



CAPACITY STATEMENT

CARE Climate Change and Resilience

OVERVIEW Climate change threatens the livelihoods of people and communities across the globe. CARE takes a comprehensive approach to building resilience to the negative economic threat concomitant with climate change. Through addressing food security, gender equality, social capital, and influencing policy processes, CARE hopes to alleviate the negative impacts of climate change and help build resilience.

CARE's Humanitarian Actions

VALUES AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

CARE is committed to strengthening poor people's capacities to deal with shocks and stresses, manage risks, and transform their lives in response to new hazards and opportunities. Simultaneously, CARE seeks to address the underlying causes of vulnerability, and improve the systems and structures that support people facing recurrent crises and persistent inequities. In particular, CARE supports women and girls to adapt to a changing climate and to build

resilience over time.

Climate change poses a fundamental threat to sustainable economic development and, therefore, is a critical threat to CARE's mission to tackle global poverty. As part of its global Program Strategy, CARE seeks to increase the food and nutrition security and the climate resilience of 50 million people by 2020, and to increase resilience and integrate climate change across its portfolio.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE AND WORKING EXPERIENCE

CARE's strategic response to climate change has a focus on the following themes, in the context of an overall framework of gender equality, resilience and social justice:

- Climate change, **agriculture and food and nutrition security**
- Climate change adaptation, loss and damage and the links to disaster risk **reduction and emergencies**;
- Climate change adaptation **finance**
- Climate change **mitigation and low carbon development**

CARE's current approach builds on more than a decade of

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targeted work to advance gender-equitable climate change adaptation and resilience, implementing programmes, developing tools and methods, and engaging in communications and advocacy on national and global levels.

The focus of CARE's work on **climate change, agriculture and food and nutrition security** relate to:

(1) **Gender equality and women's empowerment in climate resilient agriculture.** CARE is a global leader in terms of expertise, capacity building and innovation in gender equality and women's empowerment in agriculture, food security, and nutrition. Furthermore, CARE has developed specific models, tools and a theory of change for the integration of gender equality and women's empowerment in climate change and resilience programming. These are widely adopted by International Organizations such as FAO, IFAD and WorldFish (for whom CARE has produced various manuals, toolkits, and analyses on the subjects). USAID and other key donors publicly cite CARE as a key organization in this field.

CARE's portfolio in women's empowerment, climate change and resilience includes funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, USAID, DFID, the EU and several other donors, with ongoing international programs in Africa, South Asia, Latin America, Southeast Asia and the Middle East.

(2) **Community-based adaptation to climate change (CBA).** CARE's strong focus working with local communities and building social capital also reflects competency and expertise in mobilizing communities on climate change related topics. CARE's community-based approaches in climate change adaptation—including Community Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments and Participatory Scenario Planning—are currently implemented in more than 30 countries across the global South.

(3) **Advocacy on climate change and resilience in the small scale farming context.** CARE is actively engaged in tracking and influencing policy making processes on climate change adaptation and small-scale farmers, at the global level, and also nationally in various countries (including, for instance, in Nepal, in the Sahel, in the

Horn of Africa, and the Southern African Region). CARE has been able to influence local governments in 135 communities and 8 countries to adopt more climate-resilient policies to support the poorest and most vulnerable.

To consolidate the considerable good practice and knowledge emerging from our project work, and to further increase impact and reach, CARE has developed several global learning and research programs. Some of the main CCR publications produced by CARE can be found at <http://careclimatechange.org/publications>

CARE has developed several tools to help humanitarian and development practitioners integrate climate change risk management into their projects. They can be found here <http://careclimatechange.org/tool-kits>

HUMAN AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Currently CARE operates a **Climate Change and Resilience Platform (CCRP)** with various capacities, and a strong focus on agriculture and food security. This team is structured in complementary layers:

- (1) A **core team** coordinated by CARE Netherlands (based in NL and other countries), which hosts expertise on global climate change and resilience advocacy, strategic programming and capacity building (4 staff). CARE continues to expand these with new recruitments at the global and country levels.
- (2) A **network of global climate change and resilience advisors** and practitioners, providing operational and technical support to new opportunities and ongoing programs. The network comprises 3 staff, based in West Africa (Niamey), East Africa (Addis Ababa) and Asia (Phnom Penh) respectively.
- (3) **Country-based expertise**, including both climate change and resilience staff managing and/or implementing specific projects in various countries (e.g. Bangladesh, Nepal, Honduras, Mozambique, Niger, but also CARE member countries including UK, Denmark, France, [etc.](#))

CARE Climate

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