

## Community Resilience Discussion Group

Resilience has become a buzzword in many different areas of research, but it is often defined differently depending on the discipline or approach being used. We therefore want to start a discussion about what exactly is meant by resilience, particularly when it is used to refer to communities. This could be in a broad sense, from communities at risk of specific natural hazards, to communities of practice or groups of individuals within a wider institution. We aim to bring early career researchers together to discuss the concept of community resilience, and broaden our understanding in addressing questions such as:

- What are the characteristics that make a community resilient?
- How can those characteristics be developed or built by individuals within those communities or by the community as a whole?
- Is it possible to facilitate resilience building as an external actor, in the shape of an NGO, institution, or government?
- Is resilience always a good thing? Why or why not?

This initiative aims to bring together a community of scholars that have a common interest in resilience but are dispersed across schools, to discuss the concept of resilience in the context of community development. Consisting of an initial series of informal discussions, we aim to introduce the concept of community resilience, begin to operationalise it through a systems approach, and lay out a plan for future development of research activities within the group.

## Community Resilience Discussion Group

Our initial programme will consist of six discussion sessions, taking place in [U006 \(Brockington Extension\)](#) on the following dates:

- [4.00pm Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Nov] **Community Resilience Introduction**
- [4.00pm Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Nov] **What does resilience mean to you?**
- [4.00pm Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> Nov] **What does community mean to you?**
- [4.00pm Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Dec] **How do you facilitate and evaluate community resilience?**
- [4.00pm Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Dec] **Is resilience always a good thing?**
- [4.00pm Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Dec] **Concluding review and next steps**

You do not have to attend all sessions (though you are more than welcome to!), but we hope to capture the discussions in each session, with a view to working towards a project output that can be used to demonstrate what we mean by the term “community resilience”. This may take the form of a paper, blog post, short video, or other format that can be decided on by those interested in supporting its development. If you would like to support the output, please do let us know, and we can develop a plan for dissemination throughout the sessions.

Following the initial run of discussion group sessions we aim to promote our finalised output with a dissemination session at both the Loughborough and London campuses, where other students can give further input.

If you would like any further information on the community resilience discussion groups, please contact [George Foden](#) at [G.W.Foden@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:G.W.Foden@lboro.ac.uk) or [Chukwudi Ogunna](#) at [C.Ogunna@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:C.Ogunna@lboro.ac.uk).

**Further Resources** – *Optional additional materials to review before our discussions.*

[4 – 5pm Thurs 10 Nov] Community Resilience Introduction

- [Resilience.org – 6 Foundations for Community Resilience](#)
- [Loughborough Sustainable Transitions: Energy, Environment, and Resilience](#)
- [Patel, S. S., Rogers, M. B., Amlôt, R., & Rubin, G. J. \(2017\). What do we mean by 'community resilience'? A systematic literature review of how it is defined in the literature. \*PLoS currents\*, 9.](#)
- [Sentio Journal Resilience Issue – For an overview of different definitions of resilience. Foden, G. \(2022\): What makes a house “resilient” in humanitarian shelter and settlement programming?](#)

[4 – 5pm Thurs 17 Nov] What does resilience mean to you?

- [Manyena, S. B. \(2006\). The concept of resilience revisited. \*Disasters\*, 30\(4\), 434-450.](#)
- [Dr Michael Unger – What is Resilience?](#) (6 min video)
- [Sh\\*t happens. 8 lessons in resilience | Dr Fiona Starr & Dr Mike Solomon |](#) (16 min video)

[4 – 5pm Thurs 24 Nov] What does community mean to you?

- [Titz, A., Cannon, T., & Krüger, F. \(2018\). Uncovering ‘community’: Challenging an elusive concept in development and disaster related work. \*Societies\*, 8\(3\), 71.](#)
- [Faas, A. J., & Marino, E. K. \(2020\). Mythopolitics of “community”: an unstable but necessary category. \*Disaster Prevention and Management: An International Journal\*.](#)
- [MacQueen, K. M., McLellan, E., Metzger, D. S., Kegeles, S., Strauss, R. P., Scotti, R., ... & Trotter, R. T. \(2001\). What is community? An evidence-based definition for participatory public health. \*American journal of public health\*, 91\(12\), 1929-1938.](#)
- [What Does Community Mean To You?](#) (3 min video)
- What community means to me – Foden, G. (2019). [The People at the Heart of Change in Tamil Nadu](#)

[4 – 5pm Thurs 1 Dec] How do you facilitate and evaluate community resilience?

- [Proag, V. \(2014\). Assessing and measuring resilience. \*Procedia Economics and Finance\*, 18, 222-229.](#)
- [Drury, J., Carter, H., Cocking, C., Ntontis, E., Tekin Guven, S., & Amlôt, R. \(2019\). Facilitating collective psychosocial resilience in the public in emergencies: Twelve recommendations based on the social identity approach. \*Frontiers in public health\*, 7, 141.](#)
- [UK Government Community Resilience Development Framework](#)
- Policies and frameworks that can facilitate resilience and community development – Foden, G. (2021). [Building Homes, Building Livelihoods, and Building Peace](#)

[4 – 5pm Thurs 8 Dec] Is resilience always a good thing?

- [Don't Call Me Resilient Podcast](#)
- [Do Not Call Me Resilient Only To Deny My Pain | Francesca Andre](#) (10 min video)
- [Gen Z and Resilience](#) (1 min video)
- [Mahdiani, H., & Ungar, M. \(2021\). The Dark Side of Resilience. \*Adversity and Resilience Science\*, 1-9.](#)

[4 – 5pm Thurs 15 Dec] Concluding review and next steps

- None