

### **Chapter 3.1 - Asset mapping to consider outcome measurement and stakeholder engagement**

Disasters and emergencies often cause substantial impacts on the health and well-being of populations. However, not all impacts are inherently negative and there can be some positive impacts as well, such as post-traumatic growth, which is seen at the individual level, and increased social connectedness, which would be at the community level. Understanding the complexity of these different types of impact is necessary when planning and using research in Health EDRM, and this can be achieved through asset mapping. In this podcast in the audio series for the WHO Guidance on Research Methods for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management, I'll outline some of the key features.

Hi, I'm Melissa Genereux from the University of Sherbrooke in Canada and I'm one of the authors of Chapter 3.1 in the WHO Guidance, titled *Asset Mapping to Consider Outcome Measurement and Stakeholder Engagement*.

Traditionally, disaster research has used a deficit-based approach that focuses on developing risk and vulnerability profiles, mapping hazards, and assessing adverse outcomes following events. However, this approach often overlooks the importance of building resilient systems and, as an alternative, an asset-based approach can be used to focus on the physical and social assets within a community that can support resilience.

Outcome measurement is a core activity of Health EDRM and is used to evaluate prevention and preparedness programs, as well as response and recovery activities, and also to assess community health impacts after a disaster. This is important for understanding how a population is impacted over time and for developing services to meet the changing needs of the population. Asset-oriented measures can be identified through asset mapping, which is a strengths-based approach that challenges traditional deficit-oriented mapping. Asset mapping focuses on identifying physical and social resources that promote health and resilience in a community or organization. In order to empower citizens, it's critical to find a balance between a deficit-approach and an asset-approach and our chapter will help you to understand the research that is needed to do this.

Citizen and stakeholder engagement are vital for the success of asset mapping interventions. It broadens community perspectives and ensures that local context is included in assessment and measurement. In an asset-mapping study, as in other Health EDRM research, the involvement of stakeholders is important for improving the research process by providing input on the study design, becoming research participants, supporting data collection, and attending meetings to provide feedback. Ultimately, stakeholder input needs to be reflected throughout the research study and decision-making power should be a shared responsibility, and you'll find information on how to achieve this in the chapter.

To conclude, I'd like to thank you for listening to this introduction to Chapter 3.1 in the WHO Guidance on Research Methods for Health EDRM. For more information, you can access this

chapter for free on the WHO Knowledge Hub website, along with details of further readings and other useful resources. Thank you and goodbye for now.