

Eawag Seminar Invitation

Post-Disaster Reconstruction and Recovery

Speaker	Prof. Amy Javernick-Will <i>Department of Civil Environmental, and Architectural Engineering, University of Colorado Boulder, USA</i>
When	May 18, 11.00 – 12.00 a.m.
Where	Forum Chriesbach, room C20, Eawag Dübendorf
Abstract	<p>Given the rise of the number of natural disasters and the damage that they cause, we must better understand how communities can prepare for, and recover from, disaster events. This is particularly true in resource-limited communities, where the devastation is often more severe, but where newly designed infrastructure could lead to positive and lasting change. Dr. Javernick-Will will present a summary of findings from her research group's National Science Foundation (NSF) funded research that aims to uncover pathways to post-disaster recovery. Javernick-Will's research team first conducted a retrospective analysis to determine the combination of pre-disaster community factors and post-disaster recovery strategies that lead to long-term community recovery in India using fuzzy set Qualitative Comparative Analysis (fsQCA). The strongest conditions that facilitated infrastructure, social, and economic recovery included recovery agency embeddedness, construction oversight and training, government resources and a lack of social vulnerability. But, socially vulnerable communities could recover if the community participated in the infrastructure design and reconstruction process. These findings were used to inform a longitudinal study following Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines to further unpack and analyze what post-disaster coordination, stakeholder participation, and training processes and structures, across project phases of planning, design, and construction, enabled resilient and sustainable infrastructure systems. Dr. Javernick-Will will discuss current findings from this study and provide a brief overview of additional research her research group is conducting.</p>