



DRC DANISH
REFUGEE
COUNCIL

LEARNING BRIEF

Leveraging the Self-Reliance Index (SRI) for Livelihoods Impact Assessment

INTRODUCTION

The Pathways to Prosperity (P2P) and ABLI- G II projects implemented in Kakuma and Dadaab, through the support from Danida, GrundFos Foundation and the European Union respectively, aim to enhance economic opportunities and climate resilience for refugees and host communities. To effectively measure household progress towards self-reliance.

The **Self-Reliance Index (SRI)** was adopted as a standardized scored tool that captures both quantitative and qualitative data across key livelihood domains.



This is a skills training for self reliance tailoring training class session at DRC Dagahaley Vocational Training Center.

WHY SRI?

- Holistic measurement: SRI offers a broad view of household self-reliance by assessing multiple dimensions of well-being and economic stability.
- Alignment with project indicators: The SRI tool offers flexibility for customization, allowing the integration of project-specific and EcRecEC indicators. This makes it easier to monitor how specific interventions contribute to broader project impact and outcomes.
- Global standardization: Supported by Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative (RSRI) with training, certification, and regular updates to ensure consistency and quality.
- Comparability: Enables cross-context learning and benchmarking across different operational areas, such as between Kakuma and Dadaab.

IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Engagement & Planning

- Technical consultations with RSRI and DRC Global MEAL.
- Online training and certification for project staff.
- Tool revision to align with P2P/ABLI G2 and ECREC frameworks indicators.

Sampling & Preparation

- Identifying Sampling frame
- Identification of targeted beneficiaries and replacement strategy and mobilization plans.
- Engagement of consortium partners, community mobilizers and community incentive workers

Training & Data Collection

- Onboard qualified enumerators from the region and train (virtual with RSRI team+ physical with project staff).
- Average of 6 Household interviews a day per enumerator
- 6 days data collection

Analysis & Learning

- RSRI-led analysis and interpretation support.
- Internal capacity building required

KEY LEARNINGS

- Consideration of time zone difference with RSRI team and available resources during preparations for timely implementations
- Sparse populations and long travel distances required significant planning and mobilization efforts to reach targeted households.
- There is a need for an automated sampling frame to streamline future exercises.
- Adequate budgeting is essential to cover training, tracing and recurring data collection activities throughout the project lifecycle.
- Strengthening internal capacity for data analysis is critical for timely interpretation and use of SRI findings.
- Hosting SRI Tool on DRC's Server: Limited access to the RSRI server and delays in tool updates affected efficiency, limited real-time data control and timely analysis
- Implementing a proactive replacement strategy proved successful. When some beneficiaries couldn't be reached, replacing them with others from beneficiary list with slightly increased sample size, ensured data collection remained on track.
- Community mobilizers and VSLA leaders were key in locating beneficiaries' households

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE REPLICATION

- Allocate adequate time for tool review and feedback incorporation.
- Ensure consistent and early engagement with consortium partners and community stakeholders to support effective planning and timely implementation
- Ensure enumerators speak local languages to avoid misinterpretation.
- Automate sampling frame and consider internal server hosting of the SRI data.
- Build internal analytical capacity to reduce reliance on external support.
- Be adaptive and flexible to respond to field realities and logistical challenges.

This is implemented through DRC Economic Recovery Sector projects

PATHWAYS TO PROSPERITY (P2P)



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