ACTION AGAINST HUNGER

Capacity Statement:
Climate Change

Who We Are

Action Against Hunger is an international non-governmental network operating across 59 countries, dedicated to creating a world free from hunger. With more than 45 years of global experience, we are recognised leaders in food, nutrition, and water security. Our approach integrates nutrition, health, food security and livelihoods, WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene), and disaster risk reduction, adopting a systems approach that highlights the critical connections between climate, ecosystems, and human well-being.

Our programmes actively incorporate climate-resilient methodologies, acknowledging that climate change, environmental degradation, and biodiversity loss are significant drivers of poverty and food insecurity. We support the most affected communities by implementing climate-resilient strategies, including agroecology, sustainable livelihoods, efficient water conservation and use, ecologically sustainable climate-smart agriculture, systems strengthening, and energy-efficient technologies. These initiatives help vulnerable populations build resilience to climate shocks, protect natural resources, and ensure sustainable access to nutrition and water.

We help communities adapt to climate change, build resilience to disasters, and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to move toward a world free from hunger.

Why Climate Change is Important to Us

Climate change is worsening humanitarian conditions worldwide, disrupting food systems, straining water resources, and deepening inequalities that disproportionately affect women, girls, Indigenous Peoples, and other marginalised groups. Rising temperatures and increasingly severe climate hazards are eroding livelihoods, harming health and nutrition, and heightening social and economic vulnerabilities. The IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report warns that, without urgent action, risks such as biodiversity loss, droughts, floods, and heatwaves could reach catastrophic levels. UN Women estimates that by 2050 climate change may push 158 million more women and girls into poverty and leave 236 million more facing hunger, which is double the number for men. Action Against Hunger works to address these disparities by ensuring responses are inclusive and gender-transformative, while reducing emissions, minimising environmental impacts, and strengthening local adaptation through sustainable, resilient practices.

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Tackling the Climate and Environmental Crisis

Our climate and environmental strategy is built on three interconnected pillars: Adaptation, Mitigation, and Resilience, all grounded in a human-rights-based and gender-transformative framework. Our approach blends innovative technologies and information management systems with Traditional Knowledge and community innovation, recognising individuals' and communities' relationships with their ecosystems.

Adaptation

We help communities and local institutions anticipate, absorb, and adapt to climate hazards by integrating climate risk and vulnerability analyses into our programmes. We promote ecosystem-based and locally led adaptation grounded in Traditional and Indigenous Knowledge to reduce risk and vulnerability and build lasting resilience.

Resilience

Resilience is central to our mission. Using climate risk analysis, we link humanitarian response, early warning systems and anticipatory action with long-term sustainable development. Through this integrated approach, we strengthen resilient food systems, improve inclusive governance, and build adaptive capacities that enable communities to thrive amid growing environmental stresses.

Mitigation

We support climate change mitigation by promoting low-carbon, sustainable technologies and renewable energy in humanitarian and development operations. Across all sectors, we embed environmental safeguards, ecosystem-based approaches, and sustainable resource management practices that lower emissions and preserve biodiversity.

Our approach emphasises a just transition—ensuring climate action is equitable, participatory, and inclusive—and promotes the leadership of women and marginalised groups in shaping climate and environmental programming, ensuring that no one is left behind in the transition towards a sustainable future.

Technical Capacities and Innovations

Action Against Hunger combines Local and Indigenous Knowledge and proven field practices with research and innovation to design effective, scalable, and context-specific climate solutions:

Agroecological Food Systems

We advance ecologically sustainable climate-smart agriculture and agroecological approaches that improve soil health, biodiversity, and productivity, reducing vulnerability to droughts and floods. Techniques such as crop diversification, pollinator enhancement, composting, mulching, and water-efficient irrigation tailored to local conditions, improve yields, boost soil fertility, and reduce dependence on harmful agrochemicals, thereby strengthening household food security and ecosystem sustainability. We promote Holistic Management in livestock systems, ensuring our projects integrate social, economic, and environmental dimensions to enhance the sustainability of pastoral livelihoods. This approach focuses on land regeneration and livelihood improvement through improved livestock management practices that optimize grazing patterns to enhance soil fertility, water retention, and vegetation cover, ultimately increasing productivity, biodiversity and resilience of grazing ecosystems.

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Water Security and Integrated Resource Management

Our programmes integrate climate considerations into water management through water safety planning, rainwater harvesting, multiple-use water systems, and watershed restoration. We promote integrated water resources management (IWRM) to balance domestic, agricultural, and livestock needs, ensuring sustainable water access in arid and semi-arid regions. We support communities to strengthen adaptation through rainwater harvesting, micro-irrigation, and predictive analytics integrating local knowledge with regional climate models. Our solar-powered water systems at wells and pumping stations ensure reliable access to water while cutting emissions and costs, reinforcing ecosystem restoration and sustainable governance.

Early Warning, Risk Knowledge, and Anticipatory Action

We enhance climate and disaster preparedness using innovative information systems and decision-support tools, leveraging predictive analytics platforms that integrate satellite data, hydrometeorological forecasts, and community-based observations to guide early warning and anticipatory action, reducing human and economic toll of climate-related crises (PEWS). In 2023, in collaboration with WFP, we published research examining the impacts of El Niño in Latin America and the Caribbean, using the PREDISAN platform to map weather pattern changes and their effects on local communities.

Health Systems Strengthening and Nutritional Diversity

We strengthen food systems through adaptation measures such as climate-resilient agriculture and agroecology, which diversify crop production to ensure continued access to nutritious foods and diversified diets in the face of a changing climate. We integrate climate risk into health and nutrition systems through advanced predictive analytics, integrated planning, and climate-informed forecasting such as the MERIAM 2.0 model. Our approach enables anticipatory action, strengthens supply chains, and supports nutrition-sensitive protocols that adapt to climate variability. Through a nutrition-centric humanitarian–development–peace nexus, we

link health, food security, and climate adaptation to build inclusive, resilient systems capable of withstanding shocks and crises.

Marine Management and Coastal Protection

We strengthen coastal resilience by combining local and Indigenous Knowledge and scientific research to support sustainable marine management. Our work integrates environmental conservation, sustainable resource management, and gender equality and social inclusion, promoting climate-resilient livelihoods in coastal communities. Key strategies include fostering community-led resource management, establishing community managed marine protected areas, and diversifying livelihoods to enhance both environmental sustainability and social equity. Our community-led mangrove restoration projects simultaneously protect coastal livelihoods, enhance biodiversity, sequester carbon, and buffer communities against storm surges and other climate impacts.

Green Humanitarian Operations and Environmental Impact Measurement

We recognise our responsibility as humanitarian actors to measure and reduce our carbon footprint and minimise environmental impacts across all operations by assessing risks, adopting renewable energy solutions, and implementing resource-efficient practices. Guided by environmental assessment tools and frameworks that align with international standards, our country offices conduct environmental risk assessments using NEAT+. We also helped develop the MERA matrix to identify risks and recommend mitigation measures. In 2023, we launched the "Greening Humanitarian Response" initiative to strengthen the sustainability of humanitarian operations through energy assessments and renewable integration, including the REact web app, which supports humanitarian teams in analysing energy needs and reducing reliance on fossil fuels during crises. Our green and resilient economy programmes enhance solid waste management, foster circular economy practices and sustainable procurement, and promote inclusive governance to protect ecosystems and help urban and coastal communities adapt to environmental challenges.

Gender-Transformative and Intersectional Climate Action

Our climate programming embeds gender equality and social inclusion, pursuing a gender-transformative and intersectional approach underpinned by our Gender Equality Policy. We ensure women and marginalised groups can exercise their rights, have agency to make decisions, and have their unique needs addressed. By considering how different social identities influence experiences and vulnerabilities, we design interventions that build agency, equity, and resilience.

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Climate Advocacy

We advocate for the right to adequate food to be central in climate policies and plans, actively participating in United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) processes and contributing to joint work on agriculture and food security. Our advocacy is based on a human rights approach and evidence supporting agroecology as an effective climate action intervention with significant social co-benefits. We coordinate large civil society coalitions such as the Agriculture Working Group of Climate Action Network International (CAN) and we participate in global biodiversity policy fora such as the United Nations Biodiversity Conference of the Parties (COP) and working groups of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). We work with research partners to strengthen biodiversity protection while addressing socioeconomic factors and supporting our fight against hunger.

Our Flagship Climate Projects

We implement climate change adaptation, mitigation, and environmental protection projects in over 43 countries that we work in. This non-exhaustive list of examples can be tailored to specific requirements upon request.

South Asia

In Bangladesh, Action Against Hunger collaborates closely with local organisations and community groups to tackle the underlying structural causes of poverty among marginalised fisherfolk through our FISHNET project, funded by the UK Government through OCEAN. The project that started in early 2025, specifically aims to reduce the degradation of marine ecosystems while empowering fisherfolk through skills development and increased agency. By supporting fisherfolk to participate actively in decision-making processes and resource management, the initiative enhances their role in shaping local policies and practices. A key component of this approach is the establishment of community-managed Marine Protected Areas, which not only conserve marine environments but also provide improved access to resources and opportunities for financial inclusion. Diversified livelihood options are introduced, with a particular emphasis on empowering women fisherfolk, thereby fostering both environmental sustainability and social equity.

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Southeast Asia

In the Philippines, our Siargao Green Economy Project funded by Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) fosters climate resilience and green economies in Siargao Island through inclusive, gender transformative governance and private sector engagement. The project improves solid waste management systems and promotes green economic initiatives, enhancing community resilience and environmental sustainability.
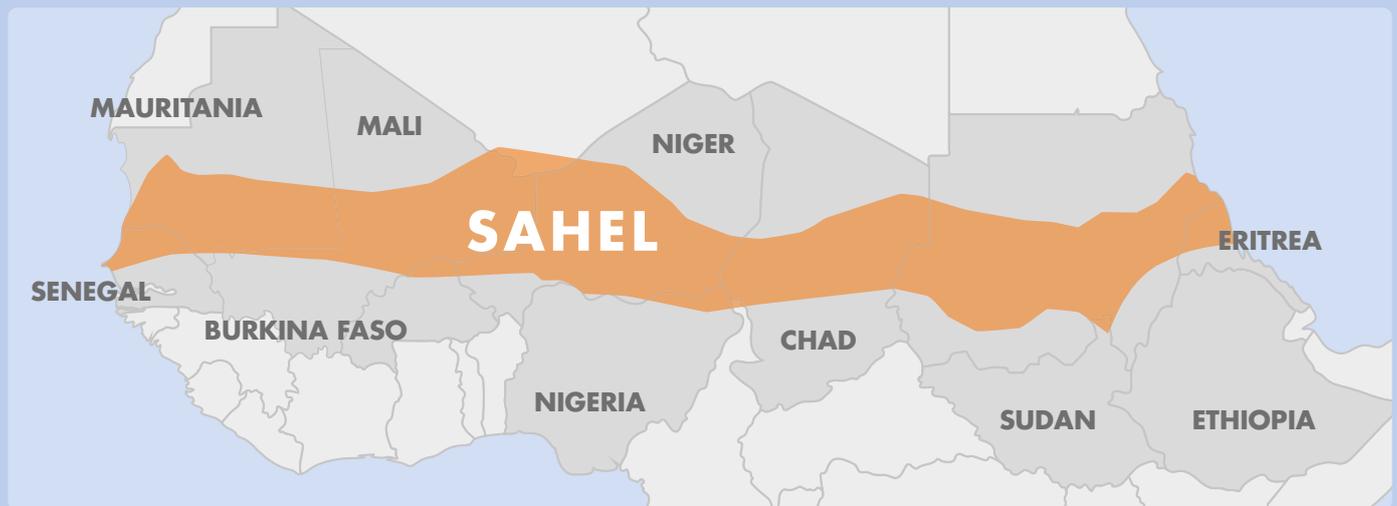

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Our EARTH project in the Philippines funded by funded by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO) is a pilot initiative tackling the negative environmental impacts from humanitarian interventions through the integration of environmental safeguarding and restoration strategies in the cities of Zamboanga and Malabon. This project merges advocacy and implementation of strategies in mangrove reforestation, solid waste management, water conservation, and sustainable livelihoods — while reducing environmental risks and restoring ecosystems.

Within the Sahel region of West Africa, where livestock contributes approximately 40% of agricultural GDP, climate variability has made quality pasture increasingly scarce. To address this, Action Against Hunger developed the Pastoral Early Warning System (PEWS), which provides real-time alerts that enable herders to identify optimal grazing areas and anticipate and manage droughts and other risks. Using satellite data and mobile field surveys, PEWS monitors biomass, water resources, market prices, animal health, and bushfire incidents. This information is analyzed to generate real-time alerts that reach more than 100,000 herders via radio, SMS, and community channels, enabling informed mobility and grazing decisions.

The system's satellite monitoring component provides continuous analysis of biomass distribution and vegetation dynamics, detecting anomalies that indicate potential risks to livestock production. These insights support evidence-based decision-making for local authorities and national institutions, improving the management of natural resources and transhumant livestock systems.

Since its launch in 2007, PEWS has offered continuous, accessible data that strengthens the resilience and security of agropastoral communities. It has been integrated into national early warning systems and animal resources ministries, and is used by pastoralist organisations/groups, local farmers, donors such as ECHO and USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), and international agencies including the Red Cross, ICRC, RDC, FAO, WFP, OECD and more.

Through PEWS, Action Against Hunger contributes to data-driven pastoral resilience, supporting sustainable livelihoods and food security across the Sahel.

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In Senegal, our holistic management project focuses on restoring degraded grasslands by optimising livestock management practices. The project seeks to boost soil fertility and promote greater biomass production, thus improving the sustainability of pastoral systems. Meanwhile, in Sierra Leone, our mangrove restoration project in the Bonthe district adopts a Planetary Health approach to ensure human and environmental needs are met, by identifying alternative livelihoods and activities that support ecosystem recovery.

Southern Africa

In Zimbabwe, Action Against Hunger addresses declining pollinator populations and food insecurity through the innovative Farming with Alternative Pollinators (FAP) project funded by the UK Government through the Darwin Initiative. By limiting harmful practices such as unsustainable land expansion and the use of detrimental chemicals and fertilisers, the project aims to integrate pollinator enhancement and protection into agricultural activities. FAP projects are designed to reverse pollinator loss, bolster ecosystem services, and improve the livelihoods of resource-poor small-holder farmers.

In Zambia, Action Against Hunger supports climate resilience and biodiversity conservation by building the capacity of local non-governmental organization to implement climate adaptation and resilience projects effectively. Through a recent project funded by the UK Government through Darwin

Initiative that ended in 2024, we supported local partners to improve their systems, develop tools, and adapt new approaches for project management, data collection, storage, analysis and reporting to enable them to effectively design and implement high impact projects that contribute to conserving biodiversity and providing alternative sustainable agricultural livelihoods.The CREATE Project funded by GIZ that started in 2025, targets 4,000 smallholder farmers across Pemba, Monze, and Mazabuka districts, focusing on strengthening climate resilience in agri-food systems. Key components include enhancing productivity, improving water access, and reinforcing institutional capacities, especially in response to Zambia's most severe drought in four decades. The project introduces climate-resilient agriculture, integrated water resource management, and advanced post-harvest handling techniques to secure food systems and community wellbeing.
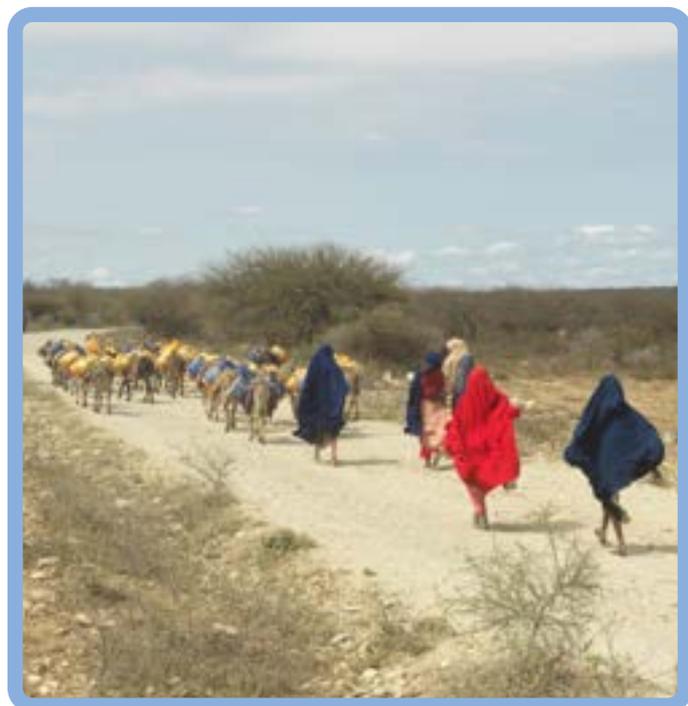

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East Africa

In Madagascar, Action Against Hunger combines traditional knowledge with scientific research to develop sustainable resource management and marine protection solutions through our Riake Mahavelon-Jafy project that started in 2025. The project, funded by the UK Government through COAST, integrates environmental conservation, economic development, and gender equality, and social inclusion, creating lasting benefits for coastal communities through the promotion of climate-resilient livelihoods and locally adapted marine conservation strategies.

Through our projects in Somalia, producers are able to protect assets and adjust agricultural schedules to mitigate risks through timely dissemination of alerts—such as the 2023 El Niño floods. The use of a Multiple-Use Water Services/ IWRM approach ensures that domestic, livestock, and agricultural needs are balanced, while transboundary cooperation in regions like the Mandera Triangle and Karamoja cluster strengthens resource governance and promotes peace under climate stress. The deployment of portable solar irrigation systems and locally produced neem-tree pesticides in

Somalia reduces water stress and dependency on chemical inputs, promoting environmentally friendly agricultural practices.

In Uganda, we are developing an anticipatory action framework for riverine flooding events in the Western Region. The framework includes hazard forecasting, trigger identification and development of anticipatory action protocols to enhance early warning and anticipatory action capabilities. By strengthening local capacity to predict and monitor risk, and prevent impacts of forecastable hazards, the project aims to reduce the loss of livelihoods, protect productive assets, and reduce community vulnerability.

Through the MERIAM 2.0 initiative (Modelling Early Risk Indicators to Anticipate Malnutrition) funded by the German Federal Foreign Office, Action Against Hunger is transforming nutrition forecasting and early warning systems across Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and South Sudan. MERIAM applies advanced statistical modelling to predict Global Acute Malnutrition thresholds with over 90% accuracy and up to 12 months lead time, enabling governments and partners to shift from reactive crisis response to anticipatory action. Integrated into national and regional frameworks—including Kenya's National Drought Management Authority early warning bulletins and Ethiopia's Ethiopia's Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition Surge protocols Surge protocols—MERIAM informs contingency planning, resource targeting,

and cross-sectoral anticipatory action, linking nutrition outcomes with climate-sensitive triggers. This innovation strengthens health systems and ensures timely, evidence-based interventions in contexts of climate variability and recurrent shocks.

In Ethiopia, we support the Ministry of Health and the Disaster Risk Management Commission in developing and operationalizing the Nutrition-Centric HDP Nexus, a national framework designed to align humanitarian response, resilience-building, and peace initiatives under a climate-sensitive lens. The Nexus approach integrates nutrition into multi-sectoral strategies, guiding interventions through an Operational Guide and Implementation Roadmap, combining food and nutrition security, gender-responsive disaster risk reduction, diversified livelihoods, and participatory peacebuilding. By linking climate adaptation with health and nutrition systems, this initiative strengthens institutional coherence and community resilience, ensuring that responses address both immediate needs and structural drivers of vulnerability in disaster-affected areas.

Latin America and the Caribbean

Action Against Hunger works throughout the Central American Dry Corridor to build climate-resilient, low-carbon livelihoods using a gender-transformative, rights-based approach. The organisation strengthens cooperative ecosystems and local institutions to scale climate-resilient agriculture, efficient water management, and equitable market access. In Guatemala, rainwater harvesting and micro-irrigation models are implemented to sustain agricultural production during the dry season and reduce pressure on water resources.

Regionally, the PREDISAN Food and Nutrition Security Monitoring and Prediction System integrates data from multiple sources and uses predictive analytics to anticipate climate-related shocks. This system issues early warnings, identifies priority areas and vulnerable groups, and guides both anticipatory action and locally led adaptation efforts.

Middle East

Action Against Hunger's solarisation initiatives span several regions, including Syria and Jordan. In South Lebanon, a solar-powered pumping project ensures that the Qaaqaaiyet El Snoubar village well delivers approximately seven hours of water supply per day. Through the European Union-funded "HawkaMaa-EU" governance project, key municipal pumping stations in Nasriyet Rizk (Rayak), Aana, Tall Znoub, and Haouch Rachayya have been solarised, ensuring continuous water availability despite persistent power outages.

Across the Middle East, the integration of climate adaptation into humanitarian and recovery programmes guarantees reliable access to water and energy for vulnerable communities affected by conflict and environmental degradation. In Lebanon, solar water pumping initiatives provide thousands with safe water, replacing diesel-powered systems and thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions, operational costs, and environmental risks. In Syria, sustainable water management and ecosystem restoration are promoted by supporting local authorities and communities, strengthening water governance, and rehabilitating degraded agricultural land.

Looking Ahead

Action Against Hunger is committed to transforming humanitarian and development approaches to address the climate and environmental crisis.

Action Against Hunger has established an [Environment and Climate Network Framework](#), setting principles and operational requirements to integrate climate and environmental considerations throughout all programmes and systems. We are also a signatory of the [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organisations](#) and adhere to the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS), ensuring programmes identify, prevent, and mitigate environmental risks.

We will continue to:

- Integrate climate and environmental risk analysis into all programmes and strategies.
- Expand renewable energy and low-carbon solutions throughout our operations.

- Strengthen community-led adaptation and ecosystem restoration initiatives.
- Enhance early warning systems and advance locally-led anticipatory action to climate-related shocks.
- Protect and restore biodiversity as a foundation for resilient ecosystems and sustainable food systems.
- Deepen partnerships and promote research and innovation for scalable climate solutions.
- Promote gender-transformative and rights-based approaches to resilience.

By combining scientific evidence, local and Indigenous Knowledge, and a strong operational presence, Action Against Hunger delivers tangible and scalable climate solutions that protect lives, strengthen systems, and secure the planet's future.

Together, we are building climate resilience for a world free from hunger.
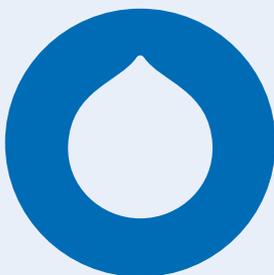
ACTION AGAINST HUNGER

For more information contact:

Carmin O'Neal
Climate Change Advisor
Action Against Hunger UK
c.oneal@actionagainsthunger.org.uk

Aida Muñoz
Water Security & Climate Change specialist
Action Against Hunger Spain
amunoz@accioncontraelhambre.org

Nicolas Villeminot
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene Senior Advisor
Action Against Hunger USA
nvilleminot@actionagainsthunger.org

Chloé Orland
Ecology Advisor
Action Against Hunger France
corland@actioncontrelafaim.org