

Needs and Options for Enhancing Fire Call Response and Fire Call Response Effectiveness in Dar es Salaam.

Fire incidences in Dar es Salaam city have been occurring and causing loss of lives or property each year, whereby each year a number of fire calls have been made to alert the fire and rescue force on a particular fire incidence in the city. Statistics from the fire and rescue force shows that from 2013 to 2015 in each year, more than 400 fire calls were made needing fire response. However the fire and rescue force was able to reach 81% of the fire call scenes, only 42% of the fire call scenes had effective fire response. This therefore has led to the need of undertaking a study to analyse the needs and options for enhancing fire call response and fire call response effectiveness in Dar es Salaam city. The study analysed independent variables such as spatial and socio-economic characteristics of the city, spatial and operational of fire calls and consent systems of fire calls communication enhancing fire call study collected data through interview, questionnaire, field observation, Google earth and land sat images, then data were analysed using Microsoft Excel in descriptive statistics and Arc GIS 9.3 in mapping. The study found that the need of fire call response in the city is higher compared to the three (3) un-evenly distributed public fire stations as an estimate 4 to 10 fire calls are made each day. Furthermore, the fire call response effectiveness in city is influenced or hindered by fewer and un-evenly distributed fire stations, as well as difficulty in accessing fire incidence scenes increased fake fire calls and occurrences of network failures and faults. Moreover there are a number of practical options identified in the study for enhancing fire call response effectiveness, though the study proposed two practical options which are; the city authority and government in general ought to establish new fire stations by using the available fuel stations in city as spot or site of establishment, and the other option is to install a fire alert system in every building thus the fire system is able to send an alert with full information of the incidence location.

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