



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

FAO AND THE ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY FRAMEWORK

THE SELF-EVALUATION AND HOLISTIC ASSESSMENT OF CLIMATE RESILIENCE OF FARMERS AND PASTORALISTS (SHARP) TOOL AND THE ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY FRAMEWORK (ETF)

SHARP assesses smallholders' resilience to climate change and is useful for monitoring and evaluating climate change adaptation in agriculture sectors

SHARP AND THE ETF IN A NUTSHELL

The Paris Agreement, in particular through the ETF, requires countries to report on their efforts to adapt to climate change. The Self-evaluation and Holistic Assessment of climate Resilience of farmers and Pastoralists (SHARP) tool makes it possible to collect information directly from smallholders on how they are adapting to climate change and building their climate resilience. It helps ensure that smallholders' priorities for action are included in countries' climate-related reports.

Type of tool



Survey

Type of
data required



Quantitative
and qualitative

Duration



Full implementation:
1–3 months
Survey: 1–2.5 hours

Expertise/
special training



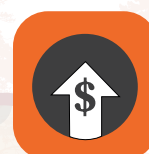
Yes

Technology/
equipment required



Android /Tablet

Cost



USD 10 000–USD 30 000
(subject to sample size)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The 2016 Paris Agreement (PA)'s Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) requires United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) parties to report on how well their efforts to adapt to climate change have worked; and what support they have received or require. This information is captured in Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs).

The SHARP tool, designed to assess smallholders' resilience to climate change, provides valuable information that countries can use to fulfill their reporting requirements.

WHAT IS SHARP?

SHARP is a tool for assessing rural households' resilience to climate change. It does this by collecting information from smallholders across the entire farm system. It captures the priorities and concerns of farmers, pastoralists and agro-pastoralists to ultimately enhance their resilience.

SHARP assesses resilience using a modular approach. Each module describes different aspects of farm systems that predict resilience. The concept of resilience is divided into three categories: exposure to a hazard, sensitivity to its effects, and the adaptive capacity to deal with shocks. SHARP is used through an offline application for tablets that makes it easier and faster to collect accurate information in the field.

HOW IS SHARP IMPLEMENTED IN THE FIELD?

There are two main phases involved in implementing SHARP. In phase one, the survey is customized to suit the context and the objectives of the assessment. Then, a survey is conducted in the field to assess households' resilience to climate change. In phase two, the data gathered in the survey are aggregated and analyzed to identify climate resilience and adaptive capacity gaps at different levels and scales.

In an optional third phase, this information can be integrated with high-level climate data or geospatial information to help decision makers design actions and policies to build the climate resilience of rural households and agro-ecosystems.



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SHARP training in Namibe, Angola. SHARP helps capture smallholders' climate related concerns.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN OUTPUTS OF SHARP?

- ◆ Georeferenced digital qualitative and quantitative data and information.
- ◆ Holistic and comprehensive information on farm systems such as types of crops grown; environmental, social and economic issues; adaptation and mitigation practices; and gender dynamics.
- ◆ Information on smallholders' access to, and management of, natural and other productive resources.
- ◆ A ranking of farmers' priorities for climate change adaptation and mitigation actions.
- ◆ Quantitative resilience and adaptive scores for each aspect of the farm system assessed. These can be aggregated by different geographical scales (e.g. community, district, province) or attributes (e.g. sex of the household head, type of production system, land use type, ethnicity).

- ◆ A ranking of priority actions for reinforcing resilience.

HOW CAN SHARP BE USED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY FRAMEWORK?

SHARP can provide adaptation-related information for ETF areas: B (impacts, risks and vulnerabilities) by providing information on the context and identifying sources of exposure and vulnerability's (adaptation priorities and barriers) by profiling past and current practices used by farmers to cope and adapt with climate variability and change and F (monitoring and evaluation of adaptation actions and processes) by tracking changes in outputs and outcomes in time. It can also be used by countries reporting on monitoring

and evaluation (M&E) efforts for adaptation at the sectoral level.

HOW DOES SHARP INFORM AREAS OF THE BIENNIAL TRANSPARENCY REPORTS ON ADAPTATION?

- ◆ By providing data on the three components of resilience: exposure to a hazard, sensitivity to its effects and adaptive capacity.
- ◆ By providing quantitative resilience and adaptive capacity scores which take the socio-economic, environmental and agronomic dimensions of farm systems into consideration.
- ◆ By synthesizing information on appropriate and timely climate adaptation measures.

TABLE 1

ASPECTS OF THE ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY FRAMEWORK WHICH SHARP ADDRESSES

ETF Aspect	Specific areas of ETF aspect	What SHARP can do	Specific SHARP output to use
B. Impacts, risks and vulnerabilities.	b) Observed and potential impacts of climate change, including sectoral, economic, social and/or environmental vulnerabilities.	Provide information on resilience levels and key vulnerabilities of farmers and communities in a holistic way.	Lists of climate (and non-climate) shocks experienced by farmers, including the main impacts and coping strategies. Resilience scores for each aspect of the farm system assessed.
C. Adaptation priorities and barriers.	a) Domestic priorities and progress towards these priorities.	Identify current actions and priorities for strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity in rural communities.	Compound resilience scores, including adaptive capacity, for each aspect of the farm system assessed. Information on access to, and management of, productive resources -including both socio-economic and natural resources.
F. Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation actions and processes.	a) Achievements, impacts, resilience, review, effectiveness and results; b) approaches and systems used, and their outputs; c) assessment of and indicators for: i) how adaptation increased resilience and reduced impacts; ii) when adaptation is not sufficient to avert impacts; iii) how effective implemented adaptation measures are.	Provide information on household resilience and the results of adaptation actions. Assess the progress of climate resilience-building strategies and programs.	Quantitative resilience scores for each aspect of the farm system assessed. Objective and subjective ranking of priorities for building resilience.

WE WANT TO USE SHARP – WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

- ◆ Download the tablet-based application from www.fao.org/in-action/sharp
- ◆ Customize the questionnaire to the context and M&E needs.
- ◆ If necessary, request technical backstopping by writing to ETF@fao.org when customizing SHARP for the first time and interpreting results.
- ◆ Organize training on SHARP for relevant stakeholders, including enumerators.
- ◆ Organize survey in the field.
- ◆ Request further training through the FAO CBIT-AFOLU project and SCALA program (see contacts below) for ETF reporting needs.
- ◆ Collect and analyze data; and report results.

USING SHARP IN SOUTH SUDAN

In 2015, SHARP was used as part of the Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) programme in South Sudan. It was used for both monitoring and evaluation, thus both baseline and end line assessments of farmers' climate resilience were conducted. These assessments identified the main resource management practices that farmers were currently using, not only to make a living, but also to adapt and cope with climate change.

The baseline assessment helped identify climate resilience hotspots and informed the design of programme interventions. End line assessment results were combined with qualitative interviews and participatory focus group discussions to give a more complete picture of the programme's impact. These discussions captured the beneficiaries' experiences and highlighted gaps that had not been addressed by the programme. SHARP proved to be an effective tool for monitoring and evaluating how well climate change interventions had improved smallholders' resilience levels and adaptive capacity.



Using the SHARP app on a tablet to capture data in Juba, South Sudan.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

- ▶ SHARP website
<http://www.fao.org/in-action/sharp/en/>
- ▶ FAO CBIT-AFOLU project
<http://www.fao.org/climate-change/our-work/what-we-do/transparency/en/>
ETF@FAO.ORG
- ▶ SCALA program
<http://www.fao.org/climate-change/programmes-and-projects/detail/en/c/1273079/>
FAO-NAPs@fao.org