



Photo credit: Relief International

# CLIMATE SMART PROGRAMMING

Relief International (RI) partners with communities impacted by conflict, climate change, and disaster to save lives, build greater resilience, and promote long-term health and wellbeing. In the wake of a climate disaster, RI teams are among the first on the ground, with local national staff and partners at the frontlines of the response. RI also stays after a crisis ends to support communities' capacity to recover and thrive. Climate-smart programming enhances communities' capacity to prepare for and respond to climate shocks; local partners, organizations, and institutions are key to RI's programming.

## GLOBAL CLIMATE CRISIS

Irregular weather patterns have led to excessive rainfall, flooding, and pervasive droughts across Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. Environmental degradation further worsens these events' impacts, leaving communities increasingly vulnerable in times of disaster. The catastrophic affects of climate change are felt throughout all of RI's countries of operation, which consistently rank among the most climate-vulnerable in the world. Seven of RI's countries of operation appear among the top 20 of the Fragile States Index, underscoring the urgency of climate-sensitive interventions around the world. These include Afghanistan, Chad, Myanmar, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.

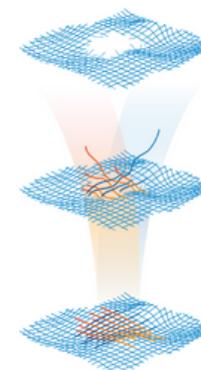


**Irregular Rainfall**      **Flooding**      **Drought & Desertification**      **Cyclones**      **Deforestation**

**Relief International advances climate-smart solutions that reduce communities' vulnerability to shocks and build long-term resilience.**

RI leverages green, digital, and off-grid solutions to enhance community resilience to climate-related shocks. Informed by its Global Policy Approach to Environment, Social Impact, and Sustainability, and guided by global sustainability and sector-specific design standards, RI closely collaborates with climate-affected communities to design sustainable, tailored solutions that meet local needs.

## PARTNERSHIPS FOR GREATER RESILIENCE



**CRISIS**  
People living in fragile settings face complex, interconnected, and deep-rooted crises, increasingly accelerated by climate change and conflict

**RESPONSE**  
Working in partnership with local actors on humanitarian response, we focus first on critical health needs

**RESILIENCE**  
As communities recover, a combined focus on health and wellbeing helps reweave the social fabric, a network essential for preparedness and ultimately greater resilience

## ADAPTING TO THE CLIMATE CRISIS

RI collaborates with communities to develop long-lasting, climate-conscious development programs to adapt to the challenging reality of a warming world. In 2023, RI installed a solar power system in Northwest Syria, reducing health facility fuel requirements by 50%. This initiative is cost-efficient, but most importantly, it saves lives. By ensuring consistent availability of electricity, solarized health facilities are a crucial lifeline for conflict-affected and hard-to-reach communities across Syria.



Photo credit: Relief International

## CLIMATE SMART INTERVENTIONS

- Solarization of community water pumps in Sudan and South Sudan
- Climate-smart agriculture and agribusiness in Yemen and South Sudan
- On-farm water management in Iraq
- Agroforestry in South Sudan (sustainable woodlots)
- Clean cookstove production in Ghana to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Vetiver systems and border planting to mitigate river overflow in Myanmar
- Construction of flood diversion walls in Pakistan using indigenous techniques



**Relief International's climate-smart programming is in line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, including SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.**



## Contact

Najia Hyder, Chief Program Officer, [najia.hyder@ri.org](mailto:najia.hyder@ri.org)  
 Lauren Pucci, Head of Program Development, [programdev@ri.org](mailto:programdev@ri.org)  
 Mark Atterton, Africa/Asia Regional Director, [mark.atterton@ri.org](mailto:mark.atterton@ri.org)  
 Valerie Rowles, Middle East Regional Director, [valerie.rowles@ri.org](mailto:valerie.rowles@ri.org)



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