



IGAD RESILIENCE INDEX - IRI 2025

Communication Brief

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Background

Evaluating and measuring resilience is vital for improving disaster risk management. In the IGAD region, where the need for disaster risk management is critical, measuring resilience is an essential tool for creating adaptive systems that protect community well-being. Livelihood sustainability in the drylands areas of the region is threatened by a complex and interrelated range of social, economic, political, and environmental changes that present significant challenges to the livelihoods of vulnerable households and communities. Understanding resilience helps communities prepare for, respond to, and recover from adverse events of such threats, thereby aiding the development of targeted interventions and enhancing resilience capacity. Several tools are available in the IGAD region for measuring resilience at household and community levels. These include Resilience Index Measurement and Analysis (RIMA) tool, Community Based Resilience Analysis (CoBra), Integrated Context Analysis (ICA) etc. None of the tools is specifically designed to measure resilience at national level. The IGAD Resilience Index (IRI) was developed for this particular purpose, and it utilizes data aggregated by various ministries and government departments to measure resilience. The tool combines technical rigor and practical utility and complements the household and community tools for better decision making.

IGAD Resilience Index (IRI) tool: rationale

The resilience index for a particular country is calculated by aggregating the normalized scores of the nine primary indicators (see Table I). The IRI utilizes the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) to assign specific weights to the indicators. The comprehensive IRI assesses member states' resilience capacity, focusing on socio-economic and environmental challenges. It aligns resilience assessments with the capacities for Transformation, Anticipation, Absorption, and Adaptation. The indicators are aligned with existing initiatives including the Africa 2063 Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The development and implementation of the IRI involved consensus and partnerships among IGAD member states and stakeholders, ensuring an inclusive approach to resilience measurement.

The outcome of the assessment will enable ICAD member states and other stakeholders to have the necessary insights and understanding of the changes in resilience, linkages of resilience and predominant shocks (such as climate and conflict), investments in resilience, resilience pathways and the impact of development investments on resilience in the region.

Table I

The IRI primary indicators

IRI indicator (weight)	Description
Early warning systems (15%)	Assesses the countries planning and preparedness to respond to shocks in terms of population coverage by social protection, government spending on basic services, food insecurity levels, and the existence of drought preparedness manuals.
Adaptation to climate variability (14%)	Assesses the country's level of vulnerability to shocks and its readiness to respond to those shocks both short-term and long-term
Food security readiness (14)	Assesses the country's food affordability, availability, and safety.
Food and feed balance (4%)	It assesses country's development and operationalization of Food (human) and Feed (livestock) Balance Sheets
Food and feed reserve (6%)	It assesses a country's development and operationalization of Food (human) and Feed (livestock) reserves.

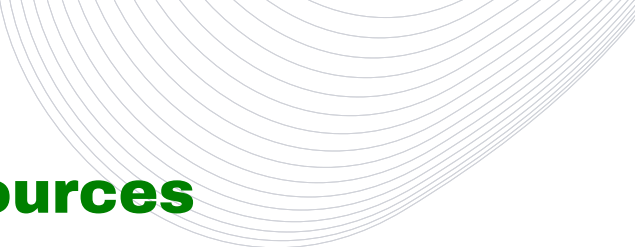
Natural resources management (14%)	It assesses the country's access to sustainable energy, integrated water resources management, and sustainable land management approaches.
Role and extent of women's engagement in agriculture sector (10%)	It assesses the levels of women's engagement in the agricultural sector, focusing on decision-making in agricultural production, access to productive resources, control over income use, and leadership within communities in the country
Literacy (6%)	Assesses level of formal educational attainment in the country

State of resilience

The IRI index is classified into actionable thresholds as shown in Table II.

Table II

IRI thresholds	State of resilience	Color code
< 40	Crises	
>=40 and < 60	Concern	
>= 60 and < 75	Moderate	
>= 75	Resilient	



Data sources

The IGAD Resilience Index (IRI) draws on a wide range of data sources to ensure that the analysis is comprehensive and reflective of the region's resilience capacities. These data sources are critical for providing accurate and reliable information, which is then used to calculate the index and evaluate the resilience of member states. They include National Statistical Offices (NSOs), Government Ministries and Departments, and International Development Organizations and Agencies (e.g. UN, World Bank, Academia/Research Institutes etc.). The data can be cross-sectional i.e. collected at one time point or it can be time series, collected at several time points.

Use of the IRI Tool

The IGAD Resilience Index (IRI) is a valuable tool that integrates data, expert analysis, and stakeholder feedback to inform and guide national policies, regional collaboration, and global advocacy for resilience in the IGAD region. By translating complex resilience indicators into actionable insights, the IRI helps governments and organizations make informed decisions that enhance disaster preparedness, adaptation to climate change, and overall socio-economic stability.

The tool can be used to:

- Track and monitor progress in resilience capacity over time in a country in the IGAD region.
- To gauge the effectiveness of resilience-strengthening interventions and make informed, data-driven decisions.
- Measure joint progress in building resilience in a country.
- Identify strengths and weaknesses in a country's resilience capacity. Which dimensions are lagging?

While the tool was initially developed for national level analysis, it can be used for analysis at lower administrative levels, depending on data availability.



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