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Airports' responses to natural hazards

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Natural disasters have always affected aviation by disrupting air travel and damaging airport infrastructure. The increasing demand for air transport is adding significance to the potential risk creating challenges for the safety of operations, the sustainable development of airports and the future growth. Understanding the risk related to natural hazards seems to be essential to comprehend the scale of the impact that the hazard could have to the aviation system and an in-depth understanding of the consequences is needed to develop sustainable risk management and mitigation and adaptation strategies.

This research deals with responses of international airports to the risk arising from natural hazards. A sample of airports is used for the analysis and the key elements included in adaptation strategies and risk response processes in place are presented. The key objectives of the research are to enable comparison across a range of different criteria highlighting best practices and actions to reduce vulnerability, identifying areas that need improvement, outlining barriers to growth and to discuss issues for further research.