The climate crisis affects the poorest and most marginalized people in developing countries, especially women and girls, through the impacts it has on their lives. It jeopardizes the benefits and progress already made in addressing the injustice of poverty and gender inequalities while increasing the demand to respond to urgent humanitarian needs. Hence, the climate emergency severely affects CARE’s efforts to overcome poverty and social injustice.

CARE International has an ambitious Climate Justice goal for the next 10 years. This work will build on the success of our 2020 Program Strategy, where CARE and partners helped increase the abilities of

**GOAL:** 25 million poor and marginalized people, particularly women and girls, have strengthened their resilience and adaptive capacities to the effects of climate change

**WHY**

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The greatest responsibility for causing the climate emergency lies with the rich polluting class and primarily in countries in the Global North. As the climate emergency grows as a result of insufficient action by those who have caused it, it is estimated that climate change may push an additional

**132 MILLION PEOPLE INTO POVERTY BY 2030**

The need for strengthening the resilience of the poorest and most marginalized, especially women and girls, and supporting their capacities to adapt, becomes more pressing every day and must be addressed. In parallel, the so-called developed countries must move beyond market-based solutions, for true societal and economic transformation in order to reach a resilience and zero-carbon future.
For CARE, Climate Justice is about a future in which the poorest and most marginalized people, particularly women and girls, have improved their wellbeing significantly and can enjoy their human rights due to increased resilience to climate change, increased equality and a global temperature rise that is limited to 1.5°C.

To achieve this, CARE will work on three interconnected pathways of change:

- Increased capacities and assets for people of all genders
- Improved enabling environment through policies and actions by power holders in the Global North and the Global South
- Strengthened collective voice and action of the civil society, including social movements

With our integrated approach, CARE intends to tackle the inequalities that are at the heart of our current systems: systems that were designed to protect the privileges of particular groups but which can no longer be held. CARE aims for a Climate Just future, for all.

Participatory approaches are a core value add of CARE and a crucial strategy in tackling power disparities. To scale up our impact, CARE engages in advocacy in the Global North and the Global South, works with civil society including social movements and collaborates with private sector actors for innovative, pro-poor and gender transformative climate technologies.

We will become a climate neutral organization as soon as possible by adopting emission reduction targets across the organization as well as a confederation-wide environmental policy. In addition, we will ensure that we only cooperate with and accept funding from those private-sector actors who positively influence local, national, and international climate-related policy decision making processes.

**WHAT**

Partnership is central to CARE’s global vision and mission. In order to maximize the impact of our programs, we build alliances and partnerships with those who offer complementary approaches. We welcome as partners those with effective programming approaches on a larger scale, and those who have the responsibility to fulfil rights and reduce poverty through policy change and implementation. We work in ways that support and reinforce, not replace, existing capacities.

**WITH WHOM**

**WE WILL**

Sustain and grow partnerships with civil society organizations and social movements that represent our impact populations and stand with climate justice movements.

Partner with private-sector actors to stimulate the development of innovative, pro-poor, and gender transformative technologies for adaptation and mitigation.

Work with research or academic institutions, especially from the Global South, on joint impact measurement and learning. This collaboration will reinforce our evidence, adapt and improve our approaches, and will support us to develop capacity strengthening tools.

Join alliances of other organizations in developing countries to scale-up our good practices, align approaches to ensure coherence of our actions, leverage funds and increase our collective voice and power, and hold governments accountable.

Sustain engagement with the Climate Action Network at global and regional and national levels and engage in other alliances with peers and others.

Engage with donors and UN institutions to influence their plans and practices and ensure they take into account the needs of the poorest and most marginalized people.

Increase our engagement with the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA).
1. Kien Quang Thi from Vietnam is a human weather app! Not only does she forecast the weather, but she also provides advice for farmers on what, when, and how to plant. Her objective is to better prepare her community for extreme weather phenomena.

Kien knows hunger. In 2008, she experienced a total crop failure and had to live on only manioc and maize for several months. In cooperation with meteorologists, local authorities and farmers, she wants to avoid crop failures in the future.

Over 70 percent of the populations of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos live in rural areas. Harsh climatic conditions are further aggravated by climate change. CARE’s Agro-Climate Information Service Program (ACIS) enables women farmers, ethnic minority farmers and agricultural planners in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos to better anticipate and respond to risks and opportunities from changes in the weather through participatory and equitable agro-climate information services.

“In Vietnam, the program helped over 5,000 people to build resilience to climate change.”

CASE STUDIES
2. CARE’s Adaptation Learning Program (ALP), funded by the Danish governments and others, aims to increase the capacity of vulnerable households in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique and Niger, to adapt to climate change. The program has been able to show impact and scale up by applying global best practices on community-based adaptation and related policy and finance instruments.

IN GHANA, ALP HELPED TO INCREASE THE ABILITIES OF OVER 330,000 PEOPLE TO BUILD RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

3. In Bangladesh, India and Thailand, climate change impacts rainfall patterns, causing episodes of extreme floods and droughts. Seasons are becoming less predictable, making small-scale farmers, especially women, more vulnerable. CARE’s Where the Rain Falls (WtRF) program is funded by the AXA Foundation and builds climate resilience and the adaptive capacities of marginalized people, particularly women. The resources and options that women have to act on climate change are strongly dependent on gender norms. That is why engaging men and influencing social norms are an explicit strategy of the program.

ALMOST 24,000 PEOPLE IN BANGLADESH AND OVER 12,000 IN INDIA WERE BETTER ABLE TO BUILD THEIR RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE.
4. The CARE-led project Graduation with Resilience to Achieve Sustainable Development (GRAD) in Ethiopia is funded by USAID and designed to help find sustainable solutions to chronic food insecurity. Increasingly erratic weather patterns in the Ethiopian highlands are hurting agricultural production and household income. Building on local traditions, the project establishes Village Economic and Social Associations (VESAs) that are the focal points for most project interventions. VESAs provide a cohesive environment for introducing savings and credit, financial literacy, small business planning/management, and other economic skills, in ways that are accessible to both women and men. Through the VESAs, community members are trained in activities that help build resilience.

THE PROJECT CONTRIBUTED TO INCREASING THE ABILITY TO BUILD RESILIENCE FOR 266,500 PEOPLE