

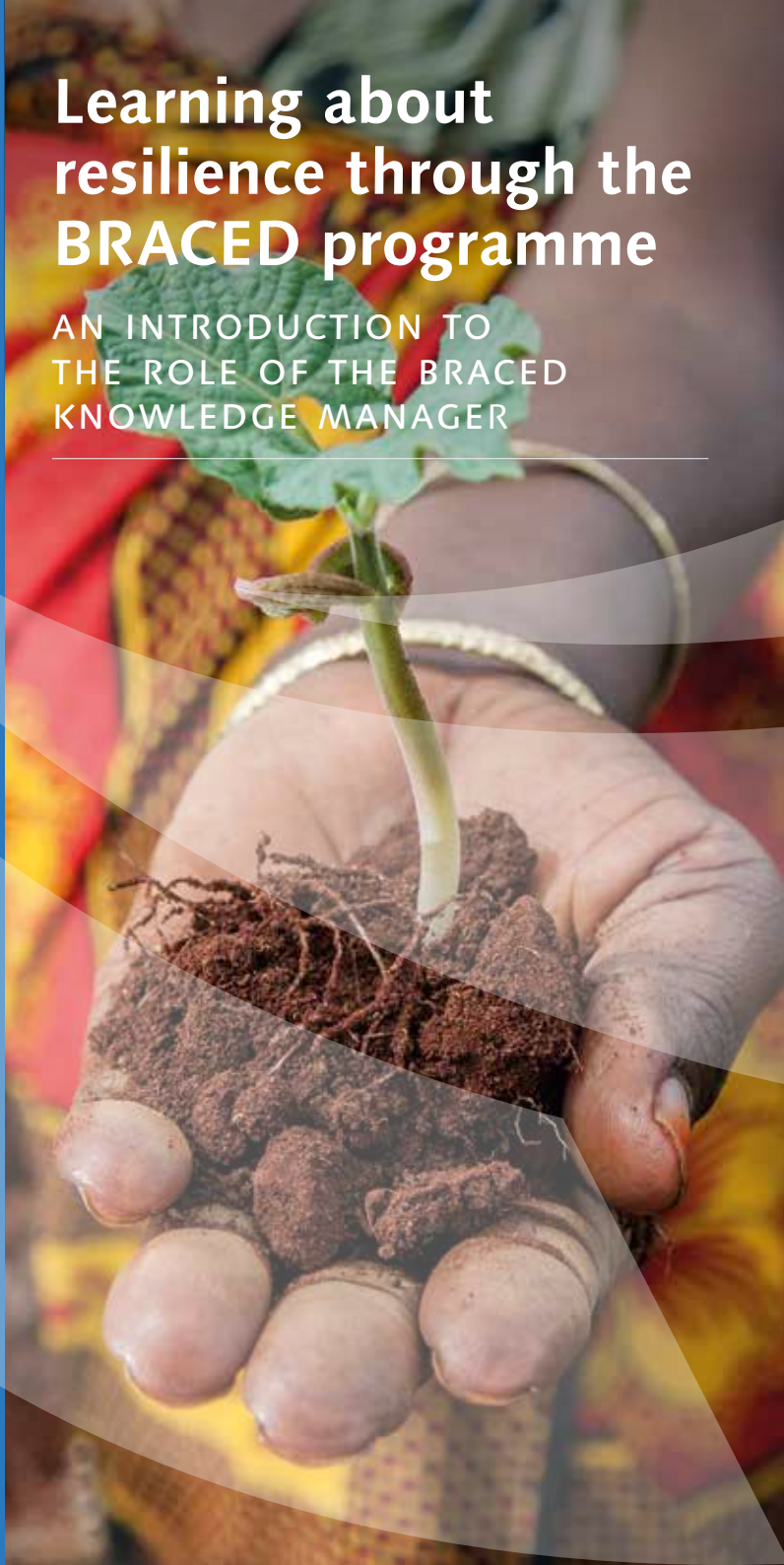
📍 [www.braced.org](http://www.braced.org)

✉ [braced@resilienceexchange.net](mailto:braced@resilienceexchange.net)

🐦 [@bebraced](https://twitter.com/bebraced)

# Learning about resilience through the BRACED programme

AN INTRODUCTION TO  
THE ROLE OF THE BRACED  
KNOWLEDGE MANAGER



## ABOUT BRACED

Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) is a major programme funded by the UK government, which aims to improve the lives of up to five million vulnerable people facing climate extremes and disasters. Over four years, this will be achieved through the efforts of 15 major consortia operating across the Sahel, East Africa and Asia.

An independent Knowledge Manager generates evidence and promotes learning across the programme, to understand what works and what doesn't in terms of strengthening resilience.

The Knowledge Manager seeks to effect sustained and transformational change within and beyond the countries in which BRACED operates.



## OUR WORK

The Knowledge Manager generates evidence and learning on resilience from across the BRACED programme to inform and influence the policies and programmes of practitioners, governments and funding agencies.

## MONITORING AND MEASURING RESILIENCE

## SUPPORTING GOOD PRACTICE

Measuring resilience to climate extremes is complex and often poorly understood in resilience programming. To understand the results of the BRACED programme, we have produced **the 3As framework** for assessing resilience outcomes as **adaptive, absorptive and anticipatory capacities**. Our work is leading the way globally in measuring and monitoring resilience.



Extreme events are crucial moments for reflection and learning and can provide a testing ground for what works to build resilience during an actual climate shock or stress. **Reality of Resilience** is our pilot initiative whereby journalists, climate scientists and regional experts join forces to generate, collect and disseminate evidence on what works to build resilience during and after extreme events.

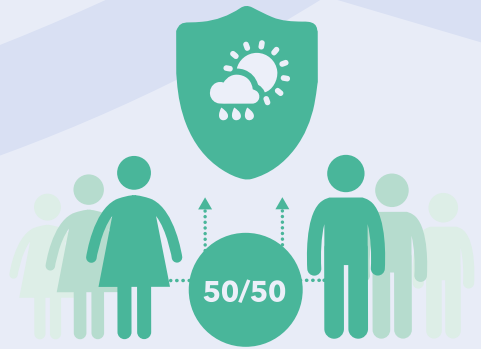
The 15 BRACED projects are connected through a unique **monitoring and evaluation framework**. Technical advice and guidance is provided to each of the projects to support production of evidence about what works and what doesn't in strengthening resilience. This provides a rich source of information from which to generate programme wide learning.



## COMMUNICATING WITH A BROAD AUDIENCE

## INFORMING FUTURE PROGRAMMING

We lead **action-research** projects to explore the lessons learnt and overcome challenges faced by implementers and beneficiaries of BRACED interventions. The products are co-produced to encourage quick integration of findings into ongoing practice. Our research areas include financial services, climate-resilient agricultural innovations and the role of NGOs as climate information intermediaries.



Gender equality is a major theme of the BRACED programme – recognising its importance as an essential pillar for achieving climate and disaster resilience. Our work includes strengthening project **strategies for building gender equality** and developing a better understanding of the modalities of tackling gender-based violence as part of resilience building.

A **Climate and Weather Help Desk** bridges the divide between climate science and resilience practice. Through the help desk BRACED projects are connected to decision-relevant forecasts and supported to access, interpret, and apply climate information.

**Journalists** from our network visit project sites to tell independent stories about BRACED projects in a way that's accessible to everyone. We also lead training for journalists in BRACED countries, helping to increase the quality and accuracy of reporting on climate and disaster resilience.





# TESTING DELIVERY AND FINANCING MECHANISMS

## BUILDING RESILIENT SYSTEMS

We take a broad approach to knowledge building, from the use of 'serious games' to explore behavioural change to delivering **rigorous mixed-method evaluations**. In Ethiopia, Niger and Myanmar, we are using a quasi-experimental approach, working with three of the BRACED projects to understand the causal links between their interventions and the resilience of communities to climate extremes and disasters.



Our work seeks to **shed light on the complexities of building resilience** in some of the world's most challenging contexts. We explore how specific mechanisms, such as social protection, can support communities in recovering from the impacts of climate shocks. We generate evidence on the factors that contribute to enhancing the resilience of governance and markets systems. This work includes investigating the resilience of livestock markets and their supporting institutional arrangements.

**Understanding delivery and funding approaches** beyond the BRACED programme offers additional insight into building resilience. We are evaluating the contribution of the Adaptive Social Protection Programme to system-level changes. We are also looking at the effectiveness of DFID's flexible humanitarian funding mechanism in the Sahel.



# OUR LEARNING TOOLS AND APPROACHES

The BRACED Knowledge Manager offers facilitated spaces for learning and dialogue between partners within and beyond the programme.

Weekly **webinars** and online **discussion fora** bring together a range of experts to discuss the links between resilience and topics as diverse as climate and weather information, gender and social equality, governance and conflict, and social protection. More information can be found at [www.braced.org](http://www.braced.org).

Everyone who is part of the 15 BRACED consortia has access to an internal online 'Learning Lounge' to provide a safe space for sharing ideas and challenges.

The Knowledge Manager convenes public events in line with policy moments at a global and national level, as well as thematic events at major conferences. We also host high-level dialogues with key decision-makers in BRACED countries.

## **A focus on peer-to-peer learning**

"Writeshops" convened by the Knowledge Manager help NGO staff, researchers, technical experts, policy makers and others document their experiences and learning from the implementation of BRACED projects. Over several days, participants draft, discuss and edit content, integrating each other's knowledge into the final Resilience Intel documents, which are representative of a rich process of co-creation.

## **Annual learning event**

Once a year, individuals from the 108 organisations involved in the delivery of BRACED gather to share ideas, reflect critically on experiences and connect with technical experts and decision-makers outside the programme. A highly interactive format is adopted to encourage rich knowledge exchange and learning, utilising innovative methods such as forum theatre and learning clinics.

# HOW WE WORK

The BRACED Knowledge Manager brings together world leading expertise in **country and regional engagement** (Asian Disaster Preparedness Center and ENDA Energie), **research** (Overseas Development Institute and the University of Nairobi), **monitoring and evaluation** (Itad), **learning and uptake** (Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre), and **communications and dissemination** (Thomson Reuters Foundation).

We serve as a centre for developing and disseminating knowledge and evidence about what works to build resilience to climate extremes and disasters. To do this, we pursue **three routes to change**:

1

**Building knowledge and evidence on what works to strengthen resilience**

2

**Getting knowledge and evidence into use**

3

**Amplifying knowledge and evidence beyond our spheres of direct influence**

#### Image credits

(in order of appearance):

Georgina Smith/CIAT

Nyani Quarmyne

Neil Palmer/CIAT

Olivier Girard/CIFOR

Malani Morzaria/EU/ECHO

This material has been funded by UK aid from the UK government; however the views expressed do not necessarily reflect the UK government's official policies.



Learn more about our work and connect with the BRACED community at [braced.org](https://braced.org).