



First Steering Committee Meeting Regional Platform on Drought Resilience and Sustainability

22 -23 October 2013, Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti

Recommendations

The Steering Committee noted with appreciation the progress achieved by Member States and IGAD in the implementation of the IDDRSI and acknowledged the completion of the tasks assigned by the meetings of the 3rd Interim Steering Committee and General Assembly held in Addis Ababa in February 2013.

The Steering Committee Recommended the following:

1. Unified Knowledge Management (KM) System

- a. IGAD assesses the status of KM capacity in Member States (MS) in the process of developing a regional KM system;
- b. KM tools – MS, development partners and other stakeholders populate *IGAD- info* and *IDDRSI Website* with appropriate data and adopt them as a common information platform;
- c. KM to consider relevant sources of data in building the database for the Regional Knowledge Management System.
- d. IGAD finalizes institutional arrangements with UNOCHA and MS for use and ownership of the *who-is-doing-what-where* (3W) on drought resilience (including mapping of mapping tools);
- e. IGAD to coordinate a virtual working group, to set structure, goals and milestones regarding mapping of the resilience investment in the IGAD region, leading to the next General Assembly meeting.
- f. IGAD Operationalizes its communication strategy, including creating media champions as real partners in MS to track resilience.

2. Programming:

- a. IGAD and Member States to put in place a country IDDRSI implementation support team to inform the regional IDDRSI overall coordination. The team will prepare a clear country roadmap with Country Investment Plans, detailed Annual Work Plan and Budget harmonized with the IGAD annual action plan.
- b. IGAD and Member States to develop a five-year IDDRSI Strategy Implementation Plan for operationalizing the RPP and CPPs, including institutionalizing the CPP in national

programming and budgetary systems and decentralized structures; refining and costing the CPPs to make them investment-ready.

- c. Unified Results - Based M & E
 - i. MS to nominate dedicated M & E staff for the TOT training;
 - ii. IGAD to elaborate a comprehensive (global) work plan for IGAD, including IDDRSI and Specialized Institutions, with a corresponding Results-Based M & E plan to avoid fragmentation between different IGAD action centres.
 - iii. IGAD to finalize its 2014 M & E plan and institutional arrangements for data collection, analysis and dissemination;
 - iv. IGAD to prepare a funding and expenditure tracker – by quarter activity, timelines and funding sources.
 - v. IGAD to put in place M&E arrangements for measuring progress and learning, including mapping of on-going and pipeline activities/projects; and regular measurement and reporting of progress along the CPP Results Framework;
- d. Proposed Resilience Analysis Unit (RAU)

IGAD to:

- i. Define roles and institutional arrangements between the IGAD Secretariat and the participating partners, including the linkages with the PCU and its work plan;
- ii. Clearly define the roles of RAU and IGAD vis a vis MS M & E and address any overlaps and gaps;
- iii. Decide and communicate where the RAU is to be domiciled and how it will relate to IGAD and MS M and E units;
- iv. Prepare a 2014 work plan for the RAU and a five year indicative plan for inclusion in the overall IGAD plan.

3. Capacity Building

- a. IGAD to immediately assess its current capacity, its change over the last few years and future capacity building needs. Development Partners are willing to support capacity needs for self-assessments at IGAD Secretariat, specialized agencies and coordination mechanisms of Member States.
- b. IGAD to develop a five (5) year capacity building strategy with clear milestones.
- c. IGAD to develop a strategy of expanding the capacity of IGAD Specialized institutions.

4. Coordination and Partnership

- a. IGAD to produce a coherent organogram that provides an overview of positions and functions of staff, including the relationship between IDDRSI-PCU, Divisions of IGAD and IGAD Specialized Institutions.
- b. There is a need for further institutional strengthening and coordination mechanisms building on existing arrangements, including:
 - (i) Linkage between humanitarian and development initiatives,

- (ii) Strengthening the regional and national coordination mechanisms; including establishment of National Platforms that are linked to both the regional platform and subnational levels (Counties, Woreda, Districts);
- (iii) Broadening the participation of, and partnerships with, all relevant actors including Civil Society Organisations and representatives of vulnerable groups and communities (pastoralist, women, etc.);
- (iv) Linkage to other coordination arrangements (e.g. CAADP).
- (v) Coordination systems should allow for:
 - Ownership by country and regional partners;
 - Alignment of partners along country strategies and systems;
 - Harmonization of efforts among partners;
 - Mutual accountability and results orientation.
- (vi) Development Partners suggest further discussion on donor mechanisms to better coordinate investment planning and implementation on regional and cross-border programmes.

5. Improvements of Systems and Processes (focusing on Financial and Human Resources Management)

- a. IGAD to urgently re-organize, facilitate and fast track release of funds and recruitment with a view to easing bottlenecks that may lead to low absorption of funds;
- b. IGAD to accelerate recruitment of new staff giving due consideration to the need for a more balanced age structure (e.g. more young professionals to prepare IGAD for the future);
- c. IGAD should revise the ISAP including the budget lines and fund allocations to ensure that activities and expenditure under ISAP are effective and efficient;
- d. There is need for commitment by on-going and new Development Partners to close coordination and alignment as well as transparent posting of support within the ISAP framework.
- e. IGAD to implement international standards (e.g. IPSAS, RBM, Reporting, etc.);
- f. IGAD to elaborate the TORs for the Global Audit 2013, as soon as possible, to generate greater accountability

6. General Assembly and Second Steering Committee Meeting

The Second Regional Platform Steering Committee meeting will take place on March 25, 2014 in Uganda. The IGAD Secretariat proposes 26 March 2014 for the IDDRSI Implementation Forum that would involve series of activities such as plenary sessions, parallel meetings (including experience sharing, special reports, stakeholder group discussions, workshops, films, etc, featuring themes on IDDRSI planning and implementation), cultural events, exhibition, featuring themes on IDDRSI implementation. Following that the General Assembly meeting will take place on 27 March 2014. The meetings will be organized jointly by IGAD, the Government of Uganda and the Global Alliances (coordinated by USAID HQs).

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