



Social capital is an asset in making communities more resilient

The study of Patterson, Weil, and Patel (2010 - see source document for full reference) also examined the role community plays in the processes of disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. In order to do so, the authors (Patterson et al., 2010) provided an overview of relevant models found in literature, as well as findings of the research on Hurricane Katrina. The authors stress the role of so-called social capital, i.e. social networks, reciprocity, and interpersonal trust (Putnam & Feldstein, 2003, as cited in Patterson et al., 2010). Using the examples of community responses to Hurricane Katrina, where community, faith-based and non-profit organizations played a central role in recovery efforts, Patterson and associates (2010) demonstrate the importance of local knowledge, resources, and cooperative strategies in recovery from disasters, and, more generally, in making communities more resilient.

Note: See source document for full reference.

Applicable to:

Stakeholders: [Social networks](#), [Norms/values](#)

Disaster Phases: [Prevention](#), [Preparedness](#), [Response](#), [Recovery](#), [All disaster phases](#)

Types of Actors Concerned: [NGOs](#), [Non-active citizens](#), [Active citizens](#)

Hazards: [Natural hazards](#)

Recommendations:

- [Foster the adoption of a culture of disaster prevention and resilience by informing and motivating citizens to take action](#)
- [Foster social connectedness and the development of a strong sense of community, as these encourage citizens to help each other in disaster situations](#)

Source

[Deliverable D4.2 "Report on 'risk cultures' in the context of disasters" \(page 40\)](#)

This file was generated automatically on: 12.02.2019.

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