



FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE



WHY FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE?

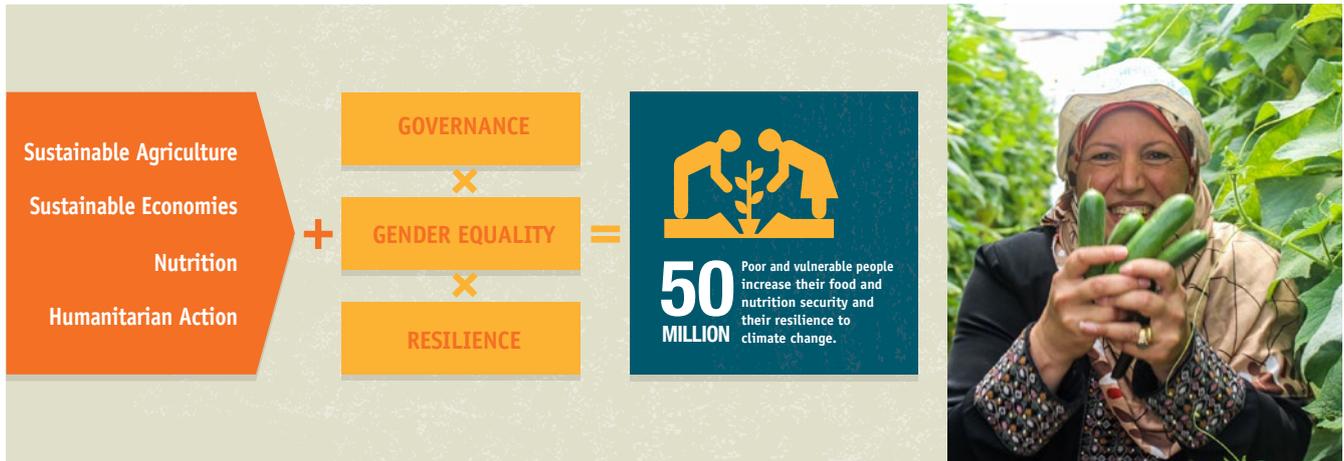
We face a greater challenge than ever before: ending hunger and malnutrition in the face of environmental degradation, climate change, conflict and changing demographics. If we continue with business as usual, 1.4 billion people will be malnourished by 2050. Small scale food producers can play a big role in producing more food more sustainably. Yet we know that just producing more food will not solve these problems. We know that people too often are poor, hungry, and malnourished because of inequality: between men and women, between the powerful and the marginalized, between those who can access resources and those who can't. We also know that our local and global food systems are increasingly challenged with power imbalances. A few

corporations and countries dominate these systems, and the common corporate, donor, and governmental focus on large scale industrial farming does not serve small-scale farmers or sustain ecosystems.

Globally, over 795 million people are chronically hungry and over 160 million children are stunted. At the same time that we must feed and nourish these 800 million, we face increasing impacts of climate change, natural resource scarcity, and a growing global population. Put simply, feeding and nourishing today's hungry and malnourished and the growing population of tomorrow – without destroying the planet and in the context of climate change – is perhaps the greatest challenge we face.

OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

CARE's Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) Theory of Change (see below), outlined in the [FNS strategy](#), guides our work to increase food & nutrition security and resilience to climate change for 50 million people by 2020. CARE's key approaches of governance, gender equality, and resilience are at the centre of our food and nutrition security and our climate change and natural resource programs, and in all of our advocacy and influencing efforts, across four technical pathways: sustainable agricultural systems, sustainable economies, nutrition, and humanitarian food & nutrition security. In all our FNS work, we seek to build SuPER food systems: that are Sustainable, Productive & profitable, Equitable, and Resilient.



WHAT DOES CARE DO?

Focus on empowerment of women farmers: In the six-country program, [Pathways, Farmer Field & Business Schools](#) tripled women's access to extension services, and as a result income increased by more than \$7.3 million across 50,000 women farmers. The project provided a \$31 return on every \$1 invested, split between women's empowerment, improved food security, and higher incomes. Women's empowerment strategies in [SHOUHARDO I and II](#) in Bangladesh were central to the reductions in stunting achieved (56.1% to 40.4% in phase 1, and 61.7% to 48.8% in phase 2).

Scale through the private sector: In Bangladesh's [Sustainable Dairy Value Chains](#) project, the private sector changed its approach to working with poor women farmers, resulting in a nearly 400% increase in incomes, as well as a dramatic increase in women's inclusion in the supply chain (from 2% of suppliers to 55% of suppliers). Private sector partners are now scaling CARE's approaches through their entire supply chain.

Get women into leadership positions: In Niger's [Women on the Move](#), 15,000 groups of women in Village Savings & Loans Associations (VSLAs) save

more than \$4.9 million a year. Half of all women elected to public office in project areas in Niger have gone through this program, and the number of elected women tripled. Women's leadership in VSLAs and other collective groups have proven highly effective platforms for building resilience, as well as other positive changes (in income, leadership, domestic decision-making, production, violence and time use).

Bring communities, and governments together: In Kenya's [Adaptation Learning Program](#), research showed that every dollar invested in Community Based Adaptation—getting communities, local authorities and climate information service providers together to jointly create climate change adaptation plans — resulted in nearly \$4 of losses avoided.

Use evidence for advocacy: In Peru's [Initiative against Chronic Infant Malnutrition](#), CARE and its partners used the evidence from effective programs to push the government for substantial policy changes, that cut chronic malnutrition in half over the following decade. CARE's contributions to impact were scaled from 4,000 children escaping stunting, to over 600,000.

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

Here are some of our key recommendations for how to have more effective programs at scale:

- **Develop measurement systems:** Using evidence is critical to achieving scale—either alone or through partners. We need to know what works and what doesn't. Use the CARE's global indicators and routinely analyse and compile results to inform decisions and advocacy messages. In addition, participatory monitoring and evaluation tools, such as the PPT, help groups assess their own progress, building transparency and momentum and pressure to improve.
- **Give nutrition a nudge:** Successful programs do not assume that greater availability of food—even nutritious food—or higher income automatically translates into improved nutrition. Our programs all need to include specific interventions and resources to improve nutrition.
- **Address climate change:** Sustained commitment to climate change adaptation and risk management activities over the longer term is critical given the severity of the impact of climate change on small-scale food producers.
- **Provide a range of options:** Projects that are most successful help communities find the options that work best for them, and offer choices for various levels of assets and abilities – such as GRAD's push-pull model in Ethiopia. Take a look at some of the options for providing choices on economic opportunities.
- **Build crisis modifiers:** Our programs need to bridge the gap between emergencies and development. Long term programs need to plan for emergency situations that will almost inevitably occur. Anticipating crises and integrating contingency plans to long term programs supports quick response actions when crisis hit.



WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Further examples of CARE's work, from 2013-2016, are included in the [Beyond Productivity report](#). Take a look also at the [FNS/Climate Knowledge Map](#) to find where to go next for more information. Or contact [Juan Echanove](#) or [Emily Janoch](#).

CARE International Secretariat
Chemin de Balexert 7-9
1219 Châtelaine, Geneva
Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 795 10 20
Fax: +41 22 795 10 29
cisecretariat@careinternational.org
www.care-international.org

