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Preparedness to Natural Hazards of Philippine Information Agency's (PIA) Regional Employees and Its Relation to the Implementation of Disaster Preparedness Measures: Basis for the Creation of Public Service Continuity Plan (PSCP)

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Abstract— This quantitative research study examines the preparedness of regional employees of the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) to natural hazards and its relation to the implementation of disaster preparedness measures. The objective is to establish a basis for the creation of a Public Service Continuity Plan (PSCP) within the organization. The study presents several key findings based on survey responses from PIA regional offices. The study reveals that a significant proportion (42.7%) of respondents are aged 46 years and older. The majority of respondents hold the position of information officers (66.9%), and 45.2% have a length of service of 12 years and above. Respondents perceived a high probability of various natural hazards occurring in their respective regions, including earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, floods, tropical cyclones and typhoons, heavy rainfall, landslides, and storm surges. Further, regional employees of PIA demonstrate sufficient knowledge of natural hazards and disaster preparedness measures. However, the implementation of these disaster preparedness measures is found to be occasional (sometimes), as indicated by a mean score of 3.12. Subsequently, regional office employees strongly agree with the importance of implementing these disaster preparedness measures in their offices. The study also finds no significant relationship between the level of knowledge of disaster preparedness measures and the implementation of such measures and between the level of implementation and the attitude of employees towards their implementation. Based on these findings, it is recommended that the PIA develop and implement a Public Service Continuity Plan to enhance its preparedness and response to natural hazards. The plan should consider each regional office's specific needs and characteristics and provide comprehensive guidelines for disaster preparedness measures.

Keywords— disaster preparedness, natural hazards, Public Service Continuity Plan, Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Philippine Archipelago, as one of the countries located in the Pacific Ring of Fire where the Philippine Sea and Eurasian tectonic plates meet, has approximately 300 volcanoes. Of these, at least 24 are considered active, and several have erupted in recent times. Moreover, more than 20 earthquakes are recorded every day (PHIVOLCS, 2014).



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Further, being situated in the Pacific Typhoon Belt, the Philippines experiences approximately 20 tropical cyclones and an average of 10 develop into typhoons every year, from June to September being the rainy season in the country (Office of Civil Defense, 2021).

This can cause severe flooding and landslides in different parts of the country. Some parts of the Philippines are already identified as flood and landslide-prone, as consolidated in a geohazard map released in 2016 by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources through their MGB National Geohazard Assessment Program to raise awareness among all LGUs and to implement interventions accordingly.

These clearly show that the Philippines can be identified as high-risk for hazards (Rosenberg, 2018).

Further, in the report of Counter Extremism Project, a non-government organization, on September 17, 2018, the presence of extremists in the Philippines as well as existing rebels and disputes in the southern part of the country pose a threat to the peace and safety of its citizens.

Given the various hazards in the 2021 World Risk Index Report, the Philippines ranked eighth with the highest disaster risk country worldwide (World Risk Report 2021, 2021).

Disaster risk can be measured through the four risk components, which are exposure, susceptibility, coping, and adaptive capacity of a certain country (Mucke, 2011).

It can never be denied the fact that the Philippines is indeed prone to different disasters. According to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (2019), risk plus the vulnerability of individuals may result in disaster. The more vulnerable residents are to different risks, the higher the tendency to experience disaster.

While there are natural hazards that cannot be avoided due to their natural causes, the vulnerability of Filipino citizens to hazards is high, according to the study conducted by Dr. Greg Bankoff in 2003.

Moreover, aside from the natural hazards, we are also not spared from the spread of a new coronavirus disease (COVID-19) caused by a new coronavirus called SARS-CoV-2 (World Health Organization, 2020). Moreover, aside from the natural hazards, we are also not spared from the spread of a new coronavirus disease (COVID-19) caused by a new coronavirus called SARS-CoV-2 (World Health Organization, 2020).

This has hit not only the Philippines but 231 countries and territories around the world, with a reported total of 694,672,356 confirmed cases and a death toll of 6,911,814 deaths, which considered it a pandemic. (WorldOfmeters, 2023).

Consequently, the Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council, learning from previous calamities that the Philippines had experienced, has shifted from being reactive to more proactive disaster plans and strategies



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(National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council, 2014). It is through minimizing the vulnerability of individuals and increasing their resilience to hazards by making them aware and prepared for any eventuality.

Accordingly, Republic Act 10121 of 2010 was enacted to strengthen the Philippine disaster risk reduction and management system by providing the national disaster risk reduction and management framework and institutionalizing plans with appropriate funds for the purpose.

This led to the creation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Plan (NDRMMP) 2011–2028, which is divided into four thematic plans: disaster prevention and mitigation, disaster preparedness, disaster response, and disaster rehabilitation and recovery (Office of Civil Defense, 2011).

Whereas, part of the disaster preparedness efforts is to increase the level of awareness and enhance the capacity of the community to the threats and impacts of all hazards.

In this effort, the lead agency is the Philippine Information Agency (PIA). This agency is an attached unit of the Presidential Communications Office (PCO), which is the official public information arm of the Government of the Philippines. The PIA works with the Office of the President through the PCO, national government agencies, and other public sector entities to communicate their programs, projects, and services to the Filipino people. With its 16 regional offices and 79 information centers across the Philippines, the message is widespread and can even reach up to the grassroots level of society (Philippine Information Agency, 2019).

Further, as a government communication agency that is mandated to deliver accurate, timely, and relevant information to the public, it plays an important role during disasters and pandemics. Public service must continue and should never stop. Thus, a continuity plan for its services is a must.

II. METHODS OF RESEARCH

NDRRMC and other government agencies have already learned their lessons from previous disasters that have happened in the country. More than being reactive to disasters, they are now working to be more proactive in preparing for and mitigating the risks.

One of the measures is to increase the level of awareness and enhance the capacity of the community to respond to the threats and impacts of all hazards, whereas the PIA is the lead agency.

Being at the forefront of this effort in promoting safer, adaptive, and disaster-resilient Filipino communities towards sustainable development, it is essential to evaluate whether the information is effectively disseminated and applied internally by this messenger of disaster information.

It is important to determine if the information disseminators can fully apply their message in their lives to effectively share it with the public. As well, guidelines have been set to bounce back from any eventuality to continue its services.



Volume: 03 / Issue: 02 / 2023 - Open Access - Website: www.mijrd.com - ISSN: 2583-0406

Hence, this study aims to evaluate the preparedness of PIA Regional Offices employees to natural hazards and its relation to their level of implementation of disaster preparedness measures as a basis for the creation of a Public Service Continuity Plan.

Research Design

This study utilized a quantitative research approach since the research underwent a systematic data collection process and was measured through statistical data. Since the study dealt with the assessment of data carried through nominal, categorical, and numerical data, it utilized a quantitative research approach.

According to Fraenkel & Wallen (2006), quantitative research can be classified as either descriptive or experimental research. The purpose of descriptive research design is to become more familiar with phenomena, gain new insight, and formulate a more specific research problem or hypothesis.

This type of research design involves the description, recording, analysis, and interpretation of the presentation or process of data according to the primary objective of the study, which is to determine the level of preparedness for natural hazards based on the answers of the respondents.

Research Instrument

To facilitate the data gathering, the researcher was able to design a questionnaire to address the objectives of this study.

The survey questionnaire was divided into seven (7) sections specifically determining and evaluating the following:

- a. Demographic profile;
- b. Perceived likelihood of natural hazards happening in the region;
- c. Possible impacts of natural hazards;
- d. Knowledge of respondents on natural hazards;
- e. Knowledge of disaster preparedness measures;
- f. Implementation of disaster preparedness measures; and
- g. attitude towards the implementation of disaster preparedness measures.

Respondents

The total number of personnel holding permanent positions in all 16 regions is 203, based on the list provided by the Human Resource Development Division-Personnel Section of the Agency as of June 30, 2022.

Then, the following samples were drawn out per region: 11 in Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR); 7 in National Capital Region (NCR); 10 in Region I (Ilocos Region); 8 in Region II (Cagayan Valley); 7 in Region III (Central Luzon); 7 in Region IV-A (CALABARZON); 7 in Region IV-B (MIMAROPA); 10 in Region V (Bicol); 12 in Region VI (Western Visayas); 9 in Region VII (Central Visayas); 10 Region VIII (Eastern Visayas); 7 Region IX



Volume: 03 / Issue: 02 / 2023 - Open Access - Website: www.mijrd.com - ISSN: 2583-0406

(Zamboanga Peninsula); 7 Region X (Northern Mindanao); 6 in Region XI (Davao Region); 8 in Region XII (SOCCKSARGEN); and 9 in Region XIII (CARAGA).

For the fulfillment of the research, primary data was used. The data were collected from the respondents through a survey questionnaire.

Data Gathering Procedures

The researcher presented the draft instrument to the evaluators, who are experts on the topic, such as officials from the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) and statisticians, for approval. The instrument was revised based on comments and suggestions.

It was also administered to 10 PIA employees for pilot testing for reliability. These respondents have the same characteristics as the targeted respondents but were not included as respondents in the actual conduct of the study. All comments and suggestions were considered.

Once the instrument was found to be reliable based on the pre-testing, a request letter was formally sent to the Philippine Information Agency to ask for permission to survey the employees in the 16 regional offices.

Upon approval of the request, the researcher administered the questionnaires via Google Survey to the respondents to the study.

Data were collected from the online answers of each respondent, tallied, and subjected to the statistical computations of a statistician for analysis.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The regional office employees of the Philippine Information Agency, being the communication arm of the government, are indeed comprised mostly of information officers, the majority of whom are middle-aged adults and have been in the agency for a very long time.

It is also worth noting that more and more young people are joining the agency. It also indicates that since more and more younger people are joining the government service, either they are newly hired or just starting to build their career in the agency.

Meanwhile, these regional office employees are aware of the possible occurrence of natural hazards such as earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, floods, tropical cyclones and typhoons, heavy rainfall, landslides, and storm surges in their respective areas.

Further, they have sufficient knowledge about natural hazards and disaster preparedness measures.



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Table 1. Level of Knowledge of PIA Regional Offices Employees on Disaster Preparedness Measures

		Preparedness		Preparedress		Preparedness		Proproduct		Proporations		Preparadness		н Редлефез		Preparatiess		Preparadiess		r Preparedness		Peparedess		Preparatess		rerall
Knowledge on Disaster Pregunedness Becauses	- 10	esums1	- 1	asures 2	- No	esures)		easures 4	N.	29/855	,	esunsi	<u>'</u>	Beasures?	-	esses 8		ezuns9		easpes 10	- Bo	esures11	- Be	esures12	, v	reiali
Regional Offices	Mean	и	Wean	W.	Hem	W	Wean	W	Vez	И	Hem	И	Near	И	Wean	V.	Mean	И	Wean	И	Wean	V .	Mean	A	Wean	И
Cordillera Administrative Region	245	Little Knowledge	291	Sufficient Knowledge	255	Saficient Knowledge	284	Safficient Knowledge	273	Sufficient Knowledge	236	Litle Knowletige	264	Safficient Knowledge	255	Sufficient Novieldon	227	Litle Knowletce	236	LittleKnavledge	227	Little Knowledge	227	Little Konskdoe	250	Sufficient Knowledge
National Capital Region	256	Sufficient Knowledge	2.89	Sufficient Knowledge	278	Safficient Knowledge	2.44	Little Knowledge	289	Sufficient Knowledge	189	Little Knowledge	278	Sufficient Knowledge	3.11	Sufficient Noviedos	2.22	Litle Knowledge	278	Sufficient Knowledge	289	Sufficient Knowledge	289	Sufficient Knowledge	268	Sufficient Knowledge
I (locos Region)	221	Litte	263	Sufficient Knowledge	232	Little	29	Safficient	263	Sufficient Knowledge	205	Little Knowledge	253	Saficient	284	Sufficient	221	Little	205	Little Knavledge	184	Little	205	Little	232	Litte
II (Cagayan Region)	288	Sufficient Sufficient	3.38	Vast Krowledge	313	Knovledge Safficient	2.00	Knowledge Sufficient	300	Sufficient	263	Saficient	288	Sufficient Sufficient	350	Khowledge Vas Knowledge	250	Sufficient Sufficient	288	Sufficient	275	Sufficient Sufficient	288	Sufficient Sufficient	294	Knavledge Sufficient
II (Central Luzzni	243	Knowledge Little	3.00	Sufficient	257	Knovledge Sufficient	2.6	Knowledge Little Knowledge	257	Knowledge Sufficient	214	Knowledge Little Knowledge	257	Knowledge Sufficient	286	Sufficient	229	Knowletge Little	229	Knowledge Little Knowledge	229	Knowledge Little	243	Khowledge Lidle	249	Knowledge Little
IV-A (CALABARZON)	250	Knowledge Sufficient	288	Knowledge Sufficient	225	Knowledge Little	28	Sufficient	275	Knowledge Sufficient	225	Little Knowledge	238	Knowledge Little Knowledge	28	Knowledge Sufficient	250	Knowledge Sufficient	250	Sufficient	225	Knowledge Little	238	Knowledge Little	251	Knowledge Sufficient
N-8 WWAROPA	296	Knowledge Sufficient	2.86	Knowledge Sufficient	286	Knowledge Sufficient	2.8	Knowledge Sufficient	314	Knowledge Sufficient	257	Sufficient	314	Sufficient	329	Knowledge Vast Knowledse	229	Knowledge Little	271	Knavledje Sufficient	243	Knowledge Little	229	Knowledge Little	277	Knowledge Sufficient
V(Bicol Region)	270	Knowledge Sufficient Knowledge	270	Knowledge Sufficient Knowledge	260	Knovledge Sufficient Knovledge	270	Krowledge Sufficient Knowledge	280	Knowledge Sufficient Knowledge	230	Knowledge Little Knowledge	280	Knowledge Sufficient Knowledge	290	Sufficient Knowledge	250	Sufficient Knowledge	250	Knowledge Sufficient Knowledge	240	Little Knowledge	230	Lide Khowledge	260	Knavledje Suffdert Knavledje
*		Peparedness		Preparedness	Diam'r R	Preparedres		Preparedness		Preparedness		Peparedress	District	Pepuedes	Diaste Propriediess		Diaste Pagandess		Digister	Preparedness	Disaber P	reparedness	Dispar Preparedies		n.	eal
Knowledge on Disester Prepare dress Measures	- Be	esses1	- 1	esses 2		iste)		asures A	lle:	nures 5		asuresii		essæs?		srs!		suns 5		istres 19	Bea	URSTI	Bear	sires12		
Regional Offices	Mean	N.	Mean	N.	Wear	N.	Wean	N.	Wean	, a	Wean	N.	Mean	, A	Wean	N.	Wean	N.	Mean	N.	Vezn	А.	liez.	и	Mean	N
VI (Western Visajos)	263	Sufficient Knowledge	295	Sufficient Knowledge	268	Sufficient Novietos	279	Sufficient Knowledge	289	Sufficient Knowledge	258	Sufficient Knowledge	279	Sufficient Knowletice	2%	Sufficient Knowledge	258	Sufficient Knowledze	258	Sufficient Knowledge	29	Suficient Knowleabe	263	Sufficient Knowledge	272	Sufficient Knowledge
VI (Central Visayas)	282	Sufficient Knowledge	291	Sufficient Knowledge	273	Sufficient Nocoletize	282	Sufficient Knowledge	282	Sufficient Novelette	245	LitteKnoviedge	255	Sufficient Knowledge	282	Sufficient Knowledge	236	Litle Knowledze	245	Little Knowledge	277	Litle Knowledge	236	Life Novêde	261	Sufficient Knowledge
VII (Eastern Visayas)	264	Sufficient Knowledge	291	Sufficient Knowledge	245	Little Showledge	255	Sufficent Knowledge	264	Sufficient Noviète	236	LideKroviedge	273	Sufficient	318	Sufficient Knowledge	245	Litle Kroslette	264	Sufficient Knowledge	236	Life Noviete	255	Sificent Novelde	262	Sufficient Knowledge
(X.(Western Windows)	186	Litte	229	Litle Wooledge	243	Litte	257	Sufficient	271	Sufficient	214	side Krovedge	243	Knowledge Lidle Knowledge	286	Sufficient	200	Little	243	Life Wowledge	2.6	Litle	214	Lide	236	Litle
X (Northern Windanas)	300	Knowledge Sufficient	314	Sufficient	271	Sufficient Sufficient	271	Knowledge Sufficient	300	Sifest -	240	Little Knowledge	271	Sufficient	286	Krovedge Sufficient	243	Knowletse Little	27	Sificent	257	Kowletje Suffdert	300	Sufficient Sufficient	277	Knowledge Sufficient
X (Davas Region)	300	Krovlédje Sufficient	314	Sufficient Sufficient	286	Sufficient Sufficient	296	Knowledge Sufficient	286	November - Sufficient	218	Little Knowledge	296	Knowledge Sufficient	31	Street	286	Krowlette Suffder	271	Knowledge Soficient	267	Kravletje Suffdert	257	Knowledge Sufficient	282	Krovièdje Sufficient
XII (SDCCSK SARGEN)	257	Krovietge Sufficient	300	Sufficent Sufficent	/25	Sofices	257	Knowledge Sufficient	300	Novietje Suficient	255	Sufficient	314	Knowledge Sufficient	357	Kouespe de: Krawletce	257	Krowlettje Sufficient	274	Krokedge Sufficent	257	Kravlette Suffdert	271	Krowledge Sufficient	280	Krovietpe Sufficient
XIICARAGA	256	Krovledge Sufficient	278	Sufficent /	287	Sufficient Sufficient	278	Knowledge Sufficients	278	Noselege Sufficent	250	Knowledge Little Knowledge	256	Knowledge Sufficient	289	Sificet	222	Khowlettje Little	211	Knowledge Little Wowledge	200 /	Krovietje Litle	211	Knowledge Little	247	Kroviedje Litle
		Krovědje Sufficient		Kinquiedge Sufficient		Novietge Sufficient		Kronedge. Sufficient	4	Novetje Siffdent	_	Little	-	Knowledge Sufficient		Kroveste Sufficient		Knoweste Little		Little		Khavletje Little	-	Knowledge Little	-	Krovietje Saffdent
OVENUL	258	Knowledge	288	Knowledge	251	Knowledge	267	Knowledge	281	Knowledge	233	Knowledge	270	Knowledge	2.98	Knowledge	230	Knowledge	249	Knowle dge	13	Knowledge	245	Knowledge	250	Knowledge

Since the study is about evaluating the disaster preparedness of information officers of PIA in the regions, the study revealed that these disaster preparedness measures are sometimes conducted but not always implemented in the agency, which signifies low implementation.

There are 12 regions, such as II (Cagayan Valley), IV-A (Calabarzon), IV-B (MIMAROPA), V (Bicol), VI (Western Visayas), VII (Central Visayas), VIII (Eastern Visayas), X (Northern Mindanao), XI (Davao Region), XII (SOCCSKSARGEN), Cordillera Administrative Region, and the National Capital Region, that have sufficient knowledge on disaster preparedness measures. Meanwhile, four (4) regions, namely I (Ilocos Region), III (Central Luzon), IX (Western Mindanao), and XIII (CARAGA), have little knowledge of disaster preparedness measures. Despite the perception of the occurrence of natural hazards in their respective areas, the employees still have little knowledge of what to do in case of an eventuality.

Table 2. Level of Implementation of Disaster Preparedness Measures in Regional Offices

Implementation of																												
Disaster	Chris	ment1	Stater		Chris	ment3	Circles	ment4	Circle	ment 5	Choles	ment 6	Cinte	ment7	Cinta	ment 8	Chris	ment 9	Cinion	nent 10	Chalma	ment11	Chales	ment 12	Cinte	ment 13	١.	eall
Preparedness	2(4)5	snent1	3/2/18/	nent Z	atate	ment 3	2(4)8	ment4	atale	ment 3	atates	ment.0	36418	ment/	aldie	ment o	state	ment 2	2(4)81	rent 10	atales	ment 11	atates	nenii 12	3(4)8	ment 13	"	ridii
Measures																												
Ragional Offices	Mean	A	Mean	И	Mean	A	Mean	И	Mean	И	Mean	N	Mean	И	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	И	Mean	N
Codillera Administrative Region	3.36	Sometimes	382	Oten	3.82	Oten	327	Sometimes	327	Sometimes	3.55	Offen	3.09	Sometimes	327	Sometimes	3.18	Sometimes	3.73	Oten	3.18	Sometimes	282	Sometimes	3.00	Sonetimes	334	Sometimes
National Capital Region	2.56	Rarely	3.33	Sonetines	3.22	Sometimes	3.11	Sometimes	2.22	Rately	3.56	Oten	233	Rarely	3.33	Sometimes	4.11	Ofen	3.57	Oten	2.89	Sometimes	2.89	Sometimes	3.33	Sonetimes	3.12	Sometimes
l (liccos Region)	2.68	Sometimes	332	Sonetines	321	Sonetines	253	Rarely	263	Sometimes	3.05	Sometimes	2.53	Rarely	2.95	Sometimes	363	Often	3.00	Sonetimes	2.53	Rately	247	Parely	237	Raely	284	Sometimes
II (Cagayan Region)	3.38	Sometimes	4.00	Oten	425	Aueys	3.75	Often	3.50	Ofen	4.00	Often	3.25	Sometimes	3.75	Often	4.50	Alvays	4.13	Oten	3.63	Often	3.38	Sometimes	363	Oten	3.78	Otten
II (Central Luzon)	2.86	Sometimes	3.29	Sonetines	3.29	Sonetines	300	Sometimes	257	Rately	3.00	Sonetines	2.29	Rarely	2.43	Rately	343	Ofen	271	Sonetimes	2.14	Rately	2.29	Parely	229	Rately	2.74	Sometimes
N-A (CALABARZON)	263	Sometimes	3.38	Sonetines	300	Sometimes	250	Rarely	2.25	Rately	2.75	Sonetines	238	Rarely	2.25	Rately	2.25	Raely	2.38	Raely	2.25	Rately	2.13	Parely	200	Raely	247	Rarely
N-BMIMAROPA	3.00	Sometimes	3.86	Otten	3.43	Otten	271	Sometimes	2.86	Sometimes	3.29	Sometimes	3.14	Sometimes	3.57	Often	4.14	Often	3.57	Oten	3.43	Often	3.14	Sometimes	3.14	Sometimes	3.33	Sometimes
V(Bcol Region)	3.40	Oten	3.80	Often	3.70	Oten	340	Ofen	3.20	Sometimes	4.10	Oten	3.10	Sonetimes	3.40	Oten	3.30	Sometimes	3.20	Sonetimes	3.10	Sometimes	3.00	Sometimes	280	Sonetimes	3.35	Sometimes



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Implementation of Disaster Preparedness Measures	State	ment1	Staten	nent 2	State	ment3	State	ment 4	State	ment5	State	ment 6	\$tate	ment 7	State	ment8	\$tate	ment 9	Staten	nent 10	Stater	ment 11	State	ment 12	State	ment 13	01	verall
Regional Offices	Mean	N	Mean	VI	Mean	N.	Mean	N	Mean	И	Mean	VI	Mean	И	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	M	Mean	M	Mean	M	Mean	N	Mean	И
VI (Western Visayas)	3.37	Sometimes	363	Otten	368	Otten	3.21	Sometimes	300	Sometimes	3.89	Often	3.16	Sometimes	326	Sometimes	389	Otten	3.58	Otlan	3.11	Sonetimes	305	Sometimes	2.89	Sometimes	3.36	Sometimes
VI (Central Visayas)	2.82	Sometimes	3.65	Otten	309	Sometimes	2.73	Sometimes	264	Sometimes	291	Sometimes	2.27	Rately	2.73	Sometimes	264	Sometimes	2.36	Rarely	2.55	Rarely	236	Rately	255	Rarely	2.70	Sometimes
VII (Eastern Visayas)	3.55	Otten	364	Often	364	Otten	291	Sometimes	309	Sometimes	300	Sometimes	2.73	Sometimes	264	Sometimes	391	Otten	3.18	Sometimes	291	Sonetimes	2.73	Sometimes	2.73	Sometimes	3.13	Sometimes
IX (Western Mindanso)	3.14	Sometimes	357	Often	3.43	Otlen	357	Otten	2.71	Sometimes	357	Often	2.71	Sometimes	3.63	Oten	386	Otten	3.57	Often	3.29	Sonetimes	2.71	Sometimes	3.00	Sometimes	3.27	Sometimes
X (Northern Minda reo)	3.43	Otten	414	Often	414	Otten	3.14	Sometimes	3.14	Sometimes	3.03	Often	2.86	Sometimes	3.14	Sometimes	286	Sometimes	3.00	Sometimes	3.14	Sonetimes	3.14	Sometimes	3.14	Sometimes	3.29	Sometimes
XI (Davao Region)	3.14	Sometimes	357	Otten	3.86	Otlen	3.14	Sometimes	3.14	Sometimes	386	Often	3.14	Sometimes	329	Sometimes	357	Otten	4.00	Otten	3.14	Sonetimes	2.86	Sometimes	2.71	Sometimes	3.34	Sometimes
XI (SOCCSKSARGEN)	3:00	Sometimes	357	Otten	329	Sometimes	286	Sometimes	2.86	Sometimes	3.43	Often	2.71	Sometimes	300	Sonetimes	3.43	Otten	2.86	Sometimes	3.00	Sonetimes	2.71	Sometimes	2.86	Sometimes	3.94	Sometimes
XII CARAGA	2.56	Rarely	3.04	Otten	356	Otlen	3.22	Sometimes	2.78	Sonetines	267	Soneines	2.44	Rarely	256	Ranely	367	Otten	2.89	Somémes	3.00	Sonetimes	2.33	Rarely	233	Rarely	2.88	Sometimes
Total	3.96	Sometimes	3.59	Otten	3.52	Often	394	Sometimes	287	Same times	338	Sametimes	2.76	Sometimes	106	Sometimes	3.54	Often	3.24	Sometimes	2.93	Sometimes	2.75	Sometimes	2.77	Sometimes	3.12	Sometimes

The foregoing tables show the results of 13 statements on the implementation of different disaster preparedness measures in the 16 regional offices of the agency. Region II (Cagayan Valley) has the highest mean of 3.78, which means they often perform disaster preparedness measures in preparation for natural hazards. On the other hand, data shows that Region IV-A (CALABARZON) rarely practices disaster preparedness measures, with a mean score of 2.47. The remaining regions, namely Region I (Ilocos Region), III (Central Luzon), IV-B (MIMAROPA), V (Bicol Region), VI (Western Visayas), VII (Central Visayas), VIII (Eastern Visayas), IX (Western Mindanao), X (Northern Mindanao), XI (Davao Region), XII (SOCCSKSARGEN), XIII (CARAGA), the Cordillera Administrative Region, and the National Capital Region, are found to sometimes practice the said disaster preparedness measures. Moreover, regional office employees have little knowledge of the Public Service Continuity Plan, which better supports the intention to further implement it in the agency. This can be supported by the highly positive attitude among regional office employees towards the implementation of disaster preparedness measures in their offices.

Table 3. Level of Attitude of PIA Regional Offices Employees Towards the Implementation of Disaster

Preparedness Measures

ATTITUDE	State	em ent 1	Statem	ent 2	State	m ent 3	State	m ent 4	State	em ent 5	State	m ent 6	State	em ent 7	State	ment 8	State	m ent 9	State	m ent 10	Staten	n ent 11	States	n ent 12	State	ment 13	State	m ent 14	State	m ent 15	State	m ent 16	01	verall
REGIONAL OFFICES	Mean	И	Mean	N	Mean	W	Mean	И	Mean	и	Mean		Mean		Mean	VI	Mean	И	Mean	И	Mean	И	Mean	w	Mean	4/	Mean	V	Mean	И	Mean	М	Mean	И
Cordille to Administrative Region	5.64	Agree	12311	arongly Agree	6.00	Sharqly Agree	5.73	Strongly Agree	5.82	Strongly Agree	5.64	Strongly Agree	5.82	Strongly Agree	5.73	Strongly Agree	5.91	Strongly Agree	5.73	Strongly Agree	5.73	Strongly Agree	5.55	Strongly Agree	5.36	Styargly Agree	5.73	Strongly Agree	5.73	Strongly Agree	5.91	Strongly Agree	5.75	Strongly Agree
National Capital Region	5.33	Strongly Agree	0.00	arongly Agree	220	Strongly Agree	5.67	Strangly Agree	5.67	Strongly Agree	544	Strongly Agree	5.33	Strongly Agree	5.22	Strongly Agree	5.67	Strongly Agree	489			3.0	4.89		4.78	Agree	5.67	Strongly Agree	2/01	Strongly Agree	2:0/	Strongly Agree	5.37	Strongly Agree
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II (Cagayan Region)	5.63	Strongly Agree	2/2	atrongly Agree	5.75	Strongly Agree	5.75	Strongly Agree	5.63	Strongly Agree	5.75	Strongly Agree	5.75	Strongly Agree	5.63	Strongly Agree	5.75	Strongly. Agree	5.63	Strongly Agree	5.75	Strongly Agriee	5.50	Strongly Agree	5.63	Strongly Agree	5.75	Stongly Agree	5.75	Strangly Agree	5.88	Strongly Agree	5.70	Strongly Agree
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The above data strongly supports the proposal to create a Public Service Continuity Plan for the agency. Though the regional employees are well-aware of the possible natural hazards in their respective areas and have knowledge of disaster preparedness measures, there is still a need to enhance and improve the implementation of these measures, and the respondents strongly agree with these measures to prepare for the occurrence of natural hazards.

Further, the respondents, having little knowledge of the Public Service Continuity Plan, also strongly agreed with the conduct of orientation on its creation, which also supports their strong agreement with the implementation of the said plan by the agency.

Meanwhile, the level of knowledge of disaster preparedness measures among regional office employees of the Philippine Information Agency does not directly affect the level of implementation of these disaster preparedness measures in the regions. This means that even though they have vast knowledge of disaster preparedness activities, that does not necessarily mean they will implement those activities in their respective areas.

Subsequently, the level of implementation of disaster preparedness measures does not affect Philippine Information Agency regional employees' attitudes towards implementing disaster preparedness measures in the regions. This means that either a high or low level of implementation has no effect on their attitude about whether to agree or not to implement these measures in their areas.

IV. CONCLUSION

The Public Service Continuity Plan is an all-hazard plan that aims to ensure continuous delivery of services to the public amidst any disruption. It works by highlighting internal capacities, recovery requirements, and strategies to minimize damage and loss to essential processes, ensure succession of leadership, and improve the continuity capabilities of all government entities (Civil Service Commission, 2021). The Philippine Information Agency, as the communication arm of the government that reaches the grassroots, should adhere to and implement such a plan to ensure continuity of operations in case of eventuality.

Although the respondents are aware of the disaster preparedness measures, the study showed that they are not often practiced in their respective offices.

Given the importance of disaster preparedness measures no matter what natural hazards are present in the area, several key points were recommended to be implemented:

- 1. Conduct capacity-building to strengthen the skills of regional employees in disaster preparedness measures to prepare them for the occurrence of perceived natural hazards in their respective areas.
- 2. Strict implementation of disaster preparedness measures in the agency.
- 3. Conduct orientation to familiarize regional office employees with hazard and risk assessment and evaluation tools such as GeoHazard maps, Hazard Hunter Ph, and the Valley Fault System (VFS) Atlas.



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- 4. Coordinate with concerned government agencies in the locality to further assess each regional office's preparedness for natural hazards.
- 5. Execute a partnership with the Polytechnic University of the Philippines to conduct a capacity-building workshop on crafting the Public Service Continuity Plan of the agency.

Further, the necessity of crafting the Public Service Continuity Plan was established to comply with the requirements of all government agencies.

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