



Using Evidence to Guide Intervention Design for the Inclusive Resilience in Somalia (IRiS) Activity

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OVERVIEW OF IRIS AND THE EVIDENCE REVIEW EXERCISE



INCLUSIVE RESILIENCE IN SOMALIA (IRiS) PROGRAMME

- **Overview:** 5 Year Project funded by USAID and FCDO that started in July 2022 in the Geographical Focal Zone (GFZ) of Somalia (Mogadishu, Kismayo, Baidoa, Hargeisa , Jowhar, and Afgoye).
- **Consortium:** Consortium is lead by DT Global, with Mercy Corps, Save the Children, Somali Agriculture Technical Group and Itad.
- **Goal:** Accelerate economic development for marginalized groups in targeted areas of Somalia.
- **Strategy:** Increase individual, household, business, community, and system-wide resilience through rural and urban livelihood diversification and promoting inclusive economic market systems.

INCLUSIVE RESILIENCE IN SOMALIA (IRiS) PROGRAMME

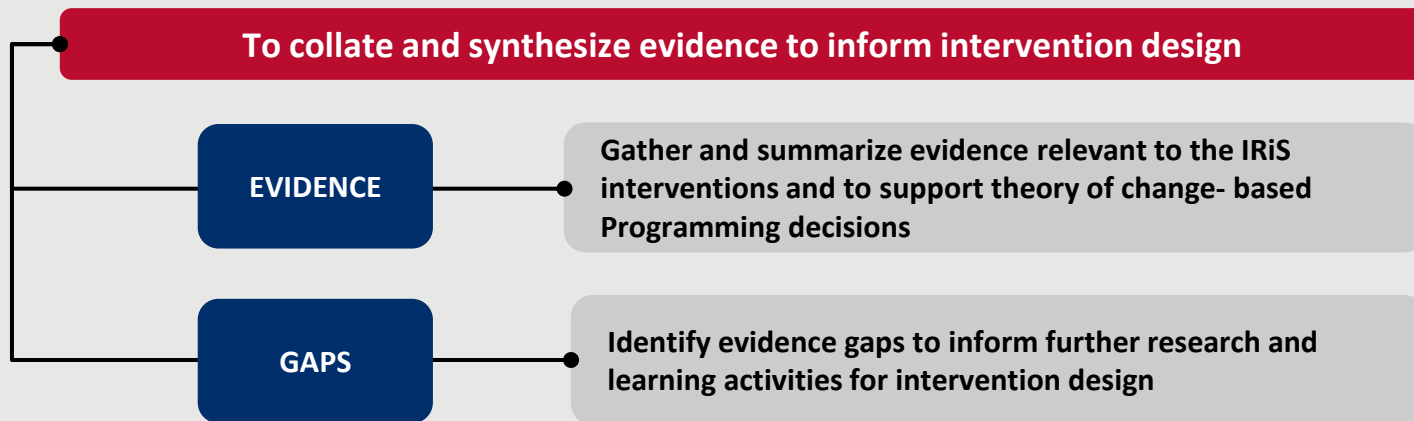
IRiS Original Programme Results Areas

1. Expanding climate-resilient agricultural systems in the crop, fishery, and livestock sectors.
2. Facilitating the integration of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and migrants into urban economies.
3. Promoting investments and remittances between rural and urban populations.
4. Supporting private sector expansion into both urban and rural low-income areas.
5. Strengthening economic agency of marginalized populations.
6. Supporting inclusive market systems through the improved functioning of government and business-to-business governance structures.

IRiS Revised Programme Results Areas

1. Expansion of climate-resilient agricultural systems in the core productive sectors in Somalia, including agriculture, fisheries, and livestock sectors.
2. Integration of urban poor and IDPs into urban economies by strengthening market-driven skills development and improving conditions for entrepreneurship within poor urban communities.
3. Promotion of private sector investments, service delivery, and strengthening economic agency of rural and urban populations.
4. Strengthening policy and regulatory environment while supporting financial institutions to expand their services to the marginalized population.

PURPOSE OF THE EVIDENCE REVIEW EXERCISE



Focused on Evidence at Four Results Levels

- **Intervention Level Results:** Results that show direct results of the intervention.
- **Systemic Change Results:** Results that show enduring changes in the targeted market system and with market actors due to the intervention.
- **Growth of Services:** Results that show the targeted market is functioning better for poor people due to the intervention.
- **Poverty Reduction:** Results that indicate a correlated reduction in poverty – incomes, resilience, food security, and wellbeing due to the intervention.

SCOPE AND SOURCES

139	Materials in total collected
138	Reports, 1 data set
131	Documents reviewed
42	Evidence summaries completed
10	External reviews
7	Impact evaluations
20	Internal reviews
4	Case studies
1	Project monitoring report

Select Projects Included in Report

Projects

Promoting Inclusive Markets in Somalia (PIMS) Final Report

USAID SOMALIA GROWTH, ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT & LIVELIHOODS



BRCiS Building Resilient Communities in Somalia

Pastoralist Areas Resilience Improvement and Market Expansion (PRIME) Project



Donor



EXAMPLE CASE STUDIES THAT INFORMED THE EVIDENCE REVIEW



Case Studies

Promoting Inclusive Markets in Somalia (PIMS)

- **Country:** Somalia
- **POP:** 2015-2019
- **Donor:** FCDO and DANIDA
- **Main Implementor:** DAI

Resilience through Wealth, Agriculture and Nutrition Project (RWANU)

- **Country:** Uganda
- **POP:** 2012-17
- **Donor:** USAID
- **Implementing Partner:** ACDI/VOCA

Capturing Value in Fisheries:

Promoting Inclusive Markets in Somalia (PIMS)

Achievements

- Decreased spoilage from 25% to 4% through improved handling.
- Increased productivity through investment in cold chain and new cooling technology.
- Increased monthly sales for lead firms from 13% to 590%.
- 67% of producers recorded an increase in income.

Strategy

- Focus on export markets and raising operating standards.
- Create an enabling environment for HACCP-certified seafood production in Somalia that met international market standards.
- Working through lead firms to influence actors throughout the supply chain.
- Promoting collaboration with government and international agencies to open markets.

Increasing Crop Productivity:

Resilience through Wealth, Agriculture and Nutrition Project (RWANU)

Achievements

- Nearly doubled crop production and increased exports from 6,100 metric tons to 23,750 metric tons.
- Developed a domestic market for high quality seeds.
- Established bulk grain marketing and block farming allowing farmers to hold produce longer and sell at advantageous market prices.

Strategy

- Gradual introduction of market mechanisms to build trust in seed quality and diversity.
- Worked with lead firms to spread information and conduct training rather than project staff.
- Reduced risk for market actors to enhance spread of innovations.
- Increased the availability of tillage services for smallholder farmers through linking farmers and tractor owners.

Full list of sources and Programmes included:

- DT Global TIS+ Documentation
- Growth, Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods (GEEL) Project Documentation
- Promoting Inclusive Markets in Somalia (PIMS) Programme Documentation
- Save The Children Labor market assessment
- BRICs documentation
- Somalia Agriculture Technical Group (SATG) assessments
- FCDO Project documentation and assessments
- World Bank Reports
- International Development and Research Centre reports
- Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) Cash+ agriculture intervention
- Resilience through Wealth Agriculture and Nutrition in Uganda (RWANU) project
- Mobile Money for the Poor Programme (MM4P)
- Kenya Youth Empowerment Project (KYEP)
- Joint Programme Youth Employment Somalia (JPYES)
- Élan RDC Programme
- Heritage Institute assessment of the livestock sector
- FAO project documentation
- ILO Analysis
- SomRep research and programme results
- Pastoralist Areas Resilience Improvement through Market Expansion (PRIME) project results
- USAID research and programme results
- SNV Opportunities for Youth Employment project
- UNHCR Somali refugee projects evaluation
- CReAM Mobile money research
- Urbanet Urban-Rural linkages in Kenya for increased resilience
- Strengthening Rural Youth Development through Enterprise (STRYDE) Programme
- Resilience population measurement (RPM) documents
- Opportunities for Youth Employment (OYE) Programme
- Improving Market Systems for Agriculture in Rwanda (IMSAR) Programme

USING THE EVIDENCE IN IRIS



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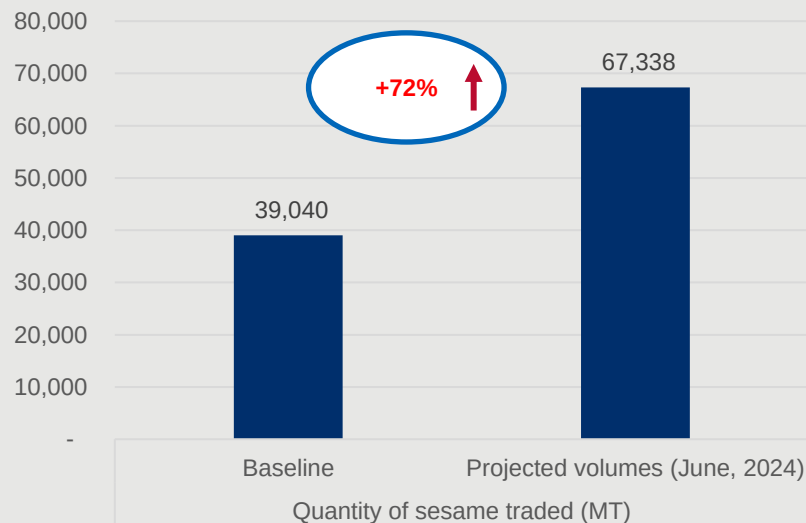
Agriculture

Village Based Rural Aggregation Centers of Sesame

Lessons from FCDO-CASA Programme in Uganda

- **IRiS** has partnered with six sesame companies to expand produce sourcing from marginalized areas
- Companies have recruited 120 Village Based Agents to deliver trainings to farmers and ensure quality of the produce.
- Companies have invested in **66 rural aggregation centers** managed by the VBAs who double up as super agents.
- **~8,000** smallholder sesame growers enabled to access better markets.

Expected outcomes: Goal is to expand access to markets and services to marginalized areas, increase sesame exports and enhance smallholder incomes.

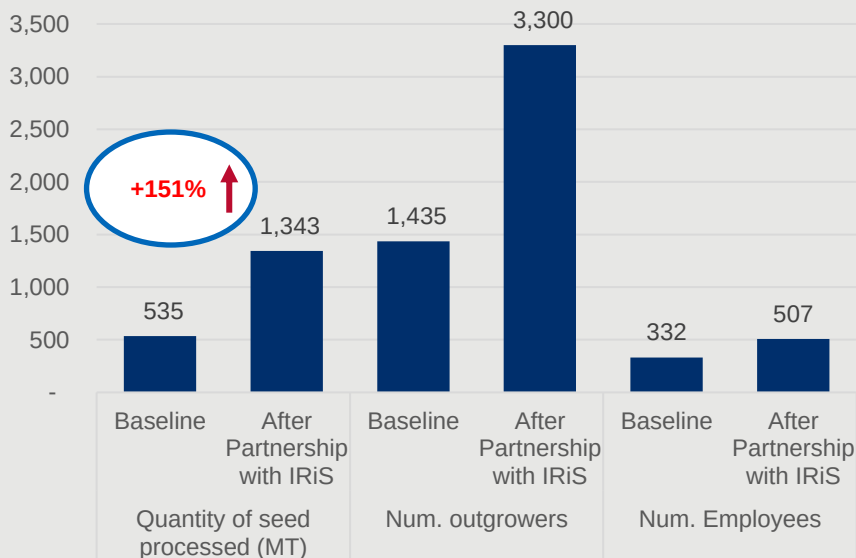


Agriculture

Private Sector-Company Seed Multiplication

Strengthening Seed Supply Chains

- Partnership **with five seed companies** to increase production of quality seeds through out-growers.
- Throughout, **in the past, these companies sell seeds through NGOs** who eventually distribute to the farmers. This model is unsustainable!
- IRiS has focused on strengthening commercial relationships between the companies, agro-dealers and producers through increased **marketing/promotions and companies offer price incentives to their network agro-dealers.**
- **3,300** marginalized households engaged as seed out growers.

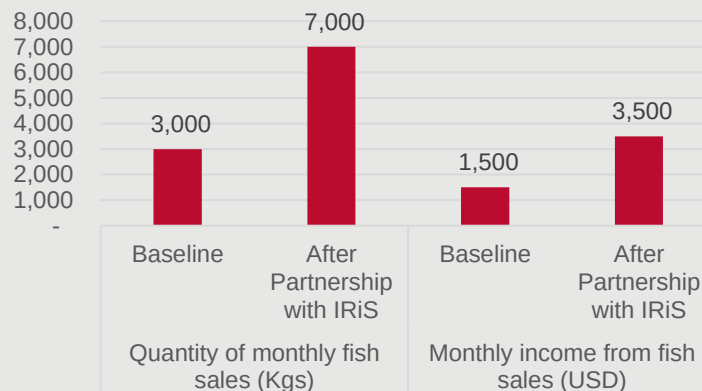


Fisheries

Export Markets & entrenching post harvest loss Management practices in the sector

Lessons from FCDO-PIMS Programme in Somalia

- **IRiS** works through **Somalia Sea Food Exporters Association** to explore new markets (Kenya, Ethiopia, DRC and SADC).
- Focus **on end market analysis and facilitating B2B** events that link local companies to international buyers.
- **Working through private sector companies to expand ice production** targeting fish cooperatives.
- Strengthen capacity of **Somalia Bureau of Standards to develop and institutionalize quality standards** in the sector.
- Strengthen capacity of the cooperatives, **enhance connectivity with buyers.**



Livestock

Private Sector led fodder production

Lessons from FCDO-PIMS Programme in Somalia

- Recurrent drought negatively affects livestock sector in Somalia. This is a key driver to migration, livestock mortality and loss of productive assets.
- Learning from PIMS, **IRiS plans to work through private sector company to increase fodder production** through out growers.
- Ultimate plan is to **expand fodder distribution outlets around milk collection centers**.
- Eventually, the **outlets will be converted into one stop shops where farmers can deliver milk, access veterinary services and procure fodder**.



Sudan grass fodder growing at a farm supported by IRiS Project.

LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS



KEY LESSONS TO BUILD ON



Below are key lessons learned from the programmes included in the evidence review:

- Successful projects used a **training of trainer** approach to promote **sustainability and expand service delivery in marginalised areas**.
- Related to the fishing industry, **harvest loss management** is likely to **maximize impact** as well as **developing commercial linkages between offtake companies, cooperatives and fisherfolks**.
- **Life skills Programmement paired with skills training appears to have a positive effect** on improving the chances of obtaining a job, especially among youth.
- Projects that achieved results related to systemic change worked at multiple nodes in the value chain simultaneously and recruited the private sector to implement activities to supplant those traditionally implemented by non-profits.
- There was substantial evidence for the **effectiveness of using private sector structures to deliver services**.
- Programmes successfully collaborated with the government to create an enabling environment to help fish producers gain access to international markets.

KEY LESSONS TO BUILD ON (Continued)



- Successful projects often **created incentives that drove change in market systems.**
- Some projects showed **potential for project-created structures, such as cooperatives or one stop shops**, to serve as significant job creators even after the project ended.
- In the seed sector, projects gradually introduced **market mechanisms to incentivise farmers to purchase better seeds**, (i.e. voucher system).
- There are opportunities in agricultural sectors to serve as **a facilitator between smallholder farmer communities** and larger processing businesses in a way that increases income for smallholder farmers while reducing supply costs for the larger businesses.
- Financial services projects demonstrated the potential for increasing financial services to rural communities while reducing risk for financial services providers.
- Creating **market linkages between urban and rural areas requires creative solutions** that other projects can build on. Example: An aggregation and collection system, supported by improved storage and road access.

COMMON CHARACTERISTICS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Projects Plan for Evolution

The projects that created systemic change started with **small changes** that beneficiaries were ready to accept, and **gradually introduced more market driven mechanisms**, that create incentives to sustainably change market systems and also have impact on individuals **beyond the target group**.

- **Evidence:** Resilience through Wealth, Agriculture and Nutrition Project (RWANU)

Achieving Results Requires Coordination and Strong Partners

Producing results both in Somalia and in the region requires **coordination with other Programmemes that are working on similar projects in sectors in the same country**.

- **Evidence:** USAID's Growth, Enterprise, Employment and Livelihoods (GEEL)

Embed Activities in the Market System

Delivering project interventions **through lead firms, community members, cooperatives**, and other entities **embedded in the system** seems to deliver more effective and sustainable results than direct delivery.

- **Evidence:** GEEL, RWANU, Pastoralist Areas Resilience Improvement through Market Expansion (PRIME), and Promoting Inclusive Markets in Somalia (PIMS)

COMMON CHARACTERISTICS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Expanding Access Via Technology

Projects that showed sustainable, systemic success around expanding access to markets and services relied on **digital linkages**.

➤ **Evidence:** AgriFin Programme and Mobile Money for the Poor Programme

The System Needs Cash and Equipment

Cash and equipment grants are **essential to overcoming Somalia's complex environmental disincentives to investment and market behavior change**.

➤ **Evidence:** Cash+ Programme

Targeting Women and Youth

Programmes that achieved results related to women and youth had **specific strategies for targeting those populations** and collected monitoring data that was disaggregated by gender and age.

➤ **Evidence:** Élan RDC, PIMS



Thank You

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