



Vulnerability-Resilience Profiling: Practical MSI M & E and assessment tool for SIDS

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Data and statistics for planning and decision-making

SIDS Member states stressed the need for:

- Strengthening their national statistical and information systems, including data collection and management, as well as analytical capabilities for decision-making, and monitoring and evaluation systems for sustainable development;
- Support of evidence (of value and of measuring) and the tools to gather the data, develop indicators and integrate them into planning and policy making as well as monitoring and information sharing;

Need for Effective Tools for MSI Monitoring and Evaluation

- Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) frameworks are central to sustainable development planning and implementation.
- Credible data and indicators will bolster efforts to develop the “beyond-GDP” measures that are important to so many SIDS.

Why the need for Vulnerability-Resilience Profile (VRP)?

- Based on GDP alone, many SIDS have been assessed as middle-income countries and often disqualified for funding or trade preferential treatments (based on the same EGM finding)
- SIDS member States have called for tools and frameworks that take into account their structural vulnerabilities of smallness, remoteness, exposure to natural disasters, climate change and sea level rise, particularly negative impacts from financial and other global crises but also of signs of resilience.

Why the need for Vulnerability-Resilience Profile (VRP)?

- VRP is based on the need for M&E frameworks that realistically assess the extent of SIDS vulnerabilities as well as the progress they are making in building resilience.
- The VRP is a framework or methodology to analyse a country's vulnerabilities and its capacity to build resilience and cope with these vulnerabilities.

What is the significance of Vulnerability-Resilience Profile (VRP)?

- An alternative to GDP-based measurement that takes into account the full picture of SIDS vulnerability and resilience in the context of economic development and climate change.
- Though tools have been developed, they have yet to be accepted as monitoring and assessment measures by SIDS decision makers and their development partners and financial institutions.



VRP methodology

Step 1: Priority themes and major issues

- Each country would rank the 19 priority themes of the MSI in the order of importance for the country and focus their main analysis on those themes that are considered to be the most important for the country.
- Selection of three (3) major issues/concerns facing the country for each theme, identifying the social, economic and environment vulnerabilities and possible resilience measures for each issue at the national/community, regional and global levels.



VRP methodology

Step 2: Selection of Criteria

- For vulnerability, these criteria would reflect exposure to exogenous and endogenous risks in terms of the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.
- For resilience, these criteria would reflect the country's coping capacity in terms of actions at the national, regional and global levels that address the potential social, economic and environmental impacts.



VRP methodology

Step 3: Selection of Indicators

- Selection of indicators for the criteria for each of the three major issues in terms of the social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities and the corresponding resilience measures that would address these social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities through actions at the national, regional and international levels.



VRP methodology

Step 4: Assessment and rating

- Assessment of vulnerabilities and rating of coping measures to strengthen resilience for each issue, using the criteria and indicators from steps 2 and 3 to arrive at vulnerability and resilience scores for each of the three major issues for each priority theme.

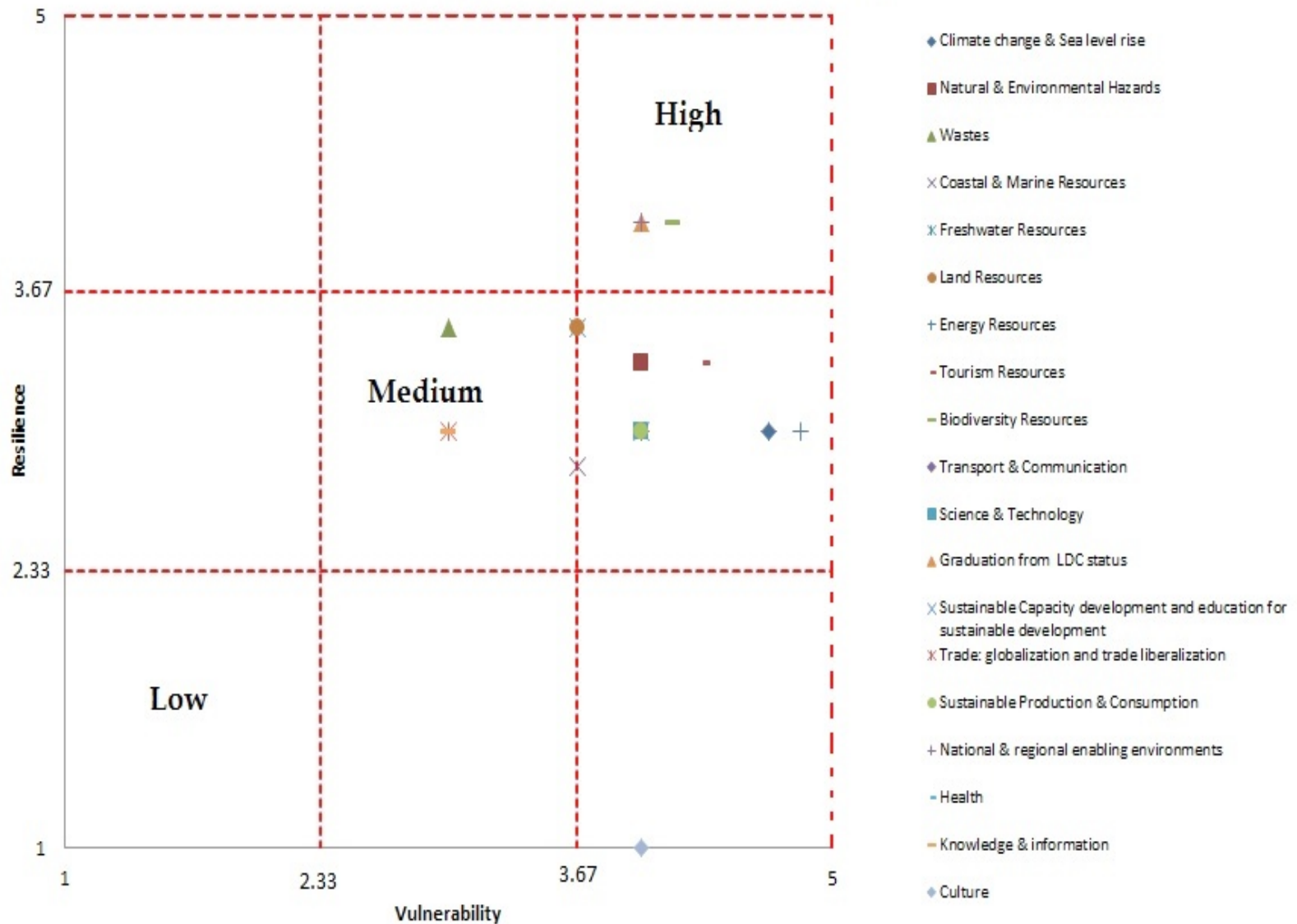


VRP methodology

Step 5: Justification and mapping

- Summarise the vulnerability and resilience scores for each of the priority themes of the MSI, using a narrative to justify the scores and to formulate a country vulnerability-resilience profile or VRP based on these overall scores.

Vulnerability - Resilience Profile





Advantages of VRP

- Results are easy to understand
- Systematic process of self-monitoring
- Visual presentation
- Indicators can reflect social, economic and environmental pillars and show linkages
- Brings together indicators from a wide range of sources
- Integrate crosscutting issues e.g gender, good governance
- Provides snapshot of vulnerability and resilience and the links between them
- Countries can tailor the VRP to their own special situation and issues/concerns

Practical uses of VRP

At the National level -

- i. Sound information and analysis for policy formulation, decision-making and implementation;
- ii. Periodic self-assessment of a country's progress towards implementation of the MSI;
- iii. As a tool for monitoring progress towards MDGs/SDGs;

At the Local level - selection of appropriate practical responses to vulnerability;

At the International level -

- i. comparisons between countries;
- ii. assessing progress towards the MSI/BPOA;



Ongoing VRP project funded by EU

- Expert consultations on indicators
- Pilot testing of VRP in 7 SIDS in all 3 regions
- Publication of Handbook on VRP
- Sharing of experiences and Handbook at 2014 Conference in Samoa

Replication of VRP

- Through UN Development Account Project as from 2014 onwards in at least 4 more SIDS