



Local technical knowledge as cultural factor to mitigate risk

Even smaller scale “cosmetic” adaptations to buildings, such as providing permanent raised storage areas, can be used alongside other adaptations to proactively manage risks. In Marietta, Ohio, people pre-empt the mud and sewage from flooding, by putting fresh water in their basements. In this way, they mitigate the impact of the flooding on their property. Shaw (for literature reference see original source document) provides another example in Eastern Terai in Nepal. Physical damage to the environment from flash flooding is the main concern, rather than loss of life. Local technical knowledge means that elevated storage areas and platforms for food, livestock or people are built, that houses are constructed using materials and methods that have been tested in floods over time and that drinking water is protected.

Note: See source document for full reference.

Applicable to:

Stakeholders: [Individual/collective memory](#), [Local knowledge](#)

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

Types of Actors Concerned: [Local authorities](#), [Non-active citizens](#)

Hazards: [Natural hazards](#)

Recommendations:

- [Develop a personal “culture of preparedness”](#)

Source

[Deliverable D7.3 "Report on cultural factors and citizen empowerment" \(page 56\)](#)

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