

Characterization and Categorization of Recovery with Respect to the BBB: A Study on Cyclone Aila Recovery in Bangladesh

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Introduction

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) by post-disaster recovery is an integral part of the Build Back Better (BBB) principle (UNSIDR, 2015). Developing a safer community by recovery is the most important goal of BBB (Clinton, 2006; Kennedy, Ashmore, Babister, & Kelman, 2008). This research proposed a methodology to characterize and categorize recovery initiatives with respect to the safety goal of BBB. This characterization and categorization of recovery initiatives will help the disaster practitioners and managers to evaluate a completed or ongoing recovery which will eventually inform policy update. After development, the proposed methodology was

administered to characterize and categorize cyclone Aila recovery in Bangladesh. In 2009, a sever cyclone with core hurricane winds (max wind 120 km/hr, min pressure 974hPa) vandalized the south western coast of Bangladesh with 2m-6m storm surge (Sadik et al., 2018). Government and development partners claims the Aila recovery is a success and was planned adopting BBB (Mallick & Islam, 2014). On the other hand, the prevailing community condition and recent researches suspect emergence of pre-existing vulnerabilities (Sadik et al., 2018; The Independent, 2016). Therefore, this research attempts to characterize and categorize the Aila recovery with respect to the safety aspect of BBB.

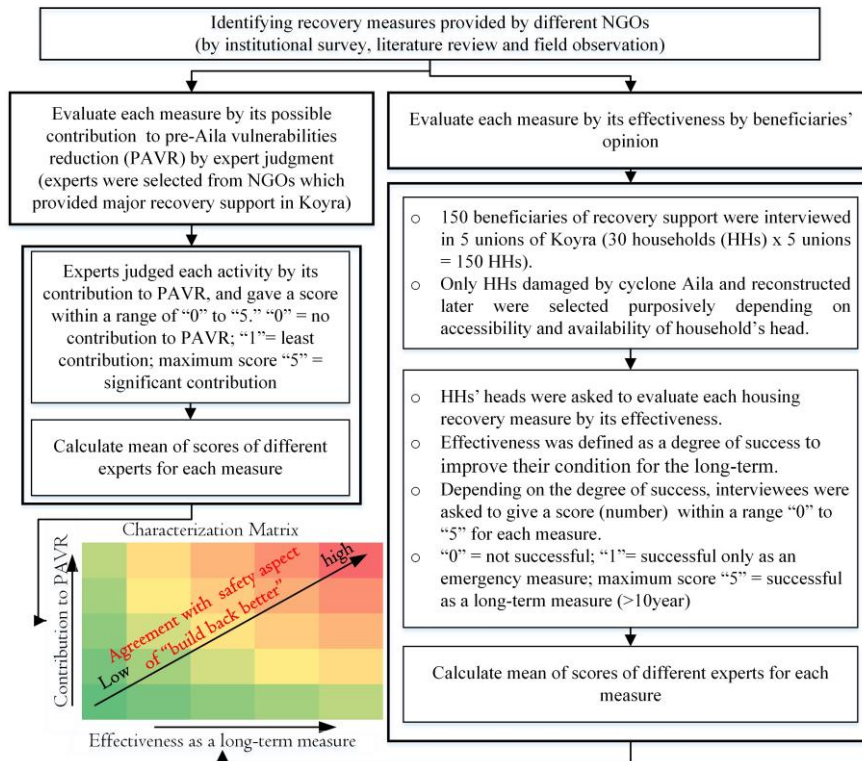


Figure 1: Methodology for Characterizing and categorizing Recovery with respect to BBB

Proposed Methodological Framework

The proposed methodological framework characterizes recovery from two criteria relevant to the safety aspect of BBB- i) effectiveness as a long-term recovery measure, ii) its contribution to disaster risk reduction. The details of the methodology is illustrated in Figure 1. After characterizing each recovery measure, it was plotted in a matrix (Figure 1) having three dimensions. Dimension “x” represents “effectiveness of a recovery measure”, “y” represents the “degree of contribution to PAVR”, and the third dimension is color of a cell (of the matrix) which represents “agreement with BBB”. The warmer the color is, higher the agreement is. The “agreement with BBB” is the product of “x” and “y.” Depending on the “agreement with BBB”, the recovery measures were categorized into four categories.

Results

Results reveal that recovery measures related to recovery of housing, economy and WASH have low to moderate agreement with the safety goal of BBB. An example of the result is shown in Figure 2. This research concludes that from the safety perspective of BBB, the overall recovery falls in the category- “struggle to reach normalcy,” which means that the community is still inheriting pre-existing vulnerabilities. Despite recovery, the safety goal of BBB is still yet to be achieved.

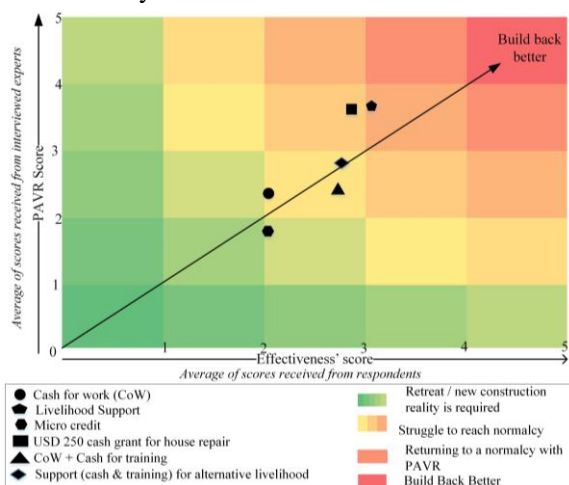


Figure 2: Recovery of Local Economy

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