

Resilient Communities at the CORE of RESILIAGE

Resilience is more than the ability to bounce back; it is the capacity of communities to withstand and adapt to the challenges posed by disasters. As climate change instabilities increase the frequency and severity of crises, the need for robust, community-centred approaches to disaster preparedness becomes ever more urgent. Explore how RESILIAGE is strengthening community resilience for disaster preparedness.

Co-Building stronger communities

Communities are ecosystems of social, economic, and cultural relationships. Strengthening these bonds is crucial for resilience.

*** CORE Labs:** These are designed as community hubs that co-create solutions for disaster risk management (DRM). By involving citizens, first responders, and local authorities, the CORE Labs encourage collaboration and create a foundation of trust that can be activated in times of need.

*** Cultural heritage as a resilience driver:** RESILIAGE integrates local cultural heritage into resilience planning, ensuring that traditional practices and community identity play an active role in preparedness and response strategies.



Engaging communities in planning and decision-making

When communities understand the risks they face and how to respond, they are better equipped to act in times of crisis.

*** Empowerment through knowledge:** By providing citizens with the tools and knowledge to manage risks, RESILIAGE encourages communities to become self-sufficient and more resilient in the face of disasters.

*** Awareness raising campaigns:** Tailored to the unique needs of each CORE Lab, public campaigns raise awareness to the risks each region faces and the steps individuals can take to mitigate them.

*** Inclusive communication through local languages:** To ensure full participation and understanding, all activities and campaigns are conducted in the local languages of the communities involved. This approach guarantees that cultural nuances and community voices are respected, making the engagement more inclusive and effective.

Examples of community-led initiatives

In the RESILIAGE project, the concept of **CORE Labs stands out as a successful example of community-led initiatives**. These are implemented in five regions across Europe, where local communities directly participate in resilience-building activities.

The CORE Labs engage community members, first responders, and local authorities in collaborative efforts to **identify risk perceptions, protective behaviours, and preparedness needs**.

By involving citizens in mapping risks and co-developing strategies, RESILIAGE **fosters a bottom-up approach where communities take ownership** of their disaster response strategies. Communities are encouraged to draw upon local history, cultural identity, and collective memory to strengthen their sense of place and adapt to disasters.



Leveraging technology to strengthen community resilience

Technology plays a central role in RESILIAGE's approach to enhancing community resilience. The project is developing a **Resource Ecosystem for Community Resilience**, which is a **digital platform** designed to integrate various **tools, resources, and soft solutions that empower communities** to better anticipate, respond to, and recover from disasters.

These tools are **co-designed with local communities** through the CORE Labs to ensure they **meet the specific needs of each region**. The platform integrates real-time data, crowdsourced information, and social media analytics to improve communication during disasters. To further enhance accessibility and engagement, the platform and some of the tools will be available in the local languages of the communities, ensuring that all members can effectively participate and utilise these digital resources.

Empowering women for empowering communities

RESILIAGE recognises the **critical role women** play in disaster preparedness and response. Women, often **at the heart of community networks**, bring unique perspectives and leadership that can drive meaningful change. Building on our efforts to empower women through webinars and summer schools, we are **creating spaces where they can enhance their leadership and resilience-building skills**.



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