EVALUATION OF STAKEHOLDER SATISFACTION IN DISASTER RECONSTRUCTION PROCESS: CASE OF TSUNAMI DAMAGED SCHOOLS IN SRI LANKA

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Abstract

Sri Lanka is one of the worst affected countries by 2004 Asian Tsunami which destroyed 2/3 of the Island's coastline. This necessitated massive reconstruction drive for recovery in all sectors including housing resettlements, health and educational infrastructure. Achieving stakeholder satisfaction is the key for the success of any project; and disaster reconstruction projects are of no exception in this regard.

The reconstruction of schools has been virtually completed but it is not yet known whether the stakeholders' interests have been properly addressed. The diverse nature of stakeholder interests in different stakeholder echelons means that the physical output alone does not represent the satisfaction levels or the success of those projects. This research is therefore aimed at evaluating the stakeholder satisfaction in disaster reconstruction process and studying the Tsunami damaged school projects in Sri Lanka.

A comprehensive literature survey on the Tsunami phenomenon, historical facts of disasters in Sri Lanka and 2004 Tsunami damages have been carried out together with a detailed study on disaster management cycle which interprets modern day disaster management as a cyclic process.

Data gathered from preliminary interviews and literature survey was used to establish factors of stakeholder satisfaction, which formed the body of survey instrument for structured interviews. Data collected using the structured interviews were analyzed by using Box Plot technique and Wilcoxon Signed Rank test.

The research reveals that the stakeholders of all categories are satisfied with the most of the factors of satisfaction especially with the physical reconstruction aspects such as standard of school buildings, adequacy of classroom facilities and infrastructure, adequacy of disaster preparedness measures and child-friendly zoning of buildings, But measures that are being taken by the decision making authorities on disaster



mitigation aspects such as early warning and practice of warning drills together with persistent attention on trauma counseling facilities for affected victims were found to be wanting.

Key Words: Disaster Reconstruction, Tsunami, Disaster Management Cycle, Stakeholder Satisfaction

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List of Abbreviations

ADB - Asian Development Bank

CNO - Centre for National Operations

CRED - Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters

DMC - Disaster Management Cycle

El - Education International

GMT - Greenwich Mean Time

ICTAD - Institution of Construction Training and Development

IDP - Internally Displaced People

LIRNEasia - Learning Initiatives on Reforms and Network Economics

LTTE - Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam

MOE - Ministry Of Education

NDMC - National Disaster Management Council

NGO - Non Governmental Organization

NOVIB Nederlandse Organisatie voor Internationale Bijstand (Dutch:

Netherlands Organization for International Development

Cooperation)

OXFAM - Oxford Committee for Famine Relief

SDS - School Development Societies

TAFRON - Task Force for Reconstruction

TERM - Tsunami Reconstruction Monitor

UDA - Urban Development Authority

UN - United Nations

UNDP - United Nations Development Programme

UNEP - United Nations Environmental Plan

UNHCR - United Nations Council for Refugees

UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund

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I hereby declare that this submission is my own work, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it neither contains materials previously published or written by another person, nor material, which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any degree or diploma of a university or other institute of higher studies, except where reference is made in the text.

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