

Key Concepts and Terms

In the research project, "**crises**" refers to humanitarian emergencies from 2015 to the present that have a sudden onset and a significant impact, including natural and man-made disasters. These crises are analysed through event-based memory frameworks, emphasising how collective memories of past events shape resilience and preparedness.

In this research project, "**resilience**" is the dynamic capacity of the Church in Sub-Saharan Africa and its constituents (organisations, leaders, and youth) to navigate, withstand, and positively transform in response to various adversities. This resilience is manifested through faith-driven mediating processes that enable the Church to maintain its spiritual mission, foster community solidarity, and effect societal change, grounded in a theological epistemology that connects suffering, hope, and action in a coherent and actionable framework.

In this research project, "**adaptability**" refers to the Church in Sub-Saharan Africa's ability to effectively modify its strategies, structures, and practices in response to changing circumstances and adversities, such as global crises. This involves the capacity to learn from experiences, innovate in problem-solving, and implement new approaches that allow for continued ministry and service despite challenges. Adaptability encompasses both the resilience to withstand pressures and the agility to pivot towards new opportunities for growth, engagement, and impact within their communities.

In this research project, "**innovation**" refers to the Church in Sub-Saharan Africa's development and application of new ideas, methods, and tools to address the challenges posed by global crises. This includes the introduction of novel approaches to ministry, community engagement, crisis management, and service delivery that enhance the Church's ability to support, educate, and uplift communities during times of adversity. Innovation embodies the Church's effort to transcend traditional practices by leveraging technology, inter-religious collaboration, and creative problem-solving to foster resilience and positive change within their congregations and the broader society.