

The Reality of the Enterprises in Disaster Risk Reduction in the Central Vietnam

– Focusing on the changes in the Enterprises after cooperating the education program on the DRR for Enterprises –

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1. INTRODUCTION

Between 2000 and 2012, natural disasters took about 1.2 million lives and affected 2.9 billion people. Approximately 80% of natural disasters are concentrated in the Asia, and losses due to natural disasters in Vietnam range from 1% to 1.5% of GDP. Hence, the Vietnamese Government has set up the various policies and laws to reduce disaster risks. However, many of these policies targeted agriculture, fisheries and communities, and private enterprises were overlooked while it occupied about 40% of GDP. According to the questionnaire survey held for 191 enterprises by The Asia Foundation (TAF) in 2011, about 61% of enterprises were already affected by natural disasters. Among them, 51 enterprises were interviewed and only 19 enterprises (about 37%) prepared countermeasures, and only seven enterprises (14%) prepared written disaster prevention plan. Based on this background, the first corporate disaster prevention education program in Vietnam was implemented in 2012 by TAF. In this research, based on this program, disaster prevention planning process was characterized and evaluated in the comparison with ISO 22301. Also, the enterprises that participated in the program was analyzed in order to identify the reasons of adaptation of the plan, then the outcomes that this program has played and points to be improved were evaluated.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

Through the review of the reports and previous researches, the process of corporate disaster prevention in Vietnam was understood, and compared with ISO 22301. In addition, points to be improved and the problems were identified. The research adopted semi-structured interviews for enterprises participated in the corporate disaster prevention education programs in order to identify the actual situation of the disaster prevention plan after participation and conditions for the incorporation of the plan.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Compared with ISO 22301, TAF's program did not include the aspect of BCP because Vietnamese enterprises did not have the foundation to incorporate the business continuity planning into disaster prevention plan. Hence, it was judged not to include the aspect by TAF. According to the survey held by the author, 6 out of 32 enterprises adopted the plan. The analysis identified that the conditions to incorporate the plan were "participation of managers or disaster management personnel", "management is stable", "being a medium or large enterprise". In fact, resource allocation is required for the operation of the plan. Thus, to let managers or disaster management personnel be aware of planning is necessary and management should be stable to bring attention of them. Furthermore, medium and large enterprises recognized the advantage of values of preparing the plan for DRR, at the same time, they were more accustomed to have systematic thoughts than small enterprise, which facilitated the incorporation of the plan. The education program should be customized to fit with the small enterprise such as the adequate distribution of the role.

4. CONCLUSION

In the current situation, TAF's disaster prevention plan lacked to satisfy three conditions namely, "Participation of management or disaster management personnel", "Management is stable", "Being a medium or large company". In order to promote corporate disaster prevention in Vietnam, it is necessary to involve as many managers as possible and adjustments of TAF's plan for small enterprises is also necessary. Moreover, to cope with disaster risks, enterprises should integrate BCP into disaster prevention plan.