

Practical Action

AFRICA



Practical
ACTION

Edition 2026

Director's FOREWORD



“Together, we can move beyond adaptation to acceleration, ensuring that Africa is not only prepared for the future but is defining it.”

Africa is at a critical juncture. The continent faces escalating climate challenges, rapid urbanization, and widening socio-economic disparities. Yet, within these challenges lies an extraordinary opportunity to reimagine development in a way that is locally driven, climate-resilient, and inclusive. With a youthful population, abundant natural resources, and a deep well of innovation, Africa is not just adapting to global transitions; it is shaping them.

At Practical Action Africa, we believe that lasting change happens when communities lead their own transformation. Across the region, we work with partners to strengthen climate-resilient food systems, expand access to renewable energy, and improve urban services. Our approach integrates systems thinking, technology, and local expertise to shift power, challenge inequalities, and create scalable solutions that work for both people and the planet.

From enabling smallholder farmers to adapt to climate change through regenerative agriculture to advancing clean energy solutions that power livelihoods, our work proves that development must go beyond short-term fixes to drive systemic change. Our initiatives in displaced settings demonstrate that even in fragile contexts, resilience can be built. This is not just about mitigating risks but about fostering opportunities for communities to thrive.

As we look ahead, the call to action is clear. The time for incremental progress has passed. Africa must lead a bold transformation that prioritizes climate justice, inclusive economies, and sustainable growth. This will require innovation, partnership, and a steadfast commitment to rethinking how we shape the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roselyn Akinyi Walender'.

Roselyn Akinyi Walender
Africa Director, Practical Action

WHO WE ARE

Practical Action is a global development charity harnessing six decades of real-world, evidence-based solutions to deliver our purpose exists to change the systems that keep people in poverty and vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. We work alongside communities to build resilient livelihoods and thriving, inclusive societies.

We work across 3 continents: Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

WHERE WE WORK : AFRICA

We implement our programmes in focused countries where we maintain an operational presence, while also working across other African countries through partnerships and regional networks where our expertise can add value



OUR VALUES

- **People-centred**
- **Impact driven**
- **Transparent**
- **Innovative**
- **Resilient**

OUR FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES

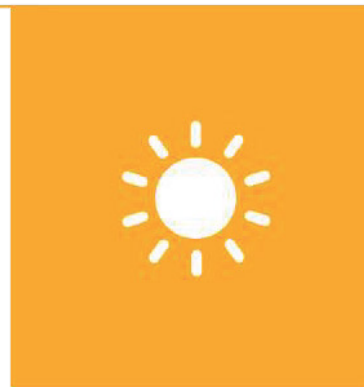
Food Systems

This programme focuses on transforming how food is produced, processed, distributed and consumed, while conserving ecosystems and biodiversity and ensuring food security. Our programmes develop locally led, practical and economically viable models that, support climate-smart and regenerative agriculture practices, that restore ecosystems, that develop green enterprises that provide jobs for women and youth, that create markets that deliver affordable food to consumers, and that deliver effective waste management and circular use of organic waste. Climate information services and early warning systems are integrated and strengthened to build local resilience within the food system. Efforts are taken to use the food system, to shift the role and status of women, youth and other marginalised groups.



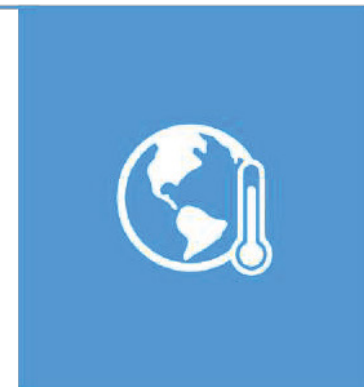
Energy for the hardest to reach

This programme focuses on transforming energy systems by increasing access to reliable and clean energy for hard-to-reach and excluded groups; these include people living in extreme poverty, displaced populations, and those in informal settlements and remote rural areas. We work through the Global Distributors Collective (GDC) to support last mile energy distributors, strengthening their business models and improving their capacity to deliver energy solutions to hard-to-reach communities. We also work to make clean cooking more accessible to the most underserved communities while enabling women and youth to meaningfully participate in clean cooking markets. We transform energy access in displacement settings by convening key stakeholders and working with local partners to deliver context-appropriate and integrated solutions. The programme further enables livelihoods through the productive uses of energy (PUE) for vulnerable smallholder farmers, integrating energy and food systems to maximise impact.

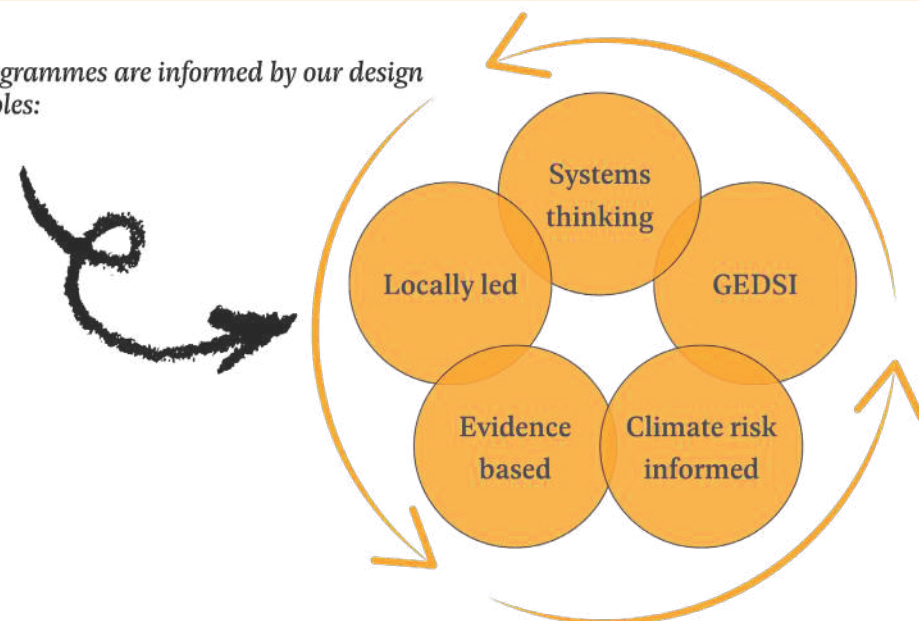


Climate Resilience in Action

This programme focuses on fostering climate resilience through integrated approaches that strengthen livelihoods, minimise losses and secure co-benefits between resilience and development for the poorest communities and vulnerable groups. We work to transform the systems that shape how communities anticipate, absorb and recover from climate shocks. Programming focuses on strengthening inclusive multi-hazard early warning systems (EWS), anticipatory action and climate information services. It also supports scaling locally led resilience planning, expanding accessible catastrophe risk finance, increasing uptake of nature-based adaptation. In Africa, drought and flood risk reduction and preparedness are priority areas.



All programmes are informed by our design principles:





**OUR IMPACT
ACROSS
AFRICA**

2024-2025

3.58M PEOPLE

reached through our work in agriculture, clean energy, climate resilience, and waste management.

1.40M PEOPLE

now have access to clean, reliable energy solutions that power homes, businesses, and services.

287,000 PEOPLE

covered by high quality early warning systems

253,000 PEOPLE

People benefitting from regenerative agriculture through improved income or food security

27,000 PEOPLE

benefitting from improved urban services

KENYA

Locally Led. System Changing. Future Facing.

Since 1988, we've worked with Kenyan communities to address some of the most pressing challenges in agriculture, energy, water, and waste. What began with small-scale, grassroots initiatives has evolved into a systems-focused approach—designed to tackle poverty, environmental degradation, and climate change at their roots.

We bring deep local knowledge and technical expertise to develop practical, scalable solutions. From equipping smallholder farmers and agripreneurs with regenerative agriculture practices that enhance food security and restore ecosystems, to improving access to clean energy through inclusive planning and policy engagement, our work strengthens livelihoods and builds resilience from the ground up.

A future of Possibilities

We are exploring emerging opportunities in e-mobility, circular economy, and carbon credits while scaling proven interventions in agriculture and energy. By leveraging lessons from our past, fostering partnerships, and aligning with Kenya's development goals, we aim to build innovative, long-term solutions that drive transformative change.

Through the RAY project, Hellen has adopted regenerative farming practices, such as using Azolla as poultry feed and poultry droppings as manure for her kales. These practices reduced production costs, increased yields, and enabled her to earn a reliable income from her agribusiness.



In Kenya, nearly

80,000 people
already have access to
clean energy solutions
through a new project that
aims to reach nearly
300,000 people.

Featured Projects

Resilient Agriculture that Works for Young People (RAY)

Location: Kisumu, Siaya, Migori, Homa Bay, Kakamega, Vihiga, Busia, Bungoma, and Nyamira Counties
Timeline: November 2022 – October 2027
Partners: Kenya Female Advisory Organization (KEFEADO)
Donor: Mastercard Foundation

Budget: \$10,000,000

RAY empowers 100,000 young people—70% women and 5% persons with disabilities—to thrive in agribusiness through regenerative agriculture, mentorship, access to Youth Savings and Loans Associations, and market systems development. The project increases productivity, expands opportunities in targeted value chains, and supports entrepreneurship in roles such as aggregation and transport. Behaviour change campaigns promote gender inclusion and shift social norms to enable more young people to succeed in agriculture.

Enhancing Local Manufacturing and Energy Crop Cultivation for Clean Cooking Supply Chains (ELMECC)

Location: Nairobi, Nakuru, Kisumu, Kilifi, Kajiado Counties-Timeline: October 2025 – December 2026
Partners: Clean Cooking Association of Kenya (CCAK), GAMOS East Africa, county governments
Donor: UK PACT

Budget: \$820,000

This project strengthens Kenya's clean cooking supply chains by supporting local manufacturing of clean cooking appliances and sustainable energy crop cultivation. It addresses gaps in access to affordable clean cooking solutions, particularly for low-income and female-headed households, while promoting inclusive, market-driven approaches that increase adoption, create green jobs, and strengthen local value chains.

Partnership for Advanced County Energy Planning (PACE) in Kenya

Location: Siaya, Homa Bay, Tharaka Nithi, Murang'a, Kajiado
Timeline: July 2025–March 2027
Partners: Strathmore University, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, county governments
Donor: UK PACT

Budget: \$1,015,100

PACE strengthens county-level energy planning in Kenya by supporting counties to develop evidence-based and inclusive County Energy Plans aligned with the national Integrated National Energy Plan. The project builds institutional capacity to identify energy gaps, plan priority investments, and integrate clean cooking and electricity access into local development strategies, supporting more coordinated and sustainable energy development.

Circular Economy for Household Organic Waste (CE4HOW)

Location: Kakamega County
Timeline: June 2024 – September 2028
Partners: Sanergy Inc. (Regen Organics)
Donor: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (DANIDA – DGBP)
Budget: \$3,484,174

In Kakamega county, CE4HOW promotes a circular economy model by improving household waste collection, training informal waste workers, and supporting waste separation. In partnership with Sanergy Inc., the project established a recycling plant that converts organic waste into fertiliser, reducing environmental pollution and generating social, economic, and climate benefits—including carbon credit monetisation. CE4HOW improves livelihoods, strengthens policies, and demonstrates a scalable green business model for waste management.

Women in Energy Enterprises in Kenya (WEEK 3)

Location: Meru, Tharaka Nithi, and Embu Counties
Timeline: October 2022 – June 2026
Partners: County Governments, Renewable Energy Companies, CCAK
Donor: SIDA / ENERGIA
Budget: \$797,672

WEEK 3 empowers 300 Women Energy Entrepreneurs to lead clean energy businesses, expanding access to solar, biogas, LPG, ethanol, and electricity for household and productive use. Through Participatory Market Systems Development, policy advocacy, mentorship, and financial support, the project strengthens energy markets and promotes inclusive participation. To date, it has reached over 1 million people and trained 120 youth for employment in the renewable energy sector.

Piloting for systems change

Kilimohai Agroecology for Schools (KA4S) | Murang'a County | 2024-2028

KA4S is a pilot supported by the Rockefeller Foundation, implemented in partnership with KOAN and FiBL, to test a community-led verification and market system for agroecological food. The project supports farmers organised in Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) groups to verify agroecological practices using the Kili-mohai Blue mark, and links verified producers to school feeding programmes. The pilot aims to improve farmer incomes, increase access to safe and nutritious food for school children, and demonstrate a scalable model for inclusive, climate-resilient food systems.

RWANDA

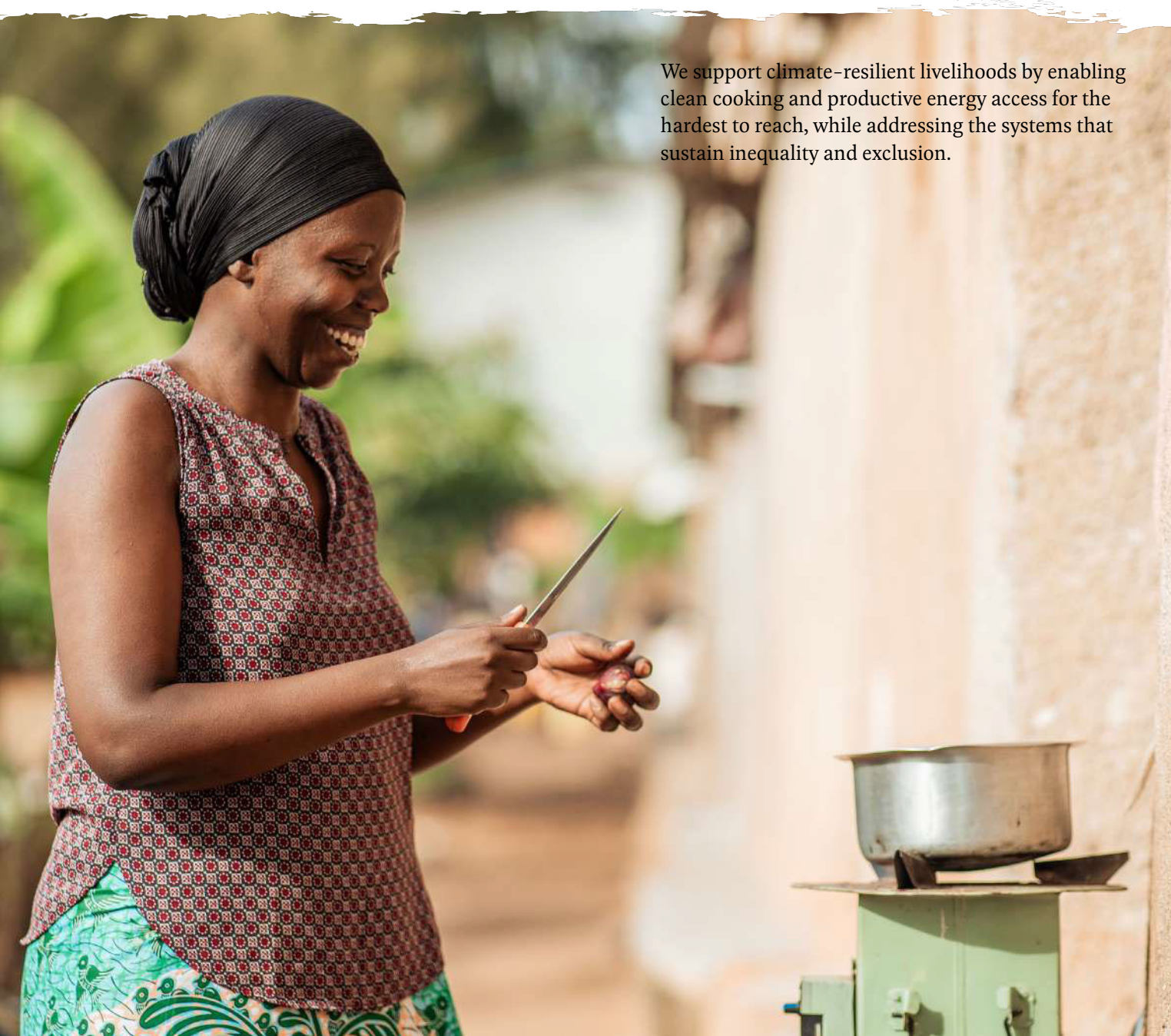
Powering inclusive, resilient livelihoods

Our work in Rwanda focuses on strengthening livelihoods by connecting renewable energy, food systems, and inclusive markets. We work alongside communities to support income-generating opportunities for women and youth, particularly in last-mile and hard-to-reach contexts.

Our approach prioritises the productive use of renewable energy to enable small enterprises, agri-processing, and local value chains, ensuring energy access translates into sustainable economic outcomes. Through participatory market systems development, we address structural barriers and support markets that are more inclusive, resilient, and locally driven.

We have extensive experience working in displacement and humanitarian settings, supporting refugees and host communities to move towards self-reliance by integrating energy access, entrepreneurship, and climate-resilient food systems. Across all our work, collaboration and co-creation underpin solutions that are scalable, adaptive, and aligned with Rwanda's long-term development priorities.

We support climate-resilient livelihoods by enabling clean cooking and productive energy access for the hardest to reach, while addressing the systems that sustain inequality and exclusion.



Together with our partners, we're scaling impact across Rwanda to:

Expanding access to low-carbon energy solutions for last-mile communities and wider energy systems.

Enabling income growth and enterprise development through productive uses of energy and clean cooking.

Supporting climate-resilient food systems, including regenerative agriculture that strengthens livelihoods and restores ecosystems

Renewable Energy for Refugees (RE4RII)

Location: Kigeme, Nyabiheke, Mahama, Mugombwa, and Kiziba refugee camps
Timeline: August 2022 – April 2027
Focus Areas: Energy
Partners: Solektra Rwanda Ltd, Belecom, Ecogreen Solutions Ltd, MC Green Co Ltd, Agroplast Ltd, Umurage Development
Donor: Sida
Budget: \$6,422,013

Building on the success of RE4R Phase I, this project delivers affordable renewable energy to refugees and host communities in Rwanda. It supports clean electricity, improved cooking, and productive energy use for households, businesses, and institutions. With strong private-sector engagement, RE4RII is reaching 70% of households, supporting 300 enterprises, installing 815 solar streetlights, and creating 200 energy-sector jobs.

Featured Projects

Result-Based Financing for Refugees (RBF4R)

Location: Kigeme, Nyabiheke, Mahama, Mugombwa, and Kiziba refugee camps
Timeline: July 2023 – June 2025
Focus Areas: Energy
Partners: EnDev / GIZ
Rwanda Donor: EnDev / GIZ
Budget: \$600,430

RBF4R tackles energy access challenges in refugee camps by providing clean cooking solutions to the most vulnerable households and supporting productive energy use for women entrepreneurs. Using a results-based financing model, the project strengthens market systems to improve affordability and long-term impact. So far, 6,700 households have accessed low-carbon cooking technologies, and 50 women-led businesses have improved their livelihoods through energy access and market linkages.

Farm to Market for Refugee Youth (F2MARY)

Location: Mugombwa Refugee Camp and Gisagara District, Rwanda
Timeline: July 2024 – December 2026
Focus Areas: Agriculture
Donor: AGRA
Budget: \$460,000

F2MARY strengthens opportunities for 2,000 refugee and host community youth—40% of them women—by improving production, productivity, and market access in chilli and poultry value chains. The project provides technical and business training, solar-powered irrigation, and market linkages to create jobs and promote inclusive, climate-resilient agriculture. So far, 30 hectares have been improved, and young people are actively engaged across the value chain.

Empowering Refugee and Host Communities through Modern Energy Services

Location: Mahama, Kiziba, and Nyabiheke Refugee Camps
Timeline: August 2024 – September 2026
Focus Areas: Energy
Partners: Energy Saving Trust, PURE distributors/companies
Donor: FCDO (via Energy Saving Trust)
Budget: £517,848

Supporting refugee and host community entrepreneurs, this project addresses barriers to the productive use of renewable energy (PURE) appliances. Building on our RE4R experience and delivered under the LEIA programme, it deploys off-grid solar appliances to power micro-enterprises, boost incomes, and strengthen local markets. 250 appliances have supported 200 small businesses—half women-owned—while expanding public and private sector engagement in sustainable energy access.

SUNNY

Location: Mahama Refugee Camp, Rwanda, and Bidibidi Refugee Camp, Uganda
Timeline: June 2024 – June 2028
Focus Areas: Energy
Partners: Technische Universität Berlin, University of Rwanda, Makerere University, Great Lakes Energy LTD, Solhyd
Donor: EU

Budget: \$358,762 (for Practical Action)

SUNNY delivers renewable energy solutions for refugee and host communities in Rwanda and Uganda, piloting technologies such as solar home systems, biogas, clean hydrogen, solar irrigation, and refrigerated food storage. The project supports food security, economic opportunity, and circular economy practices, while advancing policy, training, and replicable models across Africa and the EU.

SUDAN

Supporting communities through conflict and climate change

We've worked with communities in Sudan since the 1970s, starting with small-scale innovations like boat-making and brick manufacturing. Since formally establishing our presence in 1990, we've partnered with local stakeholders to tackle the intersecting challenges of conflict, displacement, and climate change.

From Kassala to Darfur and Eastern Sudan, our work focuses on supporting conflict-affected populations and those most at risk. By combining technology with local knowledge, we've strengthened livelihoods, backed small enterprises, and helped communities adapt to change. Through a strong focus on capacity building, we ensure that solutions reflect the priorities of the people we serve—and are built to last.



In partnership with ILRI, we're supporting communities in Kassala to restore degraded grazing land along migratory routes. In response to rising fodder costs, we've broadcasted resilient seed mixes across 1,000 feddans of rangeland—improving pasture quality, easing pressure on herders, and supporting long-term livestock and land health.

Featured Projects

Enhancing Food Security and Resilience of Rural Communities in Sudan (EFSR)

Location: Kassala, Gedarif, and North Darfur States
Timeline: June 2025 – March 2026
Budget: EUR 3,000,000 (Donor: EU through UNOPS)
Partners: Kassala: Friend & Peace Development Organization (FPDO) ; Gedarif: Neutral and Peace Development Organization

This project strengthens food security and climate resilience for vulnerable rural communities by combining immediate cash support with longer-term livelihood and agricultural interventions. It supports smallholder farmers and herders through income-generation training, improved water systems, feeder roads, and women-led community structures, expanding access to markets and services. By integrating agro-ecological practices, gender equality, and local partnerships, the project strengthens inclusive and resilient food systems

Agri-Business in Eastern Sudan

Location: Kassala & Gadarif
Timeline: August 2020 – December 2025
Budget: \$2.47M (Donor: EU)
Focus Area: Climate Resilience, Agriculture, Energy Access
Partner: Green Peace Association (GPA)

This project improves livelihoods for refugees and host communities in Kassala and Gadarif by tackling barriers to entrepreneurship and boosting agricultural productivity. Through policy engagement, advocacy, and capacity building—with a focus on gender equality and inclusion—it supports systemic change. To date, 12,500 people have benefited, with 45% of businesses led by women and marginalised groups, crop yields up 35%, and 150 businesses and 30 producer associations established.

Building Climate & Conflict Resilience in North Darfur

Location: North Darfur (Elfashir rural)
Timeline: October 2020 – September 2023
Budget: \$2M (Donor: FCDO)
Focus Area: Climate Resilience, Agriculture
Partner: Rural Development Network

This project enhanced resilience to climate and conflict in North Darfur by improving agriculture, livestock management, and water access for over 34,000 people. Using integrated water resource management and inclusive leadership training, it fostered collaboration among farmers, pastoralists, and local authorities. Sorghum yields increased by 79%, and communities improved nutrition and cooperation.

Food for Assets and Smallholder Agriculture Market Support

Location: Kassala and Gedarif States
Timeline: December 2025 – March 2026
Budget: \$1,000,000 (Donor: SUNOPS and EU)
Partners: Kassala: Friend & Peace Development Organization (FPDO) ; Gedarif: Zainb for Women Development Organisation

This project improves food security and household incomes by linking cash-based support to asset creation and agricultural market access. It strengthens livelihoods for smallholder farmers and vulnerable groups through skills development, improved water infrastructure, and enhanced access to markets and services. With a strong focus on gender equality and resilience, the project supports sustainable livelihoods and local economic recovery in fragile contexts.

Building Resilience for Food-Vulnerable Households through Food Assistance for Assets (FFA)

Location: Kassala and Gedarif States
Timeline: 1 November – February 2025, project extension 1st May 2025– August 2025
Budget: \$2.4 M (Donor: WFP)
Partners: Kassala: Women Development Network (KWDAN); Gedarif: Friends for peace and development Green Peace Organisation (FPDO)

This project will support over 21,000 HH with critical water infrastructure, improve agricultural productivity, and promote long-term resilience by addressing the root causes of food insecurity. Furthermore, the project will support households' and communities' assets, building and developing human capital while facilitating their access to income in exchange for their labour through this process to improve short-term food security and nutrition.

Sustainable Agrifood Systems Approach for Sudan (SASAS) – Potatoes & Sweet Potatoes

Location: Kassala & Blue Nile
Timeline: June 2023 – August 2024
Budget: \$900,000 (Donor: CIP)
Focus Area: Agriculture
Partner: Kassala Women Development Network (KWDAN)

Improving food security and climate resilience in Kassala and Blue Nile, this project supports 18,807 farmers in potato and sweet potato production. It integrates inclusive decision-making and participatory market systems development, with women and marginalised groups actively involved. Through training and Farmers Field Schools, productivity rose by 43%, and 93 producer groups are enhancing market access.

Innovating for Impact Across

WEST AFRICA

Since 2014, Practical Action West Africa has been working with communities, governments, and partners to expand clean energy access, build resilience to climate change, and strengthen sustainable livelihoods. Based in Dakar, our regional office leads work across Senegal, Mali, and Burkina Faso—where we support communities to adapt, reduce disaster risks, and scale climate-smart agriculture powered by renewable energy.

Beyond our core countries, we contribute to sustainable development across all 15 ECOWAS nations and the wider Sahel, including Mauritania, Chad, and Cameroon. Our work is rooted in local knowledge and co-created solutions that reflect community priorities and drive systemic change.

We're focused on scaling what works—solutions that transform systems and deliver lasting impact. This includes expanding clean energy access for homes, schools, and businesses, strengthening resilience with people-centred early warning systems, promoting agriculture powered by renewable energy, and shaping policies for inclusive, climate-smart development.

REAL-BF project earned the Most Innovative Sustainable Energy Project of the Year 2022-2023 award at the ECOWAS Sustainable Energy Forum (ESEF) 2023 Awards.

Molle Nossira is the supervisor of Gon-Boussougou fish processors cooperative in Burkina Faso

Featured Projects

Strengthening Flood and Heatwave Resilience in Senegal (PRECIVAC)

Location: Dakar, Thiès, Matam, Kaffrine, and Kaolack, Senegal
Timeline: 2025–2027
Focus Areas: Climate Resilience
Partners: Senegalese Red Cross (CRS), Urbasen, ANACIM, local authorities and community organisations
Donor: Zurich Climate Resilience Alliance
Budget: \$536,975

PRECIVAC strengthens the resilience of vulnerable communities to flooding and heatwaves through participatory and inclusive approaches. The project supports communities and local authorities to assess climate risks, co-design local action plans, and strengthen governance for disaster risk management. Using Practical Action's Missing Voices Approach, PRECIVAC ensures women, older persons, persons with disabilities, and low-income communities are meaningfully included. The project currently reaches over 300,000 direct beneficiaries, with potential to impact up to 1.5 million people in the long term.

Strengthening Flood Resilience in Senegal and Niger (ResAlert)

Location: Thiès and Kaffrine, Senegal; Niamey, Niger
Timeline: 2026–2027 (Phase III of the WISER Africa programme)
Focus Areas: Climate Resilience
Partners: Jokalante, AGRHYMET, ANACIM, Senegalese Red Cross, local authorities
Donor: UK Met Office (WISER Africa)
Budget: \$300,000

ResAlert strengthens flood resilience in Senegal and Niger by improving inclusive, community-led early warning systems. Implemented as Phase III of the WISER Africa programme, the project builds on earlier phases that reached over 45,000 people in Thiès by providing timely, co-produced flood alerts that reduced household losses and improved institutional decision-making. This phase focuses on scaling impact and sustainability by supporting the integration of inclusive early warning systems into local planning and budgeting, strengthening the use of climate information by authorities and communities, and ensuring women and marginalised groups are meaningfully included.

Strengthening Community Climate Resilience through Ecosystem-Based Adaptation in Thiès (PRECABE)

Location: Thiès, Senegal
Timeline: 2025–2026
Focus Areas: Urban climate resilience
Partners: GIPS/WAR, École Polytechnique de Thiès (EPT)
Donor: Global EbA Fund
Budget: \$250,000

PRECABE promotes ecosystem-based adaptation as a sustainable approach to managing urban flood risks in the rapidly growing city of Thiès. The project addresses technical, institutional, and knowledge gaps by supporting the integration of nature-based solutions into urban planning and flood management. Working closely with municipalities, local actors, and women's organisations, PRECABE aims to shift flood management practices away from grey infrastructure towards inclusive, climate-resilient solutions, while generating evidence to inform national policy and scale-up.

Renewable Energy for Agricultural Livelihoods (REAL-BF)

Location: Burkina Faso
Timeline: July 2022 – December 2024
Focus Areas: Energy, Agriculture
Partners: ProValaB 2, Beoog-Puuto, Weoog-Paani
Donor: Embassy of Sweden in Ouagadougou (SIDA)
Budget: \$1,318,000

REAL-BF supports smallholder farmers in Burkina Faso to boost productivity and resilience by integrating renewable energy into five key agricultural value chains—rice, horticulture, poultry, fish, and non-timber forest products. The project combines improved technologies, market linkages, and access to finance to drive impact. So far, it has installed 136 energy systems reaching over 7,100 farmers (80% women), reduced CO₂ emissions by 1,437 tons annually, and increased farmers' incomes by at least 50,000 CFA per year. A new digital platform, YIRIWALI, helps guide renewable energy investment, while 135 hectares of forest have been preserved by cutting firewood use.



ZIMBABWE

Pioneering resilience where it's needed most

Since 1989, Practical Action has worked with communities in Zimbabwe's marginal rainfed regions to tackle the challenges of recurring droughts, climate extremes, and economic instability. Through practical, locally led solutions in agriculture and energy, we've pioneered conservation agriculture, solar-powered irrigation, and gender-responsive seed systems—transforming livelihoods, strengthening resilience to climate shocks, and improving food security in vulnerable areas.

Looking ahead, we aim to expand Climate Information Services, scale renewable energy access, and address urban waste challenges. Our focus includes advancing solar-powered irrigation and cold chains to reduce food waste, promoting clean cooking through market-driven models, and restoring biodiversity in degraded ecosystems. By collaborating with communities, government, and the private sector, we are building resilient systems that improve food, energy, and environmental health.



Lydia's farm in Gwanda, Zimbabwe is flourishing, using techniques like solar-powered irrigation that not only improve her yields but also conserve the local ecosystem for future generations.

Featured Projects

Harare Sustainable Cities Initiative (HSCI)

Location: Harare (Mabvuku-Tafara, Epworth, Highfields, Showgrounds/Belvedere)

Timeline: August 2025 – October 2026

Focus Area: Climate Resilience

Donor: SIDA, implemented in partnership with UN-Habitat

Budget: \$1,571,000

The Harare Sustainable Cities Initiative strengthens inclusive, climate-resilient urban systems by establishing locally led clean energy and resource recovery infrastructure in underserved communities. Through Multi-Functional Clean Energy Centres (MCECs) and Integrated Resource Recovery Centres (IRRCs), the project improves access to reliable energy, supports waste-to-wealth enterprises, and creates decent livelihood opportunities for women and youth. HSCI also strengthens community governance and ownership of urban infrastructure, reduces environmental pollution, and builds local capacity to sustain inclusive clean energy and circular economy models, while generating evidence to inform urban policy and scale-up in Zimbabwe and beyond.

Resilience Building for Chimanimani Communities (RBCC)

Location: Chimanimani District

Timeline: October 2022 – December 2023

Focus Area: Climate Resilience

Donor: USAID

Budget: \$1,712,769

The RBCC project supported 32,000 people across 11 wards in Chimanimani to recover from climate shocks and rebuild resilient livelihoods. Through participatory disaster risk reduction, agroecology, and savings and lending groups, the project restored food and nutrition security while strengthening financial resilience. Gender-transformative approaches, including Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS), promoted inclusive decision-making and helped reduce domestic violence. Outcomes include a 68% uptake of improved farming practices, six new solar-powered gardens that doubled household incomes, expanded irrigation plot sizes, and a rise in indigenous poultry ownership—all contributing to stronger food systems and community wellbeing.

Livelihoods and Food Security Programme (LFSP)

Location: Mutare, Mutasa, and Makoni Districts

Timeline: February 2015 – May 2021

Focus Area: Agriculture

Implementing Partners: Sustainable Agriculture Technologies (SAT)

Donor: FCDO

Budget: \$8,785,727

The LFSP-INSPIRE project supported 80,000 rural households in Mutare, Mutasa, and Makoni to improve food security, nutrition, and incomes. By promoting biofortified crops, strengthening market access, and increasing agricultural productivity, the project boosted household income from farming by 58% and generated \$324.9 million in output. Conservation agriculture, piloted through Pfumvudza, influenced national policy. The programme also empowered farmers through 1,926 savings groups, which grew into 21 SACCOs and 36 group enterprises, while 60% of participants adopted improved crop technologies.

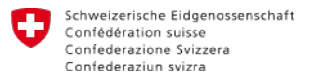
OUR PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

We forge purpose-driven partnerships to co-create, test and scale impactful solutions that deliver on our purpose. We believe that development must be driven by those who know their context best. By grounding our work in local realities while connecting it to regional and global systems, we support solutions that are integrated, scalable, and capable of delivering inclusive sustainable livelihoods and enhanced climate resilience for vulnerable communities.

Our partnerships are built on shared accountability, mutual learning, and joint delivery, and are rooted in strong multi-stakeholder engagement. We build partnerships vertically across different levels of governance and institutions and horizontally with peers, civil society, academia, and the private sector at national, regional, and international levels. This cross-sector collaboration enables us to combine geographic and thematic synergies with complementary expertise and aligned incentives.

We believe in the power of partnerships to design and deliver solutions that respond to Africa's development priorities, scale what works, achieve meaningful impact and unlock lasting change.

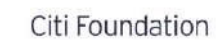
We invite organisations aligned with our purpose and partnership approach to engage with us and explore opportunities for collaboration at partnership.africa@practicalaction.org.uk



Our work is made possible through collaboration with these institutional and multinational funders and development banks.



We are proud to partner with the following trusts and foundations in driving our work forward.



We carry out projects for and work alongside many other international development groups and NGO's, large and small.



“

*My accident didn't stop me.
I just found a new way to
work—and my customers
stayed with me.”*



Jecinta began her business journey in 2011, selling improved cookstoves and solar lights in rural Kenya. After a life-altering road accident in 2018, many expected her to step back—but her determination only grew stronger. With support from Practical Action, she adapted her business, continued serving her loyal customers, and became a voice for inclusion.

Today, Jecinta runs a thriving clean energy business that helps families access affordable, smokeless cooking solutions and reliable lighting—especially in off-grid areas. She also produces briquette charcoal using waste materials, offering a sustainable alternative to traditional fuels.

As a woman with a disability, Jecinta is not only earning a living—she's changing mindsets, encouraging others to embrace clean energy, and showing fellow women that resilience is power.

BIG CHANGE starts small



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For business development enquiries:
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Edition 2026