

Research Terms of Reference

Livelihood Resilience Assessment (LRA)

LKA2302

Sri Lanka

09/01/2023



1. Executive Summary

Country of intervention	Sri Lanka		
Type of Emergency	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural disaster	<input type="checkbox"/> Conflict	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>specify</i>)
Type of Crisis	<input type="checkbox"/> Sudden onset	<input type="checkbox"/> Slow onset	<input type="checkbox"/> Protracted
Mandating Body/ Agency	Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA)		
IMPACT Project Code	IMPACT: 08BBB CBO ACTED:08FOM		
Overall Research Timeframe (<i>from research design to final outputs / M&E</i>)	01/11/2023 to 31/05/2024		
Research Timeframe <i>Add planned deadlines (for first cycle if more than 1)</i>	1. Pilot/ training: 16/01/2024 - 19/01/2024	6. Preliminary presentation: n/a	
	2. Start collect data: 22/01/2024	7. Outputs sent for validation: 10/05/2024	
	3. Data collected: 15/03/2024	8. Outputs published: 31/05/2024	
	4. Data analysed: 19/04/2024	9. Final presentation: 07/06/2024	
	5. Data sent for validation: 19/04/2024		
Number of assessments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single assessment (one cycle)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi assessment (more than one cycle) <i>[Describe here the frequency of the cycle]</i>		
Humanitarian milestones <i>Specify what will the assessment inform and when</i> <i>e.g. The shelter cluster will use this data to draft its Revised Flash Appeal;</i>	Milestone	Deadline (can be tentative)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donor plan/strategy	07/06/2024	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Inter-cluster plan/strategy	_ _ / _ _ / _ _ _ _	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food Security and Livelihood Sector plan/strategy	_ _ / _ _ / _ _ _ _	
	<input type="checkbox"/> NGO platform plan/strategy	_ _ / _ _ / _ _ _ _	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify): ACTED activities	Q2 2024	
	Audience type	Dissemination	

Audience Type & Dissemination <i>Specify who will the assessment inform and how you will disseminate to inform the audience</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Strategic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Programmatic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational <input type="checkbox"/> [Other, Specify]		x General Product Mailing (e.g. mail to NGO consortium; HCT participants; Donors) X Cluster Mailing (FSL Working Group) and presentation of findings at next WG meeting x Presentation of findings (e.g. ACTED, Donor, external actors) x Website Dissemination (Relief Web & REACH Resource Centre)	
Stakeholder mapping <i>Has a detailed stakeholder mapping been conducted during research design to identify all actors that could contribute to and/or benefit from the research?</i>	X	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
General Objective	To provide an in-depth understanding of the impact of natural and anthropogenic hazards on agriculture/fishery livelihoods of the communities in the most at risk Grama Niladhari Divisions (GNDs) (selected based on the Area-Based Risk Assessment (ABRA) findings ¹ , to inform community-led Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and livelihood resilience building planning and activities.			
Specific Objective(s)	1: To understand direct and indirect impacts of main hazards identified through the ABRA on agriculture/fishery livelihoods of local communities and root causes of their vulnerabilities to those hazards in target GNDs 2: To identify existing risk mitigation and response capacities and barriers for building livelihood resilience in the targeted vulnerable communities to inform livelihood resilience strategies and actions implemented by ACTED and other stakeholders 3: To identify key solutions and potential measures proposed by local communities for DRR activities to inform ACTED activities (A2, A3 ²) and local DRR planning for vulnerable communities to better prepare for, respond to and recover from the current and future risks			
Research Questions	RQ for SO1: 1. What is the impact of natural and anthropogenic hazards on agriculture/fishery livelihoods? 1.1. What is the primary impact of hazards on agriculture/fishery livelihoods? 1.2. What is the secondary (cascading) impact of hazards on agriculture/fishery livelihoods? 1.3. What are the main factors contributing to the vulnerability of the community to natural and anthropogenic hazards? RQ for SO2: 2. What are the risk mitigation and response capacities of communities vulnerable to hazards?			

¹ Maps have been developed and Risk Index Calculation (RIC) has been done for all 08 DSDs, selection process of GNDs in 05 DSDs also have completed and remaining 03 DSDs are to be finalized in first week of January 2024.

² A2-Conduct ABRA in selected territories

A3-Conduct livelihood resilience assessment to understand existing resilience-building capacities and actions

	<p>2.1. What are the existing community-based risk mitigation and preparedness measures to recurrent hazards?</p> <p>2.2. What are the capacity gaps and barriers for incorporating risk mitigation measures and building livelihood resilience of farming/fishing communities?</p> <p>RQ for SO3:</p> <p>3. What are the key solutions and potential measures proposed by local communities for DRR and livelihood resilience building?</p> <p>3.1 What are the potential solutions for disaster risk reduction and resilience building measures in the community?</p> <p>3.2 Where and when would the identified solutions be most relevant to implement within the affected area?</p> <p>3.3 Who are the local and external actors who can support the community with DRR and resilience building efforts?</p>			
Geographic Coverage	<p>8 Divisional Secretariats (DS) within 4 districts in Sri Lanka</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kilinochchi district: Poonakari and Karachchi DS • Batticaloa district: Kiran and Wellawalai DS • Ampara district: Addalachchanai and Mahaoya DS • Vavuniya district: Vavuniya North and Vavuniya South DS 			
Secondary data sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socioeconomic Resilience in Sri Lanka: Natural Disaster Poverty and Wellbeing Impact Assessment, World Bank, 2019 • Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analysing Resilience, WFP • Community based disaster risk reduction in Sri Lanka: A compendium of good practices, OXFAM, 2013 • Community Resilience Framework Sri Lanka, Disaster Management Center, 2015 			
Population(s) <i>Select all that apply</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs in camp	<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs in informal sites
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs in host communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	IDPs [Other, Specify]
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in camp	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in informal sites
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees in host communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refugees [Other, Specify]
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Host communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	General population
Stratification <i>Select type(s) and enter number of strata</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Geographical 4: Districts Population size per strata is known? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Group 8: Divisional Secretariats Population size per strata is known? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	[Other Specify] #: Clusters of GNDs ³ Population size per strata is known? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Data collection tool(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Satellite remote sensing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Primary data collection: Semi-structured (Qualitative)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Secondary data collection		
	Sampling method		Data collection method	
Semi-structured data collection tool (s) # 1 <i>KIIs</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purposive		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KIIs (Target 88) ⁴ :	

³ A GND cluster is a group of two to four GNDs (average 3 GNDs) that will be categorized by Acted according to similar livelihood groups, capacities, risk levels and proximity based on ABRA findings.

⁴ Refer to the Annex 1: Total number of KIIs, FGDs, geographical distribution and respondents

<p><i>With government actors including the Government Agent (GA), Department of Planning; state officials from the Department of Agriculture (DoA), Department of Agrarian Development (DAD) and Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DFAR); and the District Disaster Management Centre (DDMC)</i></p>		<p>28 Government Agents and GNs (4 at district level and 3 per each cluster of GNs x 08)</p> <p>12 Officials- Department of Planning (4 at district and 8 at divisional level)</p> <p>12 Officials- Department of Agriculture officials (4 at district and 8 at divisional level)</p> <p>12 Officials- Department of Agrarian development (4 at district and 8 at divisional level)</p> <p>12 Officials- Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (4 at district and 8 at divisional level)</p> <p>12 Officials- Disaster Management Centre (4 at district level and 8 at divisional level)</p>
<p>Semi-structured data collection tool (s) # 2 <i>KIIs Community-based Organizations (CBO) and Non Governmental Organizations /International Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs/INGOs)</i></p>	<p>x Purposive</p>	<p>x KIIs (Target 80): 10 per each DSDs</p> <p>72 CBO representatives (3 per each cluster of GNs)- inclusive of 1 representative from the Village Disaster Committee, 1 from the Women Rural Development Society and 1 from Farmers or Fishermen organisations.</p> <p>4 representatives of NGOs (1 per district)</p> <p>4 representatives of INGOs (1 per district)</p>
<p>Semi-structured data collection tool (s) # 3 <i>Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with agriculture and fishery community members (including women, youth and ethnic / religious minorities)</i></p>	<p>x Purposive x Snowballing</p>	<p>x FGDs (Target 96⁵): 4 per 24 clusters of GNDs.</p> <p>Agriculture (broken down by gender and age group)- 4 x 12 cluster GNDs= 48</p> <p>Fisheries (broken down by gender and age group)- 4 x 12 cluster GNDs= 48</p> <p>Participants will be as much as possible inclusive of ethnic / religious minorities. Each FGD will comprise of 6-8 people.</p>

⁵ Refer to the Annex 2: Total number of FGDs

Data management platform(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IMPACT	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNHCR		
Expected output type(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Situation overview #: __	<input type="checkbox"/>	Report #: <input type="checkbox"/>	Profile #: __	
		Presentation (Preliminary findings) #:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Presentation (Final) #: 8 (1 per DSD)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Factsheet: 8 (one per each DSD)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Interactive dashboard #:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Webmap #: __	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public (available on REACH resource center and other humanitarian platforms)				
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted (bilateral dissemination only upon agreed dissemination list, no publication on REACH or other platforms)				
Visibility <i>Specify which logos should be on outputs</i>	AGORA					
	Donor: BHA					
	Coordination Framework: NA					
	Partners: ACTED, CEFE Net					

2. Rationale

2.1 Background

Following the onset of the economic crisis in 2022, national and local government resources and capacities have been strained⁶. Compounding crises, including the Covid-19 pandemic and the ongoing economic crisis, have largely consumed funds for investment in disaster risk management (DRM) actions while at the same time have contributed to increase hardships for communities⁷. These conditions have led to a significant economic downturn, hyperinflation, and job losses, leaving already vulnerable communities even more marginalized million people needed assistance backing⁸

Over 40% of the population, including much of the rural poor, in Sri Lanka is involved in the agriculture and fishery sectors due to the country's prime geographic location and climate⁹. However, with increasingly unpredictable weather and climatic variations due to the climate crisis, the island nation and its populations are hazard prone. 96% of disasters in Sri Lanka are caused by hazards such as droughts, floods, landslides, cyclones and coastal erosion¹⁰. The climate crisis increases the frequency and severity of these hazards.

As such, climate and disaster risks pose a considerable threat to key economic sectors of Sri Lanka and, as a result, to vulnerable populations. A global assessment on DRR indicates that disaster risks and impacts disproportionately affected the most vulnerable and marginalized due to underlying vulnerabilities¹¹. Within the Sri Lankan context, marginalized groups in rural areas are often solely dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, yet, owing to disasters, households suffer

⁶ World Bank. South Asia Economic Focus – Fall 2022. (u.d.) <https://www.worldbank.org/en/region/sar/publication/south-asia-economic-focus-fall2022>

⁷ Ministry of Defense State Ministry of National Security and Disaster Management Centre. National Disaster Management Plan 2022-2030 (2022). [National Disaster Management Plan 2022-2030 \(dmc.gov.lk\)](https://www.dmc.gov.lk)

⁸ UNOCHA . Business Guide: Humanitarian: eeds and Priorities Sri Lanka (UNOCHA 2022) and Priorities Sri Lanka (UNOCHA 2022) https://www.connectingbusiness.org/sites/default/files/downloads/publication/2022%20June%20Sri%20Lanka%20Business%20Guide.pdf?_gl=1*wgck4a*_ga*MTk1MjczMtKwNC4xNzAzMTk0MTkz*_ga_E60ZNX2F68*MTcwMzczOTk0Ny4yLjAuMTcwMzczOTk0Ny42MC4wLjA

⁹ Climate Change Secretariat, Ministry of Environment (2022). Third National Communication of Climate Change in Sri Lanka. Ministry of Environment <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Third%20National%20Communication%20of%20Sri%20Lanka.pdf>

¹⁰ *Ibid*

¹¹ UNDRR. Disaster Risk Reduction in Sri Lanka- Status Report 2019 (2019) https://www.unisdr.org/files/68230_10srilankadrmstatusreport.pdf

drastic loss of assets and financial capital, diminishing their capacities to recover.¹² Recurrent crises intensify this, leaving limited room for recovery and exacerbate existing vulnerabilities¹³.

The need for enhancing community resilience is reinforced by the lessons learnt from the Sri Lankan experience in DRR during past two decades. Even though communities have shown high resilience in the face of disasters traditionally, the efforts of the government and the civil society in community based DRR have in the past focused only on preparedness, immediate lifesaving responses, and recovery from disasters or crises¹⁴. Accordingly, targeted DRR efforts that address both climate and non-climate related hazards and their impacts, must be promoted to ensure their sustained resilience to external shocks and stresses, thus addressing chronic vulnerabilities. However, data on the specific vulnerabilities faced by communities at the local level as well as granular hazard and risk mapping is largely missing, which makes it difficult to understand the intersecting vulnerabilities and risks caused by different crisis.¹⁵

Within the framework of [AGORA](#) project, prior to the LRA, an ABRA was conducted. The ABRA findings helped to identify GNDs most at risk of natural hazards which were further clustered for LRA. It also helped to map spatial location of population and critical assets exposed to such hazards and identify key vulnerabilities of the community. The objective of the LRA will therefore be to develop a robust area-based understanding of vulnerabilities as well as external risks and stresses threatening communities and their livelihoods, based on which Acted and other partners will support marginalized communities identify and implement DRR solutions by bolstering resilience of their livelihoods while fostering sustainable synergies between local actors to scale up and replicate the locally identified solutions. The methodology puts local people and actors at the center by using territories as the basis for the planning and delivery of assistance and ensuring that the action is guided by local knowledge and supports local structures and capacities. The LRA is specifically focused on analysing community attitudes to the identified risks, response capacities and needs, existing and potential future losses from disasters, existing strategies to mitigate and withstands risks, barriers to cope disaster risks, food and market access during hazardous events, and existing and potential measures to strengthen livelihood resilience. To fill these information gaps, community members, as well as local actors including government officials and CBOs will be engaged in the LRA.

2.2 Intended impact

The research aims to inform DRR planning, and resilience building efforts undertaken by local community, CBOs, local authorities, and other relevant stakeholders. Assessment findings will support community-led DRR planning based on identified local solutions and priorities and inform livelihood resilience building activities across 4 districts in the north: Kilinochchi and Vavuniya districts, and in the east: Batticaloa and Ampara districts.

Livelihood Resilience Assessment will inform capacity building activities on DRR for the most at-risk communities through livelihood counselling session conducted by [CEFE Net](#). The research will also guide the community-led discussions to devise DRR solutions to address identified vulnerabilities and strengthen community resilience to disasters.

For international actors (INGOs, UN agencies), research products will serve as a detailed situational overview on hazards impact, resilience and capacities gaps in the target areas to prioritize and contextualize their activities accordingly.

For donors, the products may assist in shaping calls for the future proposals and guiding programmatic goals and identification of advocacy points.

3. Methodology

3.1 Methodology overview

¹² *Ibid*

¹³ UNOCHA . Business Guide: Humanitarian Needs and Priorities Sri Lanka. UNOCHA (2022) https://www.connectingbusiness.org/sites/default/files/downloads/publication/2022%20June%20Sri%20Lanka%20Business%20Guide.pdf?_gl=1*wgck4a*_ga*MTk1MjczMtKwNC4xNzAzMTk0MTkz*_ga_E60ZNX2F68*MTcwMzczOTk0Ny4yLjAuMTcwMzczOTk0Ny42MC4wLjA.

¹⁴ Disaster Management Centre. Community Resilience Framework Sri Lanka. Ministry of Disaster Management (2015) https://www.preventionweb.net/files/54485_communityresiliencfswl.pdf

¹⁵ UNDRR. Disaster Risk Reduction in Sri Lanka- Status Report 2019 (2019) https://www.unisdr.org/files/68230_10srilankadmstatusreport.pdf

The LRA is a qualitative survey of agriculture/fishery livelihood resilience across 24 identified territories (clusters of contiguous GNDs) which are most at risk to diverse hazards. Building on findings from the ABRA, the assessment will provide a layered understanding as to how agriculture/fishery livelihoods of the communities are directly and indirectly impacted by hazards. The assessment will measure communities' existing capacities to withstand and overcome disaster impacts and provide insight into the driving factors that contribute to existing chronic vulnerabilities.

The methodology for this assessment is qualitative and data collection will rely on semi-structured interviews with Key Informants and Focus Group Discussions. Where possible, linkages with the collection of system-wide indicators have been promoted, with the inclusion of some indicators from WFP Resilience Capacity Score¹⁶.

For this assessment, secondary data will be collected from online sources (see 3.3 Secondary data review below), and primary qualitative data will be collected from four types of stakeholder groups: 1. Divisional and GND level (admin 3 and 4) Government actors, 2. Community members running agricultural activities for their livelihoods (including women, youth and ethnic / religious minorities), 3. Community members running fisheries activities for their livelihoods (including women, youth and ethnic / religious minorities) 4. CBOs, National and International Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO/INGOs).

IMPACT will recruit, train and deploy 32 gender-balanced enumerators (16 teams), recruited locally from the 24 clusters of GNDs, taking into account language and cultural diversities of local communities in target areas. The enumerators are expected to conduct a minimum of 168 KIIs, in 24 GND clusters (72 GNDs), with divisional and GN level government actors (Local Authorities (LAs), CBOs, and NGOs/INGOs) to gather an in-depth understanding of the impact of natural and anthropogenic hazards on agriculture/fishery households' livelihoods in the most at risk GNs in the Kilinochchi and Vavuniya districts in the Northern Province and Batticaloa and Ampara districts in the Eastern Province. In addition, information will be further deepened and corroborated through 96 FGDs with representatives from community members running agricultural and fisheries activities for their livelihoods, including women, youth, and ethnic/religious minorities, who are vulnerable to hazards. Further, these representatives will be divided into two age categories (between 18 and 30 years and above 30 years for both males and females), especially with the view that youth bring different perspectives on the impacts of hazards, DRR, mitigation, resilience, etc.

A semi-structured questionnaire will be used to guide both KIIs and the FGDs. The conversations will be recorded when consent is given by all KII and FGD participants. During the discussion, the interviewer will take notes to facilitate the discussion and record the information when no consent is given for recording. After completion, the interviewer and notetaker will fill a debrief form to assess how the discussion went and will compile information gathered during KIIs and FGDs on tablets within 72 hours following the interview/discussion. The information will be sent to the Assessment Specialist and the Climate and Resilience Assessment Officer for data cleaning and analysis.

Key definitions:

- **Local/national actor:** an organisation, group, or institution, with a permanent presence in Sri Lanka, which aims to respond to the needs of communities in the targeted districts in Sri Lanka
- **External actor:** an organisation, group, or institution, which does not have a permanent presence in Sri Lanka, and aims to respond to the crisis-related needs of the population.
- **Resilience:** the ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate, adapt to, transform and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions through risk management¹⁷.

¹⁶ WFP. Qualitative Question Guide for the Resilience Capacity Score (u.d.) <https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000140226/download/>

¹⁷ https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/untaskteam_undf/thinkpieces/3_disaster_risk_resilience.pdf

- **Livelihood:** according to the FAO, term, livelihood refers to the capabilities, assets (both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living¹⁸
- **Community:** term "community" refers to the locus where all members of a group of people having some form of collective claim over a territory and recognizing some form of collective governance can be given the opportunity to influence decisions in matters of public choice that affect their livelihood¹⁹
- **Hazards:** a "phenomenon or human activity that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation" concerns as hazards. In terms of its origin, there are three categories: natural, anthropogenic or socio natural. Natural hazards are linked to natural occurrences and processes. Anthropogenic hazards are caused mostly by human activity; therefore, it is known as human-induced hazards. This definition excludes, occurrence of armed conflicts, instances of social unrest or tension that are governed by national and international humanitarian law. Socio-natural hazards are associated with a combination of natural and anthropogenic factors, including environmental degradation and climate change²⁰
- **Disaster:** term disaster refers to "a serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability and capacity, leading to one or more of the following: human, material, economic and environmental losses and impacts"²¹
- **Disaster Risk:** disaster risk comprises the "potential loss of life, injury, or destroyed or damaged assets which could occur to a system, society or a community in a specific period of time' and aim of DRR is preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk"²²
- **Mitigation:** The adverse impacts of hazards, in particular natural hazards, often cannot be prevented fully, but their scale or severity can be substantially lessened by various strategies and actions Mitigation measures include engineering techniques and hazard-resistant construction as well as improved environmental and social policies and public awareness²³
- **DRR:** "DRR is aimed at preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk, all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and therefore to the achievement of sustainable development"
- **Vulnerability:** "the conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets or systems to the impacts of hazards"²⁴.

3.2 Population of interest

The LRA will be conducted in 24 clusters of continuous GNDs, which will be selected by local authorities and Acted on the basis of the findings of the ABRA, using the predefined selection criteria, including the impact of hazards, level of access to the Division in a disaster situation, population density, presence of DRR-related projects implemented by other stakeholders, existence of CBOs or GN Disaster Management Community based organizations. The 24 clusters of contiguous GNDs will be located in the eight selected Divisional Secretary's Divisions (DS): 1) Poonakari and 2) Karachchi (Kilinochchi district); 3) Kiran and 4) Wellawalai (Batticaloa district); 5) Addalachchanai and 6) Mahaoya (Ampara district); 7) Vavuniya North and 8) Vavuniya South (Vavuniya district) where the ABRA is conducted.

The population of interest in this study is composed by: 1) community members whose livelihoods are most at risk of hazards (mainly farming and fishing), including marginalized groups, 2) DSD and GND-level local officials (i.e. local representatives of Ministries of Agriculture, Fishery, Irrigation, Disaster Management, etc.); and, 3) representatives of CBOs and non-governmental organizations.

¹⁸ FAO. Institutions for rural development- Rapid guides for missions Analysing local institutions and livelihoods. (2005) <https://www.fao.org/3/a0273e/a0273e.pdf>

¹⁹ *Ibid.*: p. 15

²⁰ UNDRR. Disaster Risk Reduction (u.d.) <https://www.undrr.org/terminology/disaster>

²¹ *Ibid*

²² UNDRR. Disaster Risk Reduction (u.d.) [Disaster risk | UNDRR](#)

²³ UNDRR. Disaster Risk Reduction (u.d.) [Mitigation | UNDRR](#)

²⁴ UNDRR. Disaster Risk Reduction (u.d.) [Vulnerability | UNDRR](#)

The unit of measurement will be at community level for both FGDs and for KIIs.

3.3 Secondary data review

Secondary data review (SDR) has been carried out with the aim of identifying information gaps, framing the research questions and the overall methodology, including indicators and variables. Secondary data sources analysing the impacts of natural and anthropogenic hazards on agriculture/fishery livelihoods and the use of coping strategies will be used to complement and corroborate the primary data collection. At the analysis and output production stages, these secondary sources will be contrasted with findings from primary data collection and used for triangulation purposes.

Table 1: Main secondary sources consulted for this assessment

Secondary source	Purpose of source
Socio-economic Resilience in Sri Lanka: Natural Disaster Poverty and Wellbeing Impact Assessment, World Bank, 2019 https://elibrary.worldbank.org/doi/abs/10.1596/1813-9450-9015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gap analysis - Assessment methodology
Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analysing Resilience, WFP https://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/newsroom/wfp269385.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contextual understanding (Northern and the Eastern Provinces-study Provinces) - Gap analysis
Community based disaster risk reduction in Sri Lanka: A compendium of good practices, OXFAM, 2013 https://policy-practice.oxfam.org/resources/community-based-disaster-risk-reduction-in-sri-lanka-a-compendium-of-good-pract-301546/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contextual understanding (Northern and the Eastern Provinces-study Provinces)
Community Resilience Framework Sri Lanka, Disaster Management Center, 2015 https://www.preventionweb.net/files/54485_communityresiliencfws1.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment methodology
The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Data Collection: Collecting Qualitative Data with Children https://www.torrossa.com/en/resources/an/5018779	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inform appropriateness of methodology
Climate Risk Country Profile - World Bank 2021 https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/15507-WB_Sri%20Lanka%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contextual understanding (Sri Lanka)
Multidimensional Vulnerabilities: Impact on People of Sri Lanka- UNDP 2023.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contextual understanding (Ampara, Batticaloa)

https://www.undp.org/srilanka/publications/understanding-multidimensional-vulnerabilities-impact-people-sri-lanka	and Vavuniya- study districts) - Identify the information gap
The Impact of Disasters on agriculture and food security- FAO 2023 https://www.fao.org/3/cc7900en/cc7900en.pdf	- Contextual understanding (Global) - verify/triangulate primary data and findings
National Adaptation Plan for Climate Change impacts in Sri Lanka 2016-2025- Sri Lankan https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/srl186914.pdf	- Identify information gaps - assessment methodology and ensure it is appropriate
Qualitative Question Guide for the Resilience Capacity Score (RCS)- WFP docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000140226/download/	- Questionnaire design
Disaster Risk Reduction in Sri Lanka- UNDRR 2019 https://www.unisdr.org/files/68230_10srilankadrmstatusreport.pdf	- Inform appropriateness of methodology
National Disaster Management Plan 2022-2030- Sri Lankan Ministry of Defence https://www.dmc.gov.lk/images/pdfs/NDMP_DRAFT_VERSION_17-03-2022.pdf	- Contextual understanding (Sri Lanka) - Identify the information gap
Climate Vulnerability Risk Assessment in Northern and Eastern Provinces and capacity development of local governments on assessing climate change vulnerability- UNDP 2023 https://www.undp.org/srilanka/climate-and-environment	- Understanding of the context (selected provinces)
Institutions for rural development- Rapid guides for missions Analysing local institutions and livelihoods. FAO 2005 https://www.fao.org/3/a0273e/a0273e.pdf	- Define key concepts

3.4 Primary Data Collection

Primary data collection will be conducted by a team of gender-balanced enumerators under the direct supervision of field officers. A group of 32 enumerators equally representing all selected DSDs will be recruited for a period of maximum two months between January and March 2024. Enumerators will receive training on data collection methods and fieldwork by the Assessment Specialist, the Climate and Resilience Assessment Officer and field officers. After the training, 2

enumerators will be grouped into one group and such groups will take the responsibility of collecting primary data in each DS division (accordingly, 16 enumerator groups in total). Primary data will be collected from government officials at the GND level, CBO representatives and community members whose livelihoods are at risk of hazards. Enumerators will be provided with tablets to upload collected data adhering to IMPACT and [IMPACT's Standard Operating Procedures on Personally Identifiable Information \(PII\)](#), which streamlines protection principles and measures throughout the implementation of IMPACT activities. Specific protection and gender mainstreaming measures are taken through each stage of IMPACT's research cycle. At research design stage, gender and safeguarding issues are always taken into consideration, to make sure they are clearly identified and mitigated. Specific risks are then internally tracked by IMPACT's Country Coordinators and Senior Management Team, and regularly discussed in the framework of the field-HQ communication channels.

Sample type	Sampling method	Sample size	Research tools	Geographical scope
KIIs with local officials (Government actors including the GA, Department of Planning; state officials from the DoA, DAD DFAR and DDMC)	Purposive	88 ²⁵	Semi-structured interviews using a questionnaire which will be developed based on secondary literature and preliminary interactions with district and divisional level officials, and observations.	District- (4x6=24) DSDs- (8x5=40) Cluster GNDs (3 per cluster, x 8 = 24 clusters in total) (11 x 08 DSDs= 88)
KIIs with representatives of CBOs, NNGOs and INGOs	Purposive	80	Semi-structured interviews based on a questionnaire based on secondary literature and preliminary interactions with representatives of rural community-based organisations, local and international NGOs and humanitarian organization.	CBOs- 72 (03 x 24 Cluster of GNDs) NGOs- 4 (district level) INGOs- 4 (district level)
FGDs with community members (Community members running agricultural and fisheries activities for their livelihoods)	Purposive and Snowballing	96	Open-ended discussion based on a semi-structured questionnaire that is developed based on secondary literature and will be adjusted	Cluster of GNDs (4 per cluster, 24 clusters in total)

²⁵ Refer to the Annex no. 1

(including women, youth and ethnic / religious minorities)			<p>following preliminary interactions with district, divisional and Grama Niladhari level officials.</p> <p>Participant observation: enumerators and field officers will closely observe community members' social environment to get a better contextual understanding of their livelihoods and their vulnerability to hazards.</p>	
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Data triangulation: Enumerators will be asked to fill in a debrief form for each key informant interview and focus group discussion and if there are any significant issues or concerns, it will be thoroughly investigated. There will be weekly meetings with enumerators to follow up the data collection closely and maintain regular communication between enumerators, field officers and the assessment officer and assessment specialist. In these weekly meetings, issues related to data collection in the previous week and potential corrective actions, as well as matters pertaining to data collection in the coming week are discussed.

3.5 Data Processing & Analysis

Qualitative sessions (KIIs and FGDs) will be voice recorded with the consent of participants to facilitate recollection of specific points following the sessions. Note-takers will be provided thorough guidance on best practices for recording the main points of discussion and documenting agreement and disagreement and will make detailed notes throughout each session. All data will be collected in local languages (Sinhala and Tamil) and will be translated into English by a professional translator. The assessment specialist will be responsible for ensuring the quality of translations by crosschecking translated documents randomly.

In line with IMPACT Data Cleaning Guidelines, submitted data will be checked manually daily for inconsistencies by an Assessment Specialist and field officers to ensure data quality and to send follow-ups to enumerators (and field officers) where needed.

The Climate and Resilience Assessment Officer and the Assessment Specialist will group the data logically, code them into content categories and analyse them following the content analysis²⁶ to compile key findings and results for each of the community. This assessment will collect data using FIIs and FGDs aiming at in-depth information. Whereas, Content

²⁶ Content Analysis supports researchers to identify the patterns and trends of selected phenomena. At the same time, quantifying the presence, meanings, and relationships of certain words. Mugenda, O. M. and Mugenda, A. G.. Research Methods: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches. Acts Press, (Nairobi 1999) (p.174).

Analysis, an in-depth qualitative analysis method as well as analytical method for substantial set of data²⁷ will be used for data analysis.

To do so, they will track and cross-compare key discussion topics across KIIs and FGDs within each area using a Data Saturation and Analysis Grid (DSAG) in Excel according to the [IMPACT Qualitative Data Analysis Guidelines](#). English translated versions of local language transcripts will serve as the base documents for analysis, with Assessment Officers consulting field officers (and enumerators if necessary) on preliminary coding schemes for viability and bias checking. The main discussion points identified in transcripts will be added to the grid and organized by topics while tracking the number of times each point is mentioned in each qualitative session.

All data cleaning and analysis will be reviewed by the IMPACT HQ Research Design and Data (RDD) Unit before the output production.

3.6 Limitations

In some cases, it might be difficult to find relevant community members and CBO leaders for KIIs and FGDs depending on lack of contact with them and their lack of availability. It may have an impact on data quality as we may miss certain contextual perspectives on hazards, DRR, and livelihood resilience. To minimize such information loss, we will consult GN level officials and already established contacts with CBOs in those selected GNDs.

Extreme weather conditions during the data collection period could have an impact on data collection as it may cause interruptions in accessing some areas (for instance, ground access to Kiran DS division is often blocked by heavy rainfalls). In such circumstances, data collection in other areas will be prioritized. Time constraints and the number of enumerators would also be limiting factors. As per the original proposal, ten enumerators were allocated for four months to conduct the primary data collection. However, given the need to speed up the process, amendments to the original proposal will be made to have 32 enumerators for a 2-month period.

4. Key ethical considerations and related risks

The proposed research design meets / does not meet the following criteria:

<i>The proposed research design...</i>	Yes/ No	<i>Details if no (including mitigation)</i>
... Has been coordinated with relevant stakeholders to avoid unnecessary duplication of data collection efforts?	Yes	
... Respects respondents, their rights and dignity (<i>specifically by: seeking informed consent, designing length of survey/ discussion while being considerate of participants' time, ensuring accurate reporting of information provided</i>)?	Yes	
... Does not expose data collectors to any risks as a direct result of participation in data collection?	Yes	
... Does not expose respondents / their communities to any risks as a direct result of participation in data collection?	Yes	

²⁷ ACTED Impact Research Design Guidelines. (2023) [IMPACT Research Design Guidelines FINAL_CLEAN_V1.2_2023-06.docx \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

... Does not involve collecting information on specific topics which may be stressful and/ or re-traumatising for research participants (both respondents and data collectors)?	Yes	
... Does not involve data collection with minors i.e. anyone less than 18 years old?	Yes	
... Does not involve data collection with other vulnerable groups e.g. persons with disabilities, victims/ survivors of protection incidents, etc.?	No	This assessment is focused on communities who are vulnerable to hazards. Among them, there could be vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, female-headed households and victims of war. Based on the principle of 'do no harm', enumerator trainings will be designed and conducted to make them aware and sensitive about specific considerations that should consider when conducting KIs or FGDs with those vulnerable individuals and groups.
... Follows IMPACT SOPs for management of personally identifiable information ?	Yes	

5. Roles and responsibilities

Task Description	Responsible	Accountable	Consulted	Informed
<i>Research design</i>	Research Specialist	IMPACT Country Coordinator	IMPACT HQ Research Department, AGORA Team, Acted Team	Acted Country Director, BHA, CEFE Net, local actors
<i>Supervising data collection</i>	Assessment Specialist, Field Officers	Climate and Resilience Assessment Officer	IMPACT HQ Research Department, Acted, local actors	IMPACT Country Coordinator, local actors
<i>Data processing (checking, cleaning)</i>	Assessment Specialist	Climate and Resilience Assessment Officer	IMPACT HQ Research Department	IMPACT Country Coordinator
<i>Data analysis</i>	Research Officer	Climate and Resilience		IMPACT Country

		Assessment Officer	IMPACT HQ Research Department	Coordinator, Acted
<i>Output production</i>	Climate and Resilience Assessment Officer	IMPACT Country Coordinator	IMPACT HQ Research Department	Acted
<i>Dissemination</i>	Climate and Resilience Assessment Officer	IMPACT Country Coordinator	IMPACT HQ Research Department, Communication Department	BHA, ACTED, CEFE Net, local actors, local community, local and national NGOs, INGOs, CBOs, UN agencies.
<i>Monitoring & Evaluation</i>	Acted MEAL	Country Coordinator	HQ Research Department	BHA, IMPACT HQ MEAL Officer, Acted MEAL Manager
<i>Lessons learned</i>	Climate and Resilience Assessment Officer	AGORA IMPACT and Acted Team	HQ Research Department	IMPACT Country Coordinator, Acted Country Director, BHA, HQ Communication department

6. Data Analysis Plan

Please refer to the DAP (Data Analysis Plan) through the following link.

[AGORA LKA DAP LRA January 2024](#)

7. Monitoring & Evaluation Plan

IMPACT Objective	External M&E Indicator	Internal M&E Indicator	Focal point	Tool	Will indicator be tracked?
Humanitarian stakeholders are accessing IMPACT products	Number of humanitarian organisations accessing IMPACT services/products Number of individuals accessing IMPACT services/products	# of downloads of x product from Resource Centre	Country request to HQ	User log	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
		# of downloads of x product from Relief Web	Country request to HQ		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
		# of downloads of x product from Country level platforms	Country team		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
		# of page clicks on x product from REACH global newsletter	Country request to HQ		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
		# of page clicks on x product from country newsletter, sendingBlue, bit.ly	Country team		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
		# of visits to x webmap/x dashboard	Country request to HQ		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
IMPACT activities contribute to better program implementation and coordination of the humanitarian response	Number of humanitarian organisations utilizing IMPACT services/products	# references in HPC documents (HNO, SRP, Flash appeals, Cluster/sector strategies)	Country team	Reference_log	<i>[List here relevant HPC-documents to be monitored: E.g. Iraq HNO 2018, Iraq Flash Appeal Mosul, Shelter Cluster strategy]</i>
		# references in single agency documents			<i>[List here relevant agency-documents to be monitored: E.g. UNHCR Country Strategy, UNICEF WASH Response Strategy]</i>
Humanitarian stakeholders are using IMPACT products	Humanitarian actors use IMPACT evidence/products as a basis for decision making, aid planning and delivery	Perceived relevance of IMPACT country-programs	Country team	Usage Feedback and Usage Survey template	<i>[Outline here the usage survey to be implemented for this research cycle E.g. Usage survey to be conducted in November 2017, following the release of x outputs, targeting at least 10 partners]</i>
		Perceived usefulness and influence of IMPACT outputs			
		Recommendations to strengthen IMPACT programs			
	Number of humanitarian				

	documents (HNO, HRP, cluster/agency strategic plans, etc.) directly informed by IMPACT products	Perceived capacity of IMPACT staff Perceived quality of outputs/programs Recommendations to strengthen IMPACT programs			<i>E.g. Usage survey to be conducted at the end of the research cycle related to all outputs, targeting at least 20 partners]</i>
Humanitarian stakeholders are engaged in IMPACT programs throughout the research cycle	Number and/or percentage of humanitarian organizations directly contributing to IMPACT programs (<i>providing resources, participating to presentations, etc.</i>)	# of organisations providing resources (i.e. Staff, vehicles, meeting space, budget, etc.) for activity implementation # of organisations/clusters inputting in research design and joint analysis # of organisations/clusters attending briefings on findings;	Country team	Engagement log	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Annexes: Annex 2: Total number of FGDs

Community	Male - 18-30 years old	Male- > 30 years	Female- 18-30 years old	Female- > 30 years	Total clusters	Total
Agriculture	1	1	1	1	12	48
Fisheries	1	1	1	1	12	48
Total	-	-	-	-	-	96