



Building resilience in Africa's drylands



FOCUS COUNTRIES

Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.



OVERALL GOAL

Enhance the capacity of dryland countries to anticipate, mitigate and respond to shocks, threats and crises affecting their livelihoods.

ABOUT THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE

Populations in Africa are increasingly exposed to the negative impact of natural and human-induced disasters such as drought, floods, disease epidemics and conflicts which threaten the agriculture production systems and livelihoods of vulnerable communities.

The initiative on "Building Resilience in Africa's Drylands" was developed to enhance the capacity of these communities to withstand and bounce back from these crises. It aims to strengthen institutional capacity for resilience; support early warning and information management systems; build community level resilience; and respond to emergencies and crises.



ZIMBABWE

Vegetable farming in
Chirumbanzi district.
©FAO/Belleve Nyakudjara



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The Regional initiative strengthens institutional capacity for resilience; supports early warning and information management systems; builds community level resilience; and responds to emergencies and crises. Priority actions include:

- Provide support in areas of resilience policy development and implementation, resilience measurement, vulnerability analysis, and strategy development and implementation.
- Develop linkages between social protection, nutrition and resilience.
- Assist Member Countries in the coordination, preparation and management of effective responses to disasters and crises affecting livelihoods, food security and nutrition of vulnerable populations.
- Facilitate knowledge exchange of resilience good practices across countries in the region.

In partnership with Governments, African Union Commission (AUC), Regional Economic Commissions (RECs), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Africa Solidarity Trust Fund (ASTF), Permanent Interstates Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), civil society organisations, Research institutes, UN agencies, World Bank and Donors, the Initiative supports and facilitates exchange of resilience good

practices and knowledge in the region. The Regional Initiative also seeks to support countries in meeting one of the key commitments of the Malabo Declaration on reducing the number of people in Africa vulnerable to climate change and other threats.

IN PRACTICE

To achieve resilience in Africa's drylands in the focus countries, the initiative is focusing its efforts on:

- Supporting the development of resilience building strategies and plans; as well as related investment through programme development – e.g. in Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Zimbabwe and Madagascar.
- Strengthening of the information and threat management systems; as well as resilience analysis and measurement – e.g. Uganda, Somalia, Kenya, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal and Chad.
- Promoting social protection systems and approaches in the agricultural sector – e.g. in the focus countries in the Sahel (Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal and Chad).
- Providing support to ongoing crises – e.g. El Niño (Eastern and Southern Africa) and the Lake Chad Basin.
- Promoting knowledge exchanges in the framework of South-South Cooperation across the focus and other countries.

Contact

Farayi Zimudzi, Regional Initiative Delivery Manager, FAO Regional Office for Africa, email: Farayi.Zimudzi@fao.org

More information

www.fao.org/africa/en/