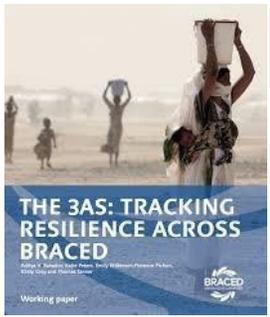




Building Individual and Household Resilience Through Integrated Livelihoods Approaches

Plenary 1: Scene Setting

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What do we mean by livelihoods?

- The capabilities, assets and activities required for a means of living ¹

What do we mean by climate-resilient?

- Ensuring livelihoods are able to anticipate, absorb, adapt, and transform in response to climate shocks and long-term stresses — while maintaining or improving wellbeing outcomes of poor and vulnerable populations ²

What do we mean by an ‘integrated’ approach?

- Combining or coordinating separate elements, to produce a more effective, harmonious whole

Building individual & household climate resilience through integrated livelihoods approaches =

- 1) Coordinating approaches ***across the resilience dimensions*** (3As + T)
- 2) Coordinating approaches ***across different sectors / organizations / programs / activities***



Combining everything into a single program is not necessarily the answer!

But important to ensure all necessary elements are present and coordinated effectively

¹Chambers and Conway (1992)

² Based on Bahadur et al. (2015)



Mongolia: Anticipatory Assistance to herders pre-dzud

- Early warning systems
- Anticipatory assistance to farmers, herders, fisherfolk etc (e.g. to prepare crops/ livestock ahead of drought/ flood etc)
- Evacuation support

Anticipatory action when a shock is forecast

Anticipate



Pakistan: Strengthening shock response post-2022 floods

- Climate risk insurance / Shock-responsive social safety nets to cover losses
- Affordable health and veterinary care
- Shelter, housing, infrastructure repair, WASH etc

Livelihoods protection when a shock occurs

Absorb



Philippines: Sustainable Livelihoods Program

- + Social Safety Nets = Poverty Graduation Programs
- + Community Infrastructure development
- Asset transfers / Grants / Loans + Training + Coaching (+) Market linkages (+)
- Technology (+) Community organizing / savings (+) Financial inclusion

CLIMATE-RESILIENT Microenterprise / Livelihoods Development programs



Bangladesh: LoGIC Project



India: MGNREGA National Rural Employment Guarantee Act Scheme



PRC: National Forest Conservation Program

- Green Public Works
- Payment for Environmental Services
- Training / job-matching / subsidies / modified social insurance to support green transition

+ Social Protection & Labor Market Programs

Ecosystem Restoration/ Environmental Conservation / NRM

Fiji: Climate Relocation of Communities Trust Fund



- Subsidized support for climate-vulnerable communities when adaptation no longer possible *in situ*

Climate Relocation Programs

Adapt / Transform

Potential* benefits

* Still a big need for climate resilience impacts to be more widely measured and documented.

→ At micro level:

- **More productive and diverse livelihoods**
- **Better protected and more resilient livelihoods:** reduced asset damage, indebtedness, and distress sales when climate shocks and stresses occur
(... with many related benefits for poverty, food security, health, educational attainment, gender equality etc)

→ At macro level:

- **Supports human development outcomes**
- **Supports environmental targets:** Reduced carbon emissions, increased biodiversity
- **Supports economic goals:** More cost-effective interventions; strengthens economic productivity; potential to monetize reduced carbon emissions

*E.g. in the LoGIC program: 80% of recipient households reported **income increases** from climate-adaptive livelihoods project. 74% saw income become **more stable**, and 81% expressed confidence in their **ability to adapt** to climate change.*

*E.g. in Mongolia, one study showed pre-dzud anticipatory assistance package to herders **reduced horse mortality** by c. 50%.³ Another study found every \$1 spent on early action had **averted \$7 in livelihoods losses** (from animal deaths/ decline, lost milk and cashmere production).⁴*

*E.g. A 2021 study from India projected that the cumulative **carbon sink** created through MGNREGA's drought proofing activities will reach 561 million tonnes by 2030. ⁵*

*E.g. In Pakistan, the CO₂ sequestered through the Delta Blue Carbon Mangrove Restoration Project is expected to **generate \$15- 20 million annually** through carbon credit revenue system⁶*

*E.g. A recent meta analysis of Economic Inclusion programs in in 6 Asian and African countries highlighted their **cost-effectiveness**, with cost-benefit ratios between 121-379%.⁷*

¹LoGIC (2024); ² DM Watch (2025); ³Gros et al. (2020); ⁴ FAO (2018); ⁵ Ravindranath and Murthy (2021); ⁶ Indus Delta Capital et al. (2022). ⁷ J-PAL (2023)

Three lessons to enhance climate resilience impacts

❑ **Climate resilience cannot be just an afterthought for livelihoods programs!**

With the support of climate experts, considerations of climate risk need to be systematically integrated into the design and delivery of the program, and into the policies governing livelihoods programming

❑ **Integrate approaches along the 3As + T pathway**

Make sure investments in individual/household/community assets are designed to be resilient *over time*- both to short-term shocks and long-term environmental and economic pressures (*e.g. through coordinated links with anticipatory/shock-responsive programming + just transition agenda*)

❑ **When scaling up, ensure interventions are still well tailored to local climate and market conditions, and community needs** (including of the most marginalized individuals within a given community)

