

Call for Participation: Survey on Construction Contracts in Post-Disaster Reconstruction

This survey forms part of the doctoral research of Ayush Puri at Massey University, New Zealand, on construction contracts for post-disaster reconstruction (PDR). The study aims to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of reconstruction projects by developing a model contract tailored specifically for PDR.

Participation involves a short questionnaire (around 10 minutes) designed to gather insights from your experience with construction contracts in post-disaster reconstruction, particularly in developing countries.

Survey Link: <https://forms.gle/5T4ThE7yX2VYEbww8>

Full study details: <https://tinyurl.com/46jz6k4j>

At present, reconstruction projects often rely on contracts originally developed for conventional construction. These contracts are not always suited to the complex, urgent, and resource-constrained environments that follow disasters. Findings from Ayush's earlier research, such as a case study of Nepal's post-disaster reconstruction after the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake, show that current contracts are frequently ill-suited and can create significant obstacles. Despite these challenges, there has been limited systematic investigation into contract performance in PDR.

Key publications from this research include:

1. Puri, A., Ali, N. A., & ElkhARBoutly, M. (2025). Contracting challenges in post-disaster reconstruction in developing countries: Evidence from Nepal reconstruction. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, 121, 105428. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2025.105428>
2. Puri, A., Ali, N. A., & ElkhARBoutly, M. (2024a). Suitability of FIDIC Contracts for Post-disaster Reconstruction of Infrastructure Projects *Advances in Engineering Management, Innovation, and Sustainability*, Cham https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-56544-1_22
3. Puri, A., ElkhARBoutly, M., & Ali, N. A. (2024b). Identifying major challenges in managing post-disaster reconstruction projects: A critical analysis. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, 107, 104491. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2024.104491>

This research seeks to close this gap by identifying the limitations of existing contracts and exploring how they can be adapted or redesigned. The ultimate goal is to create a contract framework that better supports stakeholders and enables faster, fairer, and more effective reconstruction delivery.

Professionals with experience in post-disaster reconstruction, including engineers, contract administrators, quantity surveyors, contractors, and clients (such as government agencies), are warmly invited to contribute. Your insights will be invaluable in validating earlier findings and shaping practical recommendations to strengthen contractual practice in PDR.

The survey will remain open until end of October 2025.

For any queries, please contact Ayush Puri at apuri@massey.ac.nz.