



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Canada 

Rome-based Agencies Resilience Initiative

Strengthening the Resilience of livelihoods in
protracted crisis in the Democratic Republic
of Congo, Niger and Somalia

Date: October 2018



Annual Report – Year 1
Reporting period: May 2017 – December 2017

Key Information

Contribution: CAD 50 million

Project Duration: May 2017 – March 2022

Selected Countries: the Democratic Republic of Congo, Niger and Somalia

Total planned beneficiaries (2017 – 2022): 27,000 families (168,000 people)

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List of Acronyms

3PA: Three-Pronged Approach

AJECDEKI: Association des Jeunes Cultivateurs et Éleveurs pour le Développement au Kivu

C2C: Communes de Convergence

CBAP: Community-Based Action Planning

CBI: Cash-Based Interventions

CBO: Community-Based Organization

CBPP: Community-Based Participatory Planning

CEDERU: Centre de Développement Rural

CFS: Committee on Food Security

COOCENKI: Coopérative Centrale du Nord-Kivu

DID: Développement International Desjardins

DRC: The Democratic Republic of Congo

DTPN: Participatory and Negotiated Territorial Development

FACA: National Recovery Committee & Food Aid Coordination Agency

FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization

FEWSNET: Famine Early Warning Systems Network

FFA: Food Assistance for Assets

FFS: Farmer Field School

FFT: Food Assistance for Training

FO: Farmer Organization

FSNAU: Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit

GAC: Government of Canada

GIS: Geographical Information System

HC3N: High Commissioner of the 3N initiative

HEA: Household Economy Approach

I3N: Initiative Nigériens Nourissent les Nigériens

ICA: Integrated Context Analysis

IDPs: Internally Displaced Persons

IFAD: International Fund for Agricultural Development

INS: Institute of National Statistics

JRP: Joint Resilience Project

JRS: Joint Resilience Strategy

LOFEPACO: Ligue des Organisations des Femmes Paysannes du Congo

M&E: Monitoring and Evaluation

MCHN: Mother and Child Health and Nutrition programme

MOU: Memorandum of Understanding

P4P: Purchase for Progress

PMF: Performance Measurement Framework

ProDAF: Family Farming Development Programme

RB: Regional Bureau

RBA: Rome-based Agencies

RECA: National Network of Chambers of Agriculture of Niger

RIMA: Resilience Index Measurement and Analysis

SLP: Seasonal Livelihood Programming

TOC: Theory of Change

TOR: Terms of Reference

TSFP: Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme

UNICEF: United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

WFP: World Food Programme

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1. Global Component

The Rome-Based Agencies (RBA) Resilience Initiative contributes to sustainably improve the food security and increase the resilience capacity to shocks and stressors of food insecure households, with a specific focus on vulnerable women and children, in protracted and recurrent crises affected-regions of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Niger and Somalia.

1.1 Activities

During year one (January 2017 – December 2017), the Global RBA team focused on the initial planning, ensuring coherence and coordination of efforts as well as shared ownership of evidence-based gender sensitive interventions. The RBAs and other actors at the global, national and field level in the targeted regions harmonized their interventions, cooperating in the initial planning of innovative and resilience-building programming, with the aim of strengthening the quality of the joint interventions and sustainability of the impacts at field level.

As part of the RBA global-level engagement, FAO, IFAD, and WFP HQ teams supported the programme development through both in-country and remote assistance. For example, this was done by providing technical inputs and guidance to the development of the project formulation and design, baseline establishment and M&E log frames, documentation and reporting. Moreover, several field missions to support the inception phase of the project (further information provided below through specific immediate outcomes) were conducted.

In support of the ultimate outcome of this resilience initiative, the **RBA Master Logic Model** (Annex 1a) shows the global level RBA efforts focused on two main pillars: i) strengthening RBA, government and stakeholders' capacities to increase sustainable livelihoods resilience for food security and nutrition (1110); and ii) improving the capacity to manage knowledge management to develop an evidence-based approach to resilience and food security and nutrition (1120). Outputs of the first year for both pillars are presented below:

Pillar 1 – Strengthened RBA, government and stakeholders' capacities to increase sustainable livelihoods resilience for food security and nutrition (Immediate Outcome 1110)

- a) 1111 – Dedicated trainings on RBA analysis, programming and measurement tools and approaches for resilience provided to RBA, governments and partners.

Output 1111 contributes to strengthening RBA, government and stakeholders' capacities. During year 1, FAO implemented a support mission to the DRC for the RIMA roll-out as well coordination and backstopping missions to the DRC and Niger; WFP provided in-country technical trainings of trainers for SLP and CBPP implementation in the DRC, and supported Niger planning process through the Regional Bureau in Dakar.

- b) 1112 – Direct technical and operational support provided to country offices, national and local authorities and partners for the implementation of the programme through in-country missions or remote support.

Under this component and to complement Output 1111 (above), strategic and technical support was provided by all three Agencies to the RBA country teams in the use of the analytical and planning instruments to strengthen the formulation and design of the joint country programmes as part of the inception phase.

- c) 1113 – Technical and policy assistance for developing multi-year resilience strategies and programmes led by government and local authorities provided.

The first year of the joint RBA project was dedicated to initial planning and formulation of the

country programmes, thus assistance and development of multi-year resilience strategies and programmes for governments is premature. This activity is scheduled for later in the project.

Pillar 2 – Improved capacity to manage knowledge in the development of an evidence-based approach to resilience and food security and nutrition (Immediate Outcome 1120)

- a) 1121 – A shared toolbox of complementary RBA analysis, programming and measurement tools and approaches for resilience is developed and disseminated.

Initial meetings and stock-taking exercises to identify the main components of a shared RBA toolbox have been undertaken. This, together with the three-country experiences in using these instruments to plan and design their activities, will provide the basis on which to identify complementarities and establish operational and technical linkages that will be done (from Year 2).

- b) 1122 – Knowledge management activities to document and share good practices, learning and to build an evidence-base for measurements and policy development among RBA, governments and partners supported

Broad lessons learnt are reflected in Section 1.2 (below). The identification and documentation of best practices will be conducted once program implementation begins (and will run through the life of the project).

- c) 1123 – Advocacy and awareness raising on RBA partnerships, drawing on lessons learned and experiences, undertaken at the country and regional level

As part of the RBA advocacy efforts in 2017, a draft communication strategy was developed between the RBA (Global and Country level) and GAC, including the identification of future key events where the programme can be presented (e.g. the 2018 CFS), and various media (webpages, videos) that will be used to disseminate information during the life of the project. A joint RBA-Canada promotional leaflet describing the joint programme and the Canadian initiative was developed and published in both English and French and circulated at both HQ and Country levels.

More information on the planned vs. actual achievements are provided in the Global Performance Measurement Framework (PMF) at the end of this document ([p. 32](#)); as well as in the [DRC](#), [Niger](#) and [Somalia's](#) country specific PMFs (respectively at p. 38, 53 and 70 of this document)

Environmental sustainability

The strategy adopted in this project aims to build sustainable livelihoods and resilience with a climate sensitive lens, by linking vulnerability, adaptive capacity and social protection in the context of climate change. The intervention will help populations exposed to the impact of climate change and environmental degradation to diversify their sources of revenue and livelihoods, through the protection of assets, revenue and harvests, and improved access to markets for smallholder farmers. The program will also promote diffusion and adoption of good quality inputs (short cycle varieties adapted to climate change, including crops and varieties with nutritional qualities) and development of a sustainable inputs supply mechanism (for seeds, fertilizers, etc.) for sustainable agriculture. To achieve this goal, an integrated approach will combine Farmers Field Schools with Dimitra clubs to raise social awareness, allow better decision making and income generating activities such as gardening, horticultural production and pastoral activity development while improving gender equality. Additionally, the programme aims to support communities to better understand and be aware of the causes and consequences of climate change and environmental

degradation and their roles in mitigation and adaptation mechanisms. These issues will thus be mainstreamed throughout the planning process, from the situation analysis and needs assessment, the participatory planning, the project implication and the monitoring and evaluation phase.

Gender equality

The RBA Resilience Initiative places a great focus on gender equality, which will be strengthened through women empowerment and gender mainstreaming in all interventions. Activities will support equal participation of women and men and ensure that specificities of men, women, boys and girls are taken into account. During the first year of the project, women's active participation was encouraged through awareness raising campaigns at the village level in the planning and beneficiaries targeting phases to consider the specific needs and vulnerabilities of different target groups. The production of Seasonal Livelihood Calendars also allowed to plan activities in such a way to offer greater flexibility in terms of the time required at the work sites thereby making it easier for women to continue to carry out chores such as water collection and meal preparation. Specific activities and approaches will be identified according to the needs at community level, amongst others through the Dimitra clubs.

Governance

The RBA will work together with the local government, partners, all other actors and communities to develop their capacity in coordinating the activities and to progressively hand over ownership at the end of the project. The implementing NGO partners will report monthly on the progress and situation of the activities to the Sub-Offices and the country offices. At the department and commune levels, the RBA will plan and follow-up the activities through a strong involvement of local government technical services (planning, agriculture, livestock farming, environment, health/nutrition and education). Communities will be involved in the participatory planning, implementation and monitoring process, in line with the ownership priorities and Accountability to Affected Populations principles.

1.2 Key Highlights and Lessons Learned

At the global level, the RBA HQ teams have held regular coordination and project management meetings, both amongst the RBA at the HQ-level and at the country level as well as with Global Affairs Canada (GAC).

Differences in agencies' structures - The experiences from the first year of the RBA collaboration at

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