

# NEEDS 2021

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Abstracts from the panel

Sharing Disaster Experience, Research and Innovation:  
A multi-hazard approach for risk management after Covid-19



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# Tracing and analyzing the ideas behind disaster volunteerism – a case study of Indonesia

## Corresponding Author:

Veronica Strandh

Department of Political Science, Umeå University Sweden

veronica.strandh@umu.se

## Author(s):

Disaster volunteerism is a phenomenon with mostly positive connotations; people from all walks of life can contribute to disaster management in various ways and volunteers and community members are sometimes even portrayed as the “true first responders. Although the role of and the contribution of volunteerism is well recognized among disaster scholars, discussions about the *ideas* underpinning this phenomenon is largely missing. On what ideational premises rest the assumed importance of voluntary actions? Is there an ideational roadmap?

Embarking on previous research on disaster management, and adding the literature grounded in humanitarian and development studies, this study uses an ideational analysis lens (Vedung 2018) and seeks to identify, describe and interpret key disaster management actors’ “ideational road map” of disaster volunteerism in Indonesia. More specifically, it will i) analyze their ideas about the distinctive contributions of disaster volunteerism ii) analyze their predictions about how volunteerism can be strengthened ii) trace and picture ideational changes over time.

The empirical material builds on the authors’ field studies in Indonesia. 21 interviews and five field visits were conducted in Jakarta, Bogor and Yogyakarta in 2017, 2019 and 2021. In total, interview data builds on the accounts of 50 respondents representing key actors in Indonesian disaster management, including Indonesian Red Cross, World Vision, Indonesian Society for Disaster Management, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) United Nations Children’s Fund (Unicef), World Bank, Ministry of Social Affairs, Humanitarian Forum, the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) RUJAK Center for Urban Studies, and Muhammadiyah Disaster Management Center.

Theoretically, this study positions disaster volunteerism in (or between) two analytical paradigms of humanitarian action: the classical humanitarianism paradigm and the more recent resilience paradigm.

# Managing Mass Death in Times of Multiple Crisis: Lessons from the 2011 Japan Disasters and the Covid-19 pandemic

**Corresponding Author:**

Sébastien Penmellen Boret  
Tohoku University Japan  
boret@irides.tohoku.ac.jp

**Author(s):**

This presentation aims to understand and prepare better for the challenges of mass death management in times of crisis. The study begins with a socio-cultural analysis of the treatment of the victims' bodies during the Great East Japan Earthquake. The presenter draws ethnographic and literature research to identify three main challenges. The first challenge consisted in the recovery of the bodies. The police, SDF, firefighters, paramedics and others carried out most of these tasks. They were responsible for transporting the bodies to the temporary morgue and, at times, to the temporary cemetery. Despite their efforts, 2,529 people remain missing. The second problem was the lack of facilities able to house the bodies. Some cities and towns had to deal were not prepared to deal with hundreds, let alone thousands of bodies. Local authorities decided to convert a gymnasium, bowling plaza, and so on into huge morgues to face the situation. The bodies of hundreds of victims were laid out in these mortuaries to be identified and returned to their families. However, many of the crematoria were damaged beyond repair, and some had no fuel supplies. In response, the central government allowed the construction of temporary mass graves and full burial that is no longer practiced in Japan. To further our understanding of mass death management in multi-hazards scenarios, the second part of this presentation examines how the scenario of the 2011 tsunami could become more complex during a pandemic. The disposal of the bodies of Covid-19 in Japan, New York and France exposes the particularities of the storage of the dead bodies of pandemics. The author also points out the similarities observed between the 2011 tsunami, such as temporary morgues and public health hazards. This presentation concludes with a discussion about the need to develop frameworks of mass death management adapted to multi-hazards scenarios. The author argues that the success of such frameworks depends on their understanding of the role of culture of death and prepare better for the challenges of mass death management in times of crisis and pandemics.

# Multi-hazards disaster response and recovery: experiencing natural hazards in pandemic

## Corresponding Author:

Takako Izumi  
Tohoku University Japan  
izumi@irides.tohoku.ac.jp

## Author(s):

A number of countries were affected by both pandemic and natural disasters in 2020 causing tremendous stresses and damages on these countries, i.e., several typhoons in India and the Philippines, severe floods in Japan, and wildfires in the US. This research aimed to identify the impact of both disasters on the response and recovery efforts, understand the risk perception of the public before and after the disasters in the affected areas, examine the motivation of their evacuation actions and the major challenges in the evacuation centers, and study the support by and role of volunteers in each disaster case.

The major findings include the followings:

- More than 90% of the responders answered that COVID-19 made some impacts on their lives. In India and the Philippines, the impact on their economic and financial situation was the highest. In the US, the highest impact was that the interaction with their neighbors was reduced. In Japan, the impact on their mental health was highest.
- The highest impact by disasters was on their mental health or heavy stress and trauma. The second was that the reduction of household income. However, in the US, the impact on their health was nearly highest.
- More than 70% answered that it took longer to make a decision to evacuate due to their concerns on the impact of COVID-19. Under the situation of multi-hazards, the concerns and needs from different perspectives will increase and it will take longer to make an important decision.
- Regarding the issues that must be prioritized when making improvements at an evacuation center, the lack of enough food and other necessary items was the highest. The answers differed from country to country. The highest answer in the US was that they needed to be considerate when taking care of children. In Japan, the lack of privacy was the highest.

these natural disasters did not occur under the COVID-19 situation, the number of evacuees and volunteers would have been increased. It would have been easier for people to make a decision to evacuate. Both the pandemic and the disasters put tremendous impact on their finance situation and mental health. In addition, many people felt they lost ties with people and the interaction with their neighbors were reduced.

# Flood Management Strategies in Ampal Watershed in Balikpapan, Indonesia

## Corresponding Author:

Ariyaningsih Ariyaningsih  
Keio University Indonesia  
ayya19@keio.jp

## Author(s):

Rajib Shaw<sup>1</sup>, Nuur Awaliyah<sup>2</sup> and Achmad Ghozali<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Keio University, Shaw@Sfc.Keio.Ac.Jp, JPN

<sup>2</sup>Institut Teknologi Kalimantan, IDN

Flood disaster has become a priority issue of Balikpapan city since 2015, especially in Ampal Watershed. The Balikpapan City Government has carried out various flood prevention efforts in the Ampal watershed from 2014 to 2019. However, throughout 2019, many areas still experienced flooding in 88 locations. Objective of this study is to formulate flood management strategies in Ampal based in IFAS and EFAS characteristics. This research used a qualitative descriptive approach with a SWOT analysis technique to formulate flood management strategies. The results consist of : (I) SO strategies, focusing more on the construction of embankments and the implementation of reforestation by determining the appropriate vegetation following the conditions of the Ampal watershed, (ii) ST strategies, emphasizing more on monitoring land use and the function of embankments, Flood Controlling Dam (*Bendali*) and planting vegetation to control surface flow velocity, (iii) WO strategies are more directed on river improvement to increase drainage capacity in the Ampal watershed. In addition, these strategies also emphasize the follow-up of flood control studies in the Ampal watershed in the form of action/implementation, and last (iv) WT strategies, focusing on evaluating and imposing sanctions on violators (law enforcement) and leads to the follow-up or realization of planned flood management programs, namely the climate village program, installing a flood warning system and normalizing the Ampal River.

*Keywords : Ampal Watershed, Balikpapan, Flood Management, SWOT analysis*

# Strengthening the Panglima Laot Institution in Managing Coastal Hazard Impacts during the Pandemic Covid 19 Era: A Case of Aceh, Indonesia

## Corresponding Author:

Alfi Rahman

Pusat Riset Ilmu Sosial dan Budaya (Research Center for Social and Cultural Studies), PRISB, Universitas Syiah Kuala Indonesia  
alfi.rahman@unsyiah.ac.id

## Author(s):

Mahdi Syahbandir<sup>1</sup>, Rosaria Indah<sup>2</sup> and Mukhrijal Mukhrijal<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty Of Law Universitas Syiah Kuala, Banda Aceh, Msyahbandir@Unsyiah.Ac.Id, IDN

<sup>2</sup>Pusat Riset Ilmu Sosial Dan Budaya (Research Center For Social And Cultural Studies), PRISB, Universitas Syiah Kuala, Rosariaindah@Unsyiah.Ac.Id, IDN

<sup>3</sup>Faculty Of Social And Political Sciences, Universitas Syiah Kuala, Banda Aceh, Mukhrijal@Unsyiah.Ac.Id, IDN

Aceh Province, Indonesia, has traditionally been their way of managing coastal resources and community. The traditional coastal institutions, namely *Panglima Laot*, have been recognized in Aceh society for more than 500 years in managing and protecting coastal resources, including coastal hazards impacts. To run the *Panglima Laots*, the Aceh coastal community implements *Hukom Adat Laot* (the customary sea law) as the local regulation. The 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami affected and situated Aceh coastal communities some of the difficulties in restructuring the *Panglima Laot* institution. Since the Covid-19 first case was found in March 2020, it has also been impacted this traditional institution in managing coastal hazards and their impact. This study focused on the *Panglima Laot's* challenges and issues in managing coastal hazards during the pandemic Covid-19 era in Aceh Province. This study is qualitative research. The data was collected by interviewing the *Panglima Laot* leaders and community members and employing multi-dimension perspectives. The findings show that *Panglima Laots* provided leadership in managing coastal hazards during the pandemic Covid-19. Strengthening the *Panglima Laots* leadership in managing resources and coastal hazards is needed. Community participation in managing coastal hazards and coastal resources during the Covid-19 pandemic should be encouraged within the customary sea law (*Hukom Adat Laot*) to foster sustainable disaster mitigation and preparedness programs.