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The Lost Compass

RESILIENCE IN MAYOTTE: DISCOURSES AND LIVED REALITIES



Bridging Governance, Community Vulnerability, and Biodiversity Through a Social–Ecological Systems Approach

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Background on Mayotte

- French overseas department and EU Outermost Region
- Located between Madagascar and Mozambique
- One of the largest coral reefs in the world
- High exposure to hazards and social vulnerability
- Complex institutional landscape



Cyclone Chido Exposing Resilience Gaps (A major tropical cyclone that struck Mayotte in December 2024)

RESILIENCE DISCOURSE

Prevention & risk reduction
Policy frameworks
Environmental protection
Institutional coordination
Equity & social justice

Resilience as
planned

Reality
check

LIVED REALITIES

Urgent crisis response
Everyday survival needs
Environmental degradation
Fragmented Governance

>> The cyclone exposed a gap between resilience framing and lived realities on the ground <<

How the Gap Manifests


COASTAL GOVERNANCE

Limited capacity to govern complex coastal risks



SOCIAL FOUNDATION

High social vulnerability undermines resilience




POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

Institutional response fails to match local needs



BIODIVERSITY

Ecological decline meets governance and knowledge gaps



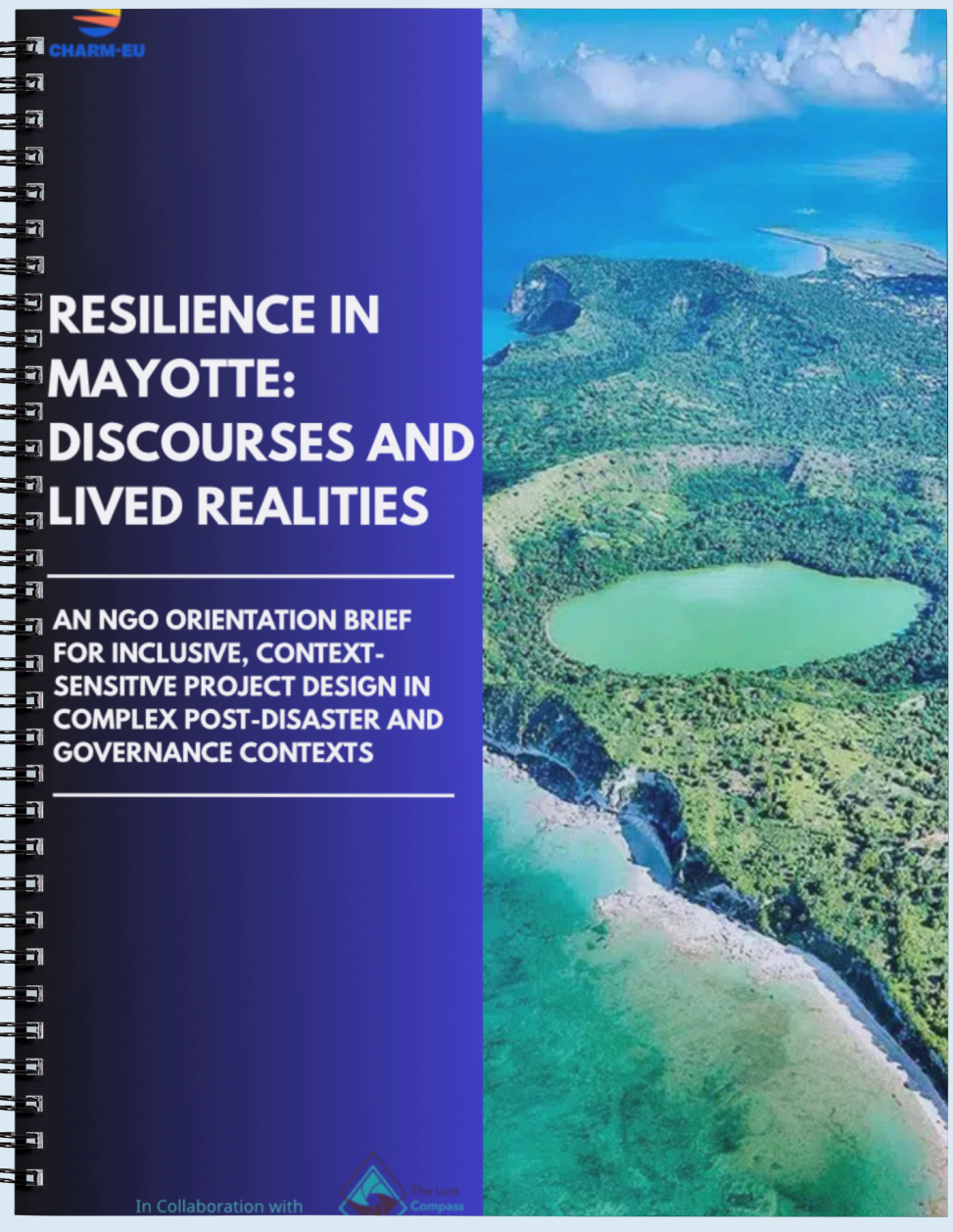
From Analysis to Practice

Community Engagement Toolkit

Offering guidance on inclusive, ethical, and community-led research and engagement in Mayotte

Interactive Map

Visualising social and environmental vulnerabilities, actors, and contexts to guide locally informed planning



NGO Briefing

Short, accessible briefings synthesising key context, challenges, and local perspectives to support informed NGO action

Online Library

Key resources, contextual background and a stakeholder contact list to support informed practice

>> Key takeaway: Resilience must be grounded in lived realities to be effective and just <<



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