

Equipping States with impact monitoring instruments

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The National Resilience Plans (NRP) have set a number of quantitative indicators to assess over time the progress on building a resilience agenda. Measuring resilience itself is scientifically and technically challenging but significant progress has been made in the framework of the Resilience Measurement Technical Working Group, established under the Food Security Information Network (FSIN). There are a series of practical methods and tools that are being implemented by different agencies to plan and monitor resilience-building actions. The JRC is collaborating with FAO to make operational those tools called RIMA. However, current resilience measurement tools are often developed and implemented by development partners. National institutions, especially government services, have not yet taken them onboard whereas it will be necessary to do so for monitoring the NRPs. The next phase of the JRC-FAO collaboration will be to support capacity building in countries for implementing resilience monitoring mechanisms and tools, within government services.

Any tool or method for resilience monitoring requires primary data collected through surveys or other statistical systems. We have observed an erosion in primary data collection in several African countries because of lack of resources in the statistical services of the different sectors. In the agricultural sector, and in particular in the food and nutrition security area, there has been a huge effort to conduct sound analysis at the regional level, but the primary data collection has not seen the same improvement. The newly launched project ECOAGRIS will hopefully help to raise awareness on the necessity to improve primary data collection while making the best-use of existing systems. ECOAGRIS will have country-level components that will provide a base for resilience monitoring tools. The JRC is involved on both initiatives to help ensure coherence and complementarity across the region.

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