



Goal 9: Improve environmental and climate resilience in rural communities

Introduction

The Hunger Project works to raise awareness and empower rural communities through knowledge and training to adapt to climate change and promote sustainable farming practices, engage communities with information to encourage land reforestation, and ensure access to clean water and sanitation.

Objectives

1. Expand the community's ability to cope, adapt, and recover from environmental threats and shocks
2. Increase adoption of land-use practices that mitigate climate change and diminish its effects on households
3. Increase the community's use of resources and techniques that reduce the impact of climate change on households

Description

The Hunger Project supports communities in becoming more resilient to the pressures of environmental degradation, including soil erosion, water pollution and unreliable or catastrophic weather patterns that affect agriculture and food distribution. THP believes that with the proper adaptive techniques communities can learn to adjust to the new realities of their environments while working to lessen the impact of Climate Change.

Through the implementation of Goal 9, THP seeks to provide tools to community partners, build partnerships that can serve as resources for local communities as well as provide technical expertise, offer educational workshops in order to improve awareness about climate change itself and possible solutions, create better tools in order to understand and track THP impact in the fight against climate change. All this work are achieved through partnerships with local government and other stakeholders who can provide the needed support to build a strong community.

Why does THP work on Environment and Climate Change?

Environmental concerns like climate change, deforestation, water scarcity, decreasing biodiversity and soil erosion are global problems. While we must all deal with the effects of these environmental concerns, people living in conditions of hunger and poverty are at the greatest risk. The vast majority of people in hunger and poverty live in rural regions, relying heavily on agriculture, with their well-being closely tied to the natural environment. They are extremely vulnerable to extreme weather events like droughts and flooding, which are often exacerbated by climate change.

Climate-related events can increase food insecurity, in terms of both availability and access, through a number of channels. Drought is a special case as it diminishes livestock and agricultural productivity and giving rise to more broadly held grievances.

This is why building resilience to climate change is crucial and at the heart of THP's work across Africa.

Key Interventions

The following interventions are key to achieve success in this program

Activity	Description
Climate & Resilience Workshop	<i>THP offers trainings to community members in climate change, its effects, as well as environmental sustainability, possible actions and provide examples of climate adaptation techniques in order to adjust to the new realities of their environments.</i>
Animator Training in Climate & Resilience	<i>Climate and resilience animators are trained in spreading the information of guides to increase knowledge, understanding and confidence around this topic in the community to strengthen community's resilience and adaptive capacity.</i>
Climate & Resilience Committee	<i>The Climate committee have the responsibility to lead activities, promote and create partnerships, support farmers to adapt to changes and help produce and review the community's action plan. Also, the committee maintains and updates the Map of the communities around the epicenter, and make sure yearly calendars are updated and available.</i>
Sustainable Agriculture Practice & Technology	<i>THP provides training and credit, mobilizing people to adopt sustainable agricultural technology and practices through creating community farms, where they learn composting, intercropping and other methods, and</i>

encourages communities to demand agricultural extension services from their government.

Action Plan

Action plan is a tool created by the community to determine their path towards adaptation and resilience. The actions includes Assessment of local vulnerabilities, capabilities and current adaptation, Community Map, Yearly Calendar, Weather Information Plan, and Safety Nets.

Metrics

The Hunger Project measures each community's progress in all the Goals. With the indicators the community is able to know their progress towards Self-Reliance and also is able to reflect on their progress and set new targets each year.

- Number of trainees in climate adaptation
- Number of animator trainees in climate adaptation

Indicators that demonstrate community's
capacity development

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- Climate Resilience Index

Indicators that demonstrate community's
climate resilience & adaptation

Known Challenges

Partnerships with others: In order to implement the Environment and Climate Resilience program effectively, it is necessary to build partnerships with local governments, international agencies, and other non-governmental organizations. These partnerships provide better access to various kinds of technological skills and knowledge, and they further the reach of THP's programs.

Women and Youth Engagement: THP encourages women and youth to participate actively in the Environment and Climate Resilience program. Through their engagement, THP expects women and youth to be the key change agents to increase their resilience in the face of harsh conditions and to be equipped with the proper adaptive tools.