



Drylands Learning and
Capacity Building Initiative
for Improved Policy and
Practice in the Horn of Africa

DLCI E-BULLETIN: APRIL 2014

The Drylands Learning and Capacity Building Initiative (DLCI) for improved policy and practice in the Horn of Africa, REGLAP's successor, became operational in January 2014 after registering in Kenya as an independent resource company ([click here](#) for overview). Amidst the setting up, DLCI has also been involved in finishing off outstanding activities from the last phase of REGLAP as well as implementing its initial activities as stipulated in its strategy. DLCI is building on the mandate and work of REGLAP as is outlined in its [Strategic Plan for 2014-2018](#). It aims to promote evidence-based policy and practice amongst dryland stakeholders.

This second e-bulletin highlights new publications from the month of January to April 2014, as well as upcoming activities. For the *January 2014 edition* of the e-bulletin please [click here](#).

LATEST DOCUMENTS

STUDY: Funding for resilience building in the drylands: are donors meeting their pledges? Standley, S. and Atyang, A., December 2014

For the full report, please [click here](#)

For the summary brief, please [click here](#)

The 2010/2011 drought in the Horn of Africa led to calls for building resilience to drought in order to end the repeated cycles of humanitarian crises. IGAD member states and other development partners pledged support for a coherent approach to 'Ending Drought Emergencies' an initiative later termed as the IGAD Drought Disaster and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI).

This study reviews the progress made with in funding resilience initiatives to November 2013, whether the discussions around resilience have resulted in a change in practice and what/who is being funded, what has been left out and why, and what are the implications for these decisions on building resilience based on the evidence gathered since 2008 to-date.

STUDY: 'Counting pastoralists' in Kenya, Krätli S. and Swift J., April 2014

For the full report, please [click here](#)

For the summary brief, please [click here](#)

The demographics of 'pastoralists' has always been uncertain due to their scattered, low-density distribution, with populations spread over large and often inhospitable environments. To complicate this problem,

although networks of pastoral herding households are the backbone of pastoral systems, the magnitude of pastoral systems today is not a linear function of the number of people in these households, or of their livestock holdings. The scientific model to study pastoral systems has been updated but many of the analytical tools necessary to capture the complexity of these systems within the new model are yet to be fully developed.

This review interrogated the data available in governments' and other organisations databases and providing an analysis of its accuracy and likely estimates. In order to do this, the consultants had to provide and justify a working defining of 'pastoralism' in the drylands contexts. Recommendations on how this information can be strengthened in the future particularly by government and within existing processes have been provided at the end of the study.

STUDY: Irrigation and water development in Karamoja, Uganda by Avery S., March 2014

For full report, please [click here](#)

For summary brief, please [click here](#)

This review was conducted as an extension of the study by REGLAP on "*The place of crop agriculture in the drylands of the Horn of Africa: an opportunity or a threat?*" which reviewed the appropriateness of crop agriculture largely focusing on Kenya and Ethiopia. Out of the recognition that pastoralism can no longer sustain increasing populations given the rapid land fragmentation and degradation and other factors, livelihood diversification is an option. However, livelihood diversification options are limited for poor people due to the low human capital resource base, remoteness of the region and lack of infrastructure.

In discussions on alternative livelihoods among both governments and development partners, most attention is given to crop agriculture.. This study reviews the potential for irrigated agriculture in Karamoja by giving a background of Karamoja livelihood zones, available policies and strategies for water and irrigation development with critical examination of technologies employed in Karamoja.

Report: Reflections on the ECHO's regional drought preparedness decision (2006-2013), DLCI, April 2014

For full report, please [click here](#)

A shorter version is forthcoming.

Between 2006-2013 European Community Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (DG ECHO) has invested 90million Euros in the Horn of Africa regional drought preparedness program (referred to as the DRRAP). This document narrates the 'story' of DRRAP: how the regional programme started and evolved; highlights notable successes, challenges and lessons learnt, with the intention of informing other actors who may be planning similar programmes in the future. An article 'In the grey zone: learning from ECHO's drought preparedness program, 2006-2013 was featured in IGAD's magazine: [Resilience Focus](#) March 2014 Issue 1.

TECHNICAL BRIEF: Progress to-date made with measuring resilience in the drylands of the Horn of Africa, Fitzgibbon C., March 2014

For full brief, please [click here](#)

Development agencies programmes and funding strategies are increasingly realigning themselves around resilience-building objectives with all IGAD member states developing Country Programme Plans (CPP) as part of the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) for 2013-2017. These are being backed up with significant financial resources from a wide range of donors. Despite this progress there are still significant challenges in translating resilience into practical programming and measuring it on the ground. Being able to measure resilience is particularly essential to understand how and when resilience has, or has not, been built as a result of specific policies or programming. It is also necessary to measure progress in achieving resilience, either over time or between target groups or populations, to inform improved policy and practice and to prioritise one intervention over another.

This brief identifies the key challenge of measuring resilience and highlights the three main methodologies that have been developed by agencies and how they have tackled the various challenges involved in measuring resilience. The brief also provides recommendations for the way forward in measuring resilience.

RANGELANDS ISSUE PAPER: Plotting progress: integrated planning in the rangelands of Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda, ILC/REGLAP, February 2014

This paper is a shortened version of a previous report by REGLAP of the same name.

For the issue paper: [click here](#)

For the full report: [click here](#)

For the summary brief: [click here](#)

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Kenya advocacy meeting, May 6th, DLCI offices

The meeting was organized by DLCI to promote synergy in Kenya advocacy activities. The minutes are available [here](#). The next meeting will be hosted by RECONCILE on the 9th September. Please contact Ken Otieno on kenotieno@reconcile-ea.org for further information.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

DLCI Journal on innovations on drylands policy and practice, 2014: invitation to submit articles by June 2014

DLCI is planning for the next edition of its journal on innovations in policy and practice for drylands' resilience in the Horn of Africa. If you have evidence based studies on drylands' resilience or verified good practice or innovation, please let us know if you would like to submit an article. Articles should be submitted by the end

of June 2014. Articles should be between 1,000-2,000 words (2-4pages), be succinct, reflective and analytical and cover: the approach used, the evidence of impact, challenges and recommendations for the future and/or policy recommendations. Articles should be accompanied by photographs and diagrams and properly referenced.

DLCI will oversee technical review and editing, and send the final version will be sent to the authors for approval. All contributions and photos will be acknowledged. The journals will be published in hard copy and copies will be sent to the contributors.

Request for high quality photographs of dryland areas/development

We would be very grateful if you would share high quality photographs of dryland areas that we could use to illustrate our materials, especially where permission for use has been sought from the person photographed. Permission will be confirmed to use the photographs for a particular purpose beforehand and the photographer and organization will be acknowledged.

For more information on DLCI please see:

<http://www.disasterriskreduction.net/east-central-africa/reglap>

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For feedback/suggestions on this e-bulletin or other DLCI materials please contact:

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