

IDDRSI COUNTRY PROGRESS SUMMARY REPORT

DJIBOUTI



IDDRSI

IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative



Photo: IFRC/Katherine Bundra Roux

The baseline reference document for the execution of the drought resilience strategy in Djibouti is the Country Programming Paper (CPP), validated in August 2012.

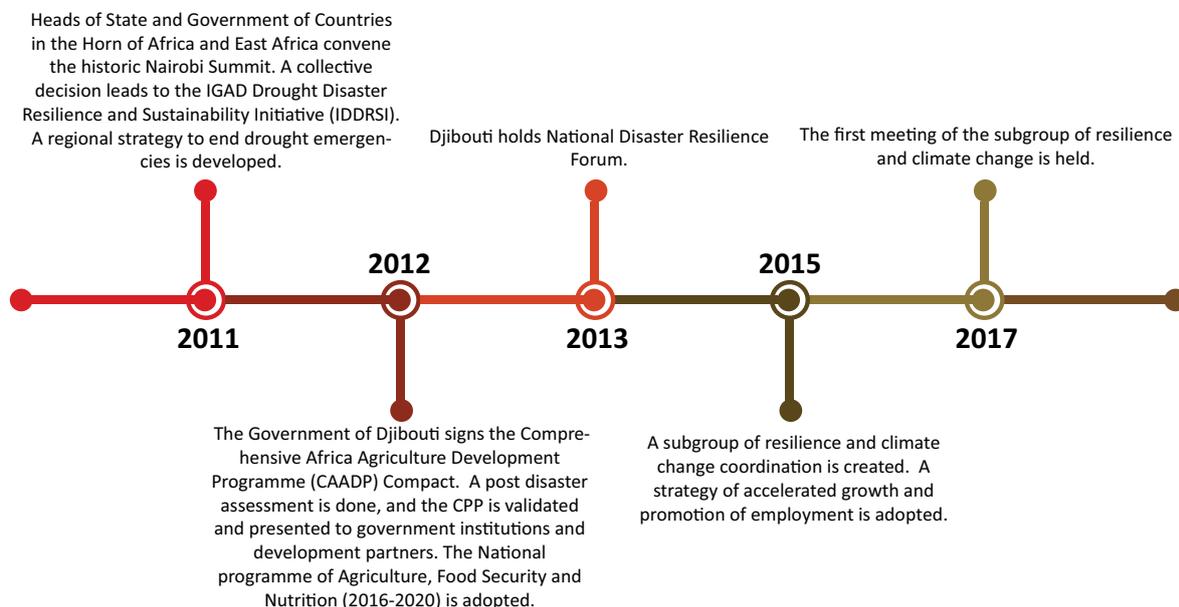
The goal of the CPP is to present coherent actions that strengthen the Sustainable Development Policy by introducing measures that reduce the vulnerability of populations to natural hazards, and improve food security.

COUNTRY CONTEXT

Following the Nairobi declaration on 9 September 2011, whereby IGAD Heads of State and Governments and development partners agreed on a new twin-track approach to drought risk management, support of the livelihoods of Djibouti's pastoral and agro-pastoral communities is moving towards emphasis on long-term programmes. The Priority Intervention Areas (PIAs) indicated in the CPP are (i) management of natural resources, (ii) access to market and

small trade, (iii) support to livelihoods and basic services, (iv) disaster risk management for pastoralists, (v) knowledge management and research, (vi) conflict resolution and support of peace building processes. Priority is given to activities in the pastoral corridors (grazing and trade routes). All current and planned projects and programmes are in line with the PIAs of IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI).

KEY NATIONAL IDDRSI EVENTS



COUNTRY CONTEXT

Djibouti is situated in the Horn of Africa and has a total surface area of about 123,000 km² and a population of approximately 900,000, with around 80% of the total population living in urban areas. All of Djibouti territory is Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs). The country receives cumulative rainfall of approximately 150 mm annually. The ASALs limit production systems and livelihoods due to ecological constraints such as erratic rainfall pattern; heavy showers that are lost as run-off; high rates of evapo-transpiration; highly competitive weeds; and low organic matter content in soils.

Djibouti has a dual economy of a modern sector, based on income, co-existing with a large informal sector. Massive influx of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) mainly from the Gulf countries, are destined for capital-intensive sectors and therefore do little job creation. These FDIs are part of the long-term strategy of the authorities to make Djibouti a regional platform of commercial, logistical and financial services.

According to a household survey carried out by the statistics department in 2013, the incidence of extreme poverty in Djibouti was 21.1%, with Djibouti City having an incidence of 13.7% while the rest of the country had an incidence of 40.9%. Over the past decade, economic damages resulting from droughts have amounted to millions of Djibouti Francs caused by climate change. The droughts in 1983–85, 1991–92, 1998–99, 2010–2011 and recently in 2016 have resulted in between 37% and 62% of the livestock population perishing, mostly from starvation and lack of water. The fragile resource base in rural areas is very sensitive to changes in climatic conditions, making pastoralists and agro-pastoralists highly vulnerable to climate change.



Construction of a water reservoir. Photo: IGAD

POLICY FRAMEWORK

Following the adoption by the Djibouti Government in 2006 of the Hyogo Framework for Action, the Government of Djibouti promulgated a National Policy Act and an institutional framework for Disaster Risk Management (DRM). The institutional framework set up by the DRM's Institutional Framework Decree is composed of three committees (Inter-ministerial Committee, Inter-sectoral Technical Committee, and Regional Disaster Management Committee) and the Secretariat of DRM as a permanent forum for management, coordination, enforcement and support of programmes and actions under the authority of the Minister of the Interior.

The drought resilience programme is fully aligned with the existing national policies and initiatives, such as the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (INSD) and the Djibouti Vision 2035. Both documents address all PIAs and aim to reduce poverty and enhance the resilience of vulnerable groups.

The sector strategy papers, including the National Programme of Action for the Conservation of Biological Diversity, the Action Programme to Combat Desertification and the National Environmental Action Plan (NAPA) respond to PIA 1 (natural resource management) and PIA 3 (support to livelihoods and basic services).

In addition to the above, the main existing instruments on related sectors on drought resilience include: National Strategy for Risk and Disaster Management; National Programme on Food Security; National Food Security and Investment Programme (PNISA); Water Master Plan; National Microfinance Strategy; National Environmental Action Plan (NAPA); National Strategy for Women; National Strategy on Decentralisation; Vision 2035; Strategy of Accelerated Growth and Promotion of Employment (SCAPE) and National Fisheries Strategy.

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

A Strategic Coordination Committee, under the co-presidency of the Ministry of Economy and Finance responsible for Industry and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, was established by Presidential Decree No. 2015-311/PR/MEFI dated 3 November 2015. It includes all line ministries and technical and financial partners concerned, as well as the senior officials of the cooperation. The Strategic Coordination Committee is the platform designated to implement recommendations of the annual forum for development assistance coordination. It works through sectoral groups and the Technical Secretariat has been placed under the authority of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The Secretariat is responsible for facilitating proper functioning of the committee.

There is a subgroup of Resilience, Climate Change and Food Security, chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water, Fisheries, Livestock and Marine Resources. Members are all line government institutions and development partners. The main mandate of the subgroup is to exchange information related to resilience, climate change and food security and to coordinate all activities related to this theme. It also has a mandate to prepare investment plans and mobilise resources accordingly. It held its first meeting on 30 April 2017. The Government of Djibouti, under the leadership of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water, Livestock, Fisheries in charge of Marine Resources (IDDRSI Focal Point) favours a solid participatory approach (from bottom up) and has created a solid basis for implementation of the IDDRSI drought resilience strategy. In each ongoing or planned project and programme, there is a steering committee in which the local communities are represented.

INVESTMENTS IN RESILIENCE BUILDING SINCE 2011

Investments allocated to resilience come from government funding and development partners.

The Republic of Djibouti and development partners have agreed to develop a partnership for the exchange of experience and pooling of their resources, whenever possible, for the benefit of all vulnerable populations. Below are examples of current programmes:

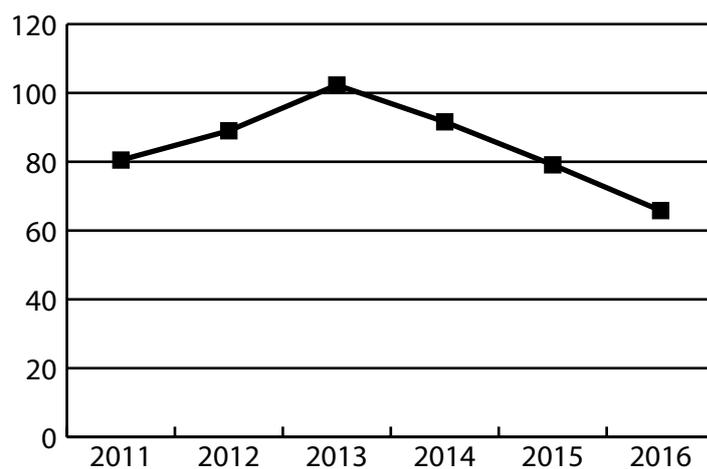
Drought Resilience and Sustainability of Livelihoods Programme in the Horn of Africa (DRLSP 1): The project is financed by the African Development Bank for a total contribution of USD 17 million. The main objective of the project is to improve the drought resilience and adaptation to climate change and to develop sustainable livelihoods for pastoralists and agro-pastoralist in Djibouti, particularly in Ali-sabieh and Tadjourah districts.

Support of Horn of Africa Resilience (SHARE) Programme: The SHARE Programme is financed by the European Union for a total contribution of 6 million Euros. The overall objective of the project is to secure pastoral systems by strengthening the resilience of pastoral populations in Djibouti, and the specific objectives are to (a) contribute to food security and poverty alleviation at regional and community levels in Djibouti, and (b) improve the rural socio-economic situation in a sustainable development strategy.

PRAREV Project: The project is financed by International Fund for Agricultural Development for a total of USD 13.34 million. The main objective of the project is to improve the livelihoods of the fishery communities in the coastal areas of Djibouti.

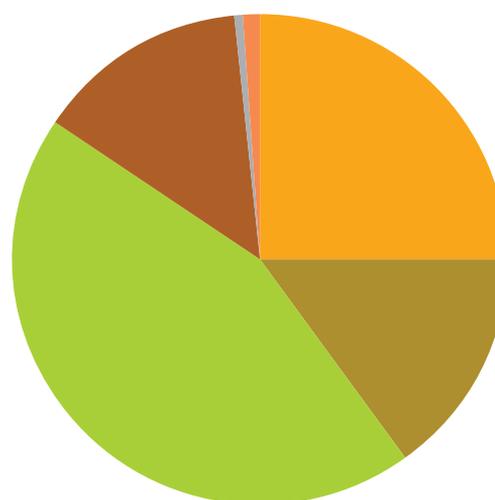
Dryland Project: The project is financed by the Islamic Development Bank for a total of USD 10 million. The project's development objective is to improve income, welfare, sustainable resource management and reduce the vulnerability of pastoral communities. The project is implemented in two villages, Daasbiyo in Ali-sabieh district and Khorangar in Obock district.

Trend in contributions to the budget by development partners from 2011 to 2016 in millions (USD)



Source: Ministry of Budget

Total contribution to the budget by development partners from 2011 to 2016 by PIA in millions (USD)



- PIA 6: Conflict resolution and support to peace building processes
- PIA 5: Knowledge management and research
- PIA 4: Disaster risk management for pastoralists
- PIA 3: Support to livelihoods and basic services
- PIA 2: Access to market and small trade
- PIA 1: Natural resources and environment

Source: Ministry of Budget

RESPONDING DIFFERENTLY TO DROUGHT

Information is shared at national and regional level through the development of a web based application called (Who is doing What and Where (3W MAP) for Djibouti to systematically store and visualise all the ongoing, planned and completed investment projects on drought resilience. This facilitates all stakeholders to avoid duplication and improve coordination.

Since inception of IDDRSI, initiatives are driven by communities themselves to create a sense of ownership. This often means changing mind sets and putting in place external support to 'kick start' activities. At the same time, communities are armed with the knowledge they need to implement new ideas.

The Regional Committee for DRM (CRGRC) is responsible for the overall coordination of the Regional Strategy for DRM. There are permanent units in each district, which are principal regulators for the coordination of programmes and activities related to preparedness, prevention, response and reconstruction and whose primary function is to support the regional committees. They also relay information between the Executive Secretariat and actors involved at regional level in the framework of DRM.

KEY MESSAGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The humanitarian response plan to address the impact of the current drought requires around USD 74.8 million to target a total of 282,417 people who need humanitarian assistance. The main projects started in the previous phase had 4-5 years implementation period going into 2017. At the time of reporting, the new projects expected to start in 2017 included:

- Cross border project financed by the KfW-Germany for a total of 4 million Euros
- Hydro-Agricultural development in Ambouli water catchment for a total of USD 56.5 million, partially financed by the Turkish Government
- Improvement of water distribution network in Djibouti City for a total of USD 5.63 million from the Djibouti Government

The following additional policies are required to implement the CPP:

- Updating the water master plan. The old scheme was valid for five years (2008-2012)
- National pastoralist policy consistent with the CPP
- National strategy for adaptation and attenuation of the effects of climate change
- National strategy for combining emergencies and development programmes
- National strategy for construction of feeder roads to facilitate pastoralist's access to market

Harmonisation of existing policies and strategies should take into consideration the priorities and opportunities of the concerned communities.

The interactions with IDDRSI should be deeply rooted and not be limited only to the focal point institutions. Lead institution per PIAs should participate actively in IDDRSI activities.

Coordination of cross border activities needs reinforcement and there is a need to develop common policies and strategies for free movement of people and livestock across borders.

IDDRSI serves as the entry point of regional knowledge sharing and a platform of exchanging success stories for pushing forward the drought resilience agenda. It is also a pivotal strategy for resource mobilisation in both national and regional interventions.

IDDRSI should strengthen the coordination mechanism at the country level and provide human and financial resources to implement the drought resilience strategy. The IDDRSI strategy should guide and inform the process of implementing the drought resilience initiative at the national, regional and international levels, united and harmonised under the overall coordination and leadership of the IGAD Secretariat.

Download full report:

<http://www.resilience.igad.int>

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