

**COMMUNITY ADAPTATION ON SEASONAL
FLOOD: A CASE STUDY ON
KYAUK YE VILLAGE, HINTHADA TOWNSHIP
IN MYANMAR**

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ABSTRACT

Flood is the most common disaster in most of the area in Myanmar especially in coastal region and delta region. Myanmar, usually flooding in rainy season and the September to October is huge danger arriving in August as peak monsoon rain around that time. The secondary impact of the flood is river bank erosion, and which destroys the infrastructure and most of the farmlands of local people in the study area. Exposure to such hazards and vulnerabilities of people mainly due to poverty, and weak in government supportiveness explain the escalating gradually loss of property.

This study is to know the local people adaption on the impact of seasonal flooding in study area. The objectives of the study are to examine the local people adaptation on the seasonal flooding, to identify the local people understanding on the impact of flood to their livelihood and development, to clarify how local people adapt on the risk minimization. The data collection used as questionnaires, KII (key informant interview), FGD (focus group discussion), informal interview, observation, social mapping and seasonal calendar as well. The study found that there are several causes of flood hazards, they are: construction of infrastructure such as houses, schools, monasteries, roads, and farmlands. Without assessing the monsoon flood, narrow drainage capacity of the haphazard channel excavation for irrigation due to the absence of proper irrigation canal system, and poor drainage due to dense settlements. Floods have caused difficulty in mobility, increased risk for living at houses, likewise, damage of stored grain and spread of water borne diseases are other distresses. Increased health hazards, increased investment in treatment and farming, increase in price of seed, poor performance of social institutions, changes in cropping pattern and reduction in the crop production are immediate impacts of flood on the livelihood of farmers.

Although the flood is impacted to local community either positively in some sectors or negatively in most of sectors, people tried for the adaptation of their community by doing collective works. In addition, local people are doing preparation of flood and erosion before flood, find out the survival way during flood and helping for reconstruction of devastated infrastructures after flood. In the study area, the villagers have already adapted on the impact of seasonal flood, however, not fully adapted yet on the devastation of river back erosion.

Key words: flood, erosion, impact, livelihood, adaptation