



**Platform
for Agricultural
Risk Management**

Annual Report 2020





Platform
for Agricultural
Risk Management

Managing risks to improve farmers' livelihoods

Foreword

The year 2020 was a critical time **for agricultural risk management (ARM)**. Despite its dramatic impact, one of the greatest risks of our time, the COVID-19 pandemic, is also an opportunity to reshape the way risks are managed. It highlights the need for integrated risk management in daily farming business in a systematic manner. The case for more sustainable food systems must integrate a holistic agricultural risk management approach customized to each context and local needs. Policy dialogue, technical support, development of local capacities and knowledge-sharing initiatives are crucial for developing countries' governments and local partners, including academia, private sector and NGOs, to progressively own their ARM processes. This will make them better prepared to deal with macro level risk, such as COVID-19, as well as the existing risks it exacerbates, hence strengthening food and nutrition security as well as rural livelihoods.

In light of the pandemic's knock-on effects, the PARM team has taken immediate steps to find alternative ways to ensure the programme's business continuity by adapting its activities and timelines, and to ensure that the programme remains responsive to the emerging needs and risk factors of its partners in the medium-long term.

In particular, feedback from in-country partners, service providers, contractors and regional staff indicate that the pandemic has **increased awareness of the importance of risk management** for vulnerable rural people across agricultural value chains and food systems. Stakeholders are expressing more interest to manage and transfer risk, and in the innovative delivery models that PARM and INSURED have been designed to explore.

In this context, the main achievements of 2020 include:

- A Mobilization of valuable supplementary contribution to the programme's financing:** PARM has advanced its second operational phase called Horizon 2 (2019-2024), leveraging generous funds from the European Commission, Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and IFAD itself; INSURED has received top-up financing from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). Thanks to the funds allocated by PARM's SC members the financial gap to complete the overall program was reduced to 18% from 24% at the beginning of the year.
- B Official launch of the PARM Horizon 2 to provide technical assistance to partner Governments to assess and identify affordable, effective ARM tools and strategies** in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Niger, Senegal. These include both the identification of new ARM tools for investment (i.e in Burkina Faso) and the design of new fundable projects based on the outcomes generated during phase 1 of PARM (i.e. warehouse receipt systems, contract farming, remittances, access to information and capacity development on ARM strategies).
- C PARM strengthened its country presence through remotely managed operations,** through the recruitment of new Senior Country Liaison Officers, government-nominated Focal Points, as well as the new role of Lead Learning facilitator to facilitate country-level coordination. The strong support received by IFAD Country Offices (Ethiopia, Burkina Faso) also confirmed the strategic role that can be played by IFAD in supporting PARM country operations. In Ethiopia for instance, all this finally contributed to enhance the communication with the host Government and PARM SC local offices. In Burkina Faso the IFAD ICO connected PARM to ongoing IFAD projects, such as Neer Tamba, and has created a strong interest in the Government, which has been translated into a robust and interactive relationship with the MAAH (Ministry of Agriculture).
- D Realignment of PARM risk assessment methodology to value chains and development of a practical toolkit to perform studies at the country level.** This is represented by the necessity to incorporate new elements into PARM's holistic approach methodology to assess, prioritize and manage agricultural risks considering: i) specific value chain risk and related actors exposure; ii) standardized participatory approach for the identification, prioritization and preparation of value chain risk management strategy and action plan iii) the integration of different risks, including biological hazards at different level;. This work is under finalization and it has been realized in partnership with the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and Bioversity.

E ARM learning cycles designed to create greater ownership and sustainability of capacity development (CD) activities. Driven by jointly defined objectives between PARM and the government, CD interventions use local capacities to create impact beyond the national level. Experts and learners join an iterative learning process to share and gain knowledge on ARM concepts and practices. The new CD country strategy was aligned to the other activities in the PARM Country Process ac(including studies, missions, meetings, events) under the umbrella of KM activities in order to optimize the time and available resources, and proposing an integrated package of services to PARM's clients.

F Launch of joint learning cycles and e-learning on ARM. In response to COVID-19 and related restrictions the Platform piloted a virtual capacity development cycle in Ethiopia to promote local ownership and sustainability, helping foster an ARM mindset among local stakeholders. In addition, PARM added to its e-learning catalogue both English and French e-learning modules on ARM in co-publishing agreement with the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**. The modules are available for free and downloadable from the FAO Learning Center and to IFAD Staff in the Learning Management System (LMS).

G Stimulate a Community of Practice (CoP) and collect new knowledge on the correlation of COVID-19 and agricultural risks while continuing the sharing and exchange on ARM. The Forum for Agricultural Risk Management (FARM-D) Community of Practice has been officially launched in April 2020. Managed by PARM, FARM-D promotes ARM-related knowledge exchange among more than 200 members, 7,000 email recipients, over 2,000 knowledge resources and daily updates on webinars, publications, blogs, stories, interviews and news on ARM. Thanks to FARM-D 5 joint Live Talks have been organized together with the Smallholder and Agri-SME Finance and Investment Network (SAFIN), the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Social Finance Programme and the InsuResilience Global Partnership (IGP). These webinars resulted in the publication of insightful reports and contributed to strengthening the synergies with various initiatives.

H Leverage and stimulate new global partnerships on ARM: PARM has gained further visibility and influence in the global agenda dialogue through its global network of public and private partners. These include the **World Bank's** regional ASA WA Food System Resilience Facility (FSRF), the InsuResilience **Global Partnership**, with a particular focus on Gender and Climate Risk Financing and Insurance.

Finally, internal consultations and the guidance received by the SC members, brought to the conclusion that while PARM's mandate should essentially remain the same and maintain a clear focus on reduction and mitigation of agricultural risks through long-term interventions, it will need to reorient some of its work to align it with the ongoing and future new crisis. The linkage to the new occurred emergency generated by global risks such as COVID-19 (and related reorientations of Government and strategic partners' priorities and funding mechanisms), should be taken into account as part of the technical support provided by the Platform at regional and country level. At global level, PARM will continue to bring forward the ARM agenda through regular reporting to and engagement with the G20 and G7, as well as the worldwide community through FARM-D. At this level, PARM will further promote the importance of integrating ARM into policies, design and long-term investments to mitigate and transfer the possible socio-economic effects of risks in agriculture.

Massimo Giovanola
Lead Technical Specialist, PARM



BOX 1

Covid-19 impacts and PARM response

The year 2020 was a critical time for agricultural risk management (ARM). Despite its dramatic impact, one of the greatest risk of our time, the COVID-19 pandemic, was also an opportunity to reshape the way risks are managed. It highlighted the need for integrated risk management in daily farming business in a systematic manner. The case for more sustainable food systems must integrate a holistic agricultural risk management approach customized to each context and local needs. Policy dialogue, technical support, development of local capacities and knowledge-sharing initiatives are crucial for developing countries' governments and local partners, including academia, private sector and NGOs, to progressively own their ARM processes. This will make them better prepared to deal with macro level risk, such as COVID-19, as well as the existing risks it exacerbates, hence strengthening food and nutrition security as well as rural livelihoods.

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In particular, feedback from in-country partners, service providers, contractors and regional staff indicate that the pandemic has increased awareness of the importance of risk management for vulnerable rural people across agricultural value chains and food systems. Stakeholders are expressing more interest to manage and transfer risk, and in the innovative delivery models that PARM has been designed to explore.

The short-term impact of COVID-19 on PARM's work has been the temporary suspension of the planned field activities in the sub-Saharan PARM countries, which will continue as long as travel and other restrictions are being enforced.

However, during this transitional phase, PARM has actively worked to identify alternative ways to ensure business continuity with its strategic and technical partners. These also include the use of virtual communications and meetings and the use of FARM-D platform as critical tool and space to collect and exchange new knowledge on COVID-19 and ARM.

At country level, PARM has been in constant dialogue with its current clients in Senegal, Niger, Burkina Faso and Ethiopia, maintaining a close collaboration with governmental officials, counterparts and other stakeholders. Governments have expressed their commitment and strengthened their willingness to keep up promoting agricultural risk management in collaboration with PARM. The Platform has also examined the situation in each country to explore possibilities to advance with its studies remotely and using desk-research methodologies, completed by the presence in the field of local experts and PARM national team. From a methodological angle, in response to COVID and its impact on agricultural sector, a new category of risk (health related) has been integrated into the risk assessment studies.

To bring forward the CD plan, PARM in collaboration with its local stakeholders are planning on-line participatory capacity development activities using virtual tools like Google Classrooms and other training platforms. This allowed the continuity of knowledge transfer at country level as well as create additional opportunities for remote target audience to access the trainings. Given the positive feedbacks received from the audience PARM is exploring the possibility to combine in the future both physical and the remote trainings to reach out a bigger number of participants.

In terms of KM, PARM has successfully launched FARM-D Online Community of Practice in April 2020 as additional tool to stimulate and collect



Ethiopia, Oromia workshop, may 2021. ©PARM/Carlos Tomas Lora Acosta

new knowledge on the correlation of COVID-19 and agricultural risks, while continuing the sharing and exchange on agricultural risk management. The new platform is online, with new interactive features that allows user for uploading and sharing their content. An engagement and advocacy campaign is ongoing through social media and e-mail marketing. Webinars, and live talks series are planned to further stimulate dialogue on mitigation strategies to prepare for the after COVID.

In the medium-long term, the uncertainty and unpredictable social, political, economic and financial impact of COVID-19 in the targeted

countries and regions would also implies a realignment of PARM methodology. This is represented by the emerging necessity to incorporate into PARM methodology new elements to assess and manage agricultural risks (holistic approach) such as: i) disaster risks; ii) specific value chain risk exposure; iii) the integration of outbreaks and pandemics into the category of "human risks"; iv) food security and nutritional basic indicators and projections.



A good management of risks helps building resilient agricultural systems, reduces poverty and creates more opportunities for rural households.





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List of acronyms and abbreviations

AC	Advisory Committee
AEMFI	The Association of Ethiopian Microfinance Institutions
AFD	Agence Française de Development
AFIRM	Agriculture and Food Insecurity Risk Management
AFRACA	African Rural and Agricultural Credit Association
AICS	Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development
ARC	African Risk Capacity
ARM	Agricultural Risk Management
ARMT	Agricultural Risk Management Team
ASSP	Agricultural Sector Strategic Plan
ATA	The Ethiopian Agricultural Transformation Agency
AU	African Union
AWPB	Annual Work Plan and Budget
BMZ	The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
CA	Contribution Agreement
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CD	Capacity Development
CILSS	Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CTA	The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
DGCS	Direzione Generale Cooperazione allo Sviluppo (Italian Development Cooperation)
DRMFSS	Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector
DSIP-II	Development Strategy and Investment Plan
EAGC	Eastern Africa Grain Council
EC	European Commission
ECOWAS	Economic Community Of West African States
ECX	Ethiopia Commodity Exchange
EU	European Union
EWS	Early Warning System
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FARM-D	Forum for Agricultural Risk Management in Development
HC3N	Haut Commissariat à l'Initiative 3N (Les Nigériens, Nourrissent les Nigériens)
KfW	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW Development Bank)
KM	Knowledge Management
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
LMICs	Low and Middle Income Countries
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries

MFIs	Monetary Financial Institutions
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
NAFSIP	National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plan
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
NDIP	National Development Investment Plan
NEPAD	The New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
NSC	National Steering Committee
PAGRA	Plan d'action pour la gestion des risques agricoles
PARM	Platform for Agricultural Risk Management
PPP	Private-public partnership
PTA	Policy and Technical Advisory Division
RAS	Risk Assessment Study
RECA	Réseau National des Chambres d'Agriculture
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
ROPPA	Réseau des organisations paysannes et de producteurs de l'Afrique de l'Ouest
SC	Steering Committee
TORs	Terms of Reference
UCA	Uganda Cooperative Alliance
UN	United Nations
WFP	World Food Programme
WRS	Warehouse receipt systems



1. Programme overview



1.1. About PARM

PARM is the global partnership on agricultural risk management (ARM) for development. Established in 2013 as an outcome of G20 discussions on agricultural growth and food security, it provides technical support to governments of development countries for the integration of gender responsive ARM into policies, institutional capacities and investment to move away from a culture of coping with disasters towards a smart management of risk.

PARM quick info

PROGRAMME NAME

Platform for Agricultural Risk Management (PARM)

WEBSITE

www.parm.org

TIMELINE AND BUDGET

PARM Horizon 1

- 2013-2019
- EUR 5,9 million

PARM Horizon 2

- 2019-2024
- EUR 10,6 million

STEERING COMMITTEE

Donors

- Agence française de développement (AFD);
- European Commission (EC);
- Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS);
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Strategic Partners

- African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD);
- KfW German Development Bank;
- The Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- **Development partners:** African Risk Capacity (ARC), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Heifer International, World Food Programme (WFP), World Bank Group.
- **Academia and research:** AGRHYMET, Agrinatura, Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI), Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation (CTA), International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
- **Farmers' organizations:** Eastern African Grain Council (EAGC), Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF), Network of Peasant Organizations and Agricultural Producers in West Africa (ROPPA).
- **Regional Economic Communities:** Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).
- **Private Sector:** Cargill, Munich Re.

TARGET BENEFICIARIES

- **Macro Level:** governments, RECs, global actors, and decision makers (G7, G20, SDGs supporting initiatives)
- **Meso Level:** extension services, financial intermediaries, women and youth's groups, NGOs, cooperatives, SMEs, farmers' enterprises and organizations, etc.
- **Micro Level:** smallholder farmers

GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

PARM has a global mandate. Currently focuses its activities in Africa with possible expansion to other continents.

TARGET COUNTRIES:

- **PARM Horizon 1:** Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Liberia, Niger, Senegal, Uganda and Zambia.
- **PARM Horizon 2:** Ethiopia, Niger, Senegal and Burkina Faso. A second group of countries will be selected during the course of the program.

1.1.1. PARM Genesis

BOX 2

PARM Genesis and the G20 commitment on building resilience to agricultural risks¹



In 2011, the **Development Working Group (DWG) report** presented to G20 leaders highlighted the diverse sources of global food price volatilities of 2006-2011 and advocated “**mainstreaming risk management in agricultural policies**” as one of the many paths to building resilience for food security. This compelled the 2011 G20 Agricultural Ministers under the French Presidency to adopt an **Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture** outlining a list of actions and arrangements to tackle food risks. The PARM initiative was one of the eleven (11) proposed actions in the plan. Others included GEOGLAM and AMIS hosted in FAO.

During the **2012 G20 discussions** under the Mexican Presidency, the agricultural ministers called on development agencies to lead the

efforts for the creation of the PARM initiative.

In this context, **PARM was set up in December 2013** with the mandate to enable the integration of a holistic agricultural risk management into policy planning and investment in the agricultural sector of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Lower Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) to move away from a culture of coping with disasters towards a smart management of risk.

Up to today, PARM's role as the global initiative contributing to food security and global stability through risk management tools has been continuously recognized in the context of the annual meetings and declarations of the G20 as well as G7 Ministers².

¹ Read more on: <https://www.ifad.org/en/web/latest/blog/asset/41308539>

² G20 Los Cabos Summit Declaration, 2012; G20 Agriculture Ministers Final Communiqué, Istanbul, May 2015; G20 Agriculture Ministers Meeting Final Communiqué, Xi'an, June 2016; G20 Action plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Sept 2016; G7 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting Communiqué, Bergamo, October 2017; G20 Agriculture Ministers Final Declaration, Buenos Aires, July 2018; G20 Agriculture Ministers Final Declaration, Niigata, May 2019 (<http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/agriculture/>).

1.1.2. PARM Horizons

PARM's vision consists of creating an enabling environment that not only facilitates the management of agricultural risks for farmers in developing countries, but also one where agricultural investments become more sustainable with the resulting positive impact on incomes, food security, and ultimately on resilience levels. This requires a long-term process that needs to be implemented in phases.

The first phase, called **PARM Horizon 1**, covered the period 2013-2019 with the objective to create an enabling environment to mainstream ARM at global level and offer a package of services to enable the integration of a holistic agricultural risk management into the policy planning and investment plans in 8 African countries from Sub-Saharan Africa.

Building on the lessons from the first phase, PARM has launched in June 2019 its second phase, called **PARM Horizon 2** (2019-2024). Horizon 2, plans to take the lead in the regional/global agenda related to ARM to start a multiplier effect and stimulate investments in ARM, capacity development, and shared experiences. During this phase PARM will continue to bring evidence and build capacities on ARM at global and country level, but investing more resources in the design of ARM programs/projects for investments, with a more structured involvement of public-private-partnerships.

In the longer term, **PARM Horizon 3** aims to contribute to the overall Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 5, and 13, particularly by contributing to sustainable food production systems, boosting rural investment, improving gender equality, and implementing resilient agricultural practices.

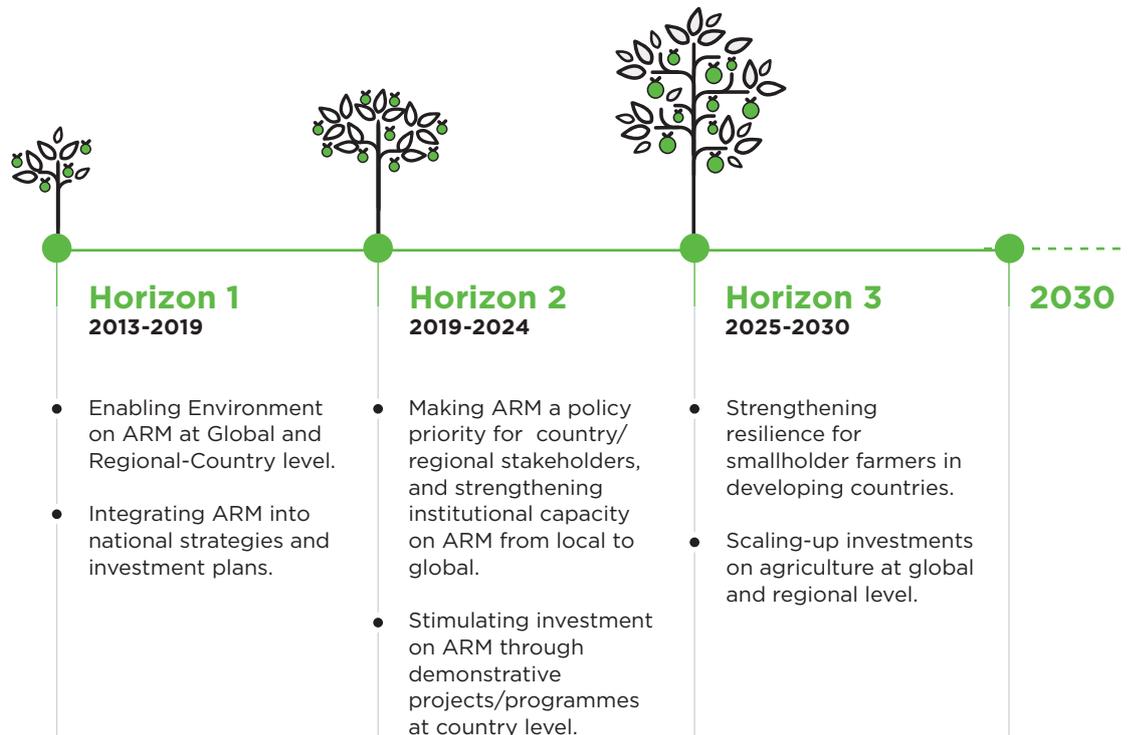


FIGURE 1
PARM horizons

BOX 3

PARM's achievements during Horizon 1 (2013-2019)



Evidence has been gathered to improve perception of risk, and **100 per cent of assessment studies have been carried out** and officially presented to governments.



Awareness and capacity on ARM has been increased with 1120 national stakeholders taking part in 15 national workshops, 662 of them trained on ARM, while 270 international practitioners have been reached through webinars.



Major agricultural risks have been identified and officially validated by Governments in 8 out of 8 selected countries, including: plant and animal pests and diseases, climate and weather related risks, post-harvest losses and price volatility, and uncertain access to market.

ARM tools have been identified in 8 out of 8 selected countries related to information systems, crop pests and disease management, warehouse receipt systems, contract farming, remittances, capacity development and strengthening farmers' cooperatives access to market.



Expertise on ARM has been also increased with the creation of a network of 64 local and international experts on ARM. Consultations and pilot trainings for the integration of an ARM curricula have been carried out with local universities and regional knowledge partners such as Makere University in Uganda, Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar in Senegal, University of Hawassa in Ethiopia and AGHRYMET Regional Center in Niger.



Partnerships and innovations on ARM has been promoted with over 500 international partners engaged in three Knowledge sharing events organized by PARM where over 50 global initiatives on ARM have been showcased;



ARM knowledge has been created with 27 risk and tools assessment studies published and 41 policy briefs, working papers, 6 learning modules on ARM, 4 e-learning courses in co-publishing with FAO have been produced and FARM-D CoP of over 6,000 practitioners was launched.



ARM global agenda moved forward with 32 consultations between strategic and donor partners carried out and PARM recognized as leading initiative on ARM in the G7 and G20 declarations.

1.1.3. Goal and objectives

PARM has the global mandate to contribute to sustainable agricultural growth, boost rural investment, reduce food insecurity, and improve resilience to climate and market shocks of poor rural households through a better management of risks. The Platform plays the role of a technical provider and knowledge broker with the objectives to:

- **develop methodologies for risk analysis** and adoption of holistic risk management strategies.

- **strengthening local expertise** and enhancing national stakeholders' awareness and capacities to manage agricultural risks.

- improve the generation, access, **exchange of knowledge and partnerships on ARM** related issues.

- **facilitate the integration of ARM** into policy planning, projects/ programmes design and **investment** in the agricultural sector.

BOX 4

Why managing risks in agriculture?

Developing countries are highly exposed to agricultural risk. Seventy-five percent of the world's poor are rural and most are involved in farming activities.³ In Sub-Saharan Africa alone, agriculture accounts for one-third of the gross domestic product and three-quarters of employment.⁴ The prevalence and complexity of multiple risks facing agricultural systems, and the failure to adequately address risks on a holistic and integrated basis, continues to leave many countries, their agricultural sectors and rural livelihoods, extremely vulnerable.

Agricultural risk management (ARM) is one of the most powerful ways available to develop agriculture, reduce global poverty and hunger, contribute to gender equality and manage unexpected crisis. ARM is crucial to boost prosperity among the rural poor. It is fundamental to a future in which productive, sustainable and healthy food systems should be able to support a population expected to top 9.5 billion people by 2050. It is instrumental in achieving gender equality. It is critical to delivering improved food security,

nutrition and health outcomes for hundreds of millions of people in developing countries and build resilience to unexpected crisis (such as COVID-19). In agriculture, strengthening women's resilience to shocks and economically empowering women through gender-smart solutions to agricultural shocks is key to strengthening resilience in rural households and communities.⁵

The benefits of managing agricultural risks and associated volatility are multifold. Mitigating shocks to agriculture production (i.e., induced by weather, pest/disease, price spikes) boosts productivity. Curbing production volatility protects rural jobs and household food security. Diversifying production systems and improving stewardship of natural resources (e.g., soil, water, forests, and rangelands) nurtures biodiversity. Empowering women to manage risk strengthens food security. Most importantly, by reducing uncertainty, effective agricultural risk management (ARM) creates a more predictable environment for investments and sustained rural sector growth.

³ IFAD. Rural Development Report 2016 Fostering Inclusive Rural Transformation.

⁴ World Development Indicators. 2015.

⁵ World Bank (2017). A Gendered Approach to Agricultural Risk.



Niger. ©PARM/Carlos Tomas Lora Acosta

ARM is relevant to achieving multiple SDGs (in particular SDGs 1, 2, 13). ARM lies at the centre of the climate change, food insecurity, gender equality, and poverty agendas. Improving the stability of agricultural systems and reducing the volatility of production, income, and prices are fundamental to achieve sustained economic development and poverty alleviation for agricultural dependent countries. PARM is thus uniquely positioned to support developing countries in identifying areas where policy reform and targeted investments can be most effective in strengthening agricultural sector resilience.⁶

Building resilience in the agricultural sector is increasingly urgent. Three factors add to the pressing need for effective risk management: 1) Climate change: The effect of climate change is already being felt by agricultural systems due to unpredictable weather patterns, gradual shifts in climatic conditions, and more extreme weather events. The frequency and severity of natural disasters (floods, cyclones, hurricanes,

droughts etc.) has increased significantly in recent decades with important and catastrophic losses for agricultural systems and associated livelihoods. Climate change will further exacerbate agricultural risks, with increasing frequency, intensity, and unpredictability; 2) Food Insecurity: Over the past few years, the world has witnessed increased incidences of chronic and transient food insecurity fuelled by crop failures, food price spikes, and a host of other agricultural risks. Developing countries are especially concerned by this surge in food insecurity due to the heightened negative implications for poor and vulnerable households; 3) Poverty: Economic shocks and adverse events such as rises in food prices, drought, unemployment, illness or death are part of the common causes of poverty traps and chronic poverty. In addition, agricultural risks lead to sub-optimal investments and prevent rural producers from engaging in more productive and remunerative activities.

6 G20, 2012

1.2. PARM services

Assess

EVALUATION AND PRIORITIZATION OF AGRICULTURAL RISKS

PARM provides technical support to its partners countries with the introduction of systematic and holistic risk assessments where risks are identified, analysed, and prioritized in consultation with key players and stakeholders.

How we do it?

Steps of a holistic risk assessment. The risk assessment can be done for an agricultural value chains and country agricultural sector, using a gender lens throughout.

- 01**
Identify relevant risks
- 02**
Analyse risks in terms of frequency and severity and their economic and agricultural impacts
- 03**
Map existing ARM tools and policies
- 04**
Evaluate vulnerability and stakeholder's capacity to manage risks
- 05**
Identify the main ARM gaps and needs
- 06**
Prioritize agricultural risks
- 07**
Develop an ARM action plan

Design

IDENTIFICATION OF THE RIGHT TOOLS AND PROJECT DESIGN FOR INVESTMENT

PARM works jointly with its partner countries to identify the most appropriate tools to manage the prioritized risks and provides technical support in the design of projects for investment, resource mobilization and implementation support.

How we do it?

Step of tools assessment and design. Once risks and appropriate tools have been identified in a selected country, PARM supports the Government in the design, facilitation and implementation of an action plan that include specific risk management activities and/or projects for funding consideration.

- 01**
Mapping from risk assessment
- 02**
Identification of the right tool
- 03**
Tool Assessment
- 04**
Design (TORs)
- 05**
Resource mobilization
- 06**
Hand over

Learn

JOINT LEARNING TO STRENGTHEN CAPACITIES TO MANAGE RISKS

PARM facilitates a process of joint learning cycles targeting the key country stakeholders to strengthen local expertise and to enhance institutional capacities to manage agricultural risks.

How we do it?

L'approche PARM sur le renforcement de capacités se fonde sur le principe d'un apprentissage participatif et itératif, sensible au genre. Trois phases sont proposées dans cette approche:

- 
LC1
 LEARNING CYCLE 1
Awareness and engagement
- 
LC2
 LEARNING CYCLE 2
Understanding and application
- 
LC3
 LEARNING CYCLE 3
Co-design and co-visioning

Share

CREATION OF SPACES FOR KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AND PARTNERSHIPS

PARM plays a unique role of knowledge broker among the global and local community of practice by facilitating the generation, access, exchange of knowledge and stimulating partnerships on ARM.



Creation de connaissances sur la GRA



Accroître la sensibilisation et renforcer les capacités sur la GRA



Accéder à une communauté de pratique et repertoire d'experts et connaissances à travers FARM-D

www.farm-d.org

1.3. PARM geographical scope

PARM **Horizon 2** currently focus on sub-Saharan Africa, however it may expand its geographical scope to other regions in response to the new global needs and donors priorities.

The first group of target countries of PARM Horizon 2 are: **Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Niger** and **Senegal**. A second group of country will be selected in the course of the programme.

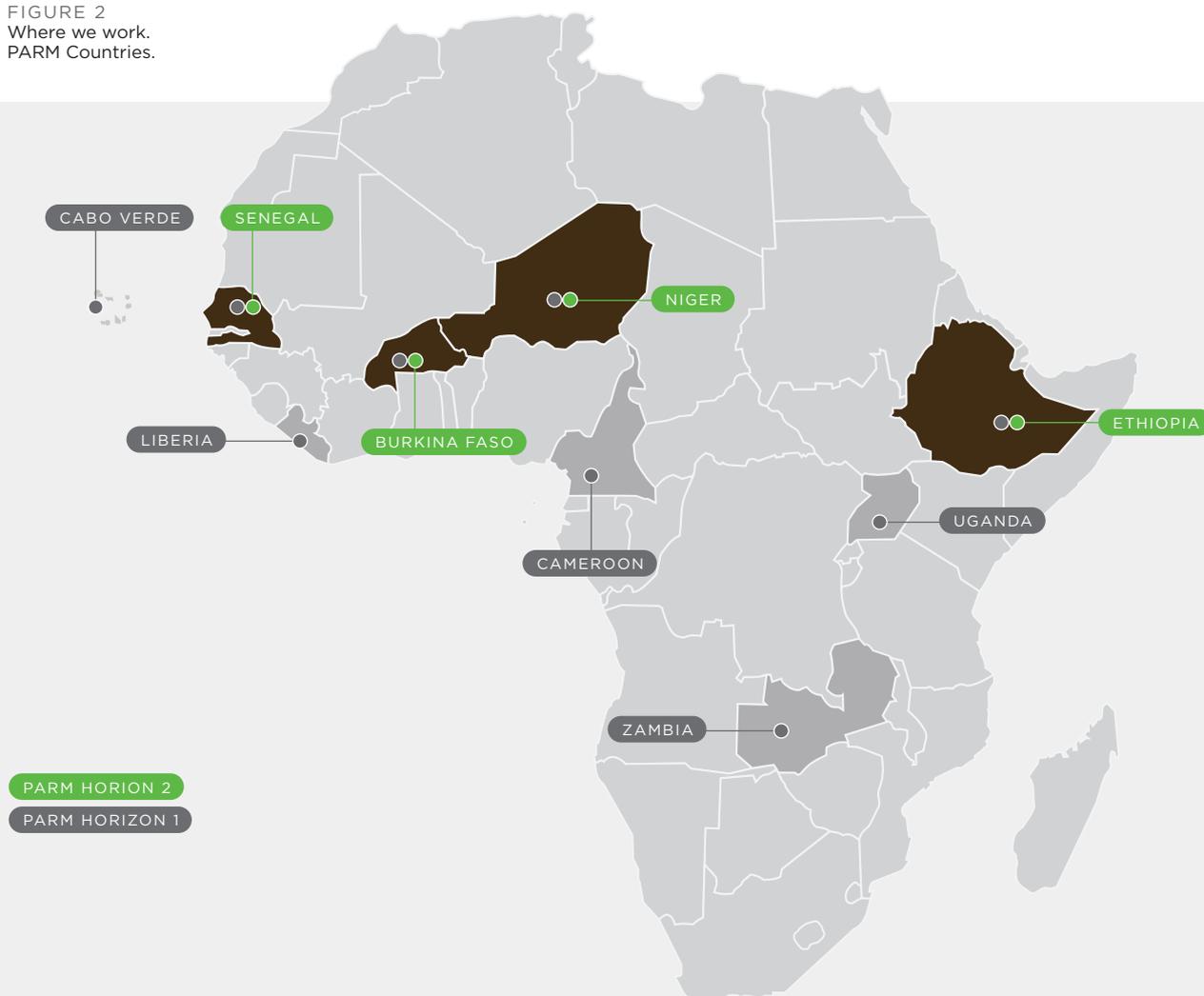
During its first phase (2013-2019) PARM process was active in **Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Liberia, Niger, Senegal, Uganda** and **Zambia**.

1.3.1. Selection criteria

The main criteria for selecting target countries are based on:

- the presence of agricultural risks and the need to integrate a holistic approach to ARM.
- official commitment from the government.
- expression of interest from donors.
- the presence of policies, programs and strategies on ARM.

FIGURE 2
Where we work.
PARM Countries.



1.4. PARM Governance

1.4.1 Structure, Institutional Setup and Governance

The Platform, hosted by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), is supported by the European Commission (EC), the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and works in strategic partnership with KfW German Development Bank and the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD).

It also benefits from the technical assistance of a pool of international and regional multilateral partners; knowledge partners; farmers organizations and private sector.

PARM is governed by a Steering Committee (SC), an Advisory Committee (AC) and the Secretariat. These bodies ensure that PARM activities respond to its founding objectives and deliver good quality and neutral assistance:

- The **Steering Committee** is made up of the contributing donors: EC, AFD, Italian Government and IFAD. AUDA-NEPAD is a major strategic partner in Africa, and as such, is also included in the SC. The SC has the authority to make budgetary decisions and meets twice per year. In 2016, the German cooperation (BMZ and KfW) became officially a member of the SC after their decision to provide funds to PARM through a KfW-NEPAD agreement to implement ARM investments.
- The **Advisory Committee** consists of key partners on implementation, private sector, cooperation, knowledge and beneficiaries. It meets annually and provides technical advice to PARM and represents a platform for knowledge exchange to bring forward the ARM Agenda. The advisory committee is composed of a pool of international and regional multilateral partners (World Bank Group), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Food Programme (WFP), African Risk Capacity (ARC); knowledge partners (Agrinatura, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), etc.); farmers organizations (ROPPA, EAFF); and private sector (CARGILL, MUNICH RE), among others.
- The **Secretariat** was established in September 2014 and hosted by IFAD. It is responsible for managing the programme and implementing the PARM process, liaising with clients, donors and partners and linking them with service providers/practitioners who have specific expertise in ARM.

PARM also closely coordinate and cooperate with additional partners from development organizations, private sector, universities and research institutes.

STEERING COMMITTEE



ADVISORY COMMITTEE



BOX 5

PARM Team



Massimo Giovanola
Lead Technical Specialist



Karima Cherif
Knowledge Management, Communications, and Partnerships Specialist



Ilaria Tedesco
Senior Technical Advisor



Ethiopia. ©PARM/Carlos Tomas Lora Acosta

BOX 6

PARM hosted programmes and initiatives

As of 2019, PARM is home of two technical initiatives focused on insurance to support IFAD's Portfolio, namely **Insurance for Rural Resilience and Economic Development (INSURED)** and **Managing Risks for Rural Development (MRRD)**⁷: promoting micro insurance innovations. Under this new arrangement, PARM has added risk transfer expertise to its package of services and expanded its geographical reach enabling actors at different levels to build resilience and break into the vicious circle of rural poverty fuelled by external shocks. Importantly, it will also contribute to protect the progress made by programmes and increase investment in the agricultural sector and the rural economy.

In late 2018, IFAD and the World Bank signed an agreement for the handover of the management of the **Forum for Agricultural Risk Management in Development (FARM-D) Community of Practice (CoP)** (www.farm-d.org). Since 2009, FARM-D serves an important role as the main global interactive space bringing actors together to exchange knowledge and advocate best practices for agricultural risk management (ARM) in developing countries. Through FARM-D, PARM will further strengthen its unique role of knowledge broker engaging the global community of practice by stimulating awareness of ARM approaches and sharing experiences, available risk management tools, and impacts of ARM interventions.

INSURED www.ifad.org/en/insured

FARM^D www.farm-d.org

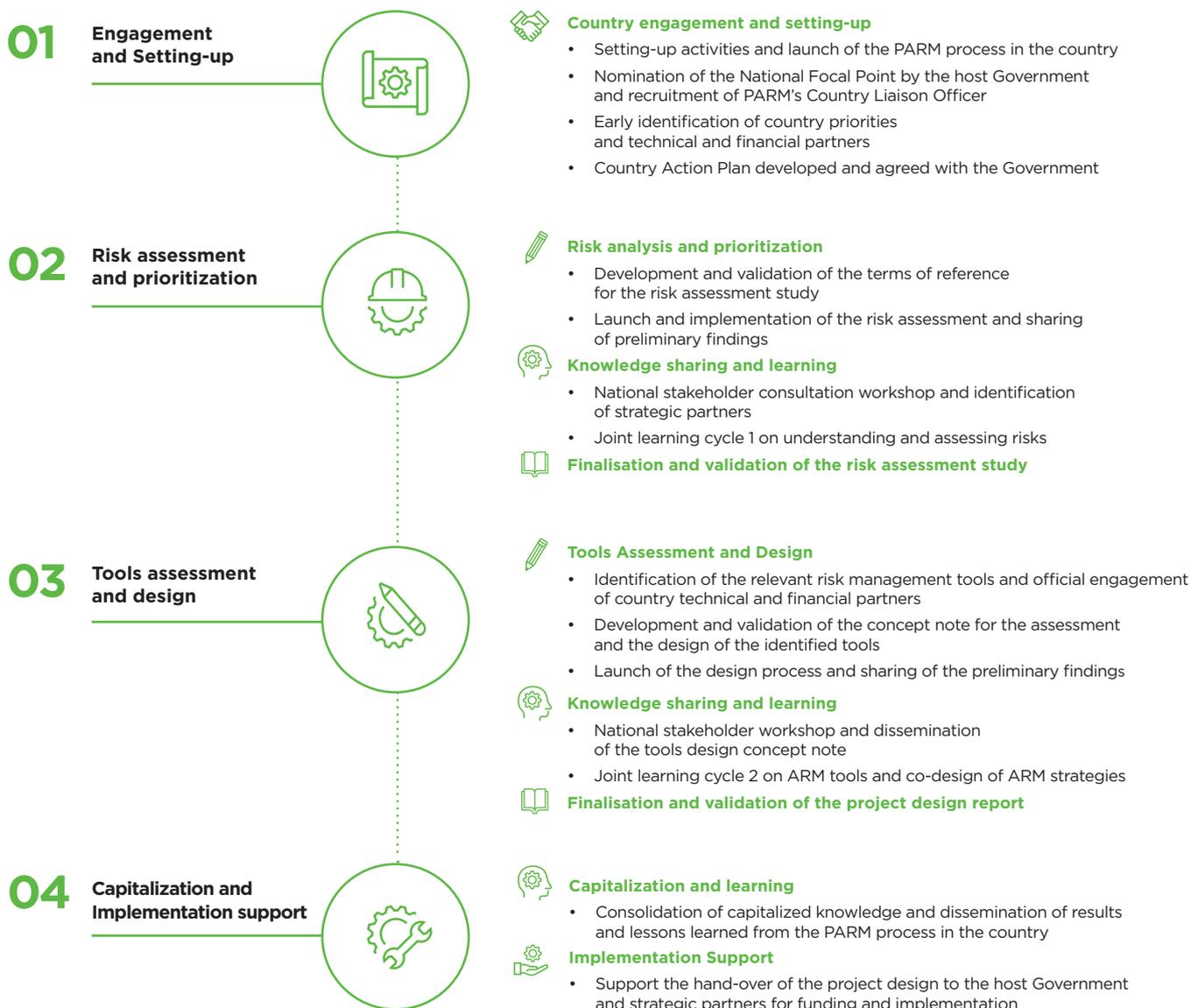
⁷ See specific Generic Background Brief on INSURED and MRRD.

1.5. Country Process

PARM has developed a methodology to assess, prioritize and manage agricultural risks through a holistic approach in order to ensure their integration into the national investment plans and strategies.

The (P)ARM holistic approach is a process designed in a flexible way to respond to country-specific context and to the corresponding policy and political processes. At the core business of PARM is the co-design and co-implementation of the country strategy and process jointly with the country partners with the objective to raise ARM awareness, strengthen capacities, identify priorities (risks and tools) and design projects to mainstream ARM in agricultural development investment plans. The Platform also facilitates the dissemination and capitalization of the results and partnerships through a participatory process, involving decision makers and multi-layer stakeholders, including governments, donors, technical organizations, private companies and farmer organizations. This will allow PARM activities to be complementary and coordinated with previous or simultaneous ARM work in that country. The PARM country process is comprised of four main phases (see Figure 3):

FIGURE 3
PARM country process







2. Our results



2.1. PARM at a glance. Quick Facts (2019-2020)

Integration of ARM into national and global Policies and investment plans



Risk assessments carried out by PARM and officially presented to Governments and National Stakeholders*

*Includes PH1 countries



Projects/programs on ARM, designed by/or with PARM support in the selected countries

* design phase will kick-off in 2021.

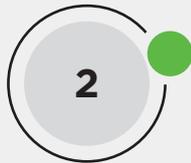


ARM recognized as global leading initiative on ARM and priority in the G7 and G20 Ag Ministries Declarations.

Creation and dissemination of knowledge on ARM



No. of knowledge products produced at regional and/or global



No. of knowledge events/webinars organized

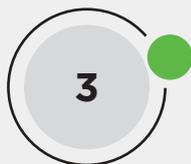


No. of practitioners reached, disaggregated by gender (through webinars, k-sharing events, CoP)

Increase awareness and develop capacity on ARM



No. of curricula / learning resources developed



No. of learning events organized



No. of stakeholders engaged in PARM CD process

Promote partnerships for PARM



Increase of ARM community of practice/platform membership on FARM-D



Increase of ARM community of practice/platform organizations on FARM-D

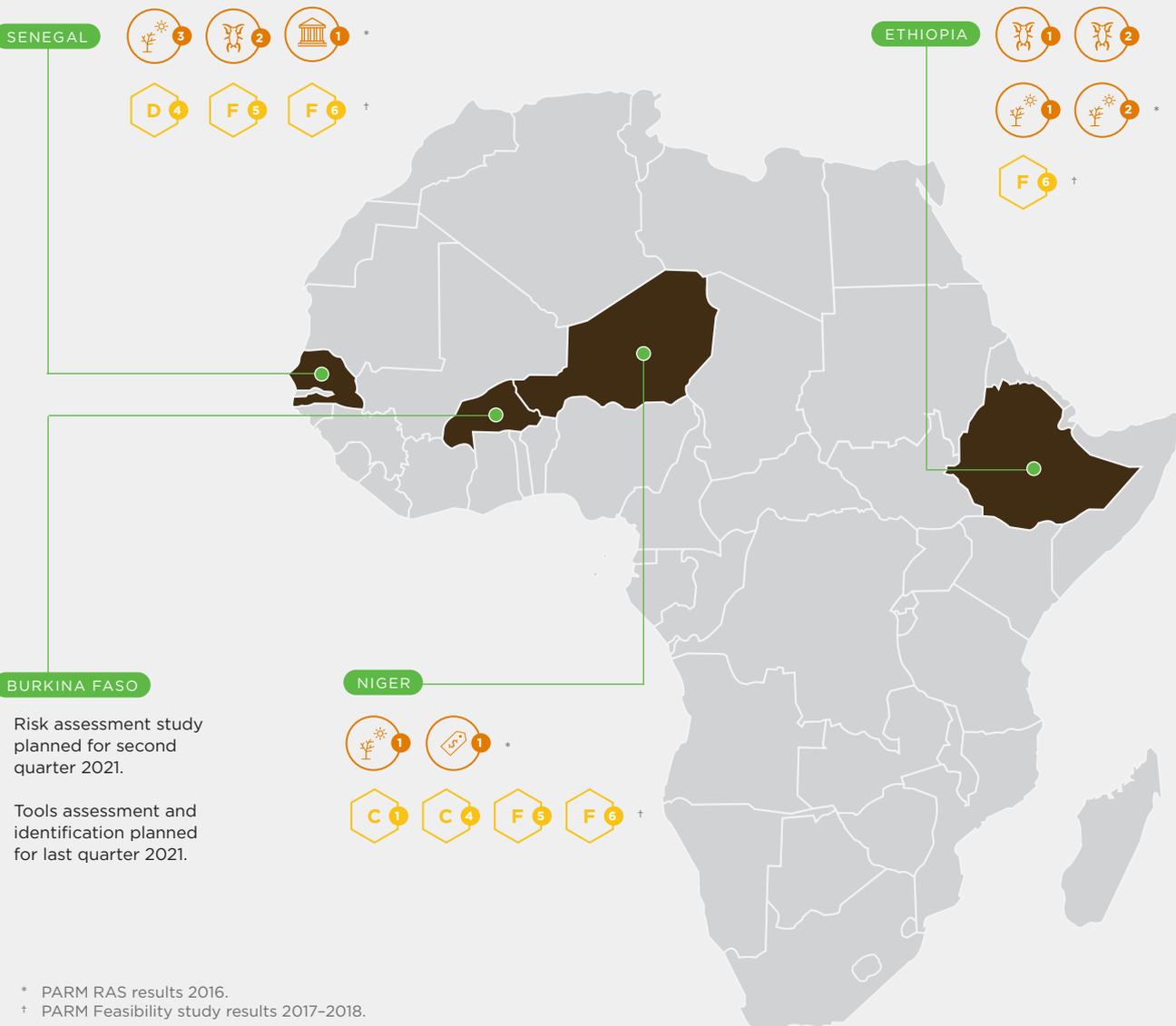


Statutory events organized by PARM with strategic partners to move forward the ARM agenda (SC and AC)

Bring evidence to improve risk perception

Major risks identified

<p>Weather-related</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Drought 2 Floods 3 Erratic rainfall 	<p>Biological and environmental</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Plant pest and diseases 2 Animal diseases 	<p>Commercial and market tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Contract farming 4 Warehouse receipt systems 	<p>Information systems and capacity development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Information systems and early warning 6 Strengthening capacity of national extension services
<p>Market-related</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Uncertain access to market 	<p>Policy and institutional risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing 	<p>Financial tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Remittances 	



* PARM RAS results 2016.
 † PARM Feasibility study results 2017–2018.

2.2. Governance and management

a. PARM Secretariat

The year 2020, represented a crucial time to set up the new PARM Secretariat and launch the recruitment of the new team members, both staff and long-term consultants, including country liaison officers. In particular, the following staff positions have been advertised and appointed:

- P3, Technical Specialist, in charge of leading the PARM country processes and technical activities;
- P3, KM, Communication and partnership specialist, in charge of coordinating the KM and CD cluster and implementing PARM KM, communication and partnerships strategies and related activities.

At the same time, recruitment processes have been launched and/or completed for local and international consultants to support the coordination of activities and studies at country level, as follows:

- Burkina Faso: Country Liaison Officer
- Ethiopia: Country Liaison Officer and CD Facilitator
- Niger and Senegal: Design Team Leader

b. Engagement with the Steering Committee

PARM The Secretariat informed the members on the new arrangements for the SC Meetings. In PARM H2 it was proposed to reduce the SC Meetings from three to two. The two meetings will be held as follows:

- Annual Planning Meeting (Nov/Dec) to present the planning and budget for the coming year;
- Annual Review Meeting (April/May) to report on the activities and expenditures from the previous year.

This year, on extraordinary basis, the Annual Planning meeting has been postponed to February 2020. It was proposed to hold the Annual Review Meeting planned for April/May via Teleconference (given the closeness with the first SC). The third SC meeting was proposed for end of November to re-align the calendar of SC Meeting for 2021 onwards.

The **1st Steering Committee (SC)** was hosted by IFAD on 5 **February, 2020**. The meeting represented the first official meeting of the second phase of PARM: PARM Horizon 2. The meeting mainly focused on the: i) definition of PARM Secretariat new structure and coordination, ii) presentation and approval of the PARM H2 new strategies (country strategy, KM and CD strategies); iii) presentation and approval of the PARM H2 Long-Term 2019-2024 and Annual Work Plan and Budget 2020; iv) presentation of the partnership and joint activities PARM/INSURED; v) update about NEPAD/AFIRM's project; and vi) updated on PARM Horizon 2 funding process, secretariat structure and country mapping.

The **2nd Steering Committee (SC)** was hosted via Teleconference on 2 **April, 2020**. The meeting took place during the early stage of the COVID-19 outbreak. In this occasion, the SC members shared any relevant recent developments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and requested PARM the implications of the pandemic on operations. For this purpose it was agreed that PARM Secretariat would share via email to the SC by April 30 an updated 2020 Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) to realign the new activities in the context of COVID-19. The new AWPB was timely submitted and approved by the SC by end of April as planned. The meeting also focused on: i) presentation and approval of the new PARM H2 organigram; ii) review of PARM's progress and budget implementation for the inception phase (Jun-Dec 2019); and iii) update about NEPAD/AFIRM's project.

The **3rd Steering Committee (SC)** was hosted via Teleconference on 26 **November, 2020**. As Annual Review meeting, the discussions mainly focused on the: i) presentation and approval of the revised PARM H2 Long-Term 2019-2024 and Annual Work Plan and Budget 2021; ii) updated on PARM activities 2020, including resource mobilization and programme implementation and response to COVID-19; iii) presentation of the partnership and joint activities PARM/INSURED; and iv) update about NEPAD/AFIRM's project.

BOX 7

The PARM Gender Strategy

PARM has embedded Gender Equality goals in its second phase. Therefore, in PARM Horizon 2, the Platform has developed the PARM Gender Strategy, whose purpose is to guide both the PARM and the INSURED teams by providing clear guidance on why, when and how to gender mainstream their activities. The strategy aims to translate the intention of PARM and INSURED to mainstream gender into concrete actions to be applied to PARM and INSURED and regularly tracking its application and outcomes. The Gender Strategy is also a tool for accountability to PARM and INSURED's beneficiaries, its community of partners and donors. This strategy complements the PARM Horizon 2 design documents. The strategy is based on the findings, guidelines and tools of the Gender and ARM Study commissioned by PARM in 2019.

The Gender Strategy was drafted, and internally approved, in December 2020. It is a "living" document that will also be reviewed by and shared with external partners.

Implementing the Gender Strategy

Gender mainstreaming PARM includes integrating a gender lens to all activities of the Platform. Therefore, this implies taking into account gender considerations in the ToRs of cross cutting studies, RAS, and FS. This also means designing gender responsive ARM projects and programs. It also implies explaining and sharing why it is important to integrate gender in ARM in our CD activities, but also how to do it. It also involves diversifying our partnerships, as well as sharing and generating knowledge and awareness around the topic in our KM related activities. With this in mind, in 2020 PARM:

In its technical cluster

- Ensured the **Value Chain Risk Assessment Study developed by CIAT transversally integrated gender**, highlighted the importance of using a gender analysis, and included a specific section on the gender. The ToRs highlighted the importance of a gender responsive approach and made it part of their selection criteria.
- In **Burkina Faso gender equality was integrated as a cross cutting goal in the Country Action Plan**, notably in the second phase of the Risk

Assessment. This document was signed by both PARM and the Ministry of Agriculture. This good intention was immediately translated to a concrete action by adding a gender analysis transversally to the RAS ToRs. The TORs (end of 2020) are under review by the MOA, and are expected to be validated soon.

In its KM and CD cluster (including partnerships)

- The **PARM study on "Gender and ARM"** is now available in French and ready for dissemination;
- PARM & INSURED created a **strategic partnership with InsuResilience**. The Gender focal point and the technical specialist in INSURED both are included in the **Gender Working Group of InsuResilience** participating to the different ongoing commitments and visibility actions it produces.
- This partnership also generated **2 LIVE TALKS** (of a series of 4) hosted by FARM-D, in collaboration with PARM and INSURED **on gender and climate and disaster risk finance and insurance** (CDRFI), as mentioned in the sections above. The topic of the webinar series is clearly around gender and ARM and insurance, which allowed PARM at large to engage with different stakeholders, experts and organizations to not only share but also create good practices and lessons learned around gender and CDRFI.
- During PARM's inception missions to secure new PARM countries, part of the mission's goals were to meet and engage with **new partners working predominantly on gender equality and women's empowerment** in the rural sector. Building on the missions in Niger and Burkina Faso, in 2020 PARM met with Association des Femmes de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (AFAO) in Senegal and highlighted to partners its new gender equality goals and its will to ensure the work to be undertaken is gender responsive.

Nominating a Gender Focal Point

To ensure gender is being mainstreamed in PARM in accordance to its pledge, PARM designated a **Gender Focal Point within the Secretariat** to track and develop the gender portfolio within the team and across the activities.



Cross-cutting Studies

https://www.p4arm.org/app/uploads/2019/07/gender-in-ARM_FR.pdf

2.3. Knowledge management, Capacity Development and Partnerships

In Horizon 2, knowledge management (KM) and capacity development (CD) will continue being one of the main components of the PARM programme to complement the ARM process. In particular, in line with the PARM H2 Logical Framework, the expected outcomes for the KM component are:

- a. **Enhanced partnerships and knowledge generation/sharing processes** on ARM at local, national, regional and/or global level; and
- b. **Improved awareness-raising** and capacity to manage agricultural risks at local, national and/or regional level.

Under this component, PARM is expected to **strengthen dissemination channels and platforms on ARM and create new and accessible knowledge products** at global, regional and/or national level.

For this reason, PARM KM and CD strategies for H2 aim to integrate KM/CD not only at global and regional level, but also to increase its linkages within the PARM process in each country to facilitate programme implementation and strengthen stakeholders' engagement.

a. KM, communication and visibility actions

During the period under review, activities mainly focused on the adaptation and implementation of the new PARM KM, branding and communication strategy for the second phase. In particular, during the COVID-19 outbreak, PARM continued the dissemination of knowledge and strengthened its virtual presence through the official launch of the FARM-D community of practice. The main activities achieved under this component are:

- **PARM Branding and communication materials:** design and development of PARM branding and communications toolkit in line with the new PARM Branding and Visibility plan. In particular, a new motion video was developed to present PARM Horizon 2 and the development of communication materials (factsheets, motion videos, new templates, etc.) targeting country and global stakeholders is being finalized to ensure dissemination of PARM results and key messages as well as visibility of donors and country partners' logos.

FIGURE 4
PARM Horizon 2
promotional video, 2020.
<https://youtu.be/w6cOrScAb5U>



- **PARM website:** During this period, the Secretariat has worked to assess the current website and identified new needs to align with the PARM H2 priorities. For this purpose, a call for proposal has been launched for the re-design and improvement of the PARM Website with the objective to enhance the users experience and usability as well as reorganization of the information for a better dissemination. The process is still on-going and it will be finalized in 2021.
- **FARM-D Platform and Community of Practice:** The re-design of FARM-D has been in full speed during this period and the platform was successfully launched on 23 April 2020. As part of the re-design process, a second phase is expected to be integrated in the community enhanced interactive systems to provide an improved experience to the users and facilitate knowledge sharing and connection with other experts and initiatives in the field of ARM. Other IT activities have also been carried out, including the development of a contact management system to manage all FARM-D contacts and profiling to allow a better email marketing and engagement of users.



FIGURE 5
FARM-D promotional video, 2020.
<https://youtu.be/wgglZFCnpL8>



- **Digital Communications and E-Newsletter:** e-newsletters continued to provide updates and the latest news and publication to our subscribers and practitioners. In particular, the e-newsletter has also been used for internal communication with advisory and steering committee members. Brand new quarterly newsletters have been successfully disseminated for sharing PARM's Results, while the monthly "The Practitioner" newsletter by FARM-D has been regularly circulated among the ARM community. In addition, the social media presence has been increased through the launch of FARM-D Twitter and LinkedIn accounts.
- **Visibility actions:** Web contents, presentations in events, engagement with the press and social media activity have helped raise PARM's profile. Highlights include:
 - a. a published blog about ARM and COVID-19;
 - b. a published blog about PARM's virtual consultations in Ethiopia;
 - c. a news story posted by the *Disaster Risk Reduction Network of African Journalists* (DIRAJ) featuring PARM and an interview with PARM's Lead Technical Specialist Massimo Giovanola – cross-posted on the websites of PARM, FARM-D and IFAD and further disseminated through respective social media pages;
 - d. a news story published by the print edition of the Botswana Guardian newspaper featuring PARM and an interview with Massimo Giovanola;
 - e. participation in a press conference about PARM/INSURED delivered to young journalists from developing countries who participated in a media development training programme promoted by Thomson Reuters Foundation.

BOX 8

PARM website usages at a glance

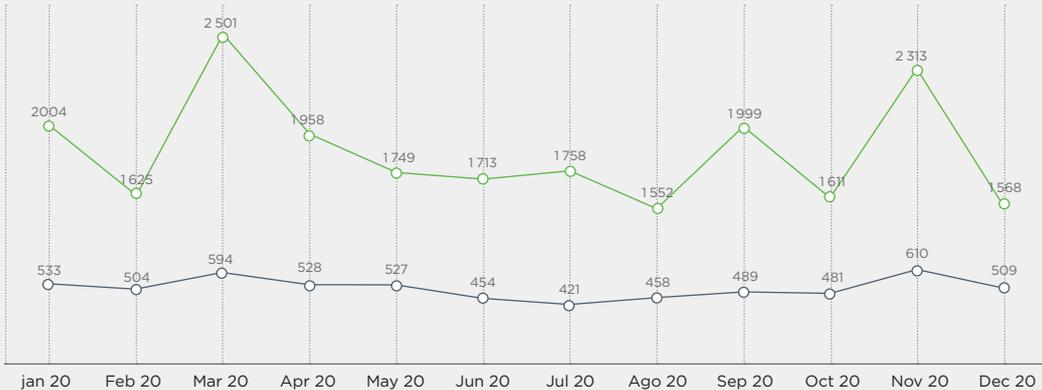


FIGURE 08
Unique users and pageviews per month from 1st Jan 2020 to 31st Dec 2020.

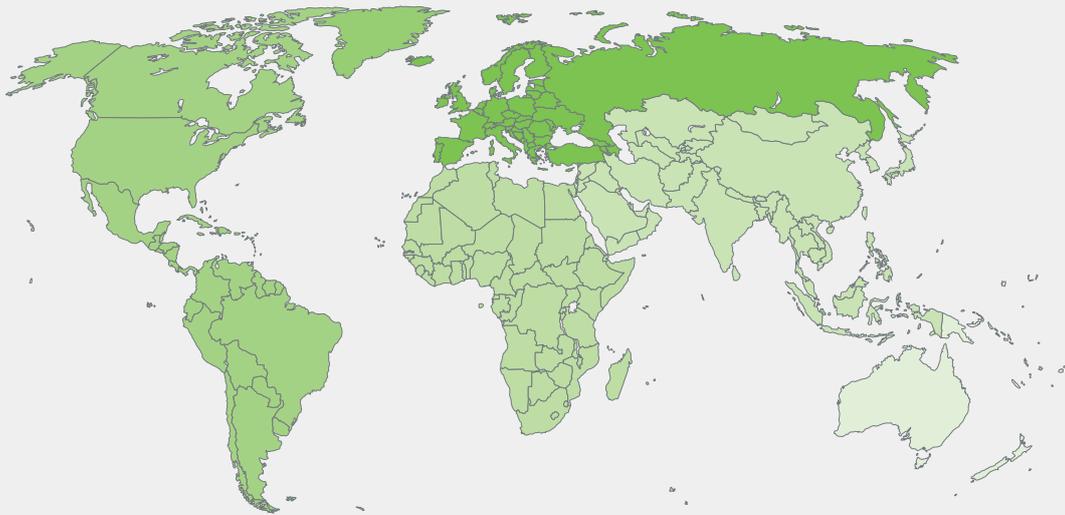


FIGURE 09
Unique users by continents from 1st Jan 2020 to 31st Dec 2020.

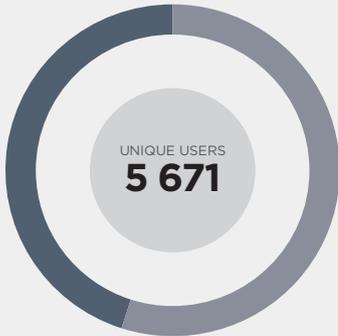


FIGURE 10
Unique users by gender from 1st Jan 2020 to 31st Dec 2020.

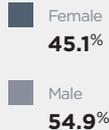


FIGURE 11
How our users find our website (unique users by acquisition channels) from 1st Jan 2020 to 31st Dec 2020.



FARM-D website usages at a glance

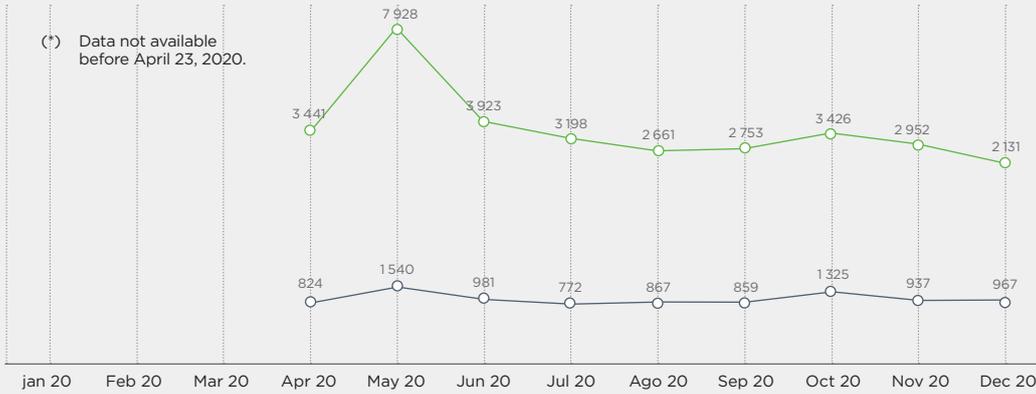


FIGURE 08
Unique users and pageviews per month from 23rd apr 2020 to 31st dec 2020.

■ Pageviews
32 413
■ Unique users
8 549

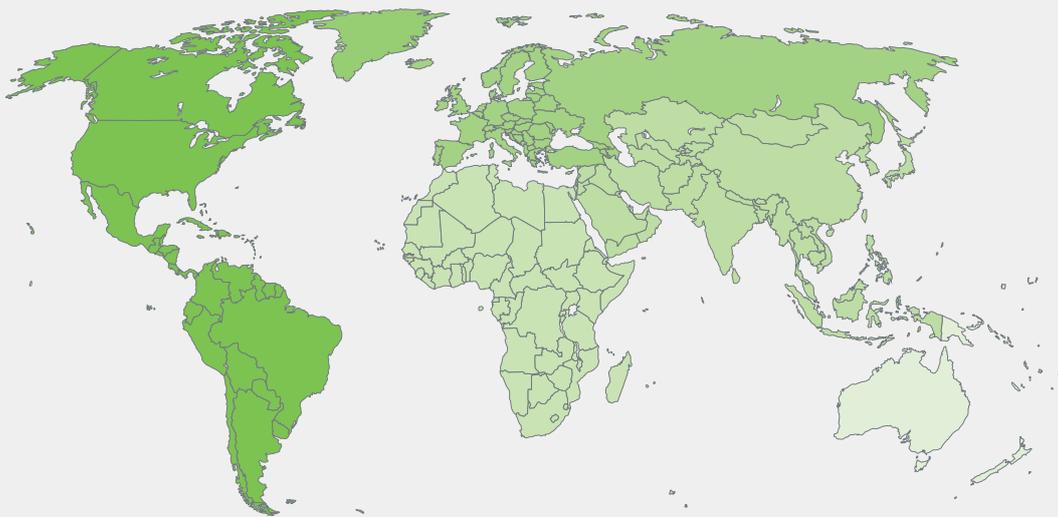


FIGURE 09
Unique users by continents 23rd apr 2020 to 31st dec 2020.

■ Americas
708
■ Europe
685
■ Asia
465
■ Africa
419
■ Oceania
32
■ Not set
7



FIGURE 10
Unique users by gender 23rd apr 2020 to 31st dec 2020.

■ Female
43.7%
■ Male
56.3%



FIGURE 11
How our users find our website (unique users by acquisition channels) 23rd apr 2020 to 31st dec 2020.

■ Referral
18.1%
■ Direct
40%
■ Organic search
11.3%
■ Social
30.5%

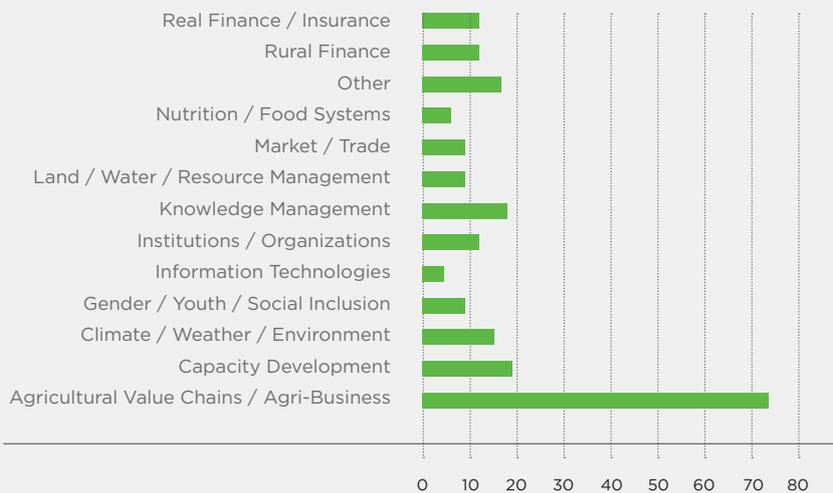
BOX 9

FARM-D: the community for knowledge exchange on #agrisk management At a glance (as of 30 December 2020)

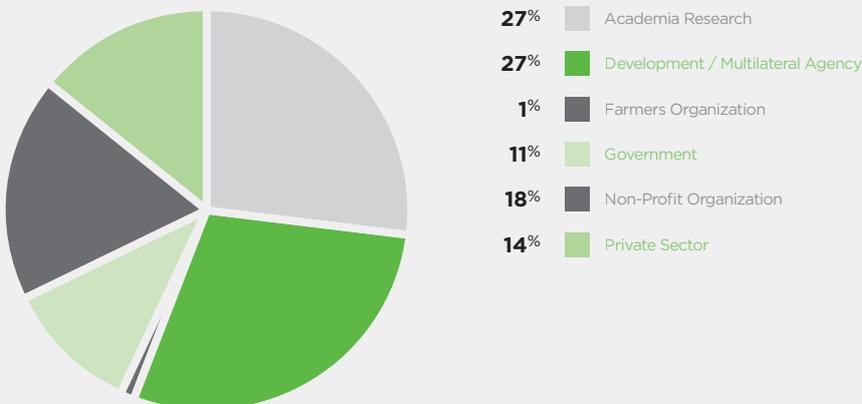
Community Engagement and expertise location



Members by area of expertise



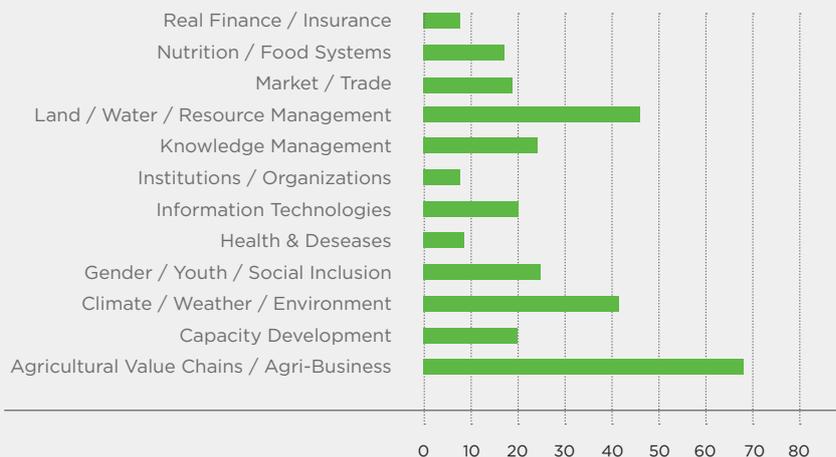
Organizations by Sector



Knowledge Generation and Sharing



Blogs and posts by topic



Publications by topic



... BOX 9

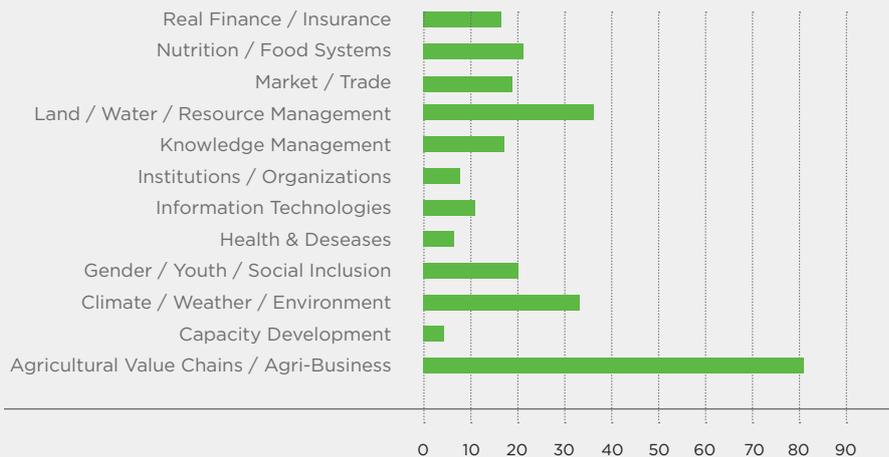
FARM-D: the community for knowledge exchange on #agrisk management

At a glance (as of 30 December 2020)

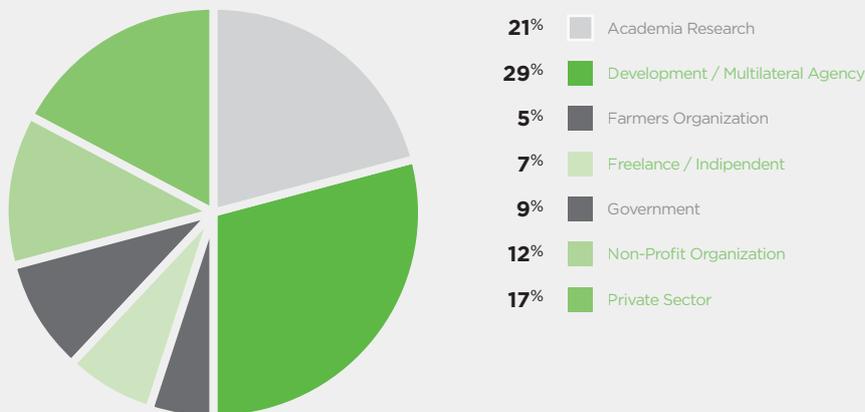
Virtual Events



Webinars advertised by topic



Organizations by Sector



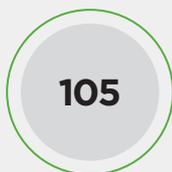
Social Media and newsletters



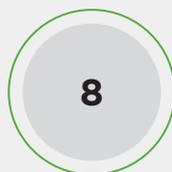
Social profiles



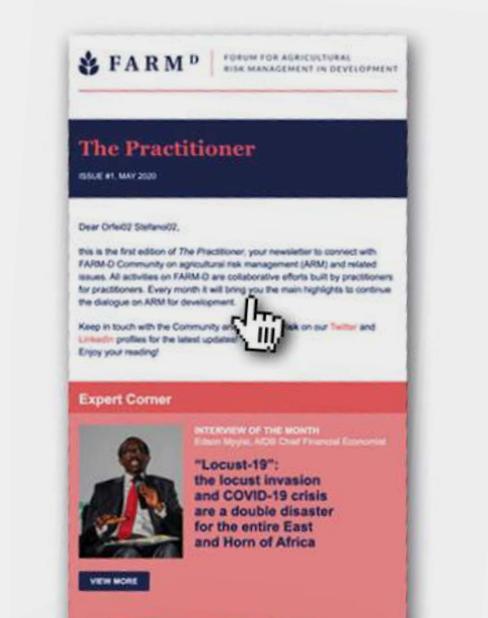
Twitter posts



LinkedIn posts



Monthly Newsletters
28.3% average open rate



External Engagements

Acknowledging the importance of engaging with other actors, FARM-D has actively pursued collaboration with a range of organizations from different sectors, including academia, research, non-profit and private sector. Be it through webinars and content publication or by paving the way for future joint efforts, the Forum has established significant connections with the following institutions:



www.farm-d.org

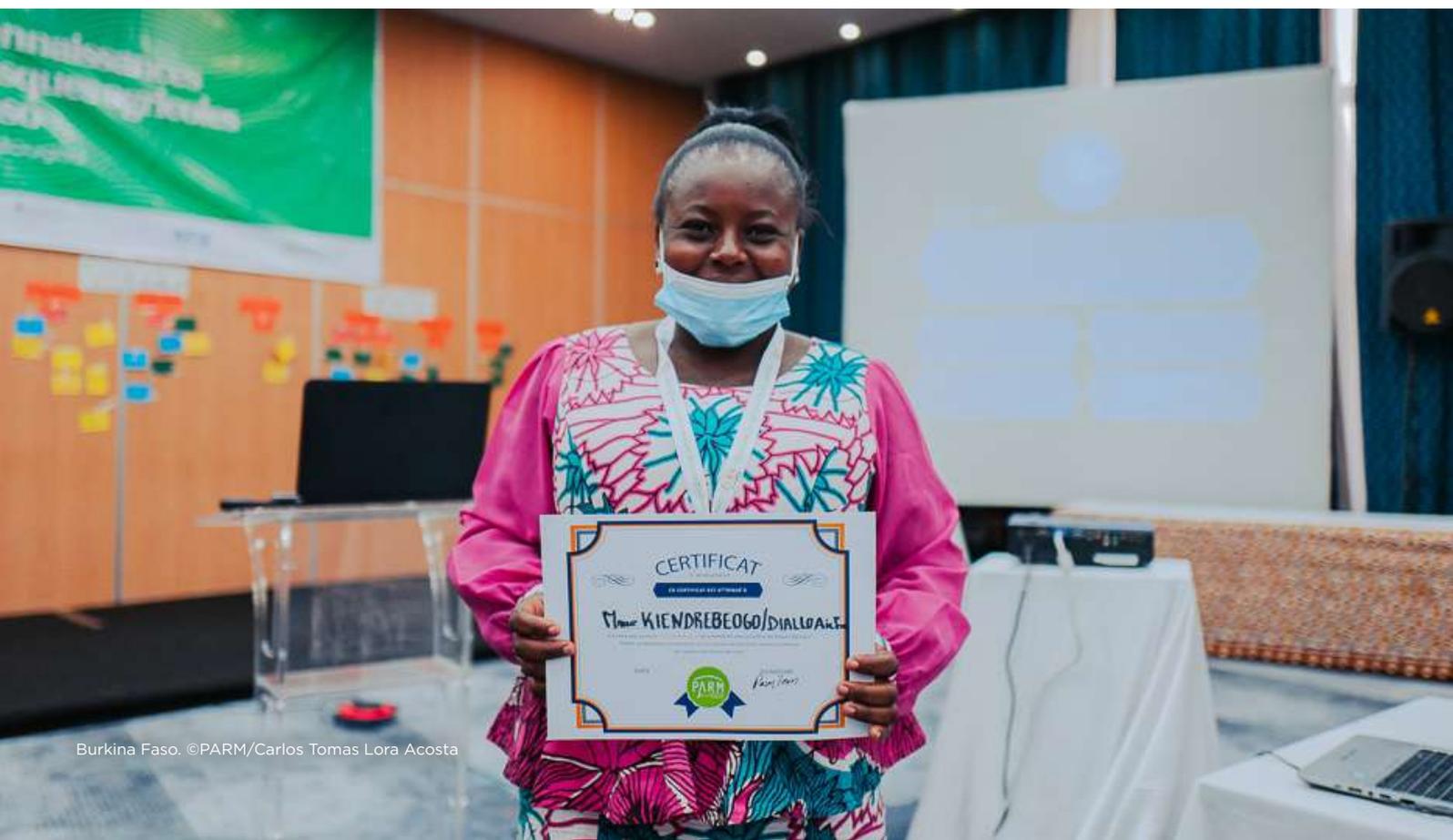
b. Capacity Development

Under this component, the Secretariat has focused its activities in developing alternative ways to better implement PARM's capacity development activities during COVID-19 at country level. During the period under review, PARM has also completed and expanded its learning resources catalogue to French. In particular the activities carried out under this component during the period under review are:

Participatory ARM learning cycles designed for the countries to reach out to meso-level value chain actors, building on existing capacities at country and regional level. The risk environment in agriculture is complex, hence it requires agile teams of individuals and organizations jointly learning and adapting. Together, the team goes through at least three learning cycles with jointly defined objectives. Participants are coached and mentored to enable them to reach out to a greater number of value-chain actors and enhance local capacities. Tracking learning is integrated throughout the process to measure capacities acquired, especially the knowledge gained, attitudes and practices changed and practices.

Introduction of blended learning tools are adapted and used to conduct learning cycles that support the online and offline learning of country partners. Google classroom is used as the learning management system, which is complemented with virtual learning sessions held over two weeks per 2 hour-sessions. This approach is currently tested in Ethiopia, and it is highly appreciated by the national partners as it allows them to have access to diverse resource materials, international experts while being located in their region. This is an important aspect during COVID19 pandemic.

Expansion of learning material catalogue. During this inception period, the Secretariat dedicated its resources to expand the existing learning materials to French. In particular, given the important focus of PARM H2 in the Sahel region and more in general francophone countries, it was important to align the existing resources to the new target audience language. For this purpose, the CD2 learning materials have been fully translated in French and published on PARM Website by April 2020. In addition, a full translation in French has been carried out for the 4 e-learning modules and implementation on the e-learning platform is on-going and it is planned to be finalized by 1st semester 2020.



c. Partnership

Enhanced partnerships and knowledge generation/sharing processes on ARM at local, national, regional and/or global level represents one of the core outcomes of PARM Horizon 2. In particular, as part of the new KM Strategy, partners' engagement, collaboration and co-creation represent core principles of PARM H2 approach. During the year 2020, the Platform has been actively engaged in the following activities (it includes also the latest activities carried out in October and November 2020):

3 JUNE AND 14 OCTOBER 2020

FARM-D Live Talks Series on Gender and Climate Risk Finance

FARM-D has launched in June its first co-hosted Live Talks series. The series is comprised of 4 webinars sessions on Gender and Climate Risk Finance in collaboration with the InsuResilience Global Partnership. With 139 participants, the first session shared best practices for incorporating gender considerations into different climate risk insurance schemes, including the dissemination of findings from a study. Hosting 110 participants, the second session focused on gender-responsive approaches in monitoring and evaluation of Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance (CDRFI). Both sessions resulted in the production of respective reports that have consolidated the lessons collected during the discussions. These insights have been disseminated through the co-hosts' websites, social media pages and a FARM-D newsletter. Another two sessions are envisaged for 2021 as part of the series.

AUGUST 2020

Practical toolkit to assess and prioritize the major risks affecting agricultural value chains through a holistic approach, CIAT

The objective of the study carried out in collaboration with the International Center of Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) is to develop a toolkit based on the holistic methodology developed by PARM in order to rigorously assess and prioritize the major risks affecting agricultural sector and farm business at value chain (VC) level (or for specific commodities). In line with PARM's methodology, the study is also expected to identify the key players (at different layer) along the VC contributing to make the VC less exposed to the prioritized risks. The ultimate beneficiaries of the study are farmers, in particular the ones whose business models is oriented towards commerce. The project, launched in August 2020 is in progress and the first draft was received at the end of November 2020 while the final version will be finalized in early 2021. The toolkit will represent the reference for the new value chain risk assessment studies that will be carried out during PARM Horizon 2.

24 SEPTEMBER AND 29 OCTOBER 2020

FARM-D Live Talks Series on Risk Management for Agri-SME Finance

A Live Talks series has been promoted by FARM-D together with the SAFIN Network, the International Labour Organization's Social Finance Programme and PARM. Starting with an overview of the tools available for agricultural risk management, the first session – which counted 119 participants – hosted a panel discussion on the new risks that have been introduced by the COVID-19 crisis, the new challenges they present in relation to the existing ARM "toolbox", and the response that has been observed thus far from agri-SMEs and other actors in the field. Reaching 165 participants, the second session opened space for the presentation of case studies from financial institutions and other actors on providing financial services to agri-SMEs during and after the COVID-19 crisis. Key takeaways have been collected and disseminated through FARM-D newsletter and social media pages, and are currently being compiled for the production of a knowledge material to be shared after the end of the series – which expects another two sessions over December 2020 and January 2021.

29 OCTOBER 2020

InsuResilience Global Partnership Gender Working Group Virtual Call

Both INSURED's technical specialist and PARM/INSURED's Gender Focal Point participated to the Gender Working Group (WG) Virtual Call, which discussed the ongoing and upcoming activities of the WG. This included the presentation and a discussion on the LIVE TALK Series on Gender and Climate risk Finance held in collaboration with FARM-D, INSURED/IFAD; as well as their endorsed Gender Declaration, and the creation and development of Gender Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Gender-smart Solutions. The WG allowed for greater visibility of INSURED/IFAD's partnership with InsuResilience and its results, including the LIVE TALK series, and promoted the next LIVE TALK session. The partnership, including the Gender WG, is also increasing the visibility of INSURED's work on gender and developing its network on the topic. INSURED's participation in the Gender WG will also implicate them in the development of this CoE for Gender-smart Solutions, which is not only a great opportunity to expand its partnerships on the topic, but also to contribute to populating the CoE with INSURED/IFAD's own resources on the topic, therefore showcasing its work.

4 NOVEMBER 2020

World Bank's regional ASA WA Food System Resilience Facility (FSRF)

An informal review meeting covering two concept notes under the **Food Systems Resilience Facility (FSRF, P172941)** was held virtually on November 4, 2020. PARM has been requested to provide comments to the CN 'Regional Risk Architecture & Financing Mechanisms' in West Africa/Sahel region and the discussion followed. It was remarked by PARM and WB the mutual interest to collaborate in this particular geographical area. There was an audience of about 30 people from WB, UN agencies, etc. attending the meeting.

BOX 10

Risk Assessment Study for Agricultural Value Chain, a Practical Toolkit

A Practical toolkit to assess and prioritize major risks affecting agricultural value chains and design ARM strategies has been developed in collaboration with CIAT and Bioversity. The aim is to provide a step-by-step guidance to perform a rigorous risk assessment and prioritization of the major risks affecting actors along agricultural value chains at the country level, and to identify the actionable components of an integrated risk management strategy for the value chain, using a gender lens throughout.

Every process and activity in each agricultural value chain are in fact exposed to uncertain factors and therefore involves risk. The key elements of a risk assessment remain the estimations of the probability and impact of a risk event that affect various actors along the agricultural value chain (AVC) to different extents. This toolkit focuses on covariate or systemic risks which involve many enterprises simultaneously and therefore can have a significant effect on the entire AVC, such as a drought, disease outbreaks, a price drop, or sudden regulatory changes.

The toolkit is structured according to the risk management process and provides step-by-step guidance for:

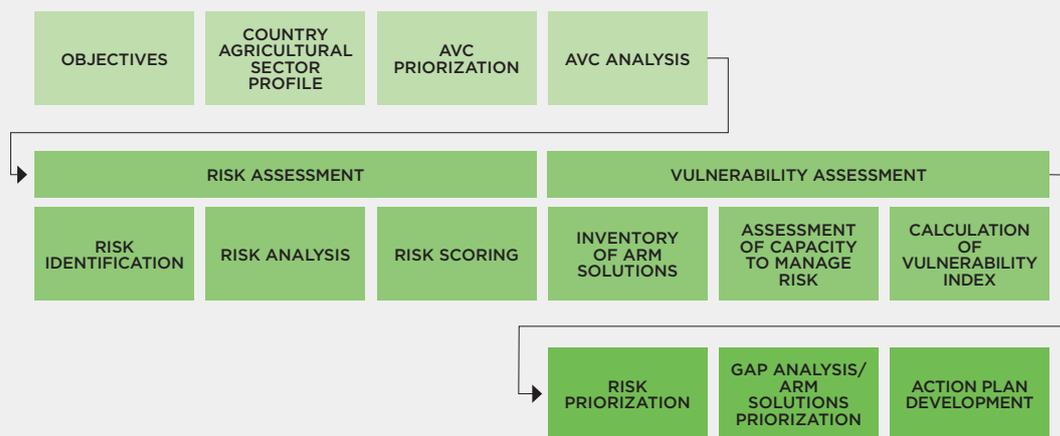
- objective setting of the study;
- risk identification;
- risk analysis, including risk and vulnerability assessment;
- the development of risk management solutions.

The detailed steps required to conduct a VC-RAS are illustrated in Figure 6, and correspond to the chapters of toolkit.

The practical toolkit is intended to support PARM and its partners, as well as other stakeholders, interested in performing holistic agricultural risk assessments and developing feasible action plans with agricultural value focus.

The methodology presented in the toolkit is intended as a rapid approach to be executed within a time frame of 12 weeks.

FIGURE 6
Sequential steps for of the VC-RAS toolkit





BOX 11

Partnership with INSURED

INSURED and PARM have joined their efforts on both KM and country level activities. Following a request from the Government of **Burkina Faso**, through PARM, INSURED has started in-country consultations to conduct an agricultural insurance assessment in Burkina Faso in collaboration with WFP. The focus of the study is under discussion with a view to conduct it during 2021.

In Ethiopia, during 2020, INSURED finalized the ToRs for a feasibility study on agricultural insurance in collaboration with the IFAD- Rural Financial Intermediation Programme - Phase III (RUFIP III) and the Association of Ethiopian Micro Finance Institutions (AEMFI) and began desk research activities for the inception report, which will be used to refine the specific focus areas of the study. INSURED and the Managing Risks for Rural Development grant (MRRD) participated in the virtual launch of RUFIP III, which was hosted by the Development Bank of Ethiopia.

In the annual reporting period, throughout 2020, INSURED contributed to the PARM gender strategy and in coordination with PARM provided technical inputs and insights to IFAD strategies including: IFAD COVID-19 response and recovery strategy for the Twelfth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (IFAD 12),

INSURED actively participated into the three webinars/ Live Talk series organised by FARM-D in collaboration with the InsuResilience Global Partnership, PARM and **SAFIN**. INSURED and PARM have also been actively involved into the InsuResilience Gender working groups to capture and share lessons learned.

In addition to the joint PARM/INSURED activities, INSURED participated to the following events, bringing forward the ARM agenda.

15-16 JUNE 2020

June Member Meeting (JMM) 2020 Leveraging Technology to reach the uninsured (Annual network member meeting)

As a member of the Microinsurance Network (MiN), INSURED took part to the three sessions organised by the MiN. The event was organised into three Regional Deep Dive sessions:

- 1. Deep dive into insurance market ecosystems emerging in Asia.** Which focused into the development of the (inclusive) insurance market ecosystems in 6 countries in Emerging Asia, specifically Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal and Pakistan.
- 2. Deep dive into insurance market ecosystems in Africa.** Which focused into the development of the (inclusive) insurance market ecosystems in 6 countries in Africa, specifically Burkina Faso, Egypt, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa and Uganda.

- 3. Deep dive into insurance market ecosystems in Latin America & the Caribbean.** Which focused into the development of the (inclusive) insurance market ecosystems in 6 countries in Latin America, specifically Bolivia, Colombia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru.

INSURED has also actively participated to the **MicroInsurance Network Best practice Group (BPG)**, focusing on:

- Climate change and food security
- Insurance for MSMEs
- InsurTech

29 SEPTEMBER 2020

De Risking climate pandemic & pandemic disaster; 9th MEFIN Public Private Dialogue (PPD9)

INSURED actively participated as a panel member to the session related to diversity in the informal sector and what it means for insurers. Discussions around the informal sector have often considered it as a homogeneous group. This view may have a negative impact on the development of appropriate protection and insurance solutions for this sector where heterogeneity in terms poverty, age, education and skills among others exist. Social protection schemes and DRF solutions can effectively enhance the resilience of the informal sector only if adjusted to the profile of the household

or business segment to be protected. This means considering not only the composition, size, location, assets, sector and other explicit features, but also the more implicit characteristics, such as the gender dynamics in low-income households, cash flow sources and timing, businesses and sectors that are more vulnerable to disaster risks. In this light, the aim of the session was to understand how the characteristics of different household and business segments in the informal sector could and should be considered in developing DRF solutions for the vulnerable.

3 NOVEMBER 2020

International Conference for Inclusive Insurance (ICII). Public Private Partnerships for inclusive insurance against climate risks: What works and what does not?

This webinar was hosted by the ILO's Impact Insurance Facility, where INSURED actively participated as a panel member. PPPs are often promoted as an effective mechanism for developing insurance programmes. Nevertheless, outcomes in efficiency and sustainability of operations continue to offer mixed results. Building on the lessons learned thus far, the session dived deeper into the different aspects in which governments can support efforts to scale up agriculture, climate and disaster risk insurance to make the products more accessible and responsible: "do no harm".

The various ways in which the private sector can engage with the government, not only to leverage, but also to create a platform for scalable and efficient insurance programmes, have been examined. Along with government and insurers, the session also probed perspectives of intermediaries for product development, awareness creation and distribution, and loss assessment and verification, to unveil the success factors, improvement opportunities, and to evaluate the positioning of insurance for risk reduction and building resilience.

12 NOVEMBER 2020

Microinsurance Network (MiN) General Assembly (GA) 2020 Virtual Event

On behalf of IFAD as institutional member of the MiN, INSURED actively participated to the GA by voting on key agenda items:

- a. Ratification of the Board elections
- b. Proposed amendments to the bylaws
- c. Follow-up on the potential name change for the Network

Additional new Board members and a new Chairman, were introduced. It was also decided not to change the name of the network at this time but to consider it again in the future. The term

length for Board members was increased from 2 to 3 years, with 3 possible renewals for a maximum of 9 years. The few amendments to the bylaws were made primarily to streamline and make official some practices that had become common such as the role of the Secretariat in organizing elections and keeping track of members who resign from the Association. It was mentioned that there is currently a budget shortfall of 19 000 euros, for which MiN is requesting additional funding from members in the form of sponsorship of forthcoming briefing notes, country workshops and banner advertisements.

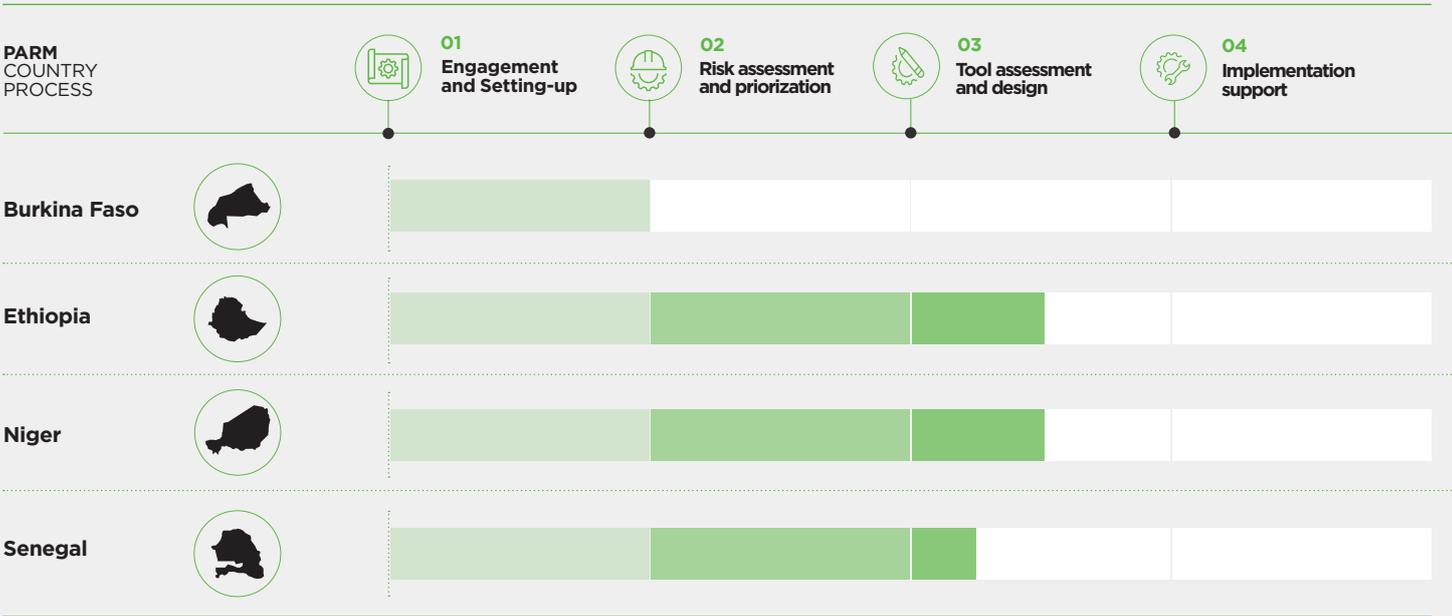
2.4. Country Activities

Under this component, the Secretariat officially launched PARM H2 process in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Niger and Senegal while continuing the selection process and preliminary mapping of new potential countries.

At country level, the impact of COVID-19 caused delays and required readapting and finding alternative ways to ensure the implementation of activities. This is mainly due to the limitations in traveling, carrying out the studies and organizing field missions. In addition, the uncertainty caused by possible new orientations and decisions taken by policy and decision makers about the short-term response to COVID19 is another element that delayed the dialogue with PARM's host Governments.

BOX 12

At a glance





Senegal. ©PARM/Carlos Tomas Lora Acosta



Burkina Faso



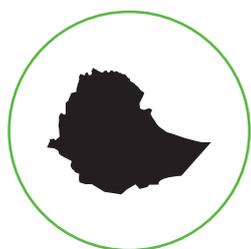
Burkina Faso is a new PARM Horizon 2 country. In November 2019 the Government of Burkina Faso represented by the Ministry of Agriculture (MAAH), has confirmed their engagement to participate in the PARM Country Process in PARM Horizon 2. The MAAH has nominated a Focal Point (who was temporarily substituted by the IFAD Country Programme Officer), to contribute to the smooth implementation of the PARM Country process. PARM has also contracted a senior Country Liaison Officer in Ouagadougou to represent the platform in the country and support the process.

PARM has developed the Concept Note and Action Plan for the PARM Country Process in Burkina Faso, which the MoA has validated signed. In close collaboration with the MAAH, PARM is developing the ToRs for the risk assessment study at national level that will complement and deepen the previous RAS undertaken by the Govt. and its partners. The Govt. is very interested in progressing quickly and working together to identify and develop ARM strategies to respond to the risks that are impacting the Country's agricultural sector. The objective is to choose tools for investment in the next steps of the PARM Country Process. This process is being supported and reinforced by CD and KM activities, in which the MAAH is particularly interested. These activities and their preparation phase were officially launched in November 2020 when the Action Plan was signed.



Ethiopia. ©PARM/Carlos Tomas Lora Acosta

Ethiopia



RESULTS FROM PARM HORIZON 1



MAJOR RISKS IDENTIFIED



Plant pest and diseases
Animal diseases



Droughts and Floods

Key risks for priority action identified in PARM Risk Assessment Study in 2016 undertaken by Natural Resource Institute (NRI): i) worsening droughts and floods, and ii) plant and animal pest and diseases.



MAJOR TOOLS FOR INVESTMENT IDENTIFIED



Strengthening capacities on ARM of the national extension services

The cross cutting ARM strategy to respond to the identified risk chosen in close collaboration with the MoA is Capacity Development on ARM for the extension service.

Ethiopia is a PARM Horizon 1 country since November 2014. In May 2020, the Government of Ethiopia has reiterated its commitment to work with PARM on ARM, focusing on sustainability and progressive ownership. A virtual consultation was held on 7 May 2020 between members of the Steering Committee of the Ethiopian Agricultural Extension Mandate Zonation and the PARM Secretariat. The aim was to initiate the discussion on designing activities in the country and how best to align PARM's actions with national priorities. The Government has nominated a Focal Point, to contribute to the smooth implementation of the PARM Country process, and PARM has strengthened its country presence through a Country Liaison Officer and a Country Lead Learning Facilitator to represent PARM in the country and facilitate the implementation of the PARM learning cycles and related activities.

PARM and the Ministry of Agriculture jointly agreed on an action plan for the PARM Country Process in Ethiopia. A pilot intervention on blended (physical and online) learning cycles on ARM with extension agents, development agencies (e.g. AICS) and other value chain actors was launched in Afar, Amhara and Oromia regions. The ultimate goal of PARM, as also agreed with the MoA, is to jointly design an investment plan to scale up this approach in the country.

The first learning cycle started through virtual sessions and use of google classroom designed for Ethiopia. There were 11 Resource Persons representing the three pilot regions who are actively participating.

Next steps

Conduct the first learning cycles in the three pilot regions. Preparations are ongoing to hold the first learning events to be led by the resource persons trained virtually by PARM Secretariat. These resource persons will continue to be coached at a distance by the PARM Secretariat while they implement the activities in the region. They will have use the Google Classrooms to develop the capacities of several learning facilitators for ARM who in turn will work with key value chain actors to practice the ARM approach.

BOX 13

PARM's link to IFAD's projects and INSURED in Ethiopia

PARM is managing the two technical assistance programmes on insurance to benefit the IFAD-financed portfolio, which are active in Ethiopia. These are 'Managing Risk for Rural Development: Promoting Microinsurance Innovations (MRRD)', which is implemented by the MicroInsurance Centre at Milliman, and the Insurance for Rural Resilience and Economic Development (INSURED). MRRD and INSURED are conducting insurance pre-implementation study under IFAD's major flagship rural finance programme in Ethiopia, Rural Financial Intermediation Programme III (RUFIP III). RUFIP III target beneficiaries are largely poor and vulnerable, therefore, the study

will focus on rural insurance of various types, but largely focused on microinsurance, which is any insurance that has been specifically designed to meet the needs of low-income population. It will include, but not limited to agriculture insurance both for individuals (micro-level insurance) and institutions (meso-level insurance). Thus PARM is closely linked to the IFAD's Ethiopia's portfolio through MRRD's activities in addition to the ongoing PARM Country Process.



Niger. ©PAM/Carlos Tomas Lora Acosta



Niger



RESULTS FROM PARM HORIZON 1



Drought



Uncertain access to market

MAJOR RISKS IDENTIFIED

Key risks for priority action identified in PARM Risk Assessment Study in 2016 in complement to the 2013 World Bank Agricultural Sector Risk Assessment are: drought, locust outbreak and consumer price risks.



Contract farming
Warehouse receipt systems



Information systems and early warning
Strengthening capacities on ARM of the national extension services

MAJOR TOOLS FOR INVESTMENT IDENTIFIED

Main cross cutting strategies and tools identified with the Government are:

- Warehouse receipt systems and contract farming linked to food crisis responses/policies
- Strengthened information systems
- Capacity development on ARM

Capacity Development activities were undertaken, notably a 5 day in depth regional training organized in collaboration with Centre Régional AGRHYMET in April 2018, and specific trainings on the first two tools to key stakeholders.

Niger is a PARM Horizon 1 Country and since October 2019 the Government has confirmed its engagement in PARM Horizon 2 to continue the PARM Country Process. The national PARM Focal Point was nominated by the HC3N and discussions initiated to kick-off the design phase. This also included the recruitment of the design team leader. Some interactions undertaken with national and international stakeholders brought to the development of the draft concept note of the new ARM integrated project. In particular, key partners (NGOs, extension, farmers' organizations) were initially consulted to design the country-specific ARM learning cycles. Great enthusiasm and interest were conveyed by national partners in this new approach.

Next steps

PARM is in discussions with its national counterpart - the Haut Commissariat à l'Initiative 3N ("les Nigériens Nourrissent les Nigériens") - to define an action plan for implementing the PARM Country Process. This will lay the foundation for the design of a joint ARM Programme to be implemented by the Government and financed by other donors. However, due to the upcoming presidential elections and uncertainty from the government, it was agreed to pause the activities for the time being and postpone the activities to 2022 but continuing the dialogue with the HC3N and strategic partners in 2021.



Senegal. © PARM/Carlos Tomas Lora Acosta



Senegal



RESULTS FROM PARM HORIZON 1



Erratic rainfall



Animal diseases



Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing

MAJOR RISKS IDENTIFIED

By request of the Senegalese Government, PARM conducted an analysis to identify and prioritize risks in the fisheries and livestock sub-sectors to complement the [World Bank Agricultural Sector Risk Assessment 2015](#).

The study conducted by the WB, which focused essentially on crop (plant) production, identified the two major risks as irregular rainfalls (and in extreme cases drought), which represents 50% of harvest losses, as well as crop pests and diseases (especially locusts' invasions), whose national impact on production is estimated at 25%. The key risks for priority action in the livestock and fisheries sub-sectors identified in the [PARM Risk Assessment Study in 2016](#) are: (i) erratic rainfall, (ii) animal diseases, (iii) illicit fisheries. The two studies, of PARM and the WB, thus provided the Senegalese Government with a complete analysis of risks affecting the agriculture sector.



Remittances



Information systems and early warning
Strengthening capacities on ARM
of the national extension services

MAJOR TOOLS FOR INVESTMENT IDENTIFIED

The cross cutting ARM strategies to respond to the identified risk chosen in close collaboration with the MoA are:

- [Strengthened information systems](#);
- [Remittances](#);
- [Capacity development on ARM](#).

The Senegalese government, represented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Equipment (MAER), has been actively engaged in the PARM process since April 2015. Through the process, PARM in partnership with NEPAD and other development actors supported the Government's efforts to mainstream ARM into policies. The results of this partnership led to the creation of awareness and building capacities on ARM. It also resulted in the development of ARM proposals for investment.

In February 2020, the Government of Senegal has reiterated its engagement to participate in PARM Horizon 2 (2019-2024) and continue the PARM Country process. This was also confirmed by the nomination of the national ARM Focal Point.

Next steps

PARM is currently developing an action plan and a way forward jointly with the Ministry of Agriculture to proceed with PARM Horizon 2. The outcome of this dialogue will pave the way for the design of an ARM programme for the country notably on the three tools identified in PARM Horizon 1: remittances, information systems and capacity development. The importance given to CD will also be reflected in this new phase. PARM is also preparing to launch its learning cycles, and discussing with the MAER the objective and targets of the CD component in the country. Greater focus will also be given in this new phase to aligning PARM's work and actions to partners' ongoing programmes and projects, and the country's priorities.



Senegal. ©PARM/Carlos Tomas Lora Acosta





3. Programme Financing

3.1. Annual Work Plan and Budget Expenditure 2020

For the purpose of this report, the current budget report covers the period from 1st of January to 31st December 2020.

The Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB) for 2020 was revised and approved by the 3rd Steering Committee in November 2020 and sums up to **EUR 747,167.36**. The total actual expenditure reached **EUR 657,087.53** or 88% of the budget as of 31st December 2020. Details of implemented and committed activities under each of the different budget lines are presented in Table 1.

747,167.36
Total Budget for 2020 (EUR)

TABLE 1
PARM Budget Implementation (Jan-Dec 2020) vs Annual Work Plan and Budget 2020 (EUR)

PARM Categories	Budget 2020	Actual Expenditure (1Jan-31Dec 2020)	Balance	% expenditure / budget 2020
Communication and visibility actions	88,412	90,763.7	-2,351.7	103%
Cost of staff assigned to project	261,114.33	262,913	-1799	101%
Administrative Assistant	40,445.33	42,658	-2,213	105%
KM, Communication and Partnership Specialist	71,897	71,591	306	100%
Lead Technical Specialist	148,772	148,664	108	100%
Technical Specialist	-	-	-	-
Technical assistance, supervision, implementation support	397,641.03	303,410.76	94,230.27	76%
Capacity building, knowledge management and M&E	23,964.03	-	23,964.03	-
Studies and consultancies	365,911	295,644.47	70,266.53	81%
Travel	7,766	7,766.29	-	100%
Total Budget/Expenditure	747,167.36	657,088	90,080	88%

Total expenditure **88%**

Detailed budget expenditure of the different macro-categories are presented below:

- a) **Communication and Visibility actions:** overall expenditure under this category is EUR 90,763 (or 103% of AWPB); as illustrated in the table above, for this item the allocated budget was slightly exceeded to cover unforeseen expenses to enhance PARM online platforms and purchase new tools to improve remote teamwork.
- b) **Cost assigned to the project:** under this category the funds budgeted for salary costs of the PARM Secretariat staff adds up for a total of EUR 262,913.07. Actual expenditures reach the 101% of allocated budget. The over expenditure reflects the re-alignment of the salaries with the actual IFAD standard staff costs of 2020.
- c) **Technical assistance, supervision, implementation support:** this category covers a wide range of activities aimed at implementing the Platform's strategy, from consultancy contracts to support PARM's work in the countries, to the organization of capacity development and capacity building events. The total expenditure related to this budget item sums up to EUR 303,410, slightly below the budget allocated in the AWPB. The underspending is the result of a number of factors listed as follows:
 - Regarding the sub-category Studies and **Consultancies**, the balance refers to contract costs covering both 2020 and 2021 activities; for the purpose of this report, only 2020 actual expenditures are recorded; in addition to this the overall 81% of the expenditures of AWPB reflects the setback of activities in Niger due to country endogenous issues (new presidential elections) that caused the revision of the contract of the Design Team Leader and the subsequent lowering of the budget committed; the under-spending under this category is also due to substantial saving on the cost of the Agricultural Value Chain Risk Assessment Study compared to the initial cost estimation.
 - Lastly, another item that affected this macro-category is the sub-category **Capacity building, knowledge management and M&E**; for reasons related to coordination between the PARM team and the counterparts at the Ministry of Agriculture, the activities related to Capacity Development in Ethiopia were agreed to be postponed to 2021; this includes the institutional contract signed with the MoA of Ethiopia in January 2021 that will be reflected in the 2021 report.

3.2. Long-Term Plan Budget and cumulative expenditure 2019-2025

The total gross budget for PARM Horizon 2 adds up to **EUR 10,792,972** for a total amount of net budget of **EUR 9,997,534.08** which reflects the new Long-Term 2019-2025 Budget approved by the 3rd Steering Committee in November 2020.

The PARM cumulative actual expenditure and commitments from June 2019 to 31st December 2020 reaches **EUR 964,201** or 10% of the total budget of the Platform 2019-25 (Table 2). PARM has reached 26% of budget implementation based on actual expenditure against received funds. More details on PARM contributions by donor and on funds received as of 31st December 2020 are presented in Table 3.

TABLE 2
Overall Budget Implementation as of 31st December 2020 (EUR)

	Total PARM Budget	Funds Received
A Total Budget Gross	10 792 972	4 024 077
B IFAD Mgmt Fees (MGF)	795 438	278 243
C Total Budget Net*	9 997 534	3 745 835
D Actual Expenditure Net*	964 201	964 201
D/C % of Budget Implemented based on Actuals Net*	10%	26%
C-F Total Available Funds as of 31 December 2020	9 063 568	2 811 869
F/C % of Budget Implementation based on Actuals + Commitments Net*	10%	26%

* Net of 7% IFAD Management Fees (MGF).

TABLE 3
PARM Contributions by Donor as of 31st December 2020 (EUR)

PARM Contributions by Donor	Contribution Amounts EUR (Gross)	Funds Received EUR (Gross)	Receivable EUR	%
Italy	1 800 000	1 800 000	-	100%
IFAD	600 000	484 077	115 923	81%
EC	2 000 000	340 000	1 660 000	17%
AFD	4 400 000	1 400 000	3 000 000	32%
Totals	8 800 000	4 024 077	4 775 923	46%



4. Way forward and Lessons Learned



In 2021 PARM will continue seeking new financial and technical partners both at global and country level.

Although the pandemic in 2020 has affected most of PARM's action plans at country and regional level, it has also represented an opportunity to review and adapt some operational, technical and methodological tools previously adopted by the platform to the new context. For instance, to compensate the limited physical presence of the secretariat at country level, travels have been "replaced" by virtual meetings, through the reinforcement of national staff representing PARM, as well as involving IFAD Country Office (ICO) in the daily discussions with PARM's strategic partners. 2020 confirmed again the relevance for PARM to be supported by IFAD ICOs, in particular in facilitating the dialogue with Governments, as demonstrated in Ethiopia and Burkina Faso.

Obviously, these are extreme measures and they cannot substitute the missions, trainings or the KM events organized in the field. However, given the positive results achieved, they could be considered as alternative solutions or new tools in the event of new lockdowns in 2021, in order to complete the new country process of PARM H2 by combining both physical and remote activities. This has also contributed to making the use of the resources allocated to PARM by the SC more efficient.

From a more strategic perspective, in 2021 PARM will continue seeking new financial and technical partners both at global and country level to support the implementation of PARM H2 and the challenges incurred by the pandemic COVID-19, including other categories of macro-level risks, in particular related to climate change.

In 2020 the events and network created through FARM-D exponentially grew, confirming its added value for PARM as a KM broker in the field of ARM, enabling the platform to develop new synergies with international experts and initiatives or organizations such as SAFIN, ILO's Social Finance Programme and the InsuResilience Global Partnership.

Strengthening the dialogue with financial partners and jointly identifying concrete areas of collaboration with PARM along the country process is clearly a big priority for PARM. Potential entry points are the capacity development activities implemented by the Platform and their link to the training centres, research institutes, Universities supported by PARM SC members or other donors. Other entry points could be found in aligning PARM's policy and the project design process with ongoing national strategies and investment plans.

The integration of the new PARM Gender Strategy and the new methodology to assess and prioritize the agricultural risks through the value chain (developed with CIAT) into the country operations (in both the technical and KM/CD clusters), are another innovations proposed by the platform, which are particularly relevant, allowing PARM to continue its process in developing and updating the "holistic approach" along the four steps of its methodology: "assess, design, learn and share ARM".

Library

At a Glance

Annual Reports

- Annual Progress Report
2014
- Annual Progress Report
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- Annual Progress Report
2016
- Annual Progress Report
2017
- PARM Mid-Term Evaluation Report
2017
- Annual Progress Report
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Country Final Report

- Uganda | Country Final Report
May 2017
- Cameroon | Country Final Report
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- Senegal | Country Final Report
July 2019
- Niger | Country Final Report
July 2019
- Cabo Verde | Country Final Report
September 2019
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September 2019
- Zambia | Country Final Report
September 2019
- Liberia | Country Final Report
September 2019

PARM Process

- PARM Programme Summary
January 2018
- PARM CD Strategy factsheet
June 2017
- PARM Horizon 2 Infographic
January 2018

Other briefs

- PARM Programme Summary
Annually
- PARM CD Strategy factsheet
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- PARM Result Factsheets
Quarterly
- PARM Horizon 2 Infographic
December 2017

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Cross-cutting studies

- Study on appropriate warehouse and collateral management
September 2014
- Information Systems for Agricultural Risk Management (IS-ARM) in 8 Countries
October 2016
- Agricultural risk management: best practices and lessons learned for development
December 2017
- Gender and agricultural risks management
March 2019
- Key success factors in strengthening the capacity to manage risks at farm level: emerging lessons learned
March 2019

Risk Assessment Studies

- Uganda | Agricultural Risk Assessment study
October 2015
- Niger | Agricultural Risk Assessment study
July 2016
- Senegal | Agricultural Risk Assessment study in the livestock farming and fishing sub-sectors
August 2016
- Ethiopia | Agricultural Risk Assessment study
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- Cameroon | Agricultural Risk Assessment study
April 2017
- Niger | Terms of Reference for Agricultural Risk Assessment: focus on access to finance, market and information for smallholder producers
January 2016
- Senegal | Terms of Reference for Agricultural Risk Assessment on Fisheries
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- Liberia | Agricultural Risk Assessment study
To be published by early 2019
- Cabo Verde | Agricultural Risk Assessment study
To be published by early 2019

ARM Tools Feasibility Studies

Uganda

- Crop pests and disease management in Uganda: status and investment needs
March 2017
- Finance, information and Risk Management
November 2016

Cameroon

- Information systems connected to community warrantage (warehousing)
December 2017

Senegal

- Money transfer (remittances) as an instrument to manage agricultural risks
October 2017
- Access to information systems for agricultural risk management
January 2018

Cabo Verde

- Reducing market price volatility to improve resilience of agricultural producers
June 2018

Niger

- Feasibility studies for ARM investment in futures contract and warrantage network in support of national strategies
September 2018
- Feasibility studies for investment in access to information systems in Niger
September 2018

Ethiopia

- Feasibility study on sustainable investment plan for capacity development in agricultural risk management
September 2019

Zambia

- Feasibility study for investment to improve agricultural risk information for meso-level stakeholders
May 2019
- Feasibility for investment to enhance the Zambian warehouse receipt system and aligning the food reserve agency's strategic plans to the system
May 2019

Liberia

- Feasibility study for investment: information systems for agricultural risk management in Liberia
April 2019
- Sustainable investment plan for agricultural risk management training in Liberia
April 2019

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- Uganda | Agricultural risk profile
November 2016
- Senegal | Agricultural risk profile
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- Cameroon | Agricultural risk profile
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- Niger | Agricultural risk profile
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- Ethiopia | Agricultural risk profile
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- Mozambique | Agricultural risk profile
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- Cameroon | Information systems for agricultural risk management
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- Niger | Warehouse receipt systems: making progress in market, finance and post-harvest risks management
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- Comparative | Warehouse receipt systems: making progress in market, finance and post-harvest risk management in Africa
December 2016

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- Working Paper #1 | Terms of Reference for Agricultural Risk Management Assessment
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- Working Paper #2 | Information Systems for Agricultural Risk Management in Uganda
September 2015
- Working Paper #3 | Can NDCs enhance Agricultural Risk Management policies in sub-Saharan countries?
May 2017
- Working Paper #4 | Connecting the dots: the holistic approach to ARM as a way to contribute to the SDGs efforts
March 2018
- Working Paper #5 | A holistic approach to agricultural risk management for resilience
August 2018
- Working Paper #6 Agricultural Risk Assessment and Management for Food Security in Developing Countries: A resource for the e-learning curriculum course on "Agricultural Risk Assessment and Management for Food Security in Developing Countries"
October 2018

Learning materials

CD 1 Material | Managing risk at farm level

October 2018

- Manual
- Handbook
- Guidelines
- Slides

CD 2 Material | Agricultural Risk Assessment and Management for Food Security in Developing Countries

December 2018

- Module 1. Understanding the risk environment in agriculture
- Module 2. Assessing risk in agriculture
- Module 3. Agricultural risk management tools
- Module 4. Planning, implementing and evaluating ARM strategies

Workshop reports

Capacity Development Seminars

Uganda

- Capacity Development Training (CD1) for National Stakeholders
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
July 2015
- Capacity Development Training (CD1) for Farmers' Organizations
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
December 2015
- Capacity Development Training (CD2)
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
March 2017

Cameroon

- Capacity Development Training (CD1)
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
June 2016

Niger

- Capacity Development Training (CD1)
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
December 2015
- Regional Capacity Development Seminar in the Sahel (CD2)
(Consolidated Report)
April 2018

Ethiopia

- Capacity Development Training (CD2) seminar
(Consolidated Report)
June 2018
- Technical workshop on sustainable investment plan for CD on ARM (Consolidated Report)
October 2018

Senegal

- Capacity Development Training (CD1)
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
April 2016
- Capacity Development Training (CD2)
(Consolidated Report)
October 2017
- Capacity Development Training (CD3) – Remittances to manage agricultural risks (Consolidated Report)
October 2017
- Capacity Development Training (CD3) – Access to information to manage agricultural risks (Consolidated Report)
October 2017

Cabo Verde

- Capacity Development Training (CD1)
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
July 2016

Liberia

- Capacity Development Training (CD1)
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
April 2017

Zambia

- Capacity Development Training (CD1)
(Consolidated Report)
June 2018

Liberia

- Capacity Development Training (CD1)
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
April 2017

Zambia

- Capacity Development Training (CD1)
(Consolidated Report)
June 2018

Risk Assessment Validation and Policy Dissemination Events**Cameroon**

- Risk Assessment Validation Workshop
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
December 2016
- High Level Dissemination Workshop Report
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
December 2017

Niger

- Risk Assessment Validation Workshop
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
December 2015
- High Level Policy Dissemination
(Consolidated Report)
October 2018
- Validation Workshop on Feasibility Studies for Investment
(Consolidated Report)
June 2018

Ethiopia

- Risk Assessment Validation Workshop
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
December 2015

Senegal

- Risk Assessment Validation Workshop
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
June 2016
- High Level Dissemination Workshop Report
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
July 2017

Cabo Verde

- Risk Assessment Validation Workshop
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
July 2016
- High Level Dissemination Workshop Report
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
December 2017

Uganda

- Risk Assessment Validation Workshop
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
July 2015
- High Level Dissemination Workshop Report
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
November 2016

Liberia

- Risk Assessment Validation Workshop
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
June 2017

Zambia

- High Level Dissemination Workshop
March 2019

PARM K-Sharing Events

- Information Systems for ARM K-sharing event
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
January 2017
- ARM: practices and lessons learned for development, K-sharing event
(Vol. 1 Main Report, Vol. 2 Presentations)
October 2017
- Building capacities to empower farmers at the farm level: success factors from experience
December 2018

Videos

- SENEGAL: mainstreaming agricultural risk management into national policies – Ep.2
June 2018
- Webcast on K-Sharing Event on ARM practices and lessons - Opening Remarks & Workshop Objectives
November 2017
- PARM & FARM-D Webinar on “Senegal Risk Assessment: a look into the livestock and fisheries sector”
March 2017
- PARM & FARM D Webinar on Information Systems for Agricultural Risk Management
March 2017
- SENEGAL: mainstreaming agricultural risk management into national policies - Ep.1
November 2016
- Agricultural Risk Management: a new way of thinking – PARM
July 2016

All publications are available in our library.



<http://platformforarm.org/library/>

PARM on YouTube



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6EBHdMdCVo0jIBu0xeIJIA>





Managing risks to improve farmers' livelihoods



**Platform
for Agricultural
Risk Management**

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