

# Analyze the housing recovery process and evacuation limit of elderly after Chiangrai 2014 earthquakes

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## ABSTRACT

In the case of an Earthquake in Thailand in 2014, Earthquakes were recorded as the strongest inland in Thailand. The epicentre is in Chiangrai province, northern Thailand. The primary objective of this research are to review recovery process and evacuation limit, since most of the residents in Saikao, Chiangrai, are older people; 27 percent are over 60. They stressed the reconstruction process and worried that even though their house was minor damage, they could not assure that it would not collapse again due to aftershocks. So, the academic and NPO joined forces to evaluate the damage and inform residents about their house damage level so that they could decide what to do next, such as move back or renovate their house. From the interviews, most residents decided they would stay outside their own houses in temporary self-made shelters or on the road until the reconstruction finished. For almost two weeks, residents have stayed in a non-structural shelter that lacks electricity, clean water, and medicine. Even the local government tries to provide community public shelter using the local primary school as the shelter base, but it is not suited to residents' culture and lifestyle. Also, most older adults are worried about their own house and property safety, so they prefer to stay at their own house with temporary self-made shelters. The weather and temperature in Thailand were also moderate all year, so in residents' opinion, they no difference between staying out at their place or in a public shelter and that is why they prefer to stay at their own house even if the self-made temporary shelter condition in limit of constructed.

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