



# Evidence Document

## Climate Change Resilience Programs Around the World

**OVERVIEW** Around the world, CARE invests in a multitude of projects and programs to help build the resilience of vulnerable populations to climate change. The accomplishments of these programs help families become more food and financially secure in times of crisis and help to empower women.

### CARE's Global Impact

#### ONE WOMAN'S SUCCESS

Ramala says that the biggest difference in her life since she started working with CARE's Hariyo Ban program is that "Now I can stand up in meetings and introduce myself—something I was never able to do before. After 16 weeks of gender training, not only can I introduce myself, but I can be a leader. I am the treasurer of this Community Forest User Group. Before, I would not have even come to meetings, or would have stayed silent. It's not just this group. I can use tools like Facebook to reach even farther. We are working

with the government, and more people want to get engaged in our community because of how successful and integrated our group is."

Ramala is one of millions of people that CARE supports with a focus on resilience to climate change. In FY16, CARE ran 157 projects that had a substantial focus on climate change resilience, reaching more than 740,000 people directly, and 3.2 million indirectly to improve their ability to respond to the impacts of climate change and reduce their vulnerability to future shifts in climate.

#### PROCESSES

- **Help women get a seat at the table:** For the first time ever, Vanuatu took women to UN Climate talks. From a base of zero female representatives before, half of the delegation in Warsaw was women. Women were also instrumental on steering committees to change three key national climate policies. CARE's Gender Community

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Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment Tool is critical to helping women participate in decision-making and identifying the specific risks women face.

- **Build links between communities and governments:** 2,014 community members (48% minorities and 52% women) in Vietnam's ICAM project had direct participation in planning processes with their governments.
- **Get people access to climate information:** In Zimbabwe's ENSURE project, 30% of project participants are receiving climate information to make informed decisions, and 38% of families are adopting at least one climate risk reduction behavior.
- **Help families adopt more climate-resilient livelihoods:** The Typhoon Haiyan Reconstruction Project in the Philippines trained 9,795 people in financial risk analysis and financial literacy to help them build more resilient businesses. In fact, 82% of participants say they are implementing business continuity plans with this training.
- **Focus on advocacy:** The Adaptation and Learning Program, working with the New Economics Foundation, created modeling to estimate the benefits of Community Based Adaptation (CBA). They used a Social Cost Benefit Analysis and statistical modeling to prove impact. As a result, 135 communities and 8 countries adopted CBA/PSP methods.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Increased cash savings:** In Sudan's Resilience in the Horn project, VSLA groups went from having zero cash savings to up to \$5,800 for a group in under a year. These savings mean that families can replace assets, buy extra food, and absorb shocks.
- **Families bounce back after crisis:** In periods of political unrest, producers in Bangladesh's Strengthening Dairy Value Chains (SDVC) project saw a production drop by 3.8% and were able to return to pre-crisis levels in 2 weeks. Non-SDVC families took 7 weeks to recover, and

had production fall by 7.1%.

- **Food security:** Even in times of stress, 58% of families in Bangladesh's Social and Economic Transformation of the Ultra Poor project were able to eat 3 meals a day.

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- **Improve production, even in drought years:** Although the El Nino droughts have reduced production on some crops this year, Guatemala's Nourishing the Future project was still able to produce more than 1,500 metric tons of fruits and vegetables so far, and yields for 2016 were higher in Nourishing the Future communities than the national average. In Malawi, Pathways communities saw their production stay constant, even when neighbors experienced a 30—50% drop.
- **Save governments' money on rebuilding:** In Niger, investing in Community Based Adaptation and Participatory Scenario Planning showed that for every \$1 invested in community resilience, the government was able to avoid \$4 of losses. In Kenya, there was \$3 return for every \$1 invested.
- **Helped families become more resilient:** Families in the Typhoon Haiyan Reconstruction Project are 10 times more likely to have insurance, and 12 times more likely to have an emergency preparedness plan than they were when the project started in 2014.

CARE Climate

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