



RABIT Training Workshop

Angelica V. Ospina & Richard Heeks

[Centre for Development Informatics](#)

University of Manchester, UK

2017



RESILIENCE ASSESSMENT BENCHMARKING and IMPACT TOOLKIT

Copyright: these workshop slides are made available on a Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial basis



Workshop Objectives

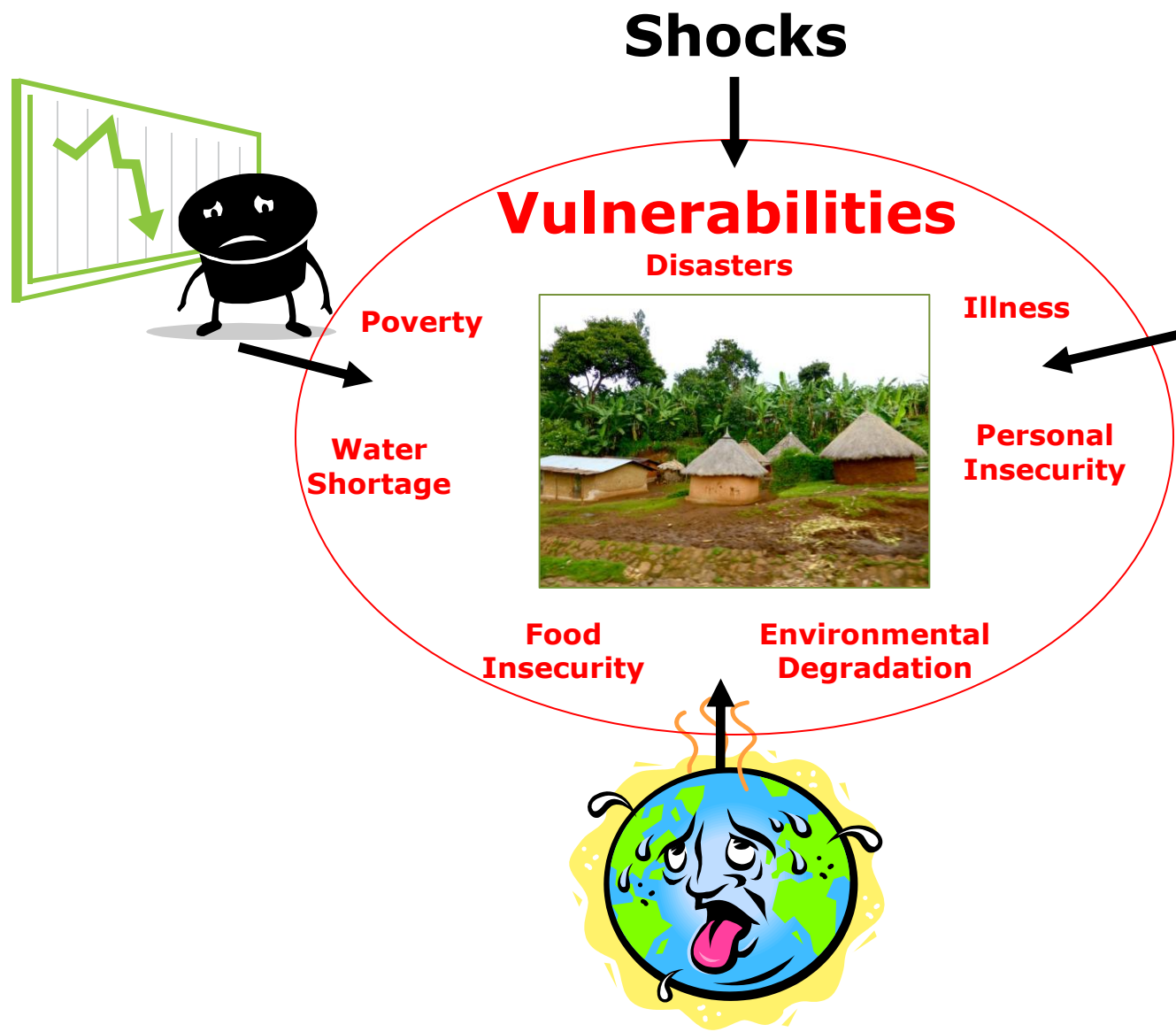
Participants will be able to:

- ✧ **explain what resilience is;**
- ✧ **explain how resilience can be measured; and**
- ✧ **outline the main content and value of RABIT (Resilience Assessment Benchmarking & Impact Toolkit).**

Workshop Outline

- ✧ **Defining Resilience**
- ✧ **Understanding Resilience: A New Model**
- ✧ **Introducing RABIT**
- ✧ **An Example of Applying RABIT**

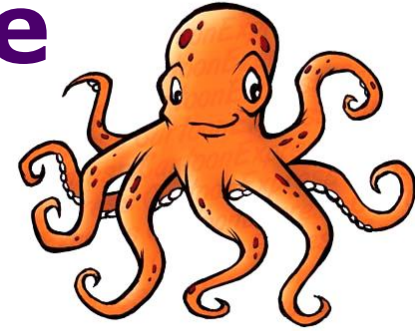
Shocks and Vulnerabilities



Defining Resilience

The capacity of a system – country, region, community, value chain, organisation, etc – to withstand, recover from, adapt to, and potentially transform amid change and uncertainty

Illustrating Resilience



WITHSTAND



RECOVER



ADAPT

...TRANSFORM

Understanding Resilience: As System Attributes

- ✧ **Robustness:** Ability to withstand, maintain performance
- ✧ **Self-Organisation:** Independently re-arrange
- ✧ **Learning:** Generate feedback, knowledge & capacity
- ✧ **Redundancy:** Surplus / substitutable components
- ✧ **Rapidity:** How quickly assets accessed/mobilised
- ✧ **Scale:** Breadth of assets and structures accessed
- ✧ **Flexibility & Diversity:** Different options, innovation
- ✧ **Equality:** Equal access to rights, resources & opportunities

Example: A Community's Resilience



ROBUSTNESS



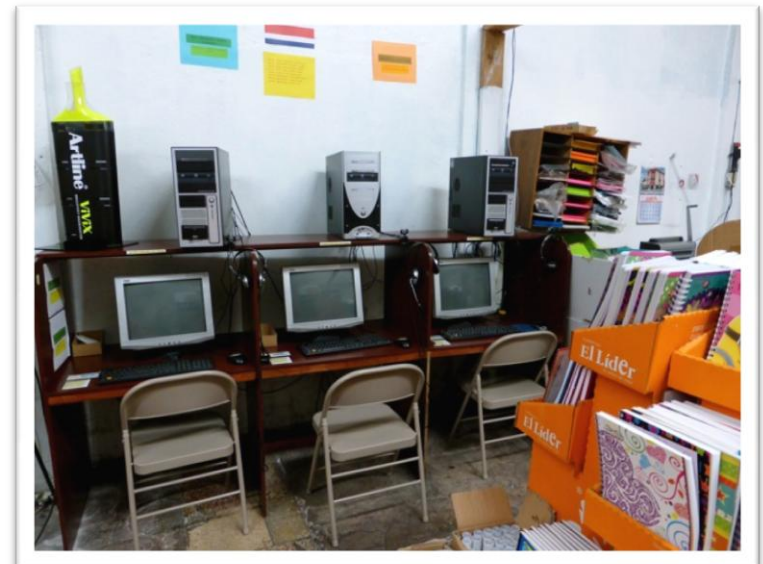
SELF-ORGANISATION



LEARNING



REDUNDANCY



RAPIDITY



SCALE



DIVERSITY & FLEXIBILITY



EQUALITY



Resilience Attributes	Key Markers/ Characteristics
ROBUSTNESS	• Physical preparedness • Institutional capacity, multi-level governance
SELF-ORGANISATION	• Collaboration and participation • Social networks, local leadership and trust
LEARNING	• Capacity building • New and traditional knowledge
REDUNDANCY	• Resource spareness and substitutability • Functional overlaps and interdependency
RAPIDITY	• Rapid resource access, and assessment • Swift resource mobilisation
SCALE	• Multi-level networks, cross-level interactions • Partnerships
DIVERSITY & FLEXIBILITY	• Different courses of action / emerging opportunities • Adaptable decision-making
EQUALITY	• Gap reduction, inclusiveness • Openness and accountability

Source: Ospina and Heeks (2010), Ospina (2013)

Situating Resilience

Resilience to What?

Resilience of Whom?

Resilience for What?

Operationalising Resilience: RABIT

Resilience Assessment Benchmarking & Impact Toolkit



Resilience Attributes:



What is RABIT?

RABIT is a toolkit aimed at
strengthening the resilience impact
of planned or implemented initiatives
in development

- ✓ To measure **resilience baselines**, and establish key areas of focus and action to build resilience.
- ✓ To identify the **impact on resilience** of development interventions, during or after their implementation.

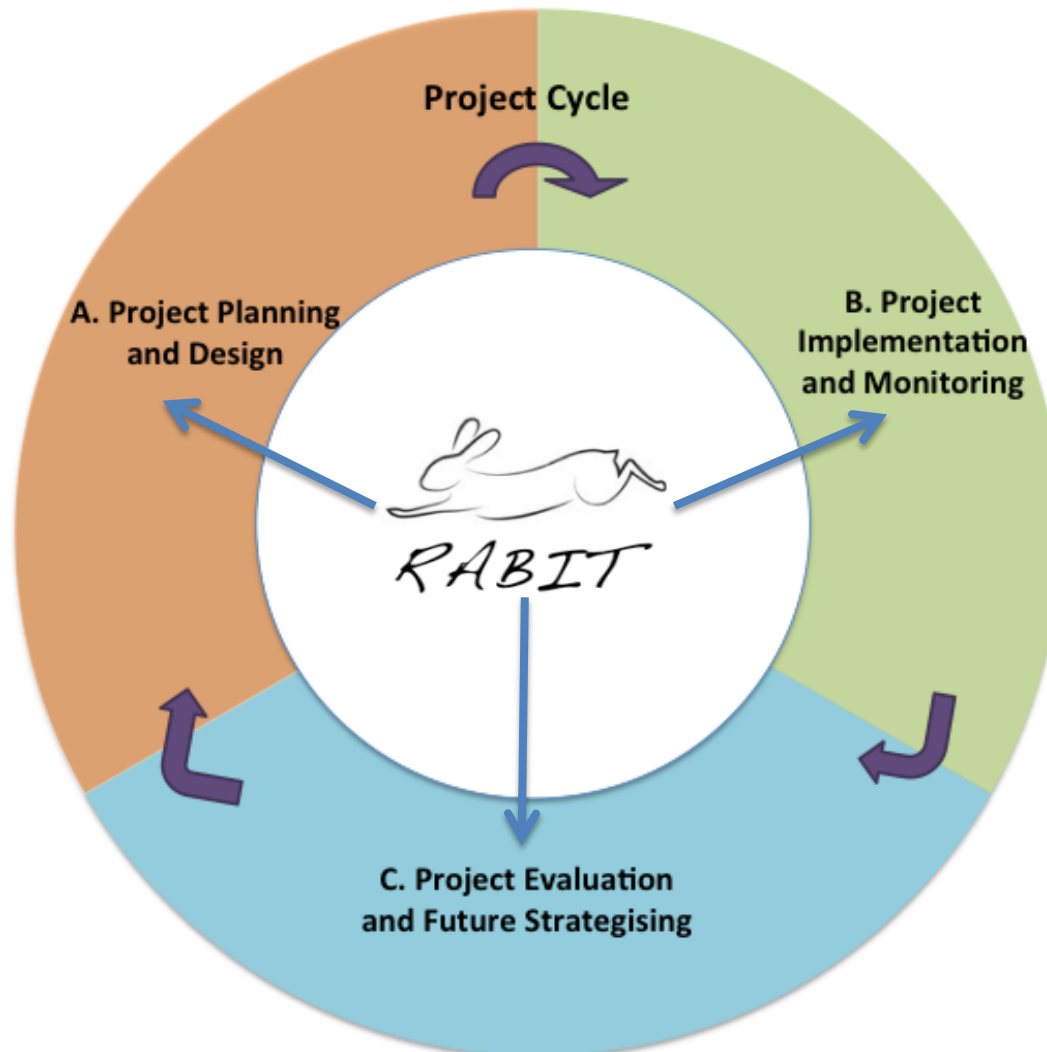


Why use RABIT?

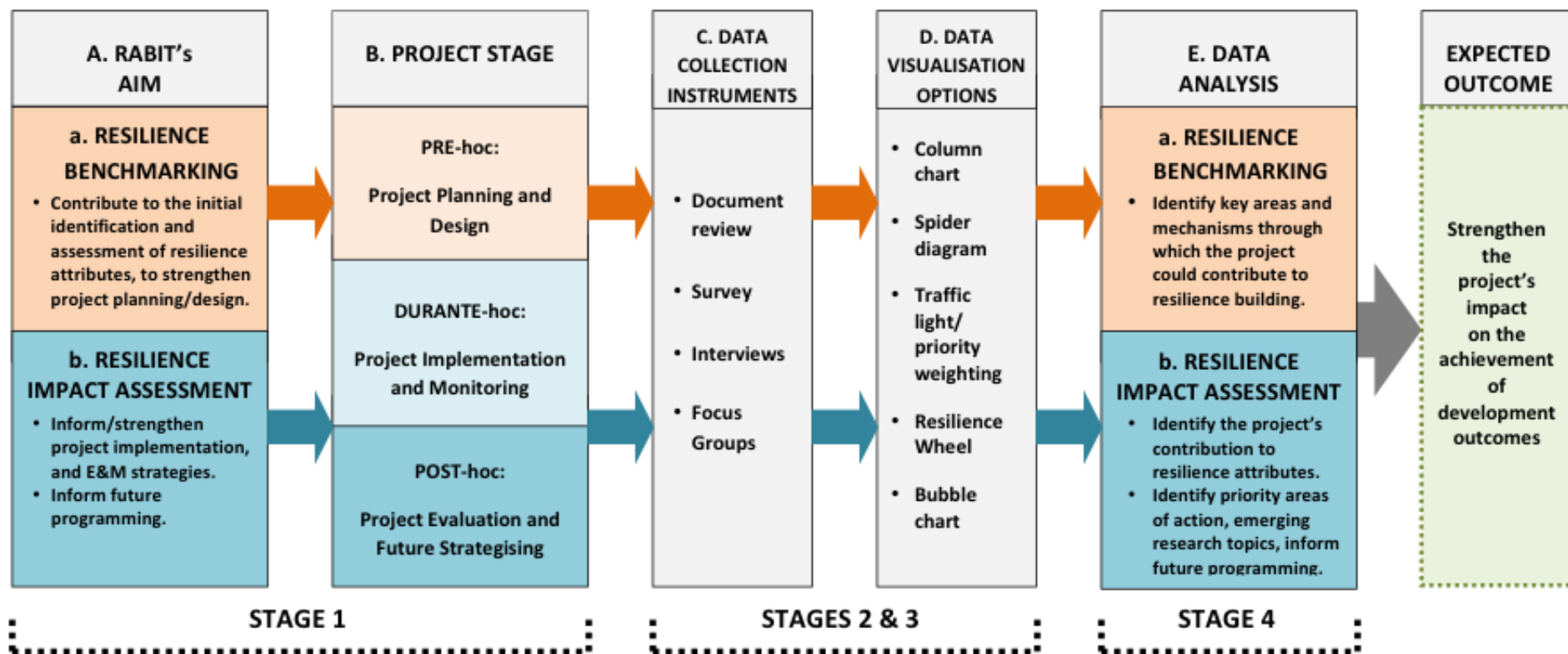
RABIT findings can help to **strengthen development interventions** as they:

- **Identify resilience strengths** that can be built upon as part of new or ongoing initiatives.
- Provide a 'snapshot' of issues that are perceived as **priority areas for action** at the local level.
- Give an indication of **weaknesses that need to be addressed** as part of efforts to build resilience.
- **Evaluate resilience impacts** of interventions and **plan future resilience actions**.

When to use RABIT?



How to use RABIT?



<http://www.niccd.org/resilience>

RABIT: Uganda Coffee Farmers

- 1) To benchmark the resilience of Mount Elgon coffee farmers to the impacts of climate change.**
- 2) To benchmark the role of ICTs in the resilience of Mount Elgon coffee farmers.**

How?

Mixed Methods

1. Surveys

2. Semi-Structured Interviews

3. Focus Groups

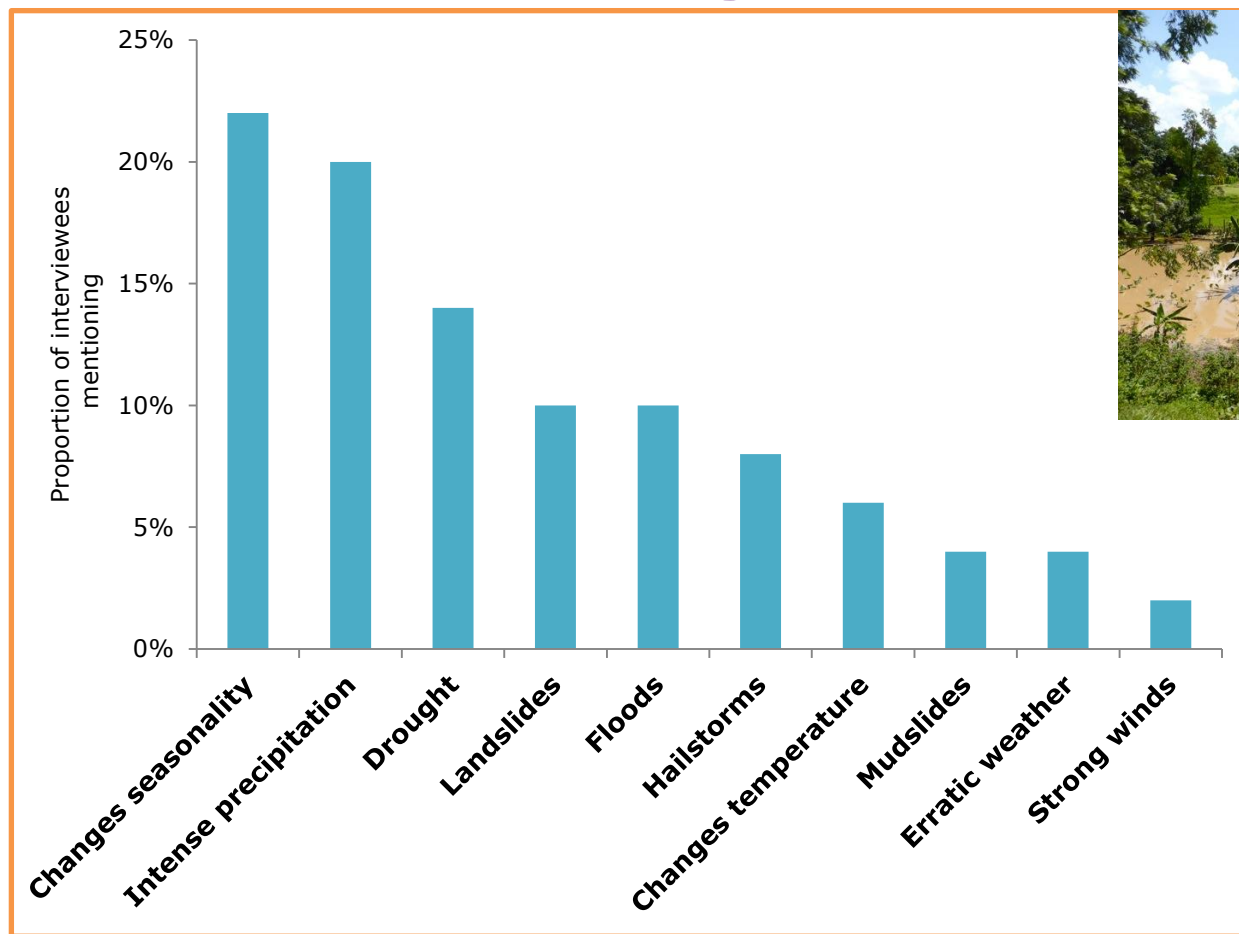


RABIT Findings

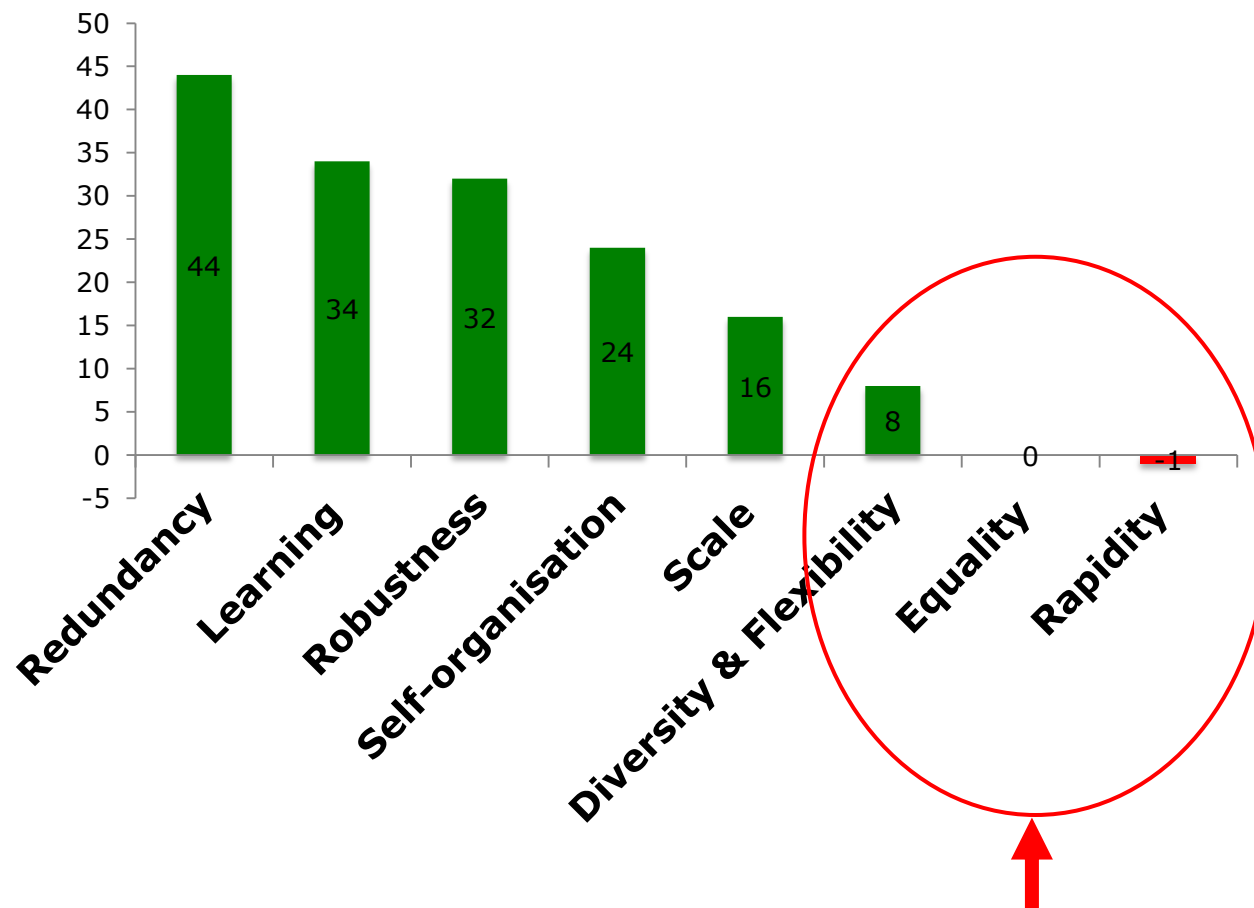
- A) Benchmarking climate change manifestations**
- B) Benchmarking resilience**
- C) Benchmarking ICTs' role in resilience**
- D) Future action priorities**

<http://www.niccd.org/resilience>

RABIT Findings A: *Climate Change Benchmark*



RABIT Findings B: *Resilience Benchmark*



PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

**Level of ICT Usage Towards
Resilience Attributes /
Priority of Action
(RABIT Survey Data)**

0-60% = **1 Low Usage/
High Priority**

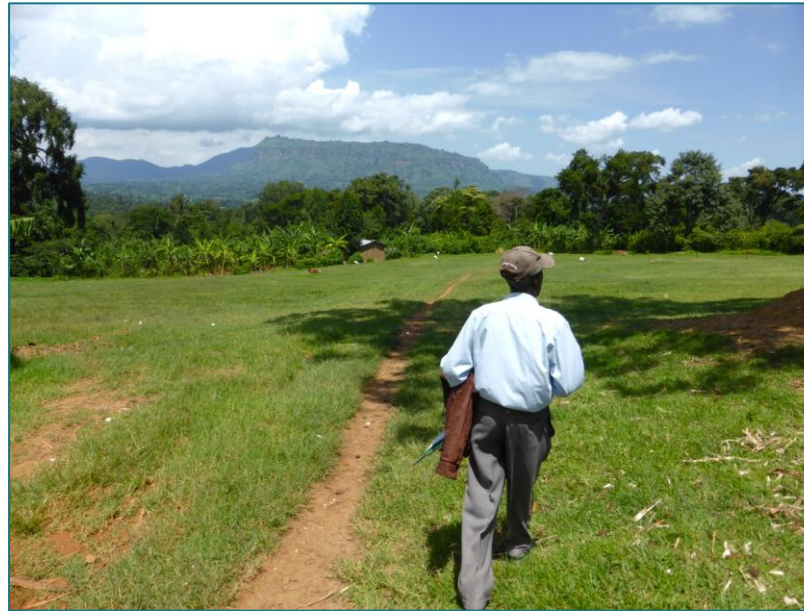
61-80% = **2 Medium Usage/
Medium Priority**

81-100% = **3 High Usage/
Low Priority**

RABIT Findings D: Future Action Priorities

Attribute	Resilience Marker	Intervention	Level of Involvement		
			C	L	N
RAPIDITY	Rapid resource mobilisation	Support a multi-stakeholder, integrated plan to strengthen the local disaster preparedness and the rapidity of local response mechanisms, building on existing social networks, and addressing local priorities.	X	X	X
	Rapid resource access	Ensure that there is an emergency action plan in place, including individual contact points within coffee farming community with clear/ established access to appropriate institutions.	X	X	
EQUALITY	Gap reduction	Ensure the integration of gender components, including the monitoring of gender-related resilience impacts, as part of ongoing and future development initiatives.	X	X	
	Inclusiveness	Design a campaign aimed at increasing women farmers' participation in community organisations, particularly in decision-making bodies (e.g. boards, committees).	X	X	
	Openness and Accountability	Improve the dissemination of information and knowledge related to projects and initiatives implemented at the local level (e.g. project reports, evaluations, case studies, lessons) in formats that are appropriate for local audiences.		X	X

Resilience/RABIT: Next Steps



- **Resilience: systemic, cross-cutting, long-term**
- **RABIT: operationalising resilience in development**
- **Further information (handbook, case studies):**
<http://www.niccd.org/resilience>



Further Reading

- Bahadur, A., Ibrahim, M. & Tanner, T. (2010) '**The Resilience Renaissance? Unpacking of Resilience for Tackling Climate Change and Disasters**'. Institute of Development Studies (IDS).
- Bene, C. (2014) '**Review Article: Resilience, Poverty and Development**', Journal of International Development, 26:598-623.
- Carpenter, S., Walker, B., Anderies, M. & Abel, N. (2001) '**From Metaphor to Measurement: Resilience of What to What?**', Ecosystems, 4:765-781.
- Gaillard, J. C. (2010) '**Vulnerability, Capacity and Resilience: Perspectives for Climate and Development Policy**', Journal of International Development, 22:218-232.
- Gunderson, L. H. (2000) '**Ecological Resilience in Theory and Application**', Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics, 31:425-439.
- Levine, S. (2014) '**Assessing Resilience: Why Quantification Misses the Point**'. Overseas Development Institute (ODI), London.
- Magis, K. (2009) '**Community Resilience: An Indicator of Social Sustainability**', Society and Natural Resources, 23:401-416.
- Ospina, A. V. & Heeks, R. (2010) '**Linking ICTs and Climate Change Adaptation: A Conceptual Framework for e-Resilience and e-Adaptation**'. Centre for Development Informatics, University of Manchester, UK.
- SRC (2012), '**What is Resilience? An Introduction to Social-ecological Research**', Stockholm Resilience Centre, Sweden.
- USAID (2013) '**Community Resilience: Conceptual Framework and Measurement Feed the Future Learning Agenda**', USAID, Washington DC.



Contact

**For further information about RABIT
contact:**

niccd.project@gmail.com