



Second Steering Committee Meeting Regional Platform on Drought Resilience and Sustainability

Recommendations Issues to Consider from the Second Steering Committee

24-25 March 2014, Kampala, Uganda

1. **Early warning early action and reaffirmation of commitments by MS, IGAD, development partners, UN agencies and NSAs present.** Resilience is a long term process. In the run-up to 2027 there may be adverse events, which need to be addressed through investing more in required systems. Hence, while resilience results from developmental actions, humanitarian actions cannot be completely ignored, **emergency preparedness measures to respond** should be strengthened in the framework of resilience.

To anchor this vital course of action, MS, IGAD, development partners, UN agencies and NSAs reaffirmed their **commitment to the resilience agenda** and the need to invest more in preventive measures and early warning - early action. The SC acknowledged the fact that it was cheaper to invest in early warning and early response than to invest in “emergency aid programmes”.

Recommendations:

- MS, IGAD and partners remain seized on the resilience agenda;
 - strengthen early warning systems nationally and regionally and ensure that development funding is flexible enough and factors in drought risk;
 - establish common triggers and protocols to escalate early warning to decision makers at national, regional and global levels to mobilize early action
 - further institutionalize and invest into scalable social protection schemes;
2. **Institutionalization:** the SC commended the efforts made by MS namely Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya to integrate CPPs/EDE in their national development plans as this indicated ownership and ensured sustainability by allocating resources and assigning roles and responsibilities to designated institutions.

Recommendation:

- The other MS namely Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia and Uganda take the initial steps of integrating the CPPs into their national development plans and empower the relevant existing structures/institutions coordinate and roll out the implementation.

3. **Coordination:** The SC noted with satisfaction that all MS had established a national coordination mechanism, albeit at different levels of operation. It was noted with concern, however, that the linkages between the national and sub-national structures (payams, wards, woredas, counties and / or districts) and line ministries, universities, research institutions, devt partners, private sector and NSA, were weak. The SC also noted that there was poor community involvement and participation in identifying priority intervention areas, programme development and implementation and in M and E. SC further observed that harmonizing expectations of different development partners at member state level is still difficult.

Recommendations:

- MS are encouraged to strengthen convening power (leadership) of designated institutions required to facilitate joint humanitarian-development investments to build resilience
 - MS (Sudan, South Sudan, and Somalia) finalize the composition of the national coordination mechanisms and purposefully put in place measures to ensure the participation of women and youth,
 - IGAD fast tracks the recruitment of the national coordinators to support the national coordination structures in MS,
 - establish a strategic common situation analysis process with key stakeholders to inform investment planning in a coordinated manner.
 - Development partners consider rationalizing and harmonizing accounting and M and E procedures at regional and national levels
4. **Capacity development:** SC acknowledges the need for further Capacity Development initiatives which are essential for the implementation of the IDDRSI strategy at regional, national and decentralized levels. CD will help reinforce the institutional absorption capacities and technical capacities.

Recommendations:

- IGAD pursues the implementation of the CD recommendations of the Oct 2013 SC
- IGAD puts in place a capacity development strategy for the specific MS and CSOs,

5. **Resource mobilization (MS):** The SC noted with appreciation the efforts by MS in mobilizing resources for enhancing resilience and investing these resources in cross border areas and arid and semi arid areas. The SC urged MS to increase these cross-border investments to ensure the regional approach in enhancing drought resilience in the region.
6. **Resource allocation (Dev partners):** The SC noted with appreciation development partners had over the last two years given grants and advanced loans to invest in drought resilience interventions at some MS level and cross border areas. In their effort to do things differently, the development partners have involved some MS in development and implementation of the drought resilience interventions.

Recommendations:

- AfDB and WB have financial provisions for phase 2 of their projects and are urging MS to submit their formal requests for consideration.
 - increased long term investments in the ASALs which are coordinated and inclusive of target communities, and informed by adequate risk information and contribute to resilience.
 - Decentralization of responsibilities to local authorities should be complemented by decentralization of resources together with capacity building of local authorities
 - MS should provide a conducive environment for the private sector to invest in dry lands.
 - Strengthening investments at regional level in an inclusive and equitable manner.
7. **KM, CD and M and E:** The SC noted the progress made by the IDDRSI KM, CD and M and E experts to establish regional systems, processes, procedures and practices. KM and M and E need to be institutionalized in each of the IGAD MS to track progress of implementation of IDDRSI and sharing data and information. Major efforts are needed to institutionalize principles and practices for regional and cross-border programming as well as for bottom up approaches in project and programme preparation.

Recommendations:

- The PCU and partners need to dedicate more time and resources to facilitate the development of gender responsive KM, Planning and M and E systems at MS levels that are linked to the regional and sub-national structures,
- IGAD supports the KM, programming and M&E work with the adequate capacity development initiatives.

- IGAD strengthens the knowledge management products it piloted by creating an online platform that effectively serves MS, Development Partners and wider stakeholders as part of the unified knowledge management system.

8. **Regional Analysis Unit:** SC noted with satisfaction the progress in establishment of the regional Resilience Analysis Unit (RAU)—led by IGAD, guided by the demands and needs of MS, currently incorporating FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP as member agencies.

Recommendations:

- The RAU consolidate a short and long term work plan in collaboration with MS.
- IGAD Secretariat evaluates and harmonizes selected methodologies, tools and approaches used for mapping investments and capturing data and visualization.

9. **Cross border programming:** Major efforts are needed to institutionalize principles and practices for **regional and cross-border programming** as well as for bottom up approaches in project and programme preparation.

Recommendations:

- Programming skills should be improved within the whole Programme Cycle Management (PCM) at both national and regional level.
- Harmonized cross border policies taking into account the livestock and population movements, the sharing of natural resources and markets are critically needed

10. **Humanitarian Access and Security:** SC noted with concern that children, women and persons with disabilities were most vulnerable in times of droughts, conflict and war and called for protection of these groups. The SC particularly commended the efforts by IGAD and MS to resolve the on-going conflict in South Sudan and urged IGAD, AUC and UN and Development partners to double their efforts to reach a peaceful solution.

Recommendations:

- The SC requested IGAD to urge the warring factions in all conflict situations in the region to allow access to communities by relief/humanitarian agencies.
- It was further observed that most of IGAD Member States are signatories of the Kampala Convention. MS were thus urged to apply and domesticate the convention (entered into force in 2012) to address vulnerabilities associated with internally displaced persons

11. **DRR/M:** SC acknowledged the institutionalization of DRR/M in Djibouti, Kenya Ethiopia and Uganda and urged other MS to fast track their processes. In addition the SC proposed that MS streamline DRR/M and IDDRSI structures.
12. **South: South Cooperation:** The SC noted with appreciation the collaboration between IGAD and CILLS in enhancing drought resilience. The SC recommended the re-enforcement of such cross-fertilization among the two secretariats and with other RECs to enhance drought resilience in Africa.
13. **Hyogo Framework:** The SC noted the review process of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters and requested IGAD to coordinate the knowledge and experience of IGAD member states, including the outcomes of the Drought Resilience Summit, as a contribution to the Africa common position on the post-2015 framework for DRR that will be endorsed through a Ministerial Declaration at the African Union’s 5th Africa Regional Platform for DRR, 13-16 May 2014, Abuja, Nigeria.
14. **Domestication of regional policies:** The SC noted with appreciation the production of regional environmental documents by IGAD secretariat (Regional Environment Policy, Regional Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Policy Framework, Regional EIA Protocol and a Regional EIA guidelines and Training Manual). The SC urged IGAD Secretariat to implement them at regional level and support their domestication at national level so as to enhance the ecological component of drought resilience in the region.

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