



How BRACED is building resilience on the ground

BRACED is a unique programme, aiming to build resilience locally yet at scale in highly vulnerable places. To understand how BRACED is building climate and disaster resilience, the BRACED Knowledge Manager collates and synthesises evidence on how resilience is being built on the ground.

After 12 months of implementation, examples of BRACED projects contributing to strengthened climate and disaster resilience are being seen through multiple pathways of change.

Insights from practice

Emerging evidence from BRACED suggests that:



Accessing and using climate and weather information is critical to build anticipatory, absorptive and adaptive capacities but in practice challenges remain when using and applying long-term information.



Despite operational challenges, achieving meaningful resilience outcomes requires working with a wide range of strategic partnerships that go beyond the expertise of those implementing the project.



Participatory approaches offer a starting point for enhancing individuals' resilience and addressing social exclusion, yet they are just a first step towards inclusive decision-making.



Building anticipatory and absorptive capacity to deal with climate risks is the foundation for achieving longer-term adaptive capacity in vulnerable communities.



Addressing and dealing with the socio-economic and political dimensions of resilience are equally important as building capacity to manage shocks and stresses.



A focus on building anticipatory, absorptive, and adaptive capacities in practice calls for 'good' development projects with some 'tweaks'.

Through a 3-year, £110 million UK Government-funded programme, BRACED supports



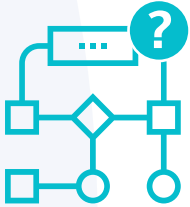
across 13 countries
in East Africa, the
Sahel and Asia



to help up to
5 million
people...



... to become more resilient to climate extremes and disasters



Questions for further reflection and debate

These findings seek to challenge BRACED and other resilience-building programmes and ask:

What do resilience-building projects actually look like?

Progress so far suggests that projects build resilience through good development with 'tweaks' that supports communities to deal with shocks and stresses. At the programme and organisational level, however, resilience-building approaches require working in different partnerships, using different kinds of information and being much more flexible in planning and spending. To some extent that may not change the content of the interventions at the household level, but it certainly changes the way those implementing the projects have to plan and deliver interventions.

How long does it take to strengthen resilience and build a solid evidence base?

Progress so far suggests that during the programme's relatively short timeframe, it is possible that in some cases only marginal changes in levels of resilience might be achieved. A three-year programme such as BRACED should not expect to find concrete lessons on 'what works best' to build resilience. Rather, it can generate guidance for good development that achieves resilience outcomes, and on promising ways of working to build anticipatory, absorptive and adaptive capacities.

BRACED will continue to unpack pathways to resilience, identifying how discrete activities are conducive to building resilience capacities, and to what extent interventions dealing with climatic shocks, stresses and the wider set of contextual factors do indeed impact on household and community resilience.

For more insights and lessons learned from monitoring BRACED, read the full reports:



Synthesis report: Routes to resilience: Insights from BRACED Year 1



Reflections paper: Routes to resilience: Lessons from monitoring BRACED

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