

Conceptual Model of Shelter Planning Based on the Vitae System

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Vitae System model addressed that the coping capacity of a living body in a community or a society has three basic and critical needs — survivability (to be alive), vitality (to live better) and conviviality (to live together) (Okada 2004, Misra & Okada 2005). And with Vitae System approach, which is suggested to strengthen implementation science in the context of integrated disaster risk management, people's needs are well depicted in different stages in the development process after the even of a disaster.

The main purpose of a shelter is to protect people from a disaster by providing a place for refugees to take refuge in the emergent situation of a disaster — help them to be alive, and/or by providing a temporal house for refugees whose house is damaged because of the disaster—help them to reach a new equilibrium of the Vitae System of their living bodies. And it is critical that shelter planning, which is one of an important parts of integrated disaster risk management, should be made carefully and in consultation with local emergency management and public safety officials.

In this paper, based on the Vitae System, by comparison between some countries' shelter planning guidance, a conceptual model of the disaster shelter planning is addressed, the shelter planning principle and indicators are presented, and finally the planning flow is discussed.

This conceptual model can help the governor, planner or public safety official plan or design a new shelter and assess the existing shelters, can help shelter operator and manager improve organization and management level, and can also help local people

evacuate effectively.

References

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