BUILDERS D1.6 VULNERABILITY AND VULNERABLE GROUPS FROM AN INTERSECTIONALITY PERSPECTIVE

Project acronym: BuildERS
Project title: Building European Communities’ Resilience and Social Capital
Call: H2020-SU-SEC-2018-2019-2020/H2020-SU-SEC-2018

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 833496
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Project no. 833496
Project acronym: BuildERS
Project title: Building European Communities’ Resilience and Social Capital
Call: H2020-SU-SEC-2018-2019-2020/H2020-SU-SEC-2018
Start date of project: 01.05.2019
Duration: 36 months
Deliverable title: BuildERS D1.6 (VULNERABILITY AND VULNERABLE GROUPS FROM AN INTERSECTIONALITY PERSPECTIVE)
Due date of deliverable: 30.04.2020
Actual date of submission: 30.4.2020, Revision 09.10.2020
Deliverable Lead Partner: UiS
Work Package: WP1
No of Pages: 7
Keywords: Social vulnerability, vulnerable groups, intersectionality

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Dissemination level

- PU: Public
- Other

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| Version | Date       | Reason                                         | Revised by                      |
|---------|------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 01      | 25.02.2020 | First outline                                  | CK, CM                          |
| 02      | 12.03.2020 | Second outline                                 | CK, BIK                         |
| 03      | 20.03.2020 | Input material from contributors               | UTA, VTT, SEI                   |
| 04      | 30.03.2020 | Third outline                                  | CK, CM, BIK                     |
| 05      | 06.04.2020 | First draft                                    | CK                              |
| 06      | 08.04.2020 | Second draft                                   | CM                              |
| 07      | 14.04.2020 | Third draft                                    | BIK                             |
| 08      | 16.04.2020 | Fourth draft                                   | CK                              |
| 09      | 22.04.2020 | Feedback from contributors and internal reviewers | TON, FG, LS, KO, MA, JK, SH, ST |
| 10      | 27.04.2020 | Fifth draft                                    | CK                              |
| 11      | 28.04.2020 | Sixth draft                                    | BIK                             |
| 12      | 29.04.2020 | Seventh draft                                  | CM                              |
| 13      | 30.04.2020 | Final draft and submission                     | CK, CM                          |
|         | 20.08.2020 | Revised version accepted by the publisher      | CK, CM                          |
|         | 09.10.2020 | Deliverable resubmitted                        | AMH                             |
Executive Summary

D1.6 is the first scientific publication of WP1, based on the content of *D1.3 Segments of vulnerability country by country basis – inside and outside the official data*. This scientific article has been submitted to the *International Journal for Disaster Risk Reduction* by the main author (CK) within the official deadline (30.04.2020). The article has been revised based on the received review comments, and accepted by the publisher on 20.08.2020.

On the next pages, the abstract and link to the full article can be found.
To appear in: *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*

**Vulnerability and vulnerable groups from an intersectionality perspective**

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PII: S2212-4209(20)31328-5
DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdrr.2020.101826](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdrr.2020.101826)
Reference: IJDRR 101826

Received Date: 30 April 2020
Revised Date: 20 August 2020
Accepted Date: 20 August 2020

**Abstract**

In general, the identification and protection of vulnerable groups in the case of hazards or when a crisis unfolds is an issue that any crisis and disaster risk management should address, since people have different levels of exposure to hazards and crises. In this article, we promote the application of the intersectionality perspective in the study of vulnerable groups, and we call for intersectionality as a guiding principle in risk and crisis management, to provide a better and more nuanced picture of vulnerabilities and vulnerable groups. This can help national and local authorities and agencies to formulate specific guides, to hire staff with the skills necessary to meet particular needs, and to inform vulnerable groups in a particular way, taking into account the differences that may coexist within the same group. Intersectionality allows us to read vulnerability not as the characteristic of some socio-demographic groups. It is rather the result of different and interdependent societal stratification processes that result in multiple dimensions of marginalisation. In this vein, we argue that research should focus on 1) self-perceived vulnerability of individuals and an intersectionality approach to unpack vulnerable groups; 2) cases of crises according to the level and/or likelihood of individual exposure to hazards, to better nuance issues of vulnerability.

Please cite this article as: C.H. Alexander Kuran, C. Morsut, B.I. Kruke, M. Krüger, L. Segnestam, K. Orru, T.O. Nævestad, M. Airola, J. Keränen, F. Gabel, S. Hansson, S. Torpan, Vulnerability and vulnerable groups from an intersectionality perspective, *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, [https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdrr.2020.101826](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdrr.2020.101826).
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