

## Public Abstract

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Department:Rural Sociology

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Title:Resilient Communities: The Impact of Social Helping Networks and Structure on the Differential Success of Rural Armenian Households

This mixed methods study examines the impact of social helping networks on rural Armenian households. This research uses original data gathered from a survey of four Armenian villages and 8 focus groups during the fall of 2015. Social capital, defined as the norms and networks that facilitate collective action, provides the theoretical framework from which social network structure, levels of support and trust proxy measures are derived. This study encourages the careful examination of social helping networks by development practitioners to understand the variation in the potential impacts on the differential success of Armenian households.