

BIGGHANGE starts small

Putting ingenious ideas to work so people in poverty can change their world

At Practical Action, we help people find solutions to some of the world's toughest problems. Challenges increasingly made worse by catastrophic climate change.

The climate crisis cuts across everything we do: people living in poverty tend to be the most vulnerable to its impact. Meanwhile, COVID-19 has added significantly to the vulnerability of the world's poorest, and progress towards gender equality isn't happening fast enough: more women and girls live in extreme poverty than men and boys.

But together, we can shape a world that works better for everyone.

Everything we do is designed around the needs of the people we work with. Together, we work to change the systems that hold them back. We do things differently, working hand in hand with local communities; sharing knowledge and innovation with other change makers; creating bold collaborations with businesses and NGOs; and influencing policymakers and governments to ensure the voices of the most vulnerable are heard and solutions can be scaled up for maximum impact.

With your support, smallholder farmers can grow enough to feed their families and earn a decent living. People and businesses can withstand the effects of climate change and natural hazards. Those living in the most remote areas of the world have energy to power their homes, schools, clinics, businesses. And people living in urban slums and settlements have access to proper sanitation, waste services and clean water to keep their families healthy.

Together, we can take practical action to build brighter futures, free from poverty.

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And we'd like to invite you to be part of it.



Welcome

Since becoming CEO in 2021, I've had the pleasure of meeting members of our Big Change Network. It has been a real source of motivation for me to see and hear their dedication to achieving our shared vision.

Members of the Network have a special role to play in transforming the small into something big, bringing generous financial support, ideas, networks, and expertise to help solve some of the world's toughest problems and accelerate progress towards a better world.

Their ongoing commitment is instrumental, not only in helping us to develop, learn, and innovate, but also to plan and react with greater certainty in order that our programme delivery is even more impactful for communities. And it enables us to work really strategically to change the wider systems that keep people poor and vulnerable, unlocking a whole new level of possibility to deliver the big change the world so badly needs.

The Big Change Network brings together exceptional, likeminded people to do something extraordinary. I'm privileged to be involved in the Network and would like to extend a warm invitation for you to join me.

Sarah Roberts

CEO



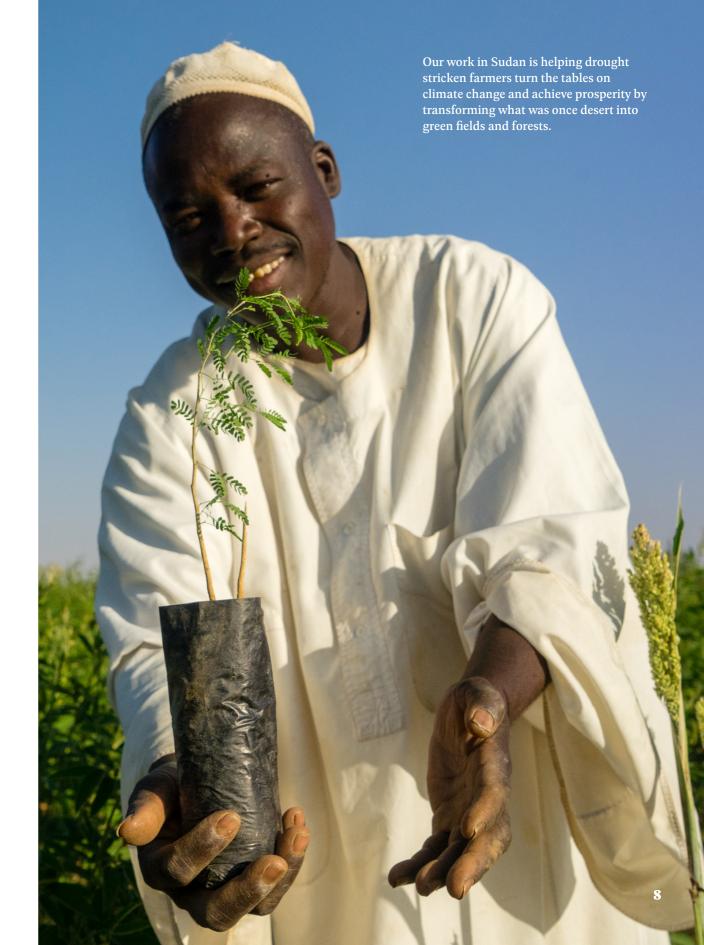
Together, we will find the answers

Committed, long-term support from Big Change Network members allows us to extend further the quality, insight and evidence that underpins our approach.

Our teams work hand in hand with communities to develop ingenious, lasting and locally owned solutions to their biggest challenges. This approach needs specialist teams, with unparalleled subject expertise and deep local knowledge. The Big Change Network invests in our country teams, allowing them to create the conditions for unprecedented change to happen.

With nearly 60 years of experience, we're delivering life-changing programmes of work in regenerative agriculture; urban water, sanitation and hygiene services; energy access and clean cooking; and climate resilience across Africa, South Asia and Latin America. The integrity and quality of our work is underpinned by membership of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), and we're a 100% compliant supply partner for the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO).

But we don't just deliver on the ground. Our expert programme and consulting teams are able to conduct rigorous research to address the tough questions that hold the answers to the toughest problems. Questions such as gender, long term sustainability, environmental impact, market activation and supporting the most vulnerable and hardest to reach.





"My family are healthy now.
Before, they used to suffer with fever and diarrhoea.
This year, I produced 600 pumpkins. I bought a cow from my income and sell milk at the market.
I can now afford a tutor for my children."

Anwar Ul Islam Rangpur, Bangladesh

Community members in Peru use our knowledge resources to create flood protection and evacuation plans. This is part of our work with the Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance, which started with a small grant to buy a photocopier and has now improved the resilience of tens of thousands of people in flood-prone areas. 111

Answers that start small can grow big

Sharing knowledge of what works – and what doesn't – is fundamental to how success at a local level can grow and multiply. It catalyses bigger changes – passing from community level to local authorities, national governments and global change makers.

In 2021-22, our work reached 4 million people through their families, community, or local partners; 11.6 million people through NGOs, governments and businesses who adopted our approaches, and over 16 million people in total.

Our specialist publishing division partners with the brightest minds to share the latest development perspectives, free and open access. We publish titles across 94% of the world's countries, from practical 'how to' manuals to game changing research. We also publish industry standard manuals including the Sphere handbook, a sector blueprint for integrated approaches to humanitarian responses.

Our Practical Answers service provides technical information and can be accessed online or through an app in multiple languages, making our appropriate, small-scale solutions accessible to hundreds of thousands of knowledge seekers worldwide.

Our work has impact beyond the countries we have offices in. In 2021–22, through our digital knowledge resources, we helped 440,000 knowledge seekers around the world improve their skills.

Together, we can change the systems

Big Change Network members enable us to work in ways that go above and beyond the typical charity model, creating bold collaborations for bigger impact.

Since 1969, we've complemented our innovative community development work with a research and technical advisory consultancy. Combining original thinking, commercial acumen and non-profit values, our consulting team works with other change makers to help them deliver good development, good government and good business.

Our consultants provide in-depth insight and evidence that looks beyond the symptoms to uncover the root causes of an issue. Our Poor People's Energy Outlook (PPEO) is a seminal report that is changing the way the world thinks about energy distribution and access. Our Managing our Waste (MoW) report uncovers the issues related to effective waste management delivery, in the context of poor peoples' needs and the Sustainable Development Goals.

We collaborate with community members, companies, financial institutions and Governments to develop self-sustaining market systems based on local realities and capabilities. We don't just deliver interventions – we help turn development into real world systems change.



"We believe there is no better investment for genuine global and sustainable system impact and we trust Practical Action to deliver. The Big Change Network allows us a unique insight, with regular informal access to the people who are delivering this change, including the CEO and Chair."

Grant & Andrea Haggith
Big Change Network Members

Be part of big change

The Big Change Network is a unique way for inspired philanthropists who share our vision to come together and help solve some of the world's toughest problems.

In return for your generosity and commitment to shaping a world that works better for everyone, we'll offer a range of opportunities to connect you with the positive change that your giving enables us to achieve together.

Members of our Big Change Network have a special relationship with us. Your dedicated contact in the Partnerships & Philanthropy team will discuss what's right for you when you join, including:

- Hearing from our leaders and experts around the world to gain a deeper insight into the latest ambitions, challenges and successes
- Invitations to a variety of in-person and on-line events to hear, discuss, and ask more about our work, as well as meeting fellow members
- Impact reports, stories and photos of our projects in action, across a range of channels
- Opportunities to share your own unique experience, inspiration, contacts or bright ideas
- Seeing our work and its impact first hand through overseas trips in some cases.

This is your opportunity to do something extraordinary.

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Join us

Members of the Big Change Network commit to giving £5,000 or more in unrestricted donations each year, for at least three years.

Your multi-year commitment enables bigger change to happen. Unrestricted investment like yours - which isn't limited to being spent on a specific project or country - is vital to maximising the effectiveness, scale, and long-term sustainability of our shared goals. It enables innovation and provides fuel for growth. It unlocks potential and allows us to react with agility to the unexpected in order to deliver funding wherever it's most needed, so you can be sure your generous investment is having the greatest possible impact. Whether that's our consultancy and publishing teams or our knowledge-sharing work; our country teams delivering programmes in partnerships with communities; or a specific piece of research.

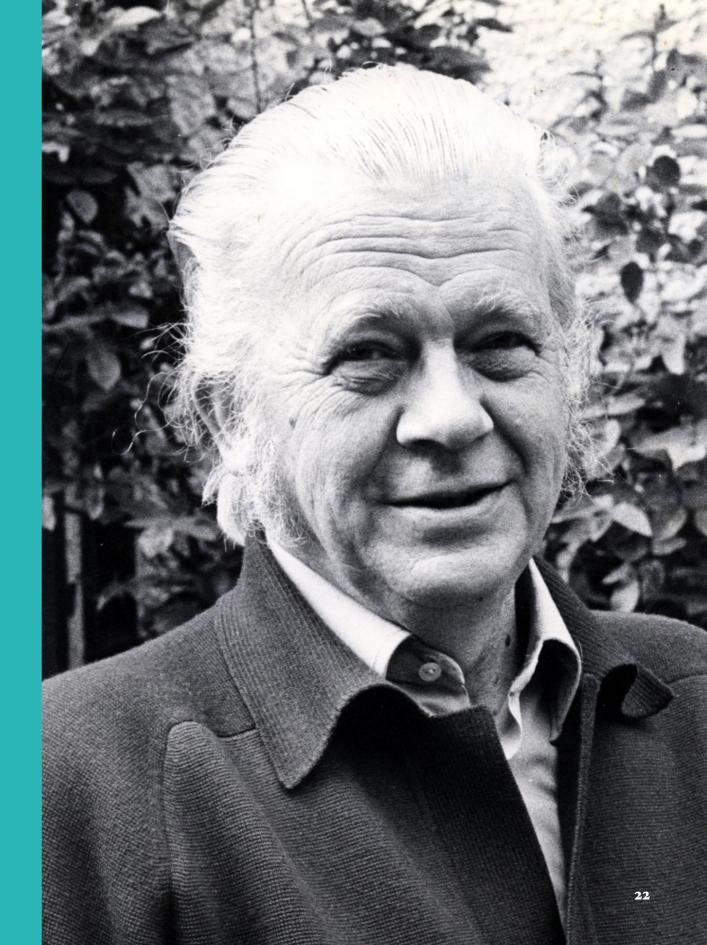
If you are a UK taxpayer, Practical Action will be able to claim Gift Aid, increasing the impact of your support even more. And if you pay tax at a higher rate, you can reduce the overall cost of your giving through your tax return.

Members of The Big Change Network have a dedicated contact in the Partnerships & Philanthropy team. Contact them to find out more about becoming a member and how we can work together to shape a world where everyone has the opportunity not just to survive but to thrive.

Get in touch

philanthropy@practicalaction.org.uk practicalaction.org/philanthropy "I certainly never feel discouraged. I can't myself raise the winds that might blow us or this ship into a better world. But I can at least put up the sail so that when the wind comes, I can catch it."

E 'Fritz' Schumacher, Practical Action's Founder



You're invited... Practical **ACTION** The Robbins Building, 25 Albert Street, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 2SD, UK Reg. Charity No. 247257 Patron: HM King Charles III practicalaction.org/philanthropy