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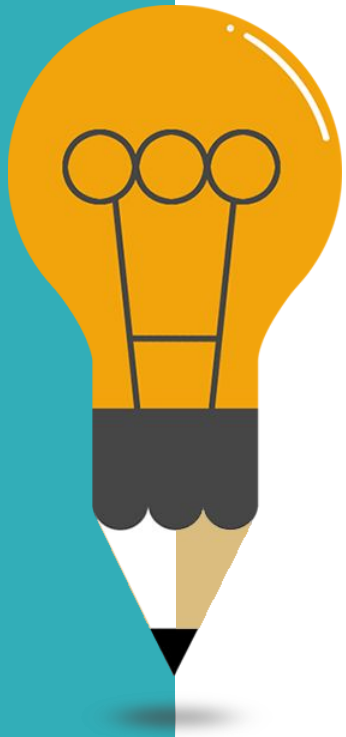

# Socio-ecological resilience

## Module 1

Innovation Hive

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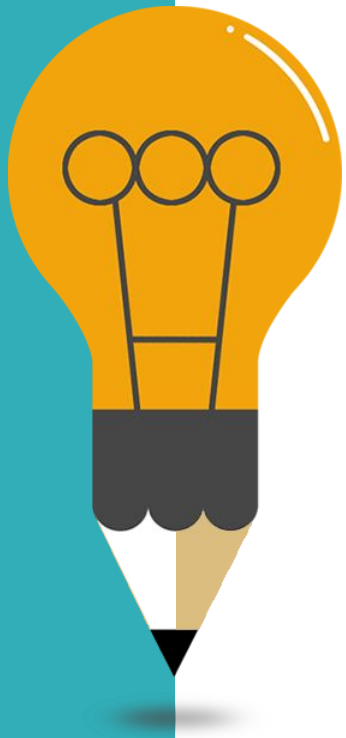

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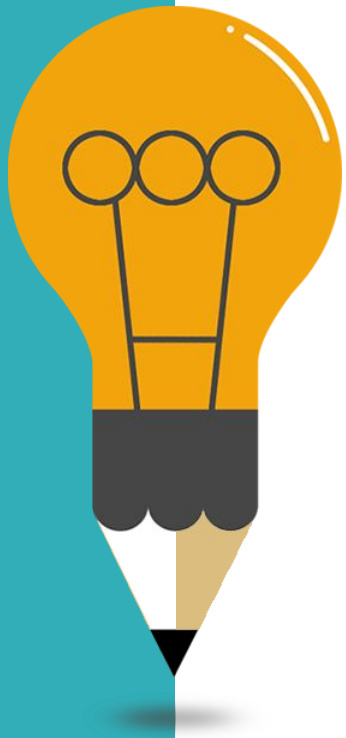


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# 1. Introduction

In the context of polarization in society, socio-ecological resilience is crucial because it helps to prevent further escalation of conflicts, reduce vulnerability, and foster social cohesion.
Polarization in society can manifest in various ways, such as political, economic, cultural, or social divisions. It can be caused by a range of factors, including inequality, discrimination, political polarization, and environmental degradation.
Polarization can lead to social fragmentation, breakdown of trust, and conflict, which can have significant negative impacts on the well-being of individuals and communities. Socio-ecological resilience can help to mitigate the negative impacts of polarization in several ways.

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# Socio-ecological Resilience

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# 2. What is Socio-ecological Resilience?

> Socio-ecological resilience refers to the capacity of a system, whether it be a community, a region, or an ecosystem, to withstand and recover from disturbances, such as environmental changes or social and economic shocks, while maintaining its essential functions and identity.



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# 2. What is Socio-ecological Resilience?

> Resilience is a dynamic and multi-dimensional concept that involves various aspects of social, ecological, and economic systems, such as diversity, redundancy, adaptability, and learning. A resilient socio-ecological system is one that can absorb, adapt to, and transform in response to changes and disturbances, while maintaining its essential functions and values.



# 3. Influence of Radicalization to Socio-ecological Resilience

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## How Radicalization affects Socio-ecological Resilience

*Undermining social cohesion*

Radicalization creates divisions within a society, undermining social cohesion and trust between different groups and leading to a breakdown in communication and cooperation.

*Violence and conflict*

Radicalization leads to violent or extremist behavior, which can pose a threat to public safety and security. Radicalized individuals or groups may engage in terrorist activities and hate crimes.

Marginalization and exclusion

Radicalization results in the marginalization and exclusion of certain individuals or groups, particularly those who hold minority or marginalized identities.

# 3. Influence of Radicalization to Socio-ecological Resilience

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## How Radicalization affects Socio-ecological Resilience

*Reduced resilience*

Radicalization reduces the resilience of individuals and communities, making difficult the adoption of social changes.

*Stifling innovation and creativity*

Radicalization discourages innovation and creativity by promoting rigid and dogmatic thinking. This can limit the ability of communities to develop creative solutions to social challenges.

# 4. Co-existence of Radicalization and Socio-ecological Resilience in a Society

## Can it be done?

The co-existence of radicalization and socio-ecological resilience is complex and can vary depending on the context.



**Positive**

- Radicalization may be driven by environmental or social grievances, such as environmental degradation or social inequality. In these situations, addressing the underlying causes of radicalization can be an important part of building socio-ecological resilience.

- Some radicalized groups may prioritize building resilient communities that are able to withstand environmental and social challenges. If these groups prioritize social inclusion and work collaboratively with other community members, they may be able to promote resilience in ways that benefit everyone.

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# 4. Co-existence of Radicalization and Socio-ecological Resilience in a Society

## Can it be done?

**Negative**

- However, radicalization can pose a threat to socio-ecological resilience. Radicalized individuals or groups may engage in violent or disruptive behavior that can undermine social cohesion and community resilience.

- Radicalization can also lead to the marginalization and exclusion of certain individuals or groups, which can reduce the adaptive capacity of communities and make them more vulnerable to environmental risks and disasters.




It is important to address radicalization in a way that is consistent with the principles of socio-ecological resilience. This may involve promoting social inclusion and diversity, building trust and cooperation, and addressing the root causes of radicalization through dialogue, education, and other non-violent means.

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# 5. Socio-ecological resilience fights Radicalization

Socio-ecological resilience can play a critical role in fighting Radicalization and Polarization in societies promoting the same time social inclusion:



- Creating conditions that promote social inclusion, can reduce the risk of marginalization, alienation, and social unrest.
- By promoting cultural competence, collaboration, and communication skills, individuals and communities can develop a more holistic understanding of the issues at stake and work together to find effective solutions.
- By encouraging open and respectful communication, communities can reduce the risk of polarization and promote social inclusion.

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# 5. Socio-ecological resilience fights Radicalization

Socio-ecological resilience can play a critical role in fighting Radicalization and Polarization in societies promoting the same time social inclusion:



By addressing social and economic inequalities, communities can reduce the risk of radicalization.

By promoting conservation practices, communities can build a sense of belonging and shared responsibility and reduce the vulnerability to radicalization.

Fostering social cohesion, diversity, and participation.

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# 6. Benefits of a socio-ecological resilient society

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## Personal level

- Health and well-being by encouraging a more active and sustainable lifestyle
- Promoting a sense of connection to nature and the community, socio-ecological resilience can improve mental health and well-being.
- Increased sense of purpose and connection by participating in community-based conservation projects and other socio-ecological resilience initiatives.

# 6. Benefits of a socio-ecological resilient society

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## Social level

- Stronger community identity and pride by promoting a sense of community ownership and responsibility
- Community cohesion By promoting the development of more resilient and adaptable communities helping to reduce the impacts on vulnerable communities.
- Participation and engagement provide opportunities for community members to participate in decision-making processes.

# 6. Skills for strengthening socio-ecological resilience

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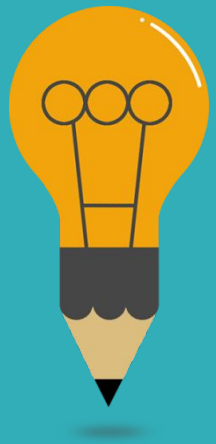
Strengthening socio-ecological resilience requires a combination of skills. Here are the most important skills that can help individuals, communities, and organizations to enhance their resilience:

1. Intercultural skills
2. Critical thinking
3. Lifelong Learning
4. Flexibility in accepting changes
5. Recognition of socio-cognitive constructs that enable or constrain human behavior
6. Constructive dialogue



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