



ACF-INTERNATIONAL

SYNTHESIS DOCUMENT

CASE STUDIES: DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION





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Design Graphic: Céline Beuvin
Cover photography: © ACF Ethiopia
ACF-France, December 2014

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ACRONYMS

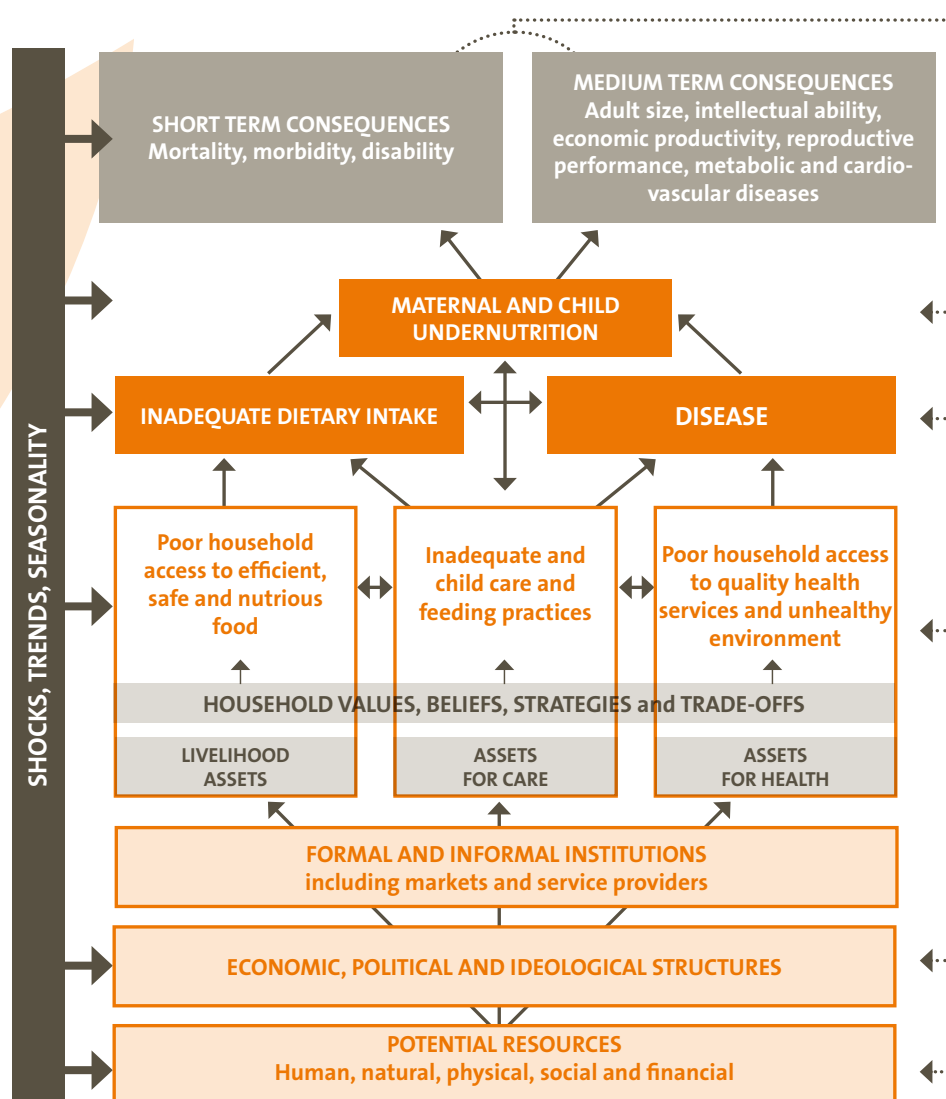
ACF	Action contre la Faim / Action Against Hunger
CCA	Adaptation to Climate Change
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
FSL	Food Security and Livelihood
GNDR	Global Network for Disaster Reduction
HFA	Hyōgo Framework for Action
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LRRD	Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development
MHCP	Mental health and care practices
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PCVA	Participatory risk, capacity and vulnerability analysis
UNISDR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene

OBSERVATIONS

The number of disasters and the number of people affected by natural, climate and man-made events is constantly increasing. The number of people exposed to disasters has tripled over the last ten years and has reached 2 billion¹.

Climate change, and global warming in particular, cannot be denied and the recent years have been the warmest since the 50s. The temperature of the oceans has gone up, the sea level has risen, the ice cap has decreased, and droughts and cyclones are increasingly frequent according to the region. These climate disruptions have a negative impact on ecosystems, access to land and natural resources, on livelihoods and human health as well as on the economy².

Hazards and climate change amplify the underlying causes which lead to under-nutrition.



*Conceptual framework for maternal and child under-nutrition
(adapted from UNICEF, 1990, and Black, 2008)*

1 - Overseas Development Institute, 2014, The future framework for disaster risk reduction- <http://www.odl.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/8996.pdf>

2 - IPCC WGII AR5 Technical Summary Report - Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability



WHAT ARE DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (DRM) AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION (CCA)^{3,4} ?

Disaster risk management aims to do the right thing, at the right time and in the right way, in order to create an environment which is favorable to reducing the negative effects caused by spontaneous and/or recurrent hazards while at the same time combating hunger. Climate change adaptation includes long term actions enabling populations to acquire the capacity to adapt, or even to transform, and understand future predictions and changes in the seasons. Climate change adaptation, just like risk reduction, represents a complete set of **measures to be taken to help lessen vulnerability factors, strengthen the capacity to intervene and take information on the climate into account in the decision making process.**

In zones exposed to several risks, relying solely on the capacity to respond to emergencies is no longer an ethically possible operating method. To anticipate and lessen the impacts of these disasters on populations and their environments, ACF International (ACF) has developed a transversal approach over the past ten years with the aim of putting methods in place to prepare, mitigate/adapt and prevent shocks and stress. Through **multi-sector activities and at different levels**, these actions aim to strengthen the capacities of populations and local players to improve the way they deal with disasters over the short and long term period.

WHAT IS THIS DOCUMENT FOR?

This document was drafted within the context of documentation on action for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

The objectives are:

- **To enhance our DRM and CCA interventions in different contexts.**
- **To improve communication and visibility concerning good practices and approaches implemented in different countries.**

This document was written in several phases including a literary review and compilation of data gathered at the headquarters and on the ground. As a first step, information on existing projects was gathered by analyzing donor proposals, evaluation and technical reports. This gave an overview of the strategies and activities implemented on the ground as well as the lessons learnt and recommendations. Subsequently, this information was supplemented by consulting technical advisors in each of the countries concerned. As a result of these exchanges, technical data sheets were drawn up for each type of project and country of intervention.

Six thematic areas were identified as being key elements for all DRM/CCA projects. These thematic areas are presented in the document, and illustrated by practices used on the ground.

This document explains why it is essential to understand and analyses the context while at the same time identifying the risks, vulnerabilities and capacities at the community level. To ensure the continuity and sustainability of ACF's actions, the participation and involvement of the community and local players is essential to DRM/CCA projects. In addition, good communication among the stakeholders as well as efficient information management can lead to synergy between different actions. Finally, all activities must be implemented using an integrated multi-sector approach to meet the needs of populations at risk.

3 - ACF International, 2011 – Policy document – Disaster Risk Management for communities - http://www.actioncontrelafaim.org/sites/default/files/acf_drm_policy_en.pdf

4 - ACF International, 2013 – Policy document – Enhancing climate resilience and food and nutrition security - http://www.actioncontrelafaim.org/sites/default/files/publications/fichiers/acf_2012._enhancing_climate_resilience.pdf

KEY CONCEPTS

Disaster risks are the interaction of hazards on vulnerable populations. The fact of acting on the vulnerabilities and capacities of people to manage or adapt to hazards can reduce the risk.

$$\text{Risk} = \frac{\text{Hazard} \times \text{Vulnerability}}{\text{Capacities}}$$

Hazard: A dangerous phenomenon, substance, human activity or condition that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage (UNISDR, 2009).

Risk: the probability (or frequency) of occurrence of a defined hazard resulting in adverse consequences; and the magnitude of these consequences, given the interaction of the hazard with the properties of the exposed system (Olhoff et Schaer, 2010).

Vulnerability: is a function of the character, magnitude, and rate of hazards to which a community, household or individual is exposed, its sensitivity, and its adaptive capacity (adapted to IPCC, 2007)

Capacity: the combination of all the strengths, attributes and resources available within a community, society or organization that can be used to achieve agreed goals (UNISDR, 2009).

Difference between hazard and disaster: an hazard can be natural or man-made which is not the case of a disaster. A disaster occurs when a community cannot cope with the adverse effects of a hazard. Therefore, a disaster is the result of a “social construction” and is almost always the result of a design error and / or human planning. In other words, the presence of a hazard is a necessary but not sufficient condition for the occurrence of a disaster (UNISDR, 2009)

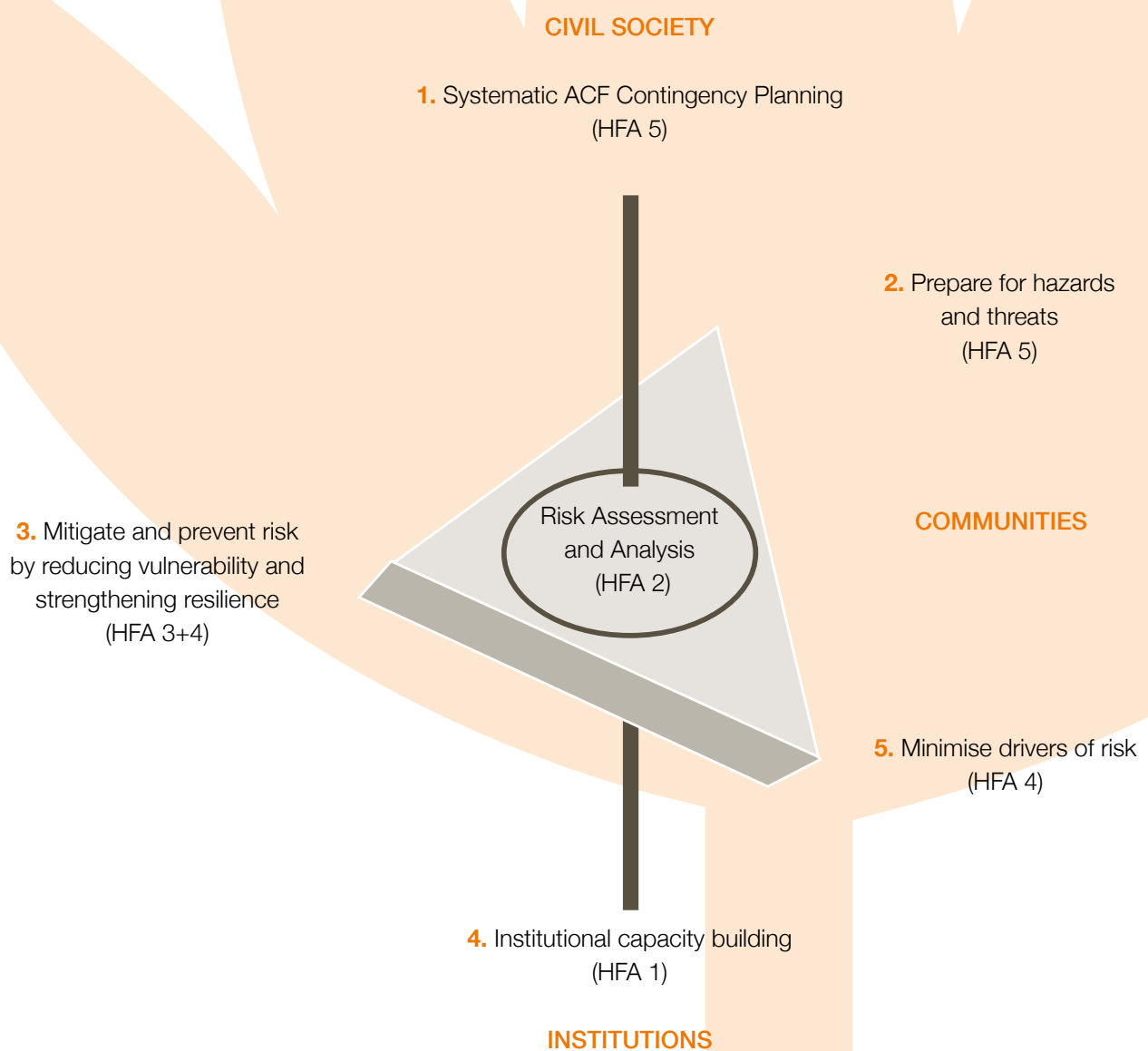
Climate Change: a change in the state of the climate that can be identified (e.g., by using statistical tests) by changes in the mean and/or the variability of its properties, and that persists for an extended period, typically decades or longer. Climate change may be due to natural internal processes or external forcing, or to persistent anthropogenic changes in the composition of the atmosphere or in land use (IPCC, 2007).



WHAT ARE THE ACF OBJECTIVES TO MANAGE THE RISKS?

ACF aims to achieve operational outcomes based on the following 5 key objectives aligned with the priority actions of the Hyōgo Framework for Action 'Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters' 2005-2015⁵.

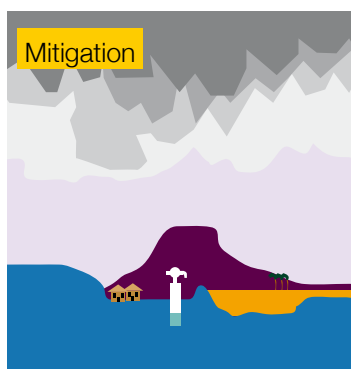
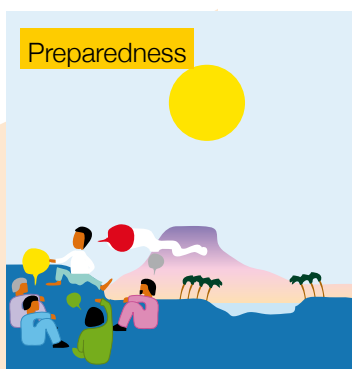
1. To put in place and maintain systematic ACF preparedness and emergency response planning in all operations.
2. To prepare for hazards and threats at community and institutions levels.
3. To mitigate, adapt and prevent risk while strengthening resilience to disaster.
4. To build the capacity of local institutions and stakeholders.
5. To minimise the impact of key drivers of risk in ACF action.



5 - <http://www.unisdr.org/2005/wcdr/intergover/official-doc/L-docs/Hyogo-framework-for-action-english.pdf>

WHAT ARE THE KEY STEPS IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION?

1. **Preparedness:** action is taken before a disaster happens, to anticipate, forecast or warn against hazards and to put in place contingency planning and means to allow a community to respond to hazards (e.g. contingency plans, early warning system, meeting, etc.)
2. **Mitigation:** any action taken to minimise the impact of a potential disaster. The action is normally done before the event, and can involve structural (e.g. building a resistant infrastructure) and non-structural activities (e.g. community training in disaster risk management, sensitization session at school, etc.).
3. **Prevention:** measures taken to avoid hazards and potential disaster (e.g. access to water point during flooding, relocating the village to higher ground above flooding, etc.)



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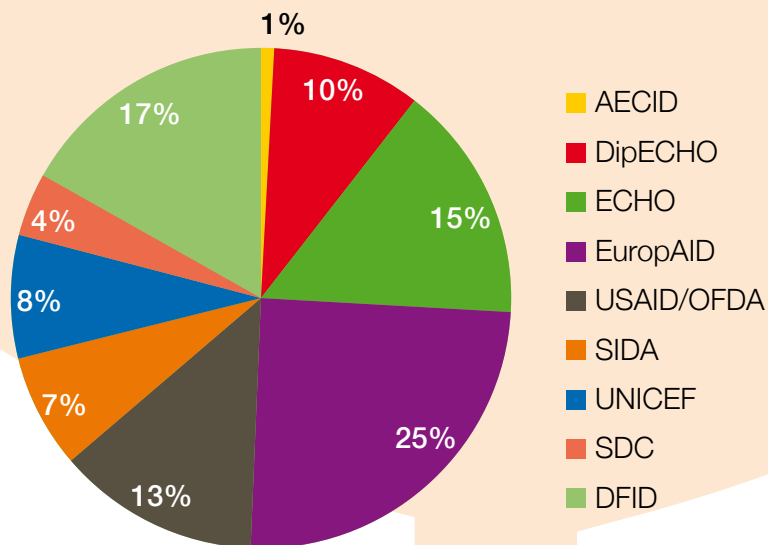


OVERVIEW OF DRM/CCA PROJECT FINANCING

The principal donors to DRM/CCA projects are the European Commission⁷, the Department for International Development (DFID)⁸ and the US Agency for International Development (USAID)⁹. These donors have strategies on these thematic areas which ACF uses to develop proposal.

Distribution of allocated funds in different countries

- **AECID:** Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
- **ECHO:** European Community Humanitarian Aid Office
- **DipECHO:** Disaster Preparedness Programme ECHO
- **EuropeAid:** Development and Cooperation – European Commission
- **USAID/OFDA:** The Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
- **SIDA:** The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- **UNICEF:** United Nations of International Children's Emergency Fund
- **SDC:** The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- **DFID:** The Department for International Development (UK)



Principal donors to DRM/CCA projects

7 - European Commission, 2014 – Building resilience - http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/countries/factsheets/thematic/EU_building_resilience_en.pdf

8 - DFID, 2011 - Defining Disaster Resilience: A DFID Approach Paper - https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/186874/defining-disaster-resilience-approach-paper.pdf

9 - USAID, 2012 – Building Resilience to recurrent crisis, Policy and program guidance - <http://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1870/USAIDResiliencePolicyGuidanceDocument.pdf>

1. COMPREHENSION AND BACKGROUND ANALYSIS

The analytical phase consists of gathering background information which incorporates data on social dynamics, economic and political situation, health, and environment as well as natural and man-made hazards. Data collection and analysis is necessary to encourage the decision making process based on the informed and documented decisions on the scientific and technical aspects of reducing disaster risks. The interest lies in correctly understanding and analysing the background in which ACF is operating through documentary studies, assessments, etc.

The analysis should also include an assessment of disaster risks. This assessment is made using scientific research and studies and national data collected by United Nations agencies and technical experts in the country to identify hazards, their likelihood and their potential impact.

For a better understanding of the context, it is necessary to study past tendencies, including hazard mapping and the effects of climate change on different scales. Background analysis allows different players to participate and to increase their understanding of hazards, coordination and sharing of results. Background analysis can consist of a **collection of local and traditional knowledge which is then combined with the results of scientific research**. In this way, new knowledge is produced¹⁰.

This first stage of analysis enables a strategic approach to be defined which ACF will develop in a sectorial project and/or a disaster risk reduction project.

<http://blog.actioncontrelafaim.org/recit/ouvrir-une-mission-a-madagascar-les-principaux-defis/>

Risk analysis in Burkina Faso

First of all, background analysis consists of studying the economic and political system of a country by analysing, for example, population distribution by administrative areas or population density for each province.

Data is also collected in relation to ACF's sectors of intervention and the risks present in the country. It is necessary to consider seasonal factors as well as analyse the national system of disaster risk management already in place and vulnerable groups and risk zones.

Another important aspect of this analysis is the identification of the disaster risk management players and mechanisms in place in Burkina Faso. This consists of identifying and studying different players such as State structures, the United Nations systems, diplomatic representatives, NGOs and civil society organisations.

		IMPACT		
		A. CATASTROPHIC	B. MAJOR	C. MEDIUM
PROBABILITY	3. CERTAIN	Droughts	Epidemic	
	2. PROBABLE	Economic crisis	Floods	Conflicts (resources)
	1. REALISTIC		Pest attack	Conflicts (mutiny)

	High risk
	Moderate risk
	Low risk

Major risks analysis 2011

10 - Toward Resilience, 2013 - A Guide to Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation – Marilise Turnbull, Charlotte L. Sterrett, Amy Hilleboe - <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ECB-toward-resilience-Disaster-risk-reduction-Climate-Change-Adaptation-guide-english.pdf>



As a result of these analyses, the mission issued a strategic approach and activities to strengthen disaster risk management and put in place partnerships and collaboration with the key players in the country.

Strategic approaches

- Contribute to the fight against the causes of food and nutritional insecurity by strengthening the livelihoods and recovery of the poor and very poor.
- Strengthen resilience to shock and stress at institutions, communities and individuals levels.
- Improve living conditions and dignity of populations at risk

Activities suggested

- Build local capacities for social management of crisis
- Support collective land management activities to limit the effects of climatic hazards on the environment and communities
- Support sustainable increase and diversification of agricultural production
- Reconstruct production capacities for small livestock
- Promote consumption of foods rich in micronutrients
- Setup nutritional safety nets to encourage the local channels to help the most vulnerable
- Mobilise local networks through food aid in case of economic shocks

2. PARTICIPATORY RISK, CAPACITY AND VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS (PCVA)

In order to develop risk reduction activities targeting the vulnerabilities and capacities of populations, it is necessary to have a thorough knowledge of local dynamics.

This participative analysis (PCVA) is the starting point of all projects in DRM/CCA. Through the use of many participative tools, the PCVA provides a detailed overview on:

- Risks affecting populations, their well-being and environment (e.g. probability and severity of natural, climatic and man-made events).
- External factors likely to influence livelihoods and human health (e.g. fluctuation of food prices on the market).
- Vulnerabilities of each group of people.
- Coping strategies for survival and strategies of adaptation established by the community.
- Capacities within and outside of the community (e.g. institutional support).

Moreover, this analysis makes it possible to instill trust and to take ownership of the project and activities by the communities¹¹.

The objective of this analysis is also to design preparedness and emergency response plans by mobilizing local players in the development of their own diagnosis and actions in order to anticipate, respond and adapt to potential risks.

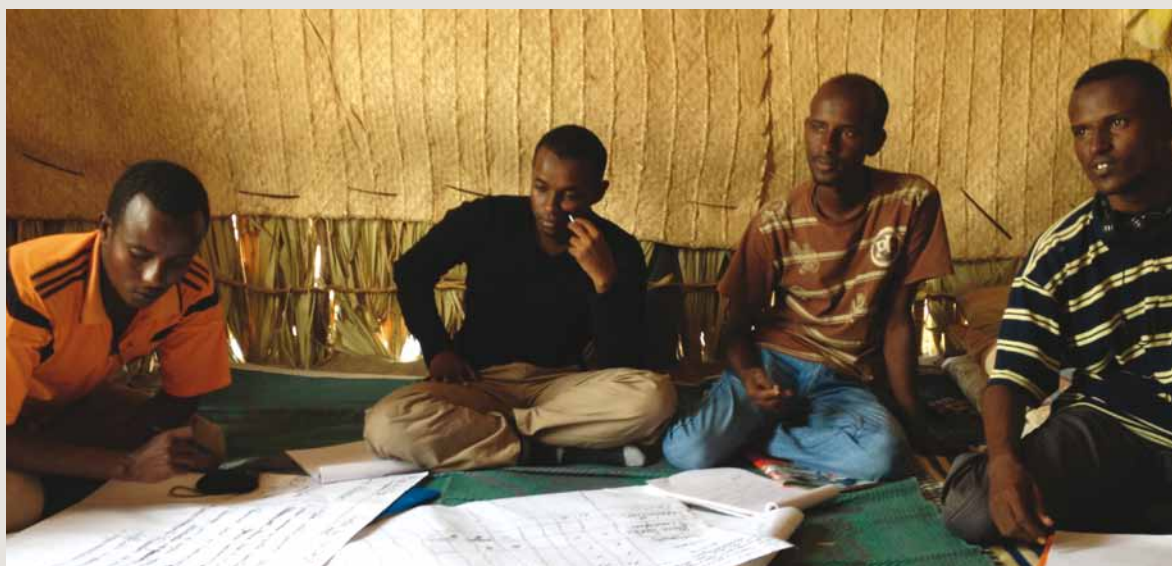
11 - ACF International, 2013 - Participatory risk, capacity and vulnerability analysis – A practitioner manual for field workers - http://www.actioncontrelafaim.org/sites/default/files/publications/fichiers/acf_2013_-_practical_manuel_pcva.pdf

Participative Analysis in Djibouti

In order to reinforce the capacities of populations to face and adapt to recurring droughts, the project has developed a community approach in disaster risk management based on participative analysis of the risks, capacities and vulnerabilities of the targeted communities.

The communities were invited to identify and analyze the following:

- History of various hazards and the impact of drought on their livelihoods, environment and well-being.
- Various vulnerabilities in the face of these hazards.
- Existing coping and adaptation strategies.
- Limits of their strategies, such as lack of knowledge, know-how and resources (equipment, financial).
- Partners (elected officials, engineering services, projects) able to support them to improve their coping and adaptation strategies.
- Experiments or projects conducted by other communities or stakeholders.
- Future strategy of adaptation to be established or those to be reinforced over the short, medium and long-term period.



© ACF, Djibouti

Hazard Historic Analysis

This participative evaluation is based on data collected from discussions with key players, focus group discussions and participative rural exercises used by communities (e.g. history of the risks, seasonal calendar, mapping, etc.).

The PCVA allows for identifying key people who will be responsible to manage risks and to formulate preparedness and emergency response plans. Training workshops targeting local authorities, local committees and populations were organized to improve knowledge on preparedness and to mitigate the impacts of future droughts.

Using a participative approach has had a significant effect on the mobilization of communities, especially since the majority of the interventions conducted in the past were limited to the needs assessment rather than the delivery of standardized kits, which did not take local characteristics into account. Thus, this project is innovative insofar as it involved communities in the process of prioritizing and decision-making.

As a result of these analyses, several problems of related to water, sanitation and hygiene and livelihoods” etc. were identified and structured in a problem-solving tree, which facilitated the identification of solutions and micro-projects. Among the preponderant results, we noted an awareness of the possibilities of communities to take action to deal with and adapt to droughts.



3. PARTICIPATION & INVOLVEMENT OF POPULATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

The context, abilities and desires of communities will dictate the approach used to plan actions to be carried out. Indigenous knowledge in risk management will be identified and combined, to the extent possible, with analyses and research done by scientists and technical experts, so as to provide the most relevant options to communities.

Thus, community participation¹² is proven to be an essential approach, and can take 3 forms:

- **Direct approach:** Used to save human lives and their livelihoods and to improve the protection of populations. This is generally used during emergency phases.
- **Community-based approach:** In which the communities have limited participative and organizational capacities or a lack of motivation to do it. This is generally used in the phases of rehabilitation and immediate recovery.
- **Community-managed approach:** In which communities take part at all levels and have organizational capacities. This is generally established in rehabilitation phase and in a stability context.

DIRECT RESPONSE	COMMUNITY-BASED DRM	COMMUNITY-MANAGED DRM
In emergency and early recovery contexts	In recovery and rehabilitation contexts	In rehabilitation and stable contexts
Centralised and top-down, managed by the external agencies, process owned by outsiders	Centralised and top-down, managed by the external agency, process owned by outsiders	Decentralised and bottom-up, managed by the community, process owned by the community
Driven by extreme needs-saving lives and livelihoods, and protection	Supply-driven	Demand-driven
Target oriented	Target oriented	Process oriented
Total dependency of the community on external actors	External agency as key player, dependency of the community	Community-based organisation as the key player, self-reliance
Minimal participatory and planning capacity	Reduced participatory and planning capacity	Significant participatory and planning capacity
Community reliant on external agencies	Community used to service providers	Community open to autonomy
Aid agency staff implement actions directly	Aid agency staff implements actions directly	Facilitating people to implement
Externally financed	Externally financed	Cost sharing with the community
Technological approach dominant	Technological approach important	Social approach dominant
Incorporates expert's knowledge into project assessment, design/ planning and implementation	Incorporates expert's knowledge into project assessment, design/ planning and implementation	Incorporates local people's knowledge into project assessment, design/planning and implementation
M&E by professionals	M&E by professionals	Participatory M&E
Short-term timeframe (except complex humanitarian emergency)	Short/medium-term time frame	Long-term time frame
Flexible donor funding rules	Rigid donor funding rules	Rigid donor funding rules

¹² - iied, 2009 - Community-based adaptation to climate change - <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/14573IIED.pdf>

ACF recommends, as part of the community approach, ensuring that communities take ownership of the process and using familiar techniques that can be adapted easily to different contexts.

Institutions are essential to establish a consistent legal and regulatory framework. This involves establishing appropriate policies, laws, regulations in order to manage disasters. It is necessary to implement a comprehensive framework in agreement with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 and to ensure the coordination at the national level between the different stakeholders.



© ACF, Ethiopia

Participation of students and teachers in Ethiopia

One of the activities established in Ethiopia, as a part of the community-managed drought project, is holding awareness sessions in elementary schools regarding preparedness, mitigation and prevention of droughts and other risks. These sessions educate many people thanks to the fact that teachers and students disseminate and share their knowledge within their communities.

Schools created “Health and Disaster Risk Reduction Clubs” that allowed children to become agents of change, gaining the tools and knowledge so that actual generations are better prepared.

Involvement of local Institutions in Zimbabwe

In Zimbabwe, there is a Law on the Civil Protection, which allowed the establishment of an interdepartmental organization called the Department of Civil Protection at the national, provincial and district levels to respond to natural as well as man-made risks.

Due to the lack of financing and resources within state organizations to develop disaster preparedness, ACF concentrated on the reinforcement of the capacities, within the districts of Chipinge and Chiredzi, of the Civil Protection teams, leaders and community representatives to identify risks and hazards, to create a mapping of capacities and to establish preparedness and emergency response plans. These plans cover the principal hazards such as floods, epidemics and droughts. Ministries such as the ministries of health and agriculture, and the local government agencies were involved in the consolidation of these plans.

ACF played a crucial role to simplify the process of coordination between the ministries, NGOs and the private sector to design and implement these plans. Despite the functionality of the Civil Protection, there was no framework to follow for effective preparedness and response mechanisms. Each ministry had its plan according to its specific sector of activity, but there was no coordination and communication between the different entities. From having developed these local plans, stakeholders could harmonize their actions plans.

4. APPROACH AT MULTI-LEVELS AND MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS

The development of DRM/CCA's capacities requires the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders such as political decision-makers, national, sectorial and municipal officials, scientific partners and universities, a wide range of NGOs and civil societies and local communities. ACF consistently encourages partnerships with the stakeholders who intervene in DRM and CCA, making sure that the measures undertaken are integrated in a sustainable way¹³.

Since the 90s, the working environment has changed dramatically. The multitude of actors engaged in humanitarian aid and international development involves ACF interacting with a large number of structures. ACF is a partner with civil society and international organisations and governments. ACF also recognises that the development of partnerships with local, national and/or international entities is an effective way to increase the impact, influence, resources and the coverage of programmes.

13 - ACF International, 2011 – Policy document – Disaster Risk Management for communities - http://www.actioncontrelafaim.org/sites/default/files/acf_drm_policy_en.pdf



A favourable political environment is essential to make decisions, whether it is at a national and/or local level. The impact of a policy or a law depends on its implementation by different entities from the government as well as its pertinence for the most at-risk populations. The decisions and actions taken at each level must mutually enrich each other and facilitate the development of a consistent and coordinated approach¹⁴. Without a favourable political and institutional environment, the results achieved by a programme may be limited or may not be sustainable.

Resilience Consortium in Somalia¹⁵

Programme development based on the resilience to food crises was invaluable in Somalia due to environmental changes and major conflicts across the country. ACF therefore associated itself with other organisations in the implementation of a Resilience Consortium in Somalia: the *SomRep*, members¹⁶ which have more than 5 years of experience in this type of context. This consortium was formed to strengthen the resilience of families and communities and to improve their livelihoods faced with recurrent stresses such as droughts and food shortages, by implementing a joint programme on a large scale and for the long term in vulnerable rural and peri-urban communities.

This consortium illustrates well the motivation for multiplying the stakeholders in the implementation of a programme. In the case of *SomRep*, the objective is to combine the know-how and experience of each stakeholder in order to respond to crisis by covering the most areas of activity. The members of the consortium have established a common approach and strategy, combining coordinated and consistent activities. In addition, this allows information sharing, good practice and lessons learnt but also the bringing together of monitoring and evaluation work and sharing expertise.

National and international coordination

One of the strategic objectives of ACF is to be recognised as a key stakeholder in Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change and to strengthen the link with nutrition. Therefore ACF takes part in different DRM/CCA work groups (e.g. VOICE, Bond, Global Network for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Network of French NGO on DRR, UN Standing Committee of Nutrition and Climate Change, French Commission on Climat & Development, Climate Action Network, etc.).

The objectives of participation in these groups are both advocacy-related and technical:

- To ensure that donors and governments have a better understanding of the role of DRM/CCA, by ensuring consistency between policy and action out in the field.
- To ensure that donors, governments and decision-makers implement concrete actions in policies, negotiation processes and funding.
- To share field experiences and move forward on technical/scientific reflection between the members of each work group.
- To promote the links between disaster risk management and under-nutrition.

The year 2015 will be marked by several major events including:

- The revision of the Hyōgo Framework for Action 'Building resilience of nations and communities' 2005-2015
- The organisation of the United Nations Climate Conference in Paris (COP21)
- The revision of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)

ACF has contributed to the follow up of the revision of the Hyōgo Framework for Action 2005-2015 in coordination with the Disaster Risk Reduction working groups of VOICE, Bond, and the Network of French NGO on DRR. This led to the writing of position papers, one published by the Global Network for Disaster Risk Reduction and the other by the Network of French NGO on DRR.

14 - Toward Resilience, 2013 - A Guide to Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation – Marilise Turnbull, Charlotte L. Sterrett, Amy Hilleboe - <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ECB-toward-resilience-Disaster-risk-reduction-Climate-Change-Adaptation-guide-english.pdf>

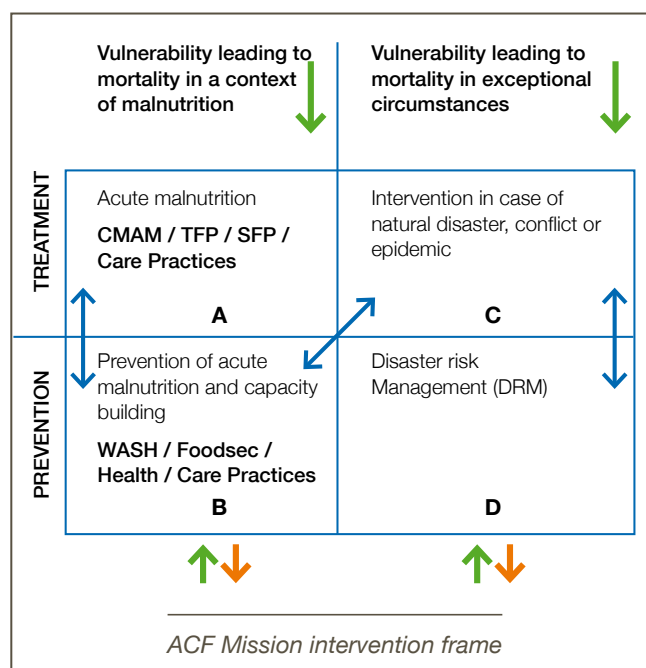
15 - <http://www.somrep.org/>

16 - ACF, ADRA, CARE, COOPI, DRC, OXFAM, World Vision

5. STRATEGIC COHERENCE AND MULTI-SECTORIAL APPROACH

The DRM/CCA approach relies on 2010-2015 International Strategy¹⁷, as well as the Action Plan 2015. **It is in line with one of ACF's fundamental pillars, which is to respond to and prevent humanitarian crises, address vulnerability and reinforce longer term population resilience to crisis.**

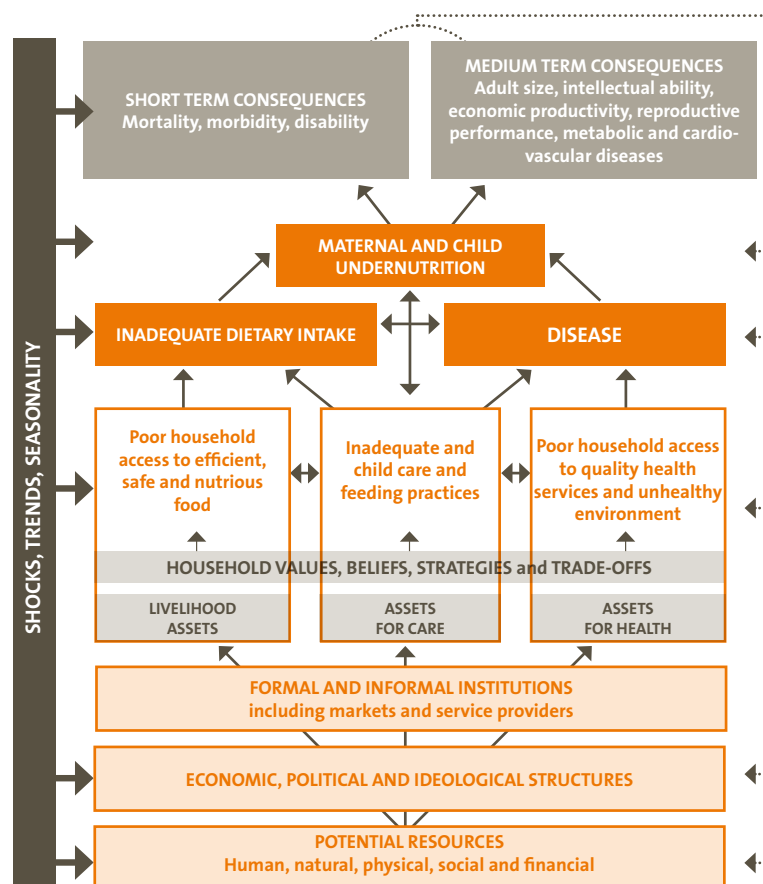
In addition, the DRM/CCA approach aligns with the strategies of donors such as the European Union, DFID and USAID.



The preparedness, mitigation and/or prevention of vulnerabilities faced with disasters require a cross-cutting approach into ACF's 4 fields of competence: food security and livelihoods, nutrition and health, mental health and care practices, and water, sanitation and hygiene.

Looking at the conceptual framework on under-nutrition, it is clear that in the case of seasonal shocks and/or spontaneous or recurrent disasters, the underlying and direct causes of under-nutrition will be negatively impacted.

Most of the mitigation activities are associated with intervention sectors, particularly in food security and livelihoods, and water, sanitation and hygiene. In terms of being prepared for disasters, the surveillance and early alert systems are invaluable tools, and it is common to see consistency in the usage of data coming from nutritional surveillance systems, market food prices and water-borne diseases in order to better anticipate a crisis.



17 - http://www.actionagainsthunger.org.uk/fileadmin/contribution/0_accueil/pdf/ACF%20International%20Strategy.pdf



Integration of food security and livelihoods sector in Burkina Faso

Since 2011, the Burkina Faso mission has been implementing a project to adapt to climatic change whilst combatting the underlying causes of food and nutritional insecurity. The principle approach is a multi-sectorial approach, which looks to improve livelihoods, develop the capacities of communities to adapt to climatic crises and to restore access to community services in a sustainable way.

In the intervention zone, agricultural production is dependent on the spatial-temporal distribution of rainfall. The repetitive pockets of drought are more and more frequent and compromise the yield of crops. In addition to this erratic distribution of rainfall, the crop year cycles are shortening or moving with the late starts or sudden stops of rainfall. In order to tackle these problems, water management and conservation/restoration of soil activities have been implemented through a participative approach involving the communities and local institutions.



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During the project, the communities are asked to contribute and setup a range of activities such as:

- The development of land planning such as: improvement of degraded lands and rehabilitation of low-lands (e.g. use of mechanised or manual Zai technique)
- Usage of vegetable gardens and reforestation
- The protection of the river banks (vegetation bunds, etc.)
- The promotion and production of improved wood stoves
- The promotion of cash transfers
- Rehabilitation and/or construction of water points
- The distribution of small livestock
- The usage of improved and certified seeds
- The organisation of exchange visits for the discussion on good practices



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6. COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

A successful rollout of a project relies on good communication and good information management between the different stakeholders (ACF, NGO partners, local governments, beneficiaries, civil society, etc.).

Communication is essential in logic of transparency and trust in relation to beneficiary populations. This also consists of making use of a wide range of existing knowledge sources and developing them.

Accumulating experience over time allows to create a basis for similar initiatives and to replicate on a larger scale based on gained experience. **The pooling of knowledge and information accumulated in a targeted region is essential over time in order to ensure a continuity and a coherence of action from one project to another or from one year to the next¹⁸.**

Information exchange on cholera

The study of past cholera epidemics allows us to obtain crucial information and to help teams to understand future epidemiological patterns and to identify early the areas and periods conducive to cholera epidemics.

Previous studies have, for example, shown that the massive epidemic that affected Chad in 1997 had the same transmission method as that of 2010. If this information had been known earlier, it could have facilitated prevention planning in certain areas, allowing for more effectiveness in the battle against the epidemic¹⁹.

Project continuity in Ethiopia

Since 2011, a community-managed project was setup in Southern Ethiopia to deal with and adapt to droughts. This project came just after major droughts and famines in the Horn of Africa. The first objective was to strengthen the resources of affected populations by recapitalising their capitals and organising risk awareness sessions. The following year was more on the analysis of vulnerabilities and capacities of the populations in order to give them autonomy in the implementation of activities for risk reduction and adapting to climate change, whilst taking into account the food and nutritional insecurity problems in the region. For example, nutritional gardens have been put in place taking into account the varieties of vegetables both of high nutritional value and low water demand.

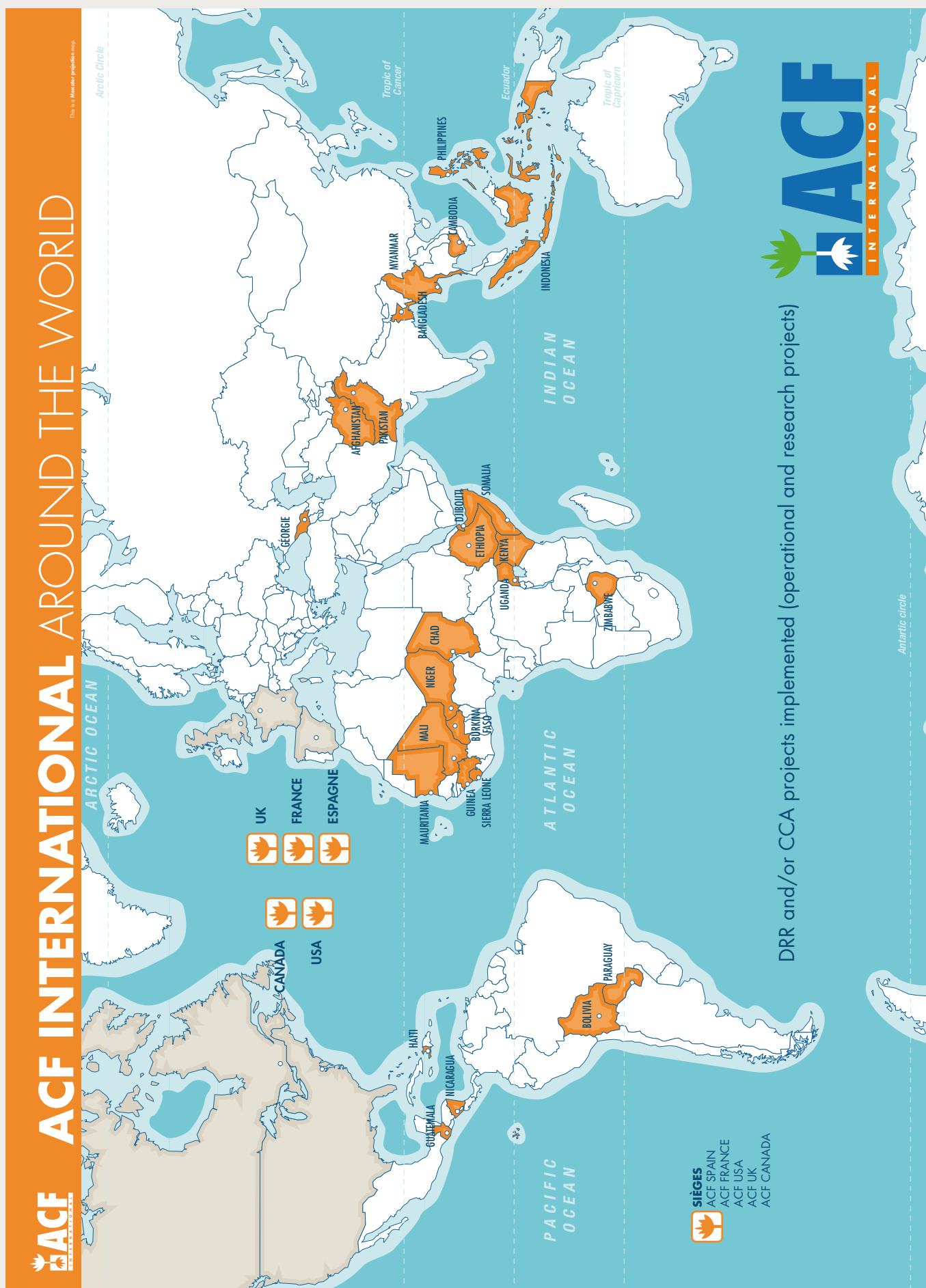
In addition, the relationship with local institutions is strengthened year after year, and the communities are part of the decision-making process and work with those elected in order to better anticipate and respond to future crises.

¹⁸ - <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2013/10/11/tapping-asia-experience-to-manage-disaster-risks>

¹⁹ - ACF International, 2012 – Cholera operational positioning paper and practical manual http://dd0jh6c2fb2ci.cloudfront.net/sites/default/files/publications/Cholera_Operational_Positioning_Paper_12.2012_0.pdf and http://www.actioncontrelafaim.org/sites/default/files/publications/fichiers/manuel_pratique_cholera_acf.pdf



MAPPING OF DRM/CCA PROJECTS



TECHNICAL SHEETS ON DRM/CCA

1. Response to 2012 food crisis in **Sahel** - Chad, Mauritania, Niger & Burkina Faso
2. Emergency response mechanism in **Afghanistan**
3. Disaster risk reduction project in the coastal area of Borobogi union in the district of Barguna, in **Bangladesh**
4. Strengthening resilience and safety in schools and communities in **Bangladesh**
5. Provision of lifesaving humanitarian assistance to children and their families affected by violence in Rakhine state, in **Myanmar**
6. Safer coastal and urban communities through inclusive disaster risk reduction, in **Myanmar**
7. From emergency to resilience - building disaster resilience to populations while improving food and nutrition security in **Burkina Faso**
8. Preparedness and drought management in Dikhil region, in **Djibouti**
9. Community managed drought risk management in Borena zone in **Ethiopia**
10. 'Share' initiative - building resilience capacity and recovery for the vulnerable population of Amhara region in **Ethiopia**
11. Disaster risk management for community and institutions in the Gonaives, in **Haiti**
12. Preparedness and rapid response to cholera outbreak in **Haiti**
13. Multi-sectorial surveillance system & rapid response mechanisms in **Central African Republic**
14. Preparedness and rapid response to cholera outbreaks in **Sierra Leone** and **Guinea**
15. To build household and community resilience to drought and related risks in **Somalia**
16. Reducing community vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and building resilience to drought in **Zimbabwe**





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