

AFRICA REGIONAL EDUCATION SYSTEMS RESILIENCE OBSERVATORY (ARESRO) PROJECT

Building Resilient Education Systems across Africa

Current Obligation: \$1.5M CAD

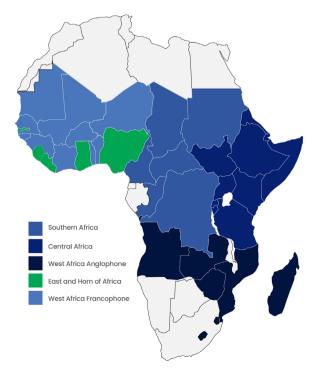
INITIATIVE OVERVIEW

The Africa Regional Education Systems Resilience Observatory (ARESRO) is a vital initiative established to bolster the resilience of education systems across 42 Global Partnership for Education (GPE) partner countries in Africa. Recognizing the increasing challenges posed by COVID-19, climate change, conflict, and other disruptions, ARESRO aims to provide critical insights and evidence to support policymakers and practitioners in developing and implementing robust education systems. ARESRO is funded by the Global Partnership for Education Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (GPE KIX) through the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and is led by Makerere University School of Public Health-Resilient Africa Network (RAN).

WHAT IS ARESRO?

ARESRO is a virtual observatory providing comprehensive information on Education System Resilience (ESR) in 42 GPE partner African countries. It is one of the six regional observatories awarded under the GPE KIX Observatory on Education System Resilience Initiative. ARESRO serves as a central hub for contextual research, evidencebased analysis, and stakeholder engagement to strengthen educational resilience.

We foster a culture of preparedness and continuous improvement, transforming data and knowledge into actionable strategies for better educational outcomes and ensuring that learning continues for all children, even during challenging times.



SCOPE OF ARESRO

ARESRO focuses on all key levels of education within the GPE partner countries, including:



The observatory's research and activities are designed to address the specific needs and challenges faced by these educational sectors in the African context.

Specific Services

SERVICES OF ARESRO

ARESRO employs a multi-faceted approach to enhance the resilience of education systems in GPE partner countries. We utilize key core strategies and provide specific services designed to strengthen preparedness, response, and recovery capacities, and mitigate future risks.

Core Strategies

ARESRO's work is guided by the following core strategies:



Contextual Analysis: Conducting thorough analyses of the unique challenges and opportunities within each GPE partner country's education system.



Foresight Methodologies: Employing forward-thinking approaches to anticipate future disruptions and inform proactive resilience-building measures.



Stakeholder Engagement: Fostering collaborative partnerships with governments, institutions, communities, and other key stakeholders to ensure inclusive and effective solutions.

To implement these core strategies and achieve our goals, ARESRO provides the following specific services:



Real-Time Data and Monitoring: Establish an observatory to provide real-time data on current and future risks, shocks, stressors, adaptations, and existing interventions affecting education systems.

Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building: Facilitate the exchange of information, research, and innovations on Education System Resilience (ESR), and support capacity building for key stakeholders, including governments, institutions, and communities.



Development of Resilience Frameworks: Create a unified framework for assessing the resilience of education systems, focusing on both current and potential future risks, and provide strategic guidance for strengthening education systems. **Cross-Learning and Collaboration:** Encourage cross-learning and collaboration among African countries, regional partners, and GPE hubs (KIX Africa 19 and Africa 21), optimizing the use of the observatory for shared resilience strategies.





Strategic Multi-Disciplinary Stakeholder Engagement: Promote stronger engagement among different stakeholders from various sectors to strengthen the education system's resilience against future shocks. Support for Mitigation and Adaptation Plans: Assist countries and communities in developing tailored mitigation and adaptation plans to address education system vulnerabilities and challenges from various shocks and stressors.

These services aim to provide Africa GPE partner countries with contextual research and evidence to strengthen the resilience of their education systems, explore stakeholder's practice and understanding of education system resilience, and better prepare for future disruptions.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS OF ARESRO

ARESRO is implemented in collaboration with:

Link Community Development, Uganda: A Ugandan non-governmental organization with extensive experience in community-based education and development. Resilience Research Centre (RRC) at Dalhousie University, Canada: A leading research center focused on understanding and promoting resilience in individuals, communities, and systems.

Research activities are led by eight RAN consortium members:

- Makerere University College of Education and External Studies
- University of Addis Ababa
- University of Ghana
- Université Cheikh Anta Diop
- Université des Lettres et des Sciences Humaines de Bamako
- Université de Yaoundé
- University of Zambia
- University of Malawi

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about the ARESRO project, please contact the Principal Investigator, Dr. Roy William Mayega at rmayega@musph.ac.ug.

