BuildERS Glossary – version 1

Accident
"Unintended damage to people or objects that affect the functioning of the system we choose to analyse" (Perrow, 1999: 64).

Capacity
"The combination of all the strengths, attributes and resources available within an organization, community or society to manage and reduce disaster risks and strengthen resilience.

Annotation: Capacity may include infrastructure, institutions, human knowledge and skills, and collective attributes such as social relationships, leadership and management.

Coping capacity is the ability of people, organizations and systems, using available skills and resources, to manage adverse conditions, risk or disasters. The capacity to cope requires continuing awareness, resources and good management, both in normal times as well as during disasters or adverse conditions. Coping capacities contribute to the reduction of disaster risks.
Capacity assessment is the process by which the capacity of a group, organization or society is reviewed against desired goals, where existing capacities are identified for maintenance or strengthening and capacity gaps are identified for further action.
Capacity development is the process by which people, organizations and society systematically stimulate and develop their capacities over time to achieve social and economic goals. It is a concept that extends the term of capacity-building to encompass all aspects of creating and sustaining capacity growth over time. It involves learning and various types of training, but also continuous efforts to develop institutions, political awareness, financial resources, technology systems and the wider enabling environment" (UNISDR, 2019a).

Civil protection
Protection for people, their environment, property and cultural heritage in the event of natural or manmade crises and disasters.

Civil protection according to the EU (Source: Hellenberg, 2006: 5).

Subjects of protection	Risk source	Risk type	Subjects of civil protection planning and training
People Environment Critical infrastructure Property	Man-made Technological Natural Complex	Crises Emergencies Disasters Accidents	Prevention Preparedness Response Restoration

Civil society
Civil society refers to both the networks of actors and groups that are non-state, formally and informally constituted, and to the networks of trust and reciprocity among citizens in a society (Aldrich and Crook, 2008).

Community (see society)

Crisis
"Period of upheaval and collective stress, disturbing everyday patterns and threatening core values and structures of a social system in unexpected, often unconceivable, ways" (Rosenthal et al., 2001:6).

Crisis communication
"Crisis communication includes the collection and processing of information for crisis team decision making along with the creation and dissemination of crisis messages to people outside of the team" (Coombs and Holladay, 2010: 20).

Crisis management
"Crisis management is the shorthand phrase for management practices concerning non-routine phenomena and developments" (Rosenthal et al., 2001:14).

Crisis management cycle
It is a multiple-phase chronological process, during which an organisation deals with a crisis or a disaster. There have been developed several models, but the most widely accepted foresees four phases: prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.
It is also referred to by other names, such as "the emergency management cycle or crisis life cycle" (Pursiainen, 2018: 4).

Disadvantaged people[1]
Socio-economically and/or medically disadvantaged people (compared to general population) may encompass individuals, groups and/or community assemblages, which, due to systemic inequalities, suffer from uneven distribution of resources and wealth, often underpinned by structural racism and/or class divisions.

Disaster
"A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability and capacity, leading to one or more of the following: human, material, economic and environmental losses and impacts" (UNISDR, 2019).

Disaster risk management
"Disaster risk management is the application of disaster risk reduction policies and strategies to prevent new disaster risk, reduce existing disaster risk and manage residual risk, contributing to the strengthening of resilience and reduction of disaster losses" (UNISDR, 2019).

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
"Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) aims to reduce the damage caused by natural hazards like earthquakes, floods, droughts and cyclones, through an ethic of prevention" (UNISDR, 2019).

Disinformation
Deliberately misleading information.

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[1] For more empirical arguments supporting this description, please read Ecological and Evolutionary Consequences of Systemic Racism in Urban Environments (2020) by Shell et al., retrieved from https://science.sciencemag.org/content/369/6510/eaay4497?utm_campaign=toc_sci-mag_2020-09-17&et_rid=692573911&et_cid=3485261.

Emergency management
"The organization and management of resources and responsibilities for addressing all aspects of emergencies, in particular preparedness, response and initial recovery steps" (UNISDR, 2009: 13).

Exposure
"The situation of people, infrastructure, housing, production capacities and other tangible human assets located in hazard-prone areas.

Annotation: Measures of exposure can include the number of people or types of assets in an area. These can be combined with the specific vulnerability and capacity of the exposed elements to any particular hazard to estimate the quantitative risks associated with that hazard in the area of interest" (UNISDR, 2019).

Fragility[2]
Fragility may refer to poor health conditions of some individuals and/ or social groups such as pulmonary, cardiac and/or addiction-related ailments that might increase their risk of mortality and/or severe morbidity precipitating early death as consequence of natural, socionatural and/or anthropogenic hazards.

Hazard
"A process, phenomenon or human activity that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation.

Annotations: Hazards may be natural, anthropogenic or socionatural in origin. **Natural hazards** are predominantly associated with natural processes and phenomena. **Anthropogenic hazards**, or human-induced hazards, are induced entirely or predominantly by human activities and choices. This term does not include the occurrence or risk of armed conflicts and other situations of social instability or tension which are subject to international humanitarian law and national legislation. Several hazards are **socionatural**, in that they are associated with a combination of natural and anthropogenic factors, including environmental degradation and climate change" (UNISDR, 2019).

Marginalised people (see disadvantaged people)

Misinformation
Confusing, false or misleading information, without the intent to mislead.

Protection
The condition or state of being kept safe from injury, damage, or loss (Cambridge on line Dictionary).

Public awareness
"The extent of common knowledge about disaster risks, the factors that lead to disasters and the actions that can be taken individually and collectively to reduce exposure and vulnerability to hazards" (UNISDR, 2009: 22-23).

Resilience (BuildERS definition)

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Processes of proactive and/or reactive patterned adjustment and adaptation and change enacted in everyday life, but, in particular, in the face of risks, crises and disasters.

Resilience management[3]
Resilience management is about institutional policies, approaches, procedures and resources aimed at enhancing organisational and societal resilience*.*

Risk
Risk results from the interaction of hazard(s), exposure and vulnerability.

Risk assessment
"Risk assessment (…) is part of the broader risk management process. Risk assessment in turn consist of three tasks: risk identification, risk analysis, and risk evaluation. Risk identification is the initial process of finding, recognising and recording risks. Risk analysis is about developing an understanding of the risk by developing the consequences and their probabilities for the identified risks. Risk evaluation delineates the significance of the level and type of risk" (Pursiainen, 2018:14).

Risk awareness (BuildERS definition)
Collective (groups and communities) acknowledgment about a risk and potential risk preventing and mitigating actions, fostered by risk communication.

Risk communication
"Risk communication is the process of exchanging or sharing risk-related data, information and knowledge between and among different groups such as scientists, regulators, industry, consumers or the general public" (IRGC, 2017: 27).

Risk governance
"Requires consideration of the legal, institutional, social and economic contexts in which a risk is evaluated, and involvement of the actors and stakeholders who represent them. Risk governance looks at the complex web of actors, rules, conventions, processes and mechanisms concerned with how relevant risk information is collected, analysed and communicated, and how management decisions are taken" (Renn, 2008: 9).

Risk management
"The process involved in managing risks in order to achieve objectives, by maximizing potential opportunities and minimizing potential adverse effects" (Drennan et al., 2015: 2).

Risk perception
Risk perception is the subjective judgment individuals make about the severity and probability of a risk, and may vary from person to person.

Safety
A state in which or a place where you are safe and not in danger or at risk (Cambridge on line Dictionary).

Security

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[3] We have learned that resilience management concerns organisations (see, for instance, the H2020 projects DARWIN, RESOLUTE, RESILENS, and SMG, focusing on different types of organisations: healthcare and aviation organisations in DARWIN, transport systems in RESOLUTE, critical infrastructures systems in RESILIENCE, cities in SMG). The DARWIN project provides this definition "Resilience management is about the resilience of professional actors involved in handling crisis, e.g., first responders, employees in crisis management organizations…" (DARWIN, 2015). However, BuildERS offers a more inclusive definition by considering resilience management as a "task" of dealing with disasters not only for organisations, but all parts of society

Protection of a person, building, organization, or country against threats such as crime or attacks by foreign countries risk (Cambridge on line Dictionary).

Segments of population
"A delimited set, with unambiguous membership criteria, such as the population of the People's Republic of China as identified and enumerated in its 2000 census" (Turner, 2006: 130).

Segments of society
"A level of organization of groups that is relatively self-contained. […, and] may be used to indicate the wider activities of those under the authority of a particular state, for example, French society or Indian society" (Turner, 2006: 592).

Social/societal
Pertaining to society.
Societal describes something related to society that is used in a more scholarly/formal setting.
Social refers to a context that depends on the situation.

Social capital (BuildERS definition)
Networks, norms, values and trust that entities (individuals, groups, society) have available and which may offer resources for mutual advantage and support and for facilitating coordination and cooperation in case of crisis and disasters.

Society
Society refers a group of people living in particular territory, sharing a political system of authority and with a distinctive culture.

Stress
"Chronic and ongoing dynamic pressures within a system, whose cumulative impacts undermine the capacity for sustainability and resilience" (UN-HABITAT, 2018: V).

Threat
A suggestion that something unpleasant or violent will happen, especially if a particular action or order is not followed (Cambridge on line Dictionary).

Vulnerability (BuildERS definition)
Dynamic characteristic of entities (individuals, groups, society) of being susceptible to harm or loss, which manifests as situational inability (or weakness) to access adequate resources and means of protection to anticipate, cope with, recover and learn from the impact of natural or man-made hazards.

Vulnerability assessment
Process of identifying, quantifying, and ranking vulnerabilities in a system.

Vulnerable groups
Groups of people sharing characteristics making them individually, and as group vulnerable in that they are susceptible to harm or loss, which manifests as situational inability (or weakness) to access adequate resources and means of protection to anticipate, cope with, recover and learn from the impact of natural or man-made risks

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