



## General factors regarding the disaster preparedness stage

The preparedness stage should be characterised by a number of initiatives that build long-term trust, develop social networks and curb the likelihood of abuses of power later on, for example. The mechanisms and methods for achieving this at this stage are perhaps indicators of the extent of community empowerment and the likelihood that it will continue when a disaster occurs. Empowered communities working with DMAs that understand the socio-cultural contexts, will be the ones collaboratively planning for disaster, drawing on local knowledge and skills, nurturing existing capacities and developing effective communication channels between local leaders and DMAs. Residents will be moving from common citizens to actor citizens, taking ownership of the disaster management process. When a disaster occurs, these and other steps can lay the groundwork for a more empowered and culturally sensitive response and recovery.

Note: See source document for full reference.

### Applicable to:

Disaster Phases: [Preparedness](#)

Types of Actors Concerned: [National civil protection body](#), [Local authorities](#), [Non-active citizens](#), [Active citizens](#), [Entrepreneurs](#), [Media](#), [Government](#), [National research bodies](#), [Red Cross](#), [NGOs](#), [Military](#), [Law enforcement agencies](#), [Healthcare and emergency services](#), [European Civil Protection Mechanism](#), [UN and other international organisations](#), [All types of actors](#)

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

### Recommendations:

- [Limit cases of power abuse by protecting whistle-blowers and encouraging the formation of advocacy and/or pressure groups](#)

## Source

[Deliverable D7.3 "Report on cultural factors and citizen empowerment" \(page 13\)](#)

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