

Assessment of Flood Risk Perception and Coping Strategies Among Residents in Msasani Bonde la Mpunga, Dar es Saalaam.

Household residents at Msasani Bonde la Mpunga view flood hazards differently flood risk experts. The differences between the way household residents at Msasani Bonde la Mpunga perceive flood hazards risk and risk experts have led to the limitations of government efforts in reduction of flood risk. The main objective of this study was to assess flood risk perception and coping strategies of household residents at Msasani Bonde la Mpunga. Over 350 household residents living in flood prone areas in Msasani Bonde la Mpunga were interviewed in order to analyze their flood risk perception levels. Data collected was analyzed using SPSS software. The study used three variables to analyze flood risk perception, which were flood awareness, flood experience and degree of worry (fear). The correlation analysis results show that there exists a positive relationship between flood risk perception and coping strategies. This result suggests that, increase in the respondents flood risk perception will lead to decisions to adopt coping strategies. Better understanding of risk perception and knowledge of both experts and the public will assist in improving decisions making process on flood disaster management.

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