

## **Assessment of resettlement programs in landslides prone areas: case study in Hanguranketha DSD, Nuwaraeliya District**

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Last two decades, the frequency and magnitude of landslides have increased in the central part of Sri Lanka. Landslides which are often triggered by intense heavy rains, geology, geomorphology, soil characteristics of the region and development activities. Recurrence of landslides needs to be ascertained by means of scientific and technological inputs. It is therefore, piecemeal and temporary solutions do not redress the traumatic conditions and issues pertaining to loss of livelihood of the affected people. In the above circumstances it is important to evolve strategies through spatial planning approaches. Since the independence the physical planning policies and regulations which have been adopted in Sri Lanka have indirectly encouraged unplanned development and inefficient use of land due to lack of integrated spatial development planning based approaches. The objectives of this research were to evaluate the resettlement programs in landslides prone areas and to enhance the sustainable human settlement development through integrated spatial development planning approach.

This study shows that, resettlement programs have multi dimensional approaches. Mainly socio economic reasons reluctant to move from their original locations than the physical aspects. In addition this study indicates that to implement effective land use planning rules and regulation requires community cooperation, political will, and institutional capacity in terms of human resources as well as technology.

**Key words:** Resettlement, Land use polices, Spatial planning, Landslides

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