

BEARING THE BRUNT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

The world's poorest people are already living with a harsh and unpredictable climate. The droughts are prolonged, the rainy season is shorter and more intensive and the cyclones are becoming more frequent and violent. CARE is working to build capacity among those most at risk so the next climate disaster does not escalate into a humanitarian disaster.

CLIMATE WITNESS

CLIMATE SOLUTION

GHANA



» Because of the rain we've no food and no money. I wasn't able to start school again after the summer break. You can't learn when you're starving. «

RUFINE AWANYEKA, AGED 15

» Because of climate change, the yield from millet, which is an important crop, has fallen dramatically. Instead of millet, CARE has introduced other crops, such as maize, which is a good deal more resistant. There are now areas where communities have completely abandoned cultivating millet in favour of a greater variety of higher yield crops. «

DAVID SUMBO, PROGRAMME COORDINATOR FOR CARE IN GHANA



MOZAMBIQUE



» Two years ago we had maize and peanuts in the fields at this time of year, but now that we get no rain, there are no crops and we've nothing to eat. And without food I can't tolerate my HIV medicine. «

EVELINA BERNARDO, AGED 30

» CARE is teaching farmers to cover the crops so the moisture is retained in the soil and to prevent them from being scorched by the sun. This also reduces the need for water, which is important because the droughts last longer now. Last year, when the rains finally came, they were so heavy they destroyed the crops. The local people harvest once a year and the yield used to last them until the next harvest. But in the last two years the harvest was too small, and they have had to buy their maize meal for the daily staple dish of 'nshima' on the local market, which a lot of people cannot afford. «

MAGALHÃES MATSINHE, PROGRAMME COORDINATOR FOR CARE IN MOZAMBIQUE



NEPAL



» We lost all our possessions in the flood, but we survived. My family and I crawled up on the roof and stayed there all night until the water level went down. I learnt to do that at the courses in disaster prevention. I feel it's my duty to tell other people that disaster prevention saves lives. «

SHANTI MALLAHA, AGED 55

» In Nepal the population is confronted with heavy precipitation, which causes flooding and landslides. CARE is training communities in areas affected by climate change to cope with natural disasters. We are helping by planting trees on slopes to absorb water impact and stabilise the soil, and we are providing training in disaster risk reduction so that communities know how to react in the event of an emergency. «

POUL ERIK LAURIDSEN, CARE DANMARK'S PROGRAMME COORDINATOR FOR NEPAL

