Nampula Adaptation to Climate Change (NACC)

The Nampula Adaptation to Climate Change (NACC) is a 36-month German Government funded project focused on enhancing household food and nutritional security in Nampula Province, Mozambique.

Families in the NACC Project were able to grow more food, better respond to crises, and save more money. They also adopted many climate change practices on their fields that helped them increase production by lowering the amount of tilling in the field—thus lower workloads, but better results. The first thing families invested in with heightened savings and credit is their children’s education. Through the duration of the project, 32,720 people were directly reached in northern Mozambique and 163,600 people were indirectly reached.

OBJECTIVES
The project’s overall objective is about enhancing capacity to adapt to climate change with the expectation that this week lead to improved food and nutrition security. This overall objective was expected to be achieved by:

- Improving capacity of smallholder farmers in the area of agriculture to deal with climate change, diversifying livelihoods
- Enhancing gender equitable decision making
- Increasing food availability and diversity and
- Increasing capacity of government and civil society with the intention that they can support the community with climate change adaptations

STRATEGY
NACC’s overall approach can be divided into two main pillars: economic empowerment on the one hand and social empowerment on the other. The economic pillar will tackle household food and nutrition insecurity while strengthening resilience to natural disasters and climate change. The social pillar, which will increase the efficacy of the economic pillar, will address gender and power inequality. Addressing the underlying causes of vulnerability is therefore a fundamental component of NACC’s framework, distinguishing CARE’s methodology. NACC’s strategy includes empowerment of the most vulnerable, women in particular, in decision-making in households, communities, and in local governance.
**How did we get there?**

- **Focus on savings:** The project was able to triple access to savings for families in the project using community VSLA groups.
- **Help communities access knowledge and quality services:** Farmers’ access to services more than tripled over the life of the project. The number of people who knew about conservation agriculture techniques more than doubled, from 40% at baseline to 96% at the end of the project. Non-participants also experienced some benefits, and 59% of them knew more at the end of the project. 80% of farmers were satisfied with the services they received.
- **Think beyond the farm:** The project took a traditional Farmers Field School—which focused on farming practices—and added components on gender and nutrition to help communities increase gender equality and nutrition as well as production.
- **Plan for scale:** the project partnered with government to design models that the government buys into and can scale after the program ends. It also trained 475 government and civil society actors on those models.

**Relevance**

The relevance of the project is undisputed among all stakeholders. Climate change impacts the agricultural production and new agricultural interventions were very welcome. The SG methodology introduced by the project was rated as very appropriate for the poorer and more vulnerable members of the community.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Agricultural projects and projects that expect behavior change should be provided with longer implementation periods
- Design, fund, and implement an appropriate follow up project
- Investigate gender messages used in the project and their effects
- Develop clear sustainability strategies at design stage
- Identify ways of addressing the water shortage in the target communities
- Review administration and management structures
- Prioritize sustainable seed supply
- Strengthen local service providers in the last months of the project

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Interested in learning more? Check out the project’s [final evaluation](#).