

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910788511203321
Titolo	Rebuilding urban places after disaster [[electronic resource]] : lessons from Hurricane Katrina / / edited by Eugenie L. Birch and Susan M. Wachter
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Philadelphia, : University of Pennsylvania Press, c2006
ISBN	1-283-89797-0 0-8122-0448-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (388 p.)
Collana	The city in the twenty-first century
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Disciplina	363.349220976335
Soggetti	Urban renewal - Louisiana - New Orleans City planning - Louisiana - New Orleans Hurricane Katrina, 2005 New Orleans (La.) Economic conditions New Orleans (La.) Social conditions
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [345]-364).
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Sommario/riassunto

Disasters-natural ones, such as hurricanes, floods, or earthquakes, and unnatural ones such as terrorist attacks-are part of the American experience in the twenty-first century. The challenges of preparing for these events, withstanding their impact, and rebuilding communities afterward require strategic responses from different levels of government in partnership with the private sector and in accordance with the public will. Disasters have a disproportionate effect on urban places. Dense by definition, cities and their environs suffer great damage to their complex, interdependent social, environmental, and economic systems. Social and medical services collapse. Long-standing problems in educational access and quality become especially acute. Local economies cease to function. Cultural resources disappear. The plight of New Orleans and several smaller Gulf Coast cities exemplifies this phenomenon. This volume examines the rebuilding of cities and their environs after a disaster and focuses on four major issues: making cities less vulnerable to disaster, reestablishing economic viability, responding to the permanent needs of the displaced, and recreating a sense of place. Success in these areas requires that priorities be set cooperatively, and this goal poses significant challenges for rebuilding efforts in a democratic, market-based society. Who sets priorities and how? Can participatory decision-making be organized under conditions requiring focused, strategic choices? How do issues of race and class intersect with these priorities? Should the purpose of rebuilding be restoration or reformation? Contributors address these and other questions related to environmental conditions, economic imperatives, social welfare concerns, and issues of planning and design in light of the lessons to be drawn from Hurricane Katrina.

2. Record Nr.	UNICAMPANIAVAN0077030
Titolo	Al servizio della Nazione : etica e statuto dei funzionari pubblici / a cura di Francesco Merloni e Roberto Cavallo Perin ; con la collaborazione di Benedetto Ponti e Barbara Gagliardi
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Milano, : Angeli, 2009
ISBN	88-568-1593-1
Descrizione fisica	412 p. ; 23 cm.
Soggetti	Funzionari pubblici - Comportamento - Aspetti morali
Lingua di pubblicazione	Italiano
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia