Recovery in Leyte, the Philippines: Tacloban City after Typhoon Haiyan

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1. Introduction

Nov. 8, 2013, Typhoon Haiyan(Yolanda)

- Storm surge higher than 5m
- Casualty: 6,300, missing: 1,062
- Collapse:12,270, partially damage:46,553



Source:https://news.mb.com



Source: http://www.noone-special.com https://mranola.wordpress.com



February, 2023 Post-audit survey by TC21



Review the situation AFTER reconstruction in the view of TDA

Interview Survey

National level : DPWH (We could not get appointment with National Housing Authority.) City level : 4 departments at Tacloban City Government Barangay level: 4 Barangay and 3 citizens groups



2. Situation of reconstruction from the Haiyan

1) Tide embankment (2016-)





- 95% of tide embankment construction was completed.
- Height of embankment was determined based on JICA study.
- There's no flood/storm surge occurred after embankment, even in the one of the greatest typhoon hit the Philippines (Odette, international name; Rai, 2021)

2. Situation of reconstruction from the Haiyan

2) Relocation



 Out of the target housing units of 212,618 under the Yolanda Permanent Housing Program(2014), only 156,219 units (73%) were completed as at December 31, 2021.

(Source: National Housing Authority Annual Audit Report 2021)

•Of total target housing units, 194,918 units are undertaken by the NHA (National Housing Authority), and the remaining 17,700 by Tacloban city.

•According to the city planning section of Tacloban city, 2,000 units out of 17,700 are still leaving in the coast because of land acquisition and arrangement for utility.

3. Issues during and after the relocation

1) During relocation

•No water, no electricity, even no window at relocated sites.

• No choice for the residents to choose relocation sites (all determined by governments)

-> community were scattered to different relocation sites

2) After relocation

Many relocated residents still register to original barangay(village).

-> Original barangay chief has to distribute goods to remote areas.

Back to original places due to livelihoods problem

One of the relocation site was located at hazard prone catchment/basin.
Cholera broke out at the downstream village because of the poor sewage treatment.
Additional fund for rehabilitation is being required.

4. Findings from the view of TDA

- 1) Conflict between national and city government
- Some relocation sites by NHA were determined without development permission by local government.
- This kind of conflict accelerated after 2017 Marching order from the President to build and completed the relocation in just 3 months



4. Findings from the view of TDA

2) Effective support from the citizen group and third party

A) Homeowners Association:

- Managing rule at new resettlement sites and complains such as boundary/border disputes
- Good relationship with barangay (information sharing / cooperation on troubleshooting)

B) Third party including Catholic Relief Services(CRS) and private sector

- Third party like CRS appointed staffs to follow-up relocation sites until everything is fine.
- It is pointed out that relocated area with third party is relatively in good governance.

(Ex: Local rule at relocation sites were discussed and signed by people, under management of CRS.)

5. Summary

Purpose of relocation is not just providing houses, but getting back the normal life with enough quality of living environment.

Good sector/stakeholder coordination is essential on relocation.



5. Summary

In the first place, there was very limited land for new resettlement in Tacloban.

"Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning / Pre-reconstruction plan" (事前復興計画)

-> Local governments and residents discuss and formulate a plan

to determine to which area relocate, in case disaster devastated the area.



Workshop in Minabe town, Japan(Source: Kii Minpo)



Guide for pre-disaster recovery planning by UN and FEMA

Thank you very much for your kind attention