NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

AN INVESTIGATION OF THE STATE OF DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AT LUPANE

STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

BY

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to investigate the state of disaster preparedness at Lupane State University Library. The library was operating in a building which was poorly ventilated with exposed electrical wires, faulty sockets and power surges and this exposed the library to disasters. Literature reviewed revealed that libraries were vulnerable to both man-made and natural disasters. The study was based on the theoretical framework that was taken from the disaster management cycle. A mixed method research design was used and survey method was utilized. Interviews, questionnaires and observations were used to collect data from a total sample size of 112 respondents consisting of students and library staff. The results showed that the library did not conduct risk assessment. The LSU library had a disaster plan which had not been implemented and the library staff members were not aware of its existence also no regular trainings were being conducted at the library on disaster preparedness and the library did not have a disaster management team. It was recommended that the LSU library should include the library staff in the formulation and implementation of a disaster plan. Also the library should conduct regular trainings for the staff members on disaster preparedness and a disaster management team should be formed.