

WOMEN & RESILIENCE





ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate Change is emerging as a serious threat in Hwange district of Zimbabwe. Prolonged droughts and erratic rainfall combined with floods is significantly affecting women's lives, their livelihoods and their households. As a result, women suffer chronic food insecurity, increased levels of poverty with more households selling their assets and livestock.

Recognizing the magnitude of this challenge and keeping with our mission to fight poverty, Ntengwe for Community Development's focus is on partnering with the Grassroots Women Networks and all sectors of society to adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change. We are doing this through a range of activities, supported by the **HUAIROU COMMISSION** by INNOVATING, COMMUNICATING AND COLLABORATING.



INNOVATING

Ntengwe works with grassroots women leaders to promote more resilient livelihoods through capacity building, social mobilization and advocacy. In pursuit of these goals we are creating new conceptual models and participatory methodologies. For example, we are supporting the HUIROU COMMISSION Diamond Approach through strengthening grassroots women's organizing and leadership, promote local development and awareness, build constituencies and networks and influence public policy and processes.

We build resilience through the Community Resilience Fund which has resulted in women groups being recognized as Agents of Change. These grassroots women leaders are communicating facts, insights and perspectives to policy makers so that they can make more effective and equitable decisions. As a result, more key stakeholders are now engaging them as partners in many community development initiatives.



COMMUNICATING

Grassroots women leaders are working with an extensive network of women farmers, Self-Help Groups, Cluster Level Associations and Federations to inform key stakeholders and the public about adaptation through targeted Community Practitioner Platforms as a means of mobilizing resources for wider community development like assisting schools. Women groups share lessons learned and new methodologies and best practices through peer exchange. These groups are now hands-on experts in risk mapping to manage risks and they assist communities to diversify livelihoods, creating opportunities to income sources.

Grassroots women leaders are also creating new conceptual models and participatory methodologies with schools. They work with Earth Rangers by which children educate their communities and families about biodiversity, inspiring them to adopt sustainable behaviours..



COLLABORATING

Ntengwe is collaborating with governments, traditional leaders, a wide range of civil society organizations and the private sector to mitigate adaptation strategies. For example, in Hwange district, Ntengwe has joined forces with grassroots women leaders to help influence strategic policy frameworks for adaptation. By working hand-in-hand with local authorities and the promotion of the Community Resilience Fund a cooperation amongst local government authorities has improved relationships with grassroots women leaders and communities. Indeed, it has created a culture of cooperation with more local government authorities linking grassroots women groups to attend Fair Trade shows and exhibitions to showcase their products.

In Zimbabwe Ntengwe joined alliances with civil society organizations, academics and government authorities concerned with influencing and implementing international policy frameworks. Ntengwe is also actively collaborating with international civil societies to influence policy change.



THE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND

The Fund is an innovative financial mechanism that delivers micro funding to grassroots women groups in Hwange district and is delivered directly to grassroots women groups, such as small-scale farmers, saving and lending schemes and entrepreneurial groups enabling grassroots women to allocate the funds as they see fit.

Most groups are now able to engage in climate smart enterprises such as organic chicken and pig rearing, saving and lending schemes, farming, as well as sewing and other vocational skills diversifications and small income business compared to before the fund started.





GET IN TOUCH WITH US



Ntengwe For Community Development

169 Courtney Selous Crescent, Victoria Falls

Zimbabwe

Tel: +263-13-43342

Email: admin@ntengwe-dev.org

Website: www.ntengwe-dev.org



HUAIROU COMMISSION
Women, Homes & Community