

The Assessment of Landslide Hazard and Risk



Steve Parry, Consulting Engineering Geologist
sparry@ParryEGS.com

Talk outline

- Are landslides a hazard in the UK and what guidance is there?
- What are landslide hazard and risk assessments
- Terminology
- Types of approach
- Hazard models – “getting the geology (in particular the geomorphology) right”
- Direct vs indirect approaches
- Quantitative vs Qualitative assessments
- Case Studies
- Observations

Are landslides a hazard in the UK?

In Hong Kong, since 1990, there has been on average **1 fatality every 4.3 years** (Wong et al. (2004))

In the UK, since 1959 (i.e. excluding Aberfan), there have been on average **1 fatality every 4.5 years**. (Gibson et al. 2013).

The number of **reported** landslides in the UK has been increasing in recent years (some may reflect BGS extracting from social media)

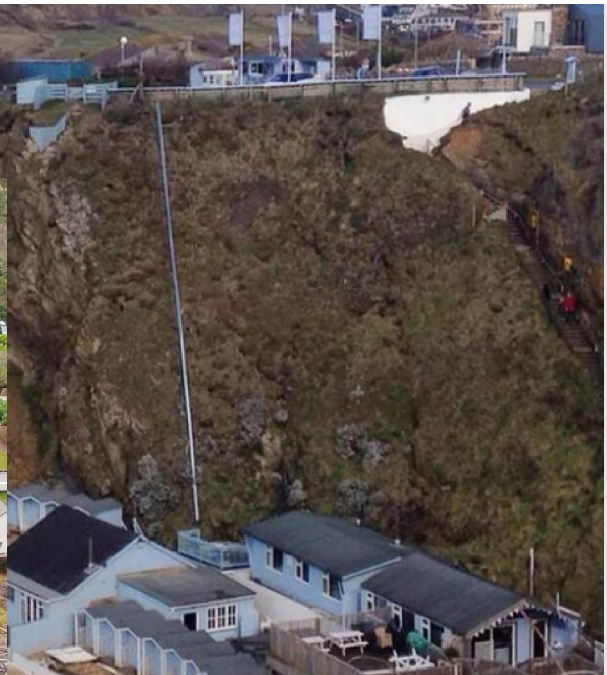
Not conclusively Climate Change but certainly *“changes in the meteorological environment.”*



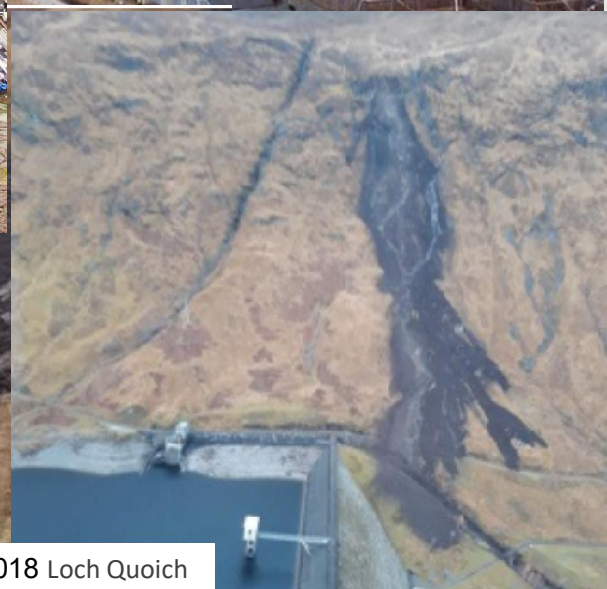
Bagio Villa landslide, 1992, 2 dead



Beaminster Tunnel portal landslide, 2012, 2 dead



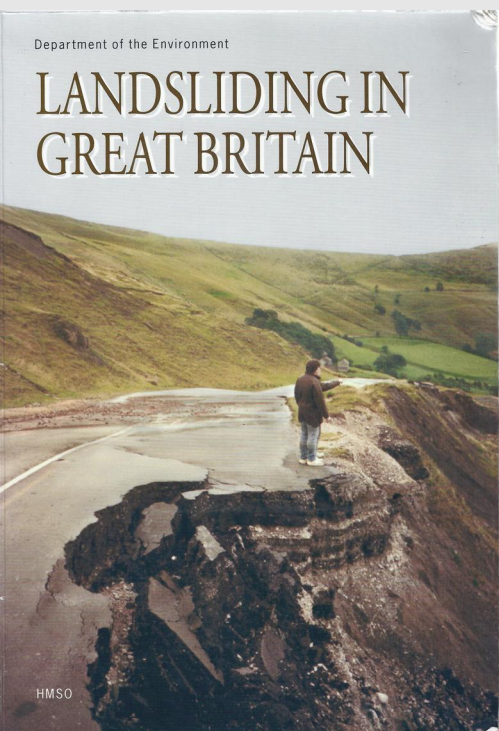
June 2012 Loch Treig



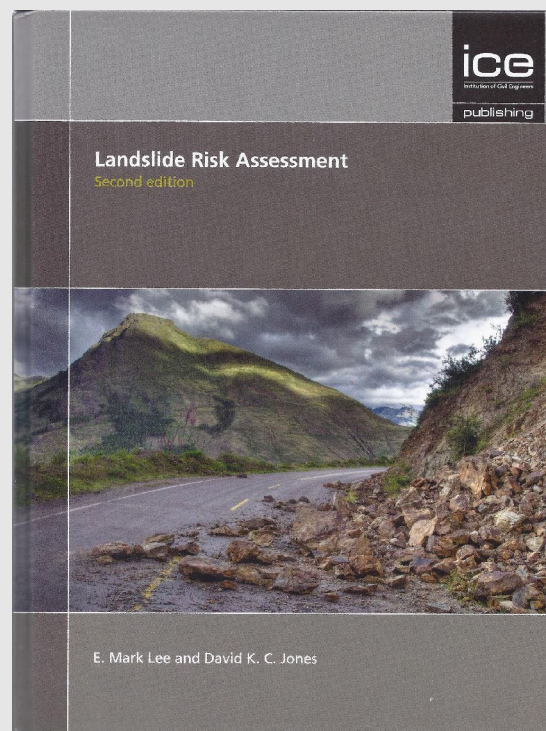
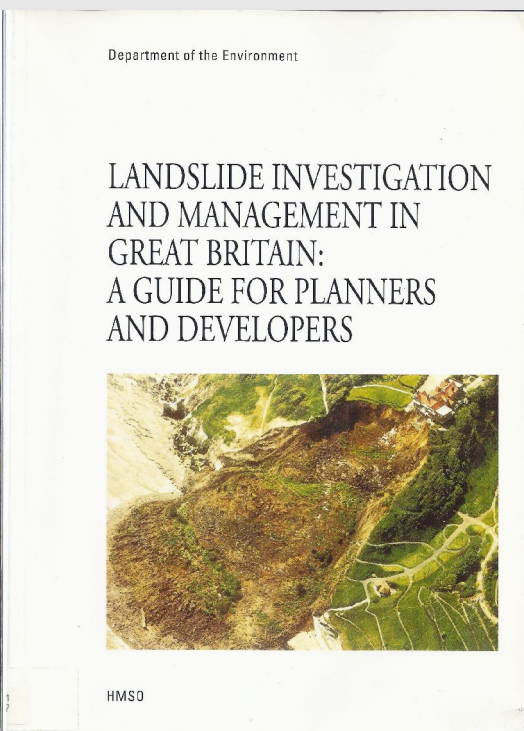
Jan 2018 Loch Eilt between Arisaig and Glenfinnan

Nov 2018 Loch Quoich

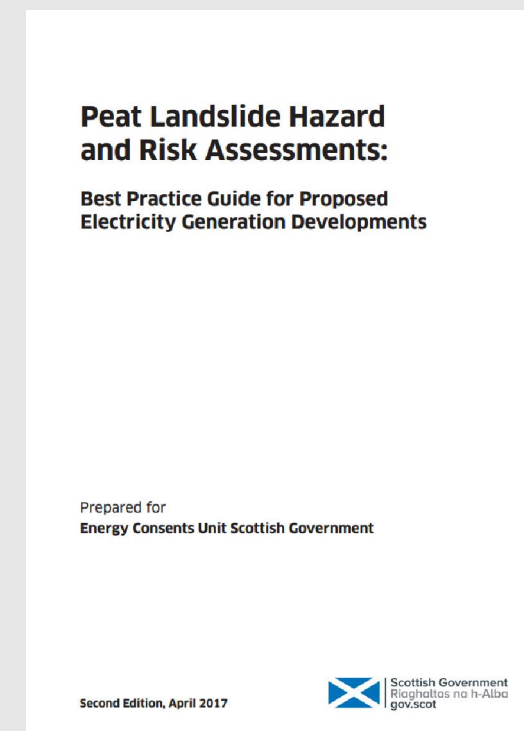
What Guidance is there for UK Practice?



1994 & 1996 both out of print



2004, 2nd edition 2014



2nd Ed 2017 Limited to peat slides for windfarm developments in Scotland - more regulatory than technical guidance

CIRIA Guidance document RP1096 Natural Slopes – Condition, Appraisal, Mitigation – end 2021 5

Hazard and Risk with respect to landslides

Lack of standardisation of terms used e.g. susceptibility, hazard, consequence & risk

e.g. hazard used as both as a noun which refers to a source of potential harm and as an adjective (JTC-1) which describes the probability of harm occurring¹.

¹Miner, A.S., Paul, D.R., Parry, S., Flentje, P. (2014) What does Hazard mean? - Seeking to provide further clarification to commonly used landslide terminology. Proceedings of the International Association of Engineering Geology Conference. Turin, 2014.

Hazard and Risk with respect to landslides

International definitions

Australian Geomechanics Society (2007)/Fell et al (JTC-1)2008

Landslide susceptibility. “A quantitative or qualitative assessment of the classification, volume (or area), and spatial distribution of landslides which exist or potentially may occur in an area”.

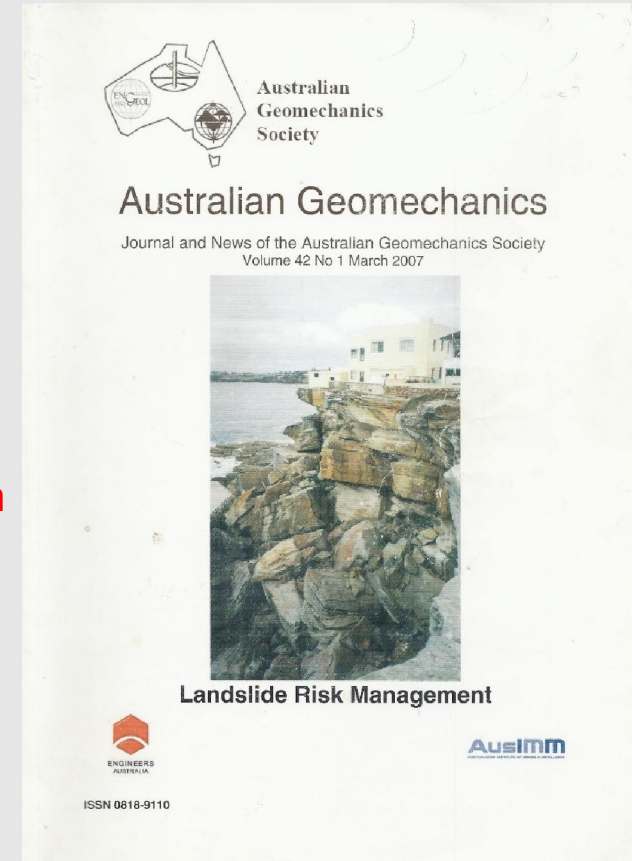
i.e. where landslides may occur

Landslide hazard “a condition with the potential for causing an undesirable consequence” and in relation to landslides notes that “the description of landslide hazard should include the location, volume (or area), classification and velocity of the potential landslides and any resultant detached material, and the probability of their occurrence within a given period of time”.

i.e. the probability that a landslide of a particular type and volume will occur in a defined area within a specified time

Landslide Risk “A measure of the probability and severity of an adverse effect to health, property or the environment. Risk is often estimated by the product of probability of a phenomenon of a given magnitude times the consequences”

i.e. the probability of loss associated with hazard interacting with elements at risk¹ e.g. risk to life

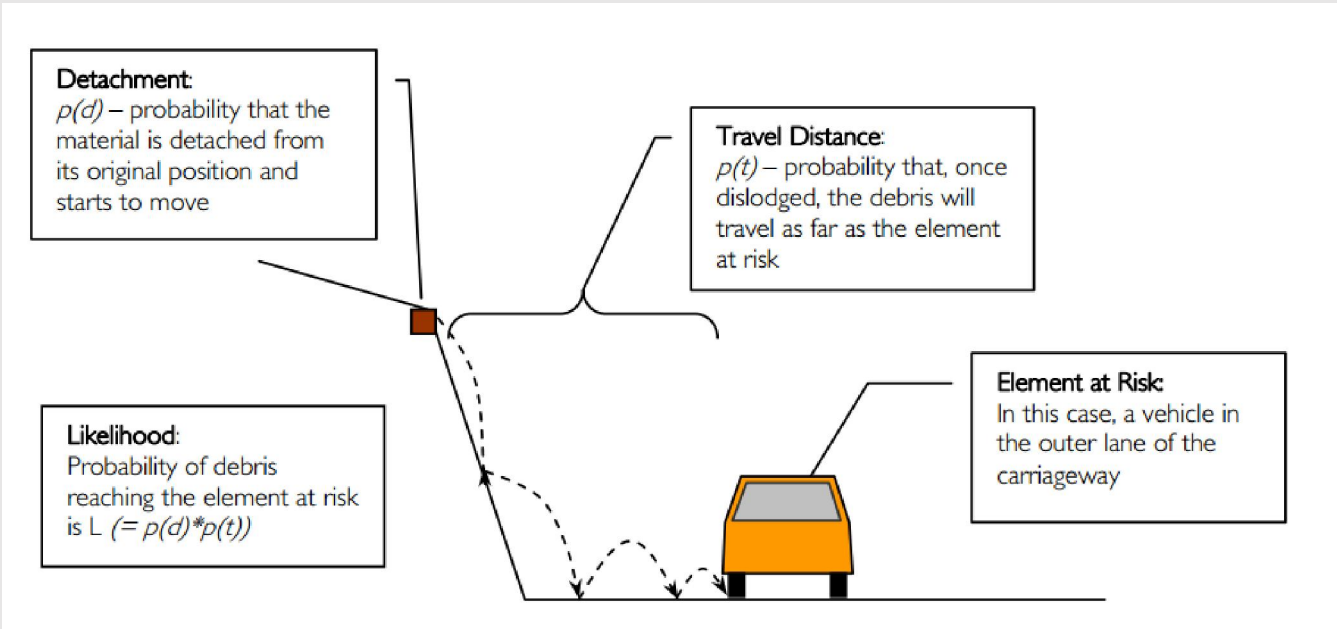


<https://australiangeomechanics.org/downloads/>

¹Elements at risk -The population, buildings and engineering works, economic activities, public services utilities, other infrastructures and environmental values in the area potentially affected by the landslide hazard.

Hazard

- probability of impact $f(\text{magnitude, frequency and run out})$
- these are in turn a function of landslide type
- Two key components Prob of detachment & Prob of runout



(Note entrainment should also be considered with respect to magnitude)

Material	ROCK	DEBRIS	EARTH
FALLS	Rock fall Scar Debris	Debris fall Scar Scree Debris cone	Earth fall Scar Colluvium Debris cone
TOPPLES	Rock topple	Debris topple Debris cone	Earth topple Cracks Debris cone
SLIDES	Rotational Single rotational slide (slump) Failure surface	Crown Head Minor Scarp Multiple rotational slide Failure surface	Successive rotational slides
	Translational (Planar) Rock slide	Debris slide	Earth slide
SPREADS	Normal sub-horizontal structure Cap rock Clay shale Thinning of beds Plane of décollement Competent substratum	Gully Camber slope Dip and fault structure Valley bulge (planned off by erosion) e.g. cambering and valley bulging	Earth spread
FLOWS	Solifluction flows (Periglacial debris flows)	Debris flow	Earth flow (mud flow)
COMPLEX	e.g. Slump-earthflow with rockfall debris	e.g. composite, non-circular part rotational/part translational slide grading to earthflow at toe	

Risk

- concerned with the likelihood and scale of the **conseq**

• This needs to take into account the elements at risk, t
exposure time.
= hazard x Σ (elements at risk x vulnerability x ex

• Total Risk is the sum of the calculations of specific risk

• often calculated in terms of risk to life

• But can be economic or environmental

EU seeks €1.7m fine over landslide wind farm

Seán McCárthaigh, Senior Ireland News Reporter

April 1 2019, 12:01am, The Times

Politics

European Union

UK politics

Europe




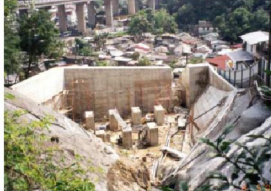
Ireland could face a minimum fine of almost €1.7 million over the dislodged peat from the Derrybrien wind farm
JOE O'SHAUGHNESSY

The European Commission is asking the EU's top court to impose large fines on Ireland over its failure to comply with a 2008 ruling on a wind farm where a two-kilometre landslide killed 50,000 fish.

Ireland could face a minimum fine of almost €1.7 million over the Derrybrien wind farm in south Galway. Tonnes of peat, dislodged during construction, polluted the Owendalulleagh river in October 2003, causing lasting damage to fish spawning beds.

Why adopt a risk based approach?

- (a) Considerable uncertainty associated with the ground which are difficult to address in a deterministic slope assessment, particular over large expanses of variable terrain.
- (b) A risk-based approach provides a structured framework for formulating a rational risk management strategy to address the overall landslide risk and compare that with other risks.
- (c) A risk-based approach provides a scientific basis for evaluating risk mitigation measures at individual sites
- (d) A risk-based approach can greatly facilitate risk communication with the politicians and the general public.
- (e) What is the probability the design event/mitigation solution you have adopted will occur or be exceeded?

Drainage provisions Bio-Engineering	Flexible Barriers 	Check dams Gravity Structures 	Diversion walls Land Resumption		
0-50m ³	50-100 m ³	100-500 m ³	500-1000 m ³	1000-5000 m ³	5000-10000 m ³

JTC-1/AGS (2007) suggests the following stages for a landslide hazard and risk assessment:

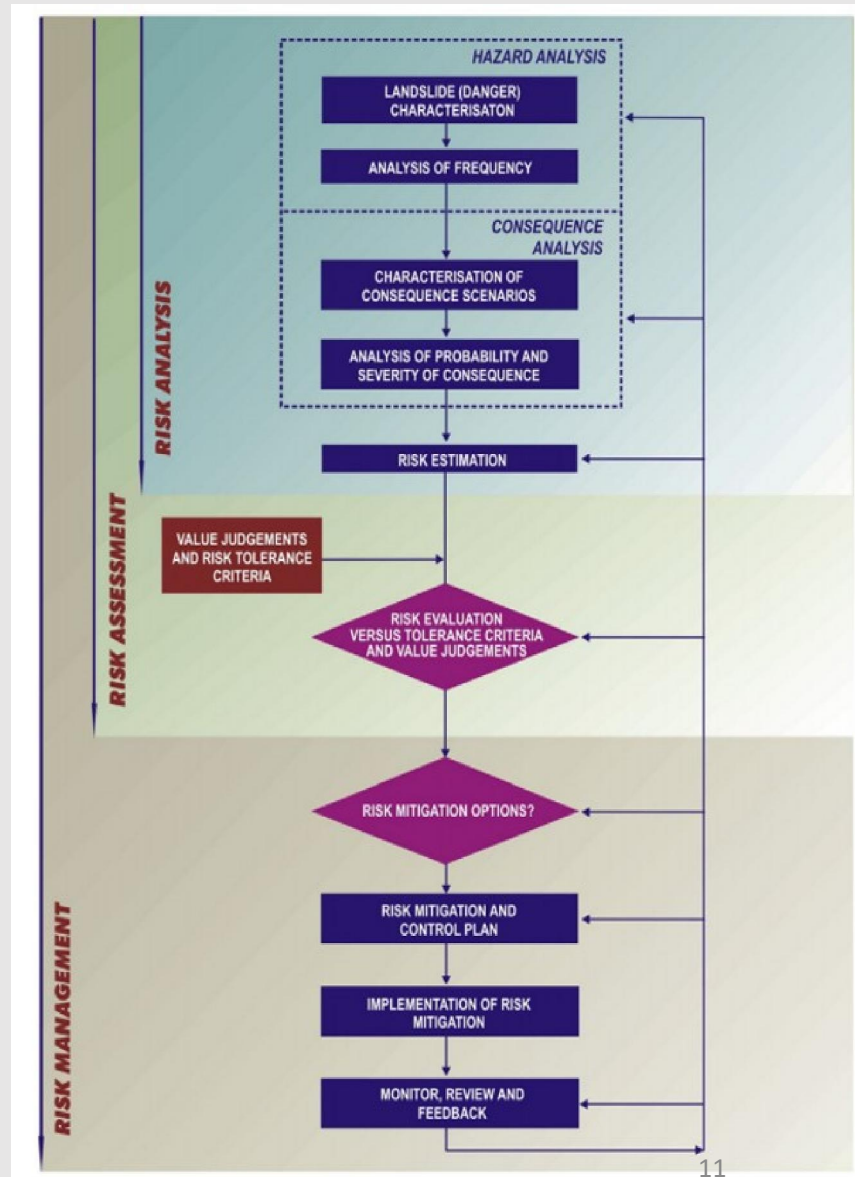
Hazard identification which comprises classification of landslides, extent of landslides (area and volume), travel distance of landslides and rates of movement

Frequency analysis comprising estimation of frequency e.g. historic performance, relate to initiating events

Consequence analysis comprising elements at risk, temporal probability and vulnerability

Risk estimation

Once these steps have been undertaken an evaluation of risk can be undertaken and risk mitigation options assessed.



Hazard identification

In order to undertake this we need first need a landslide inventory

What of UK National Landslide Database?

The British Geological Survey (BGS) maintains the **National Landslide Database (NLD)** which contains attributes of over 17,000 landslides.

National Landslide Database (NLD)

Of 17,000 landslides, 10,000 are extracted from BGS geological maps. Most of the landslides in the NLD are considered to be “*ancient and inactive*”

Earlier geological maps did not record them and if recorded tend to be the ancient and inactive.

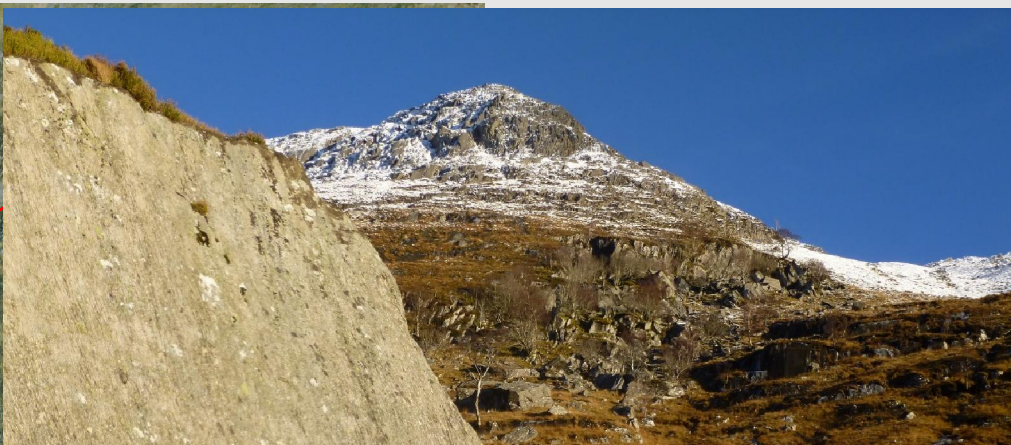
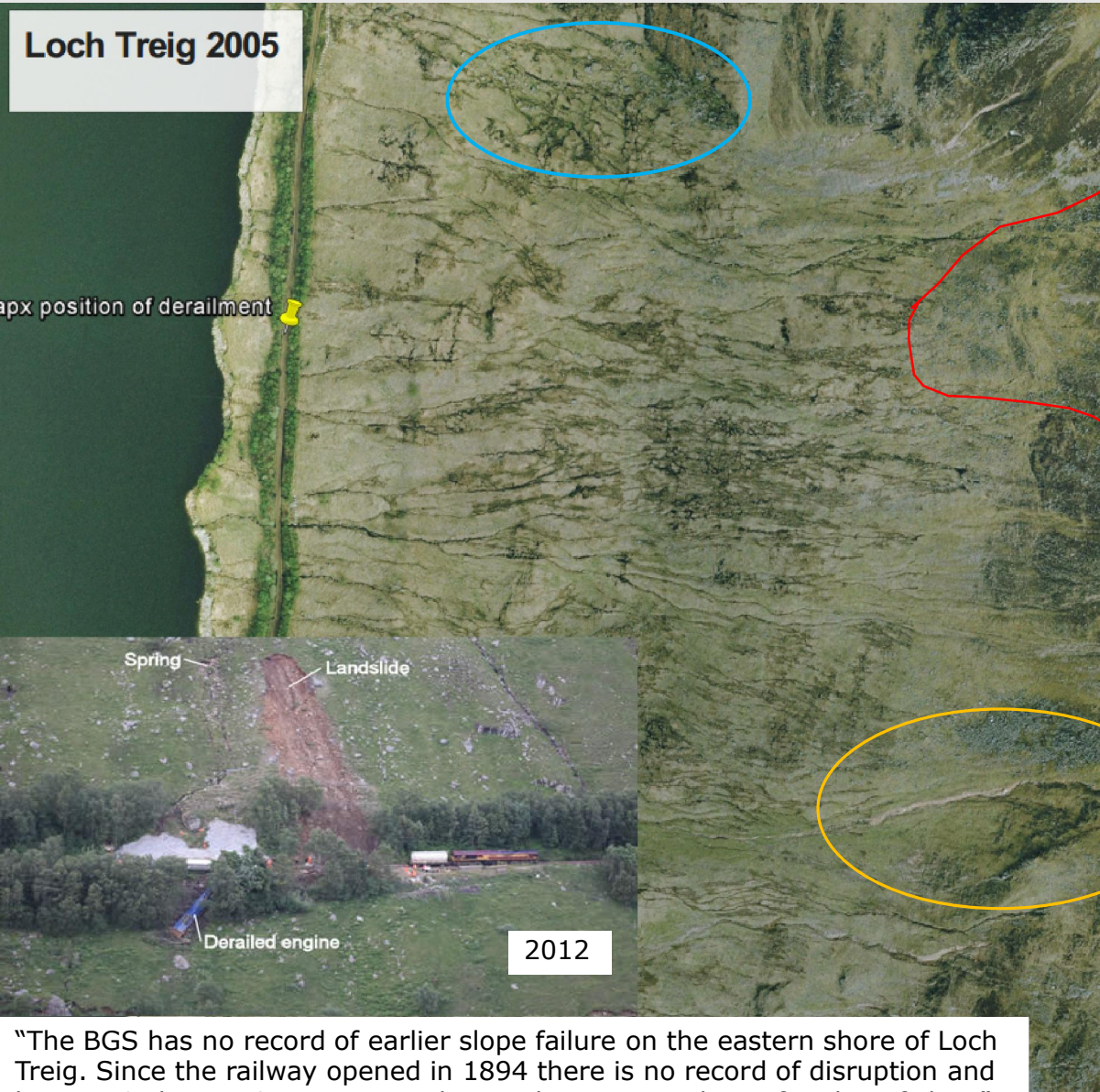
Landslides without significant “footprints” such as debris flows are rarely mapped and consequently are significantly under reported.

Non-BGS records are typically from area of concentrated and conspicuous landslide activity, e.g. South Wales, Pennines etc.

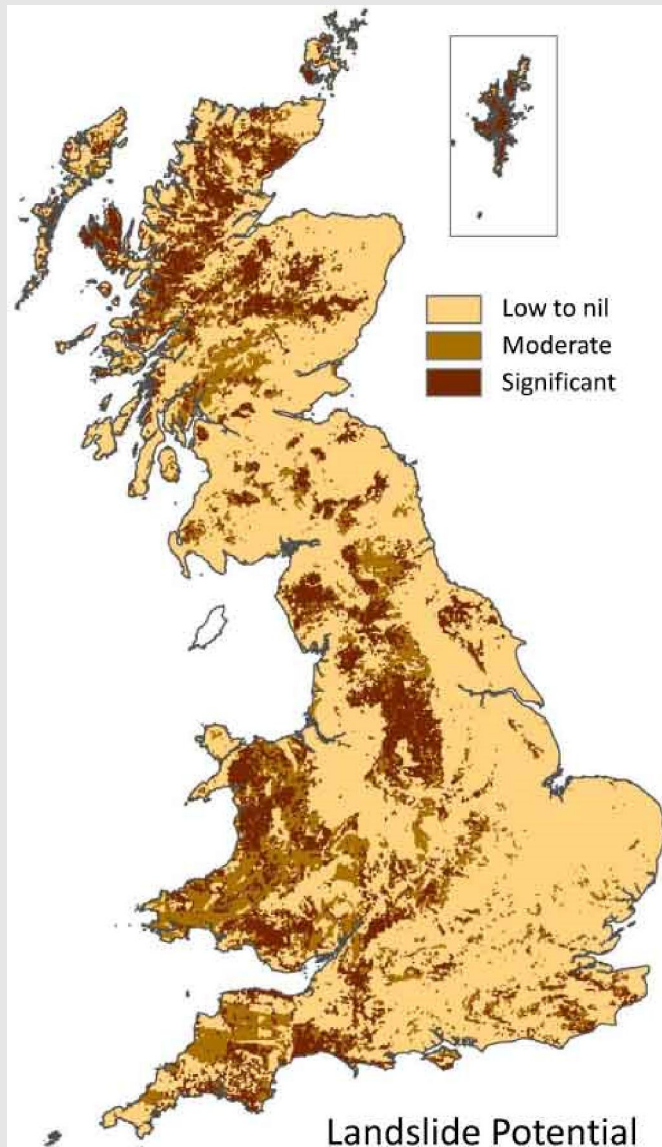
The NLD is based on earlier DoE database - the pattern of landslides revealed by the records was stated as being an “*artefact of investigation reflecting varying degrees of ignorance*”

As a result, no record in the NLD does not mean that landslides are not present

Loch Treig 2005



"The BGS has no record of earlier slope failure on the eastern shore of Loch Treig. Since the railway opened in 1894 there is no record of disruption and historic Ordnance Survey maps do not show any evidence for slope failure".
www.bgs.ac.uk/landslides/tulloch.html



GEOSURE (Slope Instabilities)

GEOSURE only provides qualitative assessment of landslide **susceptibility** i.e. the spatial extent of landslide phenomena with no indication of hazard type, magnitude, run out or frequency, or if a hazard will actually result.

Hazard identification

Therefore site specific landslide inventories are required

However an inventory on its own is insufficient.

Many events evident in an inventory may have relatively short return periods.

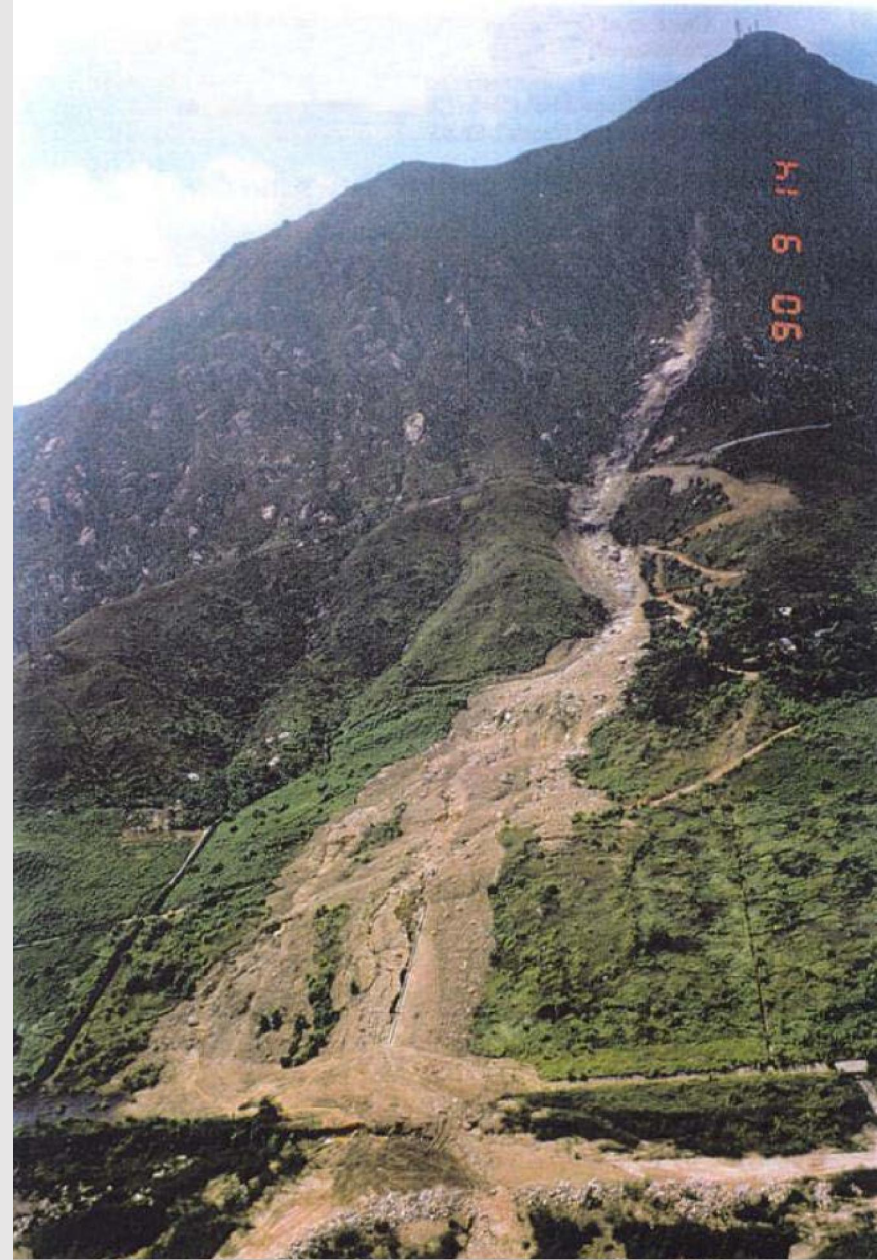
Even using the extensive aerial photograph coverage in Hong Kong, which covers a 60 year period, the percentage probability of a 1:100-year event being recorded at a particular site is only 31%

Need to assess what could occur, not simply what has been recorded.

Landslides are not fixed process but are extremely dynamic as such a landslide inventory is the starting point

11 September 1990 Tsing Shan Debris flow

- Initiated as a 450m³ debris slide
- accelerated over a cliff landing on an area of thick colluvium
- triggering a secondary debris slide of 2500m³
- Entered the drainage line became a debris flow
- Entrained 16,000m³ of material
- 1km run out
- Debris deposited on platform constructed for housing



A key component of Hazard Identification is the development of a hazard model

- What could happen
- Where could it happen
- Why might such events occur
- When might such events occur

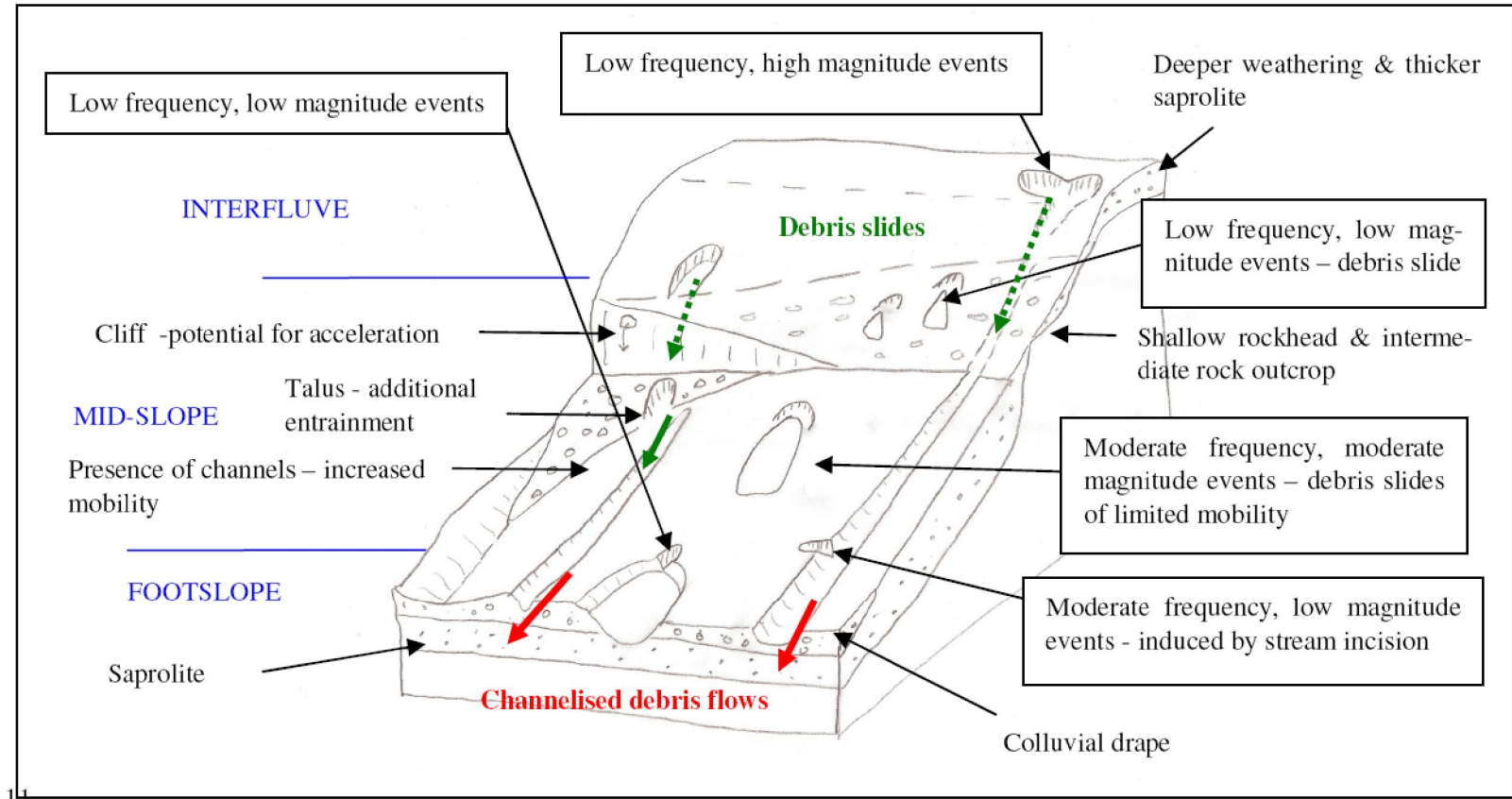
Addressing these uncertainties is the key role of engineering geomorphology

“If knowledge of geomorphology of the site is not incorporated into a Landslide Risk Assessment then the assessment is unlikely to be realistic” Baynes & Lee, 1998

What could happen?

Use of conceptual hazard models – allow all possible hazards to be considered

Directly related to the type and amount of existing data, and the knowledge and experience of those involved¹



Parry, S, Ruse, M. E., & Ng, K. C. (2006). Assessment of Natural Terrain Landslide Risk in Hong Kong: An Engineering Geological Perspective. Accepted Paper No. 299, Proceedings of the International Association of Engineering Geology. Nottingham, 2006.

¹Baynes, F., Parry, S., & Novotny, J. (2020). Engineering geological models, projects and geotechnical risk. Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology and Hydrogeology,

An understanding of landscape evolution is fundamental to a landslide assessment.

The basic geomorphological concepts which underpin this are:

- A given set environmental conditions and constant processes over time will result in a set of characteristic landforms
- However, such controls are not constant over time or space. Geomorphological change can be initiated by processes which vary according to the timescales over which they operate
- Landslides have a finite lifetime within the landscape
- Consequently, the landscape rarely reflects any one climate or period of change, they are palimpsests of superimposed histories i.e. a mosaic of landscape features of different age and origins

Frequency Analysis

- Use the historical frequency of landslides in the area to provide an indication as to future annual probability (requires data)
- Use the probability of a landslide triggering event as an indicator of the probability of a landslide e.g. rainfall, seismic
- Estimate probability through expert judgement

Often a combination of all approaches

(Not only frequency of occurrence but probability of run out reaching facilities)

Consequence Analysis

Requires:

- Evaluation of exposure for all elements at risk – people in buildings, pedestrians, people in vehicles etc

Exposure - P(spatial) “wrong place” and P(temporal) “wrong time” e.g for vehicles

P(spatial) depend on length of vehicle, length of hazard zone and width of LS

P (temporal) journey time through hazard zone

No. of cars

- Evaluation of hazard type – person in open space buried by debris, person buried by debris in a building, debris results in building collapse, car strikes landslide, landslide strikes car etc
- Evaluation of vulnerability – related to landslide type, landslide volume and “fragility” of element

Moving into other areas of expertise

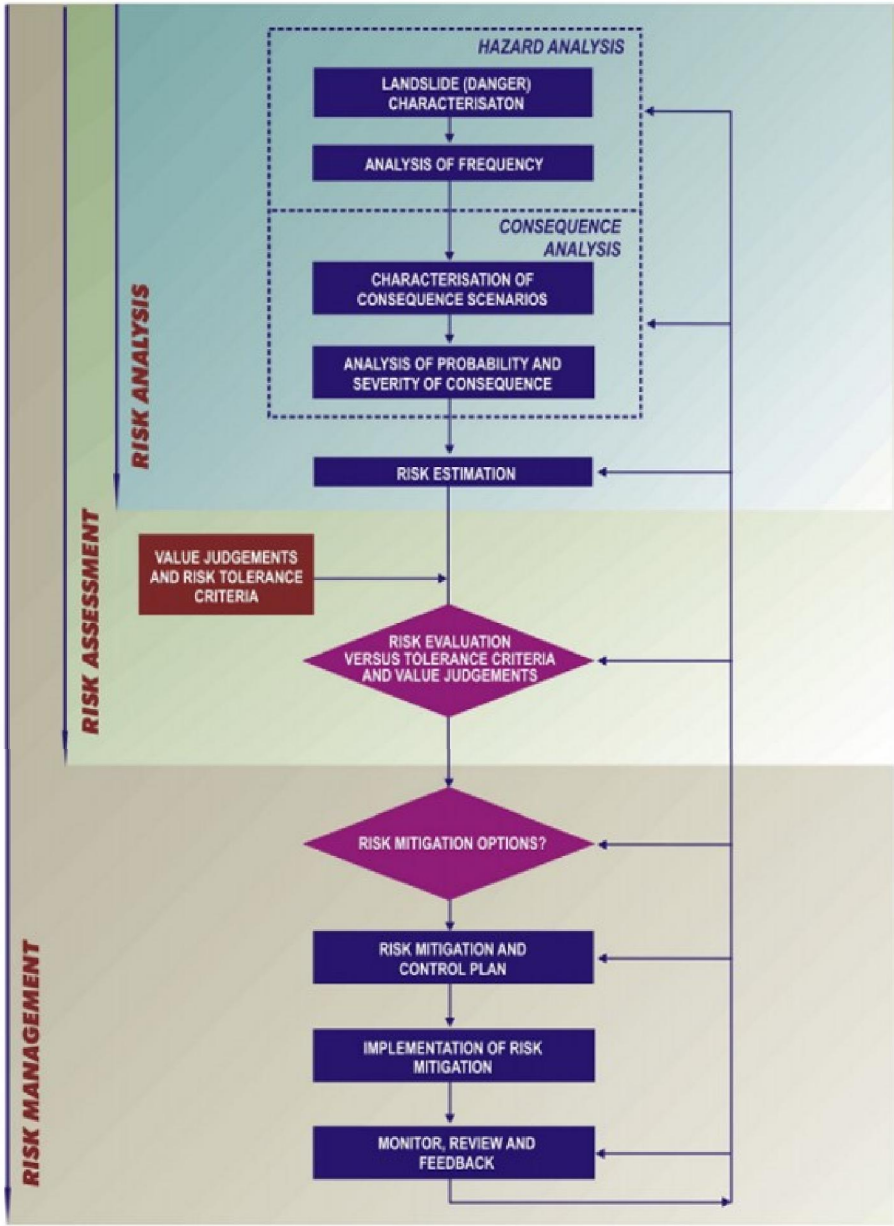
Table 8.9 Example 8.4: Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Australia – vulnerability values for various landslide scenarios

Volume of landslide debris crossing road: m ³	Rockfalls		Debris flows	
	Hits car	Car hits debris	Hits car	Car hits debris
0.03	0.05	0.006	NA	NA
0.3	0.1	0.002	NA	NA
3	0.3	0.03	0.001	NA
30	0.7	0.03	0.01	0.001
300	1	0.03	0.1	0.003
3000	1	0.03	1	0.003

From Wilson *et al.* (2005)

Risk Management

- Risk management frameworks
- Risk mitigation – accept, avoid, reduce hazard, reduce consequences, monitoring and warning, transfer risk, postpone – no single measure.
- Monitor review and feedback
- Maintenance

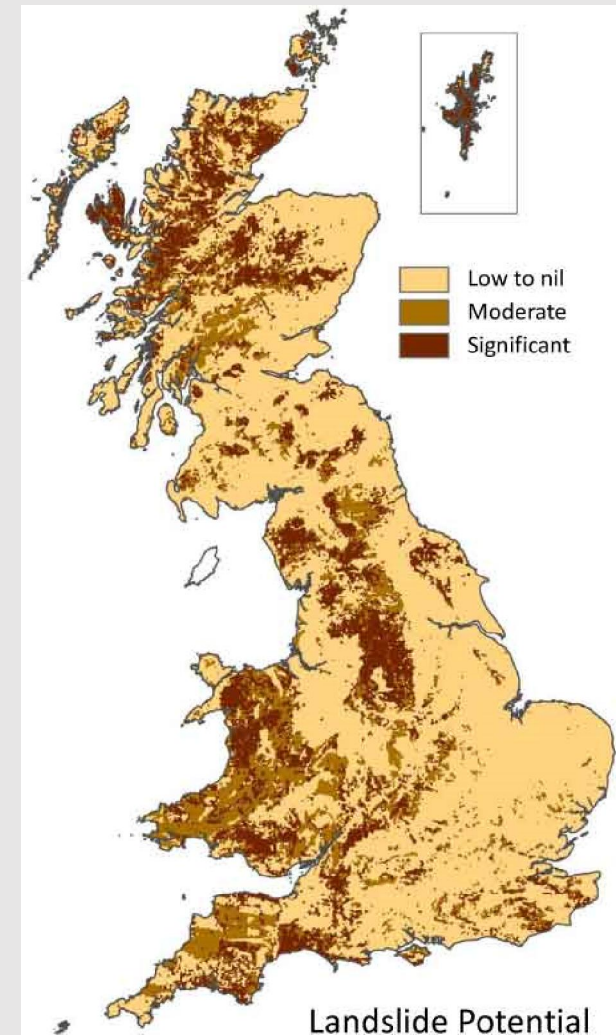
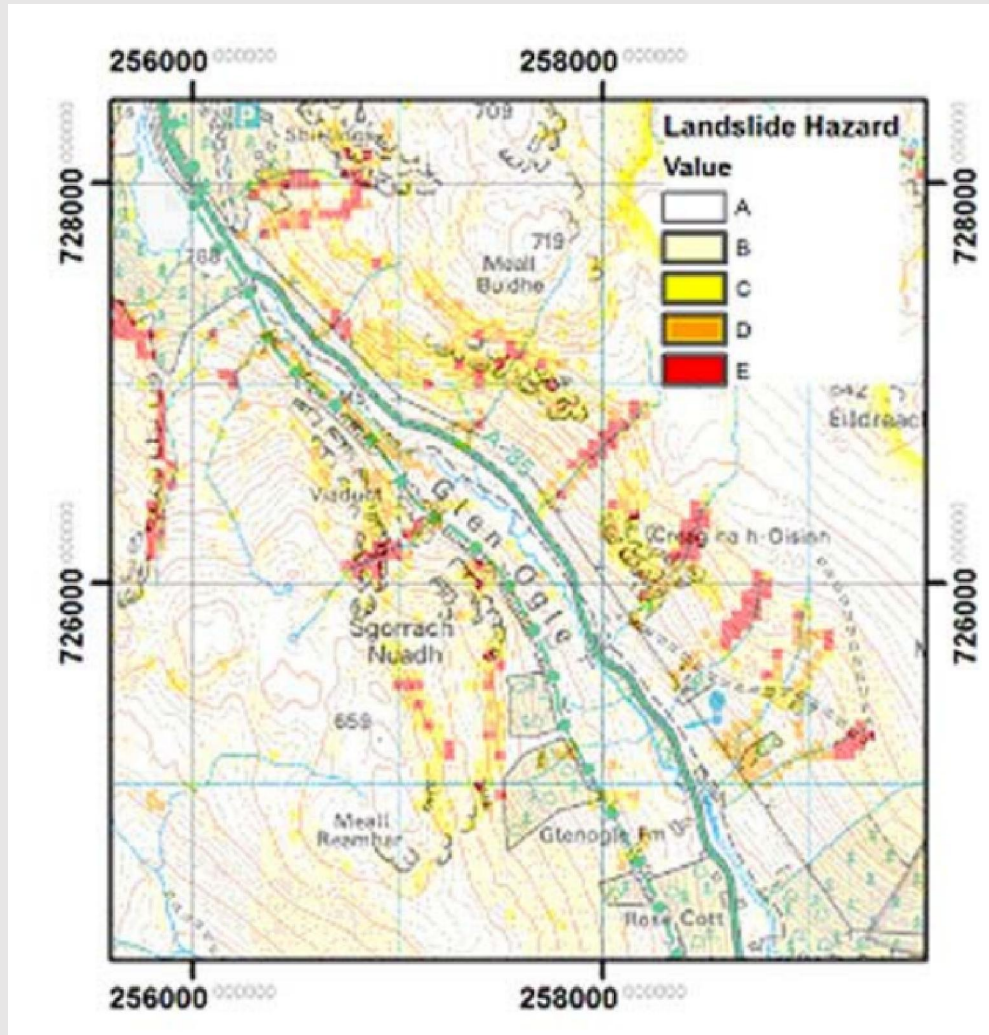


What methodologies are available to assess hazard?

Geomorphological approaches

- **Direct** –based on engineering geomorphological mapping
- **Indirect** –based on GIS interpretation based on an evaluation of causal factors

- **Indirect** – GIS interpretation based on an evaluation of causal factors



Direct Mapping

Based on knowledge and experience of interpreter

Can produce very reliable maps with zero misclassification. This cannot be obtained with indirect mapping.

However, they are based on individuals experience and hence may not be reproducible

Not particularly cost-effective over very large areas.

Indirect Mapping

The main problem is in determining the exact weighting of the various parameter maps. Often, insufficient field knowledge of the key factors limits the establishment of the factor weightings, leading to generalizations.

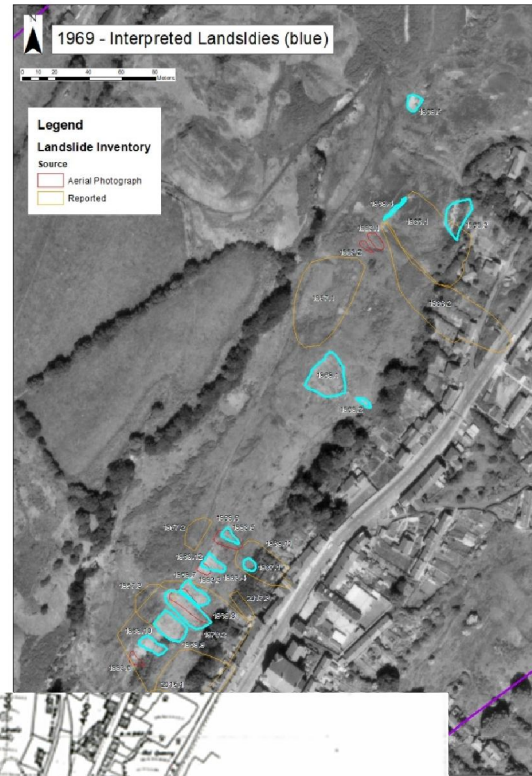
Maps produced from statistical analysis are very reproducible since the weight is derived from the attributes and not from the data. However, this is not necessarily more objective since subjectivity is involved in both the data collection and the selection of relevant factors for the analysis.

Dependant on appropriate data sets being available

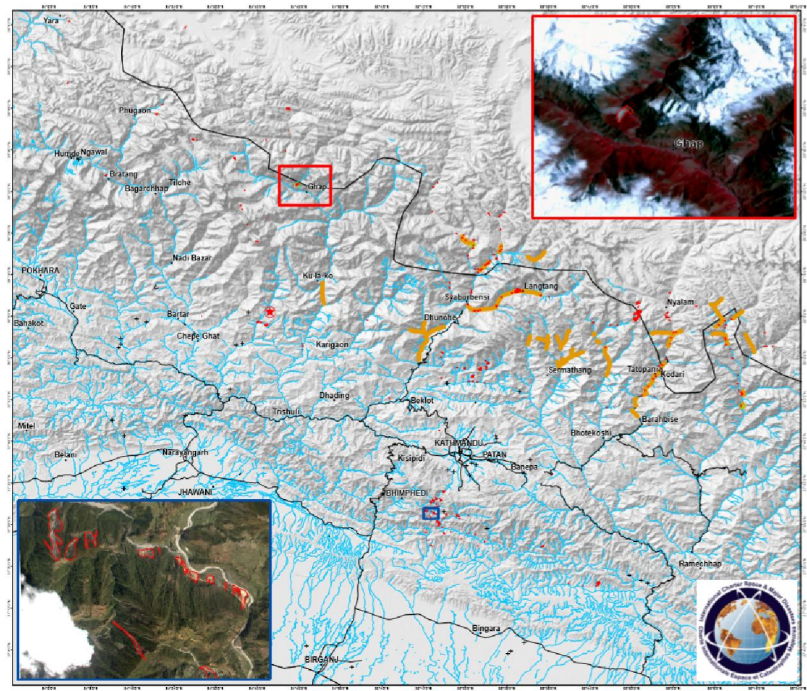
Regardless of the approach a high quality landslide inventory is required with data on landslide type, age, volume (inc entrainment), run out

Landslide inventory

- Historic records
- Satellite
- API
- Field mapping



Preliminary Landslide Inventory Following 25 April 2015 Nepal Earthquake



Legend

- Cities and towns
- Main roads
- Rivers
- Country boundaries
- Epicenter
- Landslides active since 25/04/2015
- Individual landslides
- Valley blocking
- Valleys with numerous landslides
- Damaged road

Interpretation

This map shows landslides mapped from satellite imagery following the 25 April 2015 Nepal earthquake. The scale of mapping was between 1:5,000 and 1:10,000, therefore the minimum size of features represented on the map is 4-15 m. Satellite image resolution is between 2.5 m and 22.5 m.

More than 420 new landslides were mapped by this publication only. Classification of landslides may not be accurate.

Top right inset is a CHC/UC/DMC3 satellite image with mapped landslides. Bottom left inset is a DigitalGlobe/VeoView-2 satellite image with mapped landslides.

Cartographic information

Scale: 0 10 20 40 km
 Geographical system: WGS84 (Datum: GDA95)

Data sources

Satellite data:
 Vector data: © Digital Globe (bottom left inset)
 DMC3 © 2015 DMC3 (top right inset)
 SRTM © CNES 2015
 Roads: © CNES 2015

Vector data:
 Cities, Roads, Rivers, County boundaries © OpenStreetMap

Framework

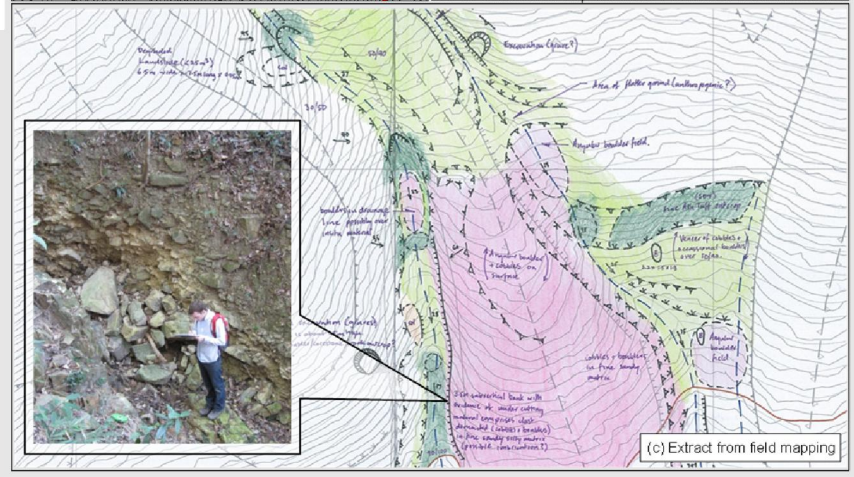
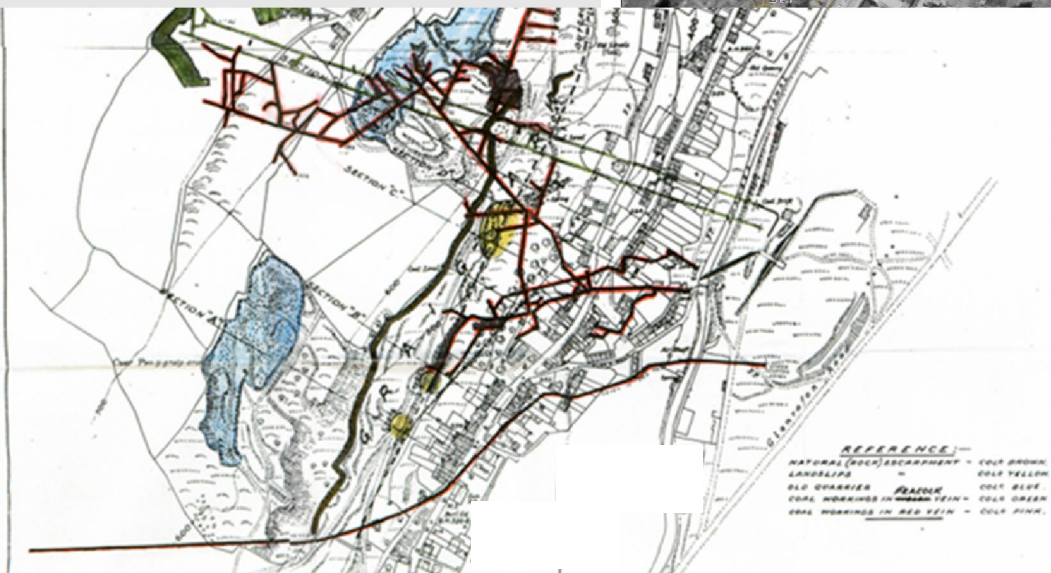
International Charter Disaster Assistance 530551

This inventory was prepared in rapid mapping mode using a combination of satellite image interpretation and working information from news reports and crowdsourcing.

No liability concerning the content or use thereof is assumed by the publisher. Product published 5 May 2015 and designed for printing in A4 paper size.

British Geological Survey
 Durham University
 UEA

<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/research/earthHazards/epom/documents/LandslideinventoryNepal5May2015.pdf>



With respect to the type of hazard or risk analysis undertaken this can be:

Qualitative - descriptor e.g. high, medium or number 1, 2, 3

- Relatively rapid
- Allows the relative hazard and risk at different sites to be evaluated (when undertaken concurrently) and sites ranked
- No fixed methodology for their generation
- Doesn't allow comparisons between different assessments
- Assumptions may not be explicit

Quantitative – calculated values e.g. probability of fatalities per year.

- Allows direct comparisons between sites – removes ambiguities
- Each component of the risk assessment is explicitly assessed and it generates reproducible and consistent results
- Allows evaluation of design events (with associated residual risk levels)
- Allows the reduction in risk from mitigation works to be evaluated i.e. cost benefit
- Allows the evaluation of defensible levels of spending on risk reduction

(Also quasi-quantitative)

Case Studies

Regional Qualitative Risk Assessment
Site Quantitative Risk Assessment



Case 1- Regional Qualitative Landslide Risk Assessment – Hong Kong

Qualitative

- Relatively rapid
- Allows the relative hazard and risk at different sites to be evaluated (when undertaken concurrently)



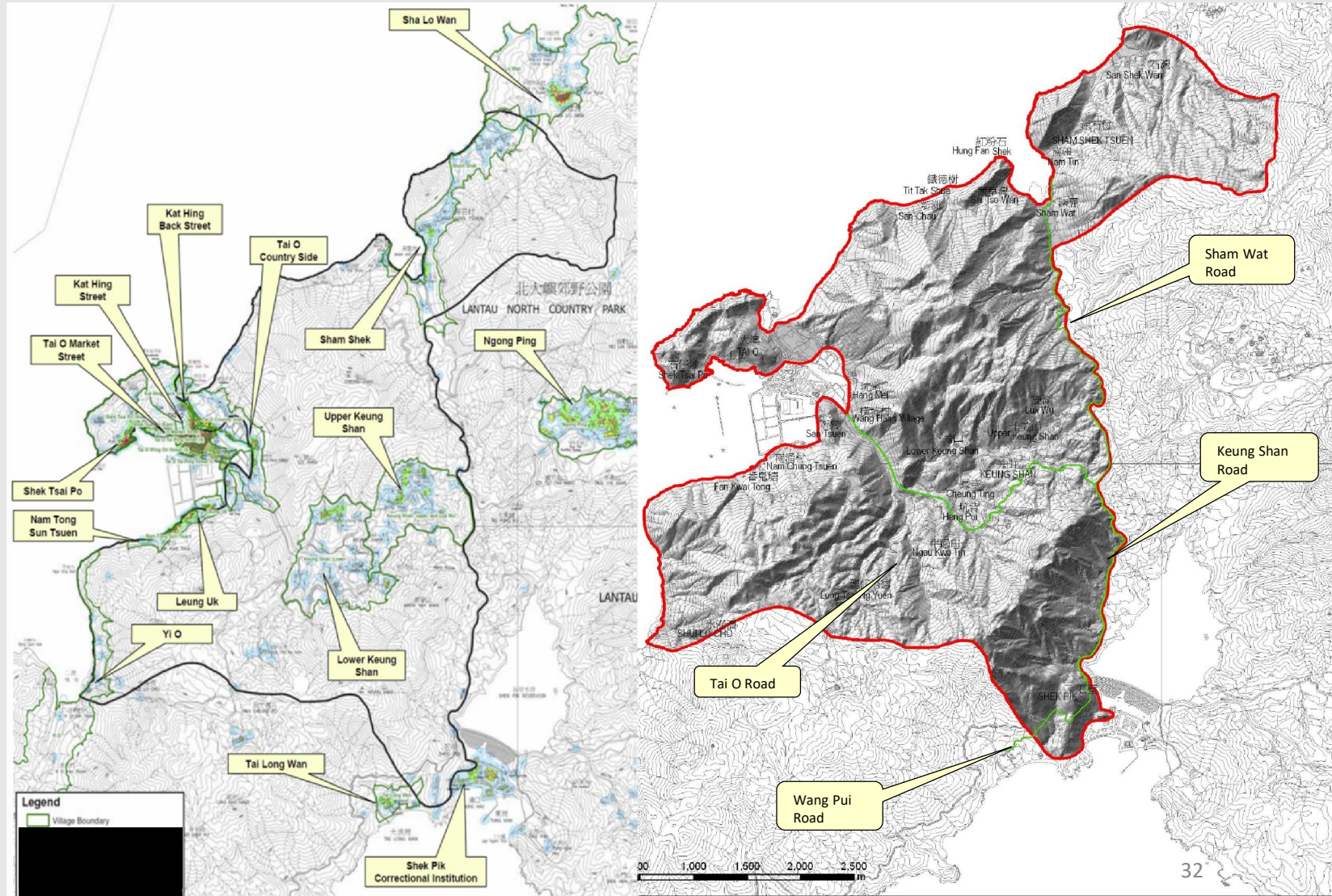
7 June 2008 - Peak hourly rainfalls of 145 mm/hr and a return period of 500 to 1000 years based on the 4-hour rolling rainfall
Western part of Lantau Island over 1,000 landslides including numerous debris flows. blocked key road links and evacuation of over 25 houses

Regional Qualitative Landslide Risk Assessment – Hong Kong

Apx 18 km²

Two distinct elements at risk

- Village areas
- Main Transport Routes include
 - Keung Shan Road
 - Tai O Road
 - Sham Wat Road
 - Wang Pui Road



Direct engineering geomorphological mapping based primarily on API

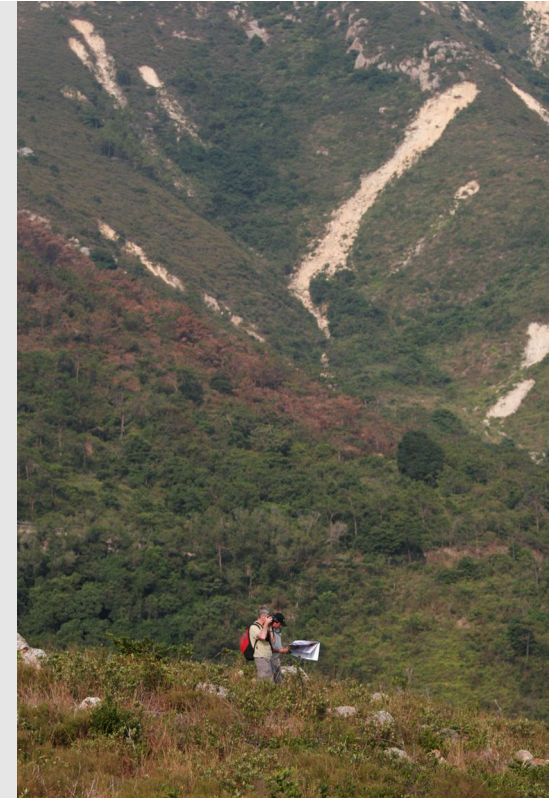
Undertaken by team of 4 senior EGs from 3 consultants at a single location to enable discussion, comparisons and benchmarking as well as the rapid development of the methodology.

18km² over 5 months

Each map sheet was checked by a different team member from the original mapper to act as a quality control and to ensure consistency between team members.

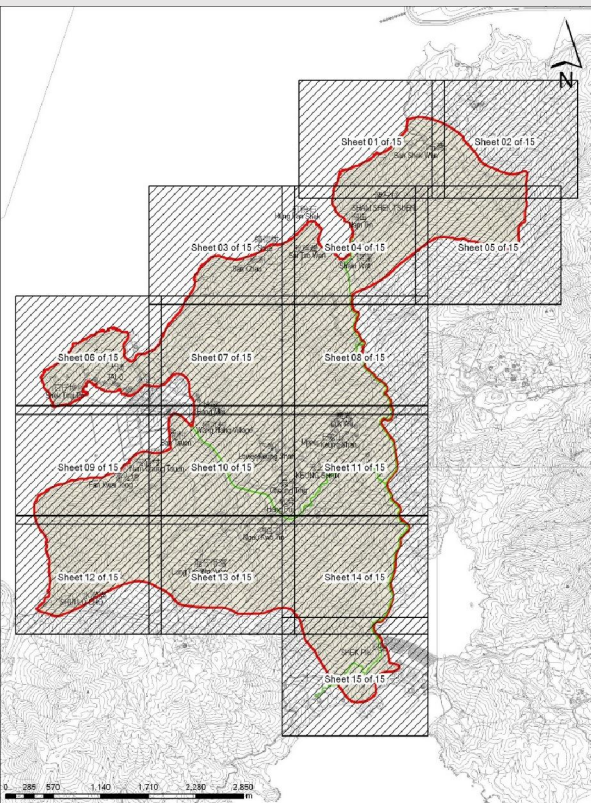
Site reconnaissance's were made by the mapping team, traversing the main footpaths and trails in the Study Area.

These included a day in the field with the Independent Technical Reviewer of the Study (Fred Baynes)



Engineering geomorphological mapping comprised

- morphological mapping
- superficial geological mapping
- drainage line mapping
- terrain unit mapping
- landform mapping



Legend

Study Area

Morphology

- Cliff (>60 degrees)
- Concave Break of Slope
- Convex Break of Slope
- Sharp Change of Slope
- Landslide Scar
- Tension Crack

Terrain Units

- Top of Incising Unit
- Top of Lower Unit
- Top of Middle Unit
- Middle Unit Sub-division
- Upper Unit Sub-division

Note: All Terrain above top of Middle Unit comprises Upper Terrain Unit

Drainage Lines

- Open
- Broad
- Confined

Landforms

- Debris fan
- Fan - Undifferentiated
- Relict Debris fan
- Distressed Terrain
- Landslide Complex
- Anthropogenic Alteration

Solid & Superficial Geology

Superficials (From API)

- Undifferentiated Colluvium
- Fluviably Reworked Colluvium
- Boulder Levees (Colluvial)
- Boulder Filled Depressions (Colluvial)
- Taluvium
- Alluvium

Saprolite (From 1:20,000 HKGS Map)

- Siltstone, tuffite and tuff (Jpk)
- Metasiltstone, metasandstone ;graphite bearing (Cmp)
- Graphite schist (gr)
- Eutaxite (Jcs)
- Rhyolite lava and tuff (JLT)
- Lapilli-bearing crystal tuff (JSM)
- Coarse ash crystal tuff (JYT)
- Sandstone (s)
- Siltstone (sl)
- Fine-grained quartz syenite (sqf)
- Undifferentiated tuff and tuffite (tt)
- Microgranite (ug)

Bedrock (From API)

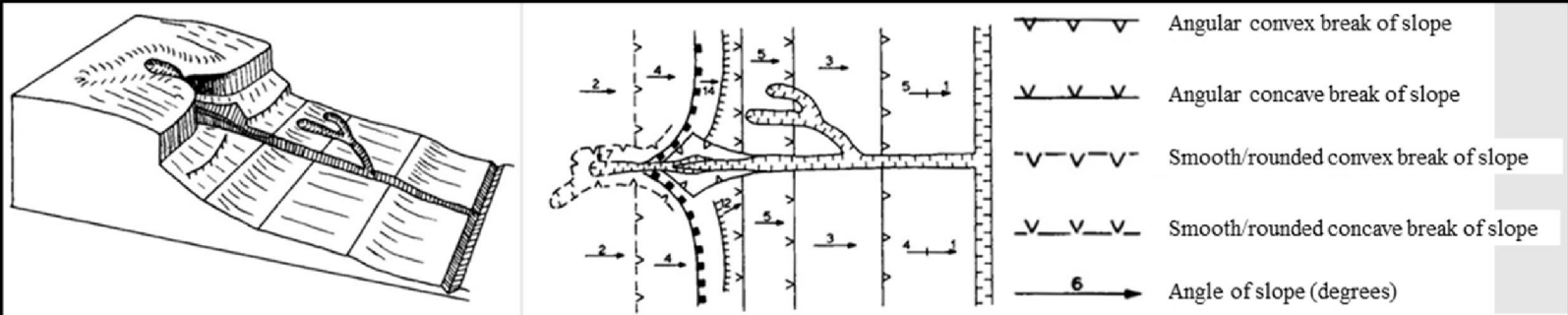
- Intermittent Rock Exposures
- Rock Outcrop

Geological Structure (From 1:20,000 HKGS Map)

- Fault, inferred
- Reverse Fault (Teeth pointing to upper Plate)
- Photolineament

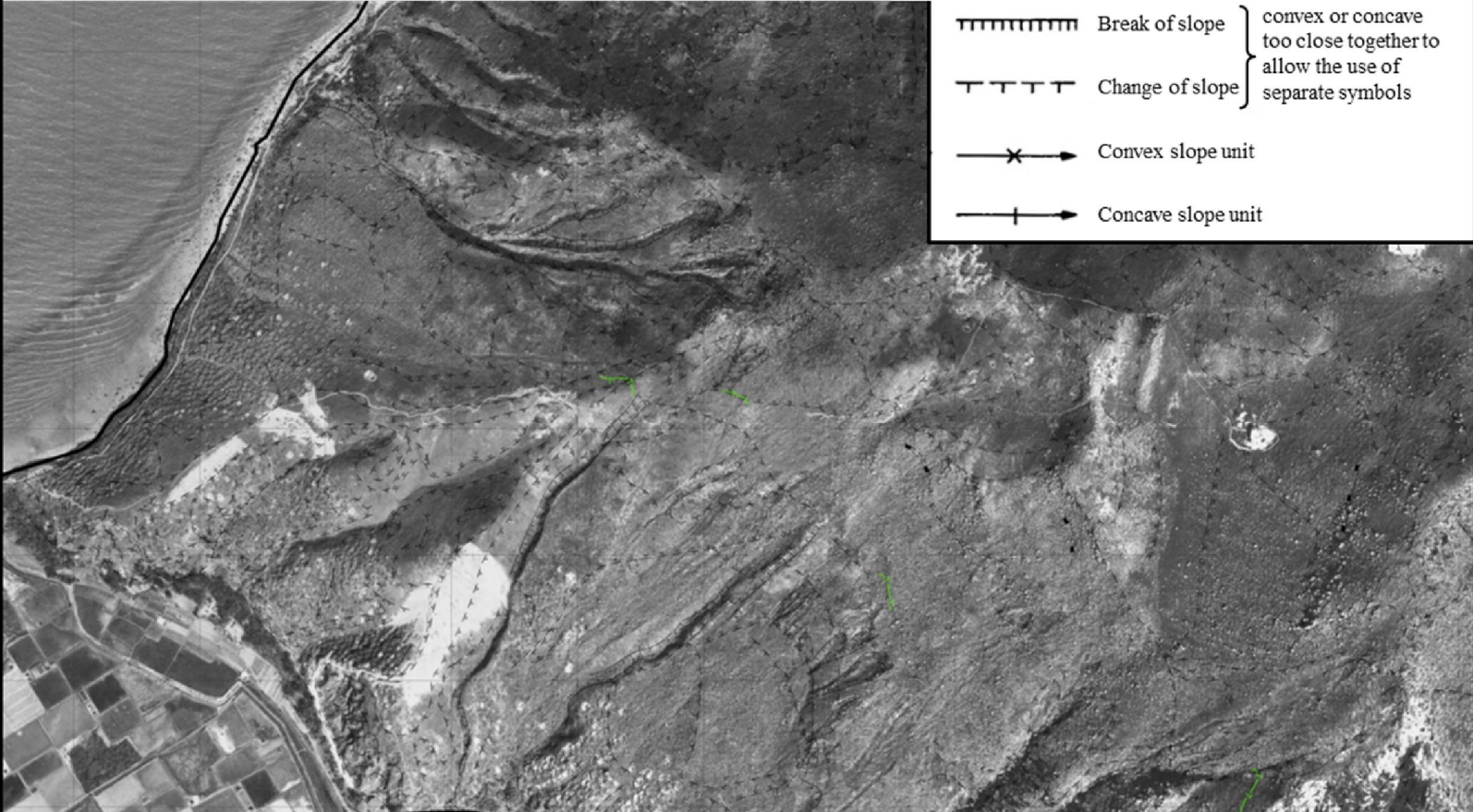
Morphological mapping

“Every surface form, within reason, that can be recorded at the scale of the map should be represented, whether of natural or human origin. Although it does not appear significant at the time of the survey, the presence of a particular form may, when seen in the wider context of the rest of the features mapped, lead to comprehension of the character and origin of a landform that would otherwise defy understanding”.









Basic morphological mapping symbols, after Savigear (1965)

- ∇ ∇ ∇ Angular convex break of slope
- ∨ ∨ ∨ Angular concave break of slope
- ∨-∨-∨ Smooth/rounded convex break of slope
- ∇-∇-∇ Smooth/rounded concave break of slope
- 6 → Angle of slope (degrees)
- ■ ■ Cliffs (bedrock, 40° or more)
- TTTTTTTT Break of slope } convex or concave
too close together to
allow the use of
separate symbols
- T T T T Change of slope
- x → Convex slope unit
- | → Concave slope unit



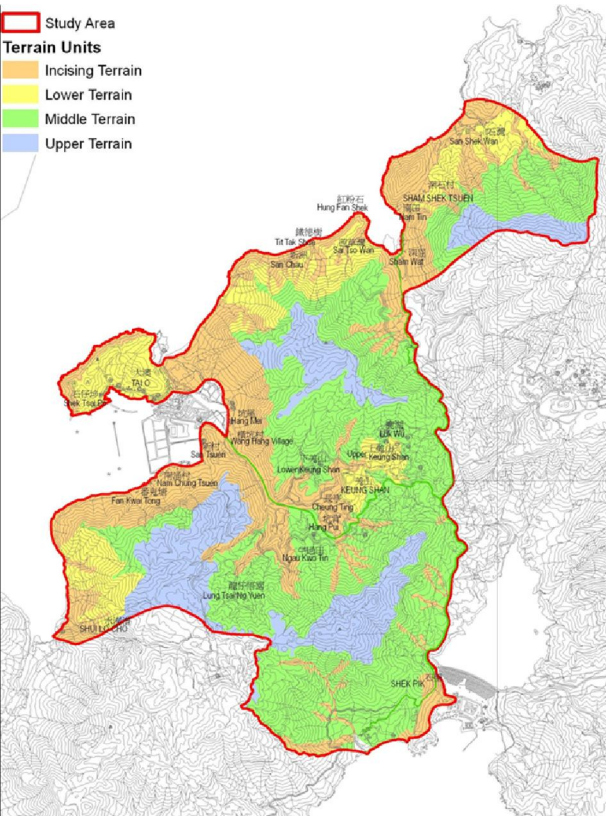
Solid & Superficial Geology
Superficials (From API)

-  Undifferentiated Colluvium
-  Fluvially Reworked Colluvium
-  Boulder Levees (Colluvial)
-  Boulder Filled Depressions (Colluvial)
-  Taluvium
-  Alluvium


Superficial Geology	Typical Characteristics
Alluvium	comprises sediments deposited by water in a non-marine environment. This has been used as an encompassing term and includes fluvial (river) and estuarine sediments. This material is likely to comprise both fine and coarse grained sediments.
Undifferentiated Colluvium	includes sediment moved predominantly by gravity, including landslides as well as fluvial processes such as channelised debris flows.
Fluvially Reworked Colluvium	comprises relict colluvial deposits that have been subject to notable fluvial reworking, typically resulting in areas with low slope angles and internal lobate features. This material was probably formed in the geological past and is often located immediately below large taluvium drapes. It forms a key identifier of landslide complexes.
Boulder Levees	comprise positive sinuous features predominantly composed of boulders and typically located adjacent to drainage lines or former drainage lines.
Taluvium	comprises colluvium with a high boulder content that is predominantly located below rock or intermittent rock and is deposited on steeper slope angles than other colluvial deposits. Boulders are typically angular and occasionally grade into talus, which has not been differentiated within this study.
Boulder Filled Depressions	comprises accumulations of boulders within relatively gentle and broad topographic depressions that are interpreted as being formed by a mix of gravitational down slope movement of exhumed corestones, with subsequent winnowing of fines by surface water flow.
Saprolite	the predominant material type within the hillside catchments in the study area. In aerial photographs it is typically smooth in texture, although occasional boulders may be evident indicating the presence of corestones. Saprolite may have a thin (<0.5m) mantle of colluvium or slope wash material above the in-situ strata. This however is not shown on the engineering geomorphological maps.
Rock	appears as light grey tones in aerial photographs. Joints often evident giving angular shape to outcrop and often controlling the orientation of individual outcrops. Where vegetation cover is low rock can be easily distinguished from colour photographs due to its light brown colour in contrast to the green vegetation.
Intermittent Rock	Comprises areas of intermixed small rock outcrops surrounded by thin layers of saprolite. It is best identified from colour aerial photographs.

Terrain Units

- Incising Terrain
- Lower Terrain
- Middle Terrain
- Upper Terrain



Landforms

	Debris fan
	Fan - Undifferentiated
	Relict Debris fan
	Distressed Terrain
	Landslide Complex
	Anthropogenic Alteration

Key identifiers

Fan morphology + colluvium
+ boulder levees
= Debris fan

Active

Fan morphology + colluvium
= Debris fan (undif)

Inactive or older







Fan morphology + fluvial
reworked colluvium
= Relict Debris fan

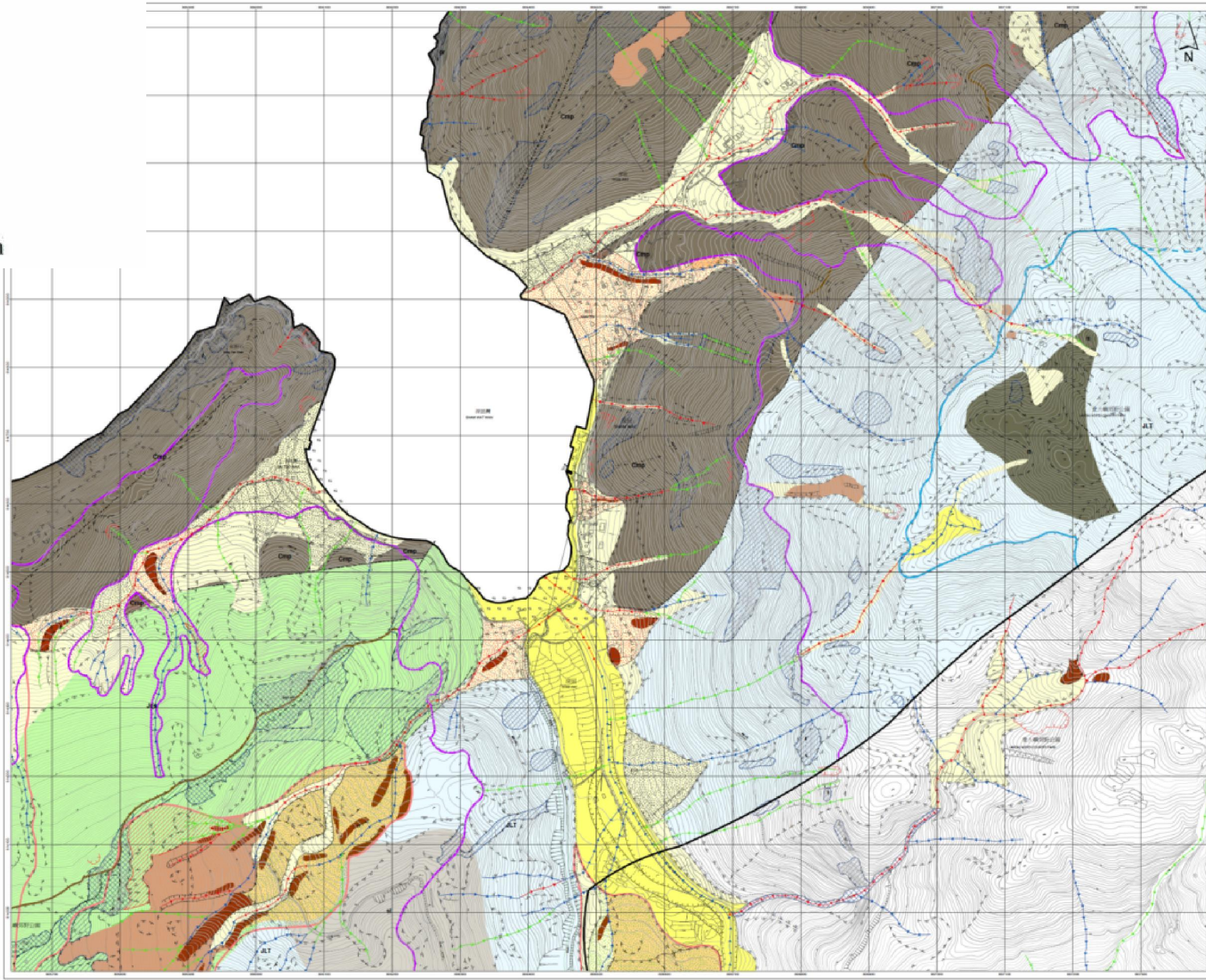
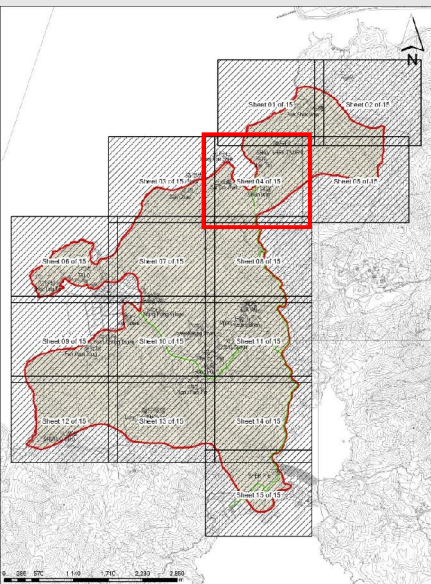
Geological past

Table 2. Summary of Landform Units presented in the Engineering Geomorphological Map

Landform Unit	Typical Characteristics
Anthropogenic Terrain	comprises large-scale areas in which significant human disturbance and modification of the natural hillsides has occurred. The most common types of anthropogenic terrain observed within the hillside catchments comprised the presence of abandoned agricultural terraces, hillside grave yards and disturbance associated with the development of catchwaters.
Debris Fan	comprises fans within which boulder levees, interpreted to represent deposits from channelised debris flows, are present. Debris fans have been interpreted as being potentially younger and more active than undifferentiated debris fans and relict debris fans (see below) given that boulder levees can be identified within them
Debris Fan (Undifferentiated)	comprises fans of predominantly undifferentiated colluvium. They commonly form the outer parts of fan complexes. Given their field relationships, they may represent inactive parts of fan complexes or may represent older, more degraded, fans.
Relict Debris Fan	similar to debris fans but are considerably larger in plan area and commonly extend much higher into catchments. These fans commonly include notable areas of fluvial reworked colluvium and comprise parts of larger landslide complexes that have been tentatively identified. They possibly represent the remnants of coalescing debris fans, associated with large landslide complexes typically extending from Middle to Lower Terrain. It is considered that relict fans were probably formed in the geological past, possibly in during different climatic regime. Subsequent erosion has resulted in the removal of many of the landforms associated with original landslide complex.
Landslide Complex	comprise large scale features occasionally crossing landscape assemblage boundaries. Often involving multiple processes and materials e.g. talus, fluvially reworked colluvium, debris fans, boulder levees. Typically these features are located in the Middle Terrain with their heads located at the boundary of the Upper Terrain. It is considered that these landslide complexes were probably formed in the geological past, possibly in during different climatic regime. Subsequent erosion has resulted in the removal of many of the landforms associated with original landslide complex.
Distressed Terrain	these areas are associated with active fluvial undercutting and incision into saprolite resulting in significant concentrations of landslide features. This terrain is typically located at the head of the erosion fronts, typically at the upper boundary of Incising Terrain. However, it does occasionally occur in the Middle Terrain particularly at Keung Shan.

Landforms

-  Debris fan
-  Fan - Undifferentiated
-  Relict Debris fan
-  Distressed Terrain
-  Landslide Complex
-  Anthropogenic Alteration




Legend


Study Area
 Study Area

Morphology
 Cliff (>60 degrees)
 Concave Break of Slope
 Convex Break of Slope
 Sharp Change of Slope
 Landslide Scar
 Tension Crack

Terrain Units
 Top of Incising Unit
 Top of Lower Unit
 Top of Middle Unit
 Middle Unit Sub-division
 Upper Unit Sub-division
 Note: All Terrain above top of Middle Unit comprises Upper Terrain Unit

Drainage Lines
 Open
 Confined

Landforms
 Debris fan
 Fan - Undifferentiated
 Relict Debris fan
 Distressed Terrain
 Landslide Complex
 Anthropogenic Alteration

Solid & Superficial Geology
Superficials (From API)
 Undifferentiated Colluvium
 Fluvially Reworked Colluvium
 Boulder Leves (Colluvial)
 Boulder Filled Depressions (Colluvial)
 Talusium
 Alluvium

Saprolite (From 1:20,000 HKGS Map)
 Siltstone, tuffite and tuff (Apk)
 Metasiltstone, metasandstone
 graphite bearing (Cmp)
 Graphitic schist (gr)
 Tertiary (Tc)
 Rhyolite lava and tuff (JLT)
 Lapilli-bearing crystal tuff (JSM)
 Coarse ash crystal tuff (JYT)
 Sandstone (s)
 Siltstone (st)
 Fine-grained quartz syenite (sqf)
 Undifferentiated tuff and tuffite (tt)
 Microgranite (mg)

Bedrock (From API)
 Intermittent Rock Exposures
 Rock Outcrop

Geological Structure (From 1:20,000 HKGS Map)
 Fault, inferred
 Reverse Fault
 Teeth pointing to upper Plane
 Photoincision

No Plan


Scale


Scale
 1:20,000
 Date: 12/2006

Approval No. CES/2006/GE
 Landslide Prevention and Mitigation Programme,
 2004, Package N, Natural Terrain Hazard
 Mitigation Works, Work Lane
 Investigation, Design and Construction

Engineering Geomorphological Maps
 Sheet 4 of 16

ARUP
 210673/NTH/EGM004

Key hazard types are channelised debris flows, especially as many coastal settlements are located on fans.

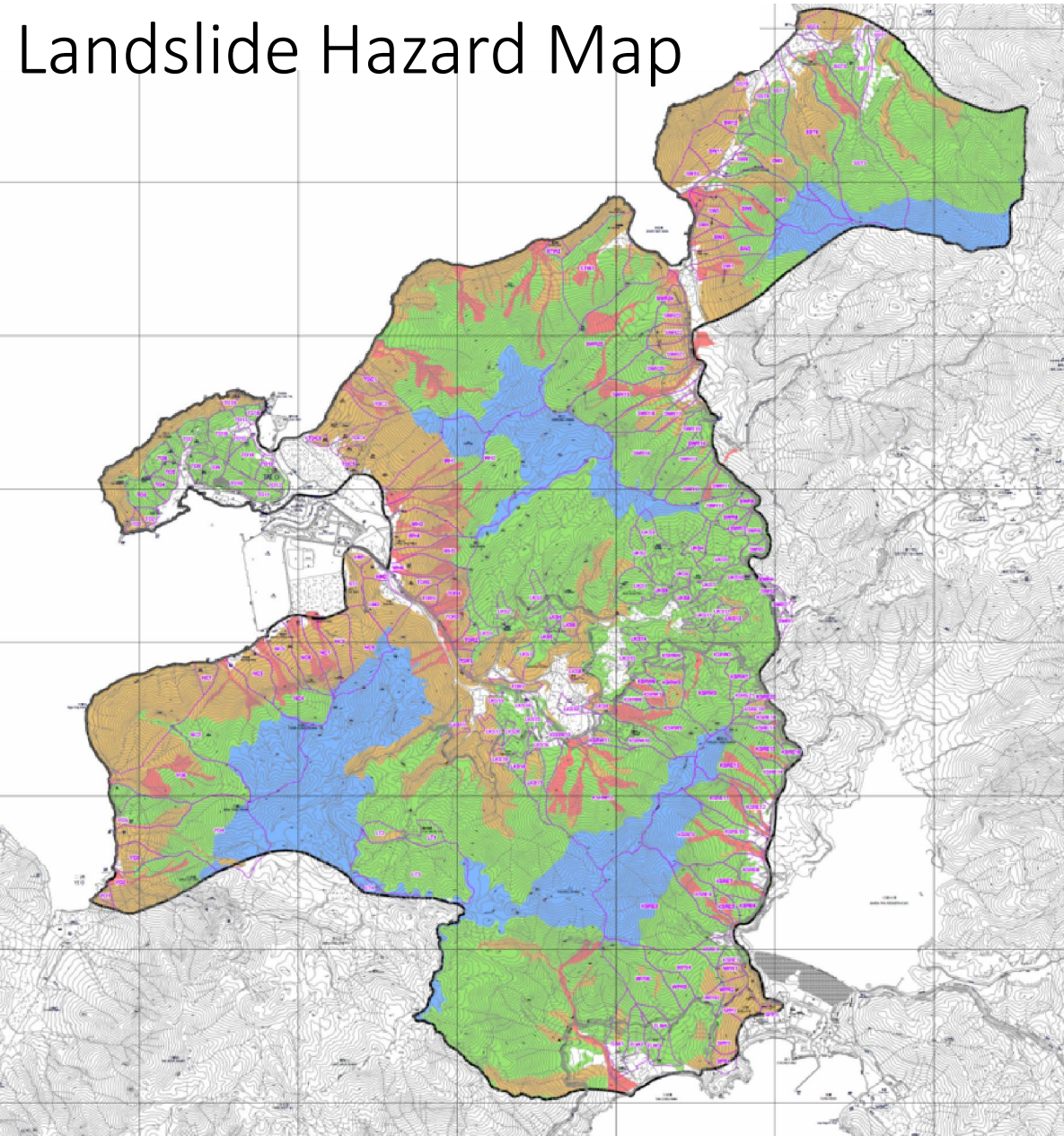
Consequently, fan areas were used as surrogates for relatively high magnitude, low frequency channelised debris flows.

Such hazards are under-represented in the existing landslide datasets in Hong Kong


	VERY HIGH	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW
Primary Classifier	Debris Fan is present	Within the Incised Terrain Unit	Within the Middle or Lower Terrain Units	Within the Upper Terrain Unit
Secondary Classifier	Undifferentiated Fan and Distressed Terrain are present	Within Upper, Middle or Lower Terrain Units and contains Distressed Terrain	Confined Drainage Line within the Upper Terrain Unit	N/A
Tertiary Classifier	N/A	Undifferentiated Fan present but no upslope areas of Distressed Terrain	N/A	N/A

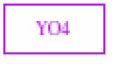
Parry et al (2010) The Importance of Reading the Landscape: The use of Engineering Geomorphology in Regional Landslide Hazard Assessments. Proceedings of the International Association of Engineering Geology Conference. Auckland, 2010.

Landslide Hazard Map



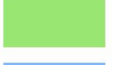



Legend

 Study Area

 YO4 Consequence Catchment

Hazard Level

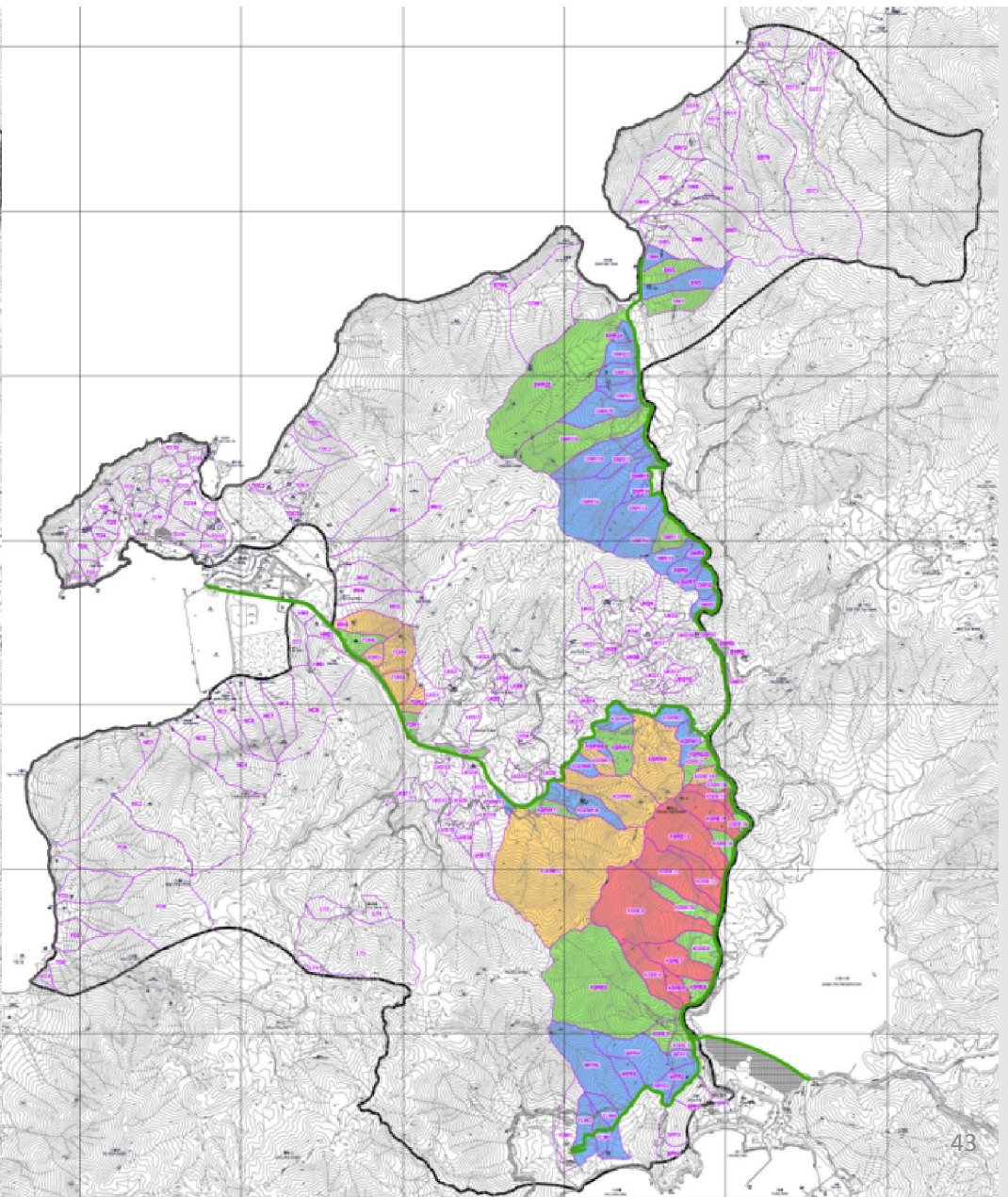
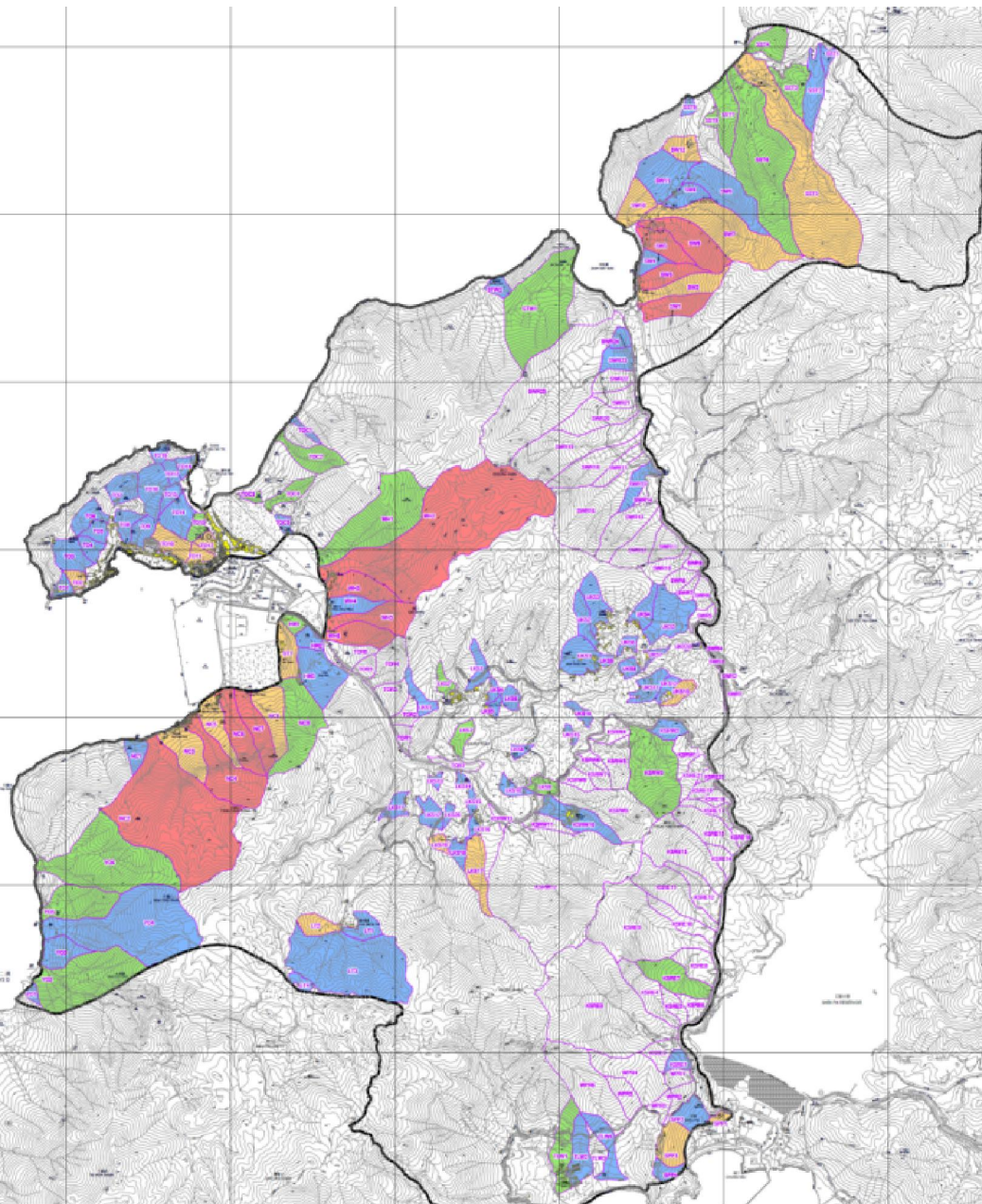
	Hazard Class 1
	Hazard Class 2
	Hazard Class 3
	Hazard Class 4

Highest ↑
Increasing Landslide Hazard
↓ Lowest

Catchment Risk Screening Matrix

Consequence	Hazard	V. High	High	Moderate	Low	CDF OHL
		Fan + Confined Drainage + Distressed Terrain	Fan + Conf or Conf + Dist	Fan or Dist or Conf	Nil	
		Multiple Recenet ENTLI within 100m of Facility	Isolated Recent ENTLI within 100m of Facility	Multiple Relict ENTLI within 100m of Facility	Isolated Relict ENTLI within 100m of Facility	
V.High	>70 bldg per ha	VERY HIGH	VERY HIGH	HIGH	MODERATE	
	Schools					
	Hospital					
High	30-70 bldgs per ha	VERY HIGH	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	
	Tai O Road					
	Shek Pik Road Keung Shan Road					
Moderate	<30 bldgs per ha	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	LOW	
	Sham Wat Road					
	Wang Pui Road					
Low	Other non-designated	MODERATE	LOW	LOW	LOW	
	Roads					
	Uninhabited Structures					
	(bus-shelets / sub-stations)					

Millis, S, W., Clahan, K. B. & Parry S, Regional Scale Natural Terrain Landslide Risk Assessment: An Example from West Lantau, Hong Kong. Proceedings of The 17th Southeast Asian Geotechnical Conference Taipei, Taiwan, May 10~13, 2010



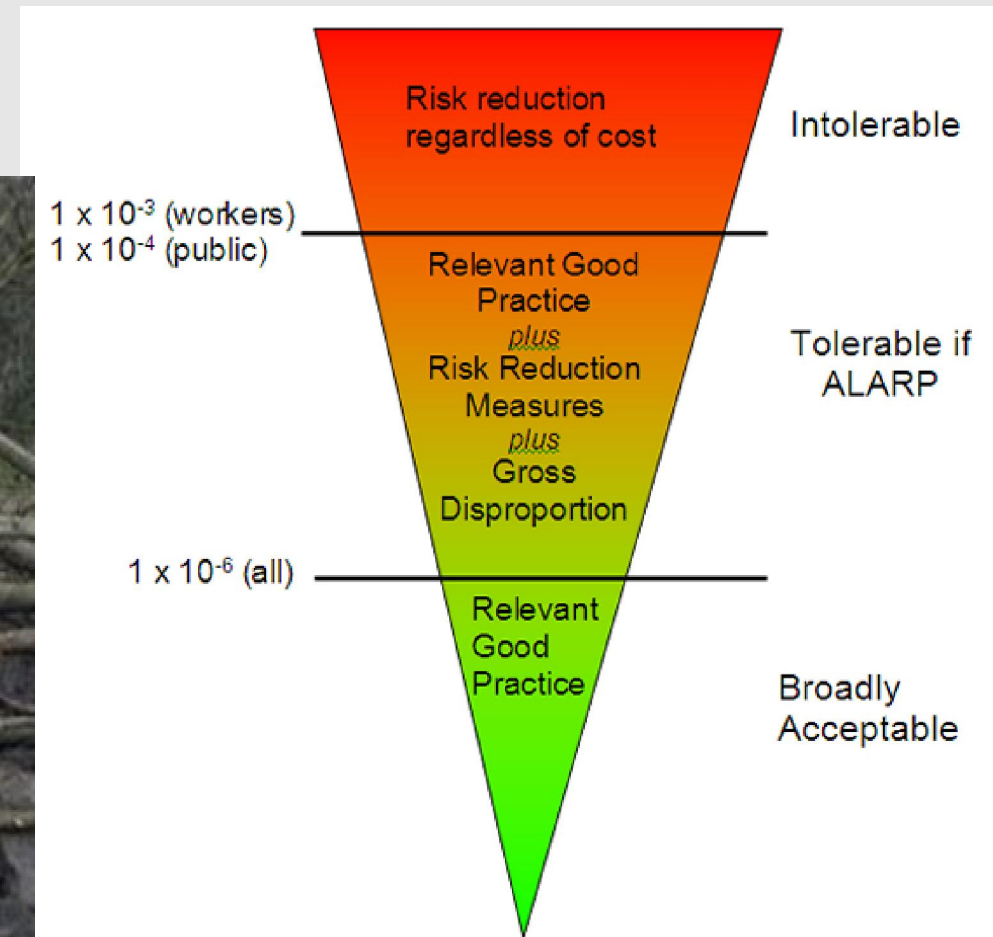
Case 2 – Site Quantitative Risk Assessment

– calculated values.

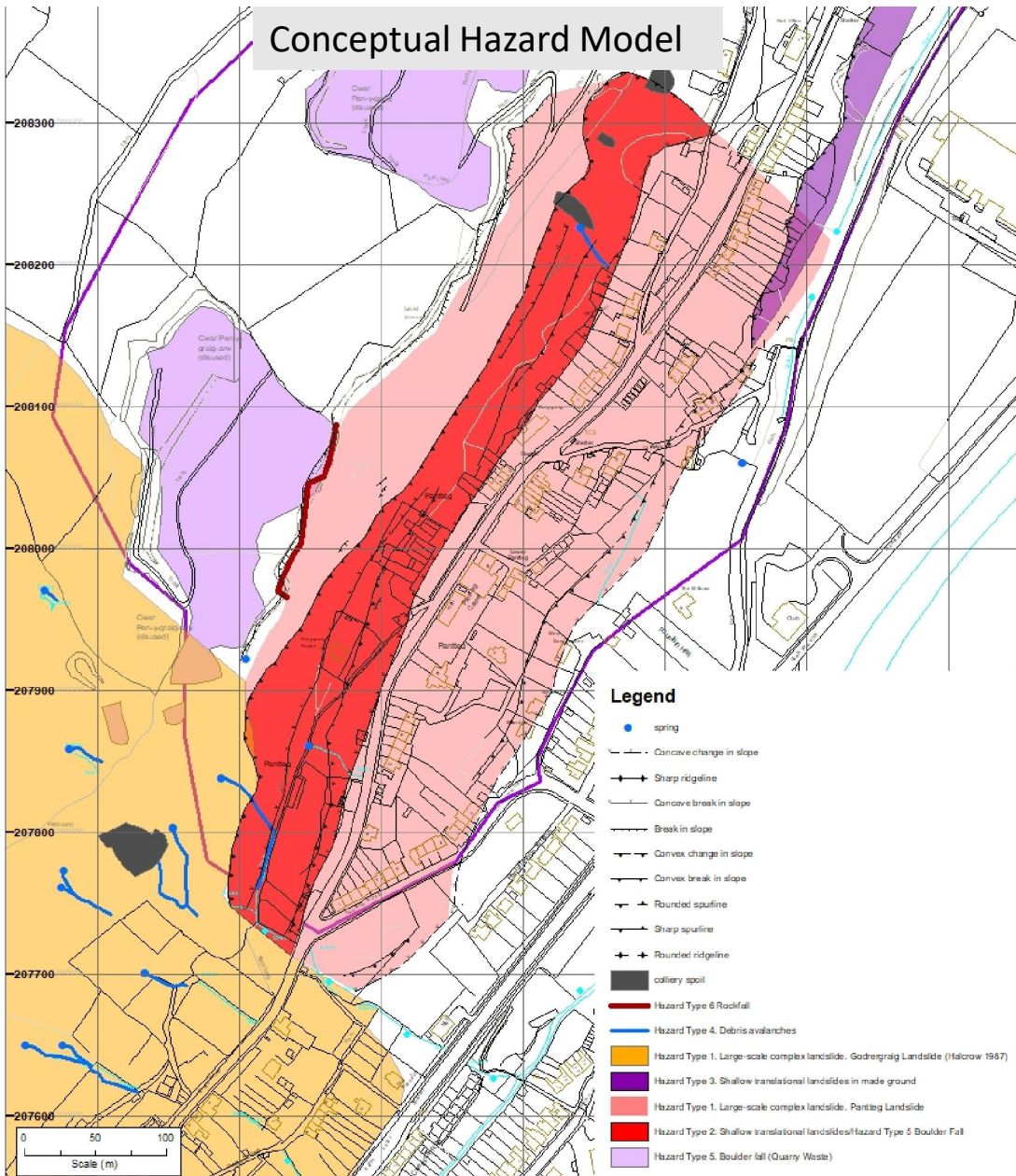
- Allows meaningful comparisons between sites
- Allows the reduction in risk from mitigation to be calculated
- Allows the evaluation of defensible levels of spending on risk reduction



Pantteg, South Wales - 2012 Landslide



Conceptual Hazard Model



Hazard Type 1. Slow ground displacement leading to vertical or lateral displacement or undermining of structures and infrastructure related to large-scale complex landslide (Orange/pink)

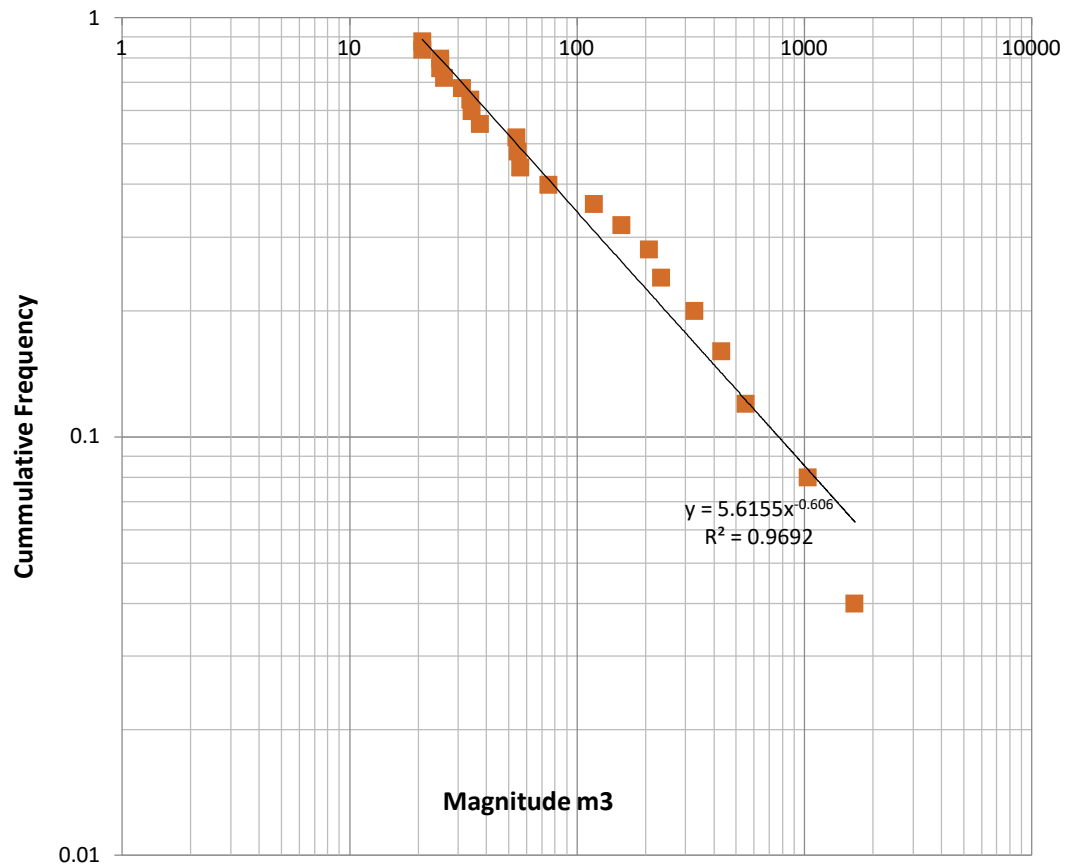
Hazard Type 2, Debris impacts from shallow translational landslides – impact loading on structures, impact/burial of people, impact on vehicles, burial of people inside buildings (ground floor) if of sufficient volume (Red)

Hazard Type 3, regressing shallow translational landslides in made ground resulting in structural damage and potentially building collapse (Purple)

Hazard Type 4. More mobile debris avalanches impact loading on structures, impact/burial of people, impact on vehicles, burial of people inside buildings (ground floor) if of sufficient volume (Blue line)

Hazard Type 5. Boulder Fall, possible structural damage, impact on people/vehicles (Red/Lilac)

Hazard Type 6 Rockfall, possible structural damage, impact on people/vehicles (Brown line)

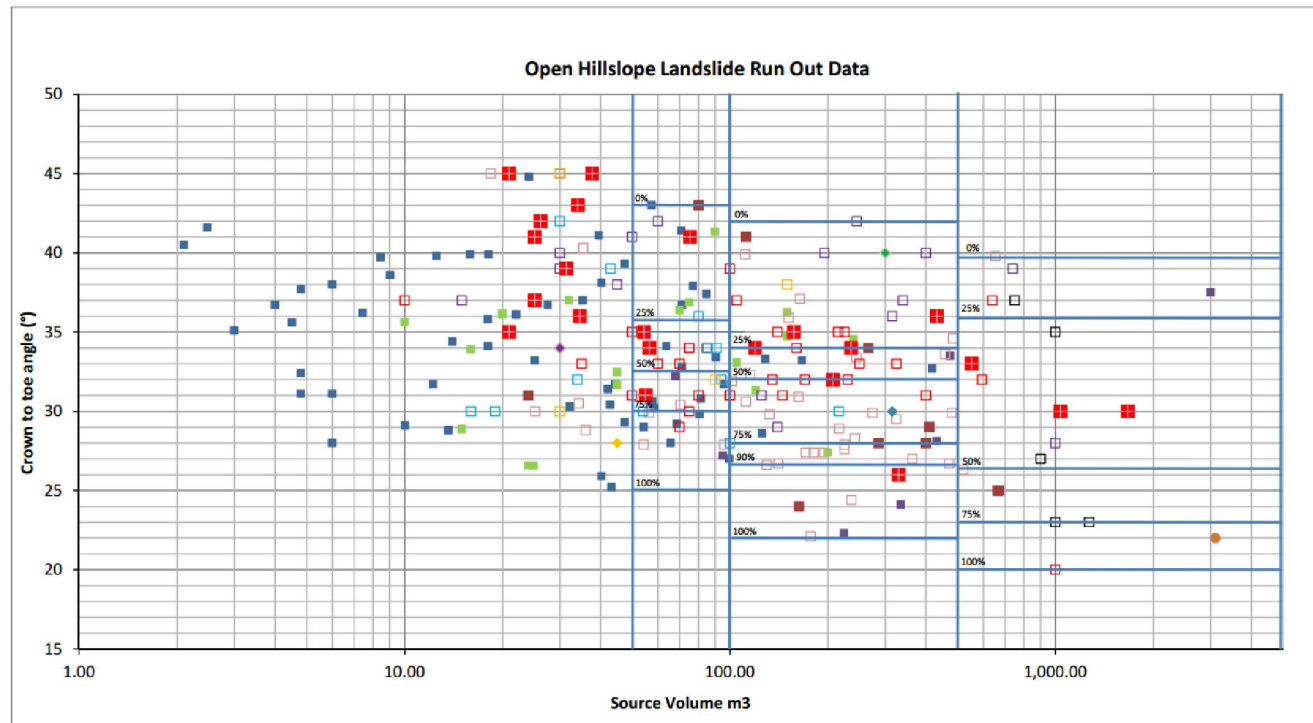


Landslide magnitude-frequency distributions can be described by an inverse power-law equation (Lee & Jones, 2014).

As the event magnitude increases, so the frequency of occurrence decreases i.e. there should be far fewer of the largest events than the smaller ones.

Cumulative magnitude–frequency plot for debris slides within the study area

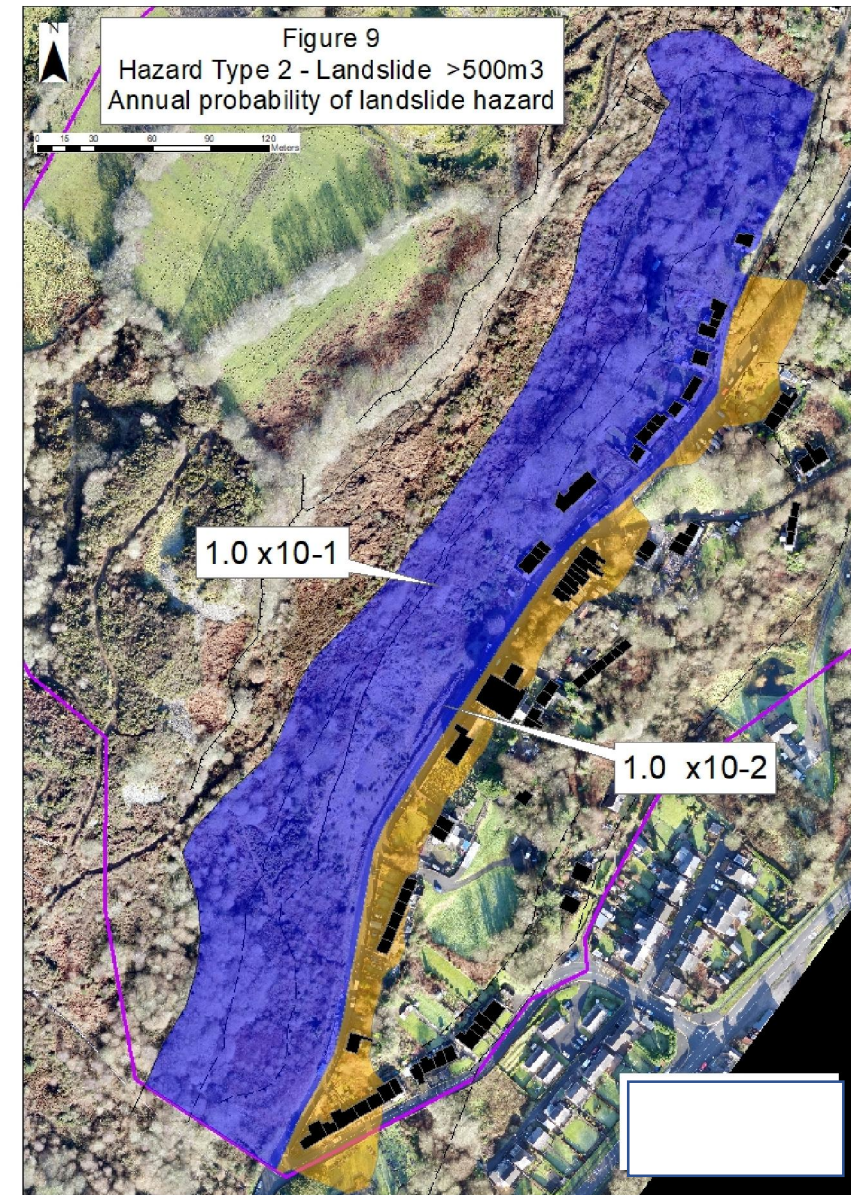
Landslide Volume Range	Adopted Volume	Annual Probability
0-100m ³	50m ³	0.524
100-500m ³	300m ³	0.177
>500m ³	750m ³	0.102



Assessment of travel distance vs landslide volume

Same probability but different associated risk

Landslide Vol	North Side Road			South Side Road		
	P (Landslide)	P (Run-out Hit)	Hazard	P (Landslide)	P (Run-out Hit)	Hazard
<100m3	0.524	0.2	1x10-1	0.524	0.002	1x10-3
100-500m3	0.177	0.2	3.5x10-2	0.177	0.02	3.5x10-3
>500m3	0.102	1.0	1x10-1	0.102	0.1	1x10-2



Evaluation of Risk

North side of Road – Buildings 500m³ (100m wide)

Scenario	P (Landslide)	P (Run-out)	P (spatial)	P (temporal)	Vulnerability	P (Fatality)
Buried by debris	0.102	1	0.2	0.67	0.1	1.4 x10 ⁻³
Collapse of building	0.102	1	0.2	0.67	0.01	1.4 x10 ⁻⁴

Vulnerability Note

For a >500m³ landslide volume impacting the rear of a building, the relatively slow-moving debris will be >2m thick and debris enter through the windows. People will have some forewarning about the debris coming in through the windows from the noise and should be able to get out of that room.

The impact will cause structural damage which may over a few hours lead to partial collapse of the rear of the building.

Requires

Evaluation of temporal exposure - It was assumed that a house is occupied between 8pm and 8am and for 50% of the time between 8am and 8pm, i.e. a total of 16 hours or 0.67.

Evaluation of hazard type – buried vs collapse

Evaluation of vulnerability –see note

Risk to life – people in buildings

Landslide Volume	N of Pantteg Road	S of Pantteg Road
<100m ³	2x10 ⁻⁶	2x10 ⁻⁸
100-500m ³	1.23x10 ⁻⁵	1.41x10 ⁻⁶
>500m ³	1.44x10 ⁻³	1.44x10 ⁻⁴
Total	1.45x10⁻³	1.45x10⁻⁴

Risk to life – people in gardens

Landslide Volume	N of Pantteg Road	S of Pantteg Road
<100m ³	3x10 ⁻⁶	3x10 ⁻⁸
100-500m ³	8.8x10 ⁻⁶	8.8x10 ⁻⁶
>500m ³	2.1x10 ⁻⁴	2x10 ⁻⁵
TOTAL	2.2x10⁻⁴	2.9x10⁻⁵

Risk to life – pedestrians

Landslide Volume	N of Pantteg Road	South of Pantteg Road
<100m ³	5.6x10 ⁻⁸	4.7x10 ⁻⁸
100-500m ³	1.3x10 ⁻⁷	8.5x10 ⁻⁷
>500m ³	3.9x10 ⁻⁷	6.7x10 ⁻⁶
TOTAL	5.5x10⁻⁷	7.6x10⁻⁶

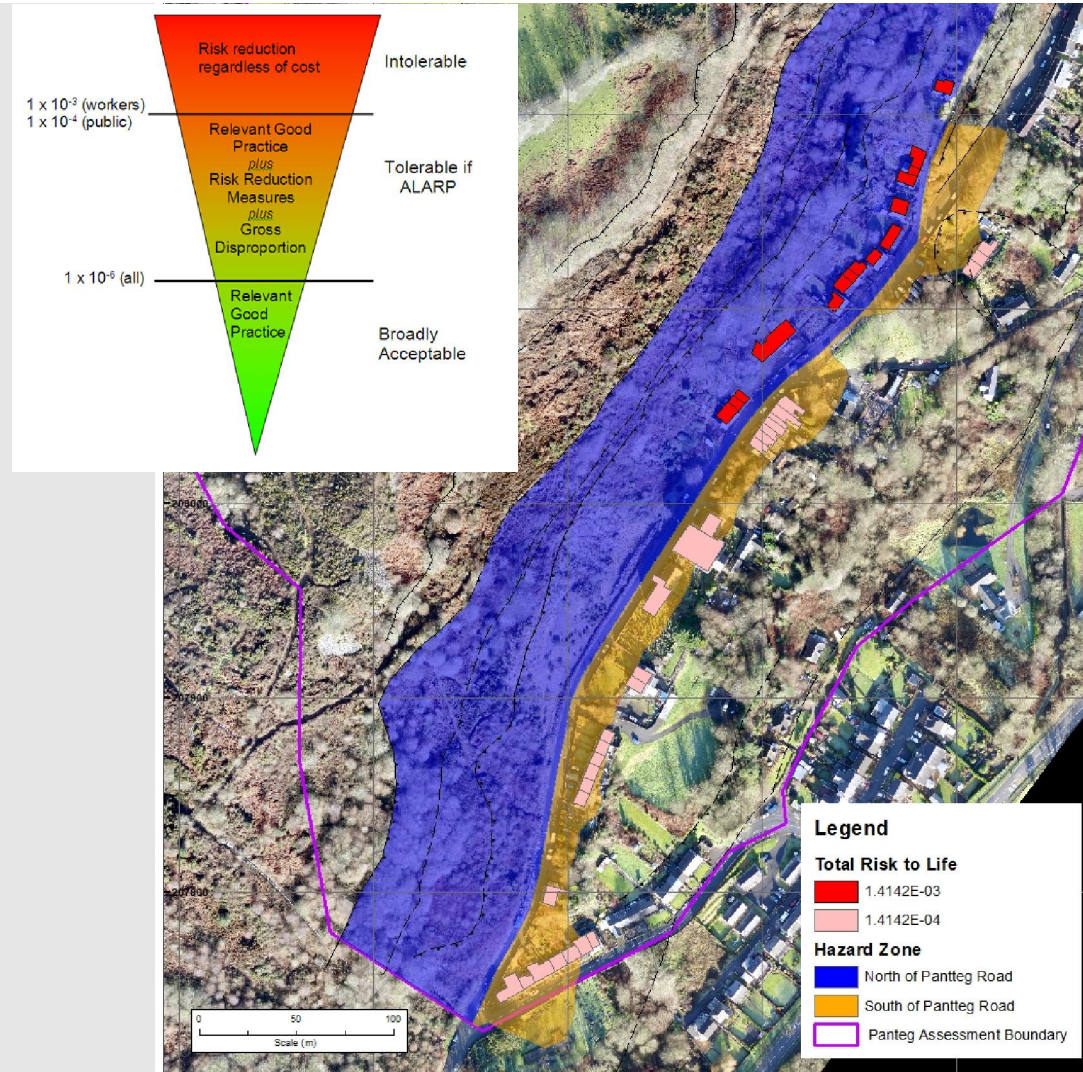
Risk to life – people in car (car hits landslide)

Landslide Volume	North	South
<100m ³	2.4x10 ⁻⁸	2.6x10 ⁻¹⁰
100-500m ³	1.6x10 ⁻⁷	1.5x10 ⁻⁸
>500m ³	2.9x10 ⁻⁶	2.8x10 ⁻⁷

Risk to life – people in car (landslide hits car)

Landslide Volume	North	South
<100m ³	3.4x10 ⁻⁸	3.2x10 ⁻¹⁰
100-500m ³	1.1x10 ⁻⁸	1.1x10 ⁻⁹
>500m ³	3.3x10 ⁻⁸	3.3x10 ⁻⁹

In the UK there are no legally defined values for acceptable risk. AGS suggest that 10⁻⁴ is tolerable for existing developments and advise against new development where risk > 10⁻⁵



The assessment approach adopted will be dependant on various factors including

- Time
- Resources
- Data availability
- Desired outcome

In the past the majority of assessments in the UK were qualitative, however issues with consistency and the move towards more rigorous and systematic assessments means quantatative assessments are increasingly used

Fell et al. note that “Qualitative methods are often used for susceptibility zoning, and sometimes for hazard zoning. When feasible it is better to use quantitative methods for both susceptibility and hazard zoning. Risk zoning should be quantified. More effort is required to quantify the hazard and risk but there is not necessarily a great increase in cost compared to qualitative zoning”.

Framework for Assessing Natural Slopes (P3161)

Workflows and Approaches to Natural Slope Hazard and Risk Assessments



Workshops undertaken to identify potential research topics associated with engineered and natural slopes.

Re natural slopes the workshops identified and agreed the need for:

- Guidance on undertaking natural slope hazard and risk assessments
- Guidance on the selection of practical, economic and defensible mitigation measures varying from monitoring and warning to hard engineering
- Communication to none specialists e.g. education that some hazards cannot be mitigated (due to cost or practicality) and all sites will have some form of residual risk
- Guidance for the good of all – not just the main stakeholders
- Should be aspirational and best practice (which may not be UK based)

Commenced 2010. Team comprises: Atkins, Bill Murphy (Uni of Leeds) and myself.
End 2021

Final Observations

Terminology is commonly misused

Engineering approaches tends to be reactive i.e. localised mitigation after failure rather than proactive assessment of future hazards, often based on what did occur rather than what could occur

Lack of use of conceptual hazard models and often a lack of appreciation of the dynamics of landslide processes – i.e. not understanding the landscape

When proactive assessments are undertaken tend to be qualitative – difficult to compare between sites, difficult to determine a defensible design event

Quantitative assessments although more difficult are more transparent and defensible (their assumptions are explicit), they allow a justifiable expenditure to be calculated

Thank You