

THE LEVEL OF DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AMONG RESIDENTS IN BARANGAY 176-A BAGONG SILANG CALOOCAN CITY: AN ASSESSMENT

ABSTRACT

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Disaster preparedness plays a vital role in minimizing the harmful effects of natural and human-induced hazards, especially in densely populated communities such as Barangay 176-A, Bagong Silang, Caloocan City. Urban areas are often exposed to risks like flooding, fires, earthquakes, and typhoons, making preparedness essential for community safety and resilience. This study evaluated the level of disaster preparedness among residents, focusing on disaster risk awareness and education, housing and infrastructure resilience, and the effectiveness of early warning systems. The study used a quantitative descriptive research design. Data were gathered through a structured survey questionnaire administered to seventy (70) respondents, including residents and barangay officials selected through purposive sampling. The collected data were analyzed using frequency, percentage, and weighted mean to measure the level of preparedness in the identified areas. Findings revealed that respondents are generally well-prepared for disasters. Disaster risk awareness and education received relatively high ratings, indicating familiarity with common hazards. However, respondents showed lower confidence in knowing specific actions to take before, during, and after disasters. In terms of housing and infrastructure resilience, accessible emergency exits were noted, but inadequate drainage systems were identified as a major issue contributing to flooding. The early warning system was considered effective, although some residents had limited awareness of its proper use. Overall, Barangay 176-A demonstrates a satisfactory level of disaster preparedness. However, gaps remain in infrastructure improvement, disaster response knowledge, and information dissemination. Strengthening community education programs, improving drainage systems, and enhancing awareness of early warning systems are recommended to further increase resilience and readiness.

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