



Self-evaluation and Holistic Assessment of Climate Resilience of Farmers and Pastoralists

In Brief

SHARP+



© Shirine Johnston

AT A GLANCE

Empowers countries, projects, and farmers and pastoralists to assess the resilience of agroecosystems to climate change and improve their livelihoods.

A practical tablet-based survey with 34 question-modules and the flexibility to tailor the questionnaire to different contexts, uses and timescales.



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WHAT is SHARP+?

SHARP+ is a customizable digital survey using a tablet-based application. Based on a modular approach, it includes questions related to critical aspects of the household and farm system covering environment, social, economic, institutional, behavioral, and organizational factors, to assess in an integrated and holistic manner all aspects of the farming system.

It is both, an assessment, as well as a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) tool, which identifies areas of poor resilience and provides a baseline for intervention in the field.



WHEN to use it?

- **During the formulation of the project**, to identify priorities and objectives to guide project formulation.
- **Before the start of project interventions/activities**, to i) identify priorities to guide activities, e.g. training programmes, choice of activities, beneficiaries, municipalities and ii) develop a baseline for Monitoring & Evaluation purpose (M&E).
- **During the interventions/activities**, to evaluate progress towards targets and provide guidance on adjustments (M&E).
- **After the interventions/activities**, to i) provide useful data for impact assessment (M&E) and ii) present concrete arguments for lobbying for improved resilience.



HOW does SHARP+ work?

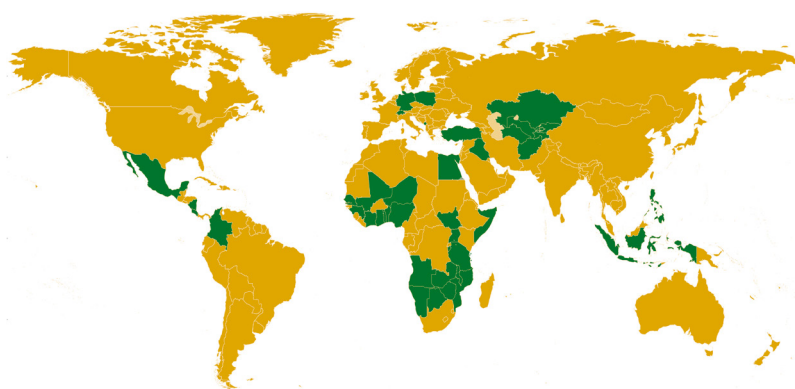
- **Uses a modular approach** to comprehensively evaluate the resilience of farming households across various environmental, social, economic, and governance dimensions.
- **Has a robust academic and conceptual framework**, based on 13 indicators for Assessing Agroecosystem Resilience (Cabell & Oelofse, 2012), defining the resilience as the capacity of a system to recover, reorganize, and adapt in response to external stresses and disturbances.
- **Aims to strengthen resilience** by pinpointing factors that undermine households' and agricultural systems' ability to withstand and recover from shocks.
- **Combines technical indicators with respondents' perceptions** of farming systems, practices, and household living conditions.
- **Converts quantitative and qualitative information into resilience scores**, computed automatically upon survey completion.
- **Guides recommendations** for households and communities, projects and governments.



WHY use SHARP+?

- **Collect key data** on the farming systems and the households to better understand the context and set baseline.
- **Gather digital data and geo-referenced information** allowing further statistical analysis to identify causal links between farming systems, household's practices and resilience.
- **Generate resilience scores per module and straight forward identification of vulnerabilities** to identify solutions and strengthen farmers' adaptive capacity to shocks and disturbances.
- **Assess information on food access** using the Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) and on **gender inequalities** in role repartition, access to goods and services as well as in decision making.

WHERE has SHARP+ been used?



The boundaries shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

WHO is using SHARP+?

- **International organizations:** FAO
- **NGOs:** ACTED, Concern Worldwide, Groundswell Intl., Sudd, Mercy Ships
- **Institute Academia:** ETH Zurich, TUM Munich, University of Leeds, UNA Costa Rica, University of British Columbia, Wageningen University, Lausanne University
- **Government:** Canton de Vaud, Switzerland



OUR SUPPORT to implement SHARP+

- **Adapting** the tool to specific context and project requirements.
- Providing **training** and capacity building at different levels.
- Supporting **sampling**.
- Providing **technical guidance** and backstopping during data collection.
- Providing or supporting **data analysis** and preparation of reports.

Resources



[New guidance document](#)



If you are interested in using SHARP+, please contact us at SHARP@fao.org



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