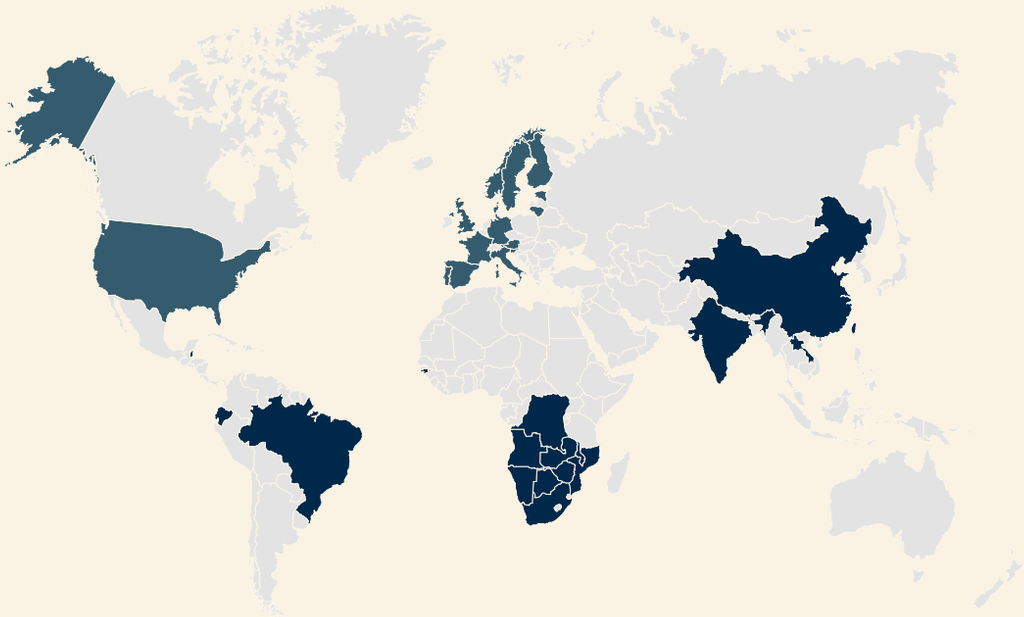
CLIMATE ACTION

Enhancing Adaptation, Building Resilience

WHO ARE WE?

HUMANA People to People (HUMANA) is an **international network of 29 local NGOs** working for the sustainable development of vulnerable communities, particularly from **Sub-Saharan Africa**, the **Americas** and **Asia**.

In our unwavering commitment to tackling some of the world's major socioeconomic, environmental, and humanitarian challenges, we spearhead **community-driven holistic development programmes** that **harness** the power of **education** and **collaboration**. Moreover, our teams are comprised by people hailing from the very communities we serve, offering invaluable local insights and expertise.



You may know HUMANA member organisations by the names of:

ADPP DAPP HUMANA PlanetAid UFF

OUR AREAS OF WORK

- Climate Change and Agriculture
- Education, Training and Economic Empowerment
- Community Development
- Health

HOW DO WE WORK?

To address the pressing challenges and imminent threats faced by rural communities in the relentless grip of climate change and its unpredictable variations, HUMANA's climate action is built upon the following elements:

1 Working with Frontline & Vulnerable Communities

Climate change is already having a devastating impact on the world's most impoverished communities, and it's clear that it has the potential to keep millions trapped in poverty.

Without adaptation efforts, the most vulnerable groups will experience severe food shortages, loss of livelihoods, extreme poverty, and even loss of life.

HUMANA members are dedicated to improving the lives and conditions of frontline communities in some of the world's most challenging regions. Our programmes strategically target areas where the impact of climate change is most severe, precisely where resilience and adaptive capabilities are at their weakest.

Adressing structural inequalities

Climate vulnerability frequently arises from entrenched structural inequalities. To address this issue, HUMANA places a high priority on working with marginalized groups, such as women, youth, persons with disabilities, and ethnic minorities. Our specific focus revolves around facilitating their equitable access to and active participation in decision-making processes, as well as enhancing their access to essential services like healthcare, education, and training, among other essential areas. We firmly anchor our interventions, including those related to climate action, in the principles of **Social Inclusion, Equity, and a Gender Transformative Approach**. These foundations underpin all our efforts to create a more equitable and resilient world.

2 Promoting Locally-Led Climate Action & Focusing on Last-Mile Adaptation

Locally-led adaptation places the agency and decision-making in the hands of the people most affected, which results in greater local ownership and leadership of adaptation. Nevertheless, community engagement at the local level is often lacking in Adaptation Planning efforts.

To complement governments' efforts, HUMANA members target the last-mile of adaptation planning. We do so by supporting local communities develop and implement Community Adaptation Action Plans (CAAPs), in line with the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and in collaboration with relevant national and local authorities.

3 Facilitating the Strengthening of Local Structures

The strengthening of social capital is not only a cornerstone of climate resilience but also a key measure for long-term sustainability.

In line with this principle, HUMANA's programs are designed to bolster community-level organizational structures, enabling the seamless continuation of activities and the sustained pursuit of climate-resilient development pathways.

In particular, we place a strong emphasis on building the capacity of communities. This involves enhancing their awareness, knowledge, understanding, and skills pertaining to climate change impacts and potential adaptation strategies.

Additionally, our members work with communities to provide them with access to climate information and the essential skills for its meaningful interpretation.

4 Fostering Climate Resilient Communities and Livelihoods

The majority of rural populations depend on small-scale agriculture, fisheries, and natural resources for their livelihoods, so it becomes imperative safeguard vulnerable communities and also alleviate poverty, ensure food security, promote economic stability, and uphold environmental sustainability.

Central to HUMANA's climate initiatives is the enhancement of local communities' resilience. This is achieved through several strategies, including technology transfer, the promotion of climate-resilient agriculture, and the sustainable management of natural resources (forests, fisheries, and water).

We also support income diversification and the development of climate-resilient value chains, including the strengthening local processing and storage capacities, financial literacy, renewable energy and the access to small grants and financial services. Furthermore, our efforts extend to the development relevant skills and competences for green(er) jobs and societies, through HUMANA's network of schools and colleges (Technical

Climate-Humanitarian Nexus

In recent years, HUMANA members have increased their efforts to support local communities through Disaster Risk Reduction and Post-Recovery interventions, particularly in areas affected by Cyclone Freddy (2023) and Cyclone Idai (2019). In close collaboration with national District Disaster Offices, HUMANA's intervention places a strong emphasis on proactive preparedness and anticipatory measures disaster. Once a disaster strikes, our primary focus shifts to improving the living conditions of affected individuals, including those within displacement camps, by enhancing shelter, ensuring food security, and promoting hygiene practices. Following this immediate response phase, our efforts pivot toward fostering socioeconomic recovery. We work alongside communities to revitalize agricultural activities and establish robust social safety nets. This multifaceted approach aims to not only assist communities in rebuilding, but also fortifying their resilience in the face of climate-induced disasters.

Vocational Education and Training Schools; Primary and Secondary Schools and Teachers' Colleges).

5 Harnessing the potential of multi-stakeholder collaboration

Climate change imposes a shared responsibility that cuts across all sectors of society. The establishment and maintenance of solid alliances and networks significantly amplifies the power and reach of collective climate action, which is particularly crucial in providing essential support to vulnerable communities.

Within this context, HUMANA members work in close collaboration with the respective Nationally Designated Authorities (NDAs) and relevant line Ministries. Through collaborative efforts, we identify and craft climate projects that directly address the most pressing needs and challenges. Furthermore, our approach actively engages local and traditional authorities, ensuring that their valuable insights and expertise play a central role in the planning and execution phases.

To strengthen our strategies, we tap into the knowledge and resources offered by research institutions and the private sector. Additionally, we place a strong emphasis on engaging communities and vulnerable groups (e.g. women, persons with disabilities, youth), tailoring solutions to meet their unique circumstances and requirements.

HOW WE STARTED

FARMERS' CLUBS

A long history of collaborating with small-holder farmers

HUMANA has a long history of collaborating with small-holder farmers through its Farmers' Clubs program (FC). This program takes a comprehensive approach to support small-scale farmers to improve agricultural production and productivity while enhancing resilience to climate change and external shocks.

The FC structure, typically consisting of about 50 members and guided by project leaders embedded in the farming community, actively involves both men and women in meetings and trainings on sustainable farming.

Promoted practices encompass techniques such as inter-cropping, crop rotation, mulching, zero tillage, potholing, moisture retention, and crop diversification, all geared toward bolstering resilience to climate-related challenges.

Additionally, Farmers' Clubs can choose to collaborate with cooperatives or larger farmers' organizations, enabling them to access shared resources and financial opportunities for collective benefit. Due to its proven long-term effectiveness, HUMANA often employs the FC structure as the central operational unit in many of its climate interventions.

While the FC model is undeniably effective in enhancing food security and supporting smallholder farmers, the gravity of the climate crisis necessitates urgent and wide-ranging actions, especially as vulnerable communities bear the brunt of severe consequences. Adaptation and resilience building require nuanced approaches tailored to address location-specific impacts and multi-layered constraints. HUMANA's response has thus evolved to be more comprehensive and sharply focused on addressing adaptation requirements and obstacles. Consequently, HUMANA's projects are evolving to become more elaborate and precisely targeted, catering to the unique climate adaptation needs and barriers of each community.

OUR LATEST CLIMATE INTERVENTIONS

Adaptation of Agricultural Production Systems in Coastal Areas (APICA)

#Climate Information #Saltwater Intrusion #Coastal Management

Oio and Cacheu | GUINEA-BISSAU | 2023-2028

The escalating impacts of climate change, such as rising sea levels, tidal surges, and adverse weather conditions, present a dire threat to the coastal communities of Guinea-Bissau to their means of subsistence. In response, the APICA project is dedicated to bolstering the climate resilience of vulnerable populations that reside in the coastal regions of Oio and Cacheu, with a focus on addressing salinization of water and soils, enhancing livelihoods and ensuring food security.

APICA encompasses a holistic approach, as it combines strategies to:

1. bolster resilience in smallholder agriculture;
2. empower youth, women, and various stakeholders with organizational and technical capacities;
3. establish climate-resilient value chains, with a particular focus on promoting micro, and small-sized enterprises (MSEs).

Additionally, it reinforces existing partnerships with key institutions, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs).

The project seeks to:

- improve local water and soil quality monitoring and management;
- revitalize small-scale water management schemes;
- enhance productivity of rice, crop, and horticulture production;
- enhance coastal protection, including by functional reforestation of 250 hectares of mangrove swamp areas.

Groundwater Resources Management

#Water Security #Groundwater Recharge

Gurugram | INDIA | 2023-2024

Climate change and the growing unpredictability of weather patterns, along with the rising sea level, pose significant threats to groundwater levels.

HUMANA India, in collaboration with WaterLab India, is actively tackling this challenge through its innovative initiative, the Groundwater Resources Management project.

Access to climate information plays a pivotal role in assisting and empowering vulnerable communities to make informed decisions about their water usage while contributing to the preservation of water resources.

The project utilizes app-based digital monitoring of groundwater to empower farmers and to enhance their understanding of groundwater dynamics and related agricultural practices in four villages in the Gurugram district.

The primary focus is to build capacity for sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural practices, equipping farmers with knowledge and data regarding groundwater levels.

In response to the impacts of climate change in the region, the project also emphasizes water conservation efforts, including the construction of rooftop rainwater harvesting structures and pond recharge facilities to enhance groundwater levels.

The project collaborates with Krishi Vigyan Kendra to provide:

- updated insights on crops;
- high-yield production techniques;
- tangible advancements in farming practices, further promoting climate-resilient agriculture in the area.

ADPP Moçambique

Blue Futures

#EbA #Mangrove #Restoration #Blue Carbon

Nampula | MOZAMBIQUE | 2022-2027

This project, funded by the Blue Action Fund/GCF and led by the Wildlife Conservation Society in partnership with ADPP, manages a marine protected area (MPA) between Memba and Mossuril in Nampula Province -this MPA is a global hotspot for marine biodiversity and a critically endangered ecoregion. The project aims to enhance the resilience of local communities to climate change impacts by safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystems.

Aligned with Mozambique's commitment to expand its MPA network from 2% to 30% by 2030, the project –which has 50% women's participation– promotes knowledge sharing with local stakeholders and communities.

The project focuses on:

- restoring and protecting key biodiversity;
- involving local communities in the management of fishing zones;
- restoration activities;
- adopting a gender-transformative approach.

In addition to biodiversity preservation, the project also supports local livelihoods through business development and Village Savings and Loan Associations (VLSAs), aiding vulnerable communities to face the growing challenges of climate change.

In a climate context marked by increasing unpredictability, this initiative aims to secure a resilient future for both the marine environment and local inhabitants.

Enhancing Climate Change Policy Access, Participation and Implementation

#CSO engagement #Policy Literacy #Locally-Led Adaptation

MALAWI | 2022-2024

In Malawi, a lack of awareness on climate change policies has hindered CSOs in supporting community autonomy.

This project has a clear objective: to facilitate greater access and participation in the development and execution of climate change policies.

In partnership with The Civil Society Network on Climate Change (CISONECC), DAPP is actively assisting the Government in monitoring the implementation of climate policies, frameworks, and plans both at the national and district levels.

Furthermore, it seeks to empower civil society organizations, local leaders, and community groups by strengthening and organizing district-level networks that are focused on climate change.

The pilot project has a target of 1,000 individuals, with 70% of them being women in decision-making roles. Additionally, it plays a pivotal role in developing essential instruments - such as the Malawi Climate Change Fund, the Disaster Risk Management Act, and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) - to bolster the nation's resilience to climate impacts.

Adaptation in Drought Struck South-Western African Communities (ADSWAC)

#Community-based Adaptation #Drought Management #Climate-Resilient Agriculture

Cuando-Cubango - ANGOLA | Kavango - NAMIBIA | 2021-2027

The transboundary region spanning Cuando-Cubango in Angola and Kavango in Namibia faces mounting challenges such as recurring droughts, prolonged dry seasons, unpredictable weather patterns, and fluctuating water levels, all of which pose significant threats to local crop production.

To address these issues and enhance the resilience of communities in dealing with extreme weather events, ADSWAC focuses on strengthening adaptation capabilities.

This project specifically aims to bolster drought resilience through three main approaches:

1. enhancing climate change adaptation capacities at the local, sub-national, and regional levels;
2. developing expertise in climate-resilient agriculture and water management;
3. improving food security for rural and vulnerable populations.

By collaborating with local structures and communities, the project promotes:

- climate-resilient agricultural practices;
- diversification of livelihoods;
- access to climate information;
- knowledge dissemination;
- cross-border coordination.

The program actively engages with 160 Producer Organizations and 160 Water User Associations to address the growing frequency and severity of droughts. Additionally, 6 Climate Change Action Centers (CCACs) are being established in partnership with local communities, while Community Adaptation Action Plans (CAAPs) are being developed together with 160 communities, benefiting approximately 140,000 individuals.

Radio Cuvelai

Cuvelai Basin | ANGOLA | 2020 - present

Climate information and education are key for vulnerable communities facing increasing impacts of extreme weather events.

This initiative uses innovative practices to transmit crucial information about climate change in order to build resilience in the Cuvelai Basin, Angola.

A total of 72 radio programs have been thoughtfully tailored to local communities, presented in their native languages, and accompanied by Portuguese transcripts to maximize reach.

ECOFISH

#Sustainable Fisheries #Climate-Resilient #Value Chains

Magoe and Cahora Bassa - Tete Province | MOZAMBIQUE | 2020-2023

In Mozambique, a substantial number of people rely on small-scale fisheries for their subsistence, but these vital fisheries confront persistent hurdles, including overfishing, illegal practices, and geophysical shifts tied to climate change. ECOFISH focuses on improving sustainability in small-scale fisheries in Tete province.

The Fishers' Clubs program promotes sustainability among small-scale fisherfolk and their families across ten fishing communities in the Magoe and Cahora Bassa districts in Tete Province.

The project welcomes both pre-existing and aspiring fishers, offering guidance and training in sustainable fishing methods and facilitating the integration of fisher's associations into the fish value chain, which results in increased sales and income.

Guided by a holistic approach and community leadership, the Fisher's Club initiative is fostering a shift towards sustainable fishing practices, with noticeable improvements in water access, agricultural production, nutrition, and community health.

Sustainable Caatinga

#Drought Management #Agroforestry #Climate Information

Bahia | BRAZIL | 2019 - present

In collaboration with the Brazilian government, this project is enhancing environmental resilience and mitigating the impacts of climate change in this increasingly vulnerable semiarid region, which is plagued by fires, deforestation, and desertification.

Additionally, local communities receive training in data collection and analysis and are also supported with:

- the establishment of 15 Agroforest Systems (AFS);
- installation of 16,000-liter cisterns;

The program leverages local communities and their traditional knowledge to protect their habitats and foster resilience through the implementation of sustainable social technologies. Employing a multidisciplinary approach, the project engages educational and research institutions, the public and private sectors, CSOs, and key stakeholders.

Through initiatives like agro-ecological and sustainable production systems, seedling planting, and active participation in municipal and regional forums, the project reinforces the rights of rural producers and promotes the dissemination of sustainable practices.

- cultivation of forage, native, and fruit-bearing seedlings;
- provision of over 40,000 rations for animal food production within the AFS.

Simultaneously, the program creates opportunities for social inclusion, improved living conditions, and community participation and management.

Food and Water Security (FRESAN)

#Sustainable Fisheries #Climate-Resilient #Value Chains

Cunene | ANGOLA | 2019-2024

In Cunene, Angola, climate risks like recurring droughts, water scarcity, extreme heat, and occasional flooding pose significant challenges to agriculture, water resources, and community well-being.

In response, HUMANA member ADPP Angola, as part of the broader FRESAN program, is engaged in targeted interventions, primarily focused on Water Security and Food Security, in collaboration with partner CODESPA.

ADPP's Water Security Initiative strives to address one of the most critical climate-related concerns in the area: access to clean water. Specifically, it focuses on improving water access in 39 communities by rehabilitating and constructing new water sources (18 and 24, respectively) and establishing 39 distribution systems. Training benefits approximately 300 women and 300 men, who learn improved community water management.

Simultaneously, CODESPA and ADPP address food security, enhancing food availability and access while building climate resilience. CODESPA focuses on food availability, access, and resilience, while ADPP empowers female smallholders to provide nutritious, healthy food and safe drinking water for their families.

ADPP also provides nutrition education, which is a core component of Farmers' Clubs, in which farmers organize into groups of 20-50 to share knowledge and sustainable farming practices.

To bolster climate and nutrition information in local communities, a nutrition manual was also developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. Cooking classes and demonstrations at the local level empower women to fully utilize available produce while minimizing nutrient loss. This holistic approach builds resilience in the face of climate-related challenges.

Sustainable Charcoal

#Sustainable Forest Management #Improved Cooking Stoves

ANGOLA | 2017-2023

Charcoal stoves are a prevalent and readily accessible choice for cooking and heating in Angola. But their extensive use creates a substantial climate impact, primarily due to the carbon emissions released during the charcoal production and combustion processes.

This project focuses on producing and selling efficient, sustainable charcoal stoves to combat climate change and to promote livelihood diversification by reducing the demand for charcoal production from trees.

In Huambo and Cuanza, charcoal-producing communities have developed forest management plans, planted 75,000 trees, and adopted more efficient charcoal kilns, benefiting an additional 40 associate communities.

In Luanda, Bengo, and Huambo, polytechnic students from ADPP Angola are manufacturing fuel-efficient charcoal-burning stoves and learning to create briquettes from residues, gaining both practical and entrepreneurial skills.

Local workshops benefit craftsmen who learn to produce the stoves, while the population as a whole benefits from affordable stoves that require less fuel than traditional stoves and have lower emissions of noxious fumes.

DAPP
Development Aid from People to People in Zambia

Rural Resilience Initiative (R4)

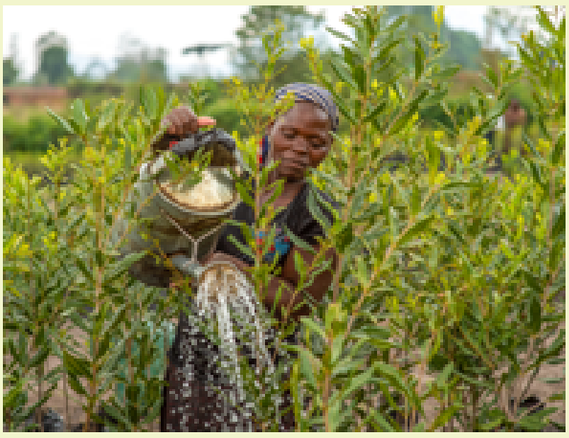
#Micro-Insurance #Climate Information #Digital Marketing

ZAMBIA | 2014-present

Smallholder farmers in Zambia face several climate-related risks, including recurring droughts, erratic rainfall, seasonal floods, rising temperatures, pests, and soil erosion. These challenges disrupt farming activities, reduce crop yields, and threaten food security.

In response to this, the R4 Initiative aims to increase the resilience of Zambian smallholder farmers through a combination of four risk management strategies, namely:

1. Disaster risk reduction and safety nets;
2. Risk transfer (insurance);
3. Prudent risk taking (credit);
4. Risk reserves (savings).



The project creates an integrated smallholder resilience-building program by:

- employing diversified agricultural activities such as conservation agriculture and small livestock management;
- promoting weather-based index insurance;
- expanding the use of micro-banking;
- facilitating access to agriculture-based finance;
- providing climate services information;
- promoting postharvest management;
- using ICT marketing through the MAANO APP;
- establishing linkages to viable markets.

HUMANA
PEOPLE TO PEOPLE INDIA

Access to Clean Energy, Improved Agriculture Practices & Better Income through Biogas Plants

#Clean Energy #Integrated Farming Systems

Rajashtan | INDIA | 2010-present

Biogas is as a clean, safe, and sustainable energy source for rural communities in India.

The project Biogas as a Renewable Energy Source in Indian Villages launched in 2010 in Dausa (Rajasthan) to counter the detrimental impacts of climate change and to promote biogas as an alternative to firewood and cattle-dung cakes for cooking fuels.

In its subsequent phases in 2014-16 and 2017-19, the project extended beyond constructing biogas plants:

- to assisting local farmers, especially rural women;
- to establish organic farms and boost household income through financial literacy;
- micro-enterprise development;
- market promotion;
- improved horticulture practices.

Throughout the project, 120 FCs were established, and by 2021-22, with the addition of 151 new plants, the total number of biogas plants reached 1,300. The initiative also enhanced soil health on over 300 hectares of land by utilizing bio-slurry, a by-product of the anaerobic digestion process of the biogas plants.

UFF

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