

DEVELOPMENT OF POST-DISASTER RESETTLEMENT STRATEGIES FOR SRI LANKA

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ABSTRACT

A disaster is known as an unexpected hazardous event that impacts the communities through extensive damage, disruption and potential fatalities, which makes the affected communities seek external assistance to recover from the impact. Post-Disaster Resettlement (PDR) has been identified as a good option to convert the destructive zone into a sustainable society with long term developmental guidance. PDR projects can be defined as a complex process that deals with uncertainty and change the facility partially or entirely by replacement. The success of PDR programmes highly influences the mitigation and preparedness phases of the next disaster. Currently, PDR projects in Sri Lanka are not at the required success level due to different types of social and economic challenges. This study, therefore, aimed to identify and develop suitable post-disaster resettlement strategies for the successful development of PDR projects in Sri Lanka. A qualitative research stance was used for the proposed research as it requires in-depth inquiry into the PDR strategies. The research developed twelve strategies to succeed with PDR projects in Sri Lanka. The required knowledge sharing among parties of the PDR project, and using disaster-affected communities for managing and controlling of the PDR project are the main key strategies. The study highlighted the importance of PDR strategies to Sri Lanka, factors considered when developing PDR strategies, the shortcomings that have been witnessed in past PDR projects, and the possible ways of developing appropriate PDR strategies for Sri Lanka. Further, the study identified the levels that each strategy must implement in the resettlement process.

Keywords: PDR Strategies; Post-Disaster Reconstruction (PDR); Project Success.

1. INTRODUCTION

A disaster is known as an unexpected hazardous event that impacts the communities through extensive damage, disruption and potential fatalities, which makes the affected communities seek external assistance to recover from the impact (Benson and Twigg, 2007). Socio-cultural impacts will badly affect the communities after a disaster, with economic disruptions and other various issues (Lindell and Prater, 2003). Even if disaster hurts communities, it creates an opportunity for a new future with accelerating change (Schwab, 2014). Accordingly, Post-Disaster Resettlement (PDR) has been identified as a good option to convert the destructive zone into a sustainable society with long term developmental guidance (Ye and Okada, 2002).

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The initial series of decisions for PDR projects have long term impacts on changing the lives of the affected community (Jha, 2010). Therefore, the success of PDR programmes depends on how far they have addressed the structural and non-structural requirements of the disaster affected community (Sridarran, et al., 2008). PDR projects can be delayed mainly due to the difficulties of finding suitable land areas to build a large number of housing schemes, which are compatible with the disaster affected community culture and the unwillingness of beneficiaries to be relocated and inadequate provision of infrastructure by the government (Jha, 2010). Sridarran, et al. (2008) have revealed that the success of PDR projects is not at a sufficient level in developing countries like Sri Lanka. When considering the Sri Lankan context, it is functioning with a very unique culture and is hugely disturbed by different types of natural disasters such as tsunami, floods and landslides (Amaratunga, et al., 2015).

The success of PDR programmes highly influences the mitigation and preparedness phases of the next disaster (Smith, 2002). However, studies show that post-disaster resettlement objectives are frequently not reached, and opportunities for community development are decreased as a result of ineffective resettlement (Vijekumara, 2015). Therefore, appropriate PDR strategies need to be planned and implemented that address the physical and economical improvements and social and cultural factors of a country and its community. Henceforth, this study aims at identifying and developing suitable PDR strategies for Sri Lanka. In order to achieve the aim, research was conducted to identify the PDR strategies in the world and with reference to Sri Lanka, to evaluate the identified PDR strategies in Sri Lanka in terms of addressing community needs, planning policy and long-term development goals, and to develop suitable PDR strategies for Sri Lanka as objectives. This research was initiated with a comprehensive literature review and continued with methodology, research findings, conclusions and recommendations.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 OVERVIEW OF DISASTERS

A disaster is an event that exceeds normal protection with an impact on the community or one of its subdivisions through physical harm and social disruption by damaging the essential functions of the community (Lindell, 2013). Disaster affected communities require external assistance to recover from the impact of the disaster (Benson and Twigg, 2007). Different types of catastrophic disasters, including floods, earthquakes, and cyclones, have damaged the functioning of South Asian countries such as Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bhutan, India, and Nepal in recent years (Eshghi and Larson, 2008). According to the Disaster Management Centre (DMC, 2017), the impact of the disasters on Sri Lanka is high as it is directly linked to nature. Sri Lanka faced economic issues with vast damage to the development of the country through natural disasters in past years (DMC, 2017). Further, they identified the most common disaster events in Sri Lanka as floods, landslides, extreme wind, droughts, and lightning.

2.2 POST-DISASTER RESETTLEMENT PROJECTS

According to Ismail, et al. (2014), PDR projects can be defined as a complex process that deals with uncertainty either by partially changing the facility or entirely replacing the facility, through identified post-disaster stages such as emergency, restoration, reconstruction, and improvement. The generation of resettlement process could follow

the strategies that protect the livelihoods of the disaster affected community and should reduce the vulnerability to economic problems (Bang and Few, 2012). Smith (2002) stated that the continuation of disaster with expanded vulnerability and ability to fail in technological protective futures for the existing sites are the reasons for the resettlement after a disaster.

There are many PDR operations around the world, but their negative results continue to challenge the knowledge of post-disaster social risks and the efforts to re-establish livelihoods (Bang and Few, 2012). However, PDR projects have three major goals: restoring normal activities and living circumstances as soon as possible, protecting the community from future impact of hazards, and formulating and achieving agreed objectives among the parties concerned (Alexander, 2004).

2.3 POST-DISASTER RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN SRI LANKA

Disasters such as floods, cyclones, and landslides and major disasters like tsunami have damaged Sri Lanka majorly affecting its community and its subdivisions (Jayawardane, 2010). Different types of PDR projects were implemented to recover economic damage and impact on the affected community from those disasters in Sri Lanka (Amaratunga, et al., 2015). The implementation of the PDR projects required guidelines, frameworks, and policies provided by the Sri Lankan Government (Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs, 2017). Although disasters badly affect the economy, they increase the development of Sri Lanka with new opportunities. For example, the housing reconstruction due to disasters helped to increase Gross National Product from 5.4 to 8.0 after the tsunami in 2004 (Amaratunga, et al., 2015).

The reconstruction of PDR projects is not at an acceptable community level, and improper standards and lack of knowledge sharing among involved parties are leading to a decrement in the success level of projects (Ophiyandri, 2008). However, studies show that post-disaster resettlement objectives are frequently not reached, and opportunities for community development decrementing as a result of ineffective resettlement (Vijekumara, 2015).

2.4 STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESSFUL POST-DISASTER RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

PDR projects use various types of technologies that aim to mitigate disasters (Lorch, 2005). Organizations involved in PDR projects such as governments, private sector entities, and NGOs should make proper strategies to mitigate the negative impact on the community, economy and environmental effects of resettlement (Bang and Few, 2012). The strategies must be compatible with the culture of the affected communities and social issues by fulfilling their basic needs (Jayaraj, 2008).

The required knowledge about PDR should be shared among professionals and other stakeholders who are involved with PRD projects (Jigyasu, 2002). These programs should be implemented to develop the services of stakeholders according to the actual situation of the project (Jones, 2006). Further, knowledge-sharing workshops provide a better understanding to professionals of the culture of the affected community, as it should be integrated when making decisions.

The issues that may arise when conducting PDR projects can be minimized by the participation of affected communities throughout the project by analysing real practices

with theoretical proposals (Davidson, et al., 2007). Therefore, when managing and controlling PDR projects, it can be successful to use disaster-affected communities as resources to continue the project in a socially and culturally acceptable manner (Jayaraj, 2008). Implementation of such strategies to involve the communities would satisfy both authorities and end-users (Davidson, et al., 2007).

Using innovations and technologies implemented with local knowledge under local conditions and policies is identified as a strategy to succeed in the PDR projects (Twigg, 2006). Furthermore, Jaygasu (2002) states that such strategies should be labour-intensive technology that provides employment opportunities for the community. The vulnerability to future disasters could be increased due to the use of labour who does not belong to the affected community (Twigg, 2006). Further, the author stated that end-users will be in difficult situations in modifying and repairing the houses due to the lack of knowledge after imported labour left the project.

Identification of old building materials, which can still be useful and used for projects would mainly reduce the cost with minimum wastage of materials (Jayaraj, 2008). Local resources that are familiar to the community must be allowed to use in PDR projects, and those resources, skills, and subsidies, which are available locally, should be used with locally existing low-cost materials that are ecologically friendly (Saunders, 2006).

According to Hayles (as cited in Prasad, 2005), utilization of local skills could provide opportunities to the community affected by a disaster. Further, he identified that PDR can be successful through indigenous technology because the adaptation of hazards is well maintained in indigenous technology. Therefore, PDR projects must select modern technology integrated with indigenous technology (Jigyasu, 2002). According to the author, PDR will be more compatible if it is simple, economical, and easily adaptable with low maintenance to the project. Furthermore, Hayles (as cited in Prasad, 2005) stated building technologies used in PDR projects should be compatible with local needs, locally available resources, and culture to succeed in PDR projects.

The engagement of parties in some cases was restricted in PDR projects; therefore, formulation of legislation is required to avoid those issues through a better understanding of the culture of disaster affected community (Alexander, 2010).

According to Jaygasu (2002), the decision making of PDR projects should allow women's participation, and also it should be encouraged in the reconstruction process. When considering the risk experience of disaster, women may have a different level of experience compared to men; therefore, the development of PDR will improve by detailing women's risk experience when decision making (Ariyabandu and Wickramasinghe, 2003).

3. METHODOLOGY

In order to achieve the aim of the research through proper data collection method and data analysis method, there should be a well-structured condition to the research process (Kothari, 2004). This research was initiated with a comprehensive literature review which included basic concepts of PDR strategies and their shortcomings from the global and Sri Lankan contexts. A qualitative research stance was used for the proposed research as it requires in-depth inquiry into the PDR strategies. As the main data collection method, 6 semi-structured interviews were used. Deciding on the resettlement locations, layouts of the houses, infrastructure facilities and constructing buildings are done by government

organizations such as National Building Research Organization (NBRO), Disaster Management Centre (DMC), and Ministry of Disaster Management. Therefore, semi-structured interviews were carried out with policymakers related to PDR strategies development from those organizations. From the policymakers, the factors they consider when developing PDR strategy, the shortcomings they have witnessed, and the possible ways of developing appropriate PDR strategies were inquired. Table 1 provides the summary of respondents who participated in the primary data collection process.

Table 4: Summary of respondent's profile

Respondent	Discipline	Industry Experience	Ability to Contribute to the Study
R1	Senior Scientist	13 years	NBRO
R2	Project Coordinator	10 years	DMC
R3	Scientist	08 years	NBRO
R4	Disaster Management Officer	05 years	DMC
R5	Structural Engineer	05 years	NBRO
R6	Quantity Surveyor	07 years	NBRO

The outcomes were evaluated by comparing findings through the literature survey to identify the suitability of the PDR strategies for the Sri Lankan context. According to Braun and Clarke (2006), a qualitative approach is used to get opinions and behaviours according to the subject matter. When getting those opinions, it considers a group of people and gets their individual responses to the topics highlighted in the research (Yin, 2013). Therefore, the content analysis was selected as the qualitative analysis method to investigate the suitability, shortcomings and improvement techniques of PDR strategies.

4. RESEARCH FINDINGS

Professionals in the disaster management industry were selected as resource persons for collecting information. Therefore, semi-structured interviews were carried out with policymakers related to PDR strategies development such as NBRO, DMC, and the Ministry of Disaster Management. They provided their idea on the importance of the development of PDR strategies in Sri Lanka. Further practicability of identified strategies to improve project success of PDR projects in Sri Lanka was discussed. Shortcomings when implementing strategies, improvement methods of strategies, and implementation levels of strategies within PDR projects were collected under each strategy.

4.1 IMPORTANCE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF POST-DISASTER RESETTLEMENT STRATEGIES TO SRI LANKA

Different ideas were discussed with different respondents on the importance of the development of PDR strategies to Sri Lanka. According to R1, the risk areas from disasters can be divided into different types of levels such as medium risk areas, high risk areas etc. Medium risk area has a non-active risk from disaster. It has the risk, but still, it is not activated, and risk mitigation will be done for those areas to reduce the vulnerability to disaster. Different techniques such as soil nailing can be used for mitigation in medium risk areas. R3 mentioned, *“Risk mitigation is not suitable for high-risk areas, and resettlement is required to those areas as the last step when there are no mitigation or*

solution for disaster”. Further, he explained that the complexity of the resettlement is the main reason for that. Therefore, the development of PDR strategies is important to Sri Lanka. R4 identified the PDR projects must be designed according to the factors that affect the project, such as social factors, economic factors, political factors etc. Research and studies must be conducted very carefully before making the decision for PDR projects because the PDR projects are very sensitive to human lives. All respondents stated that community involvement is not at a good level. Although government provide lands and compensation, the community do not want to resettle in another area. It happened because of some shortcomings of PDR projects. R2 identified the resettlement lands were in the mountain areas, and there were no proper access roads to the lands. R1 stated that one land was near the rubber factory and bad smell and non-protection from insects were the reasons for the unsuccess of the PDR project. Therefore, all respondents confirmed that the development of PDR strategies for success in the PDR project is important to Sri Lanka. Those strategies will overcome and minimize the above identified problems of unsuccessful PDR projects.

4.2 PRACTICABILITY OF STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE PROJECT SUCCESS OF PDR PROJECTS IN SRI LANKA

In this study, seven strategies for success in PDR projects were identified under literature synthesis. These strategies were assessed during the data collection procedure for achieving the aim of the research. During the data collection process, another five strategies were identified in the Sri Lankan context. Altogether, twelve strategies were identified to succeed in PDR projects in Sri Lanka.

4.2.1 Strategy 1 - The Required Knowledge about PDR Projects should be Shared among Professionals and Other Stakeholders Involved in the Project

According to Jigyasu (2002), all parties who engage in PDR projects must acquire the knowledge and information about the project. All respondents agreed with the implementation of this strategy in PDR projects in Sri Lanka. R4 mentioned, *“There are a lot of stakeholders who participated in PDR projects, and they must start the project with their own goals that build together with one final goal of PDR project”*. Further, he stated that all stakeholders must have an idea about what will be done in the project. Therefore, the knowledge sharing about the final goal must be a starting point for PDR projects. R2 identified the main areas of knowledge sharing as policies about the PDR project, design of the buildings, specification of mitigation strategies, and structural requirements. Those areas must have their own criteria, specifications, standards, and designs to share among parties. R3 opined that *“Stakeholders of the project build a completed team for PDR projects that include architects, researchers, engineers, funding organizations etc. Although that was a single team, all those separate parties will go through the design and specifications to review the feasibility of the project and the benefits from the project to their organization”*. Therefore, it required knowledge sharing for the PDR project. Lack of knowledge sharing among professionals and other stakeholders involved in the project was identified as the starting point of the disputes in PDR projects by R6. One respondent presents an example of this problem. *“In order to reduce the vulnerability of single-storey houses, concrete structural columns should be incorporated into the design. However, a contractor in a PDR project decided to build the single-storey houses without columns, creating disputes between the involved parties.”* According to R1, organizing workshops and supervising throughout the project

are required to improve this strategy. Resistant to communicating with others was the main shortcoming of this strategy. Therefore, PDR projects need a proper process to share the knowledge among professionals and other stakeholders involved in the project parties.

4.2.2 Strategy 2 - Involving Disaster-Affected Communities in the Development of PDR Projects in a Socially and Culturally Acceptable Manner

The issues that arise when conducting PDR projects can be minimized by involving the affected communities throughout the project by analysing real practices with theoretical proposals (Davidson, et al., 2007). According to R1, this is the best strategy to succeed in PDR projects in Sri Lanka. Highly inflexion of traditional cultural patterns to the livelihood of the community was identified as the main reason for the requirement of this strategy. R5 stated that *“The ideas of the community must be heard from the policy level and must continue throughout the project”*. Further pointed out the unnecessary involvement of the community and the consuming time will be a shortcoming of this strategy. The community will fail in providing ideas when consulting structural features and technology features. Therefore, R3 proposed proper training to the community about the PDR projects through workshops. The community must enable the project by providing technical knowledge about the project and its features. R4 stated they want to work with disaster affected communities and get their requirements and ideas of them. Therefore, according to respondents, involving the disaster-affected communities in the development of PDR projects was a suitable strategy for the Sri Lankan context.

4.2.3 Strategy 3 - Using Innovations and Technologies that are Implemented with Local Knowledge under Local Conditions and Policies

Although Twigg (2006) identified using local knowledge under local conditions and policies will cause the success of PDR projects, it was partially accepted by respondents. According to R4, if Sri Lanka is not a technologically well-developed country, therefore, this strategy will be completely suitable for Sri Lanka. Sri Lankan PDR projects should use mix approach when considering technology because of Lack of required new technology. R6 stated that *“There may be new technologies to speed up the project, and there may be innovation that reduces vulnerability by using them in PDR projects”*. Sometimes technologies used in Sri Lanka will speed up the project. Further, he stated the combined implementation of foreign technologies and locally available technologies should be needed. Sometimes locally available technologies may become costly when implemented, and it was identified as a shortcoming by R2. R5 proposed to review innovative products from Sri Lanka and get support from them to improve this strategy. Further, he said the research on innovative products should be presented in symposiums and conference venues to increase the applicability in PDR projects.

4.2.4 Strategy 4 - Local Resources that are Familiar with the Community must be Allowed to use in PDR Projects

According to Jayaraj (2008), identification of old building materials, which can still be useful for projects and using those for projects, would mainly reduce the cost with minimum wastage of materials. R1 stated, *“Resettlement is changing the whole life of the affected community, but at least their houses must be familiar with them”*. Further, he identified that most of the resettlement was processed through new technologies that were not familiar to the affected community. According to the R6, the high cost of materials and time-consuming process decreases the ability to use local resources for PDR projects. R2 proposed to start research to identify cost-effective materials and designs because

PDR projects should end up with the available budget. Further, he stated that the making process and construction methods related to local resources should be implemented within the scheduled time frame without consuming time. Because disaster affected communities spend the worst time of their life during the period that PDR implements. Therefore, according to all respondents, local resources that are familiar with the community must be allowed to use in PDR projects within the available budget and within the scheduled time frame.

4.2.5 Strategy 5 - Utilization of Local Skills by Giving Livelihood Opportunities to the Community Affected by Disaster

According to Hayles (as cited in Prasad, 2005), PDR can succeed through indigenous technology as the adaptation of hazards is well maintained in indigenous technology. R3 identified most PDR projects were completed with a unique traditional approach. Projects were designed by authorities and built by the contractor. The affected community were isolated to the rescued area, and they were not engaged in the PDR project. R5 stated that *“Affected community can be used as local skilled resources for PDR project through proper knowledge sharing but the lack of experience and knowledge was the main shortcoming of this strategy”*. Therefore, according to all respondents, the utilization of local skills of disaster affected communities will help succeed in the PDR project by giving benefits to the community.

4.2.6 Strategy 6 - Formulation of Legislation to Avoid Issues Through a Better Understanding of PDR Projects

The engagement of parties in some cases was restricted in PDR projects (Alexander, 2010). Therefore, proper policy arrangement will cause the success of the PDR projects within designed boundaries as per the views of respondents. According to the R1, disaster affected communities have options when they resettle after a disaster. They can provide some alteration to their houses, they can make a design for their houses within given limitations, or they can accept the given house through the resettlement process. However, R6 stated that *“The community will propose alterations that will not be suitable for PDR projects. Although the community have a lot of options available, they will request alterations that are not suitable for the proposed programme”*. Therefore, according to R2, alteration from the community for the PDR project should be governed by legislation. It will succeed the PDR project through community participation within the proposed programme, pre-designed features, overall budget and time frame. On the other hand, R1 stated that professionals who enrolled in PDR projects must govern through legislation to get familiar with culture and community by conducting proper studies. Further, he identified that those restrictions by legislation would badly affect professionals and disaster affected communities, because of enforcement. Sometimes professionals want to engage the problems and solve them with the affected community, but policies restrict their involvement in that. Therefore, according to all respondents, the formulation of legislation should be implemented in a proper approach that will not enforce the professionals and disaster affected community to avoid the issue in PDR.

4.2.7 Strategy 7 - Encouraging the Women’s Participation in the Decision Making and Reconstruction Process

Although Jaygasu (2002) stated the decision making of PDR projects should allow women's participation, according to the respondents, this strategy will partially be suitable for Sri Lanka. Further, R6 stated that participation of both men and women require for

success in PDR projects in Sri Lanka. R4 identified that the high involvement of women in the PDR process decreases the ability to resettle in other area. The main reason for that was the lack of technical knowledge about construction projects. On the other hand, R3 stated, *“The women’s participation will increase the feasibility of features in the project and then PDR project can process with features that highly required to the livelihood of disaster affected community”*. Further, he identified the sensitive mind of the women as the main shortcoming that together with culture, will create a resistance to changing the place of the living. Therefore, as the idea of all respondents, women’s participation is required for the PDR project as same as men’s participants. Therefore, encouraging women’s participation in decision-making, and reconstruction should be implemented with proper knowledge sharing about technology.

4.2.8 Strategy 8 - Encouraging the Host Community's Participation in the Decision Making and Reconstruction Process

PDR projects are about relocating disaster affected communities to different locations. People who already live in the PDR relocation area are called as the host community. According to R1, the host community should relate to the PDR process. Further, he identified there were problems in previous relocating areas with the host community after resettlement. Those issues can be reduced if the host communities are engaged in the PDR projects. Therefore, encouraging the host community participation will help to succeed in the PDR project.

4.2.9 Strategy 9 - Restoration of Jobs with Vocational Training for Disaster Affected Community

R3 mentioned, *“The livelihood of people in the community depends on their living area, and they are working with available opportunities that are provided by their society”*. Their jobs will lose their jobs after relocating to new and different areas during the PDR process, making it hard for them to find opportunities that are suitable for their skills in the new area. Therefore, this strategy will improve by encouraging disaster affected communities for skill development by leading them to new ways related to the area. Arranging a vocational training programme will improve their skills and success in the post period of PDR projects.

4.2.10 Strategy 10 - Developing a Proper Approach to Improve Infrastructure Facilities in the Resettlement Areas

Scarcity of land for PDR projects is the main difficulty in Sri Lankan PDR projects. According to R4, *“After finding a land anyway, it will be a land that located in a rural area. Previous PDR lands were in isolated areas, where there are no sufficient infrastructure facilities. Therefore, PDR projects must be planned to build the resettlement so that the affected community can live happily”*. PDR must improve infrastructure facilities and other facilities to day-to-day requirements such as roads, schools, shops etc. Although the government is funding for PDR project, they allocate a very low budget to other facilities. That is the main difficulty when implementing it. Therefore, developing a proper approach to improve infrastructure facilities in resettlement areas will succeed in the PDR projects in Sri Lanka.

4.2.11 Strategy 11 - Arranging Counselling Programmes for Disaster Affected Community to Stable the Mentality

Disaster affects the community will badly fall in mentality, because they have lost their homes and their life was stuck. According to the R1, disaster affected communities should live happily after PDR to succeed in PDR projects. Therefore, the mentality of people should change, and they require counselling. Social analysis of disaster affected communities must need to be resettled before PDR. Therefore, arranging the counselling workshop to rearrange their mentality will succeed in the PDR projects.

4.2.12 Strategy 12 - Continuation of Dispute Resolution after PDR

There are a lot of disputes that will arise when PDR projects are implemented. R6 mentioned, “*dispute resolution is conducted among parties who are involved in the project while the PDR process is still going on*”. Therefore, the PDR process at the construction stage will become successful. After relocating the community, they will resist living there because of various issues. Therefore, ending the dispute resolution process right after the PDR process is concluded can be considered the main reason for that. If people leave the new places, the PDR would not be successful. Therefore, the respondent’s idea is the continuation of dispute resolution after PDR will cause success in the PDR project.

Table 2 provides the summary of developed strategies throughout the research.

Table 2: Summary of developed strategies

Strategy	Identified from Literature Review	Suitability (According to the interviewees)	New Strategy (Identified from Data Collection)
The required knowledge about PDR projects should be shared among professionals and other stakeholders involved in the project	✓	Suitable	
Involving disaster-affected communities to the development of PDR projects in a socially and culturally acceptable manner	✓	Partially Suitable	
Using innovations and technologies that are implemented with local knowledge under local conditions and policies	✓	Partially Suitable	
Local resources that are familiar with the community must be allowed to use in PDR projects	✓	Suitable	
Utilization of local skills with giving livelihood opportunities to the community affected by disaster	✓	Suitable	
Formulation of legislation to avoid issues through better understanding of PDR projects	✓	Partially Suitable	
Encouraging the woman participation in decision making and reconstruction process	✓	Partially Suitable	

Strategy	Identified from Literature Review	Suitability (According to the interviewees)	New Strategy (Identified from Data Collection)
Encouraging the host community participation in decision making and reconstruction process		Suitable	✓
Restoration of jobs with vocational training for disaster affected community		Suitable	✓
Developing proper approach to improve infrastructure facilities in resettlement area		Suitable	✓
Arranging counselling programmes for disaster affected community to stable the mentality		Suitable	✓
Continuation of dispute resolution after PDR		Suitable	✓

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Ineffective resettlement results to find out new strategies to achieve the objectives of the PDR projects in Sri Lanka. The aim of the study was to identify and develop suitable post-disaster resettlement strategies for Sri Lanka. In this study, seven strategies for success in PDR projects were identified under literature synthesis. These strategies were assessed during the data collection procedure for achieving the aim of the research. During the data collection process, another five strategies were identified in the Sri Lankan context. Altogether, twelve strategies were identified to succeed in PDR projects in Sri Lanka.

As per the viewpoint of experts, eight strategies were identified as completely suitable for Sri Lankan PDR projects. Those strategies will highly affect the success of PDR. There are 4 strategies that were identified as partially suitable for the Sri Lankan context. Experts agreed that the involvement of disaster affected communities should implement within the predetermined limitations of the PDR projects without over-involvement of technical features and other structural strategies. Using local innovation and technologies should engage with foreign technologies as a mixed approach for speedup and success of the projects. The experts suggested that the formulation of legislation should implement in a proper approach that will not enforce the professionals and disaster affected community to avoid the issues in PDR. According to the findings, encouraging women's participation in decision making and reconstruction process should implement within limitations with proper knowledge sharing about technology.

Research findings confirmed that identified strategies should be implemented to succeed in PDR projects in Sri Lanka, and they can be used to overcome the current success level of Sri Lankan PDR projects and increase the satisfaction of disaster affected communities and all stakeholders in a project. The findings of this research will be beneficial for the policymakers and disaster management policy implementing organisations such as the Ministry of Disaster Management, National Building Research Organization (NBRO) and Disaster Management Centre (DMC), to increase the project performance in Sri Lankan PDR.

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