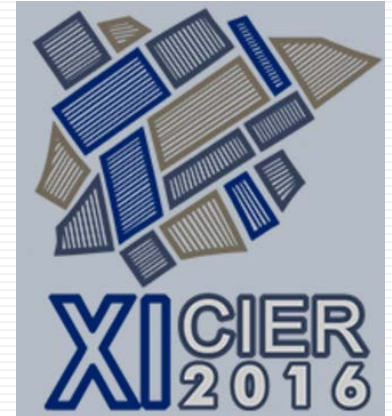


Resilient strategies in Southern Europe: towards a smart and sustainable rural development?



Iberian Conference on Rural Studies
Smart and Inclusive Development in Rural Areas

Vila-Real (Portugal),
15th October 2016

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CSO2015-68215-R



“Resilient strategies in northern and southern Europe: towards a smart and sustainable rural development?”

- 1. What is “resilience”?**
- 2. Are we using properly the concept-s and its dimensions?**
- 3. What are the conditions to be resilient?**
- 4. *Resilience to what?***
- 5. *Resilience for whom?***
- 6. What is a resilient strategy? How to detect it?**
- 7. How can we measure resilience? What system of indicators?**
- 8. What are the ingredients of a resilient strategy?**
- 9. Etc.**



“Resilience?”



Resilience: use and abuse?

- Initially formulated in the natural sciences →
 - But embraced enthusiastically by the social sciences
- “Migration process” from engineering, ecological and evolutionary approaches: (Martin, 2012; Davoudi, 2012; Scott, 2013)



The –early- need to revisitate the concept

- Initially formulated in the natural sciences →
- But embraced enthusiastically by the social sciences
“Migration process” from engineering, ecological and evolutionary approaches: (Martin, 2012; Davoudi, 2012; Scott, 2013)
- A complex and confusing concept



[View issue TOC](#)
Volume 30, Issue 4
December 2006
Pages 434–450



[Explore this journal >](#)

The concept of resilience revisited

Siambabala Bernard Manyena

First published: 13 November 2006 [Full publication history](#)

Abstract

The intimate connections between disaster recovery by and the resilience of affected communities have become common features of disaster risk reduction programmes since the adoption of The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015. Increasing attention is now paid to the capacity of disaster-affected communities to ‘bounce back’ or to recover with little or no external assistance following a disaster. This highlights the need for a change in the disaster risk reduction work culture, with stronger emphasis being put on resilience rather than just need or vulnerability. However, varied conceptualisations of resilience pose new philosophical challenges. Yet achieving a consensus on the concept remains a test for disaster research and scholarship. This paper reviews the concept in terms of definitional issues, the role of vulnerability in resilience discourse and its meaning, and the differences between vulnerability and resilience. It concludes with some of the more immediately apparent implications of resilience thinking for the way we view and prepare for disasters.

Need to avoid uncritical application of “resilience” to social systems

- Initially formulated in the natural sciences →
- embraced enthusiastically by the social sciences... and being applied to a wide types of social systems
- Some reasons using “resilience” in social systems:
 - To better explain how social systems face shocks-crisis (?) →
 - To better define strategies to recover from shocks-crisis (?)
- → Many reasons to be cautious about the uncritical application of resilience thinking to social systems and contexts

Need to cautious thinking on the application of “resilience” to social systems

IDS Working Papers [Explore this journal >](#)

Resilience: New Utopia or New Tyranny? Reflection about the Potentials and Limits of the Concept of Resilience in Relation to Vulnerability Reduction Programmes

[Christophe Béné](#), [Rachel Godfrey Wood](#), [Andrew Newsham](#), [Mark Davies](#)

First published: [September 2012](#) [Full publication history](#)



**Centre for
Social Protection**



**Institute of
Development Studies**

Special Issue Working Paper, 2012

Some critical elements working with “resilience”



[Explore this journal >](#)

Commentary

Resilience to What? Resilience for Whom?

Susan L Cutter

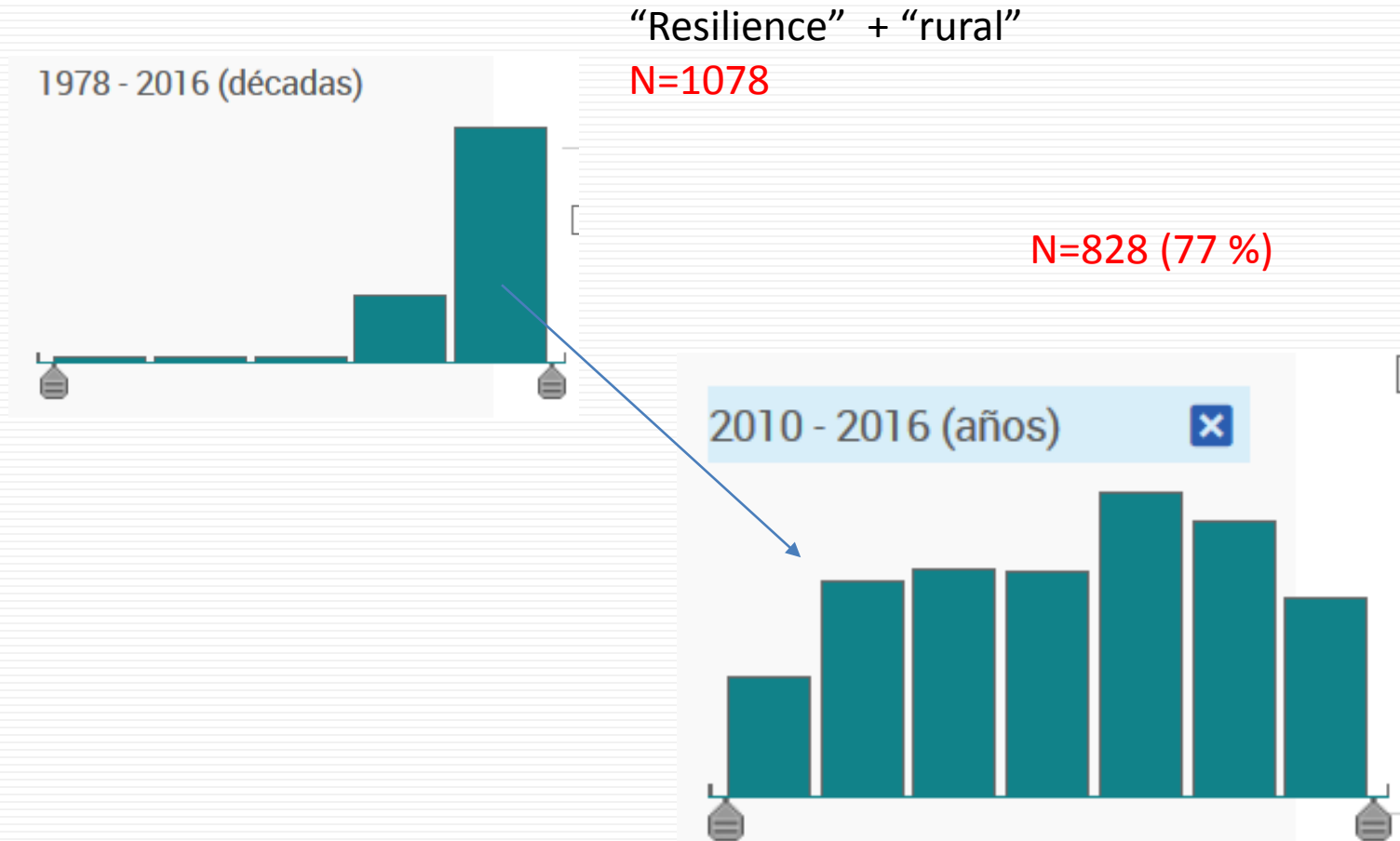
First published: 17 April 2016 [Full publication history](#)

“Resilience”... and rural development?



“Resilience”... and rural development?

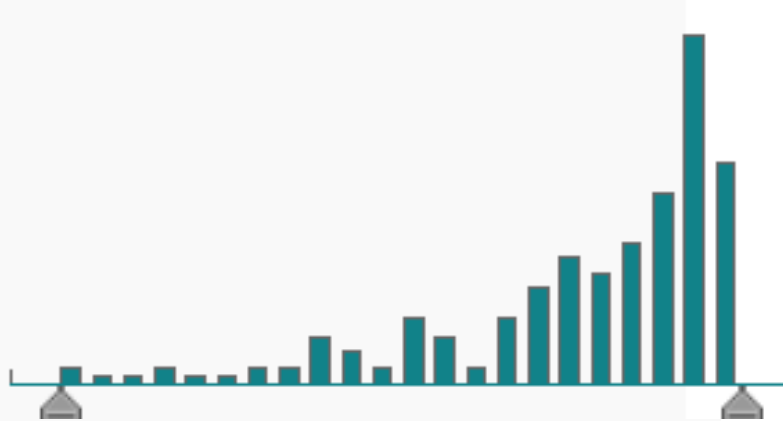
Number of peer reviewed papers with related terms in the abstract



“Resilience”... and rural development?

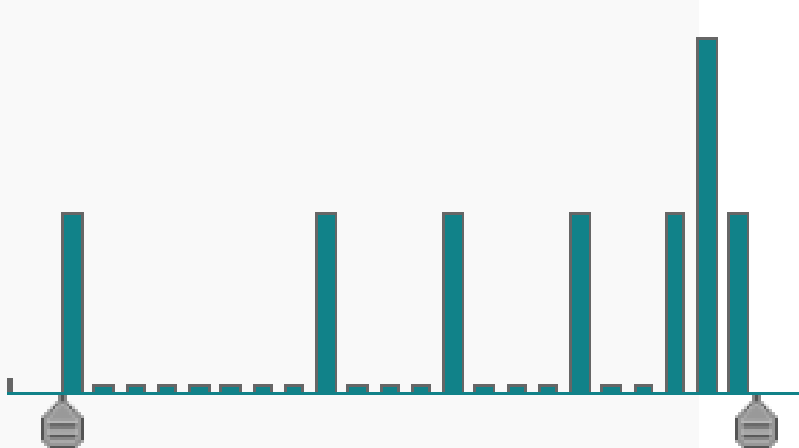
Number of peer reviewed papers with related terms in abstract

1995 - 2016 (años)



“Resilience” + “rural” + “development”
N=100

1995 - 2016 (años)



“Resilience” + “rural development”
N=8

“Resilience” ... and rural development?

“Resiliencia” + “rural” + “desarrollo”

N=4

ISOC - Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades

> Sobre esta base de datos

Búsqueda simple

Búsqueda por campos

Búsqueda por índices

Búsqueda por comandos

> Ayuda

Formulario búsqueda

Historial (1)

Resultados: 4 documento(s)

Descargar resultados

mostrar: 20 ordenar: Año Pub. Des. salida: Breve filtro: Aplicar

Guardar selección Seleccionar: [Todos](#), [Ninguno](#)

Pág. 1 de 1

- [Resiliencia comunitaria, capital social y gobernanza territorial](#)
Cheshire, Lynda; Esparcia, Javier; Shucksmith, Mark, 2015, Ager. Revista de Estudios sobre Despoblación y Desarrollo Rural
- [Eco-emprendimiento de mujeres: ¿un posible camino en resiliencia social?](#)
Pallarès Blanch, Marta, 2015, Ager. Revista de Estudios sobre Despoblación y Desarrollo Rural
- [¿Son los grupos de acción local, bajo enfoque LEADER, una buena vía para contribuir a la resiliencia en las zonas rurales?](#)
Martínez Arroyo, Francisco; Sacristán López, Hugo; Yagüe Blanco, José Luis, 2015, Ager. Revista de Estudios sobre Despoblación y Desarrollo Rural
- [La agricultura familiar como agente de resiliencia en la región occidental de Santa Catarina \(Brasil\)](#)
Exterckoter, Rudinei Kock; Silva, Clécio Azevedo da; Tulla Pujol, Antoni Francesc, 2015, Ager. Revista de Estudios sobre Despoblación y Desarrollo Rural

Guardar selección Seleccionar: [Todos](#), [Ninguno](#)

Pág. 1 de 1

Concepts

Our study

Results- discus.

Concluding rem.

“Resilience” ... and rural development

- Resilience thinking being applied to a wide types of social systems in rural development

*The Welsh Marches: resilient farmers?
Exploring farmers' resilience to extreme
weather events in the recent past*

Rebecca Griffiths and Nick Evans

University of Worcester (United Kingdom)

*Sustainability, resilience and agency
in intensive agricultural enclaves*

Andrés Pedreño*, Carlos de Castro, Elena Gadea*
and Natalia Moraes***

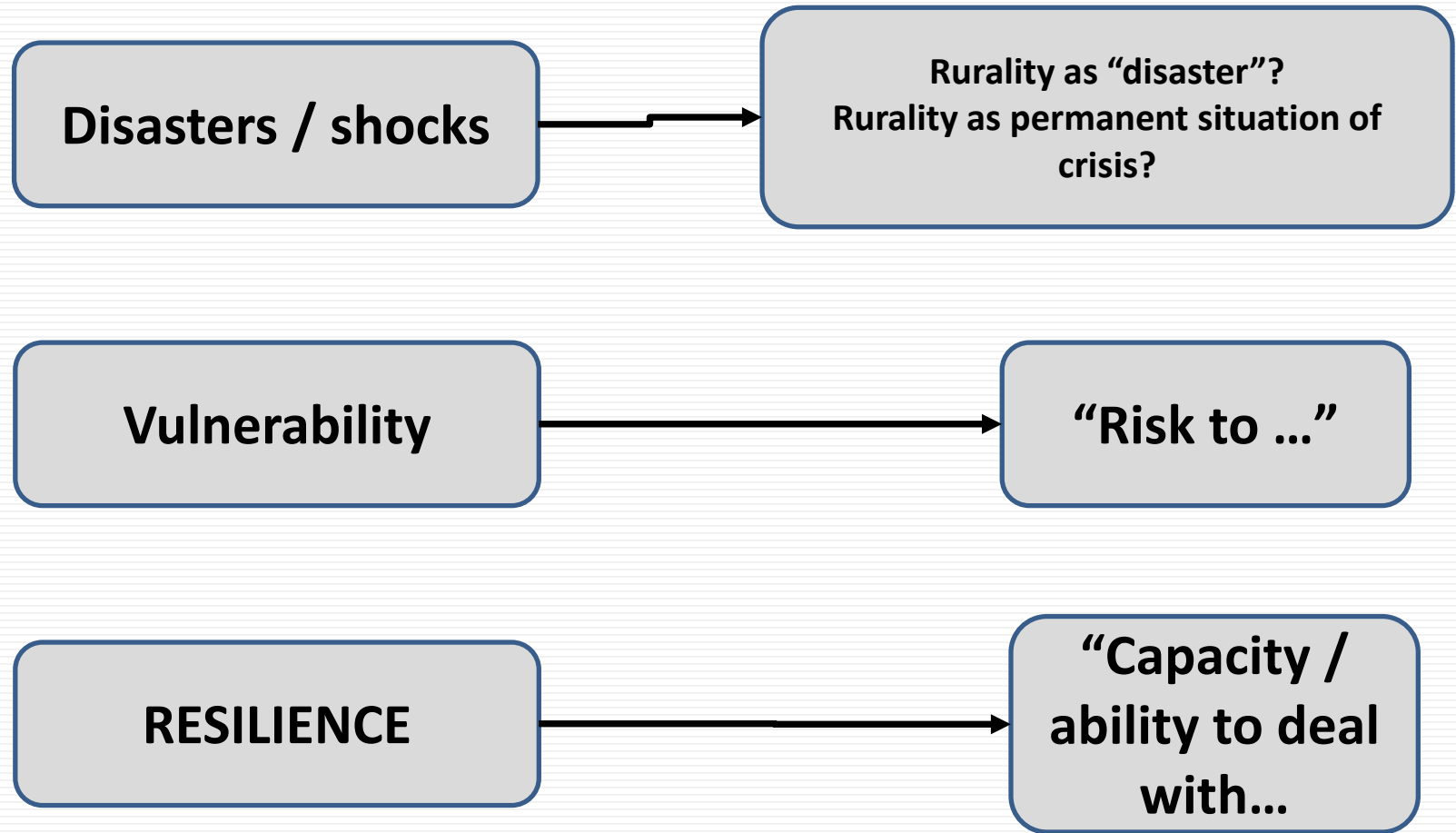
**University of Murcia (Spain)*

***Autonomous University of Madrid (Spain)*

Ager, 18 (2015)



Key aspects and some questions coping with “resilience”



“Vulnerability and Resilience: two dimensions of rurality” (D. Freshwater, Soc. Ruralis, 2015)

**MOST (?) RURAL AREAS
(Different ruralities)**

rural is not synonymous with decline.

**But, many of them are
HIGHLY VULNERABLE (?)
RURALITY =
VULNERABILITY (?)**

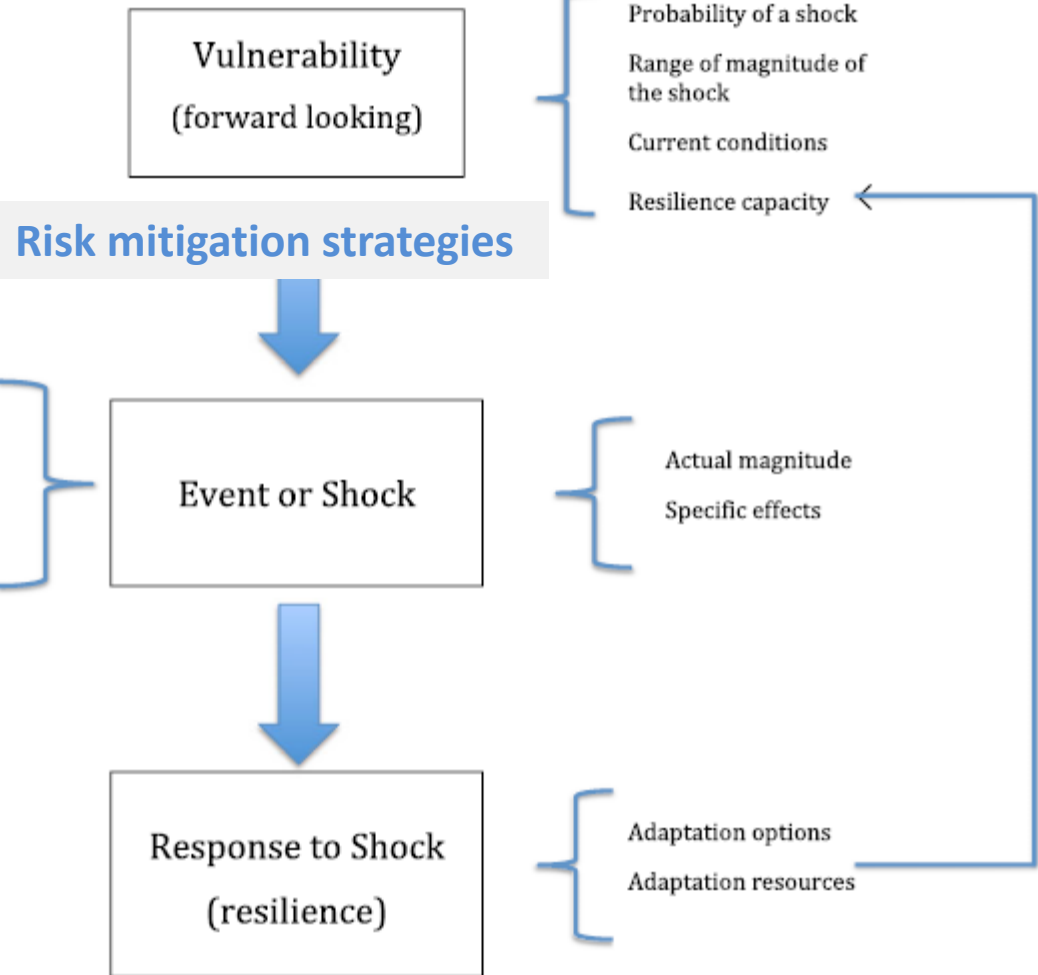
**SOME RURAL
AREAS: LIVE THEM
IN A PERMANENT
SHOCK (?)**

**WHAT –TERRITORIAL- CAPITAL
TO RESPOND?**

- Economic
- Human
- Social
- Cultural
- Natural

Shock Types

- natural event
- policy change
- economic shock
- insecurity



schematic of elements of a shock

“Vulnerability and Resilience: two dimensions of rurality” (D. Freshwater, Soc. Ruralis, 2015)

1. -Traditional- strategies for development of rural areas
 - Specialisation: nevertheless, high vulnerability?

➔ Responses?
2. Two standard recommendations for new –territorial- rural development

Diversification

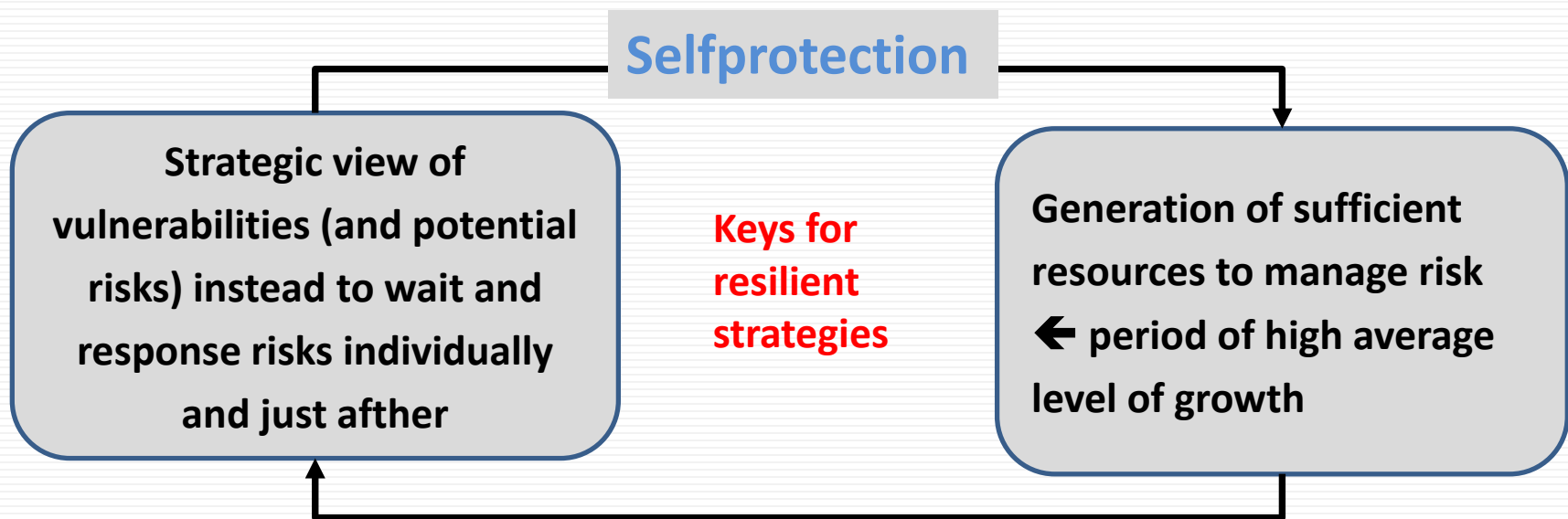
- Small economies: limited capacity to diversify (lack of local market, labour supply, etc.)
- What are the new sectors with lower risk?

Clusters

- Because the inter-links the risk of a firm or sector may affect to the whole cluster. It is not a strategy to reduce risk
-

“Vulnerability and Resilience: two dimensions of rurality” (D. Freshwater, Soc. Ruralis, 2015)

Thus, how rural regions may approach resilience?: **selfprotection**



There is “No best strategy”: each region has different tolerance for risk because different

a) Exposure to risks;

b) Abilities to mitigate risks (social component).

“Community resilience, social capital and territorial governance” (L. Cheshire, J. Esparcia, M. Shucksmith, AGER, 2015)

Resilience: a wide concept; in rural regions:

- Risk management perspective (top-down? Need to be highly institutionally embedded? → High risk to don't implement a proper strategy at rural regional scale →
 - Rural community resilience: “responding to shocks from the local” →
 - Endogenous factors
 - Competences: strong social networks – “networked resources” (social capital –trust-, local institutions, self-efficacy, sense of community) → sharing and mobilising resources facing shocks
 - -Adaptative- capacities
 - Not only endogenous factors: structural processes linked to availability of economic resources, economic growth, access to information and knowledge, etc.
-

“Community resilience, social capital and territorial governance”



<http://ruralager.org/es/>

Ager, 18 (2015)



Community resilience, social capital and territorial governance

(Lynda Cheshire, Javier Esparcia and Mark Shucksmith)

- *Community resilience, social capital and territorial governance.* Lynda Cheshire, Javier Esparcia and Mark Shucksmith.
- *Are local action groups, under LEADER approach, a good way to support resilience in rural areas?* Francisco Martínez Arroyo, Hugo Sacristán López and José Luis Yagüe Blanco.
- *Women's eco-entrepreneurship: a possible pathway towards community resilience?* Marta Pallarès-Blanch.
- *Is the community-based management of natural resources inherently linked to resilience? An analysis of the Santiago Comaltepec community (Mexico).* María del Mar Delgado-Serrano, Roberto Escalante and Saul Basurto.
- *Family farmers as agents of resilience in the western region of Santa Catarina (Brazil).* Rudinei Kock Exterckoter, Clécio Azevedo da Silva and Antoni Francesc Tulla Pujol.
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-

“Are LAGs a good way to support resilience in rural areas?” (F. Martínez Arroyo, H. Sacristán, J.L. Yagüe, AGER, 2015)

Third block: Have the LAGs already contributed to, or are they contributing to, the resilience of the rural environment? How are they doing this? By overcoming the social break-up, depopulation, environmental conservation and/or contributing to economic diversification? If this is the case, can the LAGs be the necessary actors to help resilience in the rural environment?

1. 18 %: YES
2. 40 %: national and regional governments “don’t believe in LEADER” as instrument to face risks & uncertainties and to improve resilience or rural communities;
3. 65 %: local communities consider LEADER as useful instrument contributing to face rural shocks;
4. More than 50 % of LAGs were doing efforts to improve local competences (better facing shocks and designing better strategies for the future?) →
5. nevertheless only 26 % did clear changes to better face the economic crisis (as critical shock)

“Community resilience, social capital and territorial governance”

- *Is the community-based management of natural resources inherently linked to resilience? An analysis of the Santiago Comaltepec community (Mexico)*. María del Mar Delgado-Serrano, Roberto Escalante and Saul Basurto.
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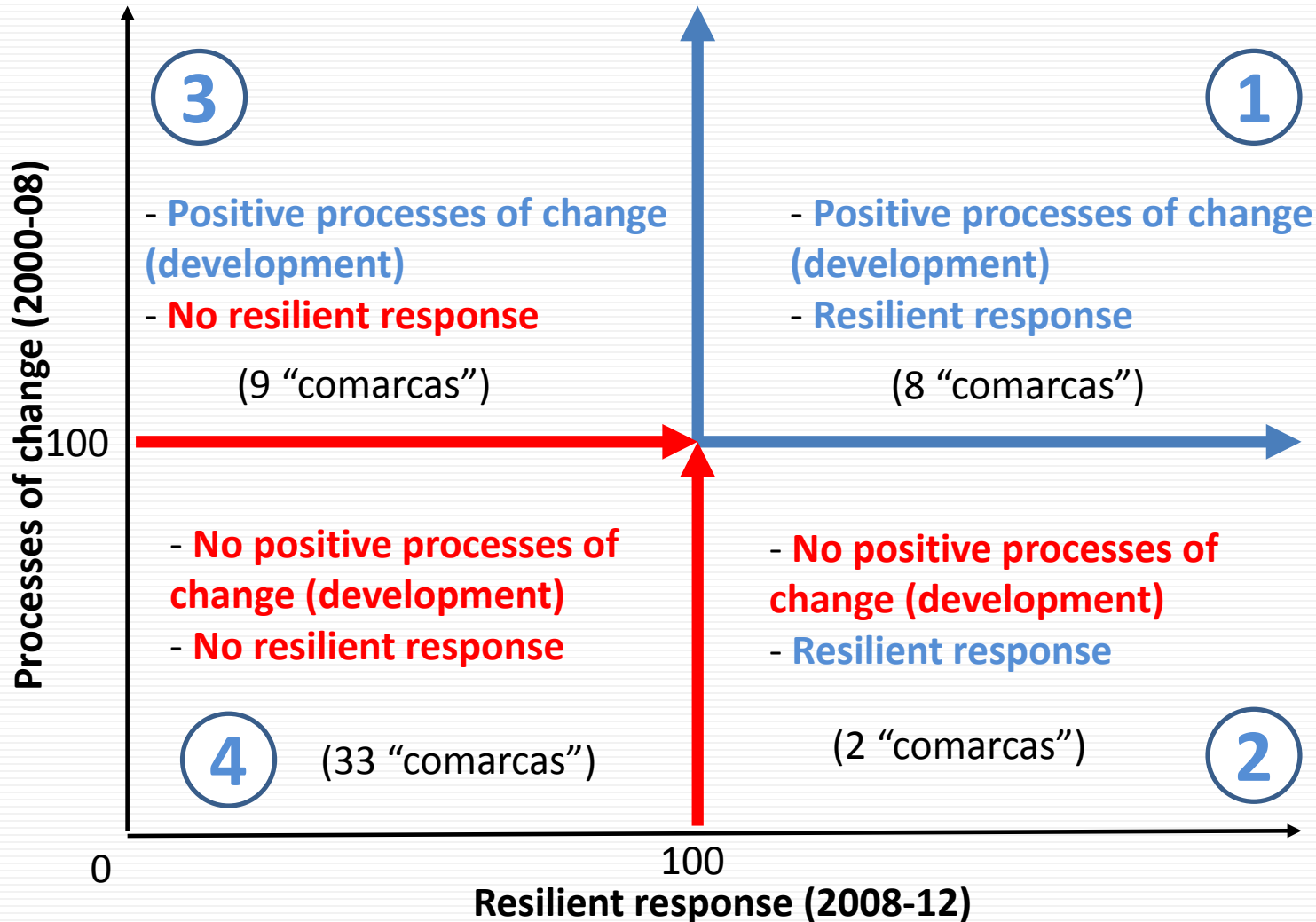
Social resilience .. and territorial resilience: “Rural development, economic crisis and territorial resilience. Rural Andalucía”

Economía Agraria y Recursos Naturales. ISSN: 1578-0732. e-ISSN: 2174-7350. Vol. 14,1. (2014). pp. 27-56

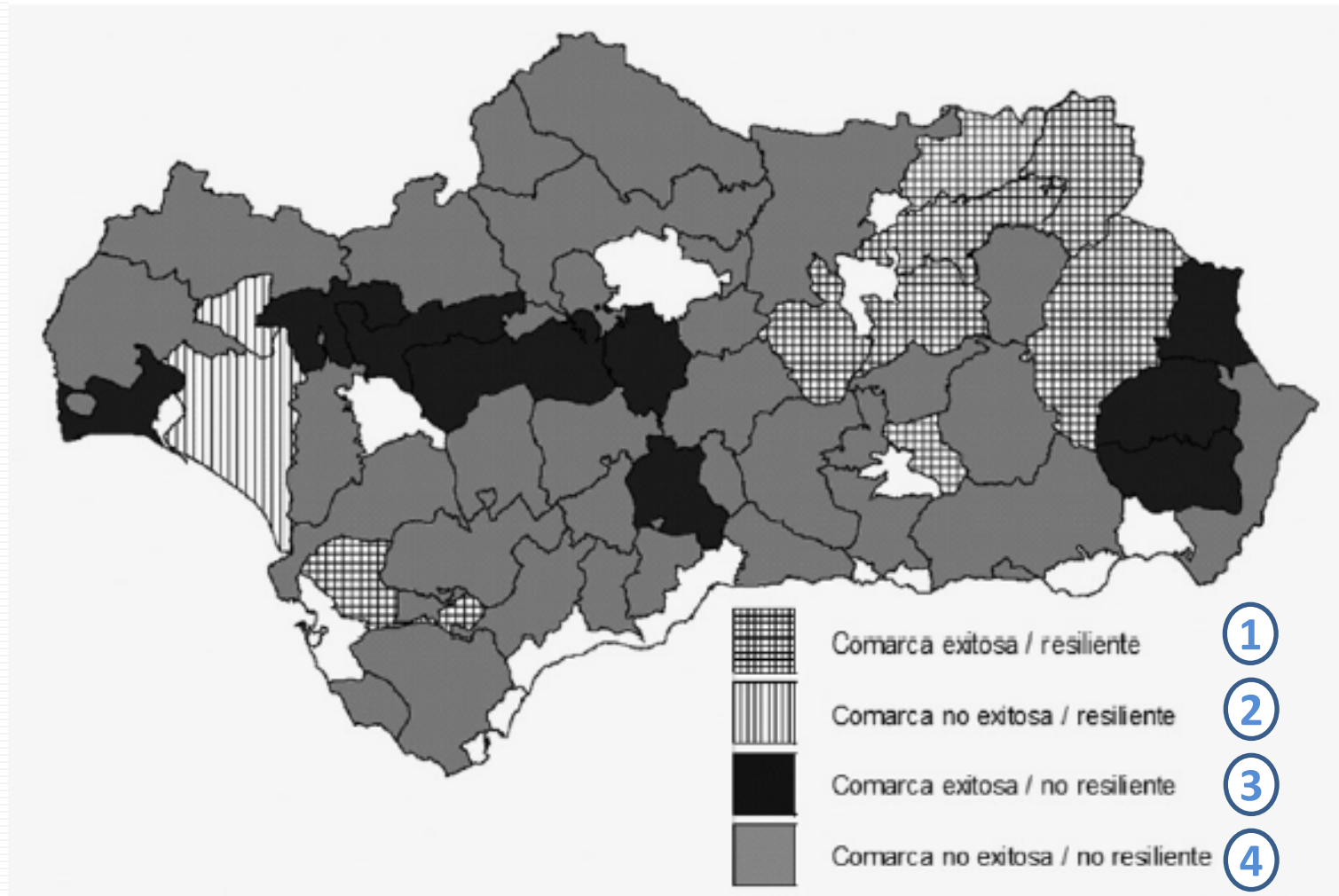
**El medio rural andaluz frente a la crisis económica:
un análisis de los factores de resiliencia territorial**

Pedro Sánchez Zamora^a, Rosa Gallardo Cobos^a y Felisa Ceña Delgado^a

“Rural development, economic crisis and territorial resilience. Rural Andalucía”



“Rural development, economic crisis and territorial resilience. Rural Andalucía”



Three concluding questions



“Resilient strategies in northern and southern Europe: towards a smart and sustainable rural development?”

1. Could be applied the concept of “resilience” in the context of rural development?: YES, since rural areas (as many other social or territorial systems) ...
 - ... are –more or less- vulnerable to many processes, events, changes, policies, etc. Thus, they are facing
 - Events, shocks or disasters (economic crisis and its effects –such as closure of companies-; demographic decline, etc.)
 - Other direct or latent risks
 - Need (anticipating or coping with) risk –management- → resilient strategies?
-

“Resilient strategies in northern and southern Europe: towards a smart and sustainable rural development?”

2. Are there strategies of resilience in Southern Europe – (Spain)?: NO →
 1. “strategy” implies some planned actions anticipating events or shocks or conducting changes to minimise risks (or adapting to such new context). Thus,
 2. → we may find mainly individual and immediate –or not- responses: this could be resilience but not necessarily imply a resilient strategy.
-

“Resilient strategies in northern and southern Europe: towards a smart and sustainable rural development?”

3. Are resilient responses –not strategies- contributing to -a smart and sustainable- rural development? NOT necessarily

1. E.g. *Intensive agricultural production enclaves of Murcia:*

- High vulnerability to external forces (changes in markets, third countries, etc.)*
- Need to quickly increase of productivity in order to compete under the new circumstances.*
- Responses →*
 - *intensification of production → ecological unsustainability*
 - *Deterioration of working conditions → social unsustainability*



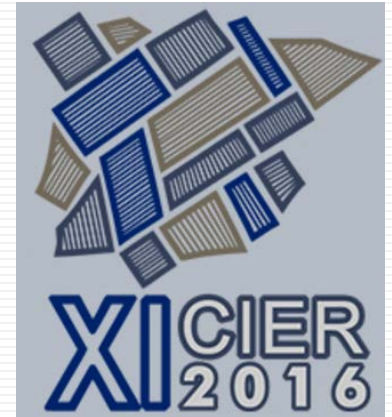
“Resilient strategies in northern and southern Europe: towards a smart and sustainable rural development?”

3. Are resilient responses –not strategies- contributing to -a smart and sustainable- rural development?
NOT necessarily
2. → under absence of real resilient strategies, resilient individual responses could easily imply unsustainability or, in better cases, just very short term solutions, which in turn could be only neutral in terms of sustainability –or even negative in long term-.
3. Do rural areas (and their local actors) have the capacity and abilities to design and implement such a strategies? Unfortunately, very few of them.



Resilient strategies in southern Europe: towards a smart and sustainable rural development?

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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