

STIN VOLUNTEER MODEL FOR BUILDING RESILIENCE, EARTHQUAKE AWARENESS, AND PREPAREDNESS AMONG YOUTH IN THAILAND

Nonlapan Ronarangsee^{1*}, Nuttanit Kanchanavanit¹, Nutchaya Boonloy¹, Jartupat Rungruang¹, Nawapon Inprang¹, Suchanard Chanprung¹ & Panjapa Sookkoe^{2*}

¹Student nursing, Srisavarindhira Thai Red Cross Institute of Nursing

²Assistant Professor, Srisavarindhira Thai Red Cross Institute of Nursing

*Corresponding author : 6510093@stin.ac.th, Panjapa.s@stin.ac.th

1. INTRODUCTION

Disaster preparedness is a critical component of national resilience, yet traditional top-down approaches often fail to effectively engage and empower the youth who represent a significant portion of the population. In an era of increasing seismic activity, the recent Mw 7.7 mandalay earthquake that caused tremors in Bangkok served as a stark reminder that even communities not on a major fault line are vulnerable, and prior preparedness is a necessity.

2. VENUE

Nation) Volunteer Model, a novel, grassroots, and sustainable framework for enhancing earthquake and general disaster preparedness among Thai youth by leveraging a "training for the trainer" methodology. This model, which utilizes the PANJAPA framework, focuses on the development of Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice. Equips university nursing students with the expertise and leadership skills necessary to become community educators and peer mentors. The initiative aims to create a cascade effect of knowledge transfer, ultimately leading to a more resilient and prepared youth population across key regions of Thailand. The STIN model's core methodology is a comprehensive training program for nursing students from their first to fourth year of study. This four-year developmental process is designed to systematically build their capacity in all aspects of disaster readiness, with a particular focus on seismic events. The training curriculum is grounded in the PANJAPA model, which ensures a holistic approach to learning. Participants acquire essential knowledge on disaster types, risk assessment, and response protocols. This foundational knowledge is then coupled with the cultivation of a proactive and responsible attitude towards personal and community safety. Finally, the program emphasizes practical application, ensuring that students can competently perform life-saving skills and manage emergency situations. The curriculum is extensive, covering critical topics such as Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), foundational First Aid, techniques for safely handling and transporting patients, assembling a 72-hour survival bag, understanding the Incident Command

System (ICS), and developing comprehensive disaster preparedness plans. This rigorous training ensures that the student volunteers are not only knowledgeable but are also confident and capable leaders. Upon completion of their training, these nursing student leaders form volunteer groups to deploy to target regions, serving as the primary educators for youth and community members. The program's initial focus is on three key regions, each with unique disaster vulnerabilities: the southern region (Phang Nga), which is supported by EARTH, a partnership that enhances the program's reach and resources; the northern region (Chiang Rai), which faces significant risks from Earthquake and landslides; and the central region, where the potential for damage from distant earthquakes remains a critical concern, as demonstrated by the recent Earthquake happened in Bangkok. This multi-regional approach allows the model to be adapted to specific local contexts, making the training more relevant and effective for the communities served. The outcomes of the STIN model are dual-purpose, benefiting both the student volunteers and the communities they serve. For the nursing students, participation in the program provides invaluable leadership experience, reinforces their clinical skills, and equips them with a specialized set of disaster-related competencies that are not always covered in a standard curriculum. This experience fosters a sense of social responsibility and civic engagement that will extend beyond their academic careers. For the youth and the wider community, the benefits are even more profound. By receiving hands-on, practical training from their peers, they gain the skills, attitude, and knowledge needed to protect themselves and their families. This empowerment leads to a significant reduction in casualties and injury, particularly in earthquake scenarios where a solid understanding of actions like "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" can be the difference between life and death. The model shifts the community's mindset from being passive victims to active participants in their own safety and recovery. In conclusion, the STIN Volunteer Model represents a paradigm shift in disaster preparedness education in Thailand. By strategically training nursing students as volunteer leaders, the model creates a sustainable, scalable, and highly effective mechanism for disseminating critical life-saving skills. This approach not only builds the capacity of future healthcare professionals

but also directly contributes to a more resilient and knowledgeable youth and community population. This paper will further detail the model's structure, the results from its pilot implementations, and the long-term vision for its expansion as a cornerstone of Thailand's future disaster resilience strategy. The STIN model is a testament to the power of youth-led initiatives in creating a safer and more prepared nation.



Figure 1. Earthquake preparedness activities for schools

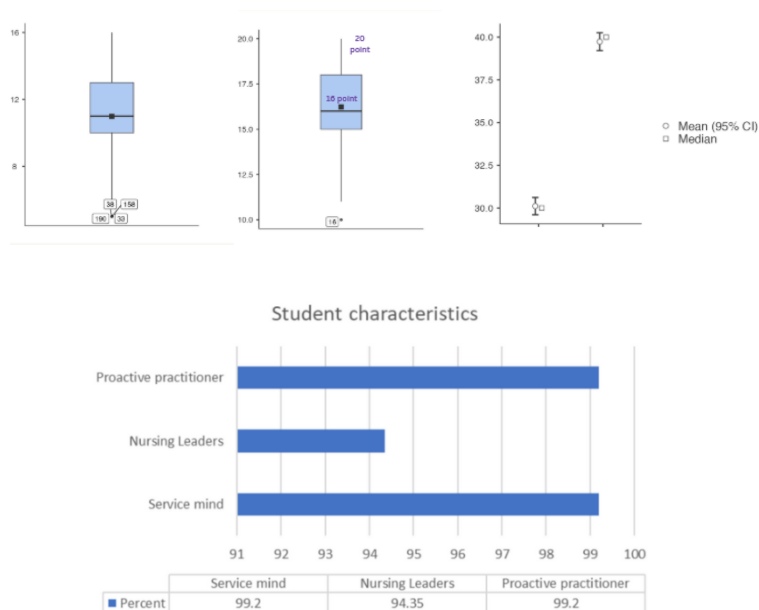


Figure 2. Graphical representation of analysis

3. REFERENCE

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