Emerging forms of collaborative networks in post-disaster humanitarian aid
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This study concerns the new actors involved in humanitarian aid in post-disaster contexts, such as charities and the private sector (for example through corporate social responsibility), and their impact on the role of government and the design of public policies, towards greater accountability and overall resilience. The main research question focuses on obtaining a deeper understanding new forms of collaborative networks (formal and informal), participatory engagements and aid governance, particularly in post-disaster contexts.

Through the case study of Singapore, this exploratory research seeks to understand the constraints faced by various types of organizations based in Singapore (e.g. NGOs, CSOs, private, public, for profit or non-profit) involved in activities in post natural disaster contexts in Asia since 2004.

Within the sector of humanitarian aid, the measurement of aid effectiveness presents additional challenges due to the need for immediate action during an emergency and relief phase, coordination and communication challenges in addition to the various logistical constraints. At present, when a major natural disaster hits the regions, many organizations based in Singapore and wanting to participate in some way in the relief and reconstruction efforts face some constraints in accessing information and understanding the needs on the ground.

The research method is based on a survey distributed face-to-face - focusing collaboration and coordination; between and within organisations that participated in post-disaster activities in Asia. The survey aims to deepen the understanding of key players within Singapore’s aid modalities and coordination mechanisms in the area of humanitarian aid in post natural disaster contexts in Asia since 2004. The survey also asks about potential recommendations to alleviate challenges of coordination and collaborations and to assist organisations in improving their overall effectiveness. The aim of the research is to draw policy lessons on humanitarian aid effectiveness for the key stakeholders within donor countries, including government organizations, civil society and the private sector (e.g. large corporations, foundations, charities). From a public policy perspective, the research will draw recommendations to facilitate coordination and effectiveness and suggest possible mechanisms to increase overall efficiency in post disaster humanitarian aid.