

Appraisal methodology and the results of the research

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This partner update within the Localience (Interreg Europe) project summarises progress and key findings on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) at the local level. The Live Testing of the Appraisal tool provided an evidence base on cooperation patterns between professional and civic actors, highlighting strengths as well as recurring limitations in cross-actor coordination. Building on these results, the Policy Gap Analysis identified systemic barriers that prevent DRR strategies from being consistently translated into effective local delivery.

The analysis shows that gaps repeatedly concentrate in vertical disconnections between governance levels, horizontal fragmentation across sectors, and weak implementation mechanisms linking policy intent to operational practice. To move from diagnosis to action, these findings were translated into policy dilemmas that partners must address, including governance responsibilities, long-term resourcing and delivery capacity, and sustainable participation and trust-building.

A key practical implication is the need for stable enabling structures at local level. In this context, local multi-stakeholder DRR platforms are presented as a concrete mechanism to institutionalise cooperation, improve shared situational awareness, and support continuous learning and follow-up actions. The White Paper provides the project's solution-oriented direction, translating these insights into transferable measures and recommendations for partner implementation and policy improvement.

Keywords: Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), professional and civic actors, Appraisal tool, Live Testing, Policy Gap Analysis, resilience.