



Importance of local experience In dealing with disasters

Maltese participants particularly outlined the importance of specific local experience – “everyone is used to it [heatwaves]; it's as through you're saying a snow storm in Finland” – or lack thereof: “If we had the rain that England has, Malta would drown”. One participant explained how, in their opinion, knowledge and experience do not eliminate but considerably reduce insecurity.

Applicable to:

Stakeholders: [Local knowledge](#)

Disaster Phases: [Response](#), [Preparedness](#)

Hazards: [Natural hazards](#), [Man-made non-intentional hazards or emergency situations](#)

Recommendations:

- [Develop guidelines for disaster practitioners that take into consideration the different needs of and approaches to different ethnical groups](#)
- [Use local knowledge, collective memory and shared cultural values to improve disaster preparedness, response and recovery](#)

Source

[Deliverable D5.4 "Report on citizens' reactions and opinions: Citizen Summit 2 \(Malta\)" \(page 15\)](#)

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