An Evidence-based framework validation for Building code Improvement in New Zealand.

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Introduction

New Zealand building code may be serving its purpose to an extent; however, recent developments show that there is still a need to improve the use and application of the building code for better building performance and services. An evidence-based framework was developed based on the identified parameters through qualitative and quantitative studies to improve the building code practice in New Zealand. This study aims to validate the identified parameters in the developed evidence-based framework to enhance building code practice.

Objectives

❖ To validate an evidence-based framework
❖ To make recommendations on improving the building code.

Methodology

❖ Interview with subject matter experts (SME’s)
❖ NVIVO software

Evidence-based framework

Results

❖ Proactive training, educating, attractive incentives, awareness and providing adequate technical assistance to the code users.

❖ Establishing an active enforcement process with qualified personnel adequate monitoring and inspection of building works rather than waiting for legal actions against the building code violators.

Discussion

❖ Enabling individuals with the required technical competency at different building policy decision-making levels of building regulatory system.

❖ Encourage regular building code amendment centered on user friendly with an intent to ease compliance with building code.

Conclusion

1. The necessity of having competent technical building officers who can rightly review building applications.

2. Improving clarity in building code requirements to reduce complexities, especially defining the bare minimum standards recommended in the building code.

3. Although the SME’s were divided in encouraging low-risk innovative techniques, all their contributions point towards promoting reasonable innovative solutions that are achievable and in line with the building officers and code user’s knowledge.

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❖ NVIVO software