

Resilience

Enhancing the Resilience to Disasters for Sustainable Development

Project Co-financed under Friuli Venezia Giulia Regional funds (L.R.18/2011) - CEI-FVG operative programme 756/2021

Background and motivations

Events and phenomena with a strong impact on the territory are increasingly common and are exacerbated by climate change; they are related to natural hazards (e.g., floods, tornadoes, earthquakes, hydrogeological instability phenomena), human activities (e.g., air pollution, water pollution, deforestation, soil degradation, abandonment of territories), or combinations of the two. These events are affecting with greater frequency and intensity all countries around the world, including those of Central Europe. Moreover, social and natural systems have become increasingly complex and strongly interconnected. These aspects draw special attention on the relevance of adopting intersectoral approaches to ensure safety and resilience at territorial level.

The [Sustainable Development Goals](#) introduced by the [UN Global Agenda 2030](#) require accounting for the above-mentioned aspects (comprising systemic risk management, complexity, etc.). Therefore, there is an urgent need to promote the design, development and adoption of effective methods and strategies for managing development processes that are both risk-informed and science-based.

The COVID-19 pandemic clearly highlighted the need to create and strengthen tools and strategies for dealing with crisis situations in a synergistic and coordinated manner, at various levels. With this in mind, the ["Next Generation EU" Recovery plan](#) aims to help repair the immediate economic and social damage caused by the coronavirus pandemic. It states that the post-COVID-19 Europe will be greener, more digital, more resilient and better fit for the current and forthcoming challenges, and will ensure reaching the UN Global Agenda 2030 goals among the objectives of returning to a new normal. Alongside with the digital and ecological transition, there is a call for greater resilience and ability to manage territorial risks, as explicitly defined in the priorities of the [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#), and recently emphasized by the latest [Global Assessment Report 2022](#).

The post-pandemic recovery, therefore, constitutes an opportunity to reduce the risks deriving from natural hazards and to increase resilience to future critical events and crises. The systemic dimension and the complexity of the aforementioned issues require strengthening the cooperation among countries, to guide the transition from reducing risk to creating resilient and safe societies, and to introduce stimulus to increase integration processes, good neighborly relations, and interregional cooperation.

Resilience program

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The enhancement of resilience and safety allows societies to build a sustainable development characterized by a greater capacity to act proactively and to prevent and address future risks and crises.

To actively contribute to this process, the [Friuli Venezia Giulia Region](#), the [Central European Initiative](#), and the [UNESCO Chair](#) on Intersectoral Safety for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience of the University of Udine are promoting the [Resilience program](#). The program foresees the implementation of a series of activities aiming to link diverse viewpoints, expertise, and knowledges of experts in different disciplines contributing to resilience. The aim of the program is to achieve the following short- and long-term results:

- a) elaboration of recommendations and reference guidelines to address the issue of strengthening territorial resilience and safety, in the various phases of the disaster management cycle with an intersectoral approach;
- b) creation of an interdisciplinary network between experts from scientific institutions, United Nations agencies, EU institutions, and regional and national governmental and territorial institutions, to promote a holistic approach for increasing territorial resilience to disaster risk;
- c) increase of the synergy between scientists and policy- and decision-makers, aiming at enhancing resilience and safety to support sustainable development.

A fundamental component of the Resilience program is to provide a space that facilitates interdisciplinary and intersectoral exchanges on the different aspects concerning resilience to disasters, with the activation of a *Platform* in which experts discuss and propose recommendations aiming at supporting risk-informed and resilient sustainable development. This will aim both to support reaching the objectives of the United Nations 2030 Global Agenda, and to contribute to the critical thinking that would help shaping the post-2030 Agenda.

The Platform acts as a knowledge-sharing and knowledge-bridging tool. It operates with networks among scientists, policy-makers, and experts from CEI's Member States, United Nations and European, and regional and local institutions.

The Platform focuses mainly on the resilience to disaster risk, as central driver in managing the challenges posed by systemic risk, climate change, natural hazards, man-made threats, COVID-19 pandemic, and also by the increased complexity and uncertainty that will characterize the future. Thinking and acting proactively for reducing risks and for increasing the capacity to face and cope surprises and unprecedented situations is one of the main challenges in building an effective resilience enhancement. The activities of the platform will provide an interdisciplinary and intersectoral contribution in this direction.

The launching event of the Resilience Platform will be held in Udine on 24 and 25 October 2022 in the form of networking and experience sharing event (**RESILab^{ex} workshop**). The main objective of this workshop is to elaborate expert recommendations for strengthening territorial resilience to adverse events and critical situations in the context of complexity and systemic risk. The goal is to create a regional platform aiming to enhance resilience for supporting the achievement of the 2030 Global Agenda.

Tentative Agenda

DAY 1 – Monday 24 th October 2022	
9.00-9.40	Opening remarks
9.40-10.30	Resilience in the UN Agendas
10.30-10.45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10.45-12.30	Introduction on the expert meeting: goals/topics/organization Introduction of Session 1: challenges in acting within DM cycle and Resilience frameworks
12.30-14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00-15.30	Session 1 World Cafè: Exploring the field of action. Round tables
15.30-15.45	<i>Coffee break</i>
15.45-17.00	Session 1 World Cafè: Exploring the field of action. Round tables
17.00-18.00	Plenary session: presentation of outcomes of the round tables and general discussion
DAY 2 – Tuesday 25 th October 2022	
8.45-10.30	Session 2 World Cafè: Enhancing resilience in the phases of the Disaster management cycle. Round tables
10.30-10.45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10.45-12.30	Session 2 World Cafè: Enhancing resilience in the phases of the Disaster management cycle. Round tables
12.30-14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00-15.00	Plenary session: presentation of outcomes of the 4 tables and general discussion
15.00-15.30	Draft of expert recommendations
15.30-15.45	<i>Coffee break</i>
15.45-18.00	Final discussion
19.30	<i>Social dinner</i>

Participants

The two-day workshop will bring together experts from the following UNESCO Chairs, Category II centers, and UN and EU organizations.

- **Lucille Anglès** – Coordinator for the Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector, Paris, France
- **Ingrid Belčáková** – Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Development and Ecological Awareness, Technical University of Zvolen, Slovakia
- **Nicola Casagli** – Founder and Deputy Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on Prevention and Sustainable Mitigation of Geo-hydrological Hazards, University of Florence, Italy
- **Daniela Di Bucci** – International Relations and Activities Unit of the Italian Civil Protection Department Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Rome, Italy
- **Carlo Fortuna** – Program manager of the Central European Initiative, Trieste, Italy
- **Stefano Grimaz** – Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on Intersectoral Safety for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, SPRINT-Lab, University of Udine, Italy
- **Petra Malisan** – Program Coordinator of the UNESCO Chair on Intersectoral Safety for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, SPRINT-Lab, University of Udine, Italy
- **Jadranka Mihaljević** – Head of the Department of Engineering Seismology, Institute of Hydrometeorology and Seismology of Montenegro
- **Matjaž Mikoš** – Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on Water-related Disaster Risk Reduction, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- **Ferenc Miszlivetz** – Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on Cultural Heritage and Sustainability in Kőszeg, University of Pannonia, Hungary
- **Sebastien Penzini** – Deputy Chief, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), Brussels, Belgium
- **Roberto Poli** – Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on Anticipatory Systems, University of Trento, Italy
- **Aldo Primiero** – Civil Protection of Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, Italy
- **Chiara Scaini** – Researcher at the National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics, Italy
- **Alexander Siegmund** – Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on World Heritage and Biosphere Reserve Observation and Education, Heidelberg University of Education, Germany
- **Jasmina Stankova** – Head of the Administration and Services Department - Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology (IZIIS), Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, North Macedonia
- **Janusz Szpytko** – Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair on Science, Technology and Engineering Education, Krakow, Poland
- **Veronica Tofani** – Program Coordinator of the UNESCO Chair on Prevention and Sustainable Management of Geo-Hydrological Hazards, University of Florence, Italy
- **Jair Torres** – International senior consultant on disaster risk reduction, resilience, sustainability and adaptation, Paris, France
- **Radu Văcăreanu** – UNESCO IPRED member, Rector of the Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest, Romania
- **Dimiter Velev** – Director of the Science Research Center for Disaster Risk Reduction, University of National and World Economy (UNWE), Sofia, Bulgaria
- **Sigmund Zvonko** – Member of European Science & Technology Advisory Group (E-STAG), UNDRR, Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Zagreb, Croatia