



MAKING HOUSEHOLDS AND COMMUNITIES MORE RESILIENT IN THE SAHEL AND HORN OF AFRICA

Recurrent crises have eroded the coping capacities of subsistence farming populations and weakened livelihoods in both the Sahel and the Horn of Africa. With the majority of the population dependent upon farming and pastoral activities, it was imperative to adopt a unified approach, while also addressing issues specific to each area in order to tackle food insecurity and build community and household resilience.



WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project strengthened the synergy between the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel and the Intergovernmental Authority for Development, with particular focus on ten countries in the region. It achieved this by establishing effective knowledge platforms and strengthening the capacity of institutions to scale up proven cost-effective and resilience-enhancing good practices. Activities were structured according to three main outputs, namely knowledge management on resilience-building, the identification, documentation and dissemination of good practices relating to resilience and, finally, the strengthening of capacities for analysis of food and nutrition security. The project contributed to enabling a political and policy environment for building resilience, which will translate into more effective interventions to strength the resilience of vulnerable households.

IMPACT

The project can be considered a building block to reinforcing the institutional relationship at the highest level between the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel, the Intergovernmental Authority for Development and the African Union Commission on strengthening resilience. By supporting the sharing of experiences and good practices between the regional economic communities involved, the project presented a crucial opportunity to strengthen informal relationships, while promoting a regional approach to strengthening resilience in both the Horn of Africa and the Sahel. The uptake of the monitoring and evaluation recommendations for policies and strategies on food and nutrition security will be highly beneficial to general food security in the Sahel.

KEY FACTS

Contribution
USD 495 000

Duration
August 2015 – August 2017

Resource Partners
FAO

Partners
African Union, Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel, Intergovernmental Authority for Development

Beneficiaries
Farmer and pastoral communities in the Sahel and Horn of Africa, national governments, local authority, pastoral and farmer cooperatives/groups in the target region



ACTIVITIES

- Gender & Resilience Share Fair organized in Nairobi in November 2016, providing a key platform for sharing good practices on resilience.
- Good Practices Booklets for West Africa finalized, printed and disseminated and documentation workshops held in the Niger, Burkina Faso and Kenya.
- Conceptual framework developed, followed by a stock-taking of available resilience good practices in the subregion and assessment of documentation of practices to date.
- Good practice fact sheets prepared on topics including Conservation Agriculture in Kenya, input trade fairs, local seed systems and a global strategy to eradicate *Peste des petits ruminants*.
- Pastoral Field Schools institutionalized in East Africa, particularly in Kenya and Ethiopia. Mission to Addis Ababa conducted in May 2017 for stock-taking on the use of the approach in the country.
- Consultants recruited in Burkina Faso, Mali, the Niger and Chad to undertake a study for the review of the food security governance mechanism for Sahel countries, to monitor and evaluate policies and strategies on food and nutrition security at national level.



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Project Code

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Project Title

Support to the Regional Initiative on Resilience in the Sahel and Horn of Africa

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