



The impact of socio-economic status on a community's disaster response

Practitioners felt that there were differences between communities related to their socio-economic status in how they responded to disasters. On the one hand, citizens from wealthier neighbourhoods were seen as being more cooperative and more willing to help in disaster situations compared to those from neighbourhoods seen as less privileged: “I would expect a higher mutual participation in Tor Bella Monaca and Via del Vantaggio compared to Parioli, where I envision indifference and isolation. This could be my prejudice though” (G2; R5). Practitioners also perceived that in disaster situations wealthier citizens may often have more resources, whether such resources are financial or in other forms (e.g. social networks), which they can rely on in disaster situations: “these people have the right contacts and they directly call friends and colleagues to obtain whatever” (G2; R6). On the other hand, some practitioners felt that poorer people had less to lose in disaster situations than wealthier ones with lots of material goods: “The following reaction depends on how much you have to lose. The social ranking means a lot here. People living in a rented flat have less to lose and tend to save their lives. The Parioli population will have a different reaction as they have a lot to lose materially speaking” (G2; R). One practitioner also felt that “usually wealthy people feel like being invincible” (G2; R), which was seen as effecting their risk perception in disaster situations.

Note: See source document for full reference.

Applicable to:

Stakeholders: [Socio-economic status](#), [Livelihoods](#)

Disaster Phases: [Response](#)

Types of Actors Concerned: [National civil protection body](#), [Local authorities](#), [Government](#), [Red Cross](#), [NGOs](#), [Military](#), [Law enforcement agencies](#), [Healthcare and emergency services](#)

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

Recommendations:

- [Foster the adoption of a culture of disaster prevention and resilience by informing and motivating citizens to take action](#)

Source

[Deliverable D5.11 "Report on Stakeholder Assembly 2 \(Italy\)" \(page 17\)](#)

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