

Objective:

Fair shares in a constrained world



The new well in Tibtenga village, Burkina Faso, was built by Christian Aid and BRACED partner ATAD. It ensures a supply of clean water for Pauline Sawadogo and her family.

Fair shares in a constrained world

We strive to transform unjust and unsustainable economic policies and practices, so that poor and vulnerable people can thrive. We help the world's poorest to face disasters while protecting the natural resources on which all our futures depend.

What we want to achieve:

- Women and men living in poverty move beyond subsistence and are able to take advantage of opportunities and better manage risks affecting their lives, resources and livelihoods.
- Poor and excluded people and communities secure greater shares of income, value and assets through markets and economies that function more fairly.
- Governments, private sector organisations and citizens adopt approaches to development based on justice, equality and sustainability.

We focus on building resilience. This means empowering individuals and communities to anticipate, prepare for and adapt to change, including climate change, reducing the impact of disasters, making markets more inclusive and responding to humanitarian emergencies. For more on our humanitarian work, see p27

Highlights

Resilience is a major theme in 19 of the countries in which we work, helping communities across the global South to adapt and thrive. We have helped address chronic climate vulnerability in rural Malawi, promoted resilience for thousands of people in Burkina Faso and Ethiopia, and reduced the impact of potential future disasters in remote areas of Myanmar. Also see p.25 for more on our advocacy work to tackle climate change.

In Kenya and Afghanistan, we have supported marginalised producers and workers to improve access to markets for their products, achieve better working conditions and increase their incomes.

Building resilience to climate change risks

A six-year, £30.6m UK aid programme - of which the Christian Aid component was over £15m - the Enhancing Community Resilience Programme (ECRP) helped communities set up early warning systems for disasters, and trained farmers in resilience and sustainability.

Christian Aid led a consortium of 11 local partners and 2 international NGOs. External evaluation found that ECRP reached more than 177,000 vulnerable households in **Malawi**. It strengthened life-saving warning systems, indirectly benefiting over 1.5 million people. An impact analysis of crop production and income flows shows £2 to £3 of benefits per £1 invested.

The project achieved an overall A+ rating from the Department for International Development (DFID). The final evaluation reported that it had 'helped to mitigate the impact of a succession of severe shocks, including floods and droughts'. DFID stated that ECRP had made a unique contribution to building resilience in Malawi.

In Malawi, ECRP generated between £2 and £3 of benefits for each £1 invested

Between 2014 and 2018, we worked with 16 local and UK partners to implement the Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) programme. We worked with communities in high-risk locations in Ethiopia and Burkina Faso to promote resilience in the face of increasingly erratic weather patterns and climate shocks.

In **Burkina Faso**, through new income generation activities and regular weather messages, 484,000 people reported an increased capacity to cope with irregular and reduced rainfall over the project's four-year span. Low-income households had been less likely to access or use climate information at the start; they have since overtaken higher-income groups. Through a social warrantage scheme, nearly 60% of female participants with low incomes can earn enough to meet their needs, compared to none before the project. These outcomes were confirmed by external qualitative evaluation.

In **Ethiopia**, internal monitoring shows that over 960,000 people now receive regular, reliable and easily

In Ethiopia, over 960,000 people receive regular weather messages, helping them plan for a changing climate

understandable weather messages, helping them to plan and prepare for a changing climate. Around 20% more of the poorest women in the project reported playing an equal role in decision making with men by the end of the programme.

Before the Strengthening Emergency Preparedness Systems (SEPS) project, communities in the remote hilly region of Southern Shan, **Myanmar** had little access to crisis information and few plans in place for crisis response. Three years on, partners DEAR Myanmar, RIMES, KBC, KESAN and DCA-NCA, with our support, have strengthened community resilience and reduced the impact of potential future disasters such as landslides, heavy rains, deforestation and forest fires. Partners' reports confirm that the project, in 50 remote villages, has reached around 20,000 people. All villages have local preparedness plans and women are taking a strong role in the new disaster management committees.

Promoting inclusive markets

Our partner RAADA, the Rehabilitation Association and Agriculture Development for Afghanistan, helped to establish the Zanan-e-Herat Silk Production Company in **Afghanistan**. It reports that it provided 1,500 women with better pay, greater equality and dignity, and safe working conditions. These women are being supported to make all the decisions in the company and engage with different stakeholders on their own.

In the arid and semi-arid areas in **Kenya**, beekeeping contributes to food security, poverty reduction, employment creation and income generation. Our inclusive markets projects - which focus on sorghum and mung beans as well as honey - recognise the potential of opening these markets to poor and marginalised communities. By 2017, the Kenya Apis Enterprise project had reached over 760 women and 2,700 men.

Honey hubs are a key part of this. These are enterprises in key locations that enable the pooling of honey, processing, coordination of sales and access to finance

and services. Four hubs now operate in different areas, giving producers a lump sum for all their produce in a single sale. The project improves production and apiculture systems to increase quality and quantity. Organising all trained beekeepers into cooperatives creates effective economies of scale and ensures that production and trading skills are passed on. The project also allows women and young people to gain an economic stake in a profitable enterprise.

Challenges and learning – building long-term confidence in change

Through BRACED, we learned that it can often take up to two years for farmers to trust and use scientific climate forecasts. Facilitating spaces for farmers to listen to and discuss scientific climate information helped this process. Enabling farmers to significantly reduce their vulnerability to climate extremes also requires them to move away from reliance on rain-fed agriculture. Such changes need high investment of resources or innovative approaches. Providing access to savings and loans, especially for women, plus access to more climate-resilient animals, like chickens, helped farmers cope with times of low rainfall.

An external evaluation found that ECRP's longevity was important in its success. A six-year implementation timeframe allowed for greater efficiency: delivery systems took time to establish but ultimately reached large numbers of households in a cost-effective manner. The programme has influenced the development of different government policies and new resilience programmes by other NGOs and donors, with at least one major donor-funded programme being modelled on its approach.

Note on data

The figures in this report come from a mix of sources. Our evidence is carefully gathered from our own internal data systems, monitoring and evaluation reports, annual reports from countries in which we work, partner reports and external evaluations. Throughout the report, we have noted where figures are estimates, as well as where they record multi-year progress or simply reflect 2017/18. Some figures have been rounded, and we have striven to avoid double counting.