

# **Disaster Risk Management Practices and Readiness for Disasters among Selected Schools in Biñan City, Laguna**

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## **Abstract**

Nobody can predict when a disaster will exactly occur. Disasters can strike without warning and everyone must be prepared as disasters can happen anywhere – at home, at the workplace or at school. Disaster plans should be in place to at least lessen the impact of disasters on peoples' lives especially. This descriptive-correlation study involved 30 schools in Biñan City, Laguna. Majority were public schools, with land area of less than one hectare and will evacuate approximately 500 people in case of a disaster. The schools have *very high* level of implementation of disaster risk management practices for earthquakes, *high* level of implementation of disaster risk management practices for fires and floods, and *high* level of readiness for disasters. Schools with land area of one hectare and above had higher level of implementation of disaster risk management practices for earthquakes. Private schools and those with land area of 1-2 hectares have higher level of implementation of disaster risk management practices for fires. Private schools have higher level of implementation of disaster risk management practices for floods and have higher level of readiness for disasters than public schools. The higher is the schools' level of implementation of disaster risk management practices, the higher is their level of readiness for disasters. Disaster risk reduction management councils can use the findings as basis for policies to make all stakeholders ready for disasters.

**Keywords:** *disaster risk management, disaster risk management practices, readiness for disaster*