



A profile on the disaster-resistance of donor-provided post-*Durian* dwellings in Albay, Bicol Region: Inputs to sustainable mass housing programs

Sylvester Shaun D. Seño
Adamson University, Manila

Abstract: The Philippines was ranked as one of the disaster hotspots globally, where perennially a number of lives were lost and considerable government resources were exhausted in rebuilding infrastructures annually, notable of which was the 250-kph typhoon Durian in 2006. In this regard, for the study locale, the Albay Province in Bicol Region was chosen, cited as one of the United Nations (UN) twenty-nine community exemplars for disaster risk management and reduction - made possible partly by active collaboration among the different actors and donors - national government, the local government units (LGUs) and their non-governmental organizations (NGOs) counterparts, primarily on post-disaster housing units. Thus, this study investigates the structural profiles of their newly built homes, as the first variable, evaluated by researcher, with recipients' descriptive observations of any physical damage due to subsequent post-Durian calamities in the resettlement site as the second variable for the period 2007-2012. Triangulated study results indicate that only five out of nine housing design variants from seven donors were generally disaster-resistant, based from structural description, site condition, actual housing damage level inflicted by post-Durian calamities and ocular inspection. These indicate that resistance to future natural disasters for these donated dwelling units remain uncertain, allowing room for possible disaster risks.

Keywords: Disaster Risk Management and Reduction, House Maintenance, Structural Description Profile, Actual Housing Damage Level, Housing Donors