



Gender and Resilience Sharefair 2016

Nairobi, Kenya



Photo: Lutheran World Relief


# CATALOGUE OF INNOVATIONS & GOOD PRACTICES ON GENDER AND RESILIENCE IN AFRICA



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



IFAD  
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT



**Gender and Resilience Sharefair2016**

Nairobi, Kenya

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**CATALOGUE  
OF INNOVATIONS  
&  
GOOD PRACTICES  
ON  
GENDER AND RESILIENCE  
IN AFRICA**

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All photos are accredited to various innovations and good practices on gender and resilience submitted for the Sharefair on Gender and Resilience.

## Executive Summary

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (UN Women) in partnership with Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), African Development Bank (AfDB), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and other partners have partnered to host a multi stakeholder Regional Sharefair on Gender and Resilience with the theme of 'Strengthening Resilience by Empowering Women'. The initiative focuses on the role of women in building and strengthening resilience, promoting dialogue and sharing of experiences on gender-responsive resilience-related programmes, innovations, good practices and policies in Africa with the aim to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs.

The intervention is a sharing and learning event and provides opportunity to further explore the role of women in building and strengthening resilience and promoting dialogue and sharing of experiences on gender-responsive resilience-related programmes and policies in Africa to accelerate development and humanitarian responses and the overall achievement of the SDGs. The intervention will also facilitate a long-term collaboration amongst regional stakeholders with the aim of identifying problems, using data and predictive methods, and mobilizing support and resources to incubate, accelerate, and scale effective solutions. The proposed intervention situates women's perspectives at the center of resilience solutions, and will hence generate novel and sustainable and transformative approach to resilience solutions, at scale, drawing on a tight and diverse team to redress this complex challenge from its many angles. The main expected outcome is the creation of a strong regional network to amplify resilience solutions beyond the event, sustaining change in policy and practice within relevant macro-economic frameworks.

The innovations and good practices<sup>1</sup> were collected through a Call for Innovations. Innovators across Africa were invited through the call to show cutting edge innovations, including social innovations that best provide solutions on how women, girls and their communities can build and strengthen resilience through resilient technologies and associated innovative strategies, initiatives, interventions and methods which are scalable. The innovations showcased in the catalogue are both at pilot level, medium or advanced and have the potential to strengthen women's and girls' capacities to mitigate, adapt, recover, and learn from shocks and stresses while achieving the longer-term goal of reducing vulnerability and increase well-being of women and their communities.

This booklet is a collation of innovations and good practices by diverse organizations/ agencies demonstrating promising and good practices in operationalizing the gender and resilience agenda within their interventions at Country and/ or Regional level. The initiatives documented are evidence and constitute innovative and cutting edge examples of interventions/ programmes that could be replicated elsewhere and scaled up for impact to increase the resilience for women and girls in Africa. The catalogue has been compiled from submissions from a call for innovations and has also leveraged on existing innovative models documented by various UN agencies including the Food and Agriculture Organization- FAO and UN Women. The catalogue calls for a culture of innovative business and/ or programme models and initiatives that guarantee resilience for women while implementing ideas that create transformation in the resilience agenda in the lives of women and girls in Africa.

In the catalogue, the following innovations on climate and agriculture have been showcased including Buy from Women Platform in Rwanda which aims to enable farmers with the capacity to produce marketable surplus increasing agricultural household income and to unlock the value chain for smallholder farmer access to extension services, quality inputs, finance and post-harvest handling services, mainly through "patient" buyer contracts also known as "pre-planting contracts" and includes

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1. FAO Template of Good Practices, 2012

a digital, mobile-enabled platform that connects small holder farmers (manly women) to the agricultural supply chain, and provides them with real time information on market prices, sensitization on gender equality, and other incoming opportunities via text messages. The Food Security Targeting Information System (FSTIS)/ Lisha Kenya has also been profiled which is a multi- platform system that will harnesses the power of mobile and web technologies to efficiently collect, collate and analyze data on the food security indices across the country in Kenya. Another initiative showcased is Flood Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation for Building Resilience in Ethiopia which builds resilience from flood hazard and climate induced disaster and improve production for the initiators and integrate climate change adaptation measures with agricultural practices to sustain production and productivity. An innovation on Entocube Insect Farming Solution has been showcased. This innovation saves time for women and girls, provide the much needed dietary requirements for household and animal consumption, earns them much needed income and social status, and wipes stigmatization of women as hunters and gatherers for men.

Community initiatives have also been showcased including an innovation by HODI dubbed Mala-Marii which is a consultative dialogue that builds on the traditional practice of consultation and galvanizes communities to address underlying causes of vulnerability in Northern Kenya. The Mala-Marii methodology relied on community conversations methodology with trained facilitators to initiate community entry and employ a series of tools for structuring dialogue; analysis and response to cultural and gender stereotypes on women and girls and offers sustainable solutions to resilience through cushioning women and girls from shocks and threats in the communities in Northern Kenya.

On the good practices, an initiative by UN Women on building resilience for gender responsive women's peace and security in Zimbabwe using peace committees and community journalism approaches. FAO good practices have been showcased as well including The Green Negotiated Territorial Development (GreeNTD) in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Fuel-Efficient Mud Stoves in Darfur, Sudan, good practice on fighting cassava diseases in Africa and a good practice on beekeeping to buffer against economic shocks caused by natural hazards in Somaliland. The catalogue has also showcased a Community Integrated Model to build resilience of conflict affected women and girls in South Sudan implemented by UN Women in South Sudan which targets traditional leaders, local government officials, religious leaders to advocate for land access, ownership and control for women to engage in productive ventures.

It is our hope that the documented innovations and good practices are replicated to increase and expand impact in the resilience agenda among women, girls and communities. The Gender and Resilience Sharefair promotes partnerships and the effective integration of gender in resilience-related programs, policies and good and promising practices replicable in diverse contexts not only in Africa but across the globe. This will be achieved through sharing knowledge and experiences, solutions and partnerships and leveraging accelerated and direct country-level and regional impact in the context of the SDGs. The Sharefair also models an innovative way for multi-disciplinary teams to work together, putting gender at the center of resilience programming.

Using an iterative approach, the programme will also increase understanding and knowledge on the structural barriers to women's technology adoption, building resilience and address environment-related challenges, identifying proof-points for women's resilience-solutions. Through the policy dialogues, an analysis will be undertaken to evaluate to extent to which gender and resilience aspects have been captured and how their implementation can change the landscapes both at regional or country level.

Knowledge sharing and innovation will be another integral component of the initiative, thereby ensuring the multiplication of development results. Being able to surface signature solutions, and scale these substantively to women who have hitherto not benefited substantively from resilience solutions, the innovation is expected to radically alter the resilience dividend, by minimizing the amount by which households experience a shock and maximizing the speed at which a sustained recovery can begin, and leveraging investments in resilience, which in turn will spill over in more resilient economies and societies. From this perspective, the Sharefair fills a critical knowledge gap expanding solutions in the HoA from a gender perspective.

## Definition of Terms

**Gender:** Gender is the cultural and social definition of behavior defined as appropriate to the sexes in a given society at a given time. Gender is a set of cultural roles. Gender has also been defined as the structure of social relations that centers on the reproductive arena, and the set of practices that bring reproductive distinctions between bodies into social processes. Gender is relational and refers not simply to women or men but to the relationship between them.

**Horn of Africa- HoA:** The Horn of Africa denotes the region containing the countries of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Somalia. Our use of HoA is often, as defined by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the Greater Horn of Africa, which comprises eight countries (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda).

**IDDRSI Framework:** The IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) Framework is providing guidance and coordination on drought resilience in 7 Priority Intervention Areas (PIAs): 1) Natural resources and environment management; 2) Market Access, Trade and Financial Services; 3) Livelihood Support and Basic Social services; 4) Disaster Risk Management, Preparedness and Effective Response; 5) Research, Knowledge Management and Technology Transfer; 6) Conflict Prevention, Resolution and Peace Building; and 7) Coordination, Institutional Strengthening and Partnerships.

**IGAD:** Intergovernmental Authority on Development. IGAD is motivated by a vision where the people of the region (comprises the countries of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda) would develop a regional identity, live in peace and enjoy a safe environment alleviating poverty through appropriate and effective sustainable development programmes.

**Impact:** The demonstrable contribution that an intervention makes to society, the environment and the economy.

**Methodology:** It is the systematic, theoretical analysis of the methods applied to a field of study.

**Replicability:** An activity, process, or test result that allows it to be duplicated at another location or time.

**Resilience:** The ability to cope with change; it encompasses a broad-based multi-sectoral development that includes the many ways in which individuals (men and women, boys and girls) and livelihood systems mitigate, adapt, recover, and learn from shocks and (protracted) stresses

**Scaling Up:** An activity, process, or test result that allows it to be increased in size or number.

**Sharefair:** It is a sharing and learning event that also enables the creation of a long-term collaboration amongst stakeholders with the aim of identifying problems, using data and predictive methods, and mobilizing support and resources to incubate, accelerate, and scale effective solutions.

**Sustainability:** The endurance of systems and processes. It is characterized by the pursuit of human and social development and economic growth while sustaining the ability of natural systems to continue to provide the natural resources and ecosystem services upon which the economy and society depends.

**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** It is a set of seventeen aspirational “Global Goals” with 169 targets covering a broad range of sustainable development issues. These included ending poverty and hunger, improving health and education, achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls, making cities more sustainable, combating climate change, and protecting oceans and forests among others.



## Introduction

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to address the root causes of poverty, and underline the universal need for an inclusive and resilient development. Investing in gender equality and women's empowerment in policies and programmes are pre-requisites for effective delivery of the SDGs.

The concept of 'resilience' is becoming increasingly utilized in development programming. It is commonly understood to encompass a broad-based multi-sectoral development that includes the many ways in which individuals (men and women, boys and girls) and livelihood systems mitigate, adapt, recover, and learn from shocks and stresses; the longer-term goal being to reduce vulnerability and increase well-being. In the context of development, 'resilience' hence bridges humanitarian responses and longer-term development. The frequent exposure to multiple and interlinked resilience challenges, slows down development progress and threaten sustainability of programmatic interventions.

### Resilience Challenges in the Horn of Africa

Despite recent positive economic trends, many countries in the African continent, particularly the Horn of Africa (HoA), are characterized by multiple and interlinked resilience challenges, notably conflicts and climatic variations, resulting in social and economic drought, and forcing livelihoods to organize in a context of scarcity, scant resources and high degree of uncertainty.

Repeated shocks and chronic stresses challenge any development gains, and overwhelm traditional coping mechanisms leading to a cycle of fragility which depletes resources, upsets livelihoods, and limits aspirations. Several countries in the HoA comprise Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) with regular droughts and other natural hazards.

*From 2000-2014, droughts affected over 175 million in Africa; floods affected 1.5 billion people; epidemics killed over 63,000 people; over 11,000 died due to Ebola alone during 2014-15; 30 major earthquakes affecting 400,000 people (Africa has the highest urbanization rates). 98.6 million people were affected by disasters in 2015 and climate often aided by a strong El Niño was a factor in 92% of those events. The most obvious impact was the 32 major droughts recorded which was more than double of the ten-year annual average. These affected 50.5 million people and many have continued into this year particularly in Africa<sup>2</sup>.*

The region is also characterized by food insecurities, economic losses, and large-scale population displacement, as well, as heightened tensions as vulnerable populations are forced to compete for access to critical (but increasingly scarce) livelihood resources. Indeed, the HoA hosts one of the largest, longstanding refugee and displaced populations in the world.

*Recent estimations from 2015 show 3 million refugees and more than 8 million displaced persons in the region. South Sudan has 1.5 million Internal Displaced People (IDPs), and 730,000 refugees in surrounding countries. Somalia has more than 2 million IDPs, and over one million refugees who fled to countries such as Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, Djibouti and Yemen. Ethiopia and Kenya continue to host most of the refugees, mostly from South Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea<sup>3</sup>.*

Migrants continue to undertake the perilous journey from the HoA to Europe (via South Sudan, Sudan, and Libya), Yemen (via Puntland and Djibouti), and South Africa (via Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe). Local communities are also seriously affected by the large influx of displaced persons, refugees, and other persons of concern who challenge the provision of services, oftentimes creating conflict, and threatening the resilience of local populations.

The region is also threatened by conflicts and terrorism, further undermining livelihood security, agricultural production and economic growth as well as the health and well-being of people.

2. UNISDR, Press release on "The human cost of the hottest year on record", 11 February 2016

3. IOM East and Horn of Africa Regional Strategy 2016-2019.

## Gender and Resilience

Although shocks strike without discrimination, due to the lack of gender-integration in current development approaches and imbalanced access to resources and uneven division of responsibilities, the resilience of women and girls is particularly tested. When shocks occur, women are often left alone to cope with children balancing care and seeking productive engagement, all of which while they are usually deprived access to many resources and opportunities. Gender-based inequalities in access to and control of productive (including land) and financial resources continue to slow down agricultural productivity and undermine resilience efforts. With rising uncertainty caused by climate and other rural stressors, households need resources to cope and adapt to shocks and livelihood challenges. Women tend to have less access to these necessary resources for adaptation.

*The gender gap costs Malawi USD 100 million, Tanzania USD 105 million and Uganda USD 67 million every year. Closing the gender gap could lift as many as 238,000 people out of poverty in Malawi, 119,000 people in Uganda, and approximately 80,000 people in Tanzania every year<sup>4</sup>.*

In the context of general and chronic vulnerability, women and girls are often exposed to additional, gender-specific barriers, which exacerbate the challenges they already face. Women continue to be largely marginalized, often due to discriminatory practices, attitudes and gender stereotypes, deeply-rooted in patriarchal systems, that result in the lack of gender sensitive legal frameworks, policies and programmes; limited access to resources; lack of a political voice; and disproportionate power relations between the genders in households and communities. In times of shock, women's role in providing food and care for the family becomes more critical, while women's challenges become harder due to existing gender-specific barriers.

Furthermore, the health implications for women of large-scale displacements can be devastating particularly in countries with disrupted health systems.

*Conflict, displacement, natural disaster account globally for 53 per cent of under-five deaths, three in five preventable maternal deaths and 45 neonatal deaths<sup>5</sup>.*

Furthermore, gender-based violence - being subjected to rape, trafficking and prostitution, forced pregnancies and marriages - are also critical risks accentuated in resilience-challenged situations.

There is need for a binary strategy that on the one hand strengthens women's individual resilience and empowers women to claim their rights in development planning and programming, and on the other strengthens the capacities of Government and Partners to enhance community resilience in affected countries.

While especially recent decades have witnessed a substantive growth of the literature body on resilience, few studies have focused on its gender dimensions. More knowledge is needed on successful ways to enhance women's resilience in the region, as well as targeted efforts to share and disseminate this knowledge, and better integrate a gender perspective in the resilience agenda.

Therefore, this publication has been created to share some of the latest innovations and good practices.

4. The Cost of the Gender Gap in Agricultural Productivity, report of the UN Women, UNDP-UNEP Poverty Environment Initiative, World Bank, 2015

5. UN Population Fund - UNFPA, State of World Population 2015



### Key facts and figures

Women comprise 43% of the agricultural labour force in developing countries and work on average longer hours than men. In developing countries, between 10 and 20% of all land holders are women. Worldwide, women access less than 10% of agricultural extension services. After the food price crisis of 2007- 08, women-headed households were 1.6 times more likely to be food insecure than those headed by men.

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FAO (2011): State of Food and Agriculture 2010-2011. Women in Agriculture.  
 FAO & IFPRI (2014): Gender in Agriculture. Closing the Knowledge Gap.  
 FAO (2014): Women's resilience to food price volatility: A policy response.

## Gender Mainstreaming as a Key Strategy for Building Resilient Livelihoods

Increase the resilience of both men and women's livelihoods to threats and crises

### > The gender dimensions of natural and human-induced disasters

Women and men play specific and complementary roles in agriculture and food and nutrition security, which must be taken into account in efforts to build the resilience of their livelihoods. In most countries, women have less access to productive resources, services and employment opportunities than men. This gender gap is found for many assets, inputs and services such as land, livestock, labour, education, information services, and technology, all affecting their capacity to protect their communities from crises. While men account for the majority of direct casualties during wartime, for example, women and children suffer more from displacement, reduced access to services and assistance, and loss of livelihoods. Moreover, the burden of work for women and girls increases during and after disasters. Responsible for securing fuelwood, water and fodder, they spend increasing time in these activities and are often exposed to heightened protection risks.

Addressing the differences between men and women in policies and programmes is essential for building resilient livelihoods for all.

### > How FAO contributes to empowering women as agents of resilience building

- By supporting the development of policies and programmes in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) that address the specific vulnerabilities of women and men, based on participatory and gender-sensitive processes.
- By enhancing women's access to decision-making at community level through collective action (farmer field schools, junior farmer field and life schools, community listeners' clubs) to strengthen technical skills and raise gender awareness.
- By disseminating technologies and practices that prevent and mitigate disaster impact, while reducing women's work burden.
- By increasing women's access to information and training on how to prevent and mitigate the risk of food insecurity through agricultural extension services.
- By increasing women's access to productive resources and crises.

It is widely acknowledged that reducing gender inequality is an important part of the solution to end global hunger. The 2011 State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA) report showed that by providing equal access to productive resources, services and employment opportunities to men and women producers, agricultural production can be considerably increased, with a significant reduction in the number of undernourished people in the world. Women play a major role in food and nutrition security through their multitude of roles and capacities as farmers, innovators, and entrepreneurs. We need to benefit from the potential of both women and men to build resilient rural livelihoods.

## Capitalizing on good experiences

By building and upscaling lessons learned, FAO turns knowledge into action. Below are three examples of different strategies that FAO has employed to invest in women's expertise and leadership to build resilient livelihoods.

### > Women's Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction

Rural livelihoods in Kenya are affected by a multitude of shocks, such as unpredictable weather patterns, drought and animal diseases. Through a joint FAO/WFP/IFAD project aimed at empowering women in resilience building and disaster risk reduction, women were trained and equipped as community-based vaccinators to strengthen animal disease control and reduce bird deaths, thus enhancing food security with minimal inputs and little space. The project also succeeded in introducing drought-resistant seed varieties, reducing pests and diseases affecting vegetables, increasing household incomes (4-fold in some households), diversifying family diets, and increasing women's access to local decision-making structures.

### > Trees for resilience

During the last three decades, the arrival in Pakistan of Afghan refugees and their livestock has put tremendous pressure on forests and land resources for farming and grazing. This, coupled with prolonged drought has created fodder and fuelwood shortages, increasing women's heavy work burden.

Although women contribute significantly to the agriculture sector, extension services are traditionally geared towards men. FAO engaged women extension workers to provide training in tree nursery management and entrepreneurship through Women Open Schools, building on their local knowledge and expertise.

This approach has resulted in increased incomes and reduced work burden by increasing access to firewood and fodder for the participating households.

### > The Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE)

The SAFE initiative addresses the multi-sectoral challenges linked to fuel access, production and use in crisis settings. SAFE activities are ongoing in Ethiopia, Kenya, Myanmar, South Sudan and Sudan. As part of the SAFE activities, FAO introduced fuel-efficient stoves and practices to reduce the need for fuelwood, and thus the protection risks that women and girls face when venturing into unsafe territories in search of fuelwood to cook food for their families.



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## Regional Sharefair on Gender and Resilience in Africa

In Africa, resilience is frequently tried, and on a regular basis the region is exposed to serious political, economic and environmental adversities, challenging development progress and sustainability of programmatic interventions. Men, women, boys, and girls experience specific vulnerabilities to shocks and stresses that decrease their capacity to adapt to adversity and contribute to positive change. To enhance women's resilience, there is need for a binary strategy that, on one hand, strengthens their individual resilience and capitalizes on community capital and resilience so that women and youth can claim their rights and participate in development planning; and on the other, strengthens the capacities of Government and Partners to enhance community resilience in affected countries. More knowledge is needed on successful ways to enhance women's resilience in the region, targeted efforts on sharing and disseminating this knowledge, to better integrate a gender perspective in the resilience agenda and its implementation.

To focus on the role of women in building and strengthening resilience, promote dialogue and sharing of experiences on gender-responsive resilience-related programmes and policies in Africa with the aim to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (UN Women) in partnership with Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), African Development Bank (AfDB), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and other partners will hold a Regional Sharefair on Gender and Resilience with the theme of 'Strengthening Resilience by Empowering Women'. The intervention is a sharing and learning event and provides opportunity to further explore the role of women in building and strengthening resilience and promote dialogue and sharing of experiences on gender-responsive resilience-related programmes and policies in Africa to accelerate development and humanitarian response and the overall achievement of the SDGs. The intervention will also facilitate a long-term collaboration amongst regional stakeholders with the aim of identifying problems, using data and predictive methods, and mobilizing support and resources to incubate, accelerate, and scale effective solutions. The proposed intervention situates women's perspectives at the center of resilience solutions, and will hence generate novel and sustainable and transformative approach to resilience solutions, at scale, drawing on a tight and diverse team to redress this complex challenge from its many angles. The main expected outcome will be the creation of a strong regional network to amplify resilience solutions beyond the event, sustaining change in policy and practice within relevant macro-economic frameworks.

### Objectives of the Sharefair

The Gender and Resilience Sharefair will promote partnerships and the effective integration of gender in resilience-related programs, policies and good and promising practices replicable in diverse contexts not only in Africa but across the globe. This will be achieved through sharing knowledge and experiences, solutions and partnerships and leveraging accelerated and direct country-level impact in the context of the SDGs. The Sharefair will also model an innovative way for multidisciplinary teams to work together, putting gender at the center of resilience programming.

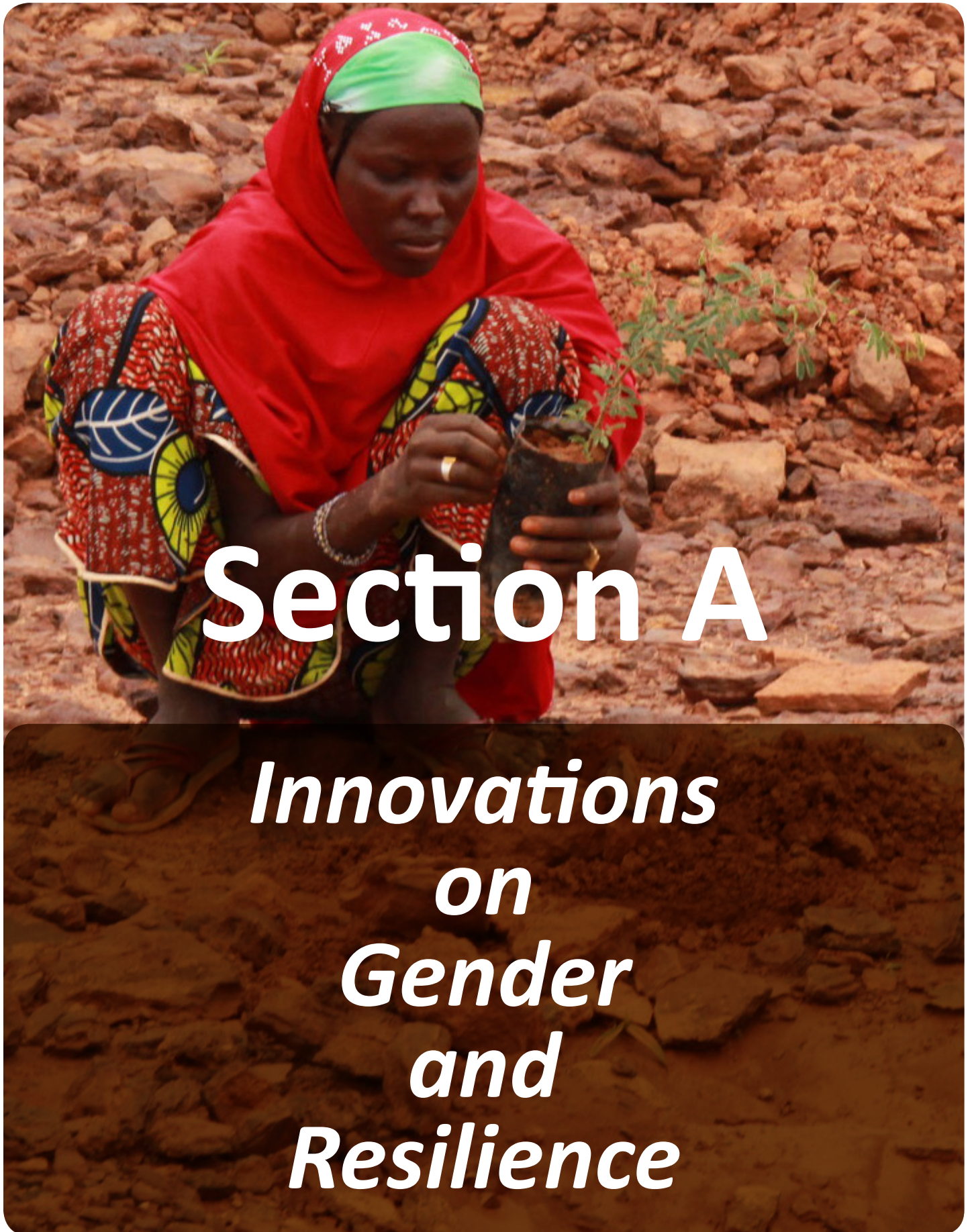
Using an iterative approach, the programme will also increase understanding and knowledge on the structural barriers to women's technology adoption, building resilience and address environment-related challenges, identifying proof-points for women's resilience-solutions. Through the policy dialogues, an analysis will be undertaken to evaluate to extent to which gender and resilience aspects have been captured and how their implementation can change the landscapes both at regional or country level.

Knowledge sharing will be another integral component of the initiative, thereby ensuring the multiplication of development results. Being able to surface signature solutions, and scale these substantively to women who have hitherto not benefited substantively from resilience solutions, the innovation is expected to radically alter the resilience dividend, by minimizing the amount by which households experience a shock and maximizing the speed at which a sustained recovery can begin, and leveraging investments in resilience, which in turn will spill over in more resilient economies and societies. From this perspective, the Sharefair would fill a critical knowledge gap expanding solutions in the HoA from a gender perspective.

- **Strengthening Multi-stakeholder and Multi-Sectoral Dialogue:** Provide a one-time platform for bringing together governments, development partners, civil society, academic and research institutions and private sector to discuss and consult on the key issues, opportunities and barriers in promoting gender equality within the gender and resilience agenda.
- **Expanding the Evidence Base:** Gather, present and discuss existing, new and forthcoming research and knowledge regarding gender equality and resilience including evidence that women's empowerment is a critical strategy to building resilience and the achievement of the sustainable development goals.
- **Promoting Solution Oriented South-South Collaboration:** Showcasing and sharing good practices of gender-sensitive resilience-related policies, interventions and development models that can be adapted and scaled up. Within the international frameworks, explore the local specificity for a more effective national implementation.
- **Uniting Women in Building Resilience:** Provide and create a durable network/ platform to link women's associations and groups from across the region and build women's transformational leadership in resilience
- **Joint Theory of Change:** The established multi-stakeholder platform will inform the development of a Theory of Change that, based on a solid body of evidence, will ensure the Sharefair comes up with a clear preposition on the key role of women in building resilience and in accelerating implementation of SDGs.
- **Framework/Roadmap for Programmatic and Policy Oriented Actions to Upscale Gender-Sensitive Resilience Solutions:** The platform will create an opportunity for actions to amplify resilience solutions and create sustainable change beyond the Sharefair within the SDGs implementation framework.

## Key Themes of the Sharefair

- Climate smart agriculture - energy & sustainable livelihoods
- Disaster risk management, preparedness & effective response
- Conflict prevention, resolution & peace building



# Section A

## *Innovations on Gender and Resilience*







### Key Facts

**Location:** Rwanda: Eastern & Southern Provinces

**Resource Partners:**  
Government, WFP and NGOs  
(Rwanda Development  
Organization)

**Target groups:** 5,000 people  
(3,200 women and 1,152  
farmers. All maize growers).  
Gender: women represent  
65%, men 35% of  
beneficiaries.

**Duration:** 2016-2017.



## Buy from Women Platform in Rwanda

### > Context

Prior to the project, a risk mapping on barriers faced by women farmers to fully participate in the agricultural value chain done jointly by UN Women and WFP revealed that despite noticeable progress, women still enormous difficulties in the agriculture sector. Those included limited access to extension services and information due to heavy workload and mobility constraints; limited access to and control over productive assets such as land, fertilisers and improved seeds; limited exposure to market opportunities for women due to unbalanced power relations within the households in favour of men, insufficient bargaining power and counting skills. Another barrier is the lack of financial literacy limited collateral and poor access to relevant information preventing them to access loans.

In light of the above, UN Women and WFP agreed to join hands to empower women in agriculture to achieve economic empowerment of women through active participation across the entire value chain through the “Buy from Women” initiative. This initiative aims to enable farmers with the capacity to produce marketable surplus increasing agricultural household income and to unlock the value chain for smallholder farmer access to extension services, quality inputs, finance and post-harvest handling services, mainly through “patient” buyer contracts also known as “pre-planting contracts”. It includes a digital, mobile-enabled platform that connects small holder farmers (manly women) to the agricultural supply chain, and provides them with real time information on market prices, sensitization on gender equality, and other incoming opportunities via text messages.

Women are now being involved in all segments of the value chain by participating in front line of negotiations and participate in decision making. Gender and climate resilient agriculture have both been identified and integrated as important areas of the programme. For UN Women, closing the gender gap in agriculture is a solution to both accelerating gender equality and increasing investment in climate smart agriculture while offering socio-economic resilience for women in Rwanda.

### > Beneficiaries

The initiative is targeting 5,000 farmers, 65% of which (3,200) are women. So far 1,152 farmers have been successfully registered to the platform from 3 top tier cooperatives in Gatsibo and Muhanga districts. The main users of the platform are farmers from selected cooperatives. It has helped them know the exact size of their land and sign forward contract with buyers. Therese Mukashyaka, a woman beneficiary in Tuzamurane Cooperative, Muhanga District has hailed the project for enabling farmers and vulnerable women in particular to solve many problems related to information asymmetry. She added that the platform is also helping them forecast their level of production and negotiate better deals with buyers and financial institutions. Partner Institutions for this platform are UN Women and WFP, while the main Implementing partner is Rwanda Development Organization (RDO).

### > Methodological Approach

The methodology used has consisted to establish partnerships with the WFP under the Patient Procurement Platform (PPP) in order to select farmers using the barrier/

risk approach and based on the experience of both agencies country teams. Market readiness and gender specific trainings will be delivered to selected farmers as an endeavor to mainstream gender into the overall program. Selected farmers are also being supported to sign buyer contracts with potential buyers and this will facilitate the access to input loans which will be monitored to ensure smooth repayment. In addition, an integrated cloud based, mobile platform will link women farmers to information, markets and finance, providing them with a 360 view of their business. Farmers will also be able to forecast expected yields based on land size. Finally, UN Women Rwanda is discussing with the Government to find out about current technologies being used and their linkages with the UN Women platform.

#### > **Impact**

The ability for men and women farmers to know their exact land size is one of the most useful services that this platform provides as they are then able to forecast production, and make more informed decisions and negotiations with buyer and financial institutions. When the farmers receive the real time informative messages through text messaging, they then are able to make better decisions on whether and seasonal activities, including adjusting the planting time and better use of fertilizers to adapt to climate variability. However, the BuyFromWomen platform is still in its initial phase. Once the crops are harvested at the end of the season, then the real impact and profits will be determined more accurately.

#### > **Sustainability**

The sustainability of the initiative will be ensured through involvement of farmers to master the different features of the programme and their capacity to get the gains out of project interventions. Sustainability will also be achieved through gender mainstreaming in market readiness trainings and hence in the whole value chain. The fact that women are being involved in front line of negotiations and participate in decision making will contribute to the attainment of gender equality and improve gender power relations at household and cooperative level.

#### > **Replicability and Scaling Up**

This initiative which is being piloted in Rwanda is the first of its kind for UN Women. It is a one-year pilot project which will come to an end in June 2017. However, the Country Office is already working on a five year programme proposal that will also enhance the scalability of current interventions in other parts of Rwanda and in other countries where UN Women has presence.

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## Application of Food Security Targeting Information System (FSTIS) in Promoting Sustainable Food Security and Women Empowerment in Kenya

### > Context

The Sustainable Development Goal two (SDG 2) is to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. Food security has remained one of the main global challenges in realizing sustainable development. Efforts to achieve sustainable food security have remained a challenge for many countries, more so in Sub-Saharan countries. About 925 million people do not enough food to eat. Women, although accounting for half of the world's population, account for over 60 percent of the world's hungry and one out every four children in the world is undernourished. In Kenya about 80 percent of the population residing in the rural areas where agriculture is the main source of livelihood are food poor (National Food and Nutrition Policy, Republic of Kenya, 2011). Food security is closely linked to poverty, which is estimated at 42% nationally (Economic Review, World Bank, 2013). The report by Kenya Institute for Public Research and Analysis (KIPPRA, 2012) says, counties such as Kitui, Mandera, Marsabit, Samburu, Turkana and West Pokot have poverty levels above 70 per cent. The report notes that agriculture is declining mainly due to climate variability and droughts.

Data from research on Food Security in Kenya (2014), conducted by University of Nairobi's African Women Studies Centre (AWSC) and Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) in 20 counties indicate that despite concerted efforts by government and other stakeholders to achieve sustainable food security, about 18% of Kenyans (7.1 million) are often or always hungry. The study also showed that all the 20 counties studied were food insecure with Turkana being the worst hit and Kirinyaga the least food insecure. In addition, the findings reveal that the key sources of livelihood are own production (43% which are crops and livestock); casual labour (mainly agriculture related plus other non-agriculture activities) with 20.9%; regular monthly salary (16.9%); trade/small businesses (16%) and others including help from relatives at 3.6%.

### > Challenges and Gap

During the research on Food Security in Kenya, AWSC, realized that there are many interventions such as cash transfer, food for work, national accelerated agricultural inputs access project (NAAIP), traditional high value crops, Njaa Marufuku Kenya, Grand National Irrigation Project (Galana-Kulalu), Agriculture Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP), Kenya Agricultural Productivity and Agribusiness Project (KAPAP) and, food security safety net programmes implemented through national drought management authority, among others. Unfortunately, due to poor targeting of resources, these projects have not managed to empower food insecure households (HHs) to achieve sustainable food security. This is ascribed to lack of data on the immediate and strategic needs for the food insecure HHs which would ensure efficiency allocation of resources among the various food insecure households.

The proposed innovation aims at filling in the identified gap by providing scientifically collected data for purposes of efficient and effectively planning of food security interventions for strategically targeting food insecure households in resource allocation with an aim to address their immediate food needs and strategic needs with so as to empower them to become self-food sustaining.

### > Beneficiaries

The FSTIS innovation will facilitate targeting of interventions to benefit 203,250 food poor households in 5 counties in Kenya namely; Kiambu (32, 847), Mombasa (53, 740), Isiolo (9,084), Kisii (100,461) and Bomet (7,118). Thirty-three percent (33%) of these food households are headed by women. The food poor households depending on their sources of livelihoods are broadly categorized as small scale

farmers, small scale traders, and casual laborers. Also among the vulnerable groups are the elderly, orphans and people leaving with severe disabilities.

The FSTIS will facilitate targeting of food poor households who are small scale farmers with women comprising 70% for increased production by: provision of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides, machinery; provision of inputs to livestock farmers; provision of irrigation water/rain water harvesting; value Addition; and provision of storage facilities among others. The small scale traders, majority who are women will be facilitated with linkage to markets and market information to ward off exploitation by middlemen. The casual labourers who are mostly youth will be provided with information on availability of casual employment opportunities at the counties and national level. The beneficiaries will be engaged in green jobs which include: water conservation and water harvesting; drought-proofing (including forestation and tree planting to increase forest cover to 10%); irrigation canals, including micro and minor irrigation works; provision of irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities, Roads construction and maintenance of Government, general cleaning, improvement of sewer facilities, garbage collection and other opportunities that may arise. The FSTIS will also assist National and County Governments in the effort to providing cash transfers to cushion the orphans and vulnerable children, persons with disabilities, the elderly in the society, widows, albinos and other vulnerable persons in the society by way of providing them with monthly stipends and feeding programmes. FSTIS will provide accountability and transparency in identification of food poor households and allocation of funds to the vulnerable groups for enhancement of food security.

The programme will be implemented by the University of Nairobi (African Women's Studies Centre) in collaboration with the five County Governments of the five counties where the project will be implemented. The county governments shall help in identification of food poor households by mobilizing community participation. The information will be utilized for policy and strategic interventions for food security in counties and regular update of the information systems. As such the counties are the primary uses of the FSTIS.

The Council of Governors Secretariat will contribute to the coordination of the project activities at the county levels, mobilize support for the project and promote buy-in of the project to county governments. The COG will jointly with AWSC, University of Nairobi mobilize resources with AWSC for the project. The African Women's Studies Centre, (UoN) AWSC will jointly coordinate the project with COG, and provide the leadership to achieve the project objectives and outcomes in collaboration with the other partners. Specifically, AWSC shall collaborate with: county governments will collect data on the progress being made towards reducing the number of food poor households and document best practices in supporting food poor households and identify strategies to manage food security in counties.

### > **Methodological Approach**

The project envisages the development of FSTIS using Information Communication and Technology (ICT) programmes which will be used to collect data on the various food insecure households. The system will be useful in gathering desegregated data into various categories, including gender, age, and number of HH members and causes of food insecurity at the entry in the food security intervention. The impact of the food security interventions will be monitored through data regularly fed into the system, either by the head of the HH and/or the county food security champion which will show the progress of the HH towards becoming self-sustaining in food security.

Data will be collected by food security champions based at the ward level. The food champions will thereafter be trained on data collection prepared tools for capturing details of the food poor HHs including the gender and other bio-data information of the head of the food insecure household as well the causes of HH food insecurity. This bio-data will be collected from HHs identified by the community through a participatory process such as during public forums/religious institutions as food insecure. This will ensure transparency in identifying food insecure HHs as well as community ownership of the

programme. The food security champion will then feed the information gathered into the system that will automatically categorize the various HHs into various categories and identify the chronically food insecure requiring interventions. The FSTIS will also generate data for identifying the cause of HH food insecurity and the strategic intervention required to enable the HH become self-sufficient in food security. This information will be useful in food security programme planning and implementation. The food security champions and/or HHs will also feed information into the FSTIS at regular intervals illustrating the status of food security of HHs in the food security interventions/programmes. This information will be critical in monitoring the impact of the various food security interventions/programmes in enabling the beneficiary HHs to progressively become self-sufficient in food security.

Taking into consideration that agriculture which is key to food security, and that generation of county statistics are functions of the county governments the key to success of the innovation is to convince the county governments to adopt and utilize the data gathered using the FSTIS in strategically allocating resources, through the budgeting policy, for food security programmes targeting the food insecure households with an aim of empowering them to progressively move from food insecure to sustainably food secure households. Using the regular data generated using the FSTIS, the implementing team will monitor and evaluate the impact of interventions, including policies and programmes aimed at addressing food insecurity. This will enable the team to provide critical data for the county governments and other agents involved in promoting food security to identify gaps and come up with interventions to bridge them and ensure the empowerment of food insecure HHs to enable them to become self-sustainably food secure.

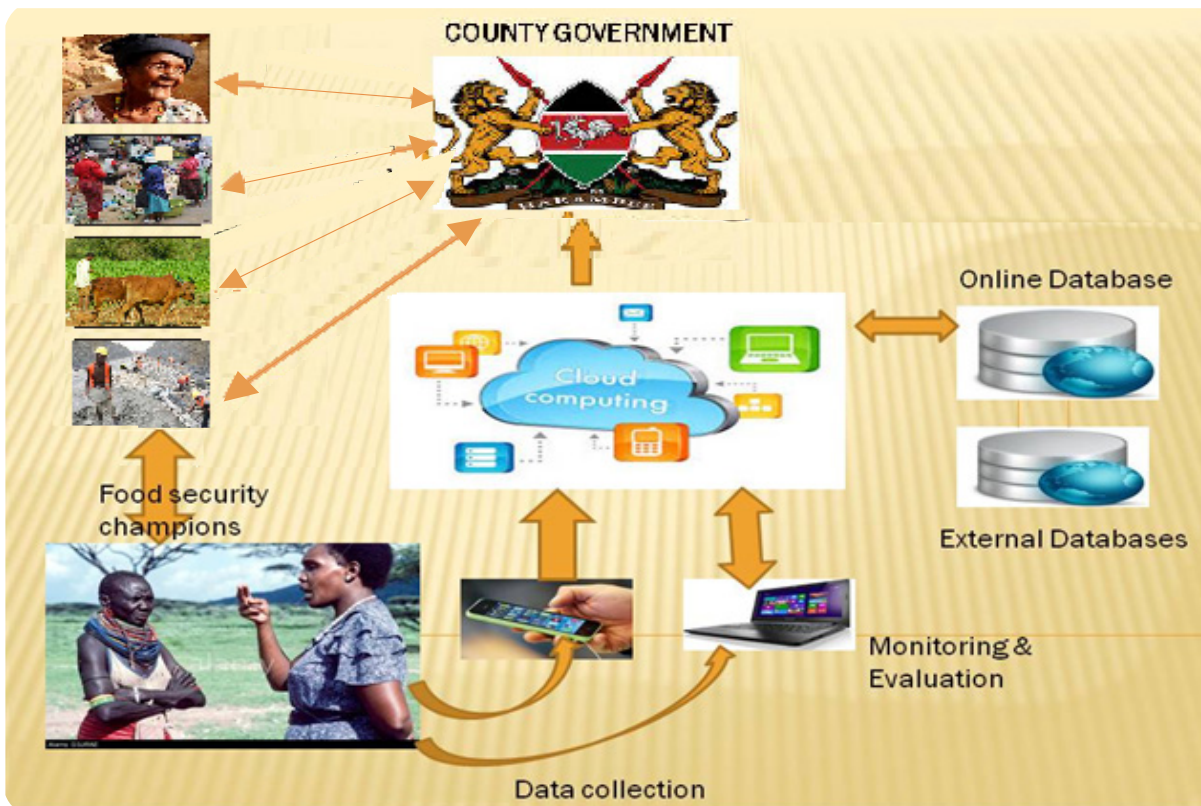
#### > Description

The overall goal of the project is to promote sustainable food security for all Kenyans through enhanced utilization of ICT in promoting sustainable food security through strategic targeting of resources to food insecure households, enhanced capacity in the application of the FSTIS and monitoring the impact of food security interventions in enabling food poor households gradually progress towards becoming self-sustainable in food security.

The FSTIS/ Lisha Kenya is a multi-platform system that will harnesses the power of mobile and web technologies to efficiently collect, collate and analyze data on the food security indices across the country in counties. It will involve a mobile application developed in the android platform that will be installed on the mobile phones for the food security champions who will be based at the sub-counties or ward level who will collect the data and upload to the cloud server from which the data will be correlated to other existing data and analyzed using different analytics tools.

This initiative aims at providing gender desegregated data showing the food security status of the food insecure households. The data will also provide strategic information showing the cause(s) of HHs food insecurity, the HHs immediate need to address the current food insecurity and, the strategic need to promote the household's sustainable food security. This data will be scientifically collected using the FSTIS referred to as Lisha Kenya, and shared particularly with the county governments to enable the allocate resources for the immediate and strategic needs of the food insecure households. However, the data can also be used by other agents involved in the implementation of food insecurity interventions. The FSTIS will also be applied in helping to measure changes over time, in identifying the impact of the various interventions including policies and programmes in enabling food insecure households progress from food insecurity to becoming sustainably food secure. This will ensure that food insecure households are scientifically identified and data collected is used by policy makers and programmers for strategically targeting in resource allocation. If adopted and utilized, the innovation has the potential to reach 7.1 million food insecure Kenyans half of which are women and girls.

Figure 1: Proposed Food Security Targeting Information System / Lisha Kenya Programme



### > Scope and Duration

The initiative will initially be carried out for 24 months covering two budget cycles in five pilot counties, namely: Kiambu (59 wards), Isiolo (10 wards) Bomet (25 wards), Mombasa (30 wards) and Kisii (45 wards). The counties are selected based on diversity of livelihood activities and how they access food. Regional representation has also been taken into consideration. The five selected counties have a total number of 169 wards in which the administrators will be used to collect data in their respective wards.

### > Impact

The overall impact FSTIS is to enhance food security among food poor households. FSTIS will facilitate identification (i.e. location and household food security status and cause of food insecurity) and their sources of livelihood. This identification and classification will enhance strategic targeting and channeling of food security interventions, resources and programmes to food poor households based on the cause of food insecurity and their sources of livelihood. There will also be development of capacity of the target counties in strategic targeting of resources in promoting sustainable food security. Utilization of FSTIS in the counties will also facilitate planning for resources and programming interventions that are aligned to livelihoods of the affected food poor households. The Food poor households and their situation will be monitored; before and after strategic interventions, which will facilitate exit strategy from the intervention programme by food poor households when their situation improves.

Information on food security shared with the county government will guide provision and delivery of food security measures based on principles of equity, efficiency, accountability, non-discrimination, transparency, and accountability.

### > Sustainability

To ensure ownership and sustainability of this programme beyond the donor funding period, The African Women Studies Centre of the University of Nairobi will work in collaboration with the County Governments through the Council of Governors to ensure that they utilize the finding of the FSTIS, which include the identification of the food insecure HHs and the matching of the food poor HHs with the strategic intervention for enhancing their sustainable food security. The County Governments will utilize the information in planning, budgeting and implementing food security policies and projects/programmes in their respective counties. County ICT staff will be trained on utilization of the FSTIS and County Governments will be encouraged to utilize the system for resource allocation when budgeting for food security.

### > Replicability and Scaling Up

The innovation/program has high chances of replicability if the county governments buy in idea and are committed to allocate resources transparently to fight food security. The FSTIS can also be used by national governments and other non-governmental organization operating in various counties and dealing with food security issues to properly target the resources to fight food insecurity.





Small Scale Traders Trade: Women by the roadside selling different farm produce in Kiambu County.



Bananas grown by small scale farmers in Kisii County.



## Flood Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation for Building Resilience in Ethiopia



### > Context

The low levels of farm technology generation and dissemination due to poor research and extension linkages, lack of high yielding and disease free planting materials and crop protection measures have challenged the attainment of Food security in Ethiopia. Inadequate utilization of water resources for irrigation and insufficient attention given to high value crops are among the major causes for low production and productivity. This demanded agricultural transformation to bring about a paradigm shift in agricultural development and extension service delivery where the private sector, research and academia can play a significant role.

Although there are many perennial rivers in Cheffe Misoma Kebele (the initiative location) that can benefit small holders and national investors to attain 2-3 harvest per year, insignificant portion of the fertile land is irrigated and the heavy reliance on rain fed agriculture kept the community at hand to mouth level. The over flow of river basins and the flash flood coming from the highland in general and the sewerage from Asela town damaged several hectares of crops and made surplus producing farmers to become food aid dependent. This resulted from lack of water harvesting ponds to capture unduly wasted flood water to minimize the risk on one hand and to use the harvested water for small scale irrigation during the dry period. Absence of adequate seedling nurseries and lack of appropriate water shed management practices have aggravated the challenge. Through awareness raising and training the surrounding community could have been engaged in soil and water conservation and climate change adaptation practices by constructing water ways and dykes and water harvesting structures to store the unduly wasted water during the rainy season to be used for irrigation during the dry periods.

The initiators of the initiative are natives to the area who came from the small holder farmers, born and grown in Arsi Zone. They are widely accepted by the surrounding community. The 22-hectare land is obtained based on 25 years lease agreement entered with the Arsi Zone Investment Office. The woreda is identified by the Agricultural Growth programme as one of the surplus woredas in Arsi zone, the soil is very fertile and suitable for various crops, vegetable and fruits production. The entire 22-hectare land can be irrigated from the surrounding perennial rivers and springs with minor canal construction and repair work. Multiple types of vegetables such as Tomato, Onion, potato etc. have been grown and proved to be successful. Sample grass and legume fodder seeds have been obtained from International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and can be bought from Eden field fodder seed growers. Adama University, Melkassa Research Station, Kulmsa Research Station and GIZ agricultural training center based in Kululsa are knowledge based organization who can render scientific advice and on proven production technologies. Furthermore, one of the BLMM PLC staff has been trained on Horticultural seedling production and grafting techniques by the Joint initiative of Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture, Development Cooperation of Israel MASHAV and USAID in Butajira and the PLC manager has visited Butajira Netted Horticultural Nursery Station and had fruitful discussion with the Nursery manager and his staff & drew lessons. Above all the PLC manager is an agriculturist with Masters degree in Agricultural Extension and with wealth of experience in farm management. He served for the International Federation for Organic Agriculture Movement IFOAM as sub Regional Coordinator for Eastern Africa and promoted resource conserving and environment friendly production techniques in Eastern Africa in which Ethiopia is part. The combined effort will make the initiative successful and model for the zone ensuring multiplier effect and sustainability.

### > Objective and Methodology

The major goal of the initiative to build resilience from flood hazard and climate induced disaster and improve production for the initiators and integrate climate change adaptation measures with agricultural practices to sustain production and productivity.

The specific objectives of the initiative are to:

- Promote vegetable production targeting women and girls through drip irrigation;
- Establish water harvesting ponds and drainage structures to control flood damage;
- Introduce improved seedling and livestock feed production and stall feeding practices to overcome feed shortage;
- Support women headed households to produce seedlings and engage them in climate change adaptation through employment generation.
  - » Promoting innovative practices to enhance production;
  - » Inter-agency collaboration and collaborative learning;
  - » Addressing underlying causes of various disasters (flood) to build resilience;
  - » Training and demonstration of improved practices and integrating horticulture production with animal husbandry to exploit complementarity (Biogas, slurry for organic fertilizer production, livestock feed and vegetable for addressing deficiency diseases;
  - » Due attention to vulnerable women, girls, the youth for employment and training are among methodologies to ensure profitability and development of resilience.

The initiative has adopted an innovative approach. It promotes the use of flood water which is unduly wasted and rather causing loss of lives and properties for productive purposes and supporting vulnerable women to recover the crisis and build resilience.

- The initiative also attempts to address the underlying causes of recurrent disaster (flood, drought, etc) to build resilience against future shocks;
- It promotes climate sensitive agriculture;
- Brings integration between vegetable production and livestock system;
- Produces biogas and uses the bio slurry as organic fertilizer;
- The drip irrigation unlike to the flood irrigation promotes efficient use of water.

### > **Relevance to the Gender and Resilience concept**

The innovation is suitable to women's needs as when disaster of any sort occurs the most affected segments of the society are women, particularly pregnant and lactating women and their children. The initiative pays due emphasis in prioritizing vulnerable women and girls for skill transfer and employment. Vegetable production, seedling raising and taking care of the sick and affected is the role of women. She cares for attainment of nutrition security for her children. The initiative promotes women economic empowerment.

### > **Strengthening women's and girls' capacities to mitigate, adapt, recover and learn from shocks and stresses**

Flood risk heavily affects women and causes displacement and damage of their crop and kills their animals. This will be a major burden for women. The flood risk reduction lesson provides mitigation experience and preventive ways. Staring seedling production will enable them to protect their micro watershed and construct water ways so as not to affect their homes and farms. The PLC employs integrated approach to exploit complementarity such as vegetable production, fodder production with animal husbandry (biogas, feed). Women will be engaged in cattle fattening and biogas generation. The seedling production mainly employs women for producing seedlings. The women will also be provided vegetable seeds and tree seedlings to enable them grow in their back yard. Interested women groups, school clubs will be supported to produce vegetable and tree seedlings to help them improve food and nutrition security.

### > **Impact**

The PLC is planning to introduce grafted fruit seedlings under netted nursery in order to produce disease and pest resistance and high yielding seedlings using cell tray. Unavailability of net shade and cell tray locally and lack of foreign currency to import the nets and cell tray the farm will serve as center of excellence. It also plans to introduce small scale biogas which generates energy and organic fertilizer to promote climate smart agriculture (organic vegetable) which can easily be replicated anywhere in the country. In general, the innovation will ensure control of flood risk, efficient use of water through drip irrigation, integration of crop production with livestock system to ensure complementarity and synergy, contribute to climate risk reduction and adaptation practices.

### > **Beneficiaries**

The beneficiaries of the initiative are diverse including women, small holder farmers, school youngsters (boys and girls through school environmental clubs). Women benefits from the employment created in the farm, from the training and advisory services, and kind support to grow tree seedlings and vegetables in their back yard. About 200 women and marginalized groups will constitute the direct beneficiaries. The initiative is willing to collaborate with research organizations and universities in their large scale trials and dissemination of proven practices. This will result in achieving wider impact.

### > **Sustainability**

Disaster prevails at rapid intervals than before, claiming lives and livelihoods, flood is causing displacement and humanitarian crisis. Heavy dependence on rain fed agriculture increases vulnerability among the population when rainfall is erratic and does not come in time. The initiative intervention that illustrates small scale irrigation, replacing flood irrigation practices by drip irrigation, introducing biological measures with physical measures of soil and water conservation promotes efficient use of water that also leads to increased yield. The surplus water harvested during the rainy season will help in using the stored water for irrigation, fish farming etc. Increased production improves the asset base and coping mechanisms against future shocks, thus building resilience. The engagement of women in productive work not only promotes economic empowerment but also skill acquisition. This will improve

technical and leadership capacity to address their own problems and development challenges. The shift to short cycle and high value crops will increase their coping mechanism. Initiation of small scale irrigation can at least attain 2 harvest per year that waiting for annual rain fed crops. Production and sales per unit area is much higher for vegetables ensuring cost effectiveness. The founder and deputy manager/chair of the PLC is women born and grown in the area and her success will stimulate other women and she will serve as role model for the zone/region.

#### > **Applicability**

The technologies used are not complex but are simple. It uses local materials and skills advocates for collaboration between different actors such as communities, researchers, academia, the extension service delivery etc. This in turn promotes skill complementarity and collaborative learning. The initiative is applicable to any agro ecology and culture. The initiative promotes Agriculture production and productivity and income diversification. Along with flood water harvesting fish farming can be initiated.

#### > **Replicability and Scaling Up**

Although the farm is initiated in the above mentioned location the best practices can be replicated in the entire country. BLMM PLC plans to organize annual field day to demonstrate best practices and enhance technology transfer in partnership with universities and research stations in the area. The technologies applied are not complex and can easily adopted by small farmers. The PLC will share its experiences and best practices to the network it belongs and also establish a web site to post success stories. The initiative believes in starting small, build experience and up scale the best practices. It integrates local knowledge with improved technologies and agricultural inputs. It also creates linkage with external actors and service providers. It also employs training and demonstration to enhance technology transfer and adoption The technology being used is understandable and doable in the locality. It is linked with environment management and natural resource conservation (soil and water). The initiative advocates for research and Knowledge Management and Technology Transfer and engages the local adaptive and preventive measures in extension services / systems and also promote the networking and collaboration.

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## Entocube Insect Farming Solution

### > Context

The 2014 Human Development Report (2014) notes that resilience underpins any approach to securing and sustaining human development, but despite numerous intervention measures by diverse stakeholders, the report acknowledges that over 2.2 billion people (15% of world population) are near or living on multi-dimensional poverty, mainly women and children. This calls for renaissance or reawakening of our game plan on how best to mitigate natural disasters and human driven disruptions of the social, economic and environmental conditions that permanently hurt most vulnerable groups (women, girls, children, elderly, handicapped, plus those living in hostile environments – arid and semi-arid areas). One measure that if probably well propagated could secure and sustain human development is farming insects, especially, in Africa where fifty percent or more of the world poor lives.

The innovation notes that in Africa, access to natural resources is sometimes restricted for historical and cultural reasons. For example, although many countries have extended legal rights to women over land inheritance, customary practices as well as the inability of women to assert those rights makes ownership of land problematic. Ensuring equitable access to local natural resources and, by extension, to wild foods, including edible insects, remains a key factor in ensuring food security (FAO Forestry Paper, 2013).

While resources like arable land and fresh water are growing increasingly scarce, there is an urgent need for more efficient food sources to be discovered and exploited. The world's eyes are turning to a group of edible insects as a very sustainable food source: they are efficient to produce, environmentally friendly and highly nutritive human food. Over two billion people already eat insects and this number is on a trajectory to grow further as insects are popularized in the developed world. Current animal protein production has numerous devastating impacts: In Central America alone, 40% of deforestation is caused by cattle farming. It takes 20,000 liters of water to produce 1kg of California beef. Also meat production uses times more fossil fuel energy to produce same amount of protein as opposed to that of grains.

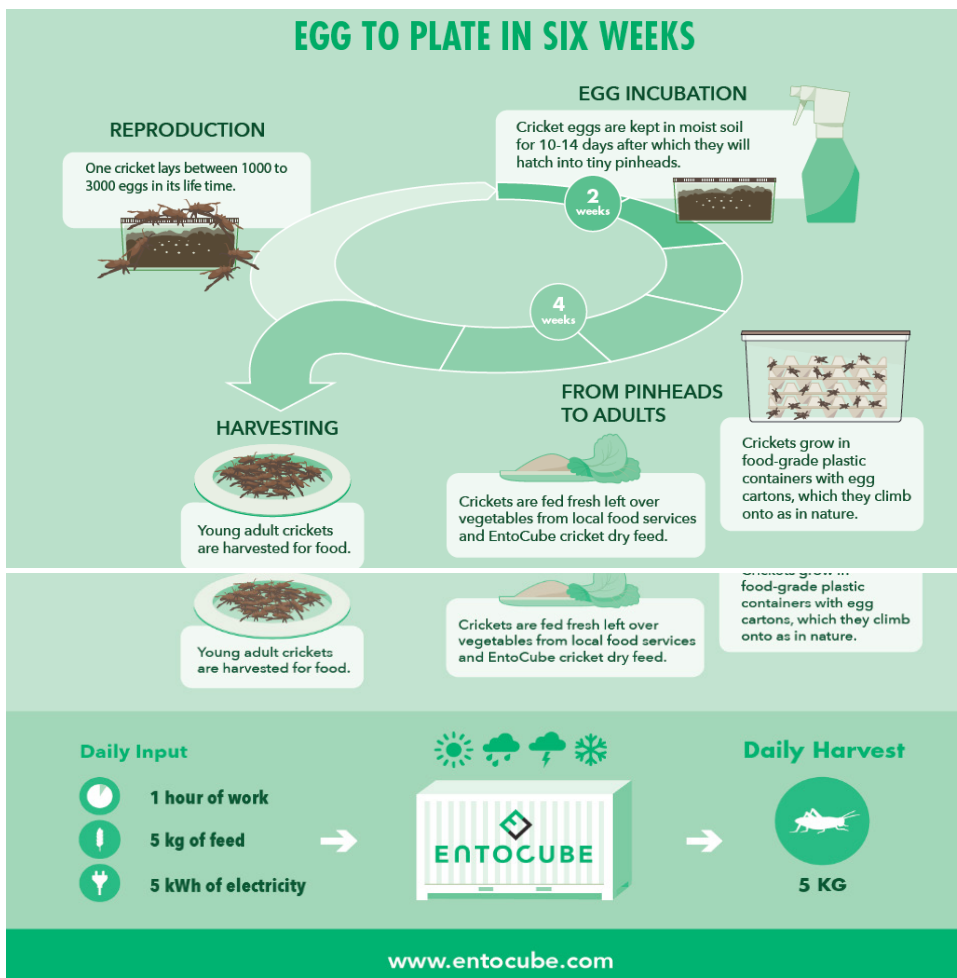
FAO 2013 Forestry Paper (171) on edible insects; future prospects for food and feed security singles out insect farming as the only feasible option of solving the burgeoning population, dwindling land and sea resources. Over 1900 insect species have been used as food globally albeit on a small scale. For instance, Crickets are farmed in Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand, Vietnam, USA and Finland among others. Insects provides crucial ecological services such as pollinating, improving soil fertility through waste biological control (e.g. as predators and parasitoids) for harmful pest species, useful human product like honey and health (e.g. maggot therapy).

Globally, the most commonly consumed insects are beetles (Coleoptera) (31 percent), caterpillars (Lepidoptera) (18 percent) and bees, wasps and ants (Hymenoptera) (14 percent). Following these are grasshoppers, locusts and crickets (Orthoptera) (13 percent), cicadas, leafhoppers, planthoppers, scale insects and true bugs (Hemiptera) (10 percent), termites (Isoptera) (3 percent), dragonflies (Odonata), (3 percent), flies (Diptera) (2 percent) and other orders (5 percent) (FAO, 2013).

Insects have been consumed as food, are plenty available and reproduce quickly compared to other sources of food. Through this initiative to harvest insects as a sustainable source of foods, women will be able to take on a critical role in addressing poverty, food security and build resilience for themselves, their families and communities. Women are the most vulnerable to hunger especially due to their

traditional role that required them to provide food for their families. In situations of drought, women in rural communities are forced to endure painful conditions to access food. This could include walking long distances in search of food or watching in despair as their crops wither in the sun or are swept away by ranging flood waters. In addition, when children are food or nutrient deficient, women have to deal with the lifelong health challenges that accompany malnutrition. The initiative will therefore help address these challenges as well as economically empower women who will have more time to engage in leadership, economic and cultural leadership roles.

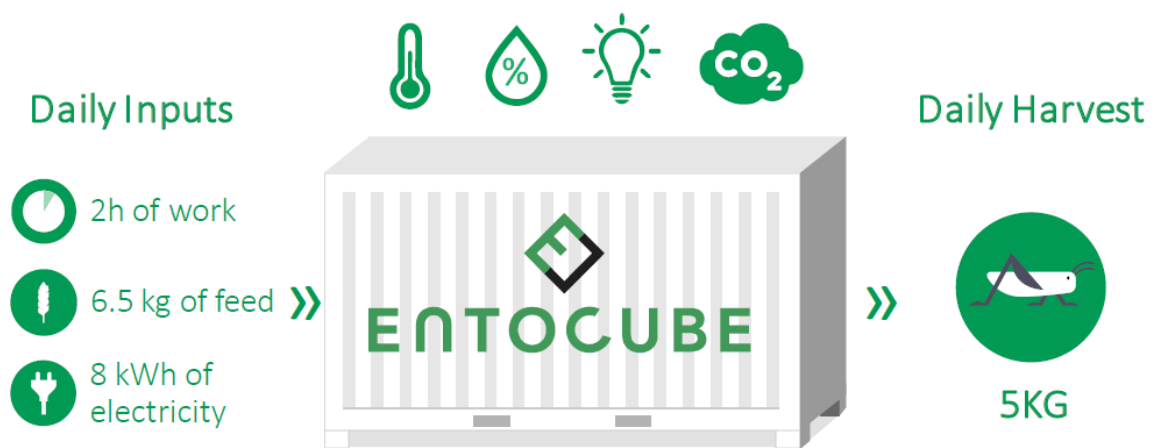
### > Objective and Methodology



Entocube currently has the ability to produce controlled atmosphere containers of various sizes that can be manually operated to farm food-grade insects. The system is robust but very flexible in terms of layout and the internal climate so that it can be modified to fit different insect species. Automating the process will increase the production while almost removing the need for manual labour. Automating the process will also be able to grow bigger than the containers. From that onwards the farm is scalable to a big enough factory to please the needs of growing insect-eating population of the world. For instance, the cricket farming system ensures a steady production rate regardless of external condition. It is designed to maximize efficiency in every steps of the process in a very compact space. The system comes with very detailed instructions so that you could start farming from day 1. System is very scalable so that you could start small to build the knowledge and experience and at a later time scale up to reap large values.

### > Relevance

Women are the backbone of rural economies, especially in the developing world. Yet they still encounter difficulties in accessing essential resources such as land, credit, inputs (including improved seeds and fertilizers), technology, agricultural training and information. Studies show that empowering and investing in rural women can significantly increase productivity, improve rural livelihoods and reduce hunger and malnutrition. It is estimated that if women had the same access to productive resources as men, their farm yields could increase by 20 percent or even 30 percent (FAO, 2011c). Moreover, a study by UN Women and UNEP on the Cost of the Gender Gap reveals that gender gap costs Malawi USD 100 million, Tanzania USD 105 million and Uganda USD 67 million every year. Closing the gender gap in agriculture could lift as many as 238,000 people out of poverty in Malawi, 119,000 people in Uganda, and approximately 80,000 people in Tanzania every year<sup>6</sup>.



The innovation saves time for women and girls, provide the much needed dietary requirements for household and animal consumption. Earns them much needed income and social status, and wipes stigmatization of women as hunters and gatherers for men.

### > Originality

The innovation is used in Finland and can be uniquely deployed in Africa, using locally available materials at a minimal cost. Women and children play active roles in the edible insect sector, mainly because the entry requirements to engage in insect collection, processing and sales are relatively low. In southern Zimbabwe, the collection, processing (removing gut content, roasting and drying), packing, blending and trading of mopane caterpillars have traditionally been carried out by women (Hobane, 1994; Kozanayi and Frost, 2002)

### > Impact

Absolute transformation of women, girls and humankind through food solutions and economic resilience. The innovation offers an alternative dietary options for women and households as women have huge domestic obligations to fulfil, such as working in the field, harvesting food, cooking, looking after the children, and collecting fuelwood and water.

6. The Cost of the Gender Gap in Agricultural Productivity, report of the UN Women, UNDP-UNEP Poverty Environment Initiative, World Bank, 2015

### > Applicability

Eating insects has health, environmental, social and economic benefits as outline herein. Rural communities across the developing world – especially vulnerable segments of society, such as women and indigenous peoples – depend greatly on natural resources, including insects, which act as a buffer against poverty. In South Africa, for example, research on the use of a range of bioresources among 110 households in Limpopo Province found that the use of natural resources including wild herbs and fruit as well as edible insects was extensive among poor households (Twine et al., 2003).

**Health:** Insects are rich in protein and good fats and high in calcium, iron and zinc.

**Environmental:** Insects promoted as food emit considerably fewer greenhouse gases(GHGs) than most livestock (methane, for instance, is produced by only a few insect groups, such as termites and cockroaches) and is not land based and has low ammonia emissions as compared to pigs. Because they are cold-blooded, insects are very efficient at converting feed into protein (crickets, for example, need 12 times less feed than cattle, four times less feed than sheep, and half as much feed as pigs and broiler chickens to produce the same amount of protein). Insects can be fed on organic waste streams.

**Livelihoods (economic and social factors):** Insect harvesting/rearing is a low-tech, low-capital investment option that offers entry even to the poorest sections of society, such as women and the landless. Minilivestock offer livelihood opportunities for both urban and rural people. Insect rearing can be low-tech or very sophisticated, depending on the level of investment.

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Photo courtesy of HODI





### Key Facts

#### Location

Kenya in Marsabit County

**Resource Partners** HODI; Concern World Wide; Ministry of Education; Schools; County Government and communities

#### Target Group

A total of 7,500 Household benefited directly from the Mala-Marii Intervention

#### Gender

The communities were the main targeted beneficiaries. Women represented 60% of the decision makers in the dialogue processes.  
Duration: 2013-2016  
(Ongoing)



## HODI Building Resilient Communities Through Mala-Marii: One GOAL Thirty Household - The Untold Story of Kenya of the North



### > Context

The traditional meeting was a preserve of the elders, women and youth were categorized as children and they had no space under the tree. This was a huge hindrance to women participation in decision making even in issues that affected them due to the culture. Throughout the post-colonial era and before the current constitution, the country took legislative steps to provide ways for citizens to be active participants in the governing and development of their country. Most of these ways, however, were limited to local authorities and the implementation of laws incorporating citizen participation did not reach their full potential because citizens did not fully understand their rights or embrace the opportunity. The top-down system of control prevailed leaving no space for public participation in development. True public participation was not recognized and there lacked a structure through which the voice of the people could be channeled. People were not involved in decision making on issues affecting them from beginning and only got time to complain after decisions had been made. The Constitution supports access to information by all citizens, which is a key ingredient to effective and active citizen participation. People have the right to access timely and accurate information held by the State or public officials and public servants must share information with the public. In Marsabit District which is part of Northern Kenya the area has extensively continued to exhibit extensively low access, low participation of the community and low academic performance. Due to marginalization of the area many communities have limited capacity required to realize meaningful participation. Though faced with enormous developmental challenges they are constrained by lack of participation platform and channels through which they can voice their concerns and seek redress.

### > Mala-Marii (Consultative Dialogue)

Mala-Marii is a consultative dialogue that builds on the traditional practice of consultation and galvanizes communities to address underlying causes of vulnerability. Women and youth participation as well as the elder's was very crucial and there was need for neutral space for the initial dialogue to happen. HODI put in extra effort to ensure the women and youth were engaged from the beginning and the process was not hijacked by the few literate from the communities. We started in 2013 and ongoing with support of Concern Worldwide who helped with initial training and capacity development of HODI staff and community facilitators on community conversations. The use of local language also helped in making the communities to understand the process faster and better. When the communities were selecting the facilitators there was a deliberate effort to have 1 elder; 1 woman and 1 youth. At the entry point this was well communicated with the communities. Mala-Marii involved relationship building with the community; data gathering and situation analysis; community dialogue; decision making; action; reflection and review. HODI's role was to just facilitate the process and provide backup support where there were challenges. HODI staffs had more women training the entire community and this gave a deeper meaning and a place for the women in the villages.

### > Beneficiaries

The initiative started out with 20 communities and increased to 30 after initial 3 months and currently we are working with 135 communities in Marsabit County over the past 3 years. Each community meets twice a month and takes action on the underlying issues already identified as increasing vulnerability. Most of the actions are geared towards increasing the capacity of the community in addressing the different hazards. The entire community benefits but the women now get to benefit too as they are at the core of decision making. Issues like water when resolved reduce distance covered by women going to fetch water; it improves the overall hygiene thereby reducing incidences of sickness. Men and woman play the same role in the dialogue process and also in action. The community is a very important partner in the process; the county government in Marsabit is also involved to a great extent and is in the process of adapting the process as a citizen participation approach. In the case of Maikona which is one of the best practices and the actions have yielded results it is more than 150 households benefiting from the tap water in the village now.

### > Methodological Approach

The Mala-Marii methodology relied on community conversations methodology with trained facilitators to initiate community entry and employ a series of tools for structuring dialogue; analysis and response. What is really crucial is the facilitation process as it builds the foundation for the outcome. There was also need for the organization initiating the process to have the community trust and thus it is possible for ownership by the community from the onset. HODI took time to work out the entry and there was deliberate effort to recruit even field officers from the same communities making it a seamless process. It has taken 12 months before the initial success factors started showing. Over the years we have together with concern worldwide reviewed and improved the methodology. In some communities there was need to adapted the method for the Moran and Kerro who are not allowed to sit with the elders. It starts with the relationship building; data gathering & situation analysis; community dialogue; decision making; action; reflection and review and in the entire process is the facilitated process. As HODI the DRR background was crucial going as far as identification of the most vulnerable households through the process and working together with the communities to reduce the vulnerability and increase capacity.

### > Impacts

- Community meetings were a preserve of the elders and a few elites but Mala-Marii involves both men and women of all ages against the traditional contract and it belongs to the people.

- Gender inequality and traditional gender roles placed women in the same category as children. This contributed greatly to marginalisation of women. Mala-Marii offers an innovative solution to women and the most vulnerable in the community by giving them a voice to heard.
- The gender roles are also discussed and challenged by the community in the dialogue process. There is a deeper understanding on issues from the communities' perspective and they are able to come up with own timelines on how to resolve them.
- There was lack of information and the flow was even disrupted further by the gate keepers in the community. This innovation resolves this as every new thing is shared during the regular meetings thereby overcoming the barrier to information.
- The ability to engage with the devolution process and timely meetings to coincide with county budgeting processes has created an impact. This has allowed the communities in Sagante for instance to develop action plans which were adopted by the county and became part of the county annual plans creating room for inclusivity in county budgeting and prioritization processes which also position women to ensure economic resilience.

#### > Sustainability

Mala-Marii is built on the traditional meetings of the communities which are well structured. The initiative has ensured that it is systemic, inclusive and participatory with diverse elements. At the village level Community Entry, Situation Analysis and Community Action Plans are developed. The ward brings together many villages which calls for the need for consolidated community action plans; disaggregation by gender and sector; prioritization into short term; medium term and long term plans. At the Sub County level, the ward plans need to be consolidated and there is need to determine which one of the priorities is national and county government responsibility. It is possible to engage in national policy development on the process and develop plans informed by the community plans and come up with annual plan and budgets at national level as well. The role of the initiative and other stakeholders is more of facilitation and supporting the community to increase its capacity in addressing the existing vulnerabilities thereby offering sustainable resilience solutions more so by expanding space for women's voices and needs to be prioritized in development processes of the County. The need to combine the Mala-Marii process with the disaster risk reduction helped in laying a stronger foundation and basis to mitigate the impacts of drought; conflict and diseases in the targeted communities.

#### > Replicability and Scaling Up

One Goal 30 household is possible to replicate and scale up in any village, community, ward, county and even country especially where cultural and gender stereotypes constrain women from enjoying opportunities for development as equal partners and players. The Mala-Marii is giving back the power to deliberate on issues that affect the communities and offer sustainable resilient solutions to the issues that make them vulnerable shocks and threats. The initiative was started with 20 communities and scaled to 135 communities in Northern Kenya.

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Photo: Lutheran World Relief

# Section B

## *Good Practices on Gender and Resilience*



**Young Women, peace loving and economically empowered**



## Building Resilience for Women's Peace and Security in Zimbabwe

### > Context

In its efforts to implement the 2009 peace agreement the Global Political Agreement (GPA), Zimbabwe successfully managed to put in place gender responsive institutions, mechanisms and initiatives to support the realization of women and men's peace and security needs alike. Thus, the security sector in Zimbabwe now includes some gender responsive initiatives, such as a Constitution with a Bill of Rights, two gender balanced independent Commissions, the Gender Commission and the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission, a full-fledged National Healing, Reconciliation and Integration Ministry. The government of Zimbabwe has adopted significant legislations and policies aimed at advancing its national, regional and international commitments to gender equality and women's human rights. Several measures have been put in place to promote gender parity in the public sector, particularly in key transitional bodies and commissions as already exemplified above.

Development analysis however note that these peacebuilding initiatives in Zimbabwe have been adhoc, yet the security situation of women and girls in the country calls for more comprehensive gender mainstreaming strategies to fully address gender, peace and security issues given the structural differences between women and men and the high incidents of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) currently obtaining. SGBV persist both at community level and at various other levels, hence the need to strengthen community approaches to peace and security for women and girls, engaging in security sector policies and institutional mechanisms and adopting innovative solutions to ensure that injustices are remedied; conflicts are prevented and peace is promoted for women and girls in Zimbabwe. This is subsequently seen as an innovative approach to building a resilient society for women and girls in Zimbabwe. There is also need to continue efforts to align the country's security mechanisms to the advancing peace and security architecture on the continent, the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). One of the components of the APSA, the early warning Unit, allows community led initiatives at local and sub-regional

### Key Facts

**Location:** Zimbabwe – Bindura Urban, Tsvingwe and Victoria Falls

**Resource Partners:** UN Women, Peacebuilding and Capacity Development and Education Foundation, The National Gender Machinery and other government and security sector agencies, Traditional Community Structures and community based organisations.

**Target group:** A total of 9 districts are benefiting from the initiative.

**Gender:** Women constitute 51% of the rural population of Zimbabwe. The rural population of Zimbabwe is 8,483,380 (2012 census)

**Duration:** 2015 - 2017

levels to feed into the continental situation room to inform early response, and women's initiatives at local levels have utilized this approach to enhance protection of women from GBV and VAW during elections times, and examples can be drawn from Uganda and Liberia, to mention a few.

In Zimbabwe, re-thinking violence of the 2008 elections and envisioning forthcoming elections in 2018 has sparked new forms of political activism for women, and has influenced creation of women-led social networking groups, commonly known as women's peace committees. These women's peace committees have an aim of safeguarding firstly, the safety, peace and security interests and gender specific needs of women and girls, in addition to the safety, peace and security needs of all community citizens. The women's peace groups can qualify under the ambit of peaceful women-led security regimes aiming at eliminating all forms of violence and fostering peace and security with women on the lead. The women's community efforts have been enabled through the work of UN Women Zimbabwe's five-year Gender Peace and Security (GPS) initiative, supported by the Government of Norway.

Working upstream, Zimbabwean rural women, through the women's peace committees, establish themselves as agents of social transformation, charging themselves with the responsibility of undertaking lobbying and advocacy work to sensitize both states and society at large on how to step up security and protection mechanisms for women and girls, as well as influence legal and policy reforms for safer environments that enable women's participation in public life in line with requirements of the United Nations normative framework, the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR1325). The women's peace committees have included ambitions to develop a pilot informal community based architecture for peacebuilding, a women-led community early-warning mechanism which starts from the rural villages feeding into provincial and national structures, with potential to become a viable part of the regional and continental early warning system in future if supported and nurtured properly by the official peacebuilding machinery in this country.

#### **> Beneficiaries and Stakeholders**

The initiative offers an opportunity for women to offer lasting and sustainable solutions to peace and security pioneered by themselves. It allows for an integrated model encompassing economic empowerment, value system analysis, a shared vision, institutional linkages and local administrative linkages which build a resilient community of women and girls in broad contexts including social resilience, economic resilience and environmental resilience with a more focused and targeted reduction in sexual and gender violence amongst women and girls. Primary beneficiaries of this initiative are women and girls, who are both the architectures, drivers and leaders of this initiative at community levels. Their immediate families also benefit from the direct benefits of these women's initiatives especially on the income generation front, while the whole community benefits firstly in the creation of befitting social capital for sustainable peace building, the security mechanisms established at community levels, and the capacity building and awareness raising that happens to traditional authorities, men and boys, and finally from the long term benefits as in the case of a school revamped in Masvingo and the Moringa tree gardens the women plan to establish in order to create long term solutions to effects of climate change. Various stakeholders involved in this initiative include UN Women, which provides funding and technical expertise, the Peace Building and Capacity Development and Education Forum (PACDEF) which is the main implementing partner and NGO, the National Gender Machinery, the Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development (MWAGCD) who hold the mandate for implementing gender in development in the Country. The MWAGCD implements gender through the 4Ps strategy on protection, prevention, participation and programmes, which in the main derives from the United Nations normative framework, Resolution 1325 passed by the Security Council in 2000 (UNSCR 1325).

### > Methodological Approach

This mechanism by nature has a basic community based training component that provides knowledge to women on how to handle and refer cases, and on how to peacefully demand their rights using the law, as well as to protect themselves from gender based abuses and biases within the traditional court set-up. Women also engage in income generation initiatives to earn a living as a strategy to minimize violence emanating from poverty and dependency on spouses. Part of the training also sensitizes male traditional leaders and their cohort on women's rights and gender sensitive handling of cases in their traditional courts.

The methodology for both the establishment and sustenance of these peace committees is embedded in the social network theory school of thought. The theory explores relations between individuals as a starting point, and embodies the society as consisting of sets of relations or ties between nodes. The initiative believes in four fundamental principles: independence of actors; relations or ties consisting in the flow or transfer of resources; the constraining and/or enabling of individual actors by networks; and the generation of long-lasting ties and networks by social structures (Wasserman and Faust: 1999, p. 4). The peaceful nature and parameters within which women operate as they seek to provide counter-hegemonic strategies for inclusive peacebuilding and security in the communities conform to this school of thought. The lessons learnt is that while it is a stereotype to claim that women are peaceful agents in total, the efforts of the women in the peace committees have demonstrated that women's efforts for countering conflict are mainly peaceful. In line with the social network theory, these women unveil the power of community organizing and peaceful networking in building social capital to counter violence and build a sustainable peace for women and girls in Zimbabwe. It unveils agency of women as community leaders, noting how individual agency builds into collective power of community networks in building social capital for peacebuilding and security. The women's peace committee initiative enables a new theoretical discourse of women-led community peacebuilding research, using theoretical propositions as the basis for research design. Also at programming level, applying the theory on community women's engagements is necessary in giving relevance and value to knowledge produced out of women's engagements, as well as to help relate this knowledge to all other aspects of social and even academic experience, and in giving visibility to community women who bear the brunt of conflict processes. Women have demonstrated how they can convert their miseries into valuable experiences of value and worth to contribute to feminist studies and social capital.

The women have personal interests, some are poor and want to generate income, some face SGBV because of erstwhile husbands who spend money on beer while children starve, as in the case of women at Chief Charumbira's village who worked to destroy a network of sex workers bussed into the area by a local business man who wanted to boost his brothel business; some have girl children who have to walk long distances to access school, and some who have to lodge in people's homes to access schools, and work with the group to lobby authorities for a local school. Again, as in the case of Chief Charumbira, women in Tsvingwe work with a woman who has mining rights and belongs to a mining consortium, and thus include other women without such rights to benefit from legal gold panning, to mention a few; yet at the end of the day social capital is deployed to reap returns in the form of opportunities from which both the individual and the collective can profit, in line with the aspirations of feminist epistemology, of bringing the marginalized to the center.

UN Women, the main funding partner, is brought into this social web through the social network theory's public goods hunch, which opines that group members create and maintain public goods so that everyone in the group can be able to benefit from them. This thought proposes that members



form groups not for personal benefits but to forge ties that enable them to maximize their collective ability to leverage resources and mobilize for collective action in their environment. (Hardin, 1982; Olson, 1965; Samuelson, 1954). The guiding principle is that every member of the group has a right to benefit from the public good, irrespective of their contribution to its creation or maintenance.

### > Impact

This initiative has informed positive social transformation in the following ways: Firstly, it helped build community resilience in the face of EL NINO induced drought and hunger. Women from the Peace Committee in Bindura have joined hands to do collective advocacy and lobbying until they have secured land for communal farming. They now maximize on the benefits that would otherwise go to men who are the largest owners of farming land. In 2016 and 2017 they have planned a Moringa tree planting venture that will help treat soils, create forests and provide benefits from Moringa products. The Chairlady of the Tsvingwe peace committee mentions “Now, we have several acres of land fully under our control and we have increased women’s resilience to abuses regarding land and land rights.”

The Value of Resolutions have also been exhibited by the women’s ability to make decisions that cushion the community’s interests and ensure women are protected from insecurities arising from communal social and cultural systems. Through the Peace Committees, they made a resolution to start a school when their children were wading long distances to access schooling and girls were then made vulnerable. “The girls faced a lot of problems. We were forced to rent for them houses since school is too far. They start living like they are adults and yet they are not. Some of them were abused sexually when they walked long distances to access schooling. In fact, it was also expensive for us as we could use this money for rent to pay for their school fees.” Girlie Zisheche, Chairperson – Chief Charumbira Peace Committee, Masvingo.

Additionally, training of peace journalists and a quarterly news tabloid through a concept known as “Community Peace Journalism” has enhanced reduction of violence as perpetrators fear being exposed. Through PACDEF, 12 women were identified and trained as Peace Journalists who could report issues of peace and security amongst women and girls in the community. “As Peace Journalists, we were taught that we have a responsibility to be fair and impartial, to write accurately and provide facts backed with evidence, to minimize harm – protect sources of news, to stay away from single source based stories, to verify facts before writing a story, to allow sources to be free to express themselves, to write correct names of people in the story and to always validate a story before taking to print.” Besides, the Peace Journalist says the newsletter she reports for, WE Connect, has helped to reduce crime on women and girls in the community. This is because it sets an agenda for community discussions and exposes certain actions by individuals abusing both women, girls and children. Through dialogues and community reporting systems, the newsletter has been instrumental in naming and shaming certain practices that are harmful to women and girls hence reducing crime rates. “People fear being reported in the news and so they also do not commit crime against women. We have reported cases of men who beat their wives and the police have acted because of our reports. In some cases, the mainstream media has also followed up on some stories we report. The community now has reduced crime rates due to the stories we report on the newsletter.” She mentioned as she alluded to reduced crime rates attributed to the Community Peace Journalism. A good example of how the newsletter has helped the women in the communities targeted peace committees is when the story- on the efforts of women in mining published in the UN Women’s WE Connect newsletter and women’s tabloid. The story showcased women’s collective agency in the mining area and profiled the need for women to be drivers of economic empowerment within the extractive industries.

Finally, the initiative has stepped up efforts for Gender Equality: UN Women's Supported Peace Committee Achieves the Vision 50/50 through the Traditional Court in Masvingo- Zimbabwe. The women peace committee in Masvingo narrated to us how women in Masvingo have faced gender inequalities and discrimination from the traditional courts before they formed the women peace committees. The women were treated as inferior and socially excluded from decision making and other civic engagements because their priorities were not captured in the court as the court had 7 members all of whom were male. The women's security issues were not prioritized and their voices were not heard or where given a hearing, the verdict did not reflect the justice expected and that which was accorded to male counterparts. The women say this was due to "Prejudice against women which influenced the judgements made against them and tilted the credibility of the judgments to what they say used to be extremely unfair to women and children." The men used to beat women and the traditional court did not take stern action against them nor did they talk strongly about it. Women were largely excluded from the traditional governance structures. The role of the traditional courts is to resolve communal conflicts and any other issues that may affect the peace of the community including those affecting women and those within their jurisdiction. Those that are complicated and outside the jurisdiction of the traditional court are referred to the police and to the formal courts. The community police woman selected by the women peace committee from this community and later trained by the Zimbabwe Republic Police following demands by these women peacebuilders now aids in ensuring that proper and human rights focused referral system is followed in handling police and court cases in this community. The community police woman has become the link between the traditional court and the police, as well as with the formal courts. Above all, gender responsive social capital has been created as even the men and boys work with the women in the community gardens, and provide security to the gardens in the night to guard the produce from thieves. They take turns to do that, and this show how the women's initiative has indeed created community ownership and responsibility.

#### > Sustainability

To ensure that this initiative does not build a culture of dependency in the communities targeted, and that the women do not get frustrated along the way, the UN Women in Zimbabwe has reinforced what is already working well from within and built a culture for the peace committees to continue on their own. Zimbabwe is facing elections in 2018, and nurturing the peace committees to also include men as agents for peaceful elections would be the most ideal way to ensure mentorship for social strengthening. Allowing the planting of Moringa healing gardens would also give back to the environment for drought resilience.

#### > Replicability and Scaling Up

The initiative has proven potential scalability and replicability through successful results which have increased space for resilience for women and girls in peace and security. It is however noted that injecting more resources will enable replicability of this initiative. The initiative also envisions having men-led peace committees to also foster positive masculinities in the communities, working together with the women.

### Case Study- Constable Majoni – a Community Champion of Women and Children Rights in Chief Charumbira area, Zimbabwe

Through the support that they receive from UN Women, the women in Chief Charumbira's peace committee have lobbied for recruitment of a woman community police-woman to be integrated into the formal policing service system in Zimbabwe, the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP). The community police woman, who used to be part of this peace group has now received formal training through the ZRP, where she also received uniforms and necessary equipment. Constable Majoni is now working at the community level, and her duties include patrolling the community and ensuring that there is peace and serenity, receiving reported cases of violence from the women peace committee members and referring them either to the traditional court system or to the national police post in Masvingo as necessary. She also provides strategic guidance on restoring peace amongst the villagers whenever there is a conflict that she can handle on her own, working together with the women from the peace group. The police woman thus provides a link between the village and the national ZRP office in Masvingo by ensuring that all cases that cannot be handled at village level are referred to the town ZRP office, as well as between the women's peace committee and the traditional chief's court, where she now also sits as part of the traditional court. Beyond that, Constable Majoni may also provide services to the traditional chief where he needs assistance with referring cases that are beyond his jurisdiction.

The peace committee says they wanted a woman to represent their interests beyond the traditional courts and they had to nominate Majoni to represent them. After UN Women formed the peace committee and trained the women on issues of gender sensitive security sectors, the women mobilized themselves and identified her as the best choice for the community police job. She was then sent for training by the police in Zimbabwe. Her training revolved around basic laws, reporting and human rights. She was also taught on jurisdiction and how to handle cases at the community level and making referral of cases beyond the jurisdiction of the traditional courts. She sits at the traditional court, offers guidance and fast tracks cases touching on women and children but also links to national security in cases where the traditional courts cannot offer resolutions to the community. She was able to guide the court in a famous sex workers' case which was brought before them and yet it was not within their jurisdiction. Constable Majoni had to refer the case to Masvingo Rural where it was resolved. She is a champion of women and children rights and does not condone any forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls.

She says "I am honoured by this appointment by the peace committee. I had never dreamt to be a police woman. But I find it interesting and I enjoy my work a lot with the community. I stand for and support women's issues with all my heart in the traditional courts and even when the cases are taken beyond the court."

UN Women's supported peace committee has not only created a platform for her work on women's security issues but has also provided her with an employment where she earns a salary and can now use the salary she receives to provide for her family and support needy cases within the community.

Constable Sekai Majoni sits at the traditional court, offers guidance and fast tracks cases touching on women and children but also links to national security in cases where the traditional courts cannot offer resolutions on cases. This has increased justice for women and avoided delays in the traditional justice system



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## The Green Negotiated Territorial Development (GreeNTD) in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Promoting a peaceful and lasting resolution to land conflicts in a protracted crisis context through a fair and environmentally sensitive approach

### > Context

Since the late 19th century, the vast natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo have constantly provoked violent interventions from outside the country and fueled internal conflicts. Population pressure, competition for land resources, mining, forestry and hunting, lack of secure access to land, weak governance and the instability of the institutional framework have caused tension between different actors. Thus, competition over access to natural resources is a structural problem and one of the main factors fueling power struggles in the region.

In the current context of constant insecurity, arable land is under-used and productivity is limited. Conflicts contribute to a shortage of livelihoods for the most vulnerable rural communities, environmental degradation, and underpin a propensity to use violence to resolve problems. Land disputes represent a serious threat to the development and stability of the country, particularly in the east, where frequent movements of people fleeing conflicts increase tensions between groups, particularly host communities.

FAO has developed an integrated approach to address the multidimensional and multi-stakeholder problem of land conflicts: the Green Negotiated Territorial Development (GreeNTD), a socio-ecological and people-centred approach to the territorial development that is characterized by openness and inclusion.

### What is GreeNTD and how does it contribute to improving the resilience of livelihoods?

GreeNTD is a negotiation-based approach that promotes a multi-stakeholder dialogue on territorial development opportunities without damaging ecological integrity. The process aims to facilitate the interaction between different stakeholders involved in land disputes, in order to find solutions to competition problems related to accessing land and limited natural resources.

The approach aims to better understand the relationship between humans and nature, and is adaptable to different scales of intervention and various categories of stakeholders, namely policy-makers; tenants; communities;

entrepreneurs and Non-governmental Organizations; and those who provide expertise and economic resources, including academics, government scientists, consultants, investors and donor agencies.

The process consists of five phases and is concluded by the signing of a Socio-Ecological Territorial Agreement (SETA). The signing of SETA represents the beginning of a reconciliation process that guarantees its legitimacy thanks to the inclusive approach of a dialogue and represents an opportunity to strengthen social cohesion. The agreement is the most appropriate means to facilitate access to land, the main obstacle to securing livelihoods. This process allows the recovery of agriculture, a prelude to economic growth, and consequently improves the resilience of livelihoods.



### Key facts

Land disputes reveal the link between conflict and food security. The land issue is becoming a bottleneck for the process of peace stabilization and reconstruction.

Land insecurity hampers and hinders the resumption of production activities and more generally of economic activities and development.

Geographical coverage > Luhonga, Nord Kivu region, Democratic Republic of the Congo.



Access to land favours securing agricultural production; it allows women who are often victims of sexual violence to find autonomy and dignity.

In North Kivu, in Luhonga, the sustainability of the signed agreement is guaranteed by the search for social legitimization of all stakeholders. This is the uniqueness of this approach

### > Challenges

Land conflict resolution must take into account the complexity, interdependence and specific context of the various factors of conflict. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the GreeNTD approach aims to address the various causes of stress, including:

- Protracted crises, internal and regional;
- Population movement and border migration, especially in the east;
- Haphazard and unplanned land occupation;
- The tangle of property titles;
- Land use change and conflicts related to the use of space;
- Lack of clarity in land administration: imperfect decentralization, conflict between formal and customary rights; and
- Lack of confidence in the state and the pervasive insecurity.

### > Impact

The intervention in the Democratic Republic of the Congo has strengthened the resilience of agricultural livelihoods of vulnerable populations by reducing land disputes, including the following results:

- Access to arable land allowed people to return to their land and female victims of sexual violence to regain their independence and reintegrate into the community. Land access creates a sense of safety for agricultural production, enabling them to choose their livelihoods and provides a degree of autonomy and dignity.
- The dialogue mechanism has promoted reconciliation and intercommunal social cohesion, thus improving the sustainability of the stabilization process.
- The capacity development activities and the distribution of quality agricultural inputs have strengthened production, thus improved income and food and nutrition security.

The GreeNTD approach is promising and has shown results on many levels. To enhance its impact and strengthen the resilience of affected populations, the monitoring and measuring of the impact of GreeNTD combined with agricultural support will have to be evaluated in terms of improved wellbeing and long-term ecosystem services.

### > Sustainability

The sustainability of this practice is favoured by the following:

- The project aims to consolidate and ensure access to arable land in the long term, thanks in particular to the signing of SETA.
- Community, farmer organizations and women have strengthened their autonomy and their capacities.
- Dialogue participants have acquired the capacity to replicate the GreeNTD approach.
- The entire sector has been strengthened and access to factors of production has been facilitated, strengthening the production chain.

## > Methodological Approach

The GreeNTD methodology follows a multistep process to meet key challenges: ensuring access to and sustainable use of land and natural resources, secure land tenure and investment, and improving cooperation between different actors.

To be legitimate, territorial planning must emerge from a dialogue that includes all stakeholders, so that it is accepted and respected over the long term. In the context of the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, GreeNTD was chosen in light of the weak governmental structures and the need to strengthen social cohesion.

The land tenure security project implemented in Luhonga includes both a process of negotiation as well as distribution of agricultural inputs and training activities in improved production techniques. These activities offer an economic alternative that may thus constitute a compensation for damage experienced by some households involved in the resolution of land disputes.

The process starts with a participatory territorial analysis of natural resource access in order to describe and understand the root causes of territorial disputes. The diagnosis concludes with a map that includes the history and perceptions of different stakeholders. On this basis, a SETA is negotiated. Rights, duties, termination clauses, surface use, working conditions, etc. are negotiated, approved and included in the text. This document crowns the beginning of a reconciliation process by ensuring its legitimacy through inclusive dialogue.

## > Replicability and Scaling Up

The activities can be replicated on a larger scale, if the following actions are put in place:

- **Implementing the SETA after signing:** accompany the signature with funding and implementation of the agreed activities.
- **Encouraging the government to reform the land tenure system,** while taking into account the current decentralization and duality between the written land law and local customs.

### The five phases of GreeNTD

Preparatory phase: Identification of territorial perimeter, of the relevant concerned stakeholders and their motivations to intervene.

#### Phase I. Views: Understanding the territory as a socio- ecological system;

preparing a first analytical framework of concerned stakeholders, differentiating their positions, interests and strategies; identification of interrelations, power relations, and social, economic and productive dynamics at the given territory. Creating an information system (socio- economic, productive, eco-systemic) spatially delimited, to better understand the typology, intensity or magnitude of impacts, risks and conflicts of players on different contributing factors. Reconstruction of historical developments and future trends on the main topics of interest; building partnerships and arrangements necessary to monitor the process of awareness, communication and capacity development, especially for the weaker players, to bring them to the negotiation table.

The GreeNTD integrated approach includes not only a process of consultation but also the introduction of alternative economic activities and the sustainable use of natural resources.

#### Phase II. Horizons: Outlining coherent and feasible

Proposals for territorial development; setting scenarios to facilitate consensus; identification of dynamics that negatively affect the territory.

#### Phase III. Negotiation: seeking consensus for territorial

development; creation of roundtable negotiations involving all stakeholders (communities, local authorities, landowners and land administration institutions); analytical work for a coherent, feasible, efficient and sustainable intervention, with FAO acting as a facilitator of the process.

#### Phase IV. Stakeholders signing the SETA, the fundamental

basis for the implementation of short-, medium- and long-term business plans; formalization of the rights and duties of each party; creating an implementation platform composed of all stakeholders (communities, local authority, landowners and land administration institutions).

#### Phase V. Monitoring and evaluating the activities undertaken.

After signing, a second phase for the implementation of SETA and the land use plan would be required to consolidate the sustainability of GreeNTD results.

Promoting autonomy and capacity development of individuals, families, communities and local institutions is essential for prevention and resolution of conflicts.

- **Developing a strategy at provincial level.** In the case of North Kivu, the provincial government created a steering committee comprised of representatives of several ministries, which took note of the GreeNTD approach for the resolution of land disputes at community level and will approve future socio-territorial agreements.
- **Encouraging local actors to continue the process until the signing of the SETA, even if it takes time.** In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the GreeNTD approach has become an essential tool for resolving land conflicts in North Kivu. Its adoption is a success considering the difficulties of dialogue on land issues that characterize the context.
- **Promoting replicability of GreeNTD:** In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the process is being promoted in the Ruzizi plain and Rutsuru.
- **Supporting the National Department of Land Affairs** in the organization of consultations at provincial level to implement the GreeNTD across the entire national territory.
- **Encouraging other international organizations to use the same approach.** UNHABITAT, for example, is inspired by the GreeNTD to improve its prevention and resolution of land dispute projects.

#### THE PILOT CASE OF LUHONGA

The GreeNTD pilot was implemented in Luhonga village (Masisi - North Kivu) in the context of the OSRO/DRC/303/UND project. Some 578 families, including 242 headed by women, were involved. The indigenous population had abandoned their land several times because of various conflicts but had always been able to re-occupy the same land as soon as security permitted. However, the last time, people no longer had the right to access the land because the new occupants held a land title. Through the implementation of all phases of GreeNTD, the process has resulted in the development of a land use plan and the signing of the SETA between 24 producer representatives and eight concessionaires. In the pact, the parties agreed on securing access to 1 ha of land for each household, including internally displaced persons who were still in the camps. Currently, residents of Luhonga (estimated population: 4 096 people) can stay in a secure area, although it is limited (24 ha) until the full implementation of the covenant. The project also provided technical supervision and monitoring of individual fields. Two community nurseries, in addition to the 24 ha, have been installed to facilitate technical support and strengthen social cohesion. Their management is provided equally by Luhonga households and surrounding villages.

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## Fuel-Efficient Mud Stoves in Darfur, Sudan

Support for widespread adoption of fuel-efficient mud stoves to strengthen resilience to conflict in protracted crises

### > Context

The protracted conflict since 2003 in Darfur, Sudan has resulted in massive loss of human lives and assets, disrupted livelihoods and led to severe food insecurity in some areas. As of December 2015, more than 2.6 million people are currently displaced in Darfur – approximately 42 percent of the total population. Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) and their host communities have limited livelihood options and often rely on unsustainable coping strategies, such as unmanaged cutting of trees and shrubs for fuelwood and charcoal production. This places an additional burden on Darfur's fragile ecosystem and related livelihoods. Since 1990, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has provided support with a number of partners on the production and use of Fuel-Efficient Mud Stoves to address these challenges in Darfur.

### > Challenge

Access to and availability of fuelwood has become a highly contentious issue, with implications for human and environmental security due to:

- heavy burden for women and girls who have to venture far from their home and travel up to 13 km three times a week to harvest the necessary fuelwood;
- exposure of women and girls to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) while collecting fuelwood;
- increased conflict over scarce forest and tree resources;
- unsustainable exploitation of forest resources;
- the high cost of fuelwood and charcoal on the markets especially when used inefficiently; and
- health and safety risks associated with cooking on traditional three-stone fires which can generate toxic smokes and fires.

### > Methodological Approach

The following steps are included in this approach:

- selecting beneficiaries for practical and theoretical training, targeting women and involving women leaders among IDPs and host communities;
- awareness-raising on the need to reduce wood cutting, so as to conserve forests and protect the environment;
- disseminating the message that fuel-efficient mud stoves reduce fuelwood consumption per meal and curb smoke emissions from using open fires inside dwellings; and
- improving current practices through a combination of theoretical training, practical demonstrations, group work, individual stove production with local and low-cost materials and training on stove maintenance.

### Key facts

**Location** > All five states of the Greater Darfur Region in Sudan, with a specific focus on El Fasher (North Darfur) and Geneina (West Darfur) for training.

**Target group** > Women, traditionally responsible for cooking and fuelwood collection, among IDPs and host communities.

**Gender** > Women are disproportionately affected by reduced access to fuelwood, as they are traditionally responsible for collecting fuelwood and cooking. FES technology can reduce the exposure of women and girls to SGBV associated with fuelwood collection. This strengthens synergies with humanitarian protection priorities for women and girls. FES technology also eases women's work burden and empowers women economically by giving them skills in manufacturing stoves for sale.

**Nutrition** > FES are key to addressing nutrition and food security of displaced populations and host communities in Darfur. Traditional stoves consume significant wood energy, an overexploited and diminishing resource for the poor. Restricted access to fuelwood means families cannot have a diversified diet and risk eating undercooked food. They also rely on less nutritious foods that do not require cooking or may skip meals.



### What is a fuel-efficient stove and how does it contribute to increasing resilient livelihoods?

Fuel-efficient stoves (FES) can be made of mud, clay or metal, and can use different types of fuels, such as fuelwood, charcoal, briquettes, biofuels, liquefied petroleum gas or kerosene. They provide a substitute for the traditional three-stone fire and are specifically designed to reduce fuel consumption. As such, FES adoption and use can make an important contribution to strengthen the resilience of livelihoods in refugee and IDP camps and their host communities, but also in other areas with high population density and scarce natural resources.

#### > Impacts

Enhanced livelihoods and improved environmental protection:

- FES technology reduces exposure of women and girls to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) because they have to collect fuelwood less often;
- Women and children's health is better protected from the smoke emissions of traditional stoves;
- Containment of cooking fires reduces safety risks linked to the commonly used three-stone fires;
- FES saves up to 60 percent of fuelwood traditionally consumed by the three-stone fire which reduces workload for women and burden on forest resources; and
- When FES production is accompanied by tree planting, vegetation cover is improved.

#### > Sustainability

The viability of the practice is ensured by the following:

- Together with other partners, FAO's support on the production and use of FES has been in place for more than 15 years, since 1990;
- FES have been successfully adopted by 74 percent of the population of South Darfur and 95 percent of the population of West Darfur and training continues to be delivered by partners and local trainers;
- The life span of the improved mud stove is longer and estimated at between 6 and 36 months;
- Beneficiaries are trained to produce FES using easily accessible, low-cost local materials and training includes guidance on stove maintenance;
- Trainees are taught how to make stoves in different locations, according to needs and climate conditions; and
- The use of FES allows women to dedicate more time to child care and other productive tasks as well as to generate additional income through selling of stoves.

#### > Replicability and Scaling Up

FES training and production can be replicated and upscaled in situations of crisis and disaster involving displaced persons, temporary settlements (camps, etc.) and their host communities.

Replicability can be further ensured through these recommendations:

- Pursue awareness-raising among decision-makers and communities on benefits of FES;
- Clarify the link between household energy consumption, impacts on surrounding forests and environment and the need for rational use of available resources to meet the demand of both the current population and future generations;
- Provide flexible stove designs that can be adjusted to local conditions based on consultations with community stakeholders, especially women, who are the main users;
- Create a core training team of trainers (if possible, within the community) to monitor, report and share the results with stakeholders and researchers;
- In each location, establish and maintain a reference team that communities can consult on FES.

### > Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE)

FAO is carrying out resilience building activities under the SAFE initiative in many different countries, mainly in Africa and Asia. SAFE addresses the multi-sectoral challenges linked to collection, production and use of fuel in crisis settings. SAFE partnership activities include the provision and/or local production of fuel-efficient stoves, sustainable natural resource management for the supply of fuel and promotion of alternative, less fuelwood-dependent livelihood activities.

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FES responds to the humanitarian protection needs of women and girls by reducing exposure to SGBV as they collect fuelwood less often.

FAO's support on the production and use of FES has been in place for more than 15 years, since 1990.

This practice can be upscaled in situations of crisis and disaster involving displaced persons, temporary settlements and host communities.

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*[www.fao.org/3/a-i4964e.pdf](http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4964e.pdf)*

## Good Practice on Gender and Resilience

### Key facts

**Location:** Burundi, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda.

**Resource Partners:** FAO, NGOs, community based organizations, research institutes and governmental agencies.

### Beneficiaries:

A total of 176 700 households (883 500 individuals) benefited from the clean planting materials

### Gender:

Women represent 90% of cassava farmers Participatory approach - men and women have worked together

**Duration:** 2009-2013



## Fighting Cassava Diseases in Africa

### > Context

Cassava (*Manihot esculenta* L.) is an important root crop widely cultivated by women in tropical and subtropical regions of Asia, Latin America and Africa. In West, East and Central Africa the carbohydrate rich edible root of the crop is contributes greatly to human nutrition. The leaves are also a major source of vitamins and micronutrients. Besides these, cassava has a high potential as a cash crop for industrial production of starch and animal feed.

The resilience of cassava enables it to grow in a wide range of ecological zones, even in poor soils where cereals and other crops cannot thrive. These traits make it a suitable food security crop for resource poor farmers even in marginal environments. During dry periods, the roots keep well in the soil for as long as 2 years making a source of food reserve which bridges the lean and peak seasons.

In Africa, cassava production has been threatened by two diseases: Cassava Mosaic Disease (CMD) and Cassava Brown Streak Disease (CBSD). These diseases are transmitted through the use of infected plant materials and whiteflies, which are the vectors of the viruses. Currently, Africa is accounting for 50% of global cassava production (about 234 million tons per year) but this is being threatened by the viral diseases. The situation is posing an enormous threat to food security which is already precarious in West, East and Central Africa.

The symptoms of the CMD are mainly visible on the plant leaves: including the mosaic pattern of chlorosis, malformation and distortion, reduced leaf size, abscission of young leaves and resulting in stunted growth of infected plants. These symptoms lead to drop in yields estimated to be at least 30% (or 45 million tons per year) in Africa.

In addition to leave chlorosis and necrotic vein banding, CBSD mainly attacks the roots which makes it more difficult for farmers to detect. Infected roots may show cracks, discoloration, distortion and corky yellow-brown necrotic spots and are often unsuitable for consumption. In severe cases the disease can cause 100% yield loss. CBSD is rapidly spreading in the coastal lowlands of Eastern Africa, and has moved in to ecological zones which were previously disease free. As CBSD symptoms are elusive training and experience are required for prompt detection.

Women and men not only depend on cassava production for income (to sell at markets) but also as a staple food used extensively in their cooking. The income derived from Cassava is vital for the local household economy as they use it to buy diverse basic essentials and to build a domestic resource base. The income boosts their purchasing power so as to afford other nutrient rich food groups (protein) such as fish, poultry and other animal products thus alleviating poverty and malnutrition.

In 2009, the European Union supported the Regional Cassava Initiative to fight Cassava diseases and help vulnerable communities in Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic and Gabon in order to restore cassava yields by reinforcing the capacity of the most food insecure

subsistence farmers. The program was coordinated by FAO and rolled out by different partners including NGOs, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), research institutes and governmental agencies.

#### > Challenge

- Women rely on crops (affected or not) for their income and to feed their families. Women do not always have control on the revenue from the sale of cassava as it is often controlled by men.
- Because of the cassava diseases women and men often lose large portions of their food security asset and are forced to uproot affected plants to keep the rate of infection minimal.
- The fight against cassava diseases has led to an increased production thanks to the introduction of new disease-tolerant varieties. However, due to the perishability of some of these varieties, it constrains their potential for value addition by transforming the tubers into various soaked or fermented forms, or drying them as chips.

#### > Methodological Approach

To respond to CMD and CBSD, FAO used the following approach: 1) raising awareness amongst communities on the risk of the diseases in order to reach as many communities as possible and make them aware of the impact of the diseases 2) building capacities in recognizing and detecting the affected plants for recognizing the diseases, 3) monitoring the implementation of the new practices.

#### > Creating Awareness

Communication campaigns have been crucial in the fight against cassava diseases, which started with the aim of creating awareness among communities in order to reach as many people as possible. This was carried out through flyers, posters, agricultural show exhibits, radio and television broadcasts.

The awareness campaigns focused on imparting knowledge and skills on the economic importance of cassava and the risk of CMD and CBSD curtailing this, disease detection and management. Communication campaigns focused on early warning and creating awareness about the spread of diseased planting materials and the risks posed by whiteflies. People were instructed on how to identify symptoms, which plants to use for planting materials and where to plant.

Awareness was also created through the capacity building of a focal area contact person (often a model farmer in the community) who would scout fields for any outbreak in the village and inform local and district authorities.

#### How has this practice increased Gender and Resilience?

- **By increasing women's access to information and training** - women had the opportunity of facilitating trainings with men as participants.
- **By enhancing women's access to decision - making at community level, strengthening their technical skills and raising gender awareness** - gender relations have improved by altering men's perceptions of women's capacity to contribute and lead certain activities.
- **By disseminating technologies and practices** - 90% of women have been actively involved in production, transformation, transport and commercialization of cassava.

In one year

- **443 farmer field schools** have been established in the project countries.
- **The total number of farmer field schools established in the 7 participating countries exceeded the target of 350 (50 per country) by over one-quarter.**
- **FAO trained 2716 farmers** in disease and pest recognition, seed multiplication and cassava production management.

**CASE STUDY****Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) practice**

The Democratic Republic of Congo is the largest consumer of cassava, cultivated in at least 70% farm households and it plays an essential part in the population's resilience. A plant that has been affected by the mosaic disease can impact 100% loss of the total annual production. In response to the disease, FAO coordinated the Cassava Manioc Disease initiative with the support of Government agencies, Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs (Catholic Service Relief), Clinique de Plantes de Kinshasa, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA).

The approach used was the Farmer Field School approach, which was developed by FAO in 1989. Farmer Field School is based on innovative, participatory and non-formal interactive learning during which, farmers learn to analyze the situation and make decisions about their livelihood practices. For the training, local communities offered the land on which to cultivate while FAO trained women to become facilitators of the farmer field school which were attended by men as well.

During the year the training was followed by activities that aimed at supporting farmers in the adaptation and adoption of the new practices for example women learned that they had to separate the affected cassava leaves, destroy them, throw them far away in the field, burn them and then plant new cassava varieties. The practice has led to an increased crop yields, production growth and increase of farmers' income. It has been used also for other projects across the country.

**> Building Capacities**

In the fight against the CMD and CBSD, FAO used the Farmer Field School approaches in order to reinforce the importance of the cassava based production systems and impart knowledge on its agro-ecosystems and economic value. Thanks to the participatory field learning processes, men and women farmers and farm households acquired the knowledge for early detection, control and management, adding value to supply chains and establishing links with other partners and organizations. People were trained in detecting the symptoms of both CMD and CBSD as soon as possible and were enabled to differentiate among these two. Women and men farmers were also trained in the epidemiology (specifically on the occurrence of the white flies and their inherent risks on carrying the disease) and on how to control infested plantations. The operations would consist of observing cassava plants (per row) in the field, identifying plants that would show symptoms and uprooting infected plants with whiteflies and destroy or burn.

**> Improving Management**

An essential step in the good management of CMD and CBSD is to ensure that new, disease tolerant varieties are made available to farming communities – these are usually produced in a protected environment through tissue culture. Farmers are also trained on the merits of good agriculture practices including crop rotation and inter-cropping.

The *Digital Pen Technology* (DPT) was introduced as an effective early warning and monitoring system. Monitoring agents and focal points would use the technology to record occurrences of the disease, taking note of their geographic locations. Pictures would be taken of suspected affected plants and guarded in a common database; this instrument resulted in the mapping of areas of high CMD / CBSD incidents. Cassava Agro-processors would also put pressure on farmers to produce healthy tubers for the markets. This proved especially successful in coastal areas in Tanzania.

### > Collaboration

A network of organizations was established to fight Cassava diseases: The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Catholic Relief; in this coalition, FAO focused mainly in enhancing improved phyto-sanitary regulations through the national research and extension partners promoting good agricultural practices while others would focus on the epidemiology (IITA) and the bulking and distribution of clean planting materials.

### > Impacts

- The project has had a considerable impact on reducing the risk of CBSD. Thanks to the adoption of more resistant varieties of cassava and of proper cultural practices, the production increased and also the income of men and women farmers; the project in particular helped women because cassava is a crop largely managed by women (90%).
- Another impact of the project has been on the increased awareness on the crop's agro-processing potential in the production of cassava flower and on the crop's industrial potential including paper, glue, syrup, ethanol and other manufactured goods.
- Staff of the Ministry of Agriculture were trained in the identification of remedies for CBSD. This training enabled them to establish surveillance systems and carry out surveys of disease incidence.
- Trained farmers became the focal points for disseminating the new approaches to Cassava cultivation and pest identification in their communities and in neighboring ones.
- Farmer Field Schools improved farmers' abilities to prevent, detect and remedy Cassava Diseases by making communities aware of cassava diseases and ways of minimizing them through the roguing of diseased plants to avoid further infection, as well as avoiding the use of cuttings from diseased plants.

### > Replicability and Scaling Up

With the Farmer Field School system, farmers acquired the requisite knowledge to respond to cassava Diseases; they learned new practices and methods and became facilitators of social, technical and economic change in their community and in neighboring communities. This approach created the acceptance of new practices in planting new cassava varieties. Once learned, these practices would be shared and multiplied by more individuals in the communities.

The replicability of the successes requires the FAO to continue supporting the fight against the diseases with policy processes, stakeholder coordination, knowledge sharing and regulatory support functions.

Annual regional stakeholder events have been organized to share project progress, lessons learned and future planning priorities. Institutional coordination committees have also been established to regulate the movement of cassava vegetative materials.

The establishment and strengthening of disease monitoring systems to track disease movements and the implementation of effective control measures are key activities in combating cassava disease. In the future, technologies could be promoted further such as the digital pen and mobile phone monitoring systems to be accompanied by a substantial training element and continuous mentoring.

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**Testimonial**

“When our crops started to die, we were hungry. Our children had learning problems”. “We were trained on good agricultural practices. Now we leave enough space between our plants, we know when our cassava is affected by diseases and we take the right measures. My cassava is good and strong! We have enough to eat and our children are doing well at school.” Ms. Hemeri Mikidadi, small scale farmer in Hoyoyo, Tanzania

‘In our laboratory we are testing for CBSD’s presence in cassava samples. Through FAO, the information is distributed to other stakeholders in Burundi who further assess the situation.’ explains Ms. Simona Bigirimana, cassava coordinator at the National Research Institute of Burundi (ISABU). ‘We have started collaborating with other parties to continue the work’.



## Beekeeping to Buffer Against Economic Shocks Caused by Natural Hazards in Somaliland

Generating income for men and women to strengthen the resilience of livelihoods

### > Context

Somaliland has the world's fourth-lowest gross domestic product per capita, according to the World Bank, and the population is at risk of different types of climate-related shocks such as droughts and dry spells, with detrimental effects on crops and livestock. In this backdrop, bees can resist a dry season with very little water, foraging in the numerous wild tree species even when it has not rained. In order to improve and increase their honey production, the Reddin Beekeeping Group at Beer village, in the Burao District of Somaliland, received support by FAO through the Sustainable Employment and Economic Development Programme (SEED). SEED is funded by the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom (DFID).

### > Challenges

The income generated from the selling of honey and other bee products stabilizes the annual flow of income during the meager months. Nevertheless, people still often lack knowledge, skills, and technologies to manage hives, increase production, and produce good quality honey, suitable for export. In addition, beekeeping has been a predominantly male occupation, as honey hunting often requires climbing onto trees and is not considered suitable for women. To address these challenges, the project started in 2013 with the introduction of Top-Bar and Langstroth hives and related equipment (see case study on page 2). Over 50 percent of the group members were women.

### > Methodological Approach

- A group is identified or formed, ensuring equal representation of men and women;
- All group members are trained in every aspect of beekeeping: from catching swarms to good hive management, disease control, processing of honey and beeswax, and hygiene;
- Suitable hive models are identified and purchased or constructed together with the group, bearing in mind the possibility to upscale and expand business later on;
- Market linkages are facilitated, and training provided on market standards, regulations, and quality controls, with sensitivity to different kinds of learning needs (e.g. illiterate participants).

**What is beekeeping and how does it contribute to increasing the resilience of livelihoods in a context of natural hazards?**

Honey hunting, or plundering the nests of wild honeybees to obtain honey and beeswax, is practised throughout the world wherever colonies of wild nesting honeybees are abundant. The housing of bees in a container is true "beekeeping", but the term is used loosely to describe all the techniques involving bees and the harvesting and processing of their products. Beekeeping can generate income within a few months' time, with relatively small investments in labour and resources, making it an excellent way to diversify livelihoods and build economic resilience for rural women and vulnerable households. Beekeeping is an

### Key facts

Food systems highly depend upon bees. Out of the 100 crop species that provide 90% of the world's food, over 70 are pollinated by bees. Moreover, these crop species provide greater nutritional value. Improved skills and technologies in beekeeping can multiply honey yields.

**Environment** > Bees are excellent pollinators and increase the yields of vegetables and other food crops. They are essential to pollinate a wide range of wild flowers and trees to maintain and protect biodiversity.

**Nutrition and health** > Honey and its byproducts are considered to have medicinal value and are a source of energy for the beekeepers and their families. The income generated from honey and other bee products can be used to improve family diets.

**Gender equality** > Beekeeping provides men and women with the opportunity to supplement their income, while also creating a platform for social change. Both can learn technical skills in beekeeping and in business development, and can make decisions on an equal footing, thus transforming a culture where men are considered major decision-makers.



The productivity and profitability of beekeeping increased compared to the traditional methods, generating additional income. Women – traditionally not beekeepers – are satisfied with the new livelihood and the skills they have acquired.

Gender-responsive beekeeping interventions can provide a feasible and empowering diversification strategy for rural households also in other risk-prone contexts, as bees can be found everywhere.



especially convenient opportunity for those living in drought-affected areas considering that bees can resist dry seasons.

#### > Impact

Through improved beekeeping technologies and skills, the capacities of local men and women were strengthened, leading to an annual increase from 5 to 31 kg of honey per bee hive.

Furthermore, thanks to the improved quality of the honey, it can be sold to traders at Berbera port at a competitive price now that the market is accessible. Additional income is being generated

by processing honey and wax to prepare other products such as soap, body creams and candles. Women in the community have become more involved in beekeeping activities than before, and now benefit from a more consistent income flow from the sales of honey and other bee products. The group provided a platform for women to make decisions on an equal basis with men on the activities and on their lives, resulting in improved food and nutrition security.

The income generated serves as a safety net against shocks from food shortages.

#### > Sustainability

The sustainability of beekeeping interventions is ensured by (1) building on the local knowledge of bees, (2) the available resources and local materials and (3) by taking on a socially equitable approach. Beekeeping offers a way to generate new income and diversify agricultural activities with minimal investment. It is not labour-intensive and requires minimal water or land, making it an accessible source of income for women and vulnerable households with limited access to resources. Honey, properly and hygienically collected and stored, will keep well as long as it is needed without spoilage and requires little space, so it can be sold when additional cash is needed. Value can be added by producing candles, soaps and creams from beeswax. Bees also play an important role by pollinating crops and thus contribute to increased food production.

Investment into developing capacities of local craftsmen and women to manufacture beekeeping equipment such as hives, protective gear and smokers from locally available materials can increase the sustainability even further.

#### > Replicability and Scaling Up

This practice provides good possibilities for upscaling and introducing it in other parts of Somalia, with a similar culture, land terrain and vegetation for bee forage, and where there is an undisputed demand for bee-products for domestic consumption. Gender-responsive beekeeping interventions could provide a feasible and empowering diversification strategy for rural households also in other risk-prone contexts, as bees can be found everywhere as long as there is forage (nectar and pollen from blooming plants within their flight range of 2 km radius). Beekeeping can also be taken up by displaced people or people with no permanent settlement to gain benefit in a relatively short time. Whereas in Somalia the market exists and the focus is to increase production, an important consideration for replicating elsewhere is to ensure market access by conducting comprehensive market feasibility analyses.

### SELECTING A HIVE MODEL

Two types of hives were promoted for the Reddin group: the Langstroth and Kenyan top-bar hives. The selection of the hive depends on the circumstances. Whereas the Langstroth hive tends to provide better honey yields, it requires a centrifugal honey extractor, and other specialized equipment; whereas the top-bar hive can be managed with simple kitchen tools, and constructed from locally available materials. The precise frame dimensions of a Langstroth hive requires a high degree of craftsmanship, and thus it is about 30-50% more costly than the Kenyan top-bar hive. These differences should be taken into account at the start of the intervention, to ensure beekeepers will have realistic possibilities for upscaling the activities at the end of the funding cycle. A good starting point is to develop artisanal skills of some community members to be able to make the hives locally.



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**Key facts**

**Location:** South Sudan (Awerial, Pageri and Juba Counties)

**Resource partners:** Government of South Sudan, CSO and UN Agencies, including the media, the IDPs and their host communities.

**Government partners:** Ministry of Gender Child and Social Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management

**CSO Partners:** Support for Peace Education and Development (SPEDP), Mundi Relief and Development Association (MRDA), South Sudan Women Empowerment Network (SSWEN), Alieb Rural Development Agency (ARUDA), and Community Empowerment for Progress Organization (CEPO).

**UN Agency:** WFP

**Target Group:** The programmes target group include IDP women and girls and men and boys and the host communities (7000 total).

**Gender:** Women and girls constitute 70% of the total beneficiaries.

**Duration:** April 2015-March 2017

## Community Integrated Model to Build Resilience for Women and Girls in Conflict Affected Situations - Case of South Sudan

### > Context

More than 2.5 million people (one in five) have been forced to flee their homes due to recurrent conflict in South Sudan. Out of these, 1.6 million have been internally displaced and more than 900,000 have sought safety in neighboring countries, mainly Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. Despite the signing of a peace agreement in August 2015, the ceasefire has been repeatedly breached, renewing fighting and intensifying insecurity in part of the country, especially in Juba, Unity, Upper Nile, Jonglei and Western Equatoria states. Today, 4.8 million people are in desperate need for food and clean water. Moreover, the conflict has involved widespread atrocities including indiscriminate killings and wounding, abductions, arbitrary arrests and detention, destruction of property, and conflict-related sexual violence. In the context of both the national armed conflict and widespread inter-communal violence, women and girls are the direct target of rape and gang-rape, sexual slavery, forced marriages, and mutilation of sexual organs.

In order to fill the critical gender gap in the Humanitarian Response in South Sudan, UN Women is implementing a two-year Humanitarian Assistance Programme (HAP) funded by the government of Japan. The programme uses an integrated community model, a combination of livelihoods, peacebuilding, gender-based violence and vocational skills training to build resilience of women, girls, boys and men in the IDP camps and host communities. This programme was successfully implemented as a pilot in 2014 in UN House - PoCs 1 and 2 in Juba, and currently extended to the Internally Displaced Camps in Pageri County, Eastern Equatoria and Ming-Kaman Awerial County, Lakes State.

### > Beneficiaries

The project beneficiaries include IDP women and girls (70%) and men and boys (30%) and the host communities (7000 total). The entire host communities, displacement camps, hotels, boarding schools are the users of the good practices. Local government authorities (commissioner, payam administrators, camp management committees, directors of agriculture, directors of cooperatives, CSOs, commercial banks etc.) are the partners involved in all stages of the implementation to enhance national ownership and sustainability.

The project target traditional leaders, local government officials, religious leaders to advocate for land access, ownership and control for women to engage in productive ventures. Male champions are also selected and trained on GBV prevention and response. Women are mainly provided with the requisite livelihood, vocational skills, peace building, leadership and GBV prevention and response skills in order to engage in productive ventures to enhance their resilience.

### > Methodological Approach

The project employs participatory approaches to engage beneficiaries, traditional leaders and local government officials throughout the stages of the project implementation. A community integrated model is used to provide a holistic response

to women and girls who have experienced terrible shocks to rebuild their livelihoods and sense of self-worth. The innovation involves establishing pathways/graduation from vulnerability/ dependency to sustainable livelihoods: starting with i) social mobilization - formation of groups; ii) building skills and assets; iii) creating livelihood and income opportunities; iv) enhancing self-reliance, resilience and social cohesion; and v) promoting peacebuilding and reconciliation. The combination of economic, social, functional literacy and numeracy skills as well as advocacy and networking skills in order to build resilience of conflict affected women and girls include the following:

Type of Skills	Interventions
Economic Skills	<b>Vocational skills</b> (mechanic, tailoring, handcraft, pastries, liquid soap, etc.)
	<b>Assets creation</b> (provision and training of women on management and maintenance of grinding mills; advocacy to acquire titled lands; construction of multi-purpose women empowerment centers; distribution of energy efficient stoves)
	<b>Micro enterprise development skills</b> (formation of community managed micro finance, women cooperatives and training in business management, record keeping, negotiation, etc.)
	<b>Agricultural inputs and technologies</b> (seeds, tools, greenhouse and drip irrigation technologies and technical support)
Social Skills	Leadership skills training
	Peacebuilding and conflict transformation skills training
	GBV prevention and response training
Functional Literacy Skills	Computer training
	Adult literacy and numeracy
Advocacy and Networking Skills	Access to land, linking cooperatives to financial institutions, WFP Purchase for Progress, involvement of women in the camp management committees, negotiation for bulk purchases and sales etc.

### > Impact

- **Social capital promoted:** 1122 women IDPs and host communities who benefited from economic skills development including community managed micro finance are able to mobilize financial capital to serve as loans for business expansion/diversification; members of the community managed micro-finance provided social funds to support those in crises; 60% of the community managed micro finance have graduated to 10 thriving cooperatives and linked to financial institutions to access large loans to move from micro to medium enterprises.
- **Social cohesion enhanced:** Bringing together IDPs and host communities to engage in group based economic and social ventures promoted peaceful co-existence. For example, advocacy to secure 30 acres of land for 500 women IDPs and the host communities to engage in climate resilience agriculture has diffused conflict triggers, strengthened social cohesion and enhanced integration of IDPs into the host communities.
- **Enhanced decision making powers:** As women now form part of IDP camps and community leadership structures. For example, the advocacy and leadership skills training contributed to an increased in the participation of women in the IDP camps leadership structures (37%) in four settlements.

- **Economic security increased:** 512 women and girls have acquired vocational skills and have established thriving businesses.
- **Food security enhanced:** 2,030 women (IDPs and host community members) have engaged in climate resilient agriculture production and processing and have been linked to sustainable market access (WFP Purchase 4 Progress programme, hotels, boarding schools, business women etc.).
- **Functional literacy skills enhanced:** 530 youth (70% females) have acquired computer literacy skills (25 of these beneficiaries have secured jobs with humanitarian organizations to improve their resilience).
- **Protection of women and girls enhanced:** Safe spaces, women empowerment centres, energy efficient cooking stoves, grinding mills and GBV prevention and response training for law enforcement officers, traditional leaders, male champions etc. have reduced GBV risks and improved responses to GBV cases in IDP settlements and host communities.

#### > Sustainability

- Working with local authorities (commissioners, Payam Administrators, County Directors of gender, agriculture, cooperatives, camp management committees etc.); local credible CSOs will ensure institutional sustainability.
- In terms of social sustainability, the project is building social cohesion by bringing IDPs and host communities to work in one group. Beneficiaries from the warring factions, persons with disabilities and young and the elderly are all part of the groups which enhances diversity, tolerance and peaceful co-existence. The provision of grinding mill and the training on maintenance and management of grinding mills which include female members of the IDP and host communities also ensure its sustainability.
- For economic sustainability, women are able to earn income, profits are invested in community managed micro finance (CMMF) for business expansion, and graduation of CMMF into cooperatives strengthened the bargaining power of women and their ability to negotiate better prices and bulk sales for greater profits. Linkages with cooperative banks provided women the opportunities to borrow more money to expand or diversify their businesses
- The interventions are environmentally sustainable as the materials used for training are obtained locally. The use of energy efficient stoves by the women reduce the amount of charcoal used for cooking/heating by 50% which translates to reduction in cutting trees for fuelwood or charcoal while also protecting women from rape and other violence they experience when they walk long distances to collect fire wood.

#### > Replicability and Scaling Up

The community integrated model which was piloted in the protection of civilian sites in Juba County has been replicated in Eastern Equatoria and Lakes states with amazing success.

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UN WOMEN IS THE UN ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN. A GLOBAL CHAMPION FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS, UN WOMEN WAS ESTABLISHED TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS ON MEETING THEIR NEEDS WORLDWIDE.

UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to implement these standards. It stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on five priority areas: increasing women's leadership and participation; ending violence against women; engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes; enhancing women's economic empowerment; and making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality.

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