



PROJECT SAFETY (SECURE AND ACHIEVE FULL PROTECTION TO ENSURE TEACHERS AND YOUTH WELFARE): IN RESPONSE TO DISASTER RISK REDUCTION MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOLS IN TALISAY SUB-OFFICE

DR. JAY-ANN A. MENDOZA

Principal

SDO Batangas, Talisay Sub-Office

ABSTRACT

This action research aimed to assess the level of disaster preparedness among selected public schools in the Talisay Sub-Office through Project SAFETY (Secure and Achieve Full Protection to Ensure Teachers and Youth Welfare). With disasters posing increasing threats to education systems, this study explored the effectiveness of current Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) strategies and the availability of essential resources in schools.

Using a descriptive-evaluative research design, the study employed a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, including survey questionnaires, equipment checklists, and semi-structured interviews. A total of 27 purposively selected participants—comprising school heads, SDRRM focal persons, and selected teachers—from 13 public schools provided data on DRRM awareness, practices, challenges, and partnerships. Findings revealed a very high level of awareness among school personnel in terms of DRRM training and implementation of multi-hazard drills, with an overall weighted mean of 3.48. However, the availability of critical DRRM supplies such as go bags, communication tools, and rescue equipment was rated partially available (WM = 2.41), highlighting a gap in emergency

Editorial Team

Editor-in-Chief: Alvin B. Punongbayan

Associate Editor: Andro M. Bautista

Managing Editor: Raymart O. Basco

Web Editor: Nikko C. Panotes

Manuscript Editors / Reviewers:

Chin Wen Cong, Christopher DC. Francisco, Camille P. Alicaway, Pinky Jane A. Perez,
Mary Jane B. Custodio, Irene H. Andino, Mark-Jhon R. Prestoza, Ma. Rhoda E. Panganiban, Rjay C. Calaguas,
Mario A. Cudiamat, Jesson L. Hero, Albert Bulawat, Cris T. Zita, Allan M. Manaloto, Jerico N. Mendoza



readiness. Additionally, the lack of funding, limited stakeholder engagement, and inconsistent training emerged as major implementation challenges. On a positive note, schools reported strong partnerships with LGUs and MDRMOs, and Project SAFETY was perceived as a sustainable model for enhancing school-based disaster preparedness (WM = 3.75).

The study recommends strengthening stakeholder collaboration, increasing resource allocation, and institutionalizing Project SAFETY as basis in crafting School DRRM Programs. By addressing both systemic and resource-related gaps, schools can build a more resilient educational environment that ensures the safety and welfare of learners and personnel.

Keywords: *Safety, resources, partnerships, LGUs, readiness*

Editorial Team

Editor-in-Chief: Alvin B. Punongbayan

Associate Editor: Andro M. Bautista

Managing Editor: Raymart O. Basco

Web Editor: Nikko C. Panotes

Manuscript Editors / Reviewers:

Chin Wen Cong, Christopher DC. Francisco, Camille P. Alicaway, Pinky Jane A. Perez,
Mary Jane B. Custodio, Irene H. Andino, Mark-Jhon R. Prestoza, Ma. Rhoda E. Panganiban, Rjay C. Calaguas,
Mario A. Cudiamat, Jesson L. Hero, Albert Bulawat, Cris T. Zita, Allan M. Manaloto, Jerico N. Mendoza
