

**BUILDING SCHOOL RESILIENCY:
THE CASE OF LAGUNA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY –
LOS BAÑOS CAMPUS, LAGUNA, PHILIPPINES**

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ABSTRACT

The Philippines is one of the top countries vulnerable to disasters. In the past years, it has greatly affected the education sector of the country- interruptions to the provision of good quality education, severe damage of school buildings and infrastructure, and even threat to human lives. Hence, reducing disaster risk should be given the utmost importance in the education sector.

The locale of the study is the Laguna State Polytechnic University Los Baños (LSPU-LB) Campus situated in the coastal area of Laguna de Bay, in Barangay Malinta and Barangay Mayondon, Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines. When it comes to disasters, the school is locally known to be highly vulnerable particularly to flooding due to its proximity to the lake. The methodology of the study includes the modification of the SEAMEO Innotech's '*Toolkit for Building Disaster Resilient School Communities in Southeast Asia*' to better tailor fit it for high-risk education institution in Southeast Asia mainly in the Philippines. The modified toolkit served as a DRRM Framework for Measuring Higher Education Institution on which the level of school resilience was measured and analyzed through the toolkit's three pillars (*Safe Learning Facilities, School Disaster Management, Risk Reduction and Resilience Education*) and four themes (*Prevention and Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Rehabilitation*). All variables were given equal importance. The results of the study showed that the LSPU-LB campus achieved a total score of 58% which shows that they are moderately resilient when it comes to Safe Learning facilities and Risk Reduction & Resilience Education, while the school obtained a relatively low score on the pillar on School Disaster Management. In addition, the school has acquired the highest score on the theme Disaster Response while got the lowest score on Disaster Rehabilitation and Recovery. These findings can serve as an input to enhance LSPU's DRRM plan, especially in prioritization on which areas the school can further improve their disaster resilience.

Keywords: *Hazards, Resilient, Disaster Risk, Resilient School Communities*