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# The role of spatial analysis in resettlement programme

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# The role of spatial analysis in resettlement programmes

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## Abstract

Number of victims from the disaster has been dramatically increasing around the world. This phenomenon causes a very high demand of emergency and temporary shelters on particular basis including the need of permanent houses in resettlement programmes. Noticeably, those resettlement programmes have shown the success and failure of their activities. For instance, plenty communities have been forced by governments to abandon their lands to the new locations for safety purpose. Inevitably, many suffered people have to stay in the provided areas because they have no place to go (Gall, 2004). Furthermore, there are abundant cases in which people move back to their original land. Certainly, those failures have shown from the total change of life patterns and styles which cause people many difficulties (Dikmen, 2002). These results show the unsuccessful resettlement programmes which require a better solution. According to the previous works, vulnerable hazard areas have been rarely studied in term of people behaviours correlated between the spatial and social aspects. Based on the resettlement paradigm, building a new settlement site better, safer and suitable for suffered people from disaster, traditional lifestyle of people in communities has to be carefully studied before setting a displacement or resettlement plan. Spatial analysis model with employing several scenes of high-resolution images is an effective tool proposed in this study. The applications of spatial analysis techniques in resettlement programmes are introduced to present a crucial integration between human behaviours in hazard areas and the relevant factors. Prescriptive method is employed to describe the current situations due to the advantage of this method in studying the complexity of human behaviours. This study is an initial part of literature review associated with the application of spatial analysis in resettlement programme. An expected outcome of this study is a framework to develop a model for simulating the human interaction between the spatial and non-spatial parameters. Apart from this study, the designed spatial and non-spatial database in geo-

informatics will be suggested to set some factor criteria in the next step of this study. Eventually, this study will be beneficial to other case studies with the similar contexts.

**Keywords:** Spatial analysis, resettlement programme, high resolution images, vulnerable hazard area, post-disaster management, geo-informatics, prescriptive model

## Introduction

Natural hazards can be divided into six groups with their examples of main types: *geophysical group* (e.g. earthquakes, volcanoes and dry mass movements); *meteorological group* (e.g. storms); *hydrological group* (e.g. flood and wet mass movements); *climatological group* (e.g. extreme temperature, drought and wild fires); *biological group* (e.g. epidemics, insect infestations and animal stampede) and *extra-terrestrial group* (e.g. meteorite) (Below et al., 2009). Based on the recorded affected people around the world in these decades, they have shown the enormous number of suffered people affected from hydrological and meteorological group (LSDR, 2006). Those suffered people in vulnerable hazard areas have unavoidably confronted with many problems of resettlement programmes.

Many difficulties from the relocation areas show the failure of resettlement programmes in many parts of the world (e.g. Vatikiotis, 1987, Oberai, 1986, Karimi et al., 2005, Hoogeveen and Kinsey, 2001, Dikmen, 2002, Bartolome et al., 2000, UN-HABITAT, 2006, UN-HABITAT, 2008, UN/ISDR, 2004, Gall, 2004, Dubie, 2005). With regard to those cases, a phenomenon of people moving back to their origin lands proofs the unsuccessful resettlement plans. Despite those problems, suffered people are unable to leave either their origin places or their resettle places because they have no places to go. Although some strategies have been prescribed and implemented to mitigate these problems, number of people suffered from resettlement programmes has still increased.

According to the relevant factors associated with the resettlement programmes, spatial and non-spatial aspects are major two types of factors considered in this study. The spatial factors encompass with topographical, facility, land-use and transportation parameter whilst non-spatial factors comprise with social network, background and economic parameter. These parameters derive from a preliminary study in Thailand including the conclusion from several incidents around the world (e.g. Zahran et al., 2008, Özden, 2006, Cutter et al., 2003, Overton and Ashwood, 2003, Müller and Zeller, 2002, Takesada et al., 2008, Strand, 1993, Abbott, 2001, Yumuang, 2005, Yumuang, 2006, ADPC, 2006, Teerarungsigul, 2006). Therefore, a tool which enables to analyse those spatial and non-spatial parameters, is highly appreciated.

A terrific capacity of spatial analysis application in the Geographic Information System (GIS) provides the feasibility to analyse and identify the result onto a map based on the geo-referencing coordination. Based on the high-resolution images, spatial analysis method is an effective tool applicable to study the phenomena of resettlement programmes in the local

scale. The aim of the initial stage of this study is to present a framework of the developed spatial analysis model based on the integration between spatial and non-spatial parameters. The outcome of this study is possibly applied to general cases in resettlement programmes with the similar contexts. This study also challenges a practical implementation of the application of spatial analysis in resettlement programmes.

## **1. Resettlement Programmes**

Resettlement is the process by which people leave their original settlement sites to resettle in new areas (Woube, 2005). The resettlement programme possibly includes the procedures from finding the places for temporary shelters to construct the permanent house in the origin or new places (Deruyttere et al., 1998). The term of resettlement can be found as *relocation* and also, *rehabilitation*. The framework of resettlement has been remarkably outlined in many regulations of the principles of resettlement by the United Nation in order to determine the compatibility of the resettlement programme and human rights. It also described in the UN comprehensive Human Rights Guidelines on Development-Based Displacement, 1997 that resettlement must ensure equal rights to women, children and indigenous populations and other vulnerable groups including the right to property ownership and access to resources with respect to education, health, family welfare and employment opportunities (Batra and Chaudhry, 2005). The strategies described in risk management noted that an effective resettlement programme must consider the reconstruction and enforcement as safer and better (UNDP, 2009).

As same as a study of Bartolome et al (2000), it was recommended that a potential resettlement programme must be to improve the standard of living and not just restoration of pre-relocation standards of living and it is only possible where development takes place. Considering to the resettlement strategies applied in Somalia, the permanent resettlement project was assigned to substantially improve the internally displaced people protection and security of tenure, to access the basic service and infrastructure (especially water and sanitation) and to provide a solid base for income-generating activities (Ashmore et al., 2008). As a framework of the operational policy, resettlement plan must be prepared to ensure that the affected people receive fair and adequate compensation and rehabilitation (Deruyttere et al., 1998).

### **1.1 Challenges associated with resettlement programmes**

Although those strategies associated with the resettlement programme have been implemented in many devastation areas around the world, many problems still exist along the resettlement processes and from the result of this programme. The resettlement policy has been employed in some countries

to absolutely move those communities out of risk areas whereas the land improvement and land readjustment of the new reconstruction areas have been ignored and investigated from the possible disaster occurrence (Woube, 2005). According to the unpredictable disastrous occurrence and magnitude, strategies, issues and challenges are set differing from locations and countries (Karunasena et al., 2009). Further, poor implementation of prevailing rules and regulations; poor standards of local expertise and capacities, inadequate funds, lack of communication and coordination are identified as key issues encountered.

An urgent primary problem derived from the aftermath is the non-balancing supplied shelters, facilities and a high demand of victims in hazard areas (Argenal et al., 2008). A major problem of resettlement programme is affected people loss their livelihood and income sources from their arable land. It was also found that the lack of some effective social services such as hospitals and schools causes some big problems to people in resettlement sites (Dubie, 2005).

Absolute displacement has been found in many completely destructive areas and all dam construction projects. Moving people from the devastate areas including the dam construction projects causes a huge change to people lives in the new resettlement areas. Lot of dam displacement projects around the world have provided some essential facilities for people in a new place while the livelihood of people has been ignored in the new resettlement (Cernea, 1991). Heggelund (2006) concluded some problems caused the impoverishment from the dam displacement, for instance, landlessness, joblessness, homelessness, marginalisation to social inclusion, health care, food insecurity, non-access to restoration of community assets and services, and social disarticulation to network and community rebuilding. In this case, people will not be able to move back to their original land, on the other hand, in many cases, affected people in some devastate areas from aftermath events can be able to move back to their origins. The movement of affected people can be seen in different ways. Dikmen (2002) found that people, sometimes, refused moving to the new place due to the insufficient provided facility and infrastructure.

The shortage of food from the agricultural communities causes some big problems to affected people in the resettlement sites. Due to the uncultivable areas from the aftermath, people need to hang on a little amount of the donation money. This kind of problem derives from the under-prepared resettlement sites which the basic amenities and essential infrastructure have not yet been provided (Bartolome et al., 2000). It can be concluded that, almost of all general problems in resettlement programme basically derived from the livelihood between the new and origin settlement sites (e.g. the accessibility, land-use applicability, the available space for agricultural activities and multi-families) (Dikmen, 2002).

Some push factors also play an important role to force people move to the provided new resettlement sites. People living in hazard areas in Peru, were forced to move to the new resettlement area because

they could not offer the proof of their land titles (Argenal et al., 2008). It seems to be a usual problem of underestimating the cost of the resettlement activities which the resettlement budget is reduced and under-financed in almost resettlement projects (Bartolome et al., 2000). Some other factors were found from considering the construction design and socio-economic relations in case of Napoli, Italy and Pinatubo, the Philippines, the resettlement programme brought some significant problems to people from the incompatible construction design and urban planning (Menoni and Pesaro, 2008). Additionally, tribal people or ethnic group have been separated from their communities without considering this issue in the resettlement activities (Bartolome et al., 2000).

Based on those examples, suffered people have to encounter with two different sides of resettlement problem (i.e. moving to new resettlement sites then struggling in the ineffective resettlement sites and refusing to move to the new resettlement site by surrendering to live in risk areas). Furthermore, suffered people have no right to participate or even make a decision for any resettlement plans based on the available provided information. Furthermore, network of people in hazard areas as the informal mechanisms of resettlement programme (i.e. staying with relatives, renting the support host families, etc) has never been studied in order to reduce this crisis situation. Considering to the focusing aspects associated with those stated problems, it can be divided the problems occurring in hazard areas as the spatial aspects and socio-economic aspects. Remarkably, based on those considered factors, problems classified in spatial aspects have consequently correlated with socio-economic aspects. The relationship between spatial aspect problems and socio-economic aspect problems can be correlated in table 1.

**Table 1: Summary of the correlation of spatial and socio-economic problems in resettlement programmes**

<b>Spatial problems</b>	<b>Correlation</b>	<b>Socio-Economic problems</b>
-Unavailable arable land for agricultural activities	↔	-Lack of income sources from uncultivable land -Shortage of food -Affected people survive by gaining a small amount of donation money
-Under-prepared resettlement sites -Insufficient infrastructure -No provided social services e.g. hospitals, schools	↔	-Non standard infrastructure for living -Expensive living & surviving cost
-Unidentified the ethnic group of people in hazard areas	↔	-Separated tribal people or ethnic group
-Unidentified housing in risk area from	↔	-Non balancing supplied shelters

In order to present the spatial and socio-economic problems into an advanced computer technology such as Geographic Information System (GIS), those problems must be interpolated to spatial and non-spatial data respectively. The feasibility of the relationship between spatial and non-spatial data has been achieved in several ways such as plans and regulations in urban simulation models (Hopkins et al., 2005), urban growth (Batty and Xie, 2005, Goldblum and Wong, 2000), community characteristics on physical activity in adolescent girl (Overton and Ashwood, 2003). Although there are lot of works developed spatial analysis model applicable with non-spatial data, there is insufficient knowledge to understand human behaviours in vulnerable hazard areas to the resettlement programmes by focusing on the relationship between spatial and non-spatial data.

## 2. Spatial Analysis

Spatial analysis is a set of procedures presented the relationship between spatial and phenomenon (Câmara et al., 2004). Spatial analysis contains the process of extracting or creating new information about a set of geographic features which is useful for evaluating suitability and capacity, for estimating and predicting, and for interpreting and understanding (Kaitsa, 2006). The increasing power of spatial analysis has been logically developed over the last twenty years presenting sources of data derive from a broad ranges of spatial data such as maps, census material, aerial photographs, field observation and experimental and simulation works through remote sensing images from either satellite or some airborne scanners (Haining, 1993).

Spatial analysis has played an important role from the early of 19<sup>th</sup> century in many sciences such as geographical, medical, hydrological, biological, economical, ecological, urban and regional sciences and etc. A crucial evidence showed the primary application of spatial analysis contributing notable epidemiology of analysing the outbreak of cholera in England in 1854 (Snow, 1854). Many functions in the spatial analysis methods can be developed from the basic functions to the extensional functions in order to practically perform the spatial phenomena on Earth as realistic as possible. Four traditional types of this analysis: Topological overlay and contiguity analysis, Surface analysis, Linear analysis and Raster analysis, are the basis of this methods generally considered to develop the spatial modelling in several ways (Dunsford and Gokhale, 2007).

Beyond those basic functions, the spatial analysis can be further developed by employing the statistical approaches and model-based approaches in order to present the relationship between the statistical modelling and location effectively (Longley and Batty, 1996). Currently, spatial analysis has been broadly developed in mathematics, artificial intelligence and physics extensively (Sanders, 2007). Simulation and modelling are based on mathematical programme presenting complex patterns and relationships from behaviour and interactions. Simulation and modelling in spatial analysis

application can be divided as two different types such as Cellular automata modelling and Agent-based modelling. The automata modelling dictates the state of a cell based on the states of its neighbouring cells, while agent-based modelling uses software entities to react, interact and modify their environment (Upton and Fingelton, 1985) . The agent-based modelling can be integrated into a common geographic automata system where some agents are fixed while others are mobile.

Generally, spatial analysis modelling can be classified into two major characteristics; *Predictive* and *Prescriptive model*, which both models have been interpreted in various populations in order to generate and utilise spatial behaviours. Predictive models are interpreting the upcoming events, while prescriptive models are describing the existing events (Batty, 2005). According to the complexity of human behaviours, the prescriptive models are broadly prescribed in policy, design and planning processes.

## **2.1 Application of spatial analysis**

Spatial analysis was introduced for applying as the standalone function and the full integration within Geographical Information System (GIS) software from several decades ago (Goodchild et al., 1992). A huge number of advantages from the full integration between spatial analysis and GIS present several effective functions beyond data management to data analysis. Simultaneously, the drop-down price of computer and spatial analysis software provides an admiring channel to users to implement this kind of technology and its useful functions broadly. Spatial analysis within the GIS environment is beneficial to create, query, map and analyse cell-based raster data, integrate the raster & vector analysis, as well as query information across multiple data layers (ESRI, 2001).

The spatial analysis is beneficial to many studies such as hydrological modelling, flood simulation, watershed delineation, drainage networks, soil erosion, sediment transport modelling, landform evaluation, civil engineering, military applications, site and route selection, landslide hazard assessment, visibility analysis, etc (Jordan, 2007). The applications of spatial analysis in GIS environment has been applied and developed in several applications such as the *Socio-economic application* (e.g. urban sprawl (Batty and Xie, 2005), diseases diffusion (Snow, 1854, Bian and Liebner, 2005), retail and service location planning (Birkin, 2005), transport modelling (Israelsen and Frederiksen, 2005)), and *Environmental application* (e.g. hydrologic modelling (Maidment et al., 2005), environmental modelling with PCRaster (Burrough et al., 2005), transition potential modelling for land-cover change (Eastman et al., 2005), modelling the interaction between humans and animals in multiple-use forests (Ahearn and Smith, 2005).

## **3. Applications of spatial analysis cin resettlement programmes**

Although the spatial analysis has been developed outstandingly in analytical and technical ways, there is a fair limitation in theoretical progress of the spatial analysis. As the recent trend of applying spatial analysis within GIS software, this method has been recommended in the context of many areas of human beings activities. Supporting with a study, Bahrenberg et al. (1984) suggested that many critical constraints in tight environment and the increasing demand of people require a careful judgement for deeper insights in the social and economic sciences. Although those applications of spatial analysis have been applied effectively in physical ways, some socio-economic problems associated with people interaction in spatial relationship have been rarely addressed.

Spatial analysis method has been employed in several disciplines including resettlement programme. Geographical Information System (GIS) has been promoted as an operative tool to assist the spatial analysis functions efficiently. Some major lines of methodological developments in the social and economic sciences such as discrete data analysis, discrete choice modelling, which are intensively analysed on the statistical approaches (e.g. probabilistic based measures, chi square based measures, etc.) and spatial dynamics, which have been introduced the dynamic behaviour of socioeconomic system by considering more traditional time series models, play an important role in the spatial analysis development (Bahrenberg, 1984).

Spatial analysis is not only implemented for the physical and spatial problems, but it is also employed to forecast human behaviour upon the time and space. For instance, the utility of a cellular automata model in GIS environment was applied presenting a better dynamic simulation of the spread of fast-growing informal settlement in Cameroon (Sietching, 2004). However, the process of physical relocation has been intensively focused in resettlement programmes while the economic and social development is rarely studied in this activity (Bartolome et al., 2000). Spatial analysis method can define the potential locations for the shelters with the appropriately accesses by considering the proximity to major roads or social service places (e.g. schools and hospitals). Spatial analysis was applied to present the destruction areas caused by topical hurricane in India showing an effective bottom-up approach in order to improve the risk awareness and risk avoiding abilities of affected individuals and groups (O'Hare, 2001). The spatial analysis was also implemented to present the land-cover change from residing 6000 people in term of percentage of area affected and rates of change by investigating from the multispectral SPOT images (Petit et al., 2001). As well as other satellite images, Landsat ETM, TM were introduced in several ways to analyse effectively for the land-use change affecting to resettlement programme, for example, the work of Gall (2004), the accessibility to shelters was analysed by weighting technique in the spatial analysis based on these images.

The spatial analysis has been applied in many important schemes including in many vulnerable hazard areas. The tendency of applying the spatial analysis in the vulnerable hazard areas inclines to the analysis method in order to solve and protect some problems occurring in the potential areas. The



future trend of applying the spatial analysis has been focused on the link of constraints of human behaviours and the decision making approach (Bahrenberg, 1984). Therefore, a critical constraint of the resettlement scheme of people in hazard area is a promising study in social and economic sciences which is related directly to the spatial analysis method.

#### **4. Research Context**

This research aims to invent a spatial analysis model which is suitable for applying with people interaction to reduce the socio-economic problems associated with spatial problems in resettlement programmes. Therefore, the initial stage of finding the temporary sites for sheltering until the end of processes of displacing to the new resettlement sites or moving back to their origins will be investigated in order to explore people interaction upon the location.

Based on the United Nations comprehensive human rights guidelines, some factors must be considered for human rights to suitable resettlement such as safety, security, accessibility, affordability and habitability (Batra and Chaudhry, 2005). Additionally, it is recommended that the rebuild from the aftermath must be built back better which is creating safer and better communities (UNDP, 2009). For this reason, original community sites must be studied and defined the network of people in common way interacting upon the infrastructures and facilities available in their indigenous communities. Additionally, social network analysis and interaction of people behaviours with the spatial relationship in the original communities must be delineated and identified on the local scale maps. Spatial relationship and people behaviours of the original settlement communities and the resettlement sites will be compared and criticised presenting the success and failure of the resettlement programme.

In order to achieve those targets, spatial and socio-economic database will be specifically designed in geo-informatics and database within GIS environment for analysing the people interaction practically in the original and current communities. Prescriptive modelling describing affected people behaviours in the new resettlement areas will be presented upon the space and time since the aftermath incident until the permanent resettlement site. The dynamic of people behaviours upon the vulnerable area to the safe place of new resettlement sites will be analysed and illustrated in the ArcGIS software.

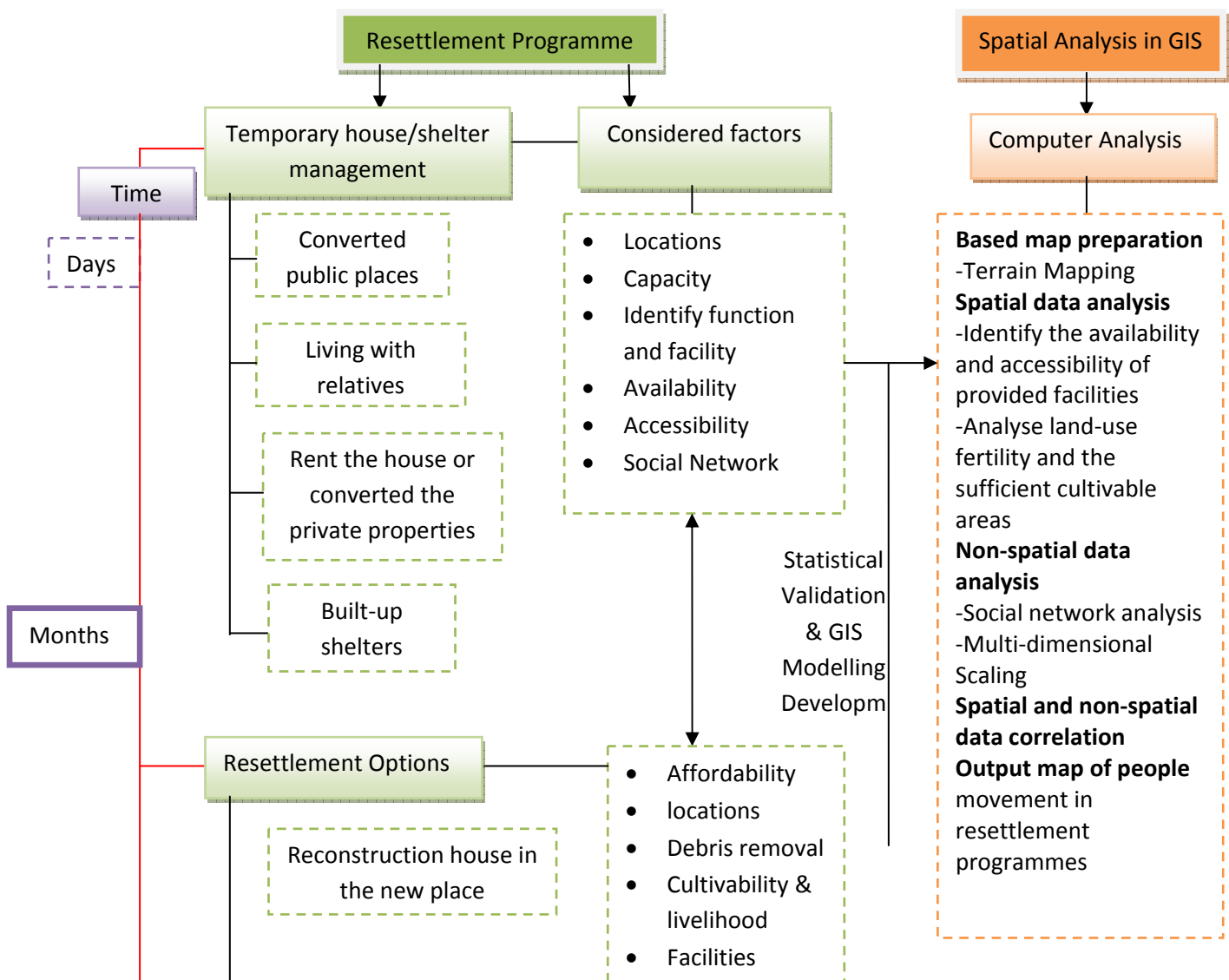
The spatial representation of non-spatial data is generally feasible by converting it into spatial form. Representing spatial problems as spatial data is not a difficult task operated in GIS, on the other hand, converting non-spatial data into spatial references must require some techniques. Basically, at least one attribute must be designed and matched between spatial and non-spatial data. There are alternative techniques recommended in this study: i.e. Multi-Dimensional Scaling (MDS)(White and

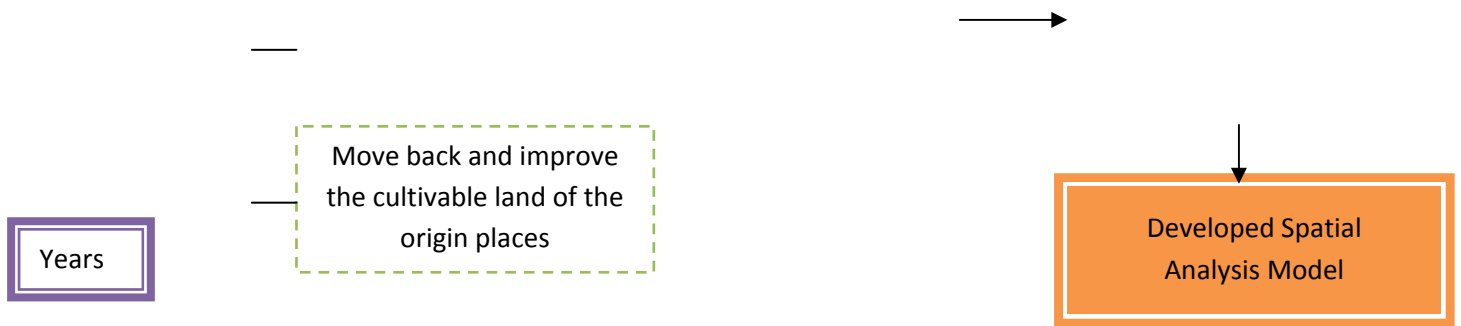
McCain, 1998); factor analysis and Kohonen nets (Small, 1999); clustering and geometric triangulation (Small, 1999).

Considered factors of resettlement activities will be classified as well as the behaviour of affected people in the original communities will be investigated by using the questionnaires and interview. As the result of these initial primary data from interviewees, layer maps based on those queries and interview will be analysed and interpreted showing people networks responding to the available infrastructures and facilities of the original and new communities.

This study represents the resettlement programme in Ban Nam Ko, Petchabun, Thailand. This area was destroyed by the debris-flow/flood in August, 2001 which interested by many researchers as the most destructive area in Thailand. The government set the mitigation plan and policy by using this area as a master plan. Almost ten years, this area has been changed and readjusted in several ways which are both appropriate and inappropriate to affected people. This vital study explores the capacity and applicability of applying the spatial analysis with human interaction and networks which will be able to achieve the target of better and safer new resettlement sites broadly (Figure 1)

**Figure 1: The application of spatial analysis and resettlement Programme: Real situation from victims in Ban Nam Ko, Thailand**





**Source: Interviewed from affected people as preliminary study on 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2009 about the resettlement programme in Ban Nam Ko, Pethchabun Provice, Thailand from the debris flow event in 2001**

## 5. Discussion

Some components associated with the spatial analysis method must be carefully considered such as scale, based map resolution, spatial analysis techniques, and verification and validation of spatial data. One of the most important factors affecting to scale and based map resolution is the Digital Elevation Model (DEM). Basically, the DEM contains height of all aspects as the captured digital data on the terrain presented as raster map pixel. Generally, high resolution DEM can perform the finer terrain for better quality of hydrological networks, clear edges of commutation networks, slope inclination and aspect (Peckham and Jordan, 2007). Therefore, high resolution DEM is definitely very useful to perform any large scale maps appropriate to study the applicability of the relocation in resettlement programme in the community based level.

Apart from the mentioned spatial topology, socio-economic factors must be interviewed to identify the networks of the original and current communities. For this reason, infrastructures, facilities, cultural and ritual centres of communities must be delineated in the large scale maps. These accessible networks will perform the real relationship between people and communities which will be able to create better communities in resettlement sites sustainably.

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