

Following the ENSURE project approach, it is important to focus on three different approaches which address the work on resilience. Can you remember which ones and what does this imply in term of resilience assessment practice?

You can find the answer in file F08 in module 1.

Resilience as the flip-side of vulnerability

Resilience as a component of vulnerability;

Resilience and vulnerability as separate concepts.

The evolution path of the resilience concept, discussed in file F09, clearly highlights that recent approaches, developed by scholars from different disciplinary fields, seem to converge towards an interpretation of resilience as a set of interrelated adaptive capacities/resources enabling systems to deal both with expected and unexpected changes.

This leads to deepen the matter of resilience in the field of disasters. From file F09:

*To sum up, the presented remarks corroborate the assumption according to which thinking in terms of resilience can be advantageous in the field of disasters due to the following aspects:*

*resilience is conceived as a conceptual approach to deal with uncertainty and future change with respect to traditional approaches mainly focused on system's control;*

*resilience represents a premise for a proactive response to disasters as it embodies the concept of adaptive and learning capacity, that is typical of living systems;*

*resilience gives room to the emergence of new configurations of the system (even more desirable than the previous ones) after a disturbance, as a result of the self-organization capacity that is typical of complex systems;*

*resilience paves the way to recognize the role of the initial condition of a system in its evolution pattern following the occurrence of a given event. In such a way, there is an implicit assumption of the importance of effective mitigation measures towards more or less likely hazards;*

*resilience exalts the cross scale effects related to a given event. Such aspect assumes particular relevance with respect to chained events such as the na-tech disasters that probably represent the most significant example of events whose evolution is characterized by non-linear dynamics.*

You can also see file F07 in module 1.