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DRRAP

Drought Risk Reduction
Action Plan



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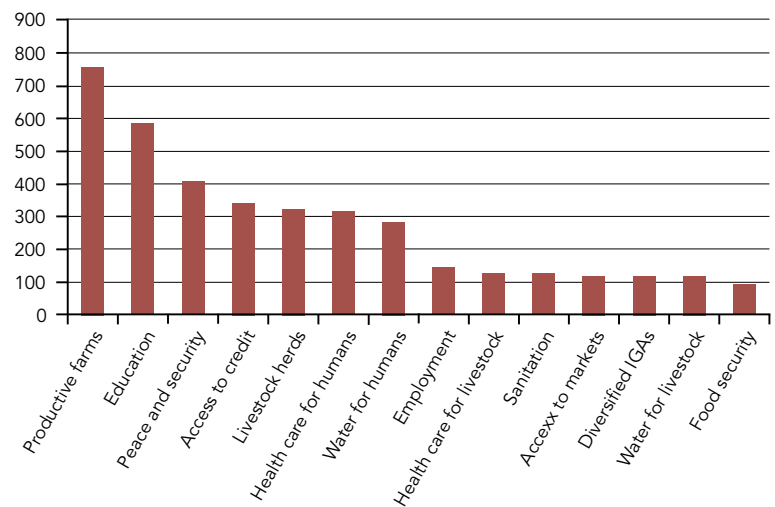
Assessment Location	Kotido and Kaabong Districts (Karamoja sub-region, Uganda)
Ecological/Livelihood Zones Assessed	Arid / Agro-pastoral, Agricultural and Urban/Peri-urban
# of Focus Group Discussions	36
# of Key Informant Interviews	40
Assessment Date	15-26 July 2013
Sub-region Statistics	Poverty rate: 80% ¹ Population with certain degree of food insecurity in 2011: 80% ²

Focus Group Discussion (FGD) Findings

Hazards: Drought and associated food shortages, malnutrition and famine were perceived by the focus groups as the most common hazards facing the districts and affecting most if not all the households in the communities. Communities cited the 2010-2011 drought as the most recent crisis period to be considered in the CoBRA assessment.

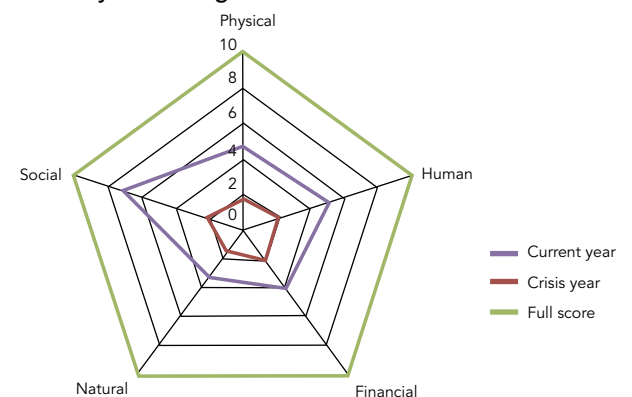
Priority Characteristics of Resilience: Overall, productive farms, education, and peace and security were repeatedly identified by the focus groups as the most important characteristics of a resilient community (Figure 1). While this ranking was fairly consistent across all gender/age/livelihood groups interviewed, a few differences are noteworthy. Youth placed a greater emphasis on education, access to markets and access to credit because of their interest in commercial activities, and routes out of traditional pastoral lifestyles. Agro/pastoral groups focused on productive farms, whereas peri-urban groups placed greater emphasis on peace and security and access to credit.

Figure 1: Priority Resilience Characteristics



Communities' Attainment of Resilience Characteristics: Figure 2 shows the aggregated attainment scores of the resilience characteristics illustrated in Figure 1 for all gender/age/livelihood groups on a radar diagram. Characteristics have been grouped according to the sustainable livelihood framework (SLF) categories. Characteristics were scored on average 4.8 and 1.9 out of 10 for the current and the most recent crisis period respectively, demonstrating the communities' low ranking on the achievement of resilience both in normal and crisis periods. Social characteristics, predominantly peace and security, received the highest score, though this is related to the recent improvement in the security situation, which could also deteriorate quite rapidly. There was little variation in the attainment scores between livelihood and intervention groups.

Figure 2: Priority Resilience Characteristics Attainment Score by SLF Categories



Interventions that Build Resilience: Table 1 outlines the most highly ranked current interventions contributing to the communities' resilience as well as the future interventions to enhance their resilience further. The ranking closely reflects the prioritised resilience statements.

Table 1: Highly Ranked Interventions that Build Resilience

Type of Intervention	Current or recent provision	Further or future provision	Total score
Water Water source improvement or improved storage capacity	22	11	33
Education Bursaries, scholarships or construction/refurbishment of school facilities including boarding facilities	19	14	33
Health Improvements to health services, staffing or facilities	19	10	29

1 United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (2011). Uganda Humanitarian Profile.

2 Government of Uganda (2012). Uganda Humanitarian Profile 2012.

Interventions that facilitate access to clean water for human use were highly rated. Bursaries, scholarships and boarding schools that support secondary education and above, along with improvements to health facilities, were also ranked highly.

Characteristics of Resilient Households: The five most commonly cited characteristics of resilient households include:

- Households that have a large herd size (26 out of 36 groups);
- Households that earn a certain level of income (19 out of 36 groups);
- Households that have a large farm (18 out of 36 groups);
- Households that have a business or diversified income generating activities (16 out of 36 groups); and
- Households in which a member has employment/wage labour (10 out of 36 groups).

Key Informant Interview (KII) Findings

Education level: The majority of resilient households (66%) had members who had completed primary education, and 34% had members who had completed secondary education or above.³

Diversified Income Sources: Most households interviewed (98%) reported multiple income sources including members in employment and/or with a business interest. Most resilient households (95%) also mentioned that they maintain income from and/or farm agricultural. Business activities include grain and livestock trading, shops and petty trading, charcoal and brick production, and renting of equipment or land, among others. Trading in cereals and livestock, by buying when prices were low and selling when they rise, seems a very common route to raising the capital required for another business activity, such as brewing or petty trading. The most frequently cited past/future Interventions that had contributed/will contribute to build resilience was those relating to agricultural inputs, followed by education and the expansion of savings and credit opportunities.

Recommendations

- The high priority was given to a relatively small set of indicators for building resilience, namely **productive farms, education, peace and security, access to credit and livestock herds**. Many of these are not always immediately considered part of disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies, as well as factors that require a long-term commitment to investment. Hence a broader conception of DRR is required if resilience is to be built.
- The ultimate success or impact of resilience interventions should be assessed on the extent to which they **build and diversify income and assets** either directly or indirectly, and the sustainability and adaptability of alternative income sources must be carefully vetted.
- The **community perspectives may not be statistically significant but were proven to be “realistic”** through the local CoBRA results review/validation process. Due consideration must be paid to the communities voice and perception, and their needs and priorities must be incorporated into local climate-resilience related planning, decision-making and programme/project processes.
- The consistency in community comments on resilience characteristics suggests that a **few key indicators** can be identified to monitor resilience trends in Karamoja more systematically; for example, percent of households with at least one member completing secondary school, and percent of households with access to sufficient water all year. Some of these indicators are already being measured as part of on-going data collection exercises.

CoBRA Field Assessment Steps and Questions Addressed

FGD Step 1. Agree on the definition of resilience: What does a ‘resilient’ community look like? What are the main hazards or shocks facing the community?

FGD Step 2. Identify resilience characteristics: What does a ‘resilient’ community look like? What are the characteristics of a resilient community?

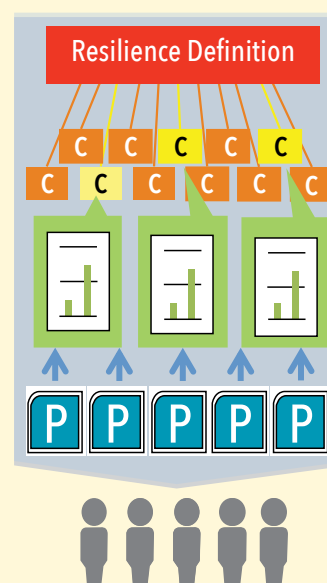
FGD Step 3. Prioritize resilience characteristics: What are the three most important characteristics of resilience in the community, ranked by importance?

FGD Step 4. Rate the community’s progress in attaining the priority resilience statements: On a scale of 0 to 10, to what extent has this community achieved each of these characteristics in the current period and in the last crisis period?

FGD Step 5. Identify the households in the community that have achieved (fully or partially) the resilience characteristics and list their common features and attributes

FGD Step 6. Identify interventions that have contributed to household resilience: What interventions have helped to enhance households’ level of resilience, and what additional/future interventions would help to build resilience further?

KII with nominated resilient households: What factors or characteristics have contributed to your household’s resilience? How did your household become resilient? Why do you think your family coped better with shocks and crises affecting the community? What interventions do you think would best build wider resilience in this community?



³ The literacy rate in Karamoja/Kotido is limited to 21 percent (Uganda Bureau of Statistics, 2012).