



CARE & Climate Change News

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UPCOMING EVENTS

13 Oct - International
Day for Disaster
Reduction

[www.un.org/en/events/
disasterreductionday](http://www.un.org/en/events/disasterreductionday)

17 Oct - International
Day for the Eradication
of Poverty

[www.un.org/depts/dhl/
poverty](http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/poverty)

26 Nov-07 Dec -
UNFCCC COP18
Doha, Qatar
www.cop18.qa

During COP18 -
CARE/UNU Where
the Rain Falls Report
Launch

www.wheretherainfalls.org

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New manual supports participatory methods for measuring, monitoring & evaluating adaptation

By Tine Rossing, PECCN, Global Climate
Adaptation Coordinator

With an increase in the practice of Community-based Adaptation (CBA) initiatives around the world, there is a growing need for participatory, practical methodologies that measure, monitor and evaluate how CBA activities contribute to building lasting reductions in vulnerability and improving long-term adaptive capacity in project communities.

In response, CARE – in partnership with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and with the help of supportive organisations – has developed a new framework for local adaptation practitioners, captured in the Participatory Monitoring, Evaluation, Reflection & Learning (PMERL) for Community-based Adaptation manual (www.careclimatechange.org/tools).

The value of the PMERL Manual is that it specifically advises on three types of information that are important to monitor and reflect on in CBA – practice, outcomes and context. In regards to practice and outcomes, the PMERL framework allows practitioners to understand what is being done over time so they can better evaluate if and how projects are engaging and benefiting the targeted, vulnerable communities – particularly the poorest and most marginalized ones – and the ecosystems that sustain them. This means they will be better able to carry out responsive and flexible adaptation planning and implementation in an uncertain and changing environment for stronger results.

In regards to context, the framework helps practitioners monitor and evaluate the continuously changing context within which both people and ecosystems are adapting. By tracking changes in both climate and other drivers of vulnerability and assessing changes in adaptation practice and outcomes in light of these contextual changes, practitioners can test the robustness of their adaptation strategies to climate and other risks. Such tracking will also help anticipate potentially maladaptive practices.

The PMERL framework is primarily intended to support adaptive decision-making in communities vulnerable to the negative climate change impacts. It can be used for and by vulnerable community members themselves – supported by planners, practitioners and policymakers – to inform their climate adaptation planning and implementation.

The PMERL framework presents a participatory methodology for developing and monitoring against CBA indicators. In addition, participation, joint learning and reflection processes are integrated into the monitoring and evaluation to ensure the adaptation efforts are as effective as possible and to address the high degree of uncertainty that climate change presents. In doing so, it provides a new platform for local stakeholders to articulate their own needs, which is a fundamental part of building and strengthening adaptive capacity.

Download the PMERL manual (English; Spanish coming soon) at [www.careclimatechange.org/
tools](http://www.careclimatechange.org/tools).

Rio+20: Road to sustainable development or the Road to nowhere?

By Kit Vaughan, PECCN, Global Climate Advocacy Coordinator

The UN Conference on Sustainable Development – Rio+20 (20-22 June, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) – was billed as a major summit where global leaders could help progress sustainable development and make the necessary changes to put national and international economies back on a sustainable path. Expectations were high, but so were concerns over the failure of our national and international economies and societies to address pressing environment and development concerns; such as the injustices of endemic poverty, biodiversity loss, and climate change and ecosystems degradation. The question was always: ‘Will Rio plus 20 be a major turning point on addressing the many interconnected environment and development issues or would it follow the increasingly common pattern of global negotiations and result in little progress and limited tangible outcomes- in essence would it be the road to a sustainable future or the road to nowhere?’

It’s increasingly clear that the wellbeing of our natural environment is fundamental to the wealth and health of our local and global societies. Yet greenhouse gas emissions are rising, biodiversity is disappearing at an unprecedented rate, and many of our ecosystems are severely degraded – whilst unsustainable consumption and production continues to drive demands well beyond what our one planet can sustain. Clearly our thirst for growth at all costs is unsustainable and is having a profound and devastating impact upon our present and future generation’s wellbeing. We need a rapid and fundamental change and we need to better integrate environmental concerns into development activities. As such, Rio was the place to demonstrate a sense of urgency and deliver upon committed action: But did it happen?

Whilst heralded as a great step forward by some political leaders, it’s now increasingly clear that what was achieved falls far short of what’s needed to make the changes we need. Rio was unprecedented in being the only international environment or development summit to finish early! The text was skillfully drafted by the Brazilian team and signed off before heads of state arrived, leaving no space for negotiation or further ambition to be reinserted. The outcome document was a text full of the right concepts and terminology, but fell drastically short of any tangible commitments or new resources.

This left civil society and several developing country governments in little doubt that there is a lack of international will and commitment to really tackle the pressing and portent challenges of climate change, food security, addressing inequality and tackling environmental degradation whilst providing a safe, resilient and equitable future for all.

The results were very disappointing as there was a very low level of ambition, commitment and time-bound actions specifically in



The Rio+20 agreement was originally titled ‘The Future We Want.’ After Rio+20 in June, CARE and many other civil society orgs, felt that the final agreement failed to deliver a viable future for sustainable development as it has few clear tangible objectives, timeframes or financial commitments to solve pressing global challenges such as climate change, food insecurity and gender inequality.

the core areas for CARE, e.g. poverty reduction, gender, food security and climate change. There was a reluctance to address critical food security concerns; climate change was pushed back to the UNFCCC negotiations with no new resources or commitments on finance. Gender issues made little progress with wording only affirming and reaffirming previous commitments with little recognition and new progressive commitments to fully address gender inequality.

The primary outcome was agreement by parties to work towards establishment of a series of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These are welcome addition as they should spur debate and action both nationally and internationally and feed into discussions about the post 2015 MDG frameworks. CARE will be following up on Rio+20 especially on the development of the SDG process, as part of our planned work on the MDG + 2015 agenda.

CARE participated in Rio plus 20 with a small team from the Poverty Environment and Climate Change Network (PECCN), CARE International, CARE Country Offices/Members in Austria, Brazil, Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador and the ‘Where the Rain Falls’ project (www.wheretherainfalls.org). CARE media work was successful in raising the Rio discussion in more than 265 online articles and several print articles, including Le Monde, New York Times, Der Standard, Washington Post, Guardian, Fox News and many more. CARE attendees worked closely with a range of civil society and government partners to advocate for a greater focus on equity, resilience and poverty eradication to be prioritized in the conference outcomes. The CARE team published a wide range of blogs and posts (see www.careclimatechange.org/media-releases/2012).

CARE also developed an issue paper and a report ‘One Planet–One Future’ which was used in and around the conference: www.careclimatechange.org/files/advocacy/CARE_OnePlanet_OneFuture_Rio20_Jun2012.pdf.

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Where the Rain Falls to launch 8-country study results on rainfall, food security and human mobility at COP18

By Kimberly Bennett, WtRF Communications Coordinator

Where the Rain Falls – an eight-country study by CARE International and United Nations University (UNU) on rainfall, food security and human mobility – will launch project findings in a report at the UNFCCC COP18 in Doha, Qatar, in late November. The report will include case studies from Bangladesh, India, Guatemala, Peru, Ghana, Tanzania, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as key findings, an agent-based model and policy recommendations.

The Where the Rain Falls (WtRF) project will also release a policy-focused video highlighting the importance of understanding the complexities of rainfall patterns and their effects on food security and human mobility, which features interviews with community members in India and Tanzania, and CARE and UNU representatives involved in the study. In Doha, the launch will also include a side event featuring Kevin Henry, WtRF Project Manager, and Dr. Koko Warner, Academic Officer and Head of Section, Environmental Migration, Social Vulnerability & Adaptation, United Nations University (UNU). Follow www.wheretherainfalls.org for the launch.

As part of the study, the Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN) at Columbia University is conducting mapping that puts the research results on migration in the context of local agro-ecosystems, natural resources, and rainfall variability. The maps are now available for viewing and download at <http://wheretherainfalls.org/overview>. These maps provide visual representation of key data related to rainfall patterns, agriculture and food security, as well as current migration patterns of the villages in the eight case study countries.



A community member from Same District, Tanzania, responds to a question during a WtRF research session. See the impacts of rain fall, food security and human mobility in Same District at www.wheretherainfalls.org/videos (EN, SW, SP & FR).

They will also be published within the Case Study Reports and Policy Brief.

On the website, you can also view a video showing the impacts of rain fall patterns on community members in Tanzania (www.wheretherainfalls.org/videos). The interviews in this short video will be part of a longer documentary centering on the stories of the families and community members affected by environmental change in villages in the Same District, Tanzania. The release of the documentary is scheduled for the end of 2012.

In addition to the report, the WtRF project will include Community-based Adaptation projects that build on the WtRF research and are funded by the AXA Group. CBA design workshops will be held in the coming months in India, Peru, Thailand and Tanzania.

Rio+20 reflections...

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Whilst Rio plus 20 achieved a number of useful process outcomes, with the most important being agreement to establish a number of SDGs, overall civil society and many developing national governments were dismayed at the outcome. There was a dire lack of urgency and global responsibility and cooperation to step up and truly deliver on sustainability and poverty reduction.

Whilst the outcome document is a well-crafted piece of diplomacy, it lacks concrete actions and committed resources. More worryingly, the conference decreased confidence that such international processes can address the scale and speed of problems that our planet is facing.

Rio plus 20 can be seen as a very small step on the path to sustainability. But without further action, it could soon put us all on the road to nowhere. As such there is now an important need to follow up – especially at local and national

levels with an increased focus on empowering local communities to build resilience, tackle gender inequality and tackle poverty. Such efforts must focus on developed and developing country governments to step up their actions especially on tackling climate change and poverty reduction. A sustainable future requires bold actions and a new momentum by all stakeholders on tackling the twin challenges of delivering development and ensuring environmental sustainability; so we can truly deliver a sustainable future for all.

Q&A: Insight into gender & climate change at CARE

The following is an interview with PECCN's Agnes Otzelberger. Agnes works 65 percent of her time as the Africa Adaptation Advisor and 35 percent as the Gender Advisor. (aotzelberger@careclimatechange.org)

Agnes, you joined PECCN as the part-time Gender Advisor a year ago: Can you describe your role? The role is multi-faceted in that I support CARE and its partners in understanding and applying the gender dimensions of climate change to our work in developing countries, and then linking that experience with our national and global advocacy efforts. At the same time, I also help decipher and convey the implications of global climate policy developments as they relate to gender equity in our programming and advocacy work at other levels.

What does that look like in practice? To give a few examples, over the past year I have supported Country Offices such as Ethiopia or East Timor in considering social and gender issues as they designed new initiatives, co-organised a workshop on how to integrate gender into Community-based Adaptation (CBA) for the Adaptation Learning Programme for Africa; and worked to include these dimensions in new tools such as the Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation, Reflection and Learning (PMERL) manual PECCN and IIED developed.

At the global level, I have, for example, attended and helped formulate policy messages for the Rio+20 Earth Summit (see blog by Agnes: www.future-agricultures.org/blog/entry/-rio20-womens-rights-in-reverse-gear), started to serve on the Steering Committee of the Global Gender Climate Alliance (GGCA); and shared CARE's learning on gender and adaptation at workshops, in panel discussions and through continued exchanges with our peers.

CARE has a history of addressing gender in its development work. What is distinct about working on climate change and gender? Working on climate change introduces a different view in regard to time scales and across generations. For example, in the average 'gender-sensitive' project, gender relations are looked at in a very static

way – describing what women and men, as two 'separate' groups, do and do not do, or have and do not have, in the community at one given moment in time.

Our climate change perspective on that seeks to explore what relations between women and men looked like in the past, how they are changing today and how they might look in the future – and how this is due to various social factors. To illustrate this, we can look at the triggers and consequences of the deep and sometimes rapid changes in roles and labor divisions in and around farming over generations across the globe, changes that were in part caused by environmental, but also by economic and social shifts. Such reflection can help us thinking about how current and future changes in the climate, economic trends and political processes might further impact the lives and opportunities of vulnerable people.

How does this understanding help people become more resilient in a changing climate? The processes CARE is developing and applying in Community-based Adaptation help people to better analyse their past and current coping and adaptation strategies for responding to changing environmental conditions, and to develop a forward-looking perspective on their strategies. What we have found is that when people better understand how social inequalities disable good strategies, they can begin to challenge these inequalities and become more collaborative and inclusive in their decision-making.

Gender relations are an important – although not the only – part of this process. For example, whether it's farming, fishing or trade, every livelihood has a gender dimension, specific to the culture and context, which influences people's roles and expectations, power over resources and decisions, etc. Being aware of that helps people become more aware of what constrains or enables their choices for adaptation, and to address these constraints and opportunities as needed.

What is the main challenge of working on gender and climate change? The challenge is that we are dealing with many layers of complexity in this area.



Agnes Otzelberger speaks at COP17 in Durban, S. Africa.

For example, we are not only facing the changing nature of risk and the uncertainty about the future that climate change brings about, but we need to work together with a diversity of people speaking almost different languages: climate scientists, geographers, social scientists, business owners, farmers, fishermen (and women), livestock owners, policy analysts, campaigners, etc. They all have different knowledge, information access and strategies that are needed for Community-based Adaptation.

Then, as my colleague Christine Okali working on gender for the Future Agricultures Consortium stated, social realities are inherently messy and decision-makers at all levels, by contrast, find complexity uncomfortable as they look towards broad-stroke solutions in developing climate change and development policies. Working with that requires a more flexible approach, and it will always involve imperfect solutions and tradeoffs. A major step in addressing complexity is giving up the idea that things can be simple and ideal.

How can we address complexity on a practical level? A lot of the tools we are using now are designed to paint a very static, 'one-off' picture of reality, and one thing that we can get better at is to develop and adapt tools and guidance

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Gender & climate change at CARE continued...

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that help people examine two things in particular: power relations and changes over time. Such tools are out there, but they need to be made more accessible to those working on CBA to help build people's resilience in a more dynamic, gender-sensitive way.

How has the development field approached gender and agriculture?

A lot of work in gender and agriculture has focused primarily on 'the woman' in agriculture – and on understanding her agency and the important role she has in agriculture. I hope we have now reached a point where we can move beyond that. I hope that, instead of looking at women as a homogenous group acting in isolation from the dynamic social environments they inhabit, we can move on to a more complete understanding of agricultural livelihoods that looks at the many ways in which gender, age, livelihood, ethnicity, religion, etc. affect information, technology, communication, mobility, market access, etc. and, thereby, the processes of food production and utilization women and men engage in.

While the focus on the 'woman in agriculture' has definitely helped us understand how blind this sector has been to the priorities, struggles and important roles of women in farming, we have to remember that 'gender relations' are, by definition, *between* people. Past work on gender relations in agriculture has tended to only look at one side of that relationship.

What will CARE's new approach to climate-smart smallholder agriculture (CSSHA) try to do to address gender?

As part of the process, we are sharpening our understanding of how agricultural programming in Africa, in the past, has failed to more significantly improve the lives of smallholder farmers.

For example, agricultural extension services have been better at reaching men than women, which is in large parts due the fact extension services have been better at reaching land owners, economically more powerful and socially more influential farmers, people farming cash crops at larger scale, or people that are more mobile and exposed to social interactions, etc. In many places, whether you are an adolescent, adult or elderly, or single, married or widowed man or woman, has a strong impact on all these factors. These biases in the way extension services reach people are one of many challenges we will take a closer look at.

What is the most persistent misunderstanding about gender and climate change?

People often translate gender directly into "women." While past work has been very good at highlighting the importance of recognising and building women's agency as a key factor in good development, we need to get better at understanding the dynamics between women, men, girls and boys in relation to other social factors that lead to inequalities.

Another area for improvement is a persistent use of the phrase "women are more vulnerable to climate change than men." I often explain that if that were true, I, Agnes, sitting in my office in the United Kingdom, would be more vulnerable than a male farmer in Bangladesh. I don't believe that is the case. As the exercise of thinking through this example can illustrate, there are many, many variables that determine how vulnerable to climate change I am. However, by understanding and better conveying the many social aspects of vulnerability – of which gender is indeed an important factor – we can develop appropriate responses that help communities build their resilience to a changing climate.

Why did CARE decide to join the Steering Committee of the Global Gender Climate Alliance (GGCA)?

With a membership of approximately 50 UN agencies and NGOs, not only does GGCA provide access to a powerful network of practitioners focused on gender and climate change, but our part in the group allows CARE to speak in more unified voice for policy making. As a member of the Alliance, we have excellent access to relevant information in the climate policy and advocacy arena. Our representation in the GGCA Steering Committee, for the coming two years, also provides an opportunity for CARE to play a stronger role in shaping the international dialogue on gender and climate change based on experience from our programming work around the world.



Women in Nanigi Village, Garissa, share funds as part of a women's group that helps them cope with the impacts of drought.

Community-based Adaptation makes economic sense, study says

By Karl Deering, CARE UK and Fiona Percy, CARE/ALP

Climate change interventions require decision making in the face of uncertainty. New research conducted by UK economics think tank the New Economics Foundation (nef)—on behalf of CARE International in Garissa, Kenya—found that, investing in Community-based Adaptation (CBA) makes strong economic sense, even in a volatile and evolving environmental context. Download a policy brief with the key messages at www.careclimatechange.org/files/adaptation/PolicyBrief_Why_CBA_Makes_Economic_Sense_July12.pdf and the report 'Counting on uncertainty: The economic case for community based adaptation in North-East Kenya' at www.careclimatechange.org/files/adaptation/Counting_on_Uncertainty_July12.pdf.

In virtually all scenarios studied, the economic, environmental and social benefits of CBA – where vulnerable communities make informed development and risk management decisions and actions in response to climate change impacts – far outweigh their costs, suggesting they are efficient and effective even in the absence of adaptation projects at the national level. These findings make a compelling financial case for CBA both in conjunction with larger-scale interventions and as standalone activities.

Using case studies from two communities in Garissa, the study (under the Adaptation Learning Programme [ALP] for Africa) found that the full stream of benefits (economic, social and environmental) of investing in CBA under numerous scenarios outweigh the investment costs. Results were controlled for sensitivity of assumptions, notably of discount rates, and accounted for risk



Abdullahi Gedi has been a pastoralist most of his life in Garissa District, Kenya. Climate change and other factors have forced him to change his livelihood to farming. He says he needs more agriculture knowledge and accessible markets to help him and other community members adapt to such changes. (Watch his story at www.careclimatechange.org/videos/africaalp)

and uncertainty relative to future patterns of climate change in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs). Under the most realistic scenarios, investing \$1/USD in adaptation generates between \$1.45/USD and \$3.03/USD of wealth accruing to the communities. Even when using a high discount rate the costs of intervention were 2.6 times lower on average than the costs of not intervening to address climate change and extreme weather events.

ALP develops innovative approaches to Community-based Adaptation

By the ALP Programme Coordination Team

The Adaptation Learning Programme (ALP) for Africa has been busy in 2012 developing innovative approaches for Community-based Adaptation (CBA). For example, the new Participatory Scenario Planning (PSP) in Ghana, Kenya and Niger has helped communities and local governments to make flexible plans for livelihoods and risk reduction based on

knowledge of seasonal forecasts and levels of probability/uncertainty. Download the ALP PSP Brief at www.careclimatechange.org/publications/adaptation.

To address a gap between CARE's CBA framework and CBA toolkit – and to better integrate new approaches like PSP – ALP is also developing a step-wise participatory CBA process. The process will guide practitioners to better facilitate vulnerable

communities and local governments to make adaptation plans and increase their adaptive capacity with the aim of more sustainable and resilient development.

Additional ALP publications on these efforts and more – including exciting new digital photostories from Ghana and Niger – are available at www.careclimatechange.org/adaptation-initiatives/alp.

LAC Region update: Focus on training, strategic programme development and knowledge sharing & management

By Pascal Girot, PECCN, Senior Climate Change Advisor for Latin America and the Caribbean

During 2012, the PECCN Secretariat (PECCN-SEC) has been involved in a number of training events, as well as in strategic programme development and advocacy in the LAC region. Early in the year, training workshops on adaptation were organized jointly with CARE Canada in Camagüey, Cuba, and in Choluteca, Honduras. These workshops were mostly attended by CARE national and local partners and helped to provide technical support to on-going CARE projects, such as the European Union (EU)-funded project on Adaptation and Livestock in Cuba (www.careclimatechange.org/adaptation-initiatives/cuba).

In July, a second cross-practice workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) was organized in Antigua, Guatemala, supported by CARE Netherlands and co-funded by CARE USA's Climate Change Innovation Fund. The workshop brought together CARE staff from multiple Latin American countries working in the areas of DRR and CCA. Hauke Hoops, LACRMU's Regional DRR Advisor (CI-ERD), and CARE Netherlands' Martje Van Raamsdonk co-facilitated the workshop.

The workshop allowed for a wide array of knowledge sharing ranging from how different projects in the region have been applying Vulnerability Assessment Tools such as CARE's Climate Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (CVCA) Handbook and Post Disaster Damage Assessment Tools for water and sanitation systems. These training workshops have also contributed to establish a network of field practitioners in LAC who will become active members of a Regional Adaptation Community of Practice.

Southern Voices programme to emphasise cross-learning

By Peter With, Southern Voices Secretariat

The Southern Voices Capacity Building Programme, funded by Danida, will move into 'phase 2' in its efforts to strengthen 20 national, regional and thematic climate policy networks in promoting climate action and policy change. (www.southernvoices.net).

'Phase 2' of the programme will emphasise cross-learning to better promote know-how and exchange experiences between the climate networks. To this end, Southern Voices will add regional focal points to promote cross learning, develop a climate change advocacy toolbox, hold regional and international

workshops focused on sharing knowledge about climate change advocacy tools, and strengthen communications (i.e. website, newsletter and mailing lists).

Future workshops will build on learnings from a meeting at the UNFCCC intersessional in Bonn that focused on "Promoting cross learning between climate networks in the South." The meeting included 12 participants from Southern Voices and nine from external partners.

The first example of the new cross-learning approach will be at a climate change advocacy workshop three days prior to the UNFCCC COP18 in Doha, Qatar. The purpose of the joint advocacy trainings

workshop (co-organised with Climate Action Network International [CAN-I]) is to strengthen the skills of civil society actors and climate policy networks to influence national, regional and international agendas on climate change.

The workshop will analyse and debate a range of advocacy interventions and networking experiences from the participants, addressing climate change policies at national, regional and international levels. The workshop will provide an important background for a CAN-I session before COP18 that focuses on forming a strategy towards 2015 in the global climate negotiations in the UNFCCC and other fora.



Participants listen during an adaptation training workshop in Camagüey, Cuba.

With PECCN-SEC support, CARE country offices and CARE partners have been strategically developing proposals to increase their growing number of LAC initiatives that address the impacts of climate change. Examples include the development of regional and national project proposals in Peru, Guatemala and Nicaragua, and food security and sustainable landscapes proposals in Ecuador.

PECCN is also focusing on how to better share and manage knowledge derived from CARE initiatives in the LAC region. As such, there are plans to launch the regional Adaptation Community of Practice in early 2013. It will initially be accessible for CARE staff, but will expand to partners in the future.

Asia workshops build adaptation capacity throughout region

By Bruce Ravesloot, Tine Rossing and Edward Boydell, CARE

In the Asia region, CARE and partners have been busy with a range of capacity building activities.

Train the Trainers in action: Led by CARE Nepal, the Hariyo Ban programme is making important headway with its adaptation component. The programme is building upon an earlier Training of Trainers workshop in Integrated Ecosystem-Community Approaches to Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (CVCA). New trainers recently carried out climate sensitization workshops in nine districts using the tools from the earlier training, and conducted rapid vulnerability assessments in more than 50 local project sites.

In addition, the PECCN Secretariat supported CARE Nepal in organizing two new Training of Trainers (TOT) workshops for the CHULI and Hariyo Ban programmes with the learnings to influence a CARE Train the Trainer manual in development that focuses on integrated community-ecosystems approaches to community visioning, participatory scenario planning and local-level adaptation planning.

Climate change integration into DRR projects: Following an Asia regional training for CARE and partners in February on integrating climate change into Community-based Disaster Risk Reduction, additional trainings were organized recently for CARE staff and partners from Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste and Vanuatu. The trainings included using CARE's e-learning modules developed by Raks Thai Foundation, CARE Netherlands, CARE Australia and the PECCN Secretariat (www.careclimatechange.org/tools).

To support institutionalisation of the training outcomes, the PECCN Secretariat worked with Raks Thai Foundation to provide follow-up grants to CARE country offices in Asia. Five grants were approved for CARE offices in Cambodia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Timor Leste to undertake a range of activities. These activities include translating the



Participants from CARE's BCR-CC workshop on Community-based Adaptation Design.

e-learning modules into respective local languages and adapting other key training materials for local use, undertaking climate assessments, and organizing internal and community-level training.

Regional learning seminar: In July, CARE organized a regional learning seminar to reflect on current learning around integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Disaster Risk Reduction policy and practice, in collaboration with the Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific, the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, Plan International and the Sustainable Development Foundation. In another regional partnership initiative, CARE Nepal, CARE Vietnam, Raks Thai Foundation and the PECCN Secretariat successfully completed their collaboration with RECOFTC to produce a publication on 'The Role of Community Forestry in Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation: Case Studies from Asia' and an accompanying policy brief (www.climateadapt.asia/resources/publication/view/96). The CARE Vietnam case study was subsequently selected for presentation at the Mangroves for the Future regional colloquium in August.

Growing Portfolio of Projects: CARE's climate adaptation and resilience portfolio in Asia and the Pacific is rapidly growing. For example, CARE offices in Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu and Vietnam are currently launching multi-year adaptation projects with funding by AusAID's community-based climate change action grants programme. CARE Australia and the PECCN Secretariat helped design the four projects.

CARE Laos and CARE Cambodia are active in developing strategies for integrated adaptation and DRR to guide their future livelihoods and food security programming. As well—as part of the ongoing support to the European Commission-funded Building Coastal Resilience to Climate Change (BCR-CC project – the PECCN Secretariat worked with Raks Thai Foundation, CARE Indonesia and CARE Germany to design two new Community-based Adaptation projects focusing on 'no regrets' interventions, within a longer-term Theory of Change towards resilient livelihoods (learn more about BCR-CC: www.careclimatechange.org/adaptation-initiatives/bcr-cc).

The PECCN Secretariat will use a similar approach to support CARE India and Raks Thai Foundation in designing their new adaptation projects under the Where the Rain Falls project, which is funded by AXA and the MacArthur Foundation, and managed by CARE France (www.wheretherainfalls.org).

Asia learning and knowledge management: In addition to locating Asian resources on the CARE climate website (www.careclimatechange.org), the PECCN Secretariat will soon start making all relevant resources available through the Asia Regional Node of the CARE Adaptation Community of Practice. This online learning and knowledge management platform already hosts several projects and the regional node will be officially launched in November. It will be available for CARE staff initially and expand to partners in the future.

Africa update: Building capacity and identifying new avenues for food security and agriculture in the face of climate change

By Agnes Otzelberger, PECCN's Africa Adaptation and Gender Advisor

Across CARE in Africa, capacity-building efforts continue to strengthen the integration of climate change into existing and emerging initiatives on food, agriculture and related sectors. Over the past six months, CARE and partner staff from various countries have had the opportunity to acquire and strengthen their understanding of climate vulnerability and adaptive capacity of the communities, areas and sectors they work with, for example through the use of the CVCA Handbook (see: www.careclimatechange.org/cvca).

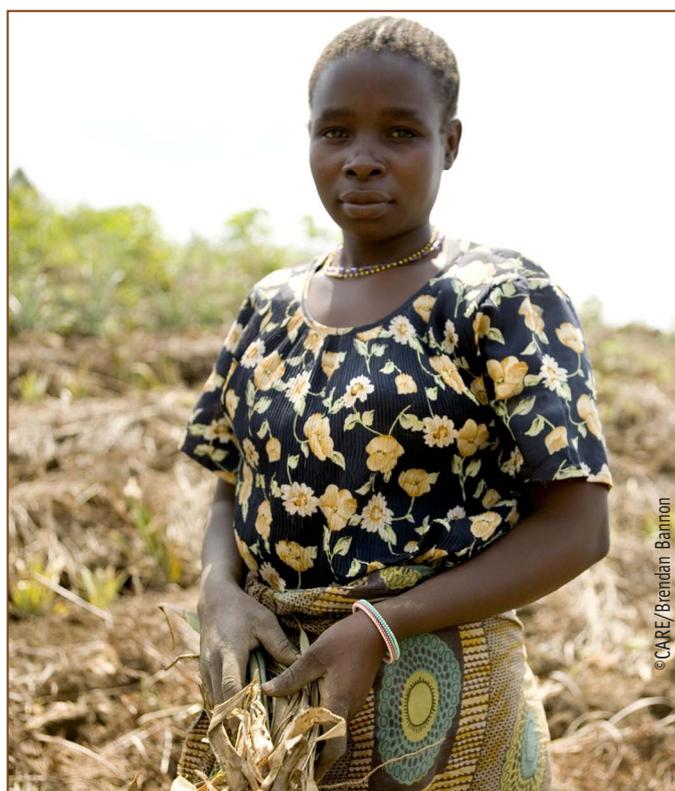
Understanding climate vulnerability & adaptive capacity:

Recent trainings were held for CARE staff and partners of the EU-funded, multi-country food security advocacy initiative Local and Global Action for Food Security in Africa (LAGAFA). Trainings were held in Burundi (which included participants from Madagascar), and in Rwanda for the new Integrated Water Security Programme (RIWSP). These trainings also build on learning from a PECCN-facilitated training on climate vulnerability and capacity analysis held in Masvingo, Zimbabwe, earlier this year, for CARE staff and local partners working on various food- and agriculture-related initiatives in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi.

Passing on the skills: CARE training participants are multiplying the effect of the initial trainings by teaching others in what they have learned. For example, Robby Mwiinga, CARE Zambia's Technical Advisor on Economic Strengthening, who participated in the training in Zimbabwe earlier this year, has shared his new skills with other staff and stakeholders on climate vulnerability and capacity analysis in the Zambian Copperbelt Province. In particular, he passed on training content from the training to the CARE initiative (STEPS OVC*), and to People's Process, a national NGO working on shelter, food security and climate change.

Designing new horizons: Another exciting development in climate change adaptation in Africa is the emerging design of a new initiative in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania to develop an approach to climate-smart smallholder agriculture (CSSHA) in partnership with the global research programme on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFA) (<http://ccafs.cgiar.org>).

Millions of rural people in Africa engage in smallholder agriculture, often as part of diverse but highly natural resource dependent livelihoods strategies. Smallholder agriculture will continue to be a key element of people's livelihoods. However, these livelihoods strategies are vulnerable to multiple factors, including climate change. Climate-smart smallholder agricul-



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CARE & CCAFA are designing a new approach to climate-smart smallholder agriculture (CSSHA) to strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacity of farmers in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania.

ture systems can provide a core building block that improves the sustainable livelihoods and food and nutrition security of millions of rural communities in Africa, by enabling them to strengthen their resilience and adaptive capacity, and to sustainably manage their environment.

For the CSSHA regional programmatic initiative in eastern Africa, CARE and CCAFA will work together to measure the programme's success by increases in food and nutrition security, resilience and adaptive capacity among poor and ultra-poor women in households that depend on rain-fed, small-scale agriculture. Staff and partners from the three countries, the East and Central Africa Regional Monitoring Unit, CARE UK, CARE USA, CARE Austria and PECCN gathered in Dar es Salaam in June to move forward the DFID-funded design phase for the 10+ year programme.

For more information about our work in Africa, contact Agnes Otzelberger, PECCN's Africa Adaptation and Gender Advisor, at aotzelberger@careclimatechange.org.

**Sustainability Through Economic Strengthening, Prevention and Support for Orphans and Vulnerable Children, Youth and other Vulnerable Populations*

Partners for Resilience project supports communities in strengthening resilience at Indonesia workshop

By Kemi Seesink, CARE Netherland's Global DRR Liaison and Advocacy Coordinator

In May, CARE Netherlands – through its Partners for Resilience (Pfr) project – and more than 150 representatives of local communities, civil society organizations, research and knowledge centers and the Indonesian government participated in the 5th South-South Citizenry-based Development Sub-academy (SSCBDA) meeting, which explored how communities are strengthening their resilience in a changing world.

The bi-annual meeting (this edition held in Kupang, Nusa Tenggara Timur Province, Indonesia) provides local communities with opportunities to actively conduct dialogue and other activities relating to disaster risk reduction (DRR) and development at the local level.

This year's session featured climate adaptive capacity as well water management and DRR as key issues, and was attended by more than 150 representatives of local communities, civil society organizations, research and knowledge centers and the Indonesian government.

Partners for Alliance members in Indonesia led this year's event, with the support of the Special Unit of South-South Cooperation in UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Center in Bangkok. Key partici-



Participants at 5th South-South Citizenry-based Development Sub-academy (SSCBDA).

pants included Guineviene de Jesus, Pfr coordinator for Indonesia and Philippines, who helped coordinate the event, and Zenaida Willison, the DRR Advisor of the Unit and member of the International Advisory Board of the Pfr project, who introduced the concept of the SSCBDA meeting.

'The training event demonstrated that local communities and partners have developed very innovative ways to try to deal with disaster risks and a changing climate, especially women,' said Anne te Molder, Project Coordinator of the Pfr project at CARE Netherlands. 'For example, we learned how local women are managing simple water harvesting installations and developing and promoting food products made of drought resistant Sorghum.'

Resulting from the meeting is a set of concrete recommendations for local communities, practitioners and government on DRR and development, which will be developed into a policy brief for the 5th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in October in Indonesia.

Moreover, the learnings from the SSCBDA meeting about women's empowerment in DRR and development are valuable to understand globally in anticipation of the 13 Oct. UN International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction, with the theme: 'Women and Girls: the (in)visible Force of Resilience' (www.unisdr.org/2012/iddr/). 'This theme was already well evidenced by the lives and innovative approaches shared by men and women participants of the 5th SSCBDA,' te Molder said.

CARE and CCBA lead partnership in developing social assessment methodology for REDD

Over the course of the last year, CARE and CCBA/Conservation International have been leading the development of an initiative to develop methodologies and tools for assessing the social impact of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) called the 'Learning Initiative on Social Assessment of REDD+' (LISA-REDD).

The LISA-REDD partnership also includes Centre for International Forestry

Research (CIFOR), Forest Trends, the Overseas Development Institute, (ODI) and the International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED).

An initial workshop was held in Nairobi, Kenya, in May to initiate development of a comprehensive framework for social impact assessment at country level including identifying and characterizing relevant methodologies and tools.

By early 2013, LISA-REDD will produce a resource book containing a compilation of possible methodologies appropriate for national REDD programmes, based on which a new methodology for use by governments, civil society organisations and community members will be developed and tested.

For more information: Phil Franks, Global Climate Carbon Finance Coordinator, pfranks@careclimatechange.org.

REDD+SES recognised as strongest mechanism for applying safeguards beneficial to forest-dependent communities

Greenpeace International concluded recently its report 'Forests & People First: The need for universal REDD+ Safeguards' that the 'REDD+ SES Standards, developed through a participatory multi-stakeholder process, appear to be the most comprehensive and responsive to the UNFCCC safeguards' (www.greenpeace.org/international/Global/international/publications/forests/2012/REDD/Forests-and-People-First.pdf).

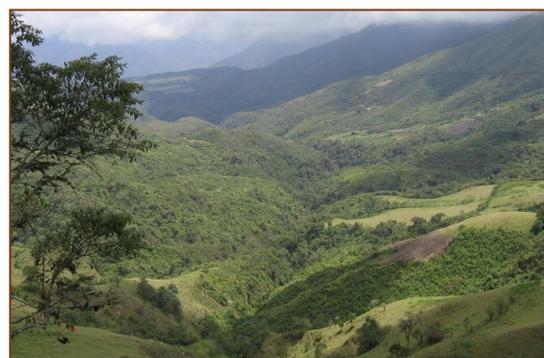
The REDD+ Social and Environmental Standards initiative is facilitated by CARE International and the Climate Community Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA).

REDD+ SES (www.redd-standards.org) aims to build support for government-led REDD+ programmes that make a significant contribution to human rights, poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation. Currently the initiative is active in nine countries, with each at different stages of implementation: Acre and Amazonas States in Brazil, Central Kalimantan in Indonesia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Liberia,

Mexico, Nepal, San Martin Region in Peru and Tanzania.

The initiative recently released its REDD+ SES Social and Environmental Standards Version 2.0, which has been updated to ensure that UNFCCC Cancun safeguards are fully covered, improve its ease of use, and strengthen the gender dimensions of the safeguards. The gender-focused update is a result of an action-research initiative in Ecuador, Brazil, Tanzania and Nepal with the Women's Environment & Development Organisation (WEDO) that looked at how the REDD+ SES initiative can better identify and address marginalization by gender. WEDO will release a publication on gender and REDD, using REDD+ SES case studies, at the UNFCCC COP18 event in Doha in late November/early December.

In the past year, the REDD+ SES Secretariat has been active by participating in workshops and gave presentations on REDD+ SES in Peru, Mexico, Tanzania, Liberia and Guatemala. The workshops were organised by relevant



Ecuador is currently developing its National REDD+ Programme for which Social and Environmental benefits are one of the cross-cutting elements. For more information visit www.ambiente.gob.ec.

government departments and civil society partners and provided an opportunity for capacity building and presentations from the full range of organizations supporting REDD+ safeguards activities in the country including Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) delivery partners as well as REDD+ SES. With the exception of Tanzania, these were the first national workshops on REDD+ safeguards in each country.

PECCN defines approach for climate-smart smallholder ag in eastern Africa

By *Claire Stienecker, Consultant to PECCN, and Phil Franks, PECCN Coordinator*

Millions of rural people in Africa engage in smallholder agriculture, often as part of diverse livelihoods strategies that are highly dependent on natural resources. However, these livelihoods strategies are vulnerable to multiple factors, including climate change. Climate-smart smallholder agriculture (CSSHA) systems can be a building block for improving the livelihoods and food security of rural communities, by strengthening their resilience and adaptive capacity, and enabling them to manage their environment more sustainably.

PECCN recently developed a concept note for an eastern Africa CSSHA regional programme, based on emerging CARE experience in Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia. The programme aims to enhance food and nutrition security under

the growing challenge of climate change. It will focus on increasing the productivity and resilience of smallholder agriculture, and seek to achieve large scale implementation and influence policy at national, regional and global levels, based on its learning and experience.

In June, key stakeholders gathered for a design workshop to develop a CSSHA programme approach. This included key CARE staff from PECCN; the CARE International Food Security Steering Committee; the CARE East Africa Regional Office; and the three CARE Country Offices; along with partners from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and the Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) programme of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). A working paper based on the outputs of the workshop will be available later in the year.



The CSSHA programme will benefit from learnings gained from the Sustainable Agriculture in a Changing Climate (SACC) project. As Perez Anditi Aringo, from southwest Kenya, says: "Our soil used to be very dry. There was nothing much that would grow in our field. But then CARE taught us how to grow these trees. I'm very hopeful for the future."

Ethnic minorities in Vietnam's northern mountains act on their dreams for a more sustainable future

By Luu Thi Thu Giang, CARE Vietnam Climate Change Project Officer, & Tamara Plush, PECCN Coms Coord.

There's hope in the air in the northern mountains of Vietnam that started five years ago with a dream; a vision really; of how poor farmers from ethnic minority groups wanted their future to be – and how they could partner with development organisations and government to make it a reality.

In 2007, communities in the Thanh Hoa province, with the facilitation of CARE Vietnam staff, TUSTA staff,* and district and commune government members dreamed together as part of a watershed management project.** They drew pictures and shared their visions for the future. 'In the visioning workshop, the facilitator asked participants to close their eyes and imagine their village, their house, their families in 15-20 years. He let the participants dream freely and told them not to worry about time, resources, constraints – just dream,' said Pham Kim Tan from TUSTA, a CARE partner.

In an area where strategic decisions have historically taken a more top-down approach, envisioning the future as the starting point of socio-economic development plans was an out-of-the-ordinary approach, but the process soon led to deep discussions and tangible action. 'I was surprised at how differently people in my area pictured the future and their dreams,' said participant Nguyen Dinh Hinh from Trung Thanh village. 'However, we basically wanted the same things: clean water, irrigation dam, more wildlife and forest. Now we understood each other and could start shaping a future together.'

Although the focus was on looking ahead, everyone knew that the development plans would only work if they built on the skills community members had passed down from generation to generation. So the community plans included such ideas as improving traditional bee keeping practices to increase income and more sustainable use of forest and agriculture land through new farming and agro-forestry techniques. The plans also had

to take new realities into account, such as a changing climate with more extreme cold and heat, longer droughts and irregular rain fall patterns.

The latest buzz around bee keeping

Truong Thi Thoi is a Muong woman living in the Giau Ca Village, Ba Thuoc District, one of the Northern mountainous areas of Vietnam. Thoi takes charge and makes decisions in her household because her husband is away working in the city. He sends back \$100 a month during a good season, but often does not make enough money to support all the family needs. In the past, Thoi engaged in sugar cane and cassava farming to supplement what her husband makes. However – as farming is become increasingly difficult due to a changing climate – she decided to keep bees as an additional income generating activity. 'The rainfall season is beginning later than usual,' Thoi said. "It has become more intense and, at the same time, the frequency of drought occurrence has also increased.'

The traditional way to keep bees was to raise them in a hollow tree trunk, but bee keepers found that this practice needed to change to reflect how the forest was changing. As climate change and other factors altered agriculture production and weather patterns, it was difficult for the bees to find food so many died or produced little honey. Others died too from more extreme heat and cold. The practice of keeping bees in tree trunks also added to the growing deforestation problem in the area. In the visioning exercises, an idea had been raised to keep bees in portable boxes so they could adapt better to the new environment, so community members worked with CARE, partners and the government to give it a try.

Bui Thi Chien and Quach Van Thang, a Muong ethnic couple in Ri Village, switched to keeping bees in wooden rectangular parallelepiped boxes in 2010. With just a few hives of bees in the tree trunks and their farming activities, they used to make about \$100/USD a month



Quach Van Thang and Bui Thi Chien, Ri Village.

to support themselves and their three children. In two years using the boxes, however, they have expanded their bee keeping to more than 25 hives, which help generate \$750-\$1,000/USD yearly in honey production alone.

They said that their success is a combination of hard work and collaboration through the CARE project where they discuss and apply innovative ideas to keep the bees thriving. As an example, to combat changing seasons, they move the bee boxes to where the flowers bloom in the forest; collect extra sugar for food from acacia tree leaves when flowers are sparse; cool the bees with palm leaves or sheets of woven leaves in the rising summer heat; and warm the bees with rice straw and newspaper during cold waves.

While seemingly small efforts, these combined activities have helped increase honey production to benefit the entire family. The more modern way of raising bees has also benefited women in particular as many, like Chien, were afraid of the bees in the tree trunk and relied on their husbands to feed them and harvest the honey. The boxes require less than one hour of care a day. This reduces the worry of stings and leaves more time for both her and her husband to attend to their farm like before to grow sugarcane, maize, taro and cassava for subsistence and extra income. 'Without the project, our life would be much harder,' said Thang.

Ethnic minorities in Vietnam continued...

Poor ethnic Thai farmers envision crop-filled slopes

When Lo Van Thuan from Thanh Hoa Province in Vietnam used to look up at the hill that was part of his family's land, it was barren. 'Since I was a child,' he said. 'I did not see big trees, only wild weeds on the bare hill.' He and his wife Ha Thi Ham from the Thai ethnic minority group – like many poor people living in the remote mountains – depend on the forest, raising animals and rice farming for their livelihood and subsistence. With such barren hills, difficult access to markets, and increasing climate change threats including more droughts, flash floods and reduced water resources, the family was often left with little to eat and sometimes, only cassava.

In 2010 through the implementation process of the project,** the couple participated in a CARE-led visioning process with partner organisations and the government to find better solutions to increase production of their land in a more sustainable way. Their dreams included being able to farm and make a living with better soil – as drought, soil erosion and nutrition washout had left it in state that threatened their ability to produce food.

Through the visioning discussions with farmers, their families, CARE, partners and the government, they decided to design a sloping agricultural land technology (SALT) model that would combine with agro-forestry tree planting according to the contour lines. They took into account local forest species and bio-diversity, and relied on indigenous knowledge to create seasonal calendars and forecasts to determine the best crops for the soil, water quality and micro-climate. They also planted legumes to help add nutrients back into the soil and protect the land from erosion, fertility washout and even landslides; and applied new practice of bio-fertilizer production.

Being encouraged by ideas that enhance their participation, farmers involved in the project said they feel appreciated for using their local knowledge and values. Thuan and three other families who share land have even turned planting into SALT demonstration events where they

mobilized about 40 family members, relatives, neighbors and friends to help. Some men and women work together to dig contour ditches; others fell vegetation; a group of men are in charge of plowing; and a group of women are in charge of seeding, planting and taking care of baby trees.

In the first year, the farmer families cultivated two season crops and produced approximately five tons of pea nuts (5 tons/ha/year), 3.4 tons of soya beans (3.4 tons/ha/year) and 360kg of maize (6 tons/ha/year), which was estimated at a value of 60 million Vietnamese dong (about \$3,000/USD) of pea nuts, 30 million Vietnamese dong of soya beans (about \$1,500/USD) and two million Vietnamese dong of maize (about \$100).

Thuan is hopeful about the changes he sees on the once-barren hillside; and now has a strong vision for his future. 'We see the significant difference in comparison with other farmers who is not participating,' he said. 'Our contour lines keep the soil from erosion, rain water are kept for trees, legumes very well and the *Ghine* grasses planted at the contour lines can be fed to our cows and buffaloes. We earn more money and think this will be our sustainable source of foods for income generation.'

A vision realized for a sustainable future

Planning for sustainable development is complex in a changing environment. However, community members of Thanh Hoa province, CARE, partners and government who participated in building the socio-economic strategies through the visioning approach have seen that such plans can work when they are acceptable, feasible and sustainable economically, socially and environmentally – and when people work together towards a shared vision. When approached collectively, and built on traditional knowledge and skills, they know that dreams for a sustainable future can become a reality.

With such success, the visioning



Sloping Agricultural Land Technology model in Lung Liem Commune.

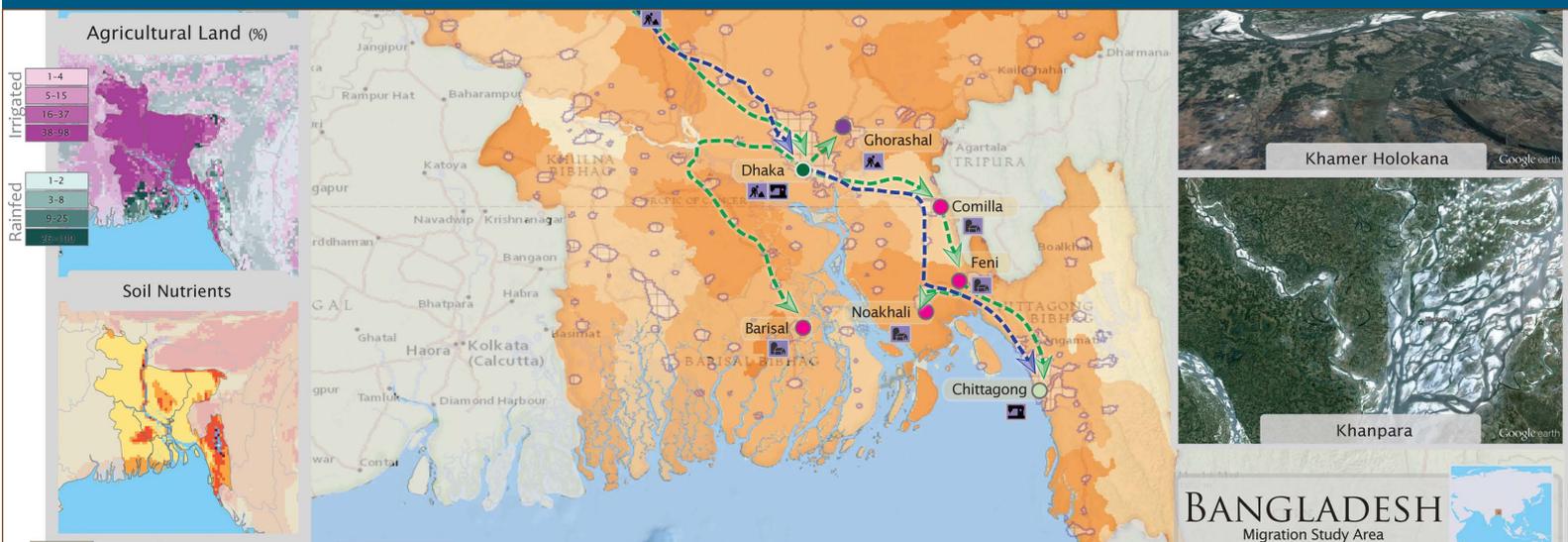
approach – which was initially piloted in six communes – is growing. After the pilot, it was replicated in the remaining 16 communes and one district town through the facilitation of district partners and related government agencies. The visioning plans are now being integrated with government planning processes in developing new rural development activities, and as a basis for government plans (including 30A programs***) that specifically focus on poverty reduction in Vietnam; with a special focus on ethnic minority groups. This not only allows and promotes a more effective and participatory bottom-up processes; it also enables allocation of government budget to support the plans – creating a better environment to turn dreams into action.

- Watch the Project Video 'Ethnic Minorities Tackle a Changing Climate': www.youtube.com/watch?v=ok4k91HR7-8&list=UUUKUQ7Cu1pF_0jHtUfn4CcsQ&index=2&feature=plcp.
- Read more about CARE Vietnam's Visioning Approach in action: www.care-climatechange.org/files/CARE_docs/CARE_VN_Visioning_Document.pdf

*Thanh Hoa Union of Science Technology Association (TUSTA)

**Participatory Watershed Management Project (PWM) of CARE in Vietnam

***Program 30A: 'Supporting sustainably and rapidly poverty reduction for 62 poorest districts national wide program' is a socio-development program of Vietnam Government that aims to create rapid changes in the lives of poor people and ethnic minorities in the 62 districts where the poverty rate is high (over 50%). On 27 December 2008, Vietnam Government issued a Resolution number 30a/2008/NQ-CP to start this program.



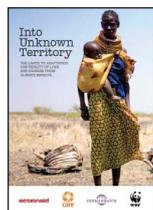
Bangladesh map designed by CIESIN as part of the Where the Rain Falls study on rain fall patterns, food security and human mobility.

CARE & Climate Change: New Publications



One Planet – One Future
www.careclimatechange.org/publications

This report highlights how sustainable development solutions coming out of Rio+20 must fully address equity and resilience, gender equality, food security and climate change.



Into Unknown Territory
www.careclimatechange.org/publications
 This paper contextualises issues around loss and damage.



A Participatory Scenario Planning approach
www.careclimatechange.org/publications/adaptation
 This brief describes the PSP process; its outcomes and benefits.



PMERL Manual
www.careclimatechange.org/tools
 This manual supports a methodology that can help measure, monitor and evaluate changes in local adaptive capacity within vulnerable communities for better decision-making on Community-based Adaptation (CBA).



Counting on Uncertainty
www.careclimatechange.org/publications/adaptation
 On behalf of CARE's Adaptation Learning Programme for Africa (ALP), this new policy brief and study by the New Economics Foundation (nef) shows that support to community-based adaptation (CBA)—where vulnerable communities make informed development and risk management decisions and actions in response to climate change impacts—is cost effective.



WtRF video & CIESIN maps
www.wheretherainfalls.org
 Watch a video on the impacts of rain fall in Same District, Tanzania, and view maps produced by CIESIN at Columbia University that put Where the Rain Falls research results on migration in the context of local agro-ecosystems, natural resources, and rainfall variability.



Forests for All: A question of rights and equity
<http://www.careclimatechange.org/videos/forests-dk>
 The key to saving the world's forests is empowering local communities with the right to manage their forests and the knowledge to preserve them. Learn more in this CARE Denmark report and video.

New PECCN staff: Climate Change Communications Coordinator



Jo Barrett will be stepping into the role of PECCN's Climate Change Communications Coordinator Sept. 17.

She comes to CARE with extensive experience working as a writer and editor, as well as in website production, media relations, social media,

publications and marketing. She has worked for such organisations at RedR UK, Socialist International, Progressio, the Independent, The New Statesman and the Coalition for the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

With a background living and working in developing countries, she says she has seen first-hand how the rapidly changing climate is impacting people's liveli-

hoods, cultures and traditions. Jo further explains that she is excited to join CARE as she is committed to and passionate about environmental sustainability, global development and ensuring a fairer deal for the world's most vulnerable people. She will be based in London, UK.

Jo can be contacted at:
jbarrett@careclimatechange.org