



## Article Title

**Exploring the Covid-19 Pandemic As a Catalyst for Stimulating Future Research Agendas for Managing Crises and Disasters at International Sport Events.**

## Citation

**By: Miles, Lee; Shipway, Richard. Event Management. 2020**

## Abstract

While the interdisciplinary study of crisis, disaster, and emergency management has become increasingly sophisticated, the identification of synergies, useful concepts, and future research agendas in relation to studies within the domain of sport event management to inform these areas, is still at a very early stage of development. The far-reaching global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic further illustrates the timely importance of this research agenda for both sports events and broader studies in festivals and events. The purpose of this article is to critically scope the resilience landscape to help further understand how studies on both international sports events (ISEs) specifically, and both sport and event management studies more generally, could be better informed by disaster management and resilience studies. The article highlights eight key thematic areas that merits further investigation and combines to identify a multidisciplinary research agenda and framework for advancing knowledge on managing crises and disasters in both sport and event management studies.

## Summary

This study contributes new knowledge by proposing an interdisciplinary research agenda for sport and event management studies, centered around eight key thematic resilience areas. The article also introduces the concept of sport event and venue resilience, which is currently attracting the attention of, and gaining traction with, practitioners in the international disaster management academic and practitioner communities. This highlights potential future international research impact. Policy and practice implications for governments, local authorities, international federations, and governing bodies of sport, sports events, and sports organizations are integrated throughout. The article then concludes by proposing a thematic framework for better understanding crisis and disaster management at ISEs and ISVs.

By harnessing this potential for closer synergies between both sport and event management studies

and crisis and disaster management fields, there are notable possibilities to substantially move forward our understanding of the complexities of ISEs, both in terms of theory and practice. As identified above, not only is there a pressing interdisciplinary research agenda centering around the eight resilience areas, but there are notable practical implications that should give ISEs a better “sporting chance” of handling crisis and disasters in the future. In addition, disaster managers would most certainly benefit from better understanding particular sporting nuances, such as the peculiarities around fandom. This will help facilitate more effective disaster management. One thing is certain, neither the schedules of future ISEs and ISVs nor the likelihood of future threats and hazards will wait for scholars of sport event management and crisis and disaster management to open up a more effective dialogue. As the COVID-19 pandemic so dramatically illustrated, the implications of future delay could be significant, not just in affecting future sports events and tournaments, but also in costing lives, casualties, and incurring major damage if these contemporary resilience agendas are not promptly investigated and addressed.