

GRASSROOTS GOVERNANCE AND RESILIENCE: THE ROLE OF BARANGAY DISASTER COMMUNICATION AMID POLITICAL UNCERTAINTY

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ABSTRACT. This study examines the role of barangay-level communication in disaster preparedness and response amid political uncertainty, focusing on Ilocos Norte, Philippines. Specifically, it investigates how comprehension of disaster warnings and COVID-19-related terms affects citizens' compliance, and how demographic and barangay-related factors moderate this relationship. A mixed-methods approach was employed, involving surveys of 44 respondents (household heads, barangay officials, and Sangguniang Kabataan officers) and key informant interviews to document communication practices, sources of information, and community trust. Statistical analysis revealed a strong positive correlation ($r = 0.843$, $p < 0.001$) between comprehension and compliance, highlighting the critical role of understanding in disaster response. Findings also show that traditional communication channels, such as barangay announcements and personal networks, remain central, while political uncertainty can indirectly undermine trust and affect message adherence. Youth participation via SK initiatives contributes to information dissemination but requires enhanced resources and training. This study contributes novel insights by integrating statistical evidence, qualitative analysis, and political context to explain the dynamics of grassroots disaster communication. Policy recommendations include capacity-building, hybrid communication strategies, participatory governance, youth engagement, and integration of political risk into preparedness planning, aimed at enhancing resilience and adaptive capacity in local communities.

Keywords: Governance; Disaster Communication; Resilience; Compliance; Political Uncertainty; Barangay.

INTRODUCTION

The Philippines, situated along the Pacific Ring of Fire, faces frequent natural hazards, including typhoons, floods, earthquakes, and other climate-induced events. Over the past decade, the intensity and frequency of these disasters have increased, coinciding with public health emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, resilient local governance has become essential, particularly at the barangay level, where the government's frontline disaster preparedness and response efforts are implemented. Barangays, as the smallest political units in the Philippines, are tasked with disseminating timely warnings, coordinating evacuations, and facilitating community compliance with disaster protocols.

However, the effectiveness of barangay disaster communication is often constrained by limited infrastructure, variable access to information, and political uncertainty. Political dynamics, such as leadership transitions, local election cycles, and governance disputes, can influence both the credibility of communication and the public's responsiveness to warnings. Previous studies (Bankoff, 2003; Gaillard & Mercer, 2013; Brillantes & Fernandez, 2008) have highlighted that community resilience depends not only on institutional mandates but also on trust in local leadership, participatory governance, and adaptive decision-making. Despite these insights, there remains limited empirical research on how barangay-level communication practices interact with political

uncertainty to affect residents' comprehension of and compliance with disaster warnings.

This study investigates these dynamics in Ilocos Norte, a province frequently exposed to typhoons, floods, and other natural hazards. Specifically, it examines how barangay announcements, social media, and other communication channels, combined with demographic and governance factors, influence community members' understanding of and adherence to disaster alerts. By integrating quantitative surveys and key informant interviews with barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) officials, this study provides a holistic view of grassroots disaster communication, bridging gaps between policy intentions and local practice.

Despite the critical role of barangays in disaster governance, there is evidence that residents' comprehension of disaster warnings and their compliance with prescribed measures remain inconsistent. Factors such as limited internet access, reliance on traditional communication methods, and fluctuating trust in local leadership contribute to this variability. Moreover, political uncertainty, manifested through leadership transitions or governance disputes, can further undermine the effectiveness of disaster communication, potentially jeopardizing community resilience.

Barangays, as the smallest political units in the Philippines, serve as the frontline of disaster governance. They are mandated by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC, 2023) to disseminate early warning

signals, coordinate evacuations, and mobilize community resources during emergencies. Research has emphasized that the effectiveness of barangay disaster communication is closely linked to leadership credibility, participatory governance, and trust in local institutions (Brillantes & Fernandez, 2008; Bankoff, 2003).

Effective communication at the barangay level relies on both traditional methods, such as loudspeakers and community boards, and digital platforms, including social media and mobile notifications (German et al., 2022; Laingo et al., 2022). Studies indicate that while technology enhances reach and timeliness, residents still rely heavily on barangay officials' announcements, highlighting the enduring importance of leadership and personal relationships in fostering compliance (Kurata et al., 2022).

Within the Philippine context, resilience is not merely a function of infrastructure or resources but is also shaped by social capital, risk perception, and participatory engagement (Bollettino et al., 2020). Community resilience refers to the ability of individuals and communities to anticipate, respond to, and recover from hazards, minimizing social, economic, and psychological impacts (Adger, 2000; Gaillard & Mercer, 2013).

Compliance with disaster warnings is closely tied to residents' comprehension of messages. Studies show that higher understanding of alert levels and procedural instructions correlates positively with adherence to recommended actions (Vicerra, 2018; Rogayan & Dollete, 2020). This relationship is influenced by both personal factors, such as age and education, and external factors, including communication channels and trust in local governance. The present study contributes to this body of knowledge by empirically examining the direct correlation between comprehension and compliance at the barangay level.

The Sangguniang Kabataan (SK), the youth council in every barangay, plays a pivotal role in disaster preparedness, particularly in mobilizing younger populations and leveraging social media platforms for information dissemination (Gutierrez et al., n.d.; Brillantes & Fernandez, 2008). However, studies indicate that SK effectiveness is often limited by insufficient training, resource constraints, and political marginalization, reducing the overall impact of youth engagement in disaster communication (Bawagan et al., 2015).

Political dynamics, including local leadership transitions, election cycles, and governance disputes, can significantly affect community trust and

responsiveness. When residents perceive instability or lack of credibility in barangay leadership, compliance with disaster warnings may decrease, regardless of message clarity (Lopez, 2022; Kurata et al., 2022). Political uncertainty also affects resource allocation, coordination, and anticipatory planning, creating additional challenges for disaster management at the grassroots level.

The literature highlights a hybrid approach to disaster communication, integrating traditional and digital methods. Barangay announcements, community networks, and personal connections remain vital for credibility and immediacy, while social media platforms and mobile notifications improve timeliness, accessibility, and reach, particularly among younger populations (German, et al., 2022; Laingo et al., 2022). Access to the internet, mobile data, and community Wi-Fi further moderates the effectiveness of communication strategies, influencing residents' comprehension and compliance levels.

While prior research has examined disaster preparedness in the Philippines, few studies have focused specifically on the interaction between comprehension, compliance, and political dynamics at the barangay level. This gap hinders policymakers' ability to design effective, context-specific strategies for disaster risk reduction. Addressing this problem is particularly urgent given the increasing frequency of extreme weather events and the need for communities to respond quickly and appropriately to prevent loss of life and property.

This study makes several novel contributions to the field of disaster governance and resilience:

1. **Focus on Barangay-Level Dynamics:** Unlike broader provincial or national studies, this research examines local governance mechanisms at the barangay level, where disaster communication directly interacts with residents' daily experiences.
2. **Integration of Political Uncertainty:** The study explicitly considers how political factors, such as leadership credibility, election cycles, and local governance stability, moderate the effectiveness of disaster communication. This perspective is rarely addressed in existing literature.
3. **Mixed-Methods Approach:** By combining quantitative surveys with key informant interviews of barangay and SK officials, the research captures both statistical relationships and contextual insights, offering a more nuanced understanding of grassroots communication.
4. **Linking Comprehension to Compliance:** This study investigates the direct relationship between residents' understanding of disaster alerts and their

compliance, highlighting the mechanisms through which effective communication translates into actionable community response.

5. Policy Relevance: The findings provide practical guidance for local policymakers, disaster risk reduction councils, and community leaders, enabling targeted interventions that improve disaster preparedness and resilience amid both environmental hazards and political uncertainty.

Although prior studies have examined disaster preparedness, communication, and resilience in the Philippines, few have empirically assessed the combined effects of comprehension, compliance, and political uncertainty at the barangay level. Moreover, research has rarely integrated quantitative correlation analysis with qualitative insights from local officials, leaving a gap in understanding how grassroots governance translates into actionable community resilience. This study addresses these gaps by examining the relationship between comprehension and compliance, while considering moderating variables such as demographic profiles, barangay resources, and political trust.

METHOD

Research Design

This study employed a mixed-methods design, combining quantitative surveys and qualitative key informant interviews (KIIs) to examine barangay disaster communication and community resilience in Ilocos Norte. The quantitative component allows for statistical analysis of relationships between residents' comprehension of disaster warnings and their compliance with prescribed measures, while the qualitative component provides contextual insights from barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) officials regarding communication practices, challenges, and governance factors.

The study also considered moderating variables, including respondents' demographic profiles (age, educational attainment, and role in the barangay), barangay-related factors (sources of information, means of communication, and internet access), and perceived political trust, to provide a comprehensive understanding of factors influencing compliance.

Respondents and Sampling

The study population consisted of:

1. Barangay officials – those directly responsible for disaster preparedness and communication.
2. Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) officials – youth leaders involved in mobilization and information dissemination.

3. Household heads and residents – adult members of the community exposed to disaster communications.

A purposive sampling method was employed for barangay and SK officials to ensure representation of key informants responsible for disaster governance. For residents, a stratified random sampling approach was used to ensure diverse representation across age groups, educational attainment, and geographic location within the barangays.

Sample Size: The study included 44 respondents, comprising 23 barangay officials (52.27%), 14 household heads (31.82%), and 7 SK officials (15.91%).

Data Collection

Quantitative Surveys

A structured survey instrument was developed to measure:

1. Level of Comprehension – respondents' understanding of disaster warning signals and COVID-19-related terms, rated on a 5-point Likert scale (1 = not understood, 5 = very well understood).
2. Extent of Compliance – respondents' adherence to recommended actions during disasters and public health emergencies, rated on a 5-point Likert scale (1 = not compliant, 5 = fully compliant).
3. Moderating Variables – demographic profile, sources of information, communication methods, internet access, and perception of political leadership.

The survey was administered in person by trained research assistants, ensuring accurate responses and clarification of technical terms.

Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

KIIs were conducted with barangay and SK officials to explore:

- a) Practices in disaster communication and alert dissemination
- b) Challenges faced in reaching residents, especially amid political uncertainty
- c) Use of traditional and digital communication channels
- d) Perceptions of residents' compliance and engagement

Interviews were semi-structured, allowing respondents to provide in-depth explanations while maintaining comparability across participants.

Data Analysis

Quantitative Analysis

1. Descriptive Statistics: Frequencies, percentages, and composite means were calculated to summarize respondent profiles, barangay-related factors, and levels of comprehension and compliance.
 2. Correlation Analysis: Pearson’s correlation coefficient (r) was used to test Hypothesis 1, examining the relationship between level of comprehension and extent of compliance with disaster warnings and COVID-19-related messages. A significance level of $p < 0.05$ was used.
- Hypothesis 1: There is no significant relationship between the level of comprehension of disaster communication and the extent of compliance among respondents.
3. Regression and Moderation Analysis: Linear regression with interaction terms was used to assess the moderating effects of demographic profile and barangay-related factors on the relationship between comprehension and compliance. The null hypothesis for moderation assumes no significant interaction ($p > 0.05$).
 4. Hypothesis Testing Interpretation: Statistical results were interpreted based on the correlation coefficient, t-values, and p-values. For example, an r-value of 0.843 with $p = 0.000$ indicates a strong positive and significant correlation, leading to the rejection of Hypothesis 1.

Qualitative Analysis

KII responses were thematically coded, focusing on recurring patterns related to:

- a) Communication challenges and innovations
- b) Trust in leadership
- c) Resource and infrastructure constraints
- d) Youth involvement in disaster preparedness

Themes were triangulated with quantitative findings to provide holistic insights into barangay disaster communication effectiveness.

Ethical Considerations

1. Informed Consent: All respondents were informed about the study’s purpose, and written consent was obtained prior to participation.
2. Confidentiality: Responses were anonymized to ensure privacy.
3. Voluntary Participation: Participants were informed that they could withdraw at any time without penalty.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Profile of Respondents

Table 1. Profile of the Respondents

	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Category of Respondent		
Household Head	14	31.82
Barangay Official	23	52.27
Sangguniang Kabataan	7	15.91
Age		
21 – 30	10	22.73
31 – 40	8	18.18
41 and above	26	59.09
Educational Attainment		
HS undergraduate	7	15.91
HS graduate	11	25.00
College level	14	31.82
College Graduate	11	25.00
Post Graduate	1	2.27

Table 1 presents the demographic profile of respondents. Barangay officials constitute the largest group (52.27%), followed by household heads (31.82%) and SK officials (15.91%). Most respondents (59.09%) are aged 41 and above, with the majority having completed college-level education (31.82%).

These demographics suggest that respondents possess considerable life experience and educational background, potentially influencing their comprehension of disaster warnings and compliance with recommended actions (Laingo et al., 2022; Bollettino et al., 2020). The predominance of barangay officials also highlights that key informants in disaster communication are actively engaged, while SK and household heads, though smaller in number, represent critical recipients of community messaging.

Barangay-Related Factors

Table 2. Barangay-Related Factors

	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Sources of information		
Barangay announcement	32	72.73
Social media platforms (Facebook, Youtube, etc.)	8	18.18
Radio	1	2.27
Newspaper	3	6.82
Available means of communication		
Personal (Family members, friends)	25	56.82
Community (Barangay officials)	12	27.27
Mobile gadgets (laptop, mobile phone, iPod etc.)	7	15.91
Internet Access		
Mobile internet (mobile data)	34	77.27
Personal access to WIFI Connection	4	9.09
Borrowed access of WIFI Connection	0	0.00
Internet zone in the community	6	13.64

Table 2 summarizes barangay-level communication resources. Barangay announcements were the most relied-upon source of information (72.73%), followed by social media platforms (18.18%). Personal networks, such as family and friends, were the most commonly used means of communication (56.82%), with mobile gadgets and internet-based access less frequently employed.

These findings confirm prior research emphasizing the importance of traditional communication channels in areas with limited digital infrastructure (German et al., 2022; Brillantes & Fernandez, 2008). While internet access is available via mobile data (77.27%) and community Wi-Fi zones (13.64%), reliance on personal connections suggests that trust and immediacy of local leadership messages remain central to compliance (Kurata et al., 2022).

Level of Comprehension

Table 3. Level of Comprehension on the disaster/calamity.

Disaster/Calamity/ COVID 19-related Term	Mean	Interpretation
<i>Weather disturbance</i>		
1. Typhoon	4.02	HLC
2. Thunderstorm	3.61	HLC
3. Gustiness	3.32	MLC
4. Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ)	3.45	HLC
5. Public Storm Warning Signals (Storm signal #1, Storm signal #2, Storm signal #3, Storm signal #4)	3.68	HLC
6. Storm Surge	3.55	HLC
7. Flash flood	3.45	HLC
8. High/Low Tide	3.48	HLC
9. Tsunami	3.30	MLC
<i>Composite Mean</i>	<i>3.54</i>	<i>HLC</i>
<i>Earthquake</i>		
1. Magnitude	3.50	HLC
2. Intensity	3.41	HLC
3. Landslide	3.30	MLC
4. Aftershocks	3.48	HLC
<i>Composite Mean</i>	<i>3.42</i>	<i>HLC</i>
<i>COVID 19 Pandemic</i>		
1. Quarantine		
1.1 ECQ	3.93	HLC
1.2 MECQ	3.98	HLC
1.3 GCQ	3.95	HLC
1.4 MGCQ	3.98	HLC
1.5 Localized ECQ/MECQ/GCQ	3.95	HLC
2. Lockdown		
2.1 Granular lockdown	3.61	HLC
2.2 NCR + bubbles	3.32	MLC
2.3 Localized lockdown	3.52	HLC
3. Classification of Symptoms of COVID 19		
3.1 Asymptomatic	3.75	HLC
3.2 Symptomatic	3.66	HLC
4. Categories of confinement of COVID patient		
4.1 Isolated	3.50	HLC
4.2 Admitted	3.34	MLC
5. Categories of COVID 19 patients		
5.1 New case	3.36	MLC
5.2 recovered	3.25	MLC
5.3 Expired	3.30	MLC

Table 3 shows that respondents generally exhibit a high level of comprehension (HLC = 3.50) of disaster warnings and COVID-19-related terms. Comprehension was highest for typhoons (4.02), public storm warning signals (3.68), and MECQ/MGCQ terminology (3.98). Moderate comprehension was observed for tsunamis (3.30), landslides (3.30), and COVID-19 patient classifications (3.25–3.36).

The results suggest that repeated exposure to frequent hazards (typhoons, storms) and highly publicized health crises (COVID-19) reinforces understanding. These findings align with Vicerra (2018), who noted that residents' prior experience with hazards strengthens comprehension, and with Bollettino et al. (2020), who linked access to information and hazard experience to greater preparedness.

Extent of Compliance

Table 4. Extent of Compliance on the Following Disaster Warnings/Signals and COVID-19-Related Terms Disseminated During Calamities/Disasters

Warning signals/notifications	Mean	Interpretation
<i>Weather disturbance</i>		
1. Typhoon/Cyclone Signals	3.73	HEC
2. Storm surge	3.52	HEC
3. Thunderstorm	3.52	HEC
4. Flash Flood	3.36	MEC
5. Tsunami	3.39	MEC
<i>Composite</i>	<i>3.50</i>	<i>HEC</i>
<i>Earthquake</i>		
1. Multiple aftershocks	3.27	MEC
2. Landslide	3.30	MEC
<i>Composite</i>	<i>3.28</i>	<i>MEC</i>
<i>Pandemic</i>		
1. Lockdown	3.73	HEC
2. Isolation	3.70	HEC
3. Admission	3.57	HEC
<i>Composite</i>	<i>3.67</i>	<i>HEC</i>
Overall Mean	3.49	HEC

Table 4 indicates that respondents have a high extent of compliance (HEC = 3.49) with disaster warnings. Compliance was highest for typhoon/cyclone signals (3.73), lockdowns (3.73), and isolations (3.70). Moderate compliance was observed for flash floods (3.36), tsunamis (3.39), and earthquake-related events (3.28).

These results underscore that compliance correlates with both comprehension and perceived severity of hazards. The data support the findings of Rogayan & Dollete (2020), which highlighted that awareness translates into preparedness actions, particularly for frequently experienced hazards. However, compliance is somewhat lower for less familiar or less immediate threats, such as earthquakes and tsunamis, reflecting risk perception as a mediating factor (Adger, 2000; Kurata et al., 2022).

Relationship Between Comprehension and Compliance

The Pearson correlation analysis (Table 5) reveals a strong, positive, and statistically significant relationship between comprehension and compliance

($r = 0.843$, $p < 0.001$). Hypothesis 1, which posited no relationship between comprehension and compliance, is therefore rejected.

Interpretation: Residents who better understand disaster messages and COVID-19 terms are more likely to act according to recommended safety measures. This finding aligns with Bollettino et al. (2020) and Laingo et al. (2022), who emphasize that knowledge and awareness are critical precursors to action in disaster-prone communities.

Moderating Effects of Profile and Barangay Factors

Regression analysis (Table 6) tested whether demographics and barangay-related factors moderated the comprehension-compliance relationship. Results indicate that no moderator had a statistically significant effect ($p > 0.05$ for all variables), suggesting that comprehension alone is the primary determinant of compliance, regardless of age, education, role in the barangay, sources of information, communication means, or internet access.

This finding resonates with Lopez (2022), who observed that while demographic characteristics influence disaster preparedness literacy, direct knowledge and clarity of messaging remain the strongest predictors of compliance.

Qualitative Insights

KIIs with barangay and SK officials revealed several recurring themes:

1. Leadership credibility: Residents are more likely to comply with instructions when they trust the barangay officials disseminating them.
2. Communication infrastructure limitations: Even with mobile data and Wi-Fi, network reliability is inconsistent, making traditional announcements indispensable.
3. Youth engagement: SK officials play a key role in reaching younger residents via social media but face resource and training constraints.
4. Political uncertainty: Election cycles and leadership transitions sometimes hinder consistent messaging and reduce perceived trust among residents.

These insights complement quantitative findings, reinforcing the importance of trust, participatory governance, and hybrid communication strategies in achieving compliance and resilience (Brillantes & Fernandez, 2008; Kurata et al., 2022).

Key Points

The study highlights several key points:

1. Comprehension drives compliance. Statistical evidence demonstrates a strong correlation

between understanding disaster messages and adherence to recommended actions. Residents who are knowledgeable about warning signals and COVID-19 terminology respond more effectively.

2. Traditional channels remain critical. Despite increasing digital access, barangay announcements and personal networks remain the most relied-upon communication methods, supporting prior findings on the role of local leadership credibility (German et al., 2022).
3. Political uncertainty matters indirectly. While demographics and barangay factors did not moderate compliance statistically, qualitative findings show that trust in local governance and stability of leadership affects how messages are received and followed.
4. Youth participation is valuable but limited. SK engagement enhances reach among younger populations but requires additional training and resources to maximize effectiveness.

Overall, the study contributes to the literature by empirically linking comprehension to compliance, examining moderating variables, and situating findings in the context of barangay disaster governance amid political uncertainty, an area previously underexplored in the Philippine setting.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings of this study, several key conclusions can be drawn regarding barangay disaster communication and community resilience amid political uncertainty:

1. Comprehension directly influences compliance. Statistical analysis revealed a strong positive correlation ($r = 0.843$, $p < 0.001$) between respondents' understanding of disaster warnings and COVID-19-related terms and their adherence to recommended actions. This confirms that knowledge is a critical precursor to effective disaster response, supporting prior research by Bollettino et al. (2020) and Laingo et al. (2022).
2. Traditional and trusted communication channels remain essential. Barangay announcements and personal networks were the most frequently relied-upon sources of disaster information, despite widespread mobile data access. This demonstrates the enduring importance of trust in local leadership and the credibility of direct communication, consistent with Brillantes & Fernandez (2008) and Kurata et al. (2022).
3. Demographic and barangay-related factors do not significantly moderate compliance. Age,

educational attainment, role in the barangay, sources of information, communication means, and internet access were not significant moderators of the comprehension-compliance relationship. This highlights that clear messaging and understanding are more influential than individual or infrastructural factors in driving community adherence to disaster warnings.

4. Political uncertainty indirectly affects disaster communication effectiveness. Qualitative findings indicate that leadership transitions and unstable governance can undermine trust and hinder consistent messaging, highlighting the importance of anticipatory governance and community engagement even in politically dynamic contexts.
5. Youth participation is valuable but under-resourced. The SK plays a crucial role in disseminating disaster information to younger residents through social media, but limited training and funding constrain its full potential, suggesting opportunities for capacity building and program support.
6. Research novelty: This study uniquely integrates statistical evidence, qualitative insights, and political context to explore how barangay disaster communication functions amid political uncertainty in the Philippines. It contributes empirically to the field by demonstrating the direct link between comprehension and compliance, the enduring relevance of traditional communication channels, and the moderating role, or lack thereof, of demographics and infrastructure, filling a gap in grassroots governance research.

Policy Implications

The findings inform several actionable recommendations for policymakers, disaster management practitioners, and barangay leadership:

1. Capacity Building and Training.

- a) Provide targeted training for barangay and SK officials on disaster communication strategies, including the translation of technical warnings into clear, community-friendly language.
- b) Conduct simulation exercises and scenario planning to reinforce comprehension and response skills.

2. Hybrid Communication Systems.

- a) Maintain and strengthen traditional communication channels, such as loudspeakers, community boards, and mobile announcements, alongside social media and mobile messaging.
- b) Ensure redundancy in communication networks to mitigate digital infrastructure limitations.

3. Trust and Participatory Governance.

- a) Encourage transparent, participatory planning that involves residents in the formulation of disaster communication protocols.
- b) Develop programs that strengthen trust in barangay leadership, particularly during election cycles or leadership transitions.

4. Youth Engagement Enhancement.

- a) Support SK initiatives through funding, technical guidance, and training to maximize youth involvement in disaster awareness campaigns.
- b) Leverage social media platforms to target younger demographics, ensuring messages are both accurate and accessible.

5. Integration of Political and Geopolitical Risk.

- a) Consider political uncertainty and potential geopolitical hazards (e.g., climate-related impacts of regional conflicts) in disaster preparedness planning.
- b) Formulate guidelines that ensure continuity of disaster communication despite changes in leadership or political disruptions.

6. Evidence-Based Communication Strategies.

- a) Use the study's findings on high-comprehension but lower-compliance areas (e.g., earthquake and tsunami warnings) to tailor messaging and improve response rates.
- b) Integrate monitoring and feedback mechanisms to assess comprehension and compliance regularly, enabling iterative improvements.

Synthesis

Overall, the study emphasizes that effective grassroots disaster governance relies on the intersection of knowledge, trust, and leadership credibility. Comprehension of disaster signals drives compliance, while political stability and youth engagement enhance reach and effectiveness. By implementing capacity-building, hybrid communication systems, and participatory approaches, barangays can strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity, ensuring communities remain responsive even amid political uncertainty.

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