GENDER RESPONSIVE ALTERNATIVES TO CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Tangulbei women network participants in a Focused Group Discussion.

Advancing gender equality in climate-change and disaster planning and response

Project overview:

Like many countries in Africa, Kenya is vulnerable to the increasingly severe impacts of climate change. Over the last two rainy seasons, when the rain has failed to come, it has left an estimated three million Kenyans at risk of malnutrition, hunger and starvation, and has decimated agricultural livelihood systems. In Tangulbei, a settlement in Kenya's Rift Valley, the effects of this climate crisis have been particularly harsh. Communities in Tangulbei are mainly pastoralist and depend of livestock and livestock products for their income and livelihoods.

As is often the case with crises, the most affected by the drought in Tangulbei are women, the elderly and children. Pre-existing structural and gender inequalities also mean that women lack access to, and control over, important resources and entitlements, which further undermines their ability to cope with the impacts of climate crisis.

Key project activities and outputs:

ActionAid is supporting women-led partner institutions in Tangulbei to build the capacity of local women in preparing for and responding to climate change and drought, through:

- Developing an action plan detailing specific actions to address climate change and its impacts to Baringo County;
- Partnershing with the National Drought Management Authority, to support women to shape policy spaces at the county level on climate change;
- Working alongside Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Gender to influence discourse regarding the effects of climate change;
- Resourcing women-led advocacy and tracking of county governments' investment in disaster preparedness, protection and resilience building.

Project duration:

July 2017 - June 2019

Supported by:

The Australian Aid Program under the ANCP Gender Action Platform and ActionAid Australia's Arise Fund

In partnership with:

ActionAid Kenya

Location:

Tangulbei, Kenya

Project objectives:

- Women have increased capacity to prepare for and respond to genderrelated risks of climate change;
- Women take collective action to influence policy, planning and decision-making on climate change;
- Establish a gender-responsive framework to strengthen women's voices and leadership.

Impact:

In Tangulbei, ActionAid is working with women in communities to build their influence and leadership in response to climate crisis and, in doing so, transform the current situation of food insecurity into an opportunity to create greater gender equality in the longterm.

