Tsunami Recovery: Ten Years On

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Future Research Directions and Policy Messages



Recovery from the adverse effects of a major disaster usually takes many years. Some issues are likely to linger on over a long period of time. Many studies have been undertaken following the disaster to ascertain the nature and extent of recovery from the disaster in terms of resettlement, restoration of livelihoods, recovery from mental trauma, community building, etc.

It is in view of the above, Global Disaster Resilience Centre at the University of Huddersfield teamed up with University of Colombo and University of Moratuwa in organising and facilitating a work shop on Workshop on Tsunami Recovery in Sri Lanka: Ten Years On, on the 5th December 2014 with representation from Academia, policy makers, practitioners and representatives of international development agencies.

Key note speaker of the event was Professor Ranjith Senaratne, Vice Chairman of the Sri Lanka University Grants Commission and he spoke about the importance of the Role of Higher education institutes in promoting DRR research and academic programmes via collaboration. Ministry of Disaster Management, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Federation of Local Govt. Authorities, National Building research Organisation, Red Cross Society, World Vision, UNDP, GIZ etc had representation at the event.

The purpose of the present workshop was to take stock of the Tsunami recovery process in Sri Lanka. The main question that we pose is: where do the victims of the Tsunami stand today after ten years of the every Workshop attempted to answer this question and the attention was focused upon a number of key areas: Community Formation and Social Cohesion; Livelihood Restoration; Social Infrastructure/Institutional Context; Gender and Recovery; Psychological Well-being; Impact of Children, Elders and Disables; Impof Early Warning Mechanisms; and Impact of reconstruction



Further, the workshop participants attempted to capture the insights and conclusions that emerge from the event which will be used to inform policy for the international community, as well as national and local government. In doing so, the workshop will help to ensure that there is positive action towards disaster risk reduction, and also advise future recovery policies and practices when communities face the aftermath of a major disaster. In addition, key research areas that emerged from the workshop will also be captured.

Book of Abstracts from the Tsunami Recovery in Sri Lanka: Ten Years On

Back to news index - December

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