



IDDRSI	Natural Resource Management
	Disaster Risk Management
Pillars	Access to markets and trade issues
	Livelihoods and Access to basic services
	Knowledge Management and research
	Conflict Resolution and Peace building
	Coordination and Institutional Strengthening

A review of this strategy has however led to the recognition that some areas are not sufficiently addressed, namely: 1) education, 2) governance, 3) land rights. In addition there are widely accepted principles of building resilience that must be incorporated into these pillars in order to ensure that sustainable impacts can be achieved. These are:

- Putting communities at the core of resilience building efforts,
- Understanding and focusing on social and ecological systems rather than their individual components,
- Promoting integrated multi-sectoral planning and implementation approaches,
- Increasing emphasis on longer-term investments that address the underlying causes of vulnerability and,
- Recognising and responding to the different needs, capabilities and aspirations of different individuals, households and communities.

An analysis of funding would as such hope to see progress towards these issues and approaches.

## Funding patterns 2011-2013

Donor funding to support IDDRSI and other implementing agencies in Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia for resilience-building activities on-the-ground shows the following:

### Regional Level

- The composition of financial contributions has been influenced by institutional priorities at both the recipient and donor level. e.g.in 2011, funding started to flow to build the capacity of IGAD to implement the IDDRSI.
- By November 2013, Kenya was the only country to have fully operationalised the CPP so donors have provided it greater focus than in Uganda and Ethiopia. Yet, still few donors have realigned their funding in response to operational plan. As donors wait for other countries to operationalise their CPPs, they have prioritised regional-level activities, with significant funds going to capacity building of IGAD.
- Several large, multi-country, multi-year programs have been developed to respond to the regional framework developed by IDDRSI, and include some of the principles of resilience such as community-engagement, system-approaches, and focusing on underlying causes of vulnerability. These are yet to be operationalised.
- Regional programmes such as DFID-funded BRACED and EC-funded SHARE have been designed specifically to address resilience. To a large extent they continue to fund many small projects, but have



designated significant investment in knowledge management and national policy support through which to achieve more transformational change.

- Finally, there is a lack of flexible funding for resilience-building in the region and ear-marking of funds for particular sectors is still practiced widely.

### National level

- With the increasing priority given to risk-reduction, preparedness and response in 2012, some institutions increased funding for resilience-building programs to the community level. Organisational strategies influenced this spending, often with donors 'layering' onto existing programmes to maximise efficiency and strengthen institutional partnerships.

- Some donors perceive the finalisation and national endorsement of the CPPs as crucial for the disbursement of funds as it would respond to the in-country demand. As such some have deferred the finalisation of planned resilience-building programs in order to ensure they would be aligned to the in-country priorities of national governments as defined in the Country Programming Papers (CPPs).

- Food security, livelihood diversification and water and sanitation (WASH) activities, continue to receive a significant level of funding and focus within resilience programs. (See figure 1 below) . Few projects appear to target critical issues such as education, and transformational factors such as good governance, or land rights are still rarely considered under a resilience agenda.

- Few national level programs are delivering meaningful resilience-building actions on the ground. There are exceptions, with some programmes focusing strongly on improving participatory governance and planning, engaging with the private sector and building evidence and capacities to ensure institutional change.

- More could be done to fund multi-sectoral activities in the countries. Management hurdles within donor agencies should be overcome to enhance the business case for, and subsequent implementation of, multi-sector programs particularly in response to the CPPs.

### Implications of funding decisions

The current funding patterns illustrate the need for change and refocus in the following areas:

1. There has been no major increase in long-term development funding, despite donors agreeing to support governments to develop long-term programmes and strategies in drylands. Provision of key infrastructure and basic services in the drylands form the foundation for building resilience, but this is only achievable with long-term funding.
2. Funding the same old interventions indicates that either not much has been learnt or available knowledge has not informed decision making processes on what to fund. This implies that there is rebranding of activities as resilience building but little significant shift in activities.
3. Short-term funding is still being directed at the same "traditional" interventions with very little being provided to address critical and transformative issues. Governance, and land rights for example must be considered as part of the resilience agenda if significant changes are to be achieved.



4. Sectors that remain underfunded and yet are critical to building resilience such as health, education, peacebuilding and security must be addressed by all donors. Engagement in these sectors may seem more challenging as they are under the remit of the State, but the CPP mechanisms provide opportunities for donors to support national government to make progress in these areas.

5. Education in particular directly affects pastoralists' capacity for livelihood diversification and drought resilience. Pastoralists value education and it offers the highest return on investment for positively diversifying their economy. However, education systems are not responding to this demand and provision of education for pastoralists still lags behind that for other people in the region. There is a need to change this and fund effective strategies that meet the demand for education among dryland communities if resilience is to be enhanced.

6. Support to IGAD is vital to achieve coherence and alignment in funding across the region, but it must be provided in ways that allow IGAD to develop into its own autonomous entity. This means that IGAD must be supported to hire its own staff, not just receive seconded advisors from donors. It also means it must have access to funds, not just for its own operations but also to provide to members states, some of whom are beginning to wonder what benefits will come to them from the IGAD IDDRSI process. This is important to maintain the level of trust that IGAD currently appears to have, around the resilience agenda, and to ensure it is perceived to 'add-value'.

7. Livelihoods and communities in the drylands of the HoA are dynamic and emerging trends need to be taken into account as they have implications on the type of interventions to build resilience. Dynamic contexts call for diverse approaches for the increasingly diverse populations to strengthen adaptive capacities and resilience to future shocks. It requires attention to how dryland systems work, environmental and economic. Resilience should be about targeting the most vulnerable and harnessing capabilities and protecting development gains. Therefore activities funded should be cognizant of emerging trends and opportunities otherwise they will undermine rather than build resilience of the communities.

## Conclusions and recommendations

- Ensure that the resilience agenda is broadened outside of the food security and livelihood sectors to make sure it encompasses education, governance, voice, land rights.
- Donors plan to refocus and increase support for resilience-building in the drylands from January 2014 but more must be done to enhance multi-stakeholder and cross-sector partnerships.
- Ensure interventions undertaken are based on a good understanding of emerging trends and opportunities in the drylands areas. Otherwise they will undermine rather than build resilience of communities or contribute to the litter of misconceived projects.
- Support government and local decision-making institutions to become more inclusive, networked, and transparent and to build on the evidence base if vulnerable communities are to benefit from the resilience efforts. Also, civil society needs support to engage with governments and IGAD to ensure that public transparency, accountability and monitoring mechanisms are in place.



- Ensure support to IGAD is enhancing its ability to provide technical and financial guidance to member states. This is vital to maintain the trust and authority given to IGAD in leading the resilience agenda.
- Document and disseminate lessons from development successes and failures to safeguard donor funding from wastage by replicating mistakes. Lessons learned would also inform improved design of activities, especially long-term interventions such as delivery of education services.
- Develop verifiable evidence of resilience outcome indicators to determine 'good practice' for enhancing resilience in various components and contexts. This would promote collaborative, harmonized and consistent resource investments tied to these indicators and thereby contribute to long-term sustainability and resilience.

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