

ASSESSMENT OF DROUGHT RESILIENCE FRAMEWORKS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA

JUNE, 2015



Introduction

The assessment analyzed the different stages the Horn of Africa (HOA) Countries have attained in establishing and developing national frameworks and relevant policies in building drought resilience. The analysis covered policy and institutional frameworks, challenges, opportunities and priorities that can be addressed by the Integrated Drought Management Programme in

the Horn of Africa (IDMP HOA) to enhance drought resilience. Drought Programmes need to consider specific priorities and existing national frameworks in implementing the planned activities so as to be successful. Agriculture, Water, Energy and Biodiversity/Wildlife/Forestry/ Tourism are the most vulnerable sectors. Other sectors such as infrastructure, urban settlement, and health are also vulnerable to drought.

Policy and legal Frameworks

The HOA countries have developed various policies, strategies, plans and enabling environment to handle vulnerabilities to drought and responding to possible drought incidences. This is contrary to the past actions where the governments focused mainly on relief and rehabilitation in responding to drought. The IDMP HOA will contribute to the existing efforts in combating drought. The program focus is to promote drought resilience through Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) approach.

At regional level, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development Drought Disaster Resilience Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) framework is providing guidance and coordination on drought resilience. While at country level, drought management is reflected in most national development or poverty reduction strategies of the HOA countries. Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda have national policies on Disaster Risk Management (DRM) while South Sudan is in the process of developing similar policies. Djibouti, Somalia and Sudan don't have comprehensive policies on DRM. The current policies in those countries related to DRM focus more on emergency responses. In general, existing policies in many countries are not comprehensive to address the full integrated management of drought.

Table 1 highlights some of the national policies, strategies and plans that promote drought resilience in the HOA countries.

Table 1: Policies, Strategies and Plans related to drought management

Countries	National Policies, strategies, plans related to drought management
Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Programme for Food Security (NPFS) The Public Investment Plan
Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Policy on Disaster Risk Management Strategic Program and Investment Framework Pastoral Development Policy and Strategy Framework Early Warning & Emergency Coordination Center (under formation) Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy and Framework (2011)
Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disaster management policy and Strategy Vision 2030 has mainstreamed DRM in all its key pillars The Second Medium Term Plan (2013-17) National Climate Change Response Strategy (2010) and Action Plan (2013)
Somalia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the establishment of the Federal Government of Somalia in August 2012)- a fresh momentum and steady progress being made on the coordination for drought intervention and livelihood programs in Somalia
South Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Disaster Management Policy (under development) Five Years Strategic Plan (2013-2018) on Disaster Management
Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several sectoral policies, laws, strategies and programmes related to drought exist but they are yet to be properly coordinated
Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Constitution 1995 provides for drought risk management The National Climate Change Policy, 2013 Disaster Management and Preparedness Policy, 2010 The Rangeland Management Policy, 2001 National Water Policy, 1999

Institutional arrangements

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) developed an IDDRSI framework that member states (HOA countries) can use to prevent, mitigate and adapt to the adverse impacts of drought. The approach recommended by IDDRSI is pro-active, combining both relief with development interventions in dealing with drought and related emergencies in the HOA through the IGAD Secretariat. The IDDRSI Framework put in place the IGAD Regional Programming Paper (RPP) which is the programmatic and implementation arm to operationalize drought related actions at both regional and country levels. Member states developed Country Programming Papers (CPPs) that serve as a planning, coordination and resource mobilization tool for projects and

investments required to contribute to ending drought emergencies. In line with this, countries have a responsible government institution to lead and coordinate the implementation of DRM. These vary from one country to another. For example Kenya has a dedicated National Drought Management Authority (NDMA). South Sudan has Ministry of Environment and that of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management. While, Ethiopia has established Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector being led by a State Minister under the Ministry of Agriculture. Uganda and Somalia have higher levels of coordination being coordinated from the Office of the Prime Minister. Djibouti has an executive secretariat for DRM, which coordinates natural disaster technical matters. However, in all cases direct implementation of disaster management related activities is the responsibility of lower level units of administration.

Challenges in drought management

The main challenge in the HOA region is to reverse the growing human vulnerability against environmental hazards especially droughts and man-made disturbances, such as resource-based conflicts and economic crises. According to IDDRSI strategy (2013), more than 3% per annum of the pastoral and agro-pastoral production systems are under threat and losing resilience due to rapid population growth. The other challenges include environmental degradation, land re-allocation, fragmentation of rangelands, decreasing spatial mobility for herds and growing competition in the use of scarce pasture and water resources.

Opportunities for drought resilience

The Country Drought Resilience Assessments identified various opportunities to promote integrated drought management in the HOA. These

include:

- Existence of IGAD to establish regional and international mechanisms for cooperation to address cross-border drought issues.
- The IDDRSI framework at regional and national level, including the adopted RPPs and CPPs for drought resilience and sustainable development
- There is political will and commitment to drought risk reduction by governments in the IGAD region.
- Existing policy, legal and institutional frameworks in support of drought management.
- Existing institutions with experience and well developed frameworks in some countries enabling to learn good practices in drought management.
- Observed interest of donors/development partners to support national and regional initiatives to enhance drought resilience.
- Existing programs and initiatives in drought management in the HOA countries.

Regional Priorities to be addressed by the IDMP HOA

The assessment identified the following priorities, which the Integrated Drought Management Programme in the Horn of Africa (IDMP HOA) will address, contributing to the implementation of the IGAD IDDRSI:

- Demonstrating small-scale innovative drought management cases based on IWRM approach to scale-up innovative practices
- Capacity development of institutions and key actors in drought management
- Promoting partnership for Integrated Drought Management in support of the implementation of IDDRSI Country Programming Papers
- Facilitating regional cooperation/collaboration



Photo Credit: GWP/ Mostphotos

for drought management in the HOA region in support of the implementation of the IDDRSI Regional Programming Papers.

- Facilitating policy development for integrated drought management.
- Mainstreaming drought mitigation and adaptation strategies in relevant government, civil society and private sector organizations.
- Strengthening Early Warning Systems- through facilitating packaging of early warning information into user friendly formats for stakeholders (e.g. through mass media, Mobile telecommunication messages, flyers, special events of target groups etc.)

Country Priorities identified during the assessment

The key priorities to enhance drought resilience that have been identified by the Country Drought Resilience assessments in the HOA region include capacity building, partnerships building, early

warning systems, mainstreaming drought resilience and regional cooperation for drought management (Table 2). However, due to differences in countries, the priority areas by country may not be ranked similarly. For example, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda identified demonstrating implementation of integrated drought management approaches as priority while South Sudan and Somalia identified support for developing a comprehensive policy as their key priority.

Table 2: National Priority Intervention Areas

	Priority interventions identified by countries	Countries that identified priority interventions
1	Capacity development	All countries
2	Partnership building/strengthening for drought management	All countries
3	Early warning system / information systems	All countries
4	Mainstreaming drought management in national/sector plans and processes	All countries
5	Facilitating regional cooperation	All countries (assumed)
6	Demonstrating integrated drought management approaches	Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Uganda
7	Policy support	Somalia, South Sudan

For more information Contact:

GWPEA- Integrated Drought Management Programme in the Horn of Africa,

Email: gkairu@nilebasin.org

www.gwp.org

http://www.droughtmanagement.info/idmp-activities/idmp_hoa/