Abstract

Need and Importance of **Effective** Disaster Management Systems

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Introduction: Various parts of the world are prone to different types of disasters like: floods, landslides, fires, epidemics, avalanches, volcano, earthquakes, tsunami, cyclones, tornado, windstorms, hailstorms, lightning, glacier lake outburst floods, droughts etc. A number of government reports have shown that each year, the disasters kill thousands of people and destroy property worth billions of dollars. They also have a negative impact on the nation's development agenda. In addition to the natural factors, the losses from disasters are increasing in many countries due to the absence of proactive legislations. In many countries, the scopes of the existing laws are limited to immediate disaster response. This situation demands for the complete approaches of disaster management planning, preparedness and recovery. The effects of a disaster, whether natural or manmade, are often far reaching.

The Problems: As the lack of adequate coordination, technological gaps, absence of proactive policies and resource constraints compound the problem of an effective disaster management system - the objectives of this paper are to identify the problems in disaster management and suggest some policy and technological measures for an effective and efficient disaster risk reduction plan and programs.

Conclusions: Political commitment and government prioritization of disaster management is required for the efficient disaster risk reduction plans and programs. Government agencies at national and local levels must coordinate the support they provide to help the affected population to address their sufferings and rebuild their livelihood. The government cannot act alone: disaster risk reduction strategies need to be developed and maintained through private and community based approaches for a safer community and resilient society.

Key words: Policy, preparedness, proactive, rebuild, community.