

ABSTRACT

The increase of informal settlements in Zambia has not only created need for more services but also created hazards and potential disasters. In the past five years and more, the community of Kanyama in the Lusaka district and Lusaka province has continued to experience floods. This has raised many questions about why most vulnerable people of this community are the most affected. The analysis of the 2009/2010 floods discusses the impact on socio-economic, ecosystems and political variables. The researcher of this study outlines how different characteristics of these factors have shaped people's livelihoods and caused vulnerability to flood hazards and the diseases it comes with.

The issue of vulnerability being associated with poverty, and people with social capital perceived to be less vulnerable is also investigated. The subject of resilience has been analyzed with reference to social capital and how much assets one has to be able to build resilience during floods or recover after floods.

The impact of flooding and measurement of vulnerability and resilience through application of relevant tools and methodologies have been investigated. These have been derived from the theoretical frameworks from which there has been a design of an adapted framework on which recommendations to this study have been made as a follow up on further studies.

Application of the adapted frameworks are based on the framework for vulnerability reduction and resilience building and outlined as vulnerability assessment, identification of vulnerability and resilience indicators, Identification of root causes, analysis of capacities, identification and linkages of key stakeholders, review of legislation and policies, financial resource mobilization and disbursements and decentralization of strategy formulation.

The core words used are: vulnerability, resilience, preparedness, risk, hazard, disaster, socio-economic, ecosystems, political systems, disaster management, emergence response, and recovery and community participation.

The work on the study began in 2011 before Zambia went for her 6th democratic elections and concluded after the elections had taken place. Some information regarding Zambia may have changed in line with the new government.