

Definitions of resilience /resilient

- “Resilience is the capacity of a system, community or society potentially exposed to hazards to adapt, by resisting or changing in order to reach and maintain an acceptable level of functioning and structure. This is determined by the degree to which the social system is capable of organizing itself to increase its capacity for learning from past disasters for better future protection and to improve risk reduction measures”.(UN-SDR 2004) See also :
<http://www.undp.org/cpr/disred/documents/publications/rdr/english/glossary.pdf>
- “Not just the absence of vulnerability. Rather it is the capacity, in the first place, to prevent or mitigate losses and then, secondly, if damage occurs to maintain normal living conditions and thirdly, to manage recovery from the impact”. (Buckle et al., 2000)
- “Resilience is the flip side of vulnerability – a resilient system or population is not sensitive to climate change and has the capacity to adapt” (IPCC 2001)
- “Resilience to disasters means a locale can withstand an extreme natural event with a tolerable level of losses. It takes mitigations actions consistent with achieving that level of protection” (Mileti 1999) in: K. Thywissen in Birkmann 2006