

Disaster Planning and Policy Perceptions

Policy, Practice and Perception (PPP): A comparison of the Aftermath of two earthquakes in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

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This paper offers first an overview of disaster management planning in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Second, it reviews the lessons learned from a particularly prominent disaster in the region: earthquake. Third, it examines the impact the 2006 earthquake had on infrastructure, networks, transport, and public services and policy changes made to address such problems. Fourth, it describes the public perception on the policy changes made and how they prepared the communities to mitigate the impact of the 2010 earthquake. The Policy, Practice and Perception (PPP) approach is appropriate to serve the four objectives. This approach does not see the public policy as simply regulatory measures enacted by legal institutions, but a product of social practice and the results of a cultural and political development that become the identity of the community under the institutional jurisdiction. Thus this approach focuses on networks of agencies, implementation of policies regarding disaster response. Moreover, this approach also considers activities and perception of the disaster-relief institutions.

"Does Transformational Leadership Matter in Building Organizational Resiliency?"

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Understanding factors contributing to organizational resiliency in urban settings--- characterized by a community's ability to respond and recover from disasters---continues to be a timely and critical area of research. While leadership skills are often cited as a crucial component of organizational resiliency, the extent to which information exchange, ideas, and solutions to address organizational vulnerabilities has largely been under-studied. This paper examines the relationship between transformational leadership and organizational resiliency. A transformational leader--broadly defined as an individual who is visionary, innovative, inspirational and sensitive to the needs of followers --can contribute to a resilient urban community when he or she inspires and articulates a vision for handling future emergencies. Such leadership style also fosters an environment of innovation and creativity. We utilized survey conducted in July 2013 among 112 emergency managers of local governments, fire and police stations, and nongovernmental organizations in the Southeastern Economic Region of South Korea. Preliminary results indicate that transformational leadership style has a positive

and statistically significant effect on perceived organizational resiliency. We also found that elected officials such as mayors and local council members are more likely to focus on building organizational resiliency than appointed officials and community leaders.

Got Wildfires? Awareness and Preparedness beyond communities' boundaries

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The recent wildfires in 2012 and 2013 in the US, have demonstrated that not just urban & regional planning need rethinking of residential developments into fire prone zones but also that there is a high need for additional policy considerations. In many states the number of fires, burned acreages, and destroyed lives and property are devastating and a threat to the quality of life. The presentation will show the results of a recent survey which was conducted in select communities assessing their understanding on fire risk, awareness, preparedness and interagency service cooperation, and demonstrate lessons learned for planners and urban policy. The wildland urban interface (WUI) is surrounding Idaho's Boise-Meridian-Nampa metropolitan area and is the most dominant growth zone for existing 660,000 and projected regional immigration of 400,000 residents. This creates a critical situation for Boise and municipalities that have subdivisions in proximity to dry grasslands or neighborhoods in the Boise Foothills – subdivisions surrounded by wildlands and facing hills/slopes that accelerate fires. We argue that wildfires are equally dangerous as flooding (incl. mud and debris-flows) or droughts in areas where residential growth occurs. Under extreme climate situations the emergency management 'circle' of plan-prepare-respond-recover overlaps with related hazards and occurs causing multipliers and potential 'disaster chains' with shattering impacts to communities. Presenting homeowners' attitudes on awareness and preparedness in such context adds to the knowledge of hazards planning while giving insights where planning and policy need adjustment to create better WUI-planning. Yet, it is unclear if planning in the WUI is a market issue, a policy problem, or the result of non-thoughtful planning and zoning due to growth pressures, or a combination of all. We will show a set of potential answers to the question of what planners and urban/regional policy need to understand to better residential planning in the WUI.