

# Glossary

This glossary explains the meaning of certain words according to the way they are used in this book.

- allies** people or organisations who can provide help and support
- asset** something that can be used to improve well-being
- capacity** ability to do something, particularly the ability to anticipate, resist or recover from hazards
- caste** social class determined by birth
- collaboration** when two or more people or groups work together to achieve something
- confrontation** when two or more people or groups meet face-to-face to discuss an issue, often in an aggressive way
- cyclone** a violent tropical storm with very strong winds and heavy rain (Southeast Asia). See also *typhoon* and *hurricane*
- disaster** when a hazard impacts on a vulnerable community, causing damage to life, property and livelihoods
- dis-empower** where a person or group is made less able to determine their own values and priorities or made less confident of their own abilities
- drought** a long period with little or no rainfall
- energiser** an activity or game which restores energy to a group
- eviction** when people are forced to move out of their home
- fatalistic** a feeling that people are powerless to change their future
- focus group** a small group of people who meet to discuss a particular topic
- frost** crystals of frozen water which cover the ground and cold objects, when the temperature is near freezing point
- governance** the process of governing a country or local area
- hail** small balls of ice that fall like rain
- hazard** a natural or man-made event or situation which could lead to danger, loss or injury

<b>hurricane</b>	a violent tropical storm with very strong winds and heavy rain (Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea). See also <i>cyclone</i> and <i>typhoon</i>
<b>ice-breaker</b>	an activity or game which is used to introduce group members to each other and to help them to feel comfortable in the group
<b>infrastructure</b>	systems, services or facilities necessary for economic activity, such as power, water supply, roads and public transport
<b>mainstream</b>	to consider an issue in all activities and let it influence the way things are done
<b>mitigation</b>	measures taken before a hazard happens, in order to reduce the negative impact of that hazard
<b>NGO</b>	non-governmental organisation
<b>open-ended question</b>	a question that encourages the respondent to provide information. The answer cannot simply be 'yes' or 'no'
<b>participatory</b>	describes a situation where many people are taking part
<b>participatory tools</b>	activities which enable people to express and analyse the realities of their daily lives
<b>prejudice</b>	having a negative attitude towards someone or a group of people because of lack of knowledge or stereotypes
<b>preparedness</b>	the state of being prepared. Disaster preparedness relates to activities carried out before a hazard event, which increase people's ability to predict, prepare for and respond to the effects of the hazard
<b>pressures</b>	people and processes that cause vulnerability
<b>schedule</b>	an outline of activities that will be carried out at specific times
<b>stakeholder</b>	a person or group with an interest in, or concern for, something
<b>trend</b>	changes which occur over time
<b>trespass</b>	to go onto someone's land or enter their property illegally or without permission
<b>tsunami</b>	a large ocean wave caused by an earthquake under the water
<b>typhoon</b>	a violent tropical storm with very strong winds and heavy rain (China seas and west Pacific). See also <i>cyclone</i> and <i>hurricane</i>
<b>vulnerability</b>	a condition, or set of conditions, which reduces people's ability to anticipate, resist, or recover from, the impact of a hazard