

Climate change is contributing to an increase in the frequency and intensity of typhoons, as well as a general rise in temperatures and rain leading to an increase in droughts, flash floods and landslides. All of this is having a large impact on small holder farmers in Asia. © Tessa Bunney

# A RESILIENT PRESENT AND FUTURE ARE POSSIBLE

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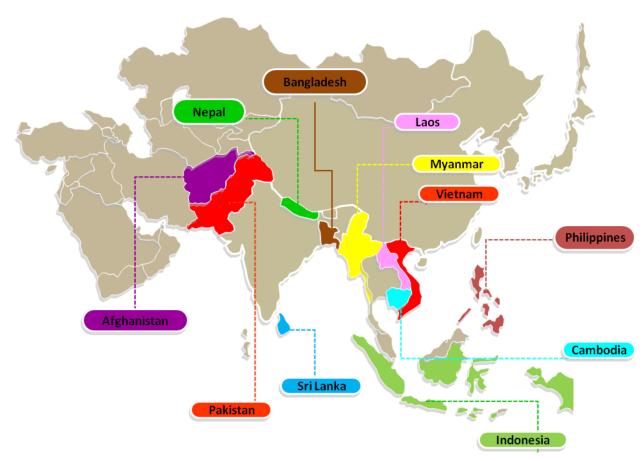
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## Mapping of resilience learning. Click a country name to learn more about its current programs on work in Asia

The Asia Resilience Hub (ARH) is a region -wide, cross-affiliate mechanism that supports cross linkages, knowledge, and more about its current programs on resilience.

Asia is exposed and vulnerable to a wide range of natural and manmade hazards. In many respects, it is the global epicenter for disasters.1 Its location makes it prone to destructive hazards that are exacerbated by climate change, leading to an increasing number of cyclones, sea level rises, severe drought, and other extreme climate effects. This vulnerability is compounded by poverty. The majority of the world's poorest today are in Asia,2 thus protection and recovery from these disasters remain difficult.

In Asia, Oxfam continues to work with partners and vulnerable communities to promote resilience against existing risks and new risks from natural and human induced disasters that impact disadvantaged poor people in Asia. This map provides an overview of the extensive work in 11 countries in Asia and features different kinds of approaches towards building resilience: small holder agriculture and enterprises; water resilience; urban resilience; natural resource management; working with the private sector to build resilience; and climate finance and gender justice, among others.

Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, AMCDRR 2016

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> World Poverty Organization, http://world-poverty.org/povertyinasia.htm

# **AFGHANISTAN**





Collecting water for use in the home is a daily chore for many women and children. In some rural areas they may have to make up to 15 trips a day, lugging large, heavy buckets of water long distances. Here in the mountainous region of Shar-i-Buzurg, Oxfam has been helping improve families' access to water by installing tapstands and water piping. Photo: Elisa Bogos

## **Current Programs on Resilience**



Supporting livestock and almond producers, especially women.



Improvement in water management and water source rehabilitation.



Improvement of community pastures and soil management.



Linkages of Oxfam-supported enterprises with the private sector.



Women's economic empowerment programs.

Despite some improvements over the last 12 years, Afghanistan remains one of the poorest countries in the world, affected by decades of conflict and disasters. It is estimated that 36 percent of all Afghans live below the poverty line—that's 9 million people who cannot meet their most basic needs.

One out of every five Afghan children will not live to see their fifth birthday and Afghanistan has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world. <u>Learn more...</u>



Zohal and Nazanin collect water in Baranchi village. Oxfam helps ensure families living in rural areas are able to access clean water supplies. Photo: Jason P Howe.

## BANGLADESH





Bangladesh is one of the world's most densely populated country and its geographical setting coupled with climate change makes it subject to catastrophic natural disasters. In particular, Bangladesh's 600km coastline is one of the most disaster-prone regions in the world. Life in Bangladesh's cities is increasingly challenging, as rapid urbanization is causing intense population density, forcing many people to live in overcrowded slums. Oxfam's urban program has two key components—water and sanitation provision and disaster risk reduction (DRR), both essential to preserving and improving life in Bangladesh. Learn more...

"We also work hard to ensure that community members have reliable incomes, even after disaster strikes. This includes giving training to women's groups to help them grow vegetables and raise poultry as additional sources of food and income. The groups also save money that can be used to support their most vulnerable members. Here, Foyzonn Essa gathers chilies in Char Atra." (Photo: Dan Chung)

#### **Current Programs on Resilience**



Resilience through Economic Empowerment, Climate Adaptation, Leadership and Learning (REE-CALL) contributes to building different resilience capacities of the vulnerable people living in coastal, river, island, and wetland areas through more than 800 community-based organizations (CBOs).



**Small holder agriculture:** Economic empowerment of dairy producers, maize producers, crab producers; producer groups led by women; promotion of climate-resilient agricultural practices. **Employment and enterprises:** Job-related and entrepreneurship skill development for youth.



Saline and flood tolerant WASH facilities; women WASH platforms.



Community participation in trans-boundary river management; increased access to common natural resources.



Home-based workers and domestic workers (a significant portion are climate migrants); environmentally friendly construction; urban DRR projects.



Implementation and support to the National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC); alternative risk transfer mechanism through index -based flood insurance.



Working on impact investment of the private sector; promoting market-based responses to emergencies through WASH market mapping and analysis; ensuring tax justice.



Young rural women's economic empowerment; recognizing, reducing and redistributing the care work burden of women for economic empowerment; ending violence against women and girls (EVAWG) for economic empowerment; production, marketing, and employment centers for women.



Participatory Research and Ownership with Technology Information and Change (PROTIC); agro-meteorological advice; use of technology in adaptive agriculture.

**REE-CALL** builds resilient communities with enhanced leadership capacity and livelihoods and equips them to face the impact of climate change and disasters. In this photo, Oxfam is helping women in the northern Char Islands to form dairy producer groups so they can pool their resources and sell their milk in bulk. Photo: Oxfam in Bangladesh Programme.



# INDONESIA





Seaweed farming: a Balinese man collects seaweed along Pandawa beach in Bali. Photo: Sonny Tumbelaka.

### **Current Programs on Resilience**



Drought-adaptive farming to promote livelihood resilience.



Convergence of DRR, climate change, and Sustainable Development Goals through integrated waste management; working with cities and districts on resilience.



Support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) for resilience; national influencing on implementing guidelines for SME resilience.



Women's transformative leadership in resilience building.

Indonesia is the most populous country in Southeast Asia and the fourth most populated country in the world. Despite being classified as a lower-middle income country, poverty, inequality, and vulnerability are still real challenges in the country. Out of a population of 254 million, around 30 million people live below the poverty line and the gap between the country's richest and poorest people has increased.

Indonesia's unique geography makes its population and their livelihoods vulnerable to climate change and rising sea levels, natural disasters, and volcanic eruptions. Learn more...



Zuhra turns small fish left to dry the traditional way in the sun. Oxfam works to help communities develop sustainable ways of making a living. Photo: Jim Holmes.





Laotian agriculture and cattle breeding are extremely sensitive to natural disasters and climate change impacts, and disaster risk management (DRM) and adaptations to climate change are crucial to building sustainable livelihoods and resilient communities. Oxfam helps to strengthen DRM and adaptation program development and implementation in partnership with the government. Oxfam aims to increase the capacity of communities, schools, and leadership at the village, district, province, and national levels to manage disaster risks, adapt to climate change impacts, and respond to disasters, as well as to build a culture of safety and resilience. Learn more... Photo: Oxfam in Laos



### **Current Programs on Resilience**



Providing DRM and climate change adaptation (CCA) information among the communities of Vientiane and Oudomxay province project areas; developing community-based adaptation and DRM plans; early warning message dissemination to farmers; livelihood adaptation funds to farmers (for example, cucumber, vegetable and chili plantations; raising goats; technical training for farmer groups on how to develop resilient livelihoods to adapt and cope better with disasters). Other efforts include facilitating livelihoods; cost-benefit analysis; market analysis to identify adaptive livelihood options; and implementation and monitoring progress and achievements of livelihood activities.



Working with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment on the institutionalization of DRM (e.g. supporting the Ministry on development guidelines on a common rapid assessment form, disaster preparedness, response planning and a simulation exercise, and DRM integration into social and economic development plans); supporting formal and non-formal migrant workers; working with the government to ensure social protection issues are addressed.



Oxfam's Mekong Water Governance program supports the greater inclusion of civil society organizations (CSOs) in water resource governance and decision-making in the Mekong region, where Laos is one of the major stakeholders in the program. To manage the program Oxfam works with civil society and networks to deliver the program through dedicated gender and water resource management activities to better manage local water resources, and undertake more open policy dialogue on water resource management. Oxfam also works with government partners at district and province levels in Oudomxay Province to develop forest and land use planning, product value chains, and product marketing, as well as facilitating advocacy work to improve policy and practice.



The Building Resilient Livelihood and Responsive Agribusiness project supports agribusiness, SMEs and Farmers Organisations (FOs) in Beng and Houn Districts, Oudomxay Province, to introduce DRR CCA knowledge; assess how their business could be involved in creating resilient communities; and provide knowledge on disasters; integrate DRM within the value chain of key products; and advocate for good practices at the national level in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), in order to create an opportunity to build public private partnerships (PPP), incorporating project experiences of integrating DRM into agribusiness value chains so that SMEs and farmer groups benefit.



Gender mainstreaming in humanitarian and resilience programs in conducting assessments, analysis, project design, implementation, and monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) to ensure participation, decision-making, resource allocation, mobilization, and utilization as per the needs of women, men, and children. Oxfam and partners conduct gender analyses and organize training and orientations for partners and people we work with to ensure gender needs, priorities, and mainstreaming to improve program results and sustainability.

Na Chantahun, mother-of-six, has lived all her life in Sisaâth village in the Vientiane Province of Laos. She is married to the village chief, Sonphet, and the couple have six children who are all studying in Vientiane. Over the past decade a paved road and electricity have improved life for the village's 50 families. But alongside this welcome progress climate change has brought unprecedented and unpredictable new weather patterns, disrupting harvests and lifestyles in the farming-dependent community. Photo: Tessa Bunney.



**MYANMAR** 



Each year, people in Myanmar continue to be at risk of cyclones and flooding as well as droughts in the central dry zone of the country. Building people's resilience is key to reducing the impact of disasters when they occur. Oxfam integrates resilience and DRR through supporting communities and local organizations to be better prepared to respond to acute disasters. Oxfam works to strengthen the role of women, who are often excluded from initiatives that help prepare for disasters despite being more likely to suffer a heavy impact from a disaster when it hits. Learn more...



Solar powered water pump, Maina IDP Camp in Kachin State. Photo: Oxfam in Myanmar.

#### **Current Programs on Resilience**



Strengthening market linkages for rural communities and small holders and through partners, providing technical support to diversify the livelihoods of vulnerable communities, including those affected by conflict. This includes, for example, small grants to women for initiating small-scale enterprises.



Strengthening communities and civil society to influence water resource decision-making and support communities' rights to access water for their livelihoods. Through this work, Oxfam aims to reduce communities' vulnerability, promote sustainable use of resources, and advance their resilience.



Through governance programming, communities have better relations with local authorities in disaster prone areas.



Strengthening communities to assert their rights and protect their natural resources. We raise awareness on these rights, develop evidence and capacity of local actors to advocate for change.



Environmental conservation and long-term strategic planning against flooding.



Influencing government and the private sector to improve policies and practices (in line with national and international laws and standards) in protecting the rights of rural communities, and maximizing benefits for them.



Supporting women's leadership across the programmes and facilitating women's participation in decision-making, including in disaster risk preparedness activities, but also in community-based advocacy; recognizing and aiming to reduce gender-based violence in the community; mainstreaming gender in community based DRR processes; mobilizing the community through sensitization workshops to ensure that women are represented in different DRR committees.



Strengthening local humanitarian capacity through increased funding and support for local humanitarian action by advocating for the implementation of the Charter for Change; integrated programming in conflict-affected areas, such as equipping displaced people and conflict-affected communities with the skills to better engage local authorities (state and non-state) to address immediate and long-term needs and concurrently working with local authorities to better understand and respond to community needs. This is strengthened by increasing displaced people's and conflict-affected communities' voices for potential return and/or resettlement and diversifying their livelihood capacities to reduce aid dependency and bounce back from the shocks; increasing community knowledge on local development funds.

NEPAL





Ensuring safe shelter: women during a weeklong skilled mason training given by Oxfam and its partners on the construction of earthquake-resistant buildings in Balaju, Kathmandu on March 25, 2016. A total of 21 women participated in the training, which took place from March 22-28, 2016. Photo: Bed Prasad Dhakal/Oxfam in Nepal.

#### **Current Programs on Resilience**



Climate resilient agricultural practices in Saptari, Sarlahi, Rautahat and Dhanusha Districts in Nepal.



WASH innovation project for micro-hydro—3Rs (recharge, retention, and reuse)—in Sarlahi District.



Working with the government on the Nepal Urban Strategy.



Eco-DRR approaches as pilot projects; linking leasehold forestry for climate change adaptation project.



Climate finance for advocacy program.



Working with the private sector on a climate change adaptation project.



Cross-cutting gender activities in all DRR and CCA interventions.



Oxfam has been supporting the people of Nepal for more than 30 years with the vision of creating a just society without poverty. Through its sustainable development program, earthquake response program, and its media, advocacy, and campaign work, Oxfam in Nepal aims to provide people with livelihood opportunities, ensuring that development-related activities are demand-driven and sustainable and that the most vulnerable are empowered to claim their rights. Learn more...

National consultation workshop on the National Strategy for Resilient Communities chaired by the secretary of the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development. The Minister was the chief guest, and the chief secretary and secretaries of the Government of Nepal and Country Director of Oxfam in Nepal were also guests. Photo: Oxfam in Nepal.

## **PAKISTAN**





Reshma collects water in Shahbaz camp, where her family fled to escape the devastating floods that hit Pakistan in 2010. Oxfam's response reached over 2.4 million people. <u>Learn more</u>. Photo: Timothy Allen

## **Current Programs on Resilience**



Producers: herbal medicine, lentil, chili, wheat, cotton, mustard oil, dairy, nursery for climate resilient species, multi-cropping producer (vegetable); advocacy for the recognition of female agricultural workers as formal labor and their inclusion in labor policy; increasing the productivity of small holder farmers through dairy enterprise and agri-businesses; capacity of small holder women land grantees to productively cultivate lands granted by government; RICE Project.



Sprinkler unit in drought areas; solar tube wells for irrigation and vegetation; donkey tube wells; ecosystem-based DRR and CCA; advocacy initiatives to abolish the "licensing system" for freshwater bodies.



Youth ICT center (computer education, information dissemination through SMS for early warning, market, weather, and other services). In urban areas Oxfam's work is about rights and power, WASH planning and infrastructure, livelihoods (especially youth and informal workers), social accountability, and knowledge management. Oxfam collaborates with national/provincial government on planting. It advocates for youth in academia/universities on climate change and food justice issues affecting food security, livelihoods, and business.



Worming and composting; sustainable land and agriculture management; bio-gas plants; vertical garden; natural resource management: management of soil content and carbon stocking.



Advocacy on climate finance tracking and advocacy for standardization in Sindh and Punjab.



Technical support and direct purchasing support/extension services in rice and dairy value chains.



Resource allocation for CCA, specifically for women in agriculture.



Rural resilience initiative to provide a comprehensive risk management system; introducing shock-responsive social protection mechanisms; micro-insurance and crop insurance in the agricultural sector; GIS-based early warning system.

Oxfam in Pakistan works to raise awareness of the issues relating to climate change and to help people better adapt to deal with its consequences, thereby increasing resilience to disasters and climate change. Oxfam is committed to strengthening in-country humanitarian capacity to respond to disasters and supporting people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods after emergencies. For more information, click to watch this video.

**PHILIPPINES** 





Jilena is a farming leader in her community and has attended Farmer's Field Schools where she learned about crop diversification and SRI (system of rice intensification) farming. Photo:Tessa Bunney.

#### **Current Programs on Resilience**



Farmer field schools, integrated farming system, participatory organic, certification (EMBRACE project); agri-venture agreements in Mindanao (GRAISEA).



Septage waste water treatment—septage management; markets-based approach to WASH.



Youth and employment (economic resilience); micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSME) financial inclusion.



Recovery of Haiyan-affected areas through economic empowerment.



Support to 28 local governments on People's Survival Fund (PSF) applications; partnership with Center for Local and Regional Governance for tracking of climate finance.



Incubation of MSMEs and business continuity planning, which is designed to increase the ability of players within the value chain to sustain and bounce back from losses after a disaster.



Care work initiatives in Eastern Visayas and Mindanao; women's market (Project EMBRACE); EVAW in Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)—Creating Spaces project; reproductive health and essential services (ARCHES).



Meso-insurance for Disaster Readiness and Recovery (MINDER)—catastrophe fund (CAT fund) for local governments.

The Philippines is the third most disaster-prone country in the world. Climate change is contributing to an increase in the frequency and intensity of typhoons as well as a general rise in temperatures and rain leading to an increase in droughts, flash floods, and landslides. Oxfam in the Philippines works to improve the country's resilience to disasters, to save lives now and in the future by investing in mechanisms that reduce the risks and the impacts of disasters, and by being able to respond quickly to disasters, prioritizing assistance for the most vulnerable. Watch the <u>video</u> on Building Resilient Communities. Visit the <u>website</u> for more information.







Woman plucking tea with her son in the background. Oxfam works to empower women to help them find sustainable ways of making a living. Photo: Nuwara Eliya.

#### **Current Programs on Resilience**



Conducting a study to identify the impact of climate change on small holder farmers. The final report will be available in March 2017. Women's economic empowerment in regions through social enterprise development in spices, fruits and vegetables, handlooms, paddy, and coir; enhancing employment opportunities and incomes of women, strengthening value chains, and addressing gender imbalances; livelihood/business development initiative for people with disabilities; promoting a market-based approach and networking with the private sector to increase the income of the rural poor farmers/community.



Oxfam in Sri Lanka was awarded an EU grant to carry out work on WASH. The focus will be on enabling sustainable access to safe drinking water and supporting the government to introduce inclusive water management systems.



Implementing a weather-indexed insurance project to support the small holder farmer to combat the impact of natural disasters (floods and droughts).



Oxfam in Sri Lanka plans to build upon successful weather-indexed insurance that was implemented in partnership with the private sector.



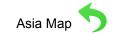
Strengthening and promotion of gender-based violence help desks at hospitals; aligning programs to the national action plan on eliminating sexual and gender-based violence by updating the promotion of a vigilant committee manual as a base document for strengthening referral systems; engagement in the global EVAWG campaign by initial activation of the campaign in country; mainstreaming gender into all programs including economic justice, humanitarian, and DRR.



Oxfam in Sri Lanka contributed to the development of the national community resilience framework. Oxfam will continue working with the government on implementation and promotion of the framework. Oxfam actively applies and promotes the use of technology such as weather stations, water system monitoring, and mobile applications in its women's economic empowerment projects.

Reconstruction and rehabilitation are high on the agenda in Sri Lanka, following the end of a civil war that spanned two decades. Hundreds of thousands of people are displaced by floods, landslides, and torrential rains. Oxfam in Sri Lanka works with local organizations to rebuild the lives of poor and vulnerable people, particularly women, so they can have improved food security and livelihoods which are more sustainable and resilient to conflict and natural disasters. <u>Learn more...</u>







A duck farmer feeds his flock. Photo: Oxfam in Vietnam.

#### **Current Programs on Resilience**



Programs on sustainable production practices: Gender Transformative and Responsible Agribusiness Investment in South East Asia (GRAISEA); sustainable and equitable shrimp production and value chain development in Vietnam; EDF (Enterprises Development Fund) to promote inclusive investment, impact investment.



Promoting community alternative energy solutions in Ca Mau province to contribute to better Mekong water governance; community empowerment for integrated water management in An Giang Province, Mekong Delta; research on the impacts of sediment reduction and nutrient loads on the agricultural productions and livelihoods in the Mekong regions of Vietnam; building a sustainable youth network in the Mekong Delta; enhancing collaboration and connectivity on trans-boundary water governance in the 3S River Basin for community sustainable livelihoods.



Migrant workers (working in both formal and informal settings); access to better and inclusive social protection.



Building the resilience of men and women in Ben Tre province to disaster and climate risks to increase the adaptive capacity of poor people (in particular women) and local authorities to disaster and climate risks in coastal communities in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam.



Building resilience to disaster and climate risks of micro-finance institutions and their female members, working with Tinh Thuong Microfinance Institution under the Vietnam Women's Union.



Women's economic empowerment through agricultural value chain enhancement in Lao Cai; promoting a gender actions learning system (GALS)/WEMAN approach that aims to enhance women's economic empowerment and gender justice through GALS application in the agricultural/aquaculture value chains; piloting gender impact assessment in A Luoi and the Srepok 3 Dam 3S area in Central and Central Highland Vietnam.



#### GROW Campaign:

- 1. Small holder farmers collaboration.
- 2. Food and climate change adaptation.
- 3. Food price volatility (FPV).



The Red River and Mekong Deltas in the north and south of Vietnam are highly vulnerable to climate change. Poor households, women-headed households, and those who own very little or no land are the most vulnerable, as they have the least access to resources and the fewest opportunities to participate in processes to adapt to climate change. Oxfam, in partnership with the government, has promoted participatory approaches and made sure to always include vulnerable households in discussions and activities. As a result, the number of women participating in local planning processes to develop socio-economic development plans has increased by 28 percent. Learn more...

Photo: Oxfam in Vietnam.

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This paper was written by members of the Oxfam Asia Resilience Hub.

For further information please email Marylew M. Echavez, Asia Resilience Hub Coordinator

(mechavez@oxfam.org.uk) or Janice Ian Manlutac, Regional Change Lead – Building Resilience

(jmanlutac@oxfam.org.uk).

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