



Children and young peoples views concerning a flooding context

Flooding in the UK has become the most serious natural hazard the country faces. One project, that explored children and young people's views, found that they provided "the first in-depth exploration of children's experiences of flooding in the UK". The researchers recommend involving children in disaster management because flood risk management will be "more robust and demonstrate greater legitimacy", and "where flood-affected children and young people are enabled to contribute their experience to flood risk management, this enhances their own recovery and resilience". Using a creative arts methodology, the study worked with children aged 6 to 15 years in two schools in England. The discussions focused on the winter storms over the previous two years. The authors outline that the recovery process was the most damaging for the children and young people. They felt a strong sense of loss with regard to sentimental possessions, friendships, social networks, familiar spaces and their education. They also revealed feelings of isolation, anxiety and unfairness because they were unable to share their experiences, often could not sleep or play and because affected families received differential support. Living in temporary accommodation and relocating several times added to their hardship because of a lack of space and a poor diet, for example. The uncertainty lasted for years sometimes.

Note: See source document for full reference.

Applicable to:

Stakeholders: [Livelihoods](#), [Norms/values](#), [Age-related roles](#), [Socio-economic status](#), [Social exclusion](#)

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

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

Hazards: [Natural hazards](#)

Recommendations:

- [Consider vulnerable groups when designing and implementing disaster response measures](#)

Source

[Deliverable D7.3 "Report on cultural factors and citizen empowerment" \(page 65\)](#)

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