria in Taiwan are according to Articles 6 and 7 of the Urban Renewal Act. According to Article 6, the areas with buildings that are deteriorated to public safety are prioritized to be designated as urban renewal areas. Article 7 states that the areas with high possibility of being impacted by serious disasters should also be designated as urban renewal areas. However, the completeness and specificity of the criteria mentioned above have recently been widely discussed.

First, the designation criteria for urban renewal areas in the Urban Renewal Act are too fundamental and indistinct to give specific and equal handling (Shih, 2008; Sun, 2013). The existing designation criteria also fail to deliver a comprehensive consideration of disaster prevention for the DPUR area (Cheng, 2011). Second, the designation criteria put too much emphasis on the deterioration of the physical environment but ignore the other local issues such as economic development potential. Therefore, although urban renewal improves the condition of the physical environment, it doesn't help the local economic development or the disaster resilience. So the public benefit of urban renewal cannot be wide spread (Sun, 2013; Lin, 2013). The existing urban renewal area designation lacks a consideration of an area-based approach. In publicly-driven urban renewal areas in Taiwan are determined by an evaluation of the physical environment and the operability of the plan, and the privately-driven urban renewal areas are determined by the market value potential, which therefore tends to be more like a market-driven plan. The consequences of both of these approaches for urban renewal lead to difficulties in improving the disaster resilience and stimulating the economic development of the areas (Shih, 2008; Sun, 2013).

Therefore, lacking specific designation criteria and a consideration of an area-based approach, the designated urban renewal areas will not only fail to improve disaster resilience but also undervalue or overvalue the risk of the areas under consideration. Once high-risk areas are undervalued, it is possible to misestimate the building tolerances for seismic risk. As a result, it will be impossible to lower earthquake casualties when the next earthquake occurs. On the contrary, once the low-risk areas are overvalued, it is possible to stigmatize the areas and hinder the local development. Hence, this research is an attempt to explore proper evaluation criteria for DPUR areas in order to balance the possible negative consequences on renewal areas.

## 2. Literature Review

### 2.1 Urban Renewal vs. Disaster Prevention

In areas with a compact urban fabric, the high-density of old buildings and narrow streets and roads threaten the residents' life and property safety. Urban renewal seems to be a way by which to change the urban fabric and improve living quality and safety by upgrading buildings' structure, relocating the living infrastructure and redevelopment targeting disaster resilience.

Urban disaster prevention can be gradually created and improved by urban reconstruction, renovation and community planning for disaster resilience, the can be strengthened, and urban renewal areas can be built as the disaster prevention surrounding areas. The urban renewal area together with the surrounding blocks, villages can be an urban living circle used to plan for disaster prevention and earthquake (Chou, 2010; Cheng, 2011).

Therefore, in order to reach the goals mentioned above and to maximize the pu urban renewal, we have to clearly evaluate the building conditions and disaster-prevention ability in the process of urban renewal area designation. worse building conditions and disaster-prevention ability should be prioritized DPUR areas in order to decrease the social and economic impacts of earthquakes. However, determining the designation criteria that should be used to avoid overvaluing errors that may result in unnecessary impact to these areas require on optimizing evaluation criteria for DPUR areas.

## 2.2 From Renewal to Disaster Resilient: A Case Study of Japan

The concept of urban planning in Taiwan was originated during the Japanese occupation had a great influence on the urban development of Taiwan. As a result, these two similar urban fabric and also have acquired similar urban issues as time has high-density of deteriorated houses in urban centers, narrow and winding subdivisions. Moreover, Taiwan and Japan are both located in the Circum-Pacific and are bothered by frequent earthquakes. As the two countries have a similar issues and similar urban disasters, Japan will be used as a case study to compare its designation criteria with that of Taiwan.

The origin of urban renewal in Japan has a close relationship with disaster prevention. In Japan, the compact wooden houses frequently caught fire. The great Kanto earthquake World War II (1937–1945) and the Osaka-Kobe Earthquake (1995) not only serious city but also triggered disastrous city fires that increased the already huge of disasters accelerated the development of urban renewal in Japan and even brought urban disaster prevention. The earliest legislation of urban renewal in Japan occurred in 1924 with the Agriculture Land Consolidation Act, which regulated the mechanism of readjustment. After WW II, the Special City Planning Act was enacted, and in Readjustment Act was revised. It was revised again in 1961 and became the Urban Remodelling Law.

In 1969, the Urban Renewal Act integrated the Urban District Remodelling Law and Disaster Countermeasures Basic Act which were attempts to try to combine the re of land with buildings. In the 1990 s, the government enacted the Urban Renaissance Measure Law, which was expected to improve living quality and the urban function solve the vacancy problems caused by the economic crisis in Japan. In addition focused on the renewal priority of the Urban Renaissance Urgent Development encouragement of private investment initiatives. Lu, 2007; Regeneration Cases in Japan, 2006

Compared to Japan, the earliest urban renewal plan in Taiwan can be traced back to the Japanese occupation period (1895–1945) when the city fabric was remodelled by the Japanese order to improve sanitation and consolidate the city landscape. In 1964, as the

moved to Taiwan from China, lots of immigrants living together in messy tempo forced the government to promulgate a new chapter triggering "the reform of the and development of the new city district" in the Urban Planning Act, which was 1973 to promulgate a new chapter of the urban renewal of the old city district renewal legislation in Taiwan.

In 1976, as the Public Housing Act was enacted, the government began to colla military to rebuild the military villages into public housing in order to impro the city and the urban living quality. In this period, Taipei City experi development than other cities in Taiwan, so it met the need of urban renewal cities. In 1983, Taipei initially enacted the local act for urban renewal, but government enact the Urban Renewal Act for the nation as a whole. The following 921 earthquake struck Taiwan and caused huge casualties. The Urban Renewal Act c be reviewed and revised in the post-disaster recovery and rebuilding process and completed after this disaster (Urban Regeneration R&D Foundation, 2011; Zeng, 20

When comparing the urban renewal development history of Japan with Taiwan s, i that they had different motivations to get involved in urban renewal that led The motivation of urban renewal in Japan was a result of the post-disaster and p With economic and social development, urban renewal gradually transformed to la that took the local economic and social development into consideration. Urban d also became an important issue in urban renewal. Compared to Taiwan, which was r on the consolidation of city appearances and the retrofitting of old buildings, renewal in Japan was transferred from site development to urban redevelopment p attention was placed on the integration of urban functions. The Urban Developmen is taken as another case study.

### 2.3 The Urban Development Plan in Tokyo, Japan

Except for the city downtown areas and commercial centers, Tokyo has a high- wooden housing communities, most of which are deteriorated and have complex la Most of these areas lack open spaces and always have narrow and winding alleys, disaster-prevention issues. As a result, determining how to renew these high-d communities to strengthen local disaster-prevention seems to be a big challenge government of Tokyo.

In Tokyo s Urban Development Plan, the urban renaissance areas are classified ac level, and the areas with higher hazard risks are given priority to be desiq renaissance areas. The Urban Renaissance Urgent Development Areas (URUDAs) are that are more hazardous in the city that are targeted for urgent renewal. T Renaissance Urgent Development Areas (SURUDAs) are the areas that are designat URUDAs. These locations can widely spread the benefits of disaster prevention to areas and prioritize the building of basic infrastructures.

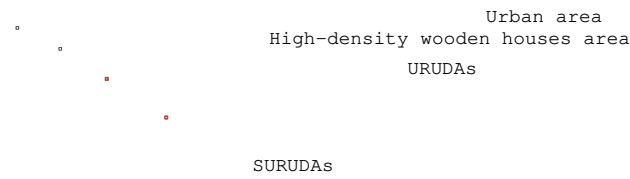


Figure 1 The classification of urgent urban renewal areas in Japan (Chen & Chang, 2005)

The URUDAs and SURUDAs both have time frame limitations related to reaching the urban renaissance project as shown in the following table. The evaluation criteria are made according to the Seismic-risk Area Hazard Investigation Report (the 5th version) by the Bureau of Urban Development in Tokyo. This investigation considers seismic-risk areas, the number of wooden buildings and inflammable areas to create the evaluation criteria. (Chang, 2005)

Table 1 A comparison between urgent urban renewal area and advanced renewal area in Japan (Chang, 2005)

	URUDAs	SURUDAs
Time frame	2025	2015
Goal	70% inflammable buildings	70% inflammable buildings
Purpose	Besides renovation, reconstruction and land redevelopment is also encouraged to be promoted by the residents in order to improve disaster-prevention ability in communities.	Besides encouraging renovation, an infrastructure development plan is also promoted in order to improve disaster-prevention ability.
Assessment standards	<p>1. Evaluate the possible number of buildings that will be destroyed by an earthquake. The index refers to the Seismic-risk Area Hazard Investigation Report (the 5th version) by the Bureau of Urban Development in Tokyo for which the data is more than 5 points.</p> <p>2. Evaluate the fire hazard index and fire spread as possible hazard index. The index refers to the Seismic-risk Area Hazard Investigation Report (the 5th version) by the Bureau of Urban Development in Tokyo for which the data is more than 5 points.</p> <p>3. The area which can reach the index below,  <math display="block">\frac{\text{Number of buildings}}{\text{Area}} &gt; 30 \text{ buildings /per ha}</math> </p>	<p>1. The areas designated as URUDAs suggesting that the area should be specifically mentioned for structure rebuilding. The SURUDAs have to be spread as possible in order to spread the benefit to the surrounding areas.</p>

	4. The area which can reach the index below, $+ (1 - \text{osr}) \times 100\% - 100\%$ osr = open space ratio (%)	
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When comparing Taiwan's and Japan's urban renewal area designation criteria, Taiwan's designation criteria has more principle criteria such as deteriorated, land structure and threat public safety, which provides a big framework but lacks detail to follow. In contrast, Japan's designation criteria have more specific indexes such as the proportion of the household (Shih, 2008). The disaster-prevention criteria and the criteria of Japan are both a good case for Taiwan to learn.

#### 2.4 Area-based Urban Regeneration

The case study mentioned above obviously shows that the main purpose of urban renewal was urban inflammability, which is used as a tool to solve the problem of wooden houses in the city center of Tokyo. With the transformation of the concept of urban renewal to urban renaissance, Japan's government raised the level of the urban renewal to a higher level, regarding it as a special area of focus with an expectation of multidisciplinary collaboration including urban planning, industry and disaster prevention. Although Taiwan has a similar urban development history and urban fabric with Japan, Taiwan does not have high-density wooden houses in its city centers, nor does it have inflammability issues. As a consequence, the urban renewal of Taiwan should be more focused on the issue of comprehensive urban disaster prevention. Learning from the concept of urban regeneration, renewal areas should have the ability to improve the condition of the environment while simultaneously reviewing the condition of the basic local infrastructure and the degree of disaster preparedness. The purpose of DPUR is not only to strengthen urban structures through renovation or reconstruction, but also to improve disaster prevention of the entire area using urban renewal as a tool.

The original concept of the area-based approach is from the UK. It was used in urban regeneration policy in the 1970s, but it was not until the 1990s that this concept became popular and was used as a policy by which to improve urban spaces. The urban regeneration experiences of Europe in the past 20 years taught that the combination of technical and physical environmental with social and legal factors is essential. Although urban regeneration can clearly and successfully improve the physical environment, social and economic issues such as unemployment, crime rates and poor education continue in some areas. Area-based regeneration will not only consider the retrofitting of buildings and the community infrastructure, but also solve the fundamental issues of these local areas, such as crime, unemployment and basic infrastructure (Edwards, 2009).

In the process of area-based urban regeneration, it tries to break the geographic boundaries and involve not only stakeholders but also other interest groups, as well as the active involvement of future stakeholders. Expecting to together discover local development potential while improving the physical environment also includes the promotion of social and economic development, and even education, housing and transportation (Plessis, 2013). Compared to the concept of area-based regeneration, which focuses on physical redevelopment and tends to be small in scale and pays more attention to the improvement of the physical environment and increases in market value while contributing very little to the surrounding area, area-based regeneration considers more factors, such as biological and social factors.

social contributions. A comparison between these two concepts is shown in the (Sag, 2010; Sun, 2013):

Table 2 Objectives, methods and evaluation criteria for site-specific and area efforts (Meyer, 1998; Sun, 2013)

	Site-specific redevelopment	Area-based regeneration
Objectives		
Environmental objectives	Reduced human health risks and liabilities	Restoration regional environmental condition
Economic objectives	Tax base increase; creation on-site	Reduced community job drawbacks and specific economic improvements
Actual consultation on local community objectives	Minimal; as required by law with respect to community notice and consultation	Potentially extensive; (although development agencies may listen but not act on local concerns
Evaluation criteria		
Time horizon	Short-term completion onsite development	Long time allowed for expected spill over effects
Policy efficacy	Sales for clean up and generated, impact on values and tax revenues.	New capital flows into area; reuse increase in area economic activity, incomes and property values
Public efficiency	Minimum public sector expenditure	Maximum leverage on public funds
Public effectiveness	Rate at which private landowners successfully market contaminated sites for reuse	Increase in area economic activity, household incomes; reduction in area drawbacks

The existing urban renewal in Taiwan is site-specific redevelopment, which emphasizes physical environmental improvements and increases in market values but ignores social and the development of the entire area under consideration. Lacking a consideration of area regeneration results in the urban renewal in Taiwan being generally limited to physical improvements and a failure to use urban renewal as a tool by which to solve social issues and stimulate economic development. The concept of area-based urban regeneration is a more appropriate strategy to respond to local poverty and social-cohesion issues. Area-based regeneration will not only emphasize the renewal of the physical environment but also the regeneration of the economy. Determining a method by which to attract the interest of the public and the private sector in investing into these areas has been widely discussed (Sun, 2009).

Unlike general urban renewal areas, DPUR areas exhibit more investment uncertainty due to the high-disaster risk and the deterioration in these areas. Although the public sector can attract the private sector the successes of the project and provide subsidy assistance, investment in the market profit is still the dominant consideration of the private sector. The success of private sector investment is to show them that this project will be profitable. Future research considers in addition to evaluation of disaster risk and area development, it is necessary to add a cost/benefit evaluation of urban renewal. Adding the consideration of

renewal cost and benefits may increase investment interest and the confidence of stakeholders, and also raise the proportion of stakeholders, which has the benefit of avoiding urban renewal area development. The issues mentioned above all reveal the significance of a cost and benefit analysis in urban renewal designation criteria.

### 3. Methodology

#### 3.1 Conceptual framework

This research gives a suggestion of the DPUR area designation criteria for Taiwan. Besides the physical environment, which has already been considered in the existing research, this research increases the consideration of a market-driven factor that evaluates the benefits in order to increase the proportion of the resident involvement and investment interest. In addition, renewal efficiency in urban renewal areas can be seen, the visible benefits of DPUR can be seen, such as decreases in disaster losses.

This research is expected to build comprehensive designation criteria for a DPUR area. The factor of physical environment refers to the urban renewal area designation criteria in the Urban Renewal Act in Taiwan. In addition, this research refers to the concept of urban regeneration to take the economic index into consideration. Besides visible benefits, such as increases in market value, other benefits brought about by the DPUR should also be considered, such as improvements in property safety and decreases in disaster-risk and losses. This research follows these two factors to review the existing urban renewal area in Tainan and find the optimal evaluation criteria suggestions for the DPUR area. The conceptual framework of this research is as follows:



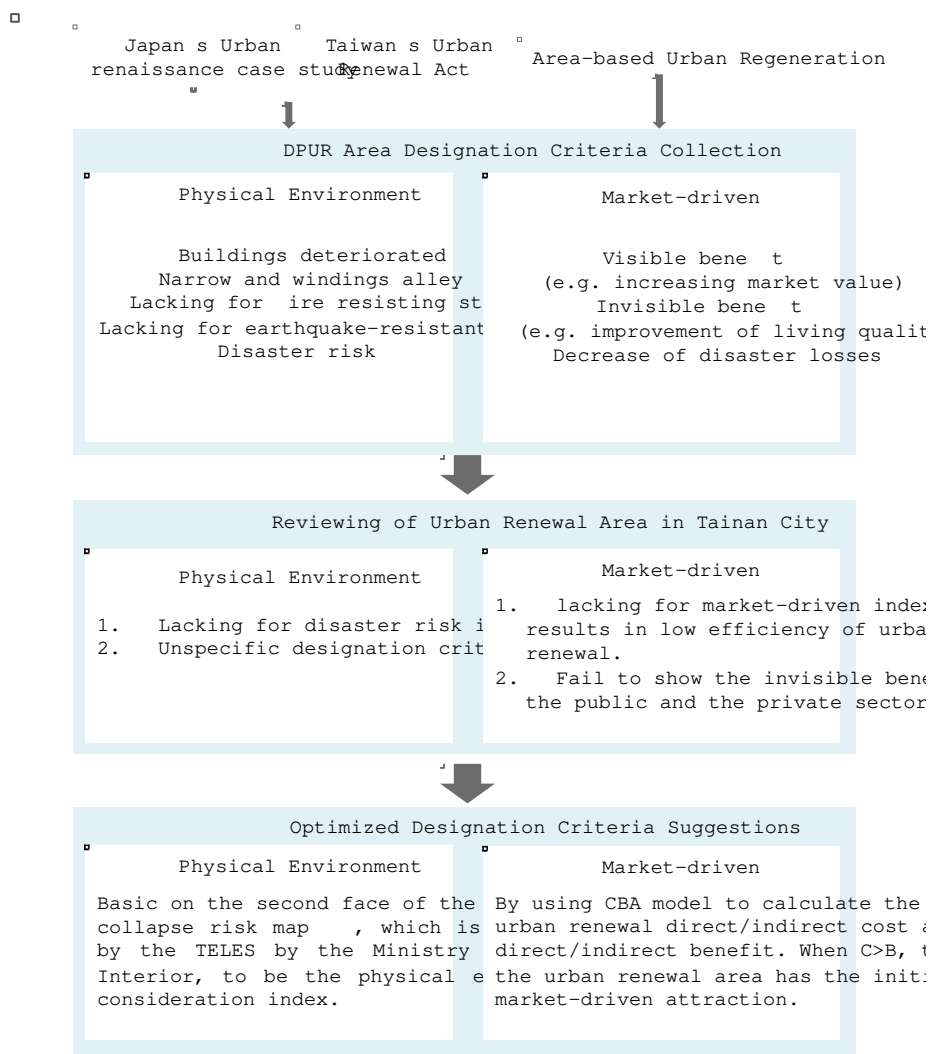


Figure 2 Conceptual framework

### 3.2 Study Area: Yongkang District, Tainan City

Yongkang District and Huweiliiao in the East District in Tainan City were chosen as study areas. There are a total of six faults passing through Tainan City, but only the Houchiali Fault passes through the urban center and the compact development area in such a way that it causes serious casualties when it triggers an earthquake. Consequently, the area that passes through was selected as the study area for this research.

Yongkang District is located in the southwest part of Tainan City, which has a rich developmental history that caused there to be a large number of deteriorated buildings. Due to the quick development of its transportation, industry and its rapid business growth, its population and urban scale are quickly growing, so the Houchiali Fault may have a significant impact on this district.

Tainan does not have the local legislation for urban renewal area designation, but it follows the central legislation spelled out in the Urban Renewal Act. According to Article 10 of the Urban Renewal Act, the areas with buildings that are deteriorated and hazardous

or the areas with high possibility of being impacted by a serious disaster should be designated as urban renewal areas. However, the designation criteria in the principle guidance that not only lacks specific and objective guidance but also lacks of area-based urban regeneration that emphasizes physical improvements but ignores economic, social and disaster-prevention issues.

Moreover, the execution of the existing Taiwan urban renewal policies mostly relies on the private sectors investment and resident self-renewal, where the purposes of urban renewal are often misunderstood as market-driven development. This market-driven force becomes the main factor to whether an area appropriate for urban renewal can be renewed or not. In other words, in private sector-driven urban renewal projects, lots of incentives, such as tax reduction and ratio preference have been considered. However, these incentives encourage private urban renewal project investments that are mostly located in areas that have high market potential. The areas that are deteriorated and hazardous don't tend to attract private resident-driven renewal projects. The renewal project are more focused on actual economic benefits on public benefits. Benefits that are not readily apparent, such as decreases in urban renewal and increases of property safety and living quality, are ignored.

The following table showing urban renewal area execution obviously illustrates that most urban renewal projects have mostly been outside of the statutory urban renewal area in representative counties in Taiwan. Especially in Taipei City, New Taipei City and Keelung City where the market value in the city is gradually rising, the number of urban renewal projects out of the statutory urban renewal area is much greater than the urban renewal projects in the statutory urban renewal area. This research's study area is in Tainan City, which has 18 urban renewal projects but as of 2014, there are only 8 places where urban renewal is actually being executed. The efficiency of the urban renewal is quite low.

Table 3 Urban renewal project statistics for five representative counties in Taiwan (as of 2014) (Ministry of The Interior, 2014)

County	The statutory urban renewal area	Urban renewal project in the statutory urban renewal area	Urban renewal project out of the statutory urban renewal area
Taipei City	235	11	820
Xinbei City	67	11	225
Taichung City	54	1	75
Tainan City	18	8	0
Kaohsiung City	12	5	4

This research is based on the second phase of the analysis of the building collapse risk map of the Yongkang District, which was delivered by the Ministry of the Interior in 2011. The area is divided into four levels as evaluated by the Taiwan Earthquake Loss Estimation and the structure, story and the ages of the buildings were comprehensively evaluated. The building collapse risk map with the existing primary urban renewal area in the map shows that the area includes the Feyang military village, the surrounding area of the supply depot and the area surrounding the Yongkang Veteran General Hospital.

After overlaying the two maps, the results indicated that the buildings in these areas mostly are low-collapse-risk; the urban renewal area surrounding the southern depot is vacant, and the buildings in the other two urban renewal areas are extremely low-collapse-risk buildings. The following figure also shows that the high-collapse-risk are mostly not in the primary urban renewal area. Consequently, the primary urban renewal designation criteria in Tainan cannot efficiently respond to disaster risk, and the physical environment deterioration for the designated areas in the future need to be carefully evaluated.

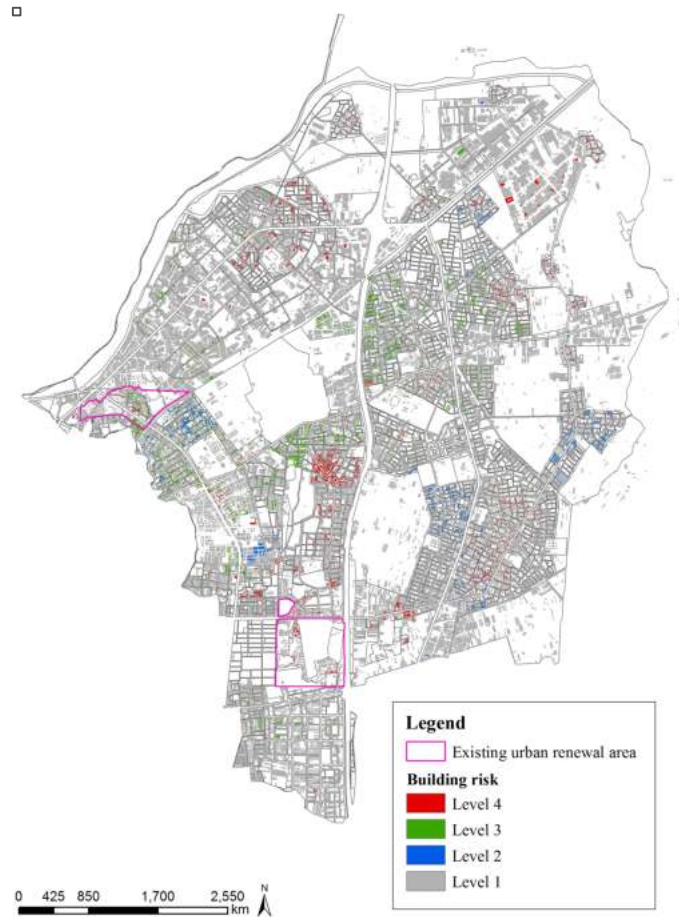


Figure 4 Overlay of existing primary urban renewal area and the building collapse risk in the Yongkang District (Ministry of The Interior, 2013)

Table 4 The proportions of building collapse risk in the existing primary urban renewal areas of Yongkang District, Tainan City

Primary Urban Renewal Area	The Feyang military vi.	Surrounding area of southern military depot	Surrounding area of Yongkang Veteran General Hospital.
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Total buildings		3,028	0	1,950
High-collapse-risk	Buildings	73	0	96
	Proportion of the total buildings	2.41%	0.00%	4.92%
Medium-collapse-risk	Buildings	251	0	1
	Proportion of the total buildings	8.29%	0.00%	0.05%
Low-collapse-risk	Buildings	0	0	0
	Proportion of the total buildings	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Extremely low-collapse-risk	Buildings	2,704	0	1,853
	Proportion of the total buildings	89.30%	0.00%	95.03%

The initial designation for the existing primary urban renewal area in Yongkang comprehensively consider the deterioration and hazards in the area and ignored factor for the residents and private sector, which caused low efficiency in reg that is an obstacle to lowering disaster risk, improving quality of life and dis opinion of this researcher, the designation criteria for the physical enviro specific as Japan s urban renewal designation criteria and should involve consi risk. Besides the criteria related to the physical environment and disaster i criteria also should consider the benefits spreading to the surrounding areas, the ability the entire area to prevent disasters and the stimulation of economi can be based on the area-based approach. This research adds the economic evalu consideration, which examines the potential of market-driven approaches by renewal costs and benefits. It is believed that the intent of DPUR can be a designation criteria of the DPUR area take into account a consideration of l environment and the market, so that resident and the private sector alike wi helping DPUR area renewal efforts.

### 3.3 Quantity Framework for Creating Evaluation Criteria of DPUR Area

This research re-designates the primary urban renewal area by adding new desi from the perspective of the DPUR by evaluating the area s deteriorated buildings other physical environment factors in addition to adding the potential economic ben consideration of the DPUR area designation.

This research is based on the second phase of the analysis of the building co Yongkang District, which was delivered by the Ministry of the Interior in 2014 by the Taiwan Earthquake Loss Estimation System to simulate earthquake losses collapse risk can be divided into four levels after overlaying the PGA and bu which are high-collapse-risk (A), medium-collapse-risk (B), low-collapse-risk low-collapse-risk. In the criteria for physical environment, the research bas high-collapse-risk and medium-collapse-risk buildings in the map, but the medi buildings still have to overlay with the other disaster indexes, such as flood, of road blockages and soil liquefaction. If the medium-collapse-risk buildings the other high-risk disaster indexes (B4), then they may belong to the high-co (A).

The evaluation process is in accordance with the Urban Renewal Act to use a block as a unit. Each hazardous block is evaluated by calculating the percentage of dangerous buildings (A+B4) in relationship to the total number of buildings on a block. Therefore, the research defines the block will result in designation as a DPUR area, which is the market-driven research.

The research uses the CBA model to evaluate the optimization of the percentage of buildings mentioned above. The cost is defined as the the direct/ indirect cost in the urban renewal project and the benefit is defined as the the direct/indirect cost if not doing the urban renewal project. After listing the cost and the benefit in the process, the total cost and benefit are compared by additionally considering the earthquake probability, risk premium, and interest rate. As a result, when the benefit exceeds the cost, it means that the block has market-driven potential and also a physical environmental hazard that should be renewed. In short, this research is an attempt to use the CBA model to find most of the percentage of a block to be designated as a DPUR area.

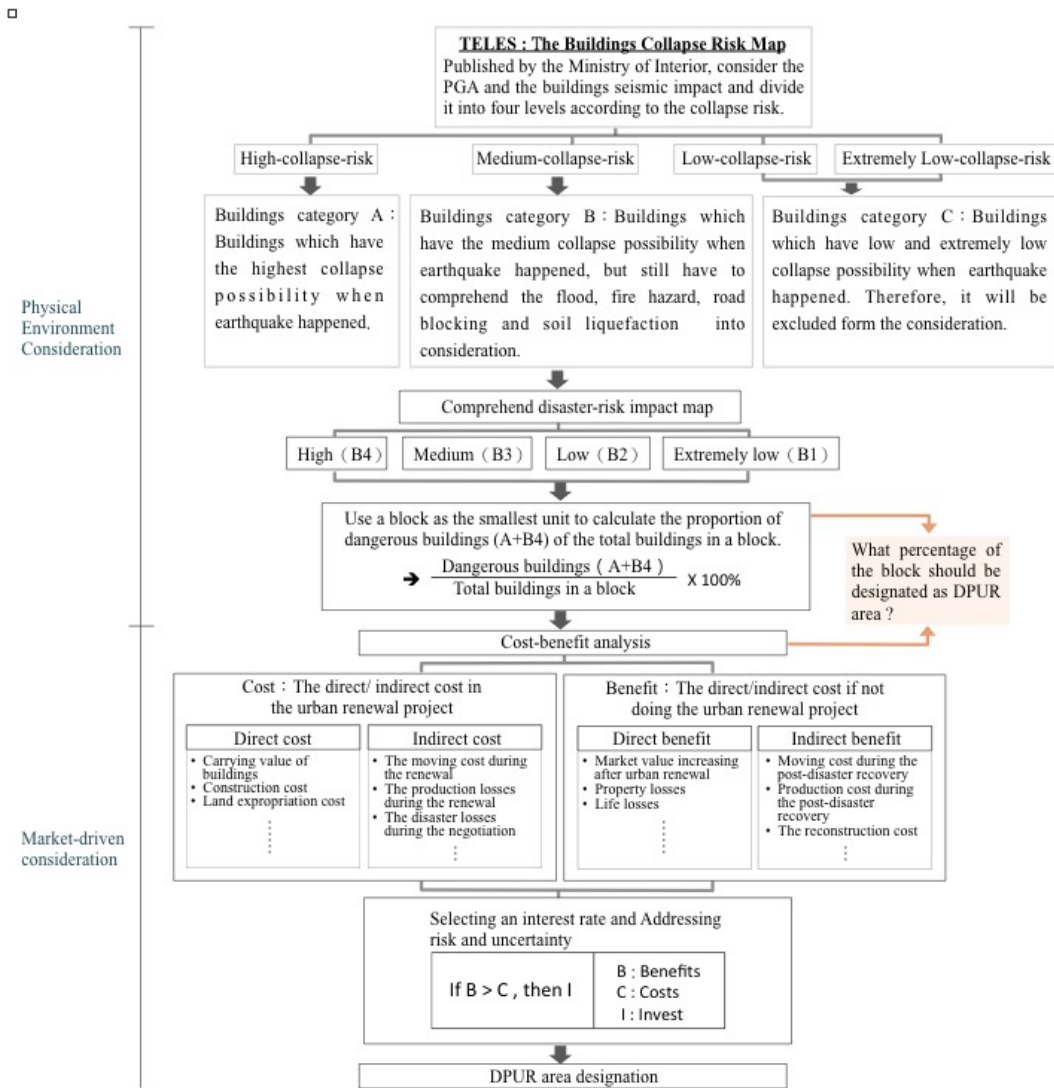


Figure 5 Future research process

#### 4. Conclusions

Taiwan is located at the Circum-Pacific Seismic Zone, which is seriously impacted by earthquakes. The huge casualties and losses in the 921 earthquake created a strong demand for disaster-prevention in the Taiwanese government. As a result, the Ministry of Economic Affairs brought up the idea of Disaster-prevention Urban Renewal in 2013, which is intended to improve the existing urban renewal areas by adding a consideration criteria for seismic risk in order to decrease vulnerability and increase the resilience of such areas via building reconstruction. Nevertheless, the DPUR area designations still face lots of challenges. The existing urban renewal area designated criteria according to the Urban Renewal Act do not and fail to consider market-driven factors related to renewal areas where the frequency of urban renewal is low. By reviewing the existing urban renewal area in the Yongkang and Tainan City study area, it was found that the prioritized urban renewal areas are not based on seismic disaster risk but rather focused on market-driven factors for the purpose of urban renewal, which may have resulted in failing to reach the goal of DPUR and may be the reason for the low efficiency of the renewal project.

Under the threats of unpredictable earthquakes, it is urgent that the DPUR areas be designated so that the disaster resilience of the area is improved. However, the existing disaster prevention areas in Taiwan are more focused on improvements to the physical environment and lack a comprehensive consideration, which makes it hard to relocate the disaster prevention facilities and attract the private sector to join in the project. Most of the private sectors, government agencies, stakeholders and enterprises that are interested in the renewal project, decide whether to join the project or not according to the investment risk and the market value. However, the long-term benefits that are not immediately apparent such as quality of life, safety and disaster resilience. The complete benefits of disaster-prevention urban renewal may be undervalued if only considering the visible benefits such as the appreciation market value of buildings.

Therefore, this research is an attempt to explore proper evaluation criteria for the case study of urban renewal area designation in Japan and the area-based approach that takes the physical environment into account and also economic factors including both visible and invisible benefits. The main purpose of this research is to make an attempt to solve the efficiency renewal problem, to arouse consciousness related to community disaster prevention, also to compare the benefits and cost of DPUR for the government and private sectors. The costs and the benefits in the CBA, which is also expected to give suggestions for urban renewal designations in Taiwan.

#### 5. Acknowledgment

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