

SUMMARY

This learning brief highlights the results, challenges and lessons learnt following the Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA), and implementation of resilience interventions in Erigavo and Badhan districts. It brings out the extent to which STORRE project is enhancing adaptive, absorptive and transformative capacities in the resilience spectrum. The brief also provides key recommendations for improvement in the approach to resilience, and concludes with a call to action for all development actors in Somaliland.

1. INTRODUCTION

Somaliland has been experiencing more frequent and severe droughts in recent years. Natural resource degradation and climate change majorly contribute to the problem. Rural communities particularly bear the brunt of drought, since their main livelihoods are closely entwined with weather and the environment. Women, girls, young children and the aged are particularly vulnerable due to their physical abilities (mobility), roles in households and relatively limited access to critical resources and services.

In a bid to tackle drought and its root causes, CARE is implementing the Somaliland Towards Reaching Resilience (STORRE) project. The project is increasing resilience by enhancing the human, social and economic capital of households. It is also strengthening community governance structures and systems for disaster preparedness, mitigation and response. Finally, the STORRE project is promoting a learning culture to share knowledge, as well as support target communities to adapt their livelihoods and practices to emerging challenges and opportunities. One of project's initial activities was the Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis in 15 villages in Erigavo district, and 5 in Badhan district in 2015.

The sections below highlight the CVCA approach applied, the major findings, and STORRE project's experience in supporting communities to enhance their resilience in the face of drought.

2. THE CVCA APPROACH

The CVCA is a participatory process that enables communities and other stakeholders to assess their respective vulnerabilities and capacities to adapt to climate change. It combines local knowledge with scientific data, and builds people's understanding about climate risks and adaptation strategies. It provides a framework for dialogue within communities, as well as between communities and other stakeholders.

At the district/regional level, the assessment seeks to understand the existing institutional capacities to manage climate risks and support community-based adaptation. The results provide a solid foundation for the identification of practical strategies to strengthen adaptive capacity and resilience in the face of climate change.

In Sanaag region, the CVCA process was implemented as highlighted below:

1. CARE program staff and partners were trained on the CVCA methodology, CVCA tools, their application and analysis.
2. CVCA were conducted at community and district levels. This involved:
 - Facilitation of three-day focus group discussions among age and gender-disaggregated groups, as well as key informant interviews in the 20 villages. A total of 620 participants were involved. The CVCA tools applied among communities included the Livelihoods Context Tool, Resource Mapping, Well-being and Wealth Ranking, Gendered Daily Activity Calendar, Seasonal Calendar, Institutional Analysis/Venn Diagram, Disaster Early Warning and Climate Information Analysis Tool and Vulnerability Matrix. This process culminated in the development of proposed Community Action Plans (CAPs).



Photo 1. Resource Mapping in Karin Village, Erigavo District

- Key informant interviews were held with district government stakeholders including District Council (DC) representatives, and district staff from the ministries of Livestock, Agriculture, Water and Pastoral Development. Also, district representatives of the ministries of Environment and Wildlife, Interior, Labor and Social Affairs, and the National Environmental Research and Disaster Preparedness and Management Authority (NERAD) were interviewed.
3. Literature was reviewed on Somaliland's policy and institutional context, governance, socio-economic context, and climate change vulnerability and adaptive capacity.
 4. The primary and secondary data was analyzed, and the subsequent findings integrated and documented.
 5. The CVCA findings were presented at district stakeholder workshops held in Erigavo and Badhan towns. Participants included representatives of the target communities, several government ministries, the District Councils (DCs), and other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

3. CVCA FINDINGS

The CVCA data was analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively. The findings below emerged from the analysis:

3.1. Climate Hazards and their Impacts

1. **More variable and less predictable weather have been observed.** Temperatures are warmer in most seasons, and winters are colder. The duration of rainy seasons has become shorter, with spring rains falling for 2 months, down from 4.
2. **Drought is the first hazard affecting communities.** The main impacts of drought are shortage of water and pasture; as well as loss of livestock, crops and trees. Communities cope with the impacts by trucking and rationing water; moving to areas with water and pasture; purchasing hay to feed young and lactating livestock; and cutting trees to burn charcoal and sell firewood among other strategies.
3. **Floods are the second major hazard.** Impacts of floods include gully formation and extension; soil erosion; damage and destruction of buildings, livestock shelters and roads; and loss of livestock and crops. Communities cope with floods by filling gullies with logs and stones, re-constructing buildings and shelters, moving to safer areas and replanting crops.
4. **Livestock diseases are the third major hazard.** The impacts of these diseases include loss of livestock and transmission of some infections to humans. Communities cope by treating livestock and humans using local knowledge, or with the help of community livestock and human health workers respectively.
5. **Strong winds, frost and pests are other hazards experienced.**

All the impacts of these hazards ultimately lead to reductions in household incomes, thereby affecting community livelihoods and adaptive capacities negatively.

3.2. Community Action Plans

The CVCA revealed many similarities in the challenges, vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities of communities in Erigavo and Badhan districts. The climatic and non-climatic challenges identified by communities, their causes, and the proposed interventions to address them are summarized below.

The communities proposed to tackle water shortages occasioned by drought and water seepage in irrigation canals by drilling boreholes, constructing and de-silting water pans, rehabilitating irrigation canals, constructing *berkads*¹ and roof catchments, and digging shallow wells. They also proposed to reduce the loss of livestock due to drought by planting fodder crops. Agro-pastoralist communities identified the shortage of farm tools and seeds as factors contributing to poor agricultural production. To address this, they proposed the purchase and distribution of farm tools and seeds.

¹ *Berkads* are underground masonry water cisterns.

The communities proposed to control soil erosion and reduce gully formation and extension by constructing gabions, and building soil bunds and stone check dams respectively. They proposed to mitigate the damage and destruction of irrigation canals when floods occur, by rehabilitating existing canals and constructing new ones. To mitigate damage and destruction of roads due to floods and extension of gullies, communities proposed the rehabilitation of roads and construction of additional ones.

The communities identified poor health of people as a challenge. They identified major causes as prevalence of diseases, poor hygiene and inadequate access to quality treatment and medicines. To tackle these, they proposed the construction of Mother and Child Health (MCH) centers, procurement of medicine and other essential medical supplies, as well as training of health workers. They also proposed to improve sanitation and hygiene by constructing pit latrines and digging rubbish pits in the villages.

A number of villages identified poor education levels as a pertinent challenge. They proposed the construction of additional classrooms where there are shortages, and the construction of schools in villages that have none. Most communities expressed a desire to diversify their livelihoods and reduce their reliance on weather- dependent livelihood activities. To do this, they proposed capacity development in alternative livelihood skills, support towards establishing businesses, increasing Cash for Work (CfW) opportunities, and improving access to markets. To boost the success of identified alternative livelihood activities, they proposed the purchase and installation of solar panels to provide electricity. They also proposed wider deployment of police officers to improve security of people and property.

All the interventions proposed above would ultimately contribute towards reducing the impacts of climatic and non- climatic hazards. They would also enhance livelihoods, improve household incomes, and provide critical resources and services that improve resilience.

4.0. ENHANCING RESILIENCE IN SANAAG REGION

Following the CVCA and Community Action Planning processes, the STORRE project has been working with communities and other stakeholders to enhance resilience in Erigavo and Badhan districts. Their respective interventions and achievements are highlighted below:

4.1. STORRE Project Interventions and Achievements

The STORRE project engaged communities in the program target areas in CfW activities to improve livelihoods, and strengthen their resilience in the face of the recent severe and prolonged drought. The beneficiaries of CfW activities represented the poorest and most vulnerable categories of the community. They included pastoralist drop-outs; female-headed households; and households with elderly, chronically ill or malnourished members among others. The CfW activities below were implemented in response to Community Action Plans.

4.1.1. Enhancing and Sustaining Access to Water

To improve access to water, the STORRE project supported communities to construct a stream-protection wall in Cirshiida village to divert floods, and protect a major shallow well and adjacent infrastructure from flood damage. STORRE also rehabilitated 4 *berkads* in Rag Cadeeye, Dawaco and Dibqarax villages respectively. The project also de-silted 4 water pans in Karin, Rag Cadeeye, Habarshiro and Sibaayo villages. STORRE rehabilitated the boreholes at Carmale and Hingalool villages. At the borehole in Hingalool, STORRE constructed a generator room, and water troughs for sheep and goats. The project also provided a generator set and submersible pump at the borehole in February 2017.

To further improve and sustain access to water, STORRE went beyond improving water infrastructure, by supporting the strengthening of water resource governance systems. In Hingalool village, the project successfully negotiated a community - private sector partnership for the management of Hingalool borehole 3 in December 2016. Following the agreement, Sagal Water Company took over management of the borehole, thus improving the borehole's operations and service. To augment this, CARE constructed a 50M³ water tank, and connected a water pipe from the borehole to a major kiosk in the village. This investment is reported to have attracted the attention of United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), which is considering establishing a comprehensive water system in the entire village.

Since STORRE and other partners intervened, the Hingalool borehole 3 has significantly improved water supply for the village residents, and for herders and livestock in nearby rangelands during the recent drought. Hingalool borehole 3 prominently contributed to drought response when the two other boreholes experienced frequent breakdowns. In March 2017, the borehole supplied 23 water tankers per day, with an average of 40 barrels per water tanker. These tankers subsequently supplied 2,000 households, and approximately 23,000 sheep and goats and 1,000 camels with water every day.

“As a woman and household head, I experienced great difficulties in fetching water from this borehole because it is located far from my home. Also, the long queuing during this drought; occasioned by the many pastoralists who migrated to our village used to make me feel so exhausted. But now that the borehole operates for longer hours, and a water pipe is connected to the village, I; together with many other mothers and girls feel relieved. The price of water has also slightly reduced.”

Kiin Mohamed- Hingalool Village resident.

Mohamed Iman, the director of Sagal Water Company, noted the crucial role of the borehole in supplying water in Sanaag region. He stated, *“This borehole is situated in a strategic location and serves pastoralists from both Somaliland and Puntland en-route to rangelands in eastern Sanaag. With the new generator, the borehole is now well equipped to serve longer hours, and can fill the water reservoir in 20 minutes.”*

Abdirizak Ahmed, the vice-chairman of Hingalool Village Committee echoed similar sentiments. He reported that the only aspect in which the Hingalool community was not affected negatively during the drought was water availability. While many adjacent villages struggled with the ever increasing prices of water and even closed down schools and hospitals; Hingalool enjoyed access to water which enabled education and health services to continue functioning throughout the drought.



Photo 2. Water Tank Constructed by STORRE in Carmale Village

4.1.2. Improving the Condition of Land

Effective management of natural resources, especially rangelands, trees and water is paramount to enhancing resilience in arid and semi- arid areas. As noted in section 1 above, natural resource degradation contributes to drought. To improve rangelands and other lands, the STORRE project worked with communities to halt gully erosion and extension by building gabions and weirs. These activities were implemented in Goob, Buqhayle, Jiidali, Karin, Hingalool, Darasalaam, Dibqarax, Rag Cadeeye, Carmale and Dhoob villages. The project also controlled soil erosion by rehabilitating stone check dams in Doonyaha village; and by building soil bunds in Karin, Darasalaam, Dawaco and Mindhicir villages. Subsequently, it was observed that during the rains in April 2017, there was intensified growth of pasture. This growth was partly due to the reduction of surface water run-off, which enabled the rapid growth of nutritious and palatable grasses for livestock. This positive result caused drought migrants to return to their home villages early and reunite with their families.



Photo 3. Gabion built to control Gully Erosion in Jiidali Village

The CVCA revealed that commercialization of charcoal and firewood, and encroachment of private land enclosures, contribute to land degradation in Erigavo and Badhan districts. For instance, Carmale village in the Sool plateau, hosts approximately 500 pastoralist households. The village is endowed with vast, bountiful rangelands. Unfortunately with frequent droughts and shrinking pasture, the rangelands have fallen prey to land grabbing. This has limited free access to the rangelands by all community members, and impeded free movement of livestock and people to other areas.

The STORRE project conducted a number of capacity development, as well as learning and reflection activities among its target communities. In Carmale, these forums triggered community discussions on the private land enclosures. After several community meetings and discussions with the land grabbers, the issue was resolved. It was agreed that households settled in rangelands would vacate the areas. In turn, the communities would compensate them (households) for the houses and water harvesting structures they put up in these lands. The Village Committee also sought the support of the district administration in enforcing the abolishment of land enclosures. In addition, the Village Committee in consultation with community members established a rotational grazing scheme, where some of the grazing land is reserved for dry seasons. As a result, it was reported that Carmale community showed greater resilience in the face of the recent drought. This is because its people were among those who migrated last in search of pasture.

“Although this drought was a test for all, Carmale community was able to manage its grazing and water resources more effectively. Had it not been for the demolition of the individual grazing enclosures, many of us would have either migrated very early, or would have failed to keep the number of livestock we do now.”

Abdullahi Ahmed- Vice-Chairman, Carmale Village Committee.

4.1.3. Improving Agricultural Production

Agro-pastoralist households in Sanaag region were also severely affected by the recent drought. This is because water shortages intensified, and their incomes dwindled as household needs and cost of living rose. The STORRE project supported them to improve agricultural production by rehabilitating 4 irrigation canals in Daryale, Doonyaha, Gudmo Afafood and Hamaas villages. The project also tackled the shortage of farm tools and seeds by providing a total of 100 households in Daryale, Doonhaya, Gudmo Afafood, Goob, Hamaas and Jiidali villages with farm tools including water pumps, generators, wheel barrows, knapsack sprayers, and sledge hammers among others. These inputs enabled the beneficiary households to implement their farming activities more efficiently, thus contributing to good production.

“My farm now receives sufficient water because pumped water flows through the rehabilitated and extended irrigation canals. I am therefore able to cultivate it well and cope with this dry season.”

Amina Ahmed- Hamaas Village

An additional positive impact of the project was that a number of the agro-pastoralist households used the cash they earned through CfW to purchase agricultural inputs such as fuel for the irrigation pumps to cultivate land, and seeds to grow crops. Ali Mohamed who lives in Goob village, has a 2-hectare farm. Ali reported that he used the US\$70 he earned through the project’s CfW initiative to buy 60 litres of fuel to irrigate and cultivate one hectare of his farm . He grew potatoes and onions which require relatively low amounts of water, and which have high demand in the market. He sold his produce and subsequently earned US\$420 from that harvest. Ali’s story shows that some CfW beneficiaries invested their earnings in productive activities, thus improving their incomes.

4.1.4. Enhancing Resilient Livelihoods

In addition to providing CfW opportunities, STORRE supported the establishment of alternative income generation activities. These interventions aimed to tackle unemployment. They also aimed to increase household incomes, and promote resilient livelihoods. Approximately 525 Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA) members benefitted from the establishment of alternative income generation activities. STORRE supported their viable business plans by providing them with the requisite business/income generation inputs. These included assets such as cereal milling machines, sewing machines, food catering equipment and materials, bee keeping kits, milk and meat vending kits, and hair salon equipment among others. The project also facilitated training of these beneficiaries in technical skills of tailoring, henna application, hairdressing, and apiculture; to enhance their income generation options. These interventions helped the beneficiaries to reduce their reliance on weather-dependent livelihood activities, thereby cushioning them against some effects of drought to some extent. They also boosted household incomes, and enriched the beneficiaries’ knowledge and skills for improved livelihoods.

4.1.5. Improving Health, Education and Transport

The STORRE project supported communities to enhance their resilience by implementing the following additional interventions identified in CAPs:

The project dug garbage pits in Daryale, Hingalool, Habarshiro and Ardaa villages. It also constructed and rehabilitated shallow water troughs for sheep and goats in Cirshiida village. These interventions contributed to improving hygiene and sanitation in these villages. In particular, the water troughs in Cirshiida village helped to protect the water point from proliferation of livestock waste, thus improving the quality of water for use by people and livestock. Ultimately, incidences of water-borne diseases, as well as hygiene and sanitation related diseases will reduce.

As reported earlier in section 4, STORRE conducted a number of trainings among specific target groups. The project also facilitated regular learning and reflection forums among target communities. These interventions enhanced sharing of knowledge and skills of beneficiaries. They collectively contributed to the improvement and expansion of non-formal education and human resource capacity in Erigavo and Badhan districts.

STORRE contributed to improving accessibility of villages that were experiencing challenges during rains. The project mitigated the damage and destruction of roads by floods. It engaged communities in rehabilitating major roads in Cirshiida, Gudmo Afafood, and Hamaas villages. It also rehabilitated feeder roads in Karin and Carmale villages. These interventions contribute to resilience, by improving roads, thus easing transportation of people and goods to and from the villages. Improved accessibility of the villages also enhances access to critical services. For example, mobile livestock health workers, agricultural extension workers, mobile schools, health workers and NGO workers among others, easily reach the villages. This enables them to provide vital services and support in a timely manner. Subsequently, several results would be realized. These include improved livestock and human health and productivity; improved human resources and technologies; enhanced trade and availability of essential goods; timely movement of livestock and people in the event of hazards; and increased engagement in development activities. Overall, these contribute to improved community welfare, livelihoods and resilience.

4.2. Linking Communities with other Development Partners

In view of the defined scope and resources within STORRE, the project fostered linkages between communities and other institutions working in their areas. These linkages aimed to facilitate communities to access information, resources and services beyond the capacity of STORRE program. Specifically, STORRE linked communities with disaster early warning agencies; extension services in the ministries of Livestock and Agriculture; health and nutrition services run by both governmental and non-governmental actors; district and regional administrations; and other humanitarian and development agencies in Sanaag region.

The entry point for linkages and partnerships between the communities and humanitarian/development agencies was the Community Action Plans.

The nature, and results of these linkages are elaborated below:

4.2.1. Linking Pastoralists with Livestock Health Services

The Agro-Pastoralist Field Schools (APFS) serve as a platform for pastoralists and farmers to discuss issues affecting the productivity of their livestock and farms in their separate settings. In February 2017, APFS participants in Rag Cadeeye village brought up the issue of a disease which was causing the death of goats in their community. Animals which died of the disease, showed symptoms such as pyrexia (rise in body temperature), weakness, coughing, severe respiratory distress, frothy nasal discharge, and anorexia (poor appetite). The participants agreed to share this information with the Ministry of Livestock. Upon receiving the information, the ministry mobilized and sent a team of animal health practitioners and drugs to the village. The team diagnosed the disease to be Contagious Caprine Pleuro Pneumonia (CCPP), and undertook treatment activities. Rag Cadeeye villagers reported a reduction in the loss of goats after treatment. Yusuf Olad, a resident of the village, reported that he lost about 20 goats due to this disease. He believes that his entire herd would have perished if the Ministry hadn't intervened on time.

4.2.2. Linking Communities with Improved Health and Nutrition Services

To improve communities' nutrition and health, STORRE brokered the signing of a tripartite agreement between the Ministry of Health, Erigavo hospital, and the Somali Red Crescent Society. The aim of this agreement was to facilitate nutrition referrals for children under five years to therapeutic feeding programs. It enabled the communities to establish stronger connections with the Ministry of Health and Erigavo hospital, and seek support to address health problems. Consequently, several referral cases resulted from direct communication between communities and the Ministry of Health.

Amina Ahmed, the mother of Hamdi Hussein; a four year old girl, attested *"The health condition and growth of my child has dramatically improved after we were referred to Erigavo hospital, where my child is taken care of by the nurses. She receives biscuits, medicines and other nutritious food."* Similarly, Roda Mohamed, the mother of three-month old Mohamed Awil, reported that her son recovered from diarrhea and resumed breastfeeding after receiving treatment at Erigavo hospital. Roda is appreciative of the Mother and Child Nutrition Awareness sessions held by the nurses at the hospital. She believes the knowledge she is gaining will help her take better care of her children.

4.2.3. Mobilizing Partner Support for Development and Drought Response

Through the linkages between communities and other development partners, the Village Committees in six program target areas (Doonyaha, Mindhicir, Hingalool, Dhoob, Darasalam and Habarshiro) proactively reached out to partners. They subsequently managed to mobilize humanitarian support from the government, the Drought Response Committee in Erigavo district, and humanitarian agencies. As a result, these villages received drought response packages comprising of food aid, unconditional cash grants and water trucking. It was reported that in Badhan district, the communities successfully shared their action plans with other organizations, who responded positively and supported the implementation of several interventions. In Habarshiro village, African Development Solutions (ADESO) program constructed a water pipeline and water kiosk in the village. This has boosted water supply from the borehole to the village.

The Somaliland Ministry of Water Resources, with funding from UNICEF, also constructed a water pipeline in Hingalool village to improve water supply. Save the Children constructed 1 pit latrine at the school and 2 *berkads* in Mindhicir village; to improve sanitation and access to water respectively. The Somaliland Ministry of Health constructed a Mother and Child Health Center in Carmale village to improve people's health.

The examples above demonstrate how the linkages with development partners contributed to resilience. In addition to scaling out the tackling of priority needs, these linkages saved human and livestock lives. They also enabled the respective communities to improve critical resources and cope with the prolonged drought.

4.3. Community –Led Interventions and Achievements

During the project implementation period, several communities took the lead in tackling some of the challenges they are experiencing. They mobilized their own resources, and entered into partnership with private sector actors to implement the activities highlighted below:

In Daryale village, the community mobilized financial resources from themselves and the local frankincense business association. They subsequently installed one water tank and connected pipes to several water kiosks in the village. In Karin, the community sought to tackle water shortages by identifying potential perennial water sources. They mobilized their financial resources, and commissioned a Hydro-geological survey to identify potential borehole sites. The survey identified several sites that have ground water potential around the village. The community will carry out the next steps and seek support towards drilling boreholes.

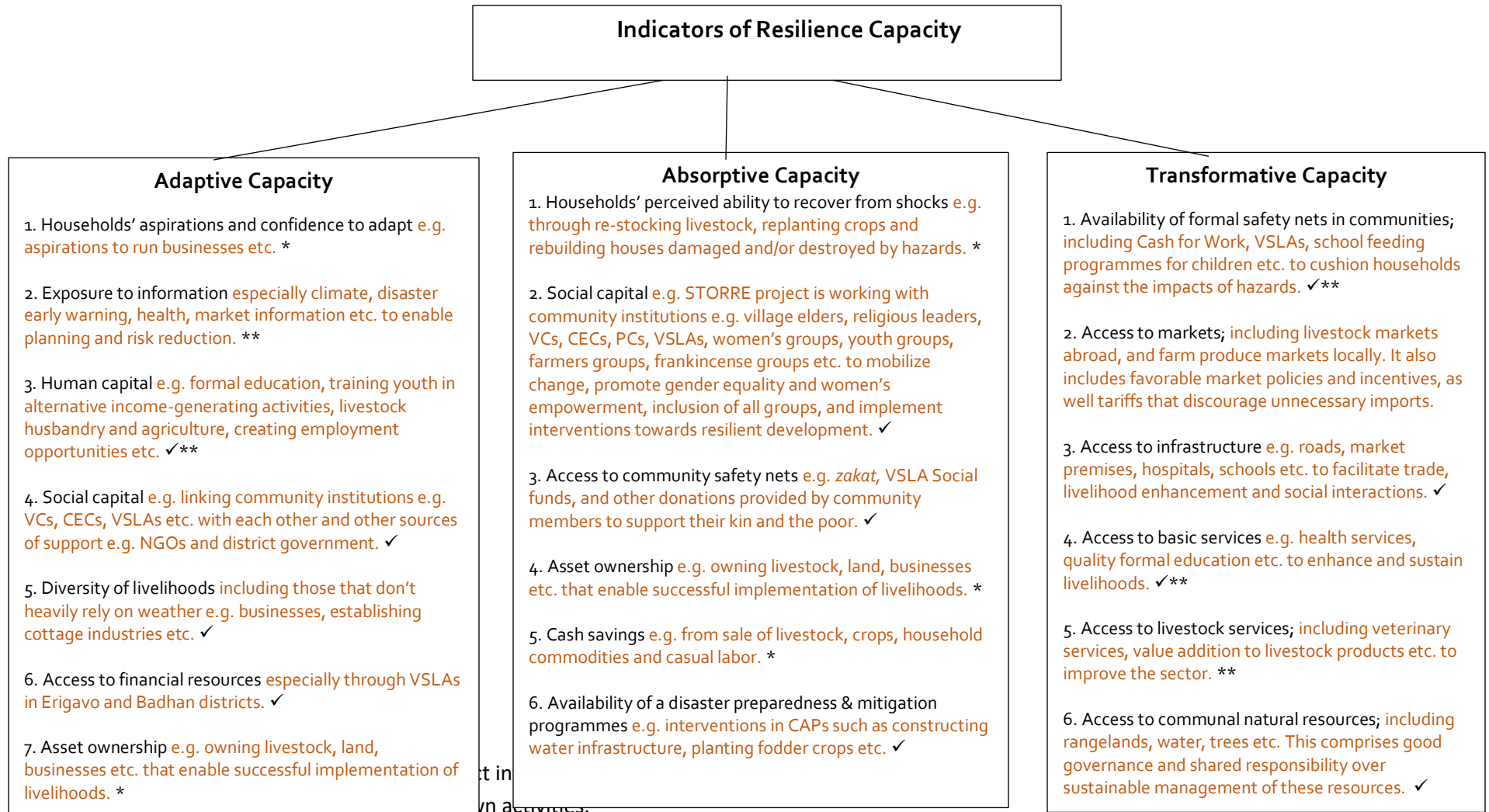
In Daryale, Doonyaha and Carmale villages, communities identified poor levels of education as a challenge. This was compounded by the shortage of classrooms. The community in Daryale addressed this by mobilizing resources and constructing 2 classrooms at the school. Similarly, the community in Carmale village constructed 1 classroom at the Koranic school; while the one in in Doonyaha village constructed a makeshift low cost school.

The communities above successfully exemplified strong ownership and initiative in addressing pertinent challenges through the implementation of some interventions in CAPs. They also contributed positively to development, and reduced some of the hardships experienced during the recent drought.

4.4. Indicators of Resilience Capacity

This section looks at the interventions implemented by the STORRE project, and other development partners, and how they are contributing towards enhancing communities' resilience. Specifically, it ticks (✓) the interventions implemented against indicators for absorptive capacity, adaptive capacity and transformative capacity respectively. It illustrates the extent to which the projects are supporting the achievement of these capacities in the resilience spectrum.

These indicators for resilience capacity are adopted from the TOPS Program, the CORE Group and TANGO International's presentation for the PRIME Project impact evaluation.



** : Indicators met through other development partners' interventions.

✓** : Indicators met through STORRE and other development partners' interventions.

Figure 1. Plotting STORRE Project Interventions against indicators for Resilience Capacity

5.0. LESSONS LEARNED

This section highlights key lessons learnt based on the STORRE project's experience in enhancing resilience in Erigavo and Badhan districts. It focuses on what worked well and provides the associated reasons. It also looks at what needs to be improved, and provides key recommendations for improvement.

5.1. What Worked Well?

1. The CVCA successfully elicited participation of women and men in the identification of their capacities and vulnerabilities to climate change. They identified major challenges, potential solutions and their respective roles in the latter. This culminated in the development of CAPs that incorporate the priorities and participation of women and men in resilience.
2. The CVCA helped the STORRE project team to better understand factors that influence adaptive capacity and vulnerability. This helped the project to improve the prioritization and targeting of its interventions. As reported in section 4 above, the project implemented interventions to conserve and improve vital resources such as soil and water. It also contributed to improving critical infrastructure and services including roads, water harvesting and storage infrastructure, human health, sanitation, and hygiene among others.
3. STORRE contributed to enhancing women's and men's empowerment by supporting the establishment of VSLAs. In addition, the project implemented interventions that develop capacity and diversify livelihoods to non-weather dependent income-generating activities. These interventions respond to most community priorities, and contribute to strengthening their adaptive capacities.
4. STORRE successfully supported the target communities to implement many categories of the interventions prioritized in CAPs. Despite not implementing all the priority interventions required by each village that identified them, the project fostered several linkages between communities and other development partners. This enabled several target communities to implement additional interventions in their CAPs. It also enabled them to access critical resources and services, and cope better with the recent prolonged drought. Ultimately, these contribute to enhancing communities' adaptive capacities and resilience.
5. The CAPs are an instrumental tool for communities' constructive engagement in development and resilience. The CAPs also provide a strong basis for resource mobilization and action among communities, and between them and other stakeholders. As reported in section 4.2 above, some communities in target villages successfully obtained additional support for the implementation of some of their priority development interventions by other NGOs and government agencies. In addition, other communities took initiative, mobilized their own resources, and implemented key interventions in the CAPs.

6. The STORRE project successfully ensured inclusion of very poor and vulnerable categories of community members in development, and supported them to improve their livelihoods. This was achieved through the engagement of these groups in CVCA and CfW activities during project implementation. The engagement of poor and vulnerable people in development enhances their capacity, confidence and stake. These contribute to enhancing their resilience.

5.2. What needs to be improved?

1. **Improving the productivity and profitability of livestock.** Livestock are the most valued livelihood resources, and comprise the livelihoods and economic backbone of Erigavo and Badhan districts. While the STORRE project has supported implementation of a number of interventions that support livestock, CARE and other stakeholders need to implement more interventions that directly improve productivity, profitability, and curtail the loss of this important resource. Such interventions include expanding mobile veterinary services, training and institutionalizing Community Livestock Health Workers, re-seeding rangelands, expanding drought refugia, training communities in value addition and marketing of livestock and livestock products, and strengthening market linkages in-country and externally. These would help improve livestock condition, reduce the proportion of livestock deaths during shocks and stresses, and increase as well as sustain income from livestock.
2. **Improved resourcing of Community Action Plans and complementary development interventions.** The magnitude of need for resilience in Erigavo and Badhan districts currently surpasses existing support by government and NGOs. All development actors are encouraged to increase financial, technical, material and other resource investments in resilience in the immediate to medium term. Reliable and increased resource investments will enable the target communities to progressively achieve their development goals, whilst cushioning them against shocks and stresses as they emerge.

5.3. Areas for Further Research

It is recommended that further research be conducted in the topics below, in order to improve knowledge on resilience in Somaliland:

1. Conduct an in-depth study to investigate changes in differential adaptive capacity among women, men, children, the aged and very poor people following their engagement in resilience activities with STORRE and other projects. This will improve learning on the most efficient and effective ways to further enhance adaptive capacity among these groups.
2. Assess the communication, utilization and impacts of climate and disaster early warning information in normal and drought years. This will help stakeholders better ascertain what is required to improve climate and disaster information services for adaptation and resilience.

3. Assess the most effective and efficient inter-agency structures and systems for resilience in drought and post-conflict settings. The study would aim to identify current strengths, weaknesses and opportunities in inter-agency coordination and implementation of development, emergency, recovery and resilience programs in Somaliland. It would subsequently provide recommendations for enhanced development, sequencing, layering, integration, and evaluation of inter-agency programs.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The STORRE project has demonstrated that it is feasible to successfully support target communities to achieve most aspects of adaptive, absorptive and transformative capacities. However, a lot more needs to be done to enhance institutional capacity and linkages to support communities' resilience in the face of drought, and other shocks and crises. All development actors including communities, are called upon to increase their technical, technological, material and financial investments/inputs in the immediate to medium term. This would contribute to the scaling out and scaling up of resilience. It would augment current efforts, and bridge some of the critical gaps that currently exist. These would help strengthen the foundations of resilience. They would also expand the level and scale of resilience, and optimize and sustain positive impacts.

7.0. REFERENCES

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