

Workshop report

Summary of feedback on the TAILS tool

In November 2022, the adaptation tracking team organized workshops with government officials in Kenya and Ethiopia to get feedback on the TAILS tool. The design of the tool up to this stage was informed by research insights and discussions with various stakeholders on appropriate adaptation tracking indicators. The design was also fundamentally informed by a study of the existing government structures and flows of data on livestock systems. Therefore, the objective of the workshops was to review various aspects of the tool design and to ensure that the tool continues to correspond with user preferences. Separate workshops were organized for Kenya and Ethiopia to support the endeavor to match the tool with country-specific systems and preferences.

Workshop participants comprised selected government officials within national and subnational administrative units involved in the production and dissemination of relevant for adaptation in livestock systems eg the ministries of agriculture, statistics agencies as well as the administrative units responsible for coordination climate action. These officials are expected to key in tracking and reporting on adaptation in livestock systems.

Participants were introduced to the tool and allowed time to interact with the different interfaces. After creating accounts, participants then gave their impressions of the tool, highlighting the design aspects they liked and areas that needed improvement. Feedback was gathered through notes taking and Mentimeter scores. Below we summarize the feedback on each interface. Most of the feedback has been used to improve the design of the tool.

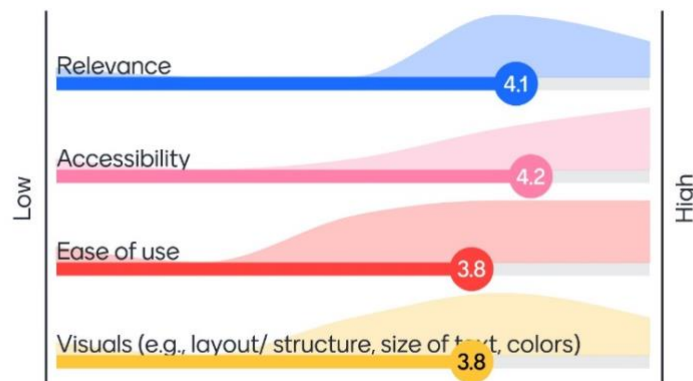
Overall, government officials had a positive impression of the tool. They expressed their eagerness to participate in the training on how to use the tool and eventually to use the tool to track and report on adaptation.

1. Kenya workshop – 1st November 2022

1.1. User registration/ login

User registration/ login

Mentimeter



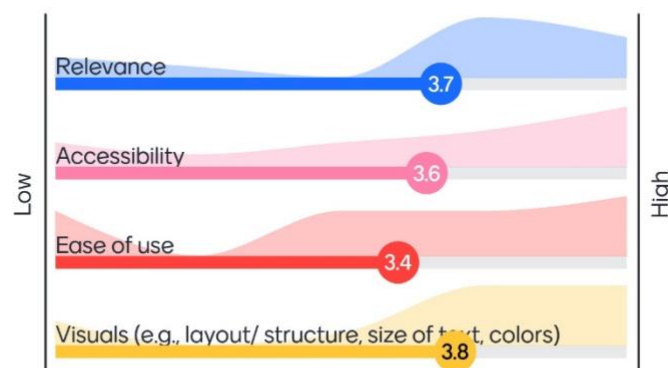
- Names of counties (and the other subnational level admin units) to be organized in alphabetical order
- Enhance the visibility of scrolling button on the registration console so that a user can easily know that they need to scroll down and fill in more details

1.2. Data upload: single and bulk upload options

- Ensure that the indicators that are not applicable should not be provided as an option – might be confusing to the user and they might end up providing non-existent information e.g. for the indicators that are only applicable to grazing systems, they should not be visible to users from mixed systems
- Use an alternative term to ‘actual value’ – it is confusing to the user e.g. when inputting data on ratio.
- Improving the quality of the uploaded data: Integrate conditionalities that restrict the values a user can enter e.g. where the response requires 0/1, provide radio buttons (at the moment one can enter even up to 10), for anomalies in rainfall onset (allow for negative values in cases where the rains come earlier than expected). For temperatures, the values should not go beyond 70. Additional thresholds and restrictions can be defined as the ranges are established over time.
- Make the info button beside the indicators more conspicuous. Here also be specific and provide as much information as necessary e.g., guideline for defining the baseline when determining delay in rainfall patterns. Also, in the cost of feeds specify that the proxy feed e.g. a bale of hay can be determined by context
- provide information that guides a user on what information is to be provided in the additional 3 cells. Eg what we mean by datasets and where they are applicable or not. In the remarks cell also ask counties to provide comments on the dynamics within the county
- Should all indicators be mandatory? What happens if someone wants to submit a half-filled form?
- Participants prefer the bulk upload option. Include an option to save and resume – we need to focus on enhancing the design of the bulk upload. The single upload can remain as a secondary option

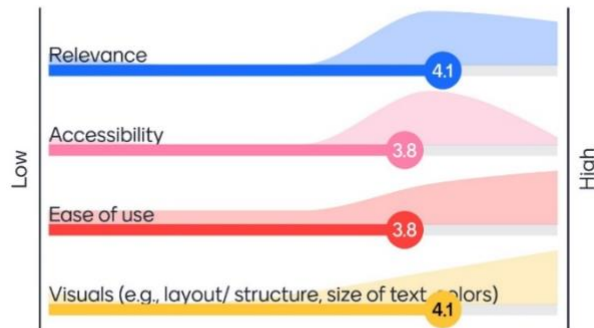
Data upload - single

Mentimeter



Data upload - bulk

Mentimeter



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1.3. Data validation

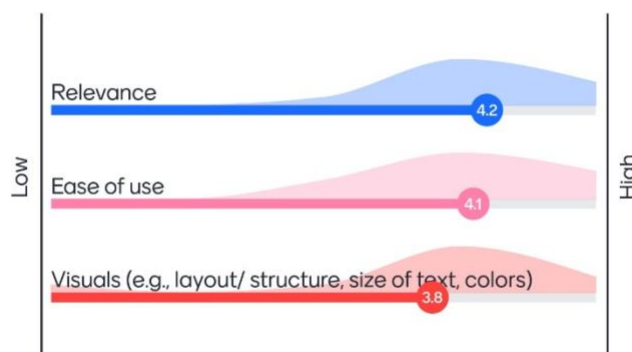
- Remove reject function – the national focal point can only validate the data if they have alternative datasets with which they are comparing the data provided by the counties.

1.4. Main dashboard

- Change the color on the trend lines – the use of red and green are confusing to the user since it is not clear how the colors should be interpreted
- Provide examples in the user manual to guide users in the interpretation of the visuals (trend lines, the scores – also how to relate and read across the framework eg relating the different dimensions)
- Use different colors to show differences in performance across the country (the different shades of green are difficult to distinguish)
- Scale – if it ranges between 0-1 then the whole scale should be shown, now ends at 0.6

Dashboard

Mentimeter



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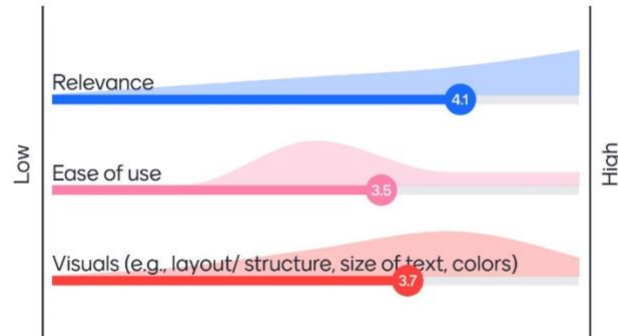
- Consistency in interpretation – in case of impacts and hazards, when the curve is going down, good or bad?

1.5. Comparisons

- Use a different type of graph – the spider webs are not easy to read; bar graphs are preferred

Comparisons

Mentimeter



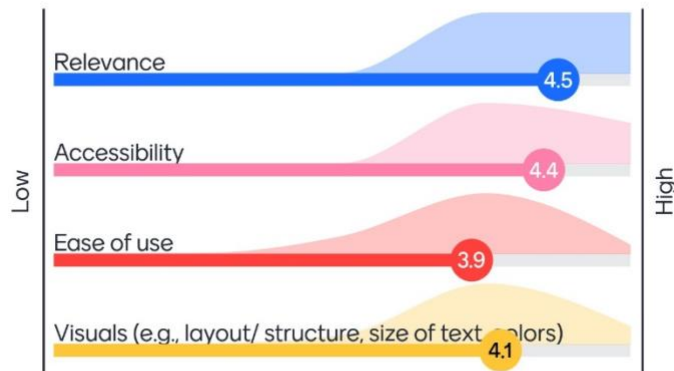
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1.6. Overall feedback on the tool

- Weight of the tool – was slow to open for some participants

TAiLS tool overall

Mentimeter



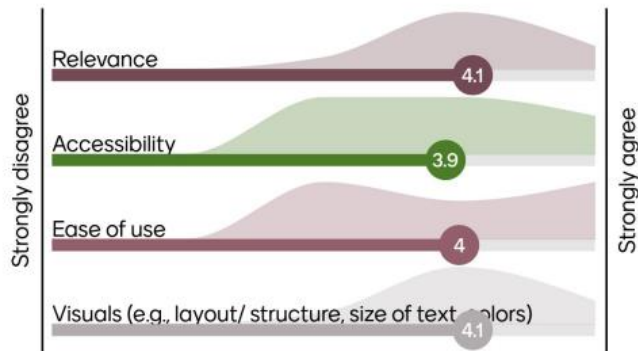
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2. Ethiopia workshop – 29th November 2022

2.1. User registration/ login

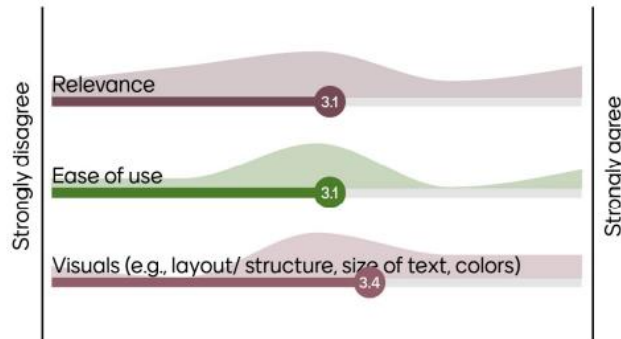
- Have the registration console on one form – many users kept missing the scroll button hence were getting stuck in registration
- Add a help function to guide the user when registering.

User registration/ login

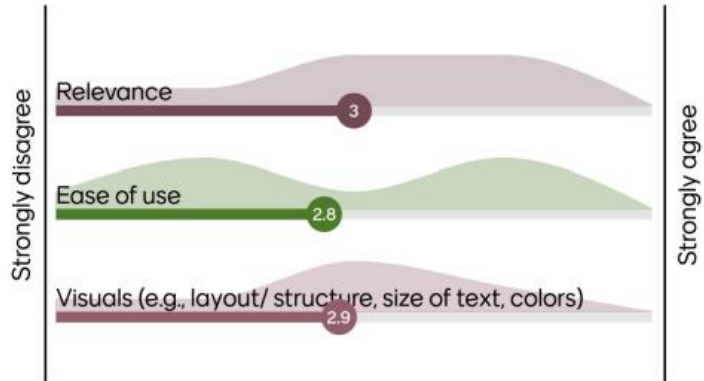


2.2. Data upload: single and bulk upload options

Data upload - single



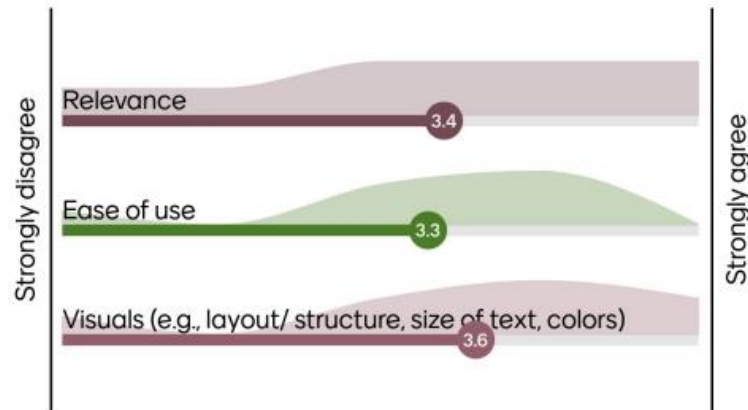
Data upload - bulk



2.3. Data validation

- replace 'reject' with 'review' – of importance is to have a function that allows government officials to review data together as opposed to outrightly rejecting data that is suspected to have anomalies

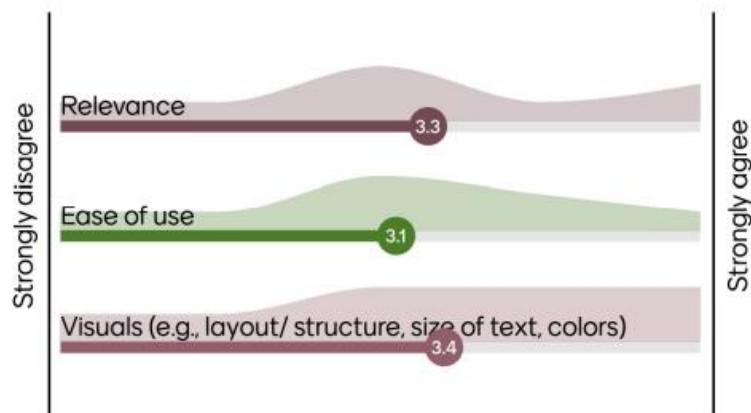
Data validation



2.4. Main dashboard

- Add a reference year for the base maps used – the boundaries of the zones and regions are currently under review
- When showing data for one zone, then the score name should be the name of the zone, instead of Ethiopia score; same when a particular production system is selected
- Check IPCC categories of livestock production systems – clarify which ones are combined
- include thresholds that can support the interpretation of the scores – how do we know if we are having very good, good, or poor progress?
- Include a line indicating when the direction of progress is good or bad – for dimensions and indicators – there are elements where a downward trend is desired eg proportion of households that are food insecure or climatic hazards, yet the trendlines are the same as those where an upward trend is better
- How can the tool be aligned with the existing decision-making structures – how to provide regional trends as opposed to zonal trends

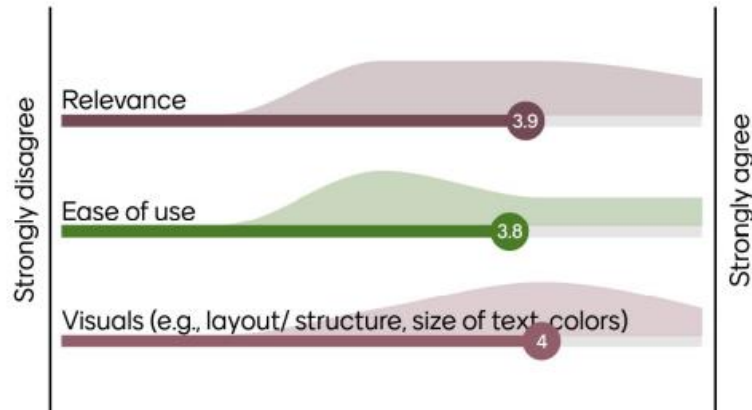
Dashboard



2.5. Comparisons

- Place the graphs together instead of having separate graphs for each year
- Include a possibility for someone to compare more than 2 years

Comparisons

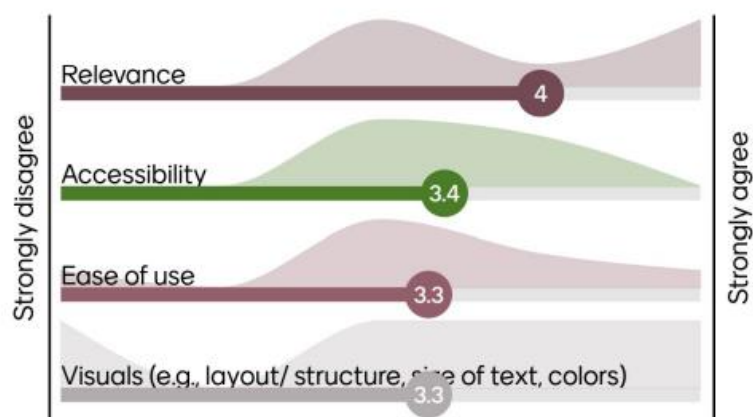


2.6. Overall feedback on the tool

- Consider translating the tool into local language – might be difficult for the Zone officers to understand if it is in English. If using the regions to roll out the tool, we could only translate into Amharic and then leave it to the regional offices to translate the tool into local languages (possibly 6 languages).
- Check the number of zones and their official names
- The officers at the Zone level often do not have access to internet and laptops – consider designing the tool in a way that allows the officers to input data when offline and the data

- can be submitted once they access the internet. Also, consider the possibility of the tool being used on tablets. Also have a complementary excel form where indicators are coded for cases where bulk data is available for various zones is available and has to be uploaded by one person
- We discussed at length the appropriate structure for mapping data flow. Eg to use the directorates within MoA since they already get data from the regions and Zones. There was also a proposal to map in other institutions such as ESS since they are the ones responsible for producing official statistics – ESS representatives prefer using survey data produced by them instead of admin data (which is what the tool is intending to use). In the end, we decided to leave the structure as it is but ensure that MoA works closely with the directorates and regional bureaus of agriculture to enforce reporting. It was also agreed that the tool would be hosted by the Environment and Climate Change Coordination Directorate since the reporting is for a subsector. This directorate then forwards the reports to the ministry of planning for international reporting (they no longer report to the EPA). This directorate also needs to work closely with ESS to validate the data – ESS is supposed to have the authority to validate all data within the country

TAiLS tool overall



Planning for training and further rolling out of the tool

- Use ToT model whereby national and regional level officials are capacity built to train zone officers – also supports buy in and it is a better strategy towards enforcing the use of the tool
- Form a technical committee, strategically constituted by institutions that are key in providing data. The committee to also help in overseeing implementation of AT