

The Drylands Learning and Capacity Building Initiative for improved policy and practice in the Horn of Africa (formerly REGLAP) is an independent resource organisation, registered in Kenya, that promotes improved policy and practice in the drylands of the Horn of Africa via knowledge management and capacity building support to communities, CSOs and governments.

Vision: People in the drylands of the Horn of Africa are empowered and equitably represented within resilience building and development policy and practice.

Mission: To promote the evidence-base for improved policy and practice among dryland stakeholders.

Values: To support the rights of all individuals in the drylands to fully participate in their development and to promote greater transparency, accountability, collaboration and synergy among dryland stakeholders.

From REGLAP...

The Regional Learning and Advocacy Programme for Vulnerable Dryland Communities (REGLAP) was a consortium project funded by ECHO, which ran from 2008 to 2013. Its goal was to promote resilience building for dryland communities through policy and practice change in the Horn of Africa - focused on Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. REGLAP came to be recognised for its drylands expertise, its high quality synthesis documentation, and its awareness raising on critical issues. Over the 5 years of its existence REGLAP:

- 1) Produced **studies/reviews** on land fragmentation, integrated planning, changes in gender dynamics; and the challenges of crop agriculture in the drylands, as well as an annual journal, technical briefs, good practice principles, posters, policy briefs, leaflets and a range of synthesis documents.
- 2) Raised awareness on a number of **policy issues**, including the need for the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) and the ASAL Policy in Kenya, the Rangeland Management Policy in Uganda, and experience sharing on land use planning and legislation in Ethiopia.
- 3) Promoted **'community voices'** from the drylands in critical policy processes by supporting community and CSO input and representation at key meetings and events.
- 4) Developed an extensive **informal network** of research organisations, NGOs, CSOs, government and donor partners, which has extended far beyond its original ECHO partners and focal countries.

A strategic review and planning exercise was carried out in 2013 to reflect on REGLAP's niche, structure, home and geographical focus. The review concluded that REGLAP should become an independent resource organisation, with the goal of strengthening knowledge management and capacity building of dryland communities to engage in policy processes. It also recommended that the new organisation should formalise its collaboration with other dryland advocacy and research organisations, and expand its links to other countries in the IGAD region.

...To DLCI

DLCI became operational in January 2014. It is a non-profit company consisting of a CEO, Policy & Advocacy Manager, Monitoring, Learning & Communications Manager plus administrative and support staff, drawing on a pool of technical advisors and linking to a range of research and advocacy organisations. DLCI will be supported by a technical oversight committee and financial and legal advisors.

- Initial activities

Initially focusing on Kenya at county level, DLCI will carry out the following activities:

1. Together with relevant actors and county governments, review good practice approaches and strategies for promotion of key resilience issues currently receiving little structured attention i.e.
 - **Education:** more effective education delivery for the drylands (including the use of modern technology).
 - **Water and irrigation:** strengthening the evidence base and targeted advocacy for more appropriate water and irrigation development in the drylands.
 - **Integrated planning:** promoting shared visioning and land use planning with county governments and communities.
2. Develop action plans and advocacy strategies for promotion of evidence based good practice approaches
3. Dissemination of DLCI's and other relevant agencies' experiences to actors in all counties of Kenya, and at national and regional level in other IGAD countries. Promote integration of 'lessons learnt' in action plans.

Collaboration

DLCI supports partners working on drylands issues with collaborative networks, synthesised evidence on critical issues, and capacity building support to promote community voice.

For more information on the work of REGLAP and DLCI see:
www.disasterriskreduction.net/east-central-africa/reglap

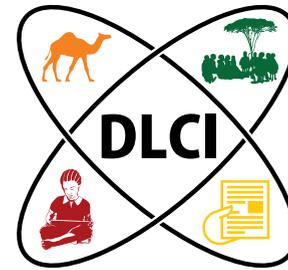
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