

Resilience to Risk, or Resilient Risk?

Dr Ksenia Chmutina

 @kschmutina



Resilience in disaster context

Resilience type	Core characteristics	Policy implications	Criticisms
Disaster	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•No single definition•Ensuring benign or small-scale negative outcomes from disaster•Common key words: resisting, absorbing or containing effects of, recovering from and mitigating disaster-related hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Focus on disaster hazard mitigation and preparedness•Hazards include both man-made and natural•Include institutional aspects aiming to protect infrastructure systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Focus on short-term damage reduction and recovery (emergencies)•Does not address chronic stress•Often focuses on specific types of disaster, potentially missing opportunities for multi-hazard mitigation strategies (e.g., Tsunami resilience programmes)•Often focused on “critical infrastructure” with potential difficulties in identifying what components are “critical” and for whom•Too broad definition

**Of WHAT?
To WHAT?
By WHOM?**



Bouncing back or
bouncing forward?





Build back better for whom?



Stop calling me
RESILIENT.

Because every time you say,
“Oh, they’re resilient,”
that means you can do something else to me.

I am not resilient.

*Tracie L. Jackson,
Louisiana Justice Institute*

Resilience

- Adaptability
- Bounce
- Elastic
- Endurance
- Firm
- Flexibility
- Resistance
- Strong
- Survivability
- Tolerance
- Withstand

Résilience الصومود ngedimah
تاب hòi ifaradà phuc प्रतिरोध sietokyky
Resilienz Daya juriya tsitsa 韌性 Ketahanan
Resiliência gwydnwch seemo
emelana Resilienza ellenállóképesség elasticnost
強韌性 nǎng ida على eski iGu
mijing'o Resiliens durumunu
maikutlo Отпорност ความยืดหยุ่น cokonaki
Бейімделушілік Katatagan há No alma nesimo
жизнестойкость
القدرة Ελαστικότητα издръжливост
Kupilira Ukumelana ni tahan ume 강진성
guitiriia उत्थानशिलता ni Go moungal veerkracht
ikrap dukubiya Resiliencia 抗灾能力
butantim أوری ustahimilivu
Ukomelela Veerkragtigheid

Translating Disaster Terminology



- *When disaster terminology is translated into a peripheral language the Anglophone source is most often prioritized*
- *When translating from peripheral languages to English, a domesticating approach is almost exclusively used*

“When we try to turn resilience into a common language explanation of phenomena, trouble inevitably starts.”

Lizarralde et al., 2019

Occurrence
adaptability, adjust
ability

Resilienza

عزيمت
ليچار

كيفية التعافي من الصعوبات

capacity to cope, recover, strong, withstand,
elasticity, flexibility, adaptability

Resilience.

كيفية التعافي

من الصعوبات
التي لا تدمر
القدرة على التمتع بالحياة

KURB WENZELTSCHA

-RECOVERING

DAYANIKLIK

RESILIÊNCIA

capacity to cope and overcome
the barriers

Resilience



مرونة



Adaptation

Adaptability

Resilience

强韧否?

"Strongness"

Resilience

تغلب

Resilience

كيفية التعافي

(strong against attack)

Flexible but
Cand;

Strong

恢复力

capacity to

STRONG

MATATAG

**DISASTERS
ARE NOT
NATURAL**

Please get in
touch!

 k.chmutina@lboro.ac.uk

 [@kschmutina](https://twitter.com/kschmutina)



(with special thanks to Jason von Meding, JC Gaillard, Gonzalo Lizarralde, Wes Cheek, Darien Alexander Williams, and many amazing @#nonaturaldisasters Tweepers)