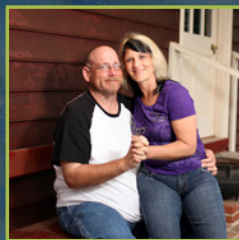# Consortium for Resilient Gulf Communities

Providing communities with solutions to build **social, economic, and public health resilience to** catastrophic oil spills.

A Broad Reach

KEY AUDIENCES

Community organizations and leaders

Policymakers

Scholars

INTERRELATED OUTCOMES

An improved knowledge base about the ways the Deepwater Horizon oil spill has affected communities in the Gulf of Mexico region, and what factors enhance or diminish resilience after a spill or similar events.

Evidence-based strategic planning and risk communication strategies for specific communities in areas relatively more exposed to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Guidance for policymakers to identify specific actions that will mitigate future disaster impacts more effectively.

LSU   Tulane University   USA CRRC   UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA   COASTAL RESOURCE & RESILIENCY CENTER   lphi   ALIGNING ACTION FOR HEALTH   RAND CORPORATION

Consortium for Resilient Gulf Communities

Assessing and addressing the impacts of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill on the health and socioeconomic well-being of communities in the Gulf of Mexico.

About CRGC

The Consortium for Resilient Gulf Communities (CRGC) was established in 2015 with a three-year grant from the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative to assess and address the social, economic, and public health impacts of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico region. CRGC's research, outreach, and education goals are aimed at helping communities across the Gulf Coast to more effectively understand, withstand, and overcome the multiple stressors brought on by such disasters.

CRGC is led by the RAND Gulf States Policy Institute in partnership with researchers at the Department of Sociology at Louisiana State University (LSU); the ByWater Institute, the Disaster Resilience Leadership Academy (DRLA), and the Department of Computer Science at Tulane University; the Coastal Resource and Resilience Center (CRRC) at the University of South Alabama; and Louisiana Public Health Institute (LPHI).

GULF of MEXICO RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Objectives & Activities

CRGC draws on a mixed-methods approach that includes integrated qualitative and quantitative analyses.

COLLABORATING AND INTEGRATING RESEARCH AND OUTREACH

Integrating research disciplines and joining researchers and communities via a use-inspired, problem-focused, and iterative approach. CRGC collaborates closely with communities and policymakers to ensure its work develops information and decision-support tools directly relevant to building resilience to the accidental release of oil, other hydrocarbons, or related materials.

ASSESSING IMPACTS

Closing current knowledge gaps by estimating the medium- and long-term social, economic, and public health effects of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. CRGC will assess impacts via telephone and in-person surveys and economic modeling.

IMPROVING PLANNING

Building capacity for community action planning using data and findings with on-the-ground support from field teams, including community health workers, graduate and undergraduate students, and local organizations.

EDUCATING STUDENTS AND COMMUNITIES

Providing training for graduate and undergraduate students to learn about innovative, transdisciplinary research methods and best practices in community disaster risk resilience in the Gulf States.

EVALUATING PROGRESS

Evaluating CRGC activities by using metrics derived from an action-logic model. Periodic self-evaluation will provide a baseline against which CRGC can assess progress and improve planning and operations.

To learn more visit
www.resilientgulf.org

Contact

Melissa Finucane, Ph.D.
Consortium Director
RAND Corporation
finucane@rand.org

Elizabeth Thornton, M.A.
Outreach Coordinator
RAND Corporation
ethornto@rand.org

The RAND Corporation is a research organization that develops solutions to public policy challenges to help make communities throughout the world safer and more secure, healthier and more prosperous. RAND is nonprofit, nonpartisan, and committed to the public interest.

Learn more at www.rand.org

RAND CORPORATION

RAND Gulf States Policy Institute
650 Poydras Street, Suite 1400
New Orleans, LA 70130