**Mid-term Review**

Reporting format

Principales

**Review team** Who participated?

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| Country | MALI |
| Team members | 1. Dramane SIDIBE, CARE International Mali (CARE Focal person) 2. Idrissa FANE (Expert M&E) 3. Bakary KONE Wetlands International (Lead) 4. Mayors de Dialloube, Deboye, Youwarou, Konna and Borondougou |
| Mali country team | 1. Ibrahima S. FOFANA (Wetlands International, Field Coordinator) 2. N’Golo TRAORE (CARE International, field Coordinator) |
| Local implementing teams | 1. ODI/Sahel : Mme DIARRA and two Junior Experts (one by each of the 2 districts) 2. AMPRODE/Sahel: Mr. Mamoutou TRAORE and one Junior Expert for the on district) 3. GRAT: Mr. Toure and two Junior Experts (one by each of the 2 districts) |
| Other participants | `.Two members/village of the prevention and management disaster risk reduction (20 villages)  NB: Because of the constraints of time for the mid-term-evaluation and the difficulty of transport during the flooding period in the Inner Niger Delta, it has been easier to convene this group of stakeholders to participate at Mopti (HQ of CARE and WI local offices) |

**Main achievements /**

What are the main achievements of the PfR programme to date?

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| Project area | The PfR program in Mali is implemented in the second largest floodplain of Africa, the Inner Niger Delta (30 000 km²) which is one of the fourth sub-basins of the Niger River Basin: Upper Niger, Inner Niger Delta, Middle Niger and Niger Delta  1.5 millions of inhabitants fully depend on exploitation of the Inner Niger Delta (IND) as famers, herders, fishers and craftsmen. ¾ of the IND population live below the poverty level according to the national statistics. The main hazards in the area are: droughts, floods and conflicts |
| Community Resilience / | 1. Despite the security situation experienced by the Mali especially in northern areas and part of the focus area of ​​the project, project activities are running normally.  2. After several sessions of education and training, all 20 villages have been made, the analysis of the vulnerability of the various resources of their lands, developed risk maps, action plans for the prevention and management of risk using the CVCA++ tool  3. The equipment of all 20 villages in rain gauges, according to the beneficiaries, helped to sow the different cereal crops at the correct date after getting the rainfall information from the members of prevention and management of risk reduction committees. According to the beneficiaries, the gauges are real tools to adapt to the vagaries of uncertain rainfall.  4. .The implementation of planned activities has been performed not only in terms of their ranking at the village level but also by taking into account the DRR / CCA / EMR or DRR/CCA or DRR / EMR approaches at the local or landscape levels in all 20 villages  i.e. DRR/EMR : a) . The construction of a vegetated protection dike (flooding) with native grass species (restoration) that protects the 2,000 inhabitants and their properties of Kinani and Simina villages against torrential rains, b) The supply of people with drinking water (drought) in 800 communities of Samberi village and the construction of a vegetable garden for 540 women in Sobe village in compensation of fixing sand dunes that protected schools and homes, recovery and restoration of agricultural and grazing lands.  i.e. CCA/EMR : a) Introduction of cereal varieties resistant to drought / restoration of soil capital (eco-farm, compost and mulching) and carrying out compensatory restoration activities of degraded lands by the communities of nine villages. The introduction of varieties boost agricultural production and productivity and all the beneficiary villages are now self-sufficient except Singo village whose crops were flooded because of their location in the topo sequence of land  b) The vegetable garden of women fenced with the fences and fruit trees (biological fence) in five villages offset by restoration activities of degraded soils. The vegetables and other products have significantly improved the incomes of women (i.e. in Noga village the sowing onion in November 2012, has produced 11 tons in March 2013 with a market value of about 2935 to € 10,901 depending on the sales period by women (€ 0.27 / kg During harvest period and about € 1 / kg falling on the dry season).  5. The joint implementation of DRR / EMR or CCA/ EMR was a determining factor of social cohesion not only among socioprofessional groups of the same village (men and women), but also between neighboring rural communities i.e. Konna-Borondogou (intermunicipal) and reducing conflicts      6. Following numerous awareness and training sessions the populations are fully aware of the role of ecosystems in reducing risk through, floodplain forests and pastures bourgou which are the only areas of refuge for populations of the IND and their animals with those of adjacent upland areas during recurrent droughts.  7. The populations of Simina and Kinani villages understood that their annual inundation problems are due to the deforestation of the forest upstream of the two villages. Among the future actions planned by PfR include the planting of trees in the upstream slope gradient.  8. All beneficiaries are unanimous on the roles of ecosystems for their resilience to disasters because they provide to them picking products, food, medicine, firewood and even promotes the arrival of good rainfalls  9. The consideration the management of water resources upstream of the IND has always been a major concern of its people considering the impacts of upstream dams and climate change on their livelihoods. This awareness has become more amplitudes with a putting at the disposal of the people of the scientific information provided by partner research projects (OPIDIN, DEWFORA, IMPACT2C)  10. Early Warning: In addition to the traditional knowledge used by the population for the early warning (rainfall and river floods) in 20 partner villages which consisting of: comparison of flood levels by year, the arrival of some water birds and position their nests in trees, PfR made ​​available to the beneficiaries of rain gauges for securing time cropping, diffusion and dissemination in time of the information from the National Agency of Meteorology, the National Early Warning System and the Flood Prediction Tool (www.opidin.org) of the IND using multiple communication channels (local radio bulletin, flood maps, etc.).According to the villagers, the combination of two types of early warning systems have been useful and strategic for the planning their socio-economic activities (i.e. a farmer from the village of Saba stopped grain planting, due to despair and he began to sow again after receiving the weather information on the longest possible duration of the rainy season).    11. The 18,816 women of the 20 partner villages have improve their cash income by adhering to both micro-credit systems implemented by PfR: a) MJT : a simple weekly saving and credit mechanism of groups or associations of women (between 10 and 25 maximum) to reduce their vulnerability through access of its members to easy microcredit (from mobilization of local savings) during a cycle of 10 to 12 months maximum renewable and strengthening social cohesion of its members and b) Bio-rights channels investments is to cover the local costs of introducing and maintaining sustainable use of natural resources.  Both microcredit schemes have created beyond obtaining additional cash income a symbiotic understanding between their various members of women groups and through bio-rights, the conservation of biodiversity (i.e. late harvest of bourgou pastures has significantly impact on the weight of the collected fish and survival of many purple herons before their return trip to Europe)  12. The completion of two participatory videos by two villages and dissemination in other beneficiary villages. According to the villagers participatory videos are real tools of linking and learning |
| Civil Society / | 13. In each of the 20 villages it is established a committee for the prevention and management of disaster risks with the terms of reference. A the village level with the support of junior experts from civil society partners, the committees act as an interface between the beneficiary communities, civil society, local decision makers, knowledge institutions and even monitors daily activities and dissemination of information.  14. The awareness sessions undertaken by the civil society partners to beneficiaries allowed the understanding that the only social cohesion in the village and municipal level allows the implementation of DRR / CCA / EMR or DRR / CCA or EMR / EMR activities (i.e. Kinani and Simina for making the protective dike, Sobe and Samberi for fixing sand dunes)    14. The members of civil society partners have benefited from new expertise and have trained the committees for prevention and management disaster risks and village beneficiaries: a) The DRR / CCA / EMR approach, b) the management and use of rain gauges data collected and uses, c) the restoration of soil capital (compost and mulching), d) the management of microcredit e) management community facilities (vegetable gardens and improved wells), f) the dissemination of weather and floods information  15. Existence of an NGO platform (PfR and non PfR) called PICC (Platform of NGOs involved in climate change) and composed of: WI, CARE, GRAT, ODI-Sahel AMPRODE-Sahel, Planète Urgence, OGES, YSM , AGVF. This platform is actively involved in all activities of dissemination of early warning information, but also advocacy sessions at national, regional and local levels. |
| Policy Dialogue / | 16. For the proper implementation of political dialogue strategic partnerships have developed with certain key institutions in the areas of climate change and disaster risk reduction which are: a) the Environment Agency for Sustainable Development, AEDD, prime contractor for the development of the National Policy of climate change, its strategy and action plan, b) Management General for Civil Protection, in charge of emergency management of natural disasters and c) the National Agency of Meteorology. The advocacy sessions are organized and implemented jointly with these partners  17. At the national level advocacy session has concerned 50 people: Members of the National Assembly of Mali, the embassies, the National Directorates of rural development and the supra organization of civil society on: a) Achievements of PfR project and DRR / CCA/EMR approach, b) the National Climate Change Policy, strategy and action plan c) impacts of disaster risk in the world and particularly in Mali  18. The same advocacy session was repeated at regional and local levels. pooled regional and local decision makers of the project area (Mopti) makers and extended to many participants of Segou region. In total 74 participants attend the advocacy session. Both sessions were sanctioned by strong agreed recommendations for policy makers at all levels to take into account the approach DRR / CCA / EMR or DDR / CCA or CCA / EMR in policy documents and strategies.  19. The political dialogue has allowed taken into PfR activities in local development plans of two municipalities namely: Dialloube and Konna. These local development plans are breviaries for all technical and financial partners willing to intervene at local level  20. Because of its strong involvement in the various advocacy sessions, the Environment Agency for Sustainable Development (AEDD) is in line with the consideration to taking into account the EMR component in the National Policy on Climate Change before its submission and vote by the National Assembly |
| Partnership level | 21. All activity planning are jointly by the PfR team members, three NGO partners and members of the committees for prevention and management of risk in various villages  22. Monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual meetings gather the members of the PfR team, partner civil society, committees for prevention and management risk reduction for decision making about the project implementation. They allow the updating of all partners on progress, difficulties and challenges facing the project.  23. Strategic partnerships have been established with: the technical services of the State ( National and regional Direction of Waters and FORESTS, Regional and National Directorate of Water, AEDD, SAP, etc.). Knowledge institutions (National Agency of Meteorology , Rural Economy Institute)  24. The PfR members became members of Early Warning System of Mopti region which meets monthly. This partnership has enabled the team to obtain information from Early Warning System Alert and its dissemination to rural district partners  25. The PfR team has established regular contacts with the Communal Committee of Orientation and Monitoring of Development Activities (CCOCSAD) in rural district communes partners, the Local Committee Local of Orientation, Coordination and Monitoring of Development Activities (CLOCSAD) and the Committee Regional of Orientation , Coordination and Monitoring of development Activities (CROCSAD) |

**Lessons learnt /**

What are the key lessons learnt so far?

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| 26. The existence of collaborative partnership between CARE and WI in the execution of other projects before PfR has been a tremendous asset to the members of PfR in Mali, but has not obscured the time taken to understand, to internalize and implement DRR / CCA/EMR approach.  27. The implementation of the DRR / CCA / EMR approach is more difficult than to implement DRR / CCA or CCA / EMR or DRR / EMR approach locally.  28. The implementation of DRR / CCA or CCA / EMR or DRR / EMR approach is a powerful tool for social cohesion at the village and intercommunal levels and managing multiple land conflicts.  29. According to the population the participatory video is a powerful extension tool of the DRR / CCA / EMR approach its achievements, difficulties and challenges approach.  30. The involvement of policy makers at all (regional and local national) levels of implementation of the project is a guarantee of the inclusion of DRR / CCA / EMR approach in policy documents at the national level, but plans local development.  31. The implementation of CVCA + + that integrates aspects of ecosystems and climate change provides a good analysis of the vulnerability in all its angles and the development of action plans taking into account DRR / CCA / EMR. |
| **Key findings per key principle**  All eight principles have been carried by four groups (2 key principles per group)  1**. Work across scales (lead Ibrahima S. Fofana (WI) plus 14 other members**  - The National Early Warning System (EWS) provides the available information to rural communities, but this information is not sufficiently diffuse in villages  - The population still use traditional methods of early warning with their advantages and disadvantages: a) regular and annual monitoring of flood levels and its inter and intra fluctuation, b) the appearance and behavior of some wildlife species such as waterbirds (position their nests in trees). These information are used in the planning of activities and the choice of varieties of cereal to be sown.  - PfR has a made available to its beneficiary villages after many capacity building sessions few early warning tools: a) the rain gauges, the information produced by the National Weather Agency and Flood Predicting tool of the IND (OPIDIN) using multiple communication channels (local radio bulletin, flood maps). These information are used by the recipients for the best planting dates of rice, planning future investments, buying fishing nets or boat for transport and the decision making for the migration decisions of people and animals in other regions, etc.    - Several agreements have been signed with key structures involved in the areas of climate change and adaptation to climate change and local policymakers of partner rural districts.  - All sessions of the implementation of project activities are organized in the partnership framework with key partners in the areas of climate change for the benefit of policy makers at the national, regional and local level.  - The CVCA+ + tool has allowed not only taken into account the climate change adaptation aspects but also the needs of beneficiaries and its translation into action (i.e. in the village of Sobe information farmers have advanced the dates of planting rice to avoid flood damage even avoiding eating birds to the maturation).    **2. Working accross geographical scales ((lead Ibrahima S. Fofana (WI) plus 14 other members)**  - Geographical scales are taken into account in the various activities including management impacts of dams upstream of the Inner Niger Delta, which negatively affect the socio-economic activities and the maintenance of ecological integrity especially during the years of poor floods. The deforestation adjacent dry areas of the Inner Niger Delta causing sedimentation of the river and floods in some villages is also taken into account (i.e. Kinani village)  - Collaboration exists between the members PfR team and national and regional institutions involved in management of the water resources of the Niger Basin in general and notably the Inner Niger Delta (participation in various meetings of the Niger Basin Authority (NBA) and the Committee of water Management of Markala and Selingue dams)  .  - Synergy actions and exchange of expertise exist between the PfR team and various national partners (IUCN, Sahel Eco Planète Urgence, etc..) or international research institutions (EU) having different initiatives in the project area  **3. Strengthening institutional capacity (Lead : N’Golo Traore, Field Coordinator of CARE) plus**  - Partner civil society and non-partner PfR, key government agencies and members of committees for prevention and risk management have been trained on various modules required for the proper implementation of the project. These modules: DRR / CCA EMR / approach, sustainable agriculture, collection of rain data and its use for agricultural purposes, the dissemination of weather information and early warning  - The establishment of committees for prevention and risk management in each of the 20 partner villages and serve as an interface between the direct beneficiaries, civil society and the project team villages  - The involvement of rural district partners in all stages of design, planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of project activities with the ultimate goal of ownership of these premises by local decision makers.  - The establishment of an NGO platform called "PIC" (Platform of NGOs involved in climate change) and building its capacity for the sustainability of the DRR / CCA / EMR approach, its achievements and its extension  - The taking into account the activities of PfR in local development plans of some rural district partners in order to facilitate research funding for their implementation.  **4. Integration of disciplines (Lead : N’Golo Traore, Field Coordinator of CARE) plus**  - The adoption of CVCA + + as a tool for analyzing the vulnerability of communities and natural resources by incorporating aspects of climate change has been the best opportunity for the integration of disciplines and the definition of the activities of Risk Action Plans.  - The iimplementation of CVCA + + integrates all disciplines consumes a lot of time all the partners involved.  - CARE, WI, Institute of Rural Economy, Extension services in Agriculture and Forestry, National Agency of Meteorology have worked together to build the capacity of civil society organizations and Committees for Prevention and management of risks for the proper execution of the DRR / CCA / EMR or DRR / CCA or CCA / EMR approaches  **5. Promote community self management (leads : Dramane SIDIBE, CARE and Mamoutou TRAORE, AMPRODE/Sahel) plus 12 participants)**  - The vulnerability analysis, development of risk maps and action plans to reduce risks have been developed by focus groups composed of old women and young people in all the villages with the support of civil society organizations.  - The prioritization of activities of the reduction of risk action plans was made by the communities according to their needs in the short, medium and long term in terms of reducing disaster risk and using the DRR / CCA / EMR approach.  - Committees for prevention and management of risks have put been in place in each of the 20 villages and composed of old, women and youth. These committees have clear terms of reference for the implementation and monitoring and evaluation of project activities.  - A strong social cohesion is established within professional groups (group of women in micro-credit), villages (Kinani Diambacourou, Debare-Tioka, Sobe, Samberi, Simina, etc..) and the rural districts for the implementation the DRR / CCA / EMR or DRR / CCA or CCA / EMR approach .  - The taking into account the activities of PfR in local development plans of some rural district partners.  **6. Stimulate learning (leads : Dramane SIDIBE, CARE and Mamoutou TRAORE, AMPRODE/Sahel) plus 12 participants)**    - The design, planning, implementation, monitoring and joint evaluation of project activities by members of PfR and organization of civil society have been a crucial step for connecting and learning within the team .  - The implementation of the expertise gained during training and awareness sessions by beneficiary populations, such as: a) the collection and use of rain data for the best planting dates of crops, b) lower doses of chemical fertilizers replaced by the compost prepared in the field, c) the adoption of the technique of the art of fixing sand dunes by 48 families in the village of Samberi, d) the completion of protective dike by Simina villagers are all the stimulation learning.  - Participatory video were produced and widely broadcast in other villages  - Unfortunately the project has not been able organizing exchange visit between the different rural districts and villages involved in the project , as well as the visit of similar projects in other regions of Mali by other organizations  **7. Focus on livelihoods (lead : Bakary KONE, WI and Idrissa FANE, CARE) plus 12 participants**  The implementation of planned activities is performed not only in terms of their ranking at the village level but also by cinsidering the inclusion of DRR / CCA / EMR or CCA / DRR or DRR / EMR approach at the local or landscape scale  - DRR/EMR : a) . The construction of a vegetated protection dike (flooding) with native grass species (restoration) that protects the 2,000 inhabitants and their properties of Kinani and Simina villages against torrential rains, b) The supply of people with drinking water (drought) in 800 communities of Samberi village and the construction of a vegetable garden for 540 women in Sobe village in compensation of fixing sand dunes that protected schools and homes, recovery and restoration of agricultural and grazing lands.  i.e. CCA/EMR : a) Introduction of cereal varieties resistant to drought / restoration of soil capital (eco-farm, compost and mulching) and carrying out compensatory restoration activities of degraded lands by the communities of nine villages. 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Form of partnerships (lead : Bakary KONE, WI and Idrissa FANE, CARE) plus 12 participants)**    - Memoranda of Understanding were signed with the mayors of rural district and village chief partners for the disposal of land for community activities of the PfR project.  - Protocols were signed with prevention and management committees for risk reduction and other established committees for the management of women vegetable garden, modern well for proper monitoring and evaluation of all project achievements.  - Strategic partnerships have been established with the knowledge centers such as: the National Agency of Meteorology, the Institute of Rural Economy, European research institutions involved in FP7 projects in the Niger River Basin for making available to the PfR any relevant scientific information related  - The PfR members and its partners have became members of early warning system of the region of Mopti, which meets every month. This partnership has enabled us to obtain information from the Early Warning System and its dissemination to rural communes partners  - The PfR team has established regular contacts with the Municipal Committee of Orientation and Monitoring of Development Actions (CCOCSAD) at rural district levels, the Local Steering Committee, Coordination and Monitoring of Development Actions (CLOCSAD) at the Prefecture levels and the Regional Steering Committee of Coordination and Monitoring of Development Actions (CROCSAD) at Regional level.  . |

**Challenges and how to deal with them /**

What will be the main challenges related to integrated approach and partnership, and how will the partners deal with these?

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| 1. .The psychosis for people in rural districts of the Prefecture of Youwarou on a insecurity situation had made difficult implementation of some activities. With the return of peace, the return of the administration and to normal constitutional life, project activities will be executed properly  2. The difficulty of mobilizing financial resources by partner rural districts for co- finance certain activities or financing activities of plans risk: For future stages the capacity building of these partners, focus will be on: Fund raising technique and opportunity with bilateral and multilateral donors  3. The damage caused by the animals on the land restored. Establishment of fencing for the protection of certain parcels, staffing oversight committees with adequate resources and powers for the protection of sites and the promotion of assisted natural regeneration  .4. Organization of exchange field visits: With the return of peace and security in the project area, exchange visits will be organize between partner rural districts and villages, as well as the visit of similar projects in other regions of Mali  5.The perfect involvement of the Red Cross / Climate Center in project activities in Mali. Initiate discussions with the Climate Centre for its perfect involvement in the project of Mali  6. Social mobilization around the project activities during the agricultural season: Extend the experience of "food for work" or work at high intensity labor (HIMA) for better social mobilization  7. Documentation and sharing of lessons learnt at all levels remain. The team is seeking external expertise to solve this problem.  8. The invasive plants have become socio-economic and ecological disaster: The recent study conducted by the Institute of Rural Economy has proposed technology packages socially, economically and environmentally feasible and acceptable by the people. The latter will be implement in future plannings.  9. The challenges of diffusion time early warning information at the village level: in addition to existing communications mechanisms, the team is about to investigate the possibilities of using mobile phones to disseminate information. |

**Priorities for the remaining period /**

What will be emphasised for the remaining period of the PfR programme?

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| Community Resilience / | - The continued implementation of the activities of the action plans to reduce risk by focusing greater on DRR / CCA, CCA / EMR and DRR / EMR  - The taking into account more of the approach of the Niger River basin and / or the Inner Niger Delta in collaboration with knowledge institutions including the combined impacts of climate change and the management of upstream dams  - Improving the dissemination of early warning and climate information (rainfall and flooding) not only has the scale of rural districts and villages but all partners across the IND.  - Investigate the possibilities of interconnection of different types of key wetlands of the IND (fish ponds, areas conducive to rice with the main river) which connecting channels have been silted in response to recurrent drought in order to revitalize them  - Outreach at all levels (national, regional and local) minimum standards and Integrating Ecosystems and resilience in practice: Criteria for Ecosystem-Smart Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation |
| Civil Society / | - Further strengthen the capacity of NGOs in the Platform Interveners on Climate Change (PICC) to make it more functional for the advocacy meetings at all levels (national, regional and local)    - Further strengthening the capacities of the beneficiaries of municipalities and villages of the Prefecture of Youwarou which were affected by the social security crisis  - Strengthen the capacity of municipal councils of the partner rural districts for fund raising and mobilization |
| Policy Dialogue / | - Advocate for the inclusion of the activities of the risk action plans to reduce in the local development plans of other districts  - Monitor the taking with AEDD in the inclusion of the EMR component in the National Climate Change Policy  - Plea for taking into the IND not only on the management of upstream infrastructures about the strategic development planning of Mali  - Translate into local and made available formats scientific in favor of local, regional and national decision makers the information about future impacts of droughts and other climate events on the natural resources and the livelihoods of the populations of the entire Niger Basin including the IND  - Organize annual plea sessions with the national Parliament on PfR achievements and other subjects related to DRR/CCA or CCA/EMR or DRR/EMR |

**Needs, support, resources needed for the remaining period**

What are specific needs, and which specific support and resources are needed to meet them during the remaining period of the PfR programme?

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| (how will the remaining funds be spent effectively?/  - Carry out the mid-Term Review by PWG members and participants of other countries  - Support for better documentation of good practices and lessons learned during the implementation of the PfR project  - Allocate more funding for studies on the connectivity of key wetlands called by the people their "local banks" (because of their socio-economic and ecological roles) with the main river |

**Looking beyond the PfR programme time frame**

What are the opportunities for follow-up? How can results be institutionalised?

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| - The DRR/CCA/EMR approach and results are institutionalized in the future resilience program in the Sahel (Mali, Niger and Chad)  - The DRR / CCA / EMR approach is internalized as part of the implementation of the action plan of the national climate change policy in Mali  - Organizations of civil society partners and the NGO network, PICC develop a resilience program for the entire IND based on best practices and lessons learned from PfR.  - The achievements of PfR are used by PfR and non PfR rural districts for raising and mobilization of funds. |

**Directions / recommendations for identified challenges and needs**

What are the key recommendations based on the identified challenges and needs?

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| - A better involvement of the Climate Centre in the implementation of PfR Mali.  - In addition to DRR / CCA / EMR approach, expedite the preparation of contingency plans at municipal and local levels  - Focus on the implementation of DRR / CCA or CCA/ EMR or DRR / EMR approach instead of DRR / CCA / EMR.  - Establish more effective communication mechanisms (local radio and mobile phones) for the timely diffusion on rainfall flood information and other major weather events to benefit the people.  - Encourage civil society organization partners and the PICC network in collaboration with the 48 municipalities of the IND, the development of a resilience program for the IND to scale up the achievements of PfR . |

ANEXO: Principios claves/ ANNEX: key principles