

**A Study on the Interactive Relationship between
Local Governments and Community Organizations
in Post- Disaster Reconstruction — The
Reconstruction Project for Typhoon Morakot
Disaster Area as Example**

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Abstract

Typhoon Morakot struck Southern Taiwan on August 7, 2009. This was the most severe disaster to hit Pingtung County for the past 5 decades. In response to the disaster and damages caused by Typhoon Morakot, the Pingtung County Government linked up with the resources donated by civilians and used the local power of community organizations, planning a community reconstruction project that included the participation of community organizations in order to broaden the opportunity to participate in the project. A total of 32 community organizations participated in this program.

Research reveals that majority of the community organizations that participated in community reconstruction belong to local organizations or those that have been serving the local community for a long time. Although there are some community organizations possess local characteristics, their relationships and unification with the community in the past are weak. Through the interviews, it provides the ideas and strategies that this type of organizations should have in attempting community reconstruction. The most important prerequisite is obtaining the trust of residents, since this would attract more civilians to participate in the follow-up reconstruction project. Based on this research findings, civilians' consciousness of disaster-preparedness should start from the neighbourhood level and then expand to community level preparedness; In order to be prepared to respond to calamities, a network should be constructed within the community enabling members to help and take care of one another; Make use of the power and reach of local organizations to increase the effectiveness of disaster relief; Form partnerships and combined efforts between public and private sectors; Pay attention to the existing culture of the disaster area so that it may still continue to spread despite relocation.

**Keywords : community, disaster, community reconstruction,
typhoon Morakot**