IMPACTS OF FLOODS ON PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF LOS BAÑOS AND BAY, LAGUNA, PHILIPPINES

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ABSTRACT – The study described the impacts of floods both on the delivery of education services and on the schooling of children from public schools in two lakeshore municipalities of the Laguna Lake, Philippines. Data were gathered from a survey among teachers; key informant interviews (KII) with local government, education officials and school heads; and focused group discussions (FGD) with students, parents, teachers and other stakeholders. Reports on the damage due to floods and records on drop-out rate were also gathered.

Floods caused cancellation and disruption of regular classes, physical damage to schools, and adverse effects on teachers at home and in school. Problems in teaching such as lack of time to finish all lessons, poor motivation and concentration of students, lack of classrooms, shortage of teaching materials and difficulty in preparing lessons were encountered. Attendance and learning performance among students were adversely affected. Data failed to show that student drop-out in these schools were affected by floods, contrary to previous studies. The study recommends adaptation measures to reduce impact of floods to affected schools.

Keywords: impacts, floods, public schools, Los Baños Laguna, Bay Laguna



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