

Addressing Climate Change

Oxfam Australia's Plan of Action

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About this document

This document outlines the approach Oxfam Australia will take to address climate change, how this will be rolled out and who will be involved. It also provides guidance to staff and partners on the design of climate change initiatives at Oxfam Australia.

After reading this document you should:–

Understand Oxfam’s position on climate change and why it is a priority for the organisation.

- 1. Understand our approach and how we will work on climate change at the country, Australian and global level, and how these are linked.**
- 2. Know how we will roll out and resource our climate change work.**
- 3. Know how to use the climate change program framework to design and develop climate change initiatives.**

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges of our time. It is a highly complex problem that is affecting the poor first and foremost. Many of the communities Oxfam works with are already feeling the impacts of climate change; food production is reducing, the number and ferocity of weather-related disasters is increasing and access to clean water is increasingly difficult for millions of people. These trends are consistent with climate science predictions.

Addressing climate change has been identified as an organisational priority for Oxfam International and Oxfam Australia. While our work on climate change is already underway, particularly through our advocacy and campaigns, we need to further develop our overall response as an organisation. This includes addressing the underlying causes of climate change, its consequences and ensuring effective policies and structures are established that support vulnerable communities.

This climate change plan has been developed to further our climate change work. It is a key planning tool for Oxfam Australia’s staff and partners. It guides the development of our climate change programming,¹ describing how Oxfam Australia will work on climate change across the organisation, the focus of our programs, and how we will roll them out. This includes a climate change program framework to help design appropriate interventions.

The document is set out in five sections:–

Section 1: provides a brief background on the issue, why Oxfam is working on climate change and our organisational policies.

Section 2: describes the principles and approach we will use, including our goals and model of change.

Section 3: describes the ways of working that will underpin this plan.

Section 4: details how we will roll out our climate change work and the resources we need.

Section 5: contains a detailed climate change framework, the key tool to help design our climate change activities at a country, Australian and global level.

This document is not intended to be a guide on climate change. For more information on our climate change work, references, resources and tools, go to the Oxfam Australia intranet at <http://intranet.oxfam.org.au/our-work/theme/climate-change>, or email climate@oxfam.org.au

This document has been produced by the Program Development Unit in conjunction with staff from our field and national offices. Many thanks to all of those who contributed.

¹ The term ‘program’ in this document includes community programming, humanitarian response, advocacy and campaigns.

SECTION 1 – Introduction

This section includes some key concepts and issues related to climate change and development, describes Oxfam's position and why climate change is an organisational priority.

CLIMATE CHANGE IS A DEVELOPMENT ISSUE

Climate change is happening and is already affecting women, men and children around the globe. It is undermining livelihoods and water supplies through gradual changes in temperature and rainfall patterns, inundating low-lying coastal areas with salt water and contributing to the increasing number and ferocity of extreme weather events such as cyclones, floods and droughts. The poorest communities in developing countries are being hardest hit because they are:–

- more dependent on climate-sensitive ecosystems and natural resources such as agriculture and fisheries.
- more likely to live in areas that have greater exposure to climate hazards, such as urban slums and flood plains.
- less able to respond to climate change because of limited human, financial and institutional capacity.²

Even if the growth in greenhouse gas emissions had stopped ten years ago, we would still see some increase in global temperatures because of the emissions already in the atmosphere³. This means that there are some unavoidable impacts of climate change already locked into our global atmospheric system. For those most vulnerable to, and already suffering the effects of climate change, the need to adapt is urgent. This will require political will, financial support from wealthy countries and the right policies and legal mechanisms put in place.

But as global greenhouse gas emissions are continuing to rise, temperatures will continue to increase and are predicted to cause significant climate shifts. Scenarios anticipated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and others include:–

- By 2015, over 375 million people per year are likely to be affected by climate-related disasters. This is over 50% more than were affected in an average year during the decade from 1998 – 2007.⁴
- By 2020, between 75 and 250 million people in Africa will face increased water stress.
- By 2050, there will be a 30% decline in cereal production in South Asia, and a reduction of up to 50% in rain-fed agriculture in many African countries.
- By 2050, many small islands in the Pacific will not have enough water to meet communities needs during low-rainfall periods⁵.

To minimise these impacts, greenhouse gas emissions need to be drastically reduced. This will require the countries emitting the most to take responsibility in a way that is equitable and protects the rights of the vulnerable. Measures must be put in place to reduce emissions in wealthy countries and to enable developing countries to pursue low-carbon development. Mechanisms such as emerging carbon markets, aimed to reduce carbon emissions, must ensure they do not undermine land rights, limit access to natural resources or see benefits flow away from those who most need them.

Climate change is already impacting on many people's ability to produce food and access water. If left unchecked or not addressed in a fair and equitable way, climate change will further increase poverty and undermine development gains, hampering efforts to reach the Millennium Development Goals. However, because it demands massive investment and change in our societies, climate change could be an opportunity to advance the struggle against poverty and suffering. If it can be done in a way that supports rather than undermines the struggle against poverty, overcoming climate change could provide enormous benefits and opportunities to poor people.

2. UNDP (2007) Human Development Report 2007/2008 – Fighting Climate Change: Human Solidarity in a Divided World, Pan Macmillan: New York.

3. IPCC (2007) Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report, IPCC, Geneva. Available at <http://www.ipcc.ch>

4. Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (2009) EM-DAT (Emergency Events Database) Global natural disaster occurrence and impact: 1980–2007, sourced at <http://www.emdat.be/>.

5. Ibid.

GENDERED IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Due to differing roles, access to resources, responsibilities and knowledge base, women, men and children are affected by climate change differently. Women and girls in poor countries are amongst the most vulnerable, since they are the principal producers of food crops. They have to work harder to produce food during drought and increasingly erratic rainfall, they have to travel further to collect water and energy for their homes and they have fewer opportunities to generate an income⁶. In urban areas, women and girls are also disproportionately impacted by increasing food prices and shortages, which are often triggered by climate-related events.

A lack of access to early warning information and systems, as well as more restrictions on mobility, increases women's vulnerability to disasters such as cyclones and flooding — which are set to increase. Their vulnerability is further compounded by their regular exclusion from decision-making and leadership roles.

However, women in developing countries also represent an immense source of potential in tackling climate change. As pivotal managers of natural and environmental resources and key implementers of development, women have the experience and knowledge to build the resilience of their communities.⁷ Any efforts to reduce the impact of climate change must include women as key agents of change.

OXFAM'S POSITION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

*“The world's climate is changing as a consequence of human activity. The global impacts of, and responsibilities for, climate change are unequally shared. The tragic irony is that those with the least responsibility for climate change stand to suffer most from current and future consequences. Without intervention, climate change is likely to exacerbate existing global inequalities”.*⁸

6. UNDP (2009) Resource Guide on Gender and Climate Change, United Nations Development Programme.

7. ISDR (2008) Gender Perspectives – Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into Climate Change Adaptation, UN International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction.

8. Oxfam International (2009) Climate Change Policy Compendium (internal document).

Oxfam supports the science that shows climate change is the result of human activity through releasing greenhouse gases. This has an unequal impact on the poor and vulnerable around the globe.

In line with our rights-based approach, Oxfam argues that without urgent resolutions to reduce current greenhouse gas emissions, rich countries are effectively violating the rights of the poor. They will be locked into a climate which will undermine their rights to life, security, food, water, health, shelter and culture⁹.

As the prime emitters of greenhouse gas emissions, Oxfam believes that rich countries are obliged to drastically reduce their current emissions to avoid dangerous climate change. They must also compensate developing countries so they can respond and adapt to unavoidable climate change impacts. This may be done through financing, capacity building and technology transfer, and support to pursue low-carbon development.

As a development agency, we cannot fail to act while the rights and livelihoods of poor and vulnerable people are being eroded. We must act to reduce the impacts of climate change and uphold the rights of poor and vulnerable communities.

TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE – THE TERMINOLOGY

In climate change terminology there are two broad responses to climate change, both critical for reducing the impact of climate change on poor and vulnerable people.

Mitigation – Climate change mitigation addresses the cause of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions (particularly carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide) in the atmosphere. Most greenhouse gas emissions are a result of burning fossil fuels for energy, transport and industrial processes, burning or cutting forests, and agriculture.¹⁰

Climate change mitigation requires systematic change by governments and the private sector at multiple levels.

9. Oxfam International (2008) Oxfam Briefing Paper – Climate Wrongs and Human Rights – Putting People at the Heart of Climate Change Policy.

10. IPCC (2007) Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report, IPCC, Geneva. Available at <http://www.ipcc.ch>.

It needs a global agreement to legally bind countries to greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. National and local laws and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (such as energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable transportation, reduced forest loss) must be put in place. Public awareness and involvement is critical in order to pressure key stakeholders to take action. Individuals, households and businesses, particularly in wealthy countries, need to minimise their own greenhouse gas emissions.

The development of energy sources that emit low (or no) greenhouse gases, such as solar or wind power or fuel-efficient stoves, are important in reducing climate change. “Low-carbon development” also has the potential to improve outcomes without contributing to climate change or locking communities into a dependence on greenhouse-gas-emitting fuels.

Adaptation – Climate change is already having an impact on women and men living in poverty, with this trend set to continue as greenhouse gas emission continue to rise. Climate change adaptation refers to the actions that people, governments and institutions make in anticipation of, or in response to, these unavoidable impacts of climate change. This can include adapting *what is done* and/or the way that it's done. For example, this may include preparing for increasingly intense storms or better managing water sources in a drying climate.

Climate change is very location-specific, with impacts varying according to time and place. Similarly, communities — and specific members of those communities — will have differing vulnerabilities that make them more or less susceptible. As such, specific adaptation responses based on local analysis are critical.

Adaptation responses are also necessary on various levels — communities and households are not the only ones who need to develop strategies. Governments, from the national to local level, need to build their adaptive capacity and ensure they have the policies and resources in place to cope with change. This is particularly relevant for service providers and authorities, who need to ensure they can cope with both on-going demands and the responses required to

adapt. For example, water authorities need to ensure their models factor in changes in rainfall and water availability, and upgrade infrastructure and policies as required. Women and men, too, need to be engaged in broader adaptation debates to ensure their needs are addressed. However, adaptation cannot be viewed as something separate to broad development. The underlying causes of poverty and inequity still need to be addressed, using the additional analysis of climate change and disaster risk to ensure it is sustainable. For example, access to natural resources by women is already inequitable, and this may be exacerbated as resources are further degraded. Understanding both climate risks and power relations will help identify appropriate interventions that are sustainable and equitable.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation are closely linked, as both focus on reducing people's vulnerability to hazards. This is done in two ways: firstly, by building on their capacities and, secondly, improving their ability to anticipate, cope with and recover from the impact of such events. By linking these areas, the key risks and impacts can be identified, helping communities, decide how best to respond to climate change.

Specific climate-related hazards include floods, droughts and intense storms. This differs to DRR, which also applies to non climate-related hazards such as the geological (e.g. earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanos), the technological (e.g. industrial accidents, chemical spills) and conflict (although conflict may be caused or exacerbated by increased competition for climate sensitive resources).

However, climate change also relates to longer-term changes that will impact communities over time. These include rising temperatures, changing seasonal patterns, unpredictable rainfall patterns and rising sea levels. Climate change is also affecting the nature of climate-related hazards, altering their frequency or ferocity. While we are already seeing some of these impacts, many will become more extreme as global temperatures increase.

Although there are differences, the links between DRR and climate change are important. Existing DRR approaches and



tools can help communities identify and address a broad range of hazards, climate change included. For example, participatory vulnerability and capacity assessments — one of DRR's key analysis tools — can identify both climate and non-climate-related risks, impacts and hazards. With this knowledge, communities can then plan for and reduce the risks climate change poses to their livelihoods.

By linking DRR and climate change, the evolution of natural disasters can also be analysed. This information can then be used to design our programs, particularly disaster preparedness and response. For example, if we know that climate change is likely to increase the frequency of major droughts (for example, a 'once-in-30-years drought' happening every decade), we can take this into account when planning water supply systems. While precise predictions are often unavailable, a "no regrets" approach can be taken by basing program decisions on the most severe predictions.

The Humanitarian Support Unit will play a key role in integrating climate change and DRR at Oxfam Australia.

SECTION 2 – Our goal

This section outlines our goals and approach to addressing climate change.

OUR GOAL

Reduced vulnerability to, and mitigation of, climate change impacts, resulting in benefits for poor and vulnerable communities.

Our Objectives

1. **Women, men and children in developing countries have increased resilience to climate change shocks and impacts, and sustainable access to food, water and livelihoods.**
2. **Women, men, children and civil society, in Australia and globally, have an increased awareness of climate change. They hold governments and stakeholders to account to deliver strong climate change outcomes for developing countries.**
3. **Legal, policy¹¹ and finance measures, at all levels, enable outcomes that reduce the impact of climate change. They also support the rights of the most vulnerable women, men and children in an equitable way.**

Climate change is a complex issue that needs to be tackled in multiple ways. We will ensure our work upholds the rights of poor and vulnerable women, men, children and their communities. This will happen through:

- our work with communities at the grassroots and national levels;
- community mobilisation and advocacy in Australia and
- our contribution to global change as a member of the Oxfam International confederation.

WHAT WE WILL DELIVER

To achieve our objectives, in five years we will have:–

- Gender-sensitive climate change programs in four focal countries. These will
 - increase resilience to climate change impacts at the community level,
 - support community mobilisation and
 - advocate for effective national and global climate change outcomes.

This may be delivered through the direct work of Oxfam

Australia, through partners or other Oxfam affiliates.

- Campaigns that inform communities in Australia and focal countries, and support their engagement in climate change debates and decision-making processes. These will have a particular focus on engaging women.
- Cohesive advocacy and campaigns in Australia that influence
 - domestic policy regarding climate change and international development,
 - Australia's positioning in relation to international climate change and
 - contribute to the work of Oxfam International.
- Funding and other resources to enable the above, in particular for country, in-Australia and global programming, technical support and staffing.
- Research undertaken on topics related to the impacts and community response to climate change. The research will include disaster risk reduction approaches, appropriate technology, climate change governance and legal mechanisms or other areas that will help us meet our objectives.

Investment in our climate change work will grow over this five-year period. It will be implemented through a mix of direct programming, working through partners or through other Oxfam affiliates. Over time, what we learn from our work will allow us to increase the scale of our targeted, country programs. We will also be able to link our work to other sections of the organisation — as well as the Oxfam confederation — and deliver on our goal more effectively.

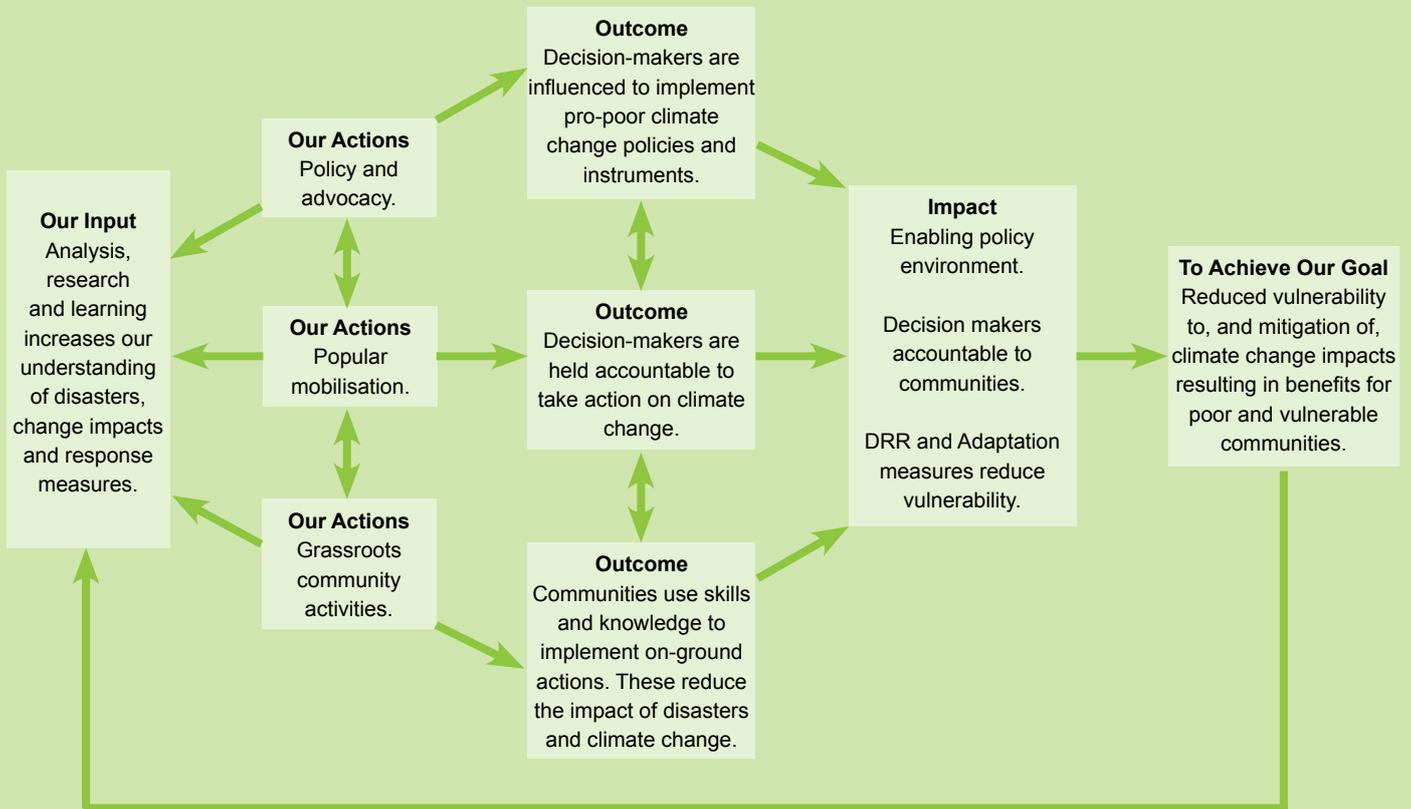
This plan links to Oxfam Australia's Environmental Sustainability Plan, which includes the goal of Oxfam Australia becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2015.

OUR MODEL OF CHANGE

This diagram shows the Model of Change for our climate change work. It illustrates how we expect our input and activity to help us achieve our goal. It assumes that climate change must be tackled from multiple levels through changing policies, holding decision-makers to account, and implementing grass roots activities. None of these will create the change we need on their own. The boxes at the bottom outline the areas we will work on at the country, Australian and global levels.

11. Policies can include non-legislated mechanisms and procedures of government and private sector agencies aimed at implementing legal or financial frameworks.

Working as Oxfam, with partners, alliances and communities, while addressing gender at each step.



Our Country Level Activities

- Undertake analysis and assessments
- Deliver programs to increase community resilience through DRR, livelihoods and water management
- Increase awareness and political engagement of communities and civil society
- Learn from and share our experience through networks
- Build capacity of both ourselves and others
- Influence government policy and practice
- Influence regional and global agreements

Our in Australia Activities

- Increase public awareness of climate change in developing countries
- Continue to build an informed constituency who will act on climate change and development
- Influence Australian government policy, practice and funding
- Link with Australian and international organisations on climate change and development issues
- Coordinate technical support, global analysis and learning
- Support research and innovation

Our Global Activities

- Contribute to research and policy development as part of Oxfam International
- Influence and analyse international negotiations and legal agreements
- Support global learning forums
- Coordinate with Oxfam International and other organisations on global popular mobilisation

SECTION 3 – Ways of working

This section describes the ways we plan to act on climate change.

A FRAMEWORK APPROACH

Oxfam Australia will use a framework to define the parameters and shape of our climate change work. The framework details the necessary program components to achieve our goal, and how these interlink. It is designed as a tool to guide the broader planning of our climate change work across the country, Australian and global levels, and to design specific program initiatives.

We use a structured approach in recognition of the extraordinary reach and impact of climate change. It is therefore important to focus on our strengths and Oxfam's mandate to support the rights of poor and vulnerable communities. While this framework is focused, it also remains flexible enough to meet local needs in context.

Our climate change work sits broadly within our economic justice change goal. It also links to our other change goals of:

- essential services
- rights in crisis
- gender justice and
- active citizenship.

The framework also links to our emerging "change goal hubs". The detailed programming framework is provided in Section 5.

SUPPORTING THE MOST VULNERABLE

Our work will focus on upholding the rights and reducing the impact of climate change and disasters on those most vulnerable to them. Particular attention will be paid to women, children, people with disabilities and people living in poverty, making their needs and rights our priority.

WORKING AT MULTIPLE LEVELS

The drivers and impacts of climate change exist on many scales and levels. We therefore need an approach that can tackle climate changes in a range of ways and in a range of locations.

As a global organisation, our distinct strength is our ability to tackle poverty and inequity from the grassroots to the global level. We will use this reach to create change in developing countries, in Australia and globally, building on our existing programs and relationships, and linking this work together.

Our climate change framework is embedded in Oxfam's "one-program" model. We achieve our goal thanks to expertise in grassroots programming, humanitarian response, research, policy development and advocacy, and community engagement and active citizenship. This allows us to combine our work in different ways, in different settings, to bring about the changes we need.

PROGRAMMING FOCUS

Adapt or Mitigate?

Our community programs will primarily focus on adaptation and disaster risk reduction. Our priority is to ensure climate change does not increase poverty and suffering, and communities can improve their standard of living. Our experience in running community programs will help us advocate for support for the most vulnerable. We will push for adequate frameworks, as well as financing for adaptation. Our programs, advocacy and campaigns will also support low-carbon development pathways, incorporating the use of new technology where appropriate.

We will mitigate climate change primarily through our advocacy and popular campaigning. We will push for agreements, structures and systematic change that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions in an equitable way. However, as we build our knowledge we may also engage in on-ground mitigation efforts, such as Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Land Degradation (REDD) projects¹² with an aim to help communities benefit.

Community Programming in Disaster Risk Reduction, Water Management and Sustainable Livelihoods

Access to water, food, natural resources and sustainable livelihoods are closely linked, since they are all dependent on the natural environment and vulnerable to climate

12. Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Land Degradation (REDD) is a carbon trading mechanism that will provide incentives to store carbon in trees, forests, peat and other carbon intensive ecosystems, either through reduced deforestation or planting of trees and other ecosystems. Current deforestation contributes approximately 12-15% of global carbon emissions, about the same as the global transportation sector.

change. They can be affected by both extreme weather events and longer-term changes. To compound this, many vulnerable communities also live in areas affected by degradation and environmental pressure. Livelihoods, natural resource management (NRM) and water management — including Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) — are areas in which Oxfam Australia already has a significant focus and investment.

Because of this, livelihoods (including NRM) and water management are our priority programming areas for climate change.

We base our programs on the scientific and community knowledge of observed and predicted climate changes. From there, we will use DRR to identify risks, impacts, vulnerability and capacity. We will address livelihoods and water management in terms of both disasters and longer-term change. Our work at the community level will focus on addressing these risks, while ensuring that the differing needs of women, men and children are taken into account. Our key adaptation strategy will be improving the management of natural resources and environments, to ensure these can sustain communities in the long-term.

This focus will also link in to the Oxfam International “Food Justice” global campaign. This is a broader program which seeks to uphold the rights of poor women and men in accessing food. It will focus on the rules that govern how land and water are used, and the way climate change is being tackled.

Other priorities will also be considered, if identified by our Joint Country Analysis and Strategy planning, or by communities themselves.

Climate Proofing Community Programs

Our priority is to integrate climate change and DRR into existing or planned livelihood and water management programs. If we do not address climate change in these areas, we are at risk of undermining the benefits of this work or even exposing communities to more risk. This means assessing and analysing climate and disaster risk and opportunities, and adapting our program activities where required. This will:—

- ensure what we are doing is sufficiently resilient to climate change;
- build on our existing capacity in these areas;
- use our resources and funding as efficiently as possible.

Other specific interventions should be considered, where identified by communities or our analysis. This may include a focus on highly vulnerable communities and environments, or climate change hotspots.

Influence Policy and Practice Outcomes

Some critical decisions will be made in the coming years. These will include global, regional and national arrangements — both institutional and governmental — made to deal with climate change. Most of these will have significant implications for developing countries. The first commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol — the current agreement that sets greenhouse gas emission reduction targets — finishes in 2012. A second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol is currently being negotiated. It needs to be complimented by a fair and ambitious agreement that sets binding targets for the countries creating emissions, including for the United States. Such an agreement also needs to see a commitment from emerging economies to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. The issues of adaptation financing and a global approach to REDD are but two other critical areas that need international agreement.

The challenge is to ensure that these agreements are indeed fair, ambitious and binding. They need to keep global warming below 1.5°C of pre-industrial temperatures and support the needs of developing countries and their citizens.

In the countries where we work, we are developing policies and structures to deliver climate change outcomes on the ground. Where these policies are not yet being developed, the need for them is clear. We need to address institutional and governance arrangements, policy mechanisms and practices at all levels. Ensuring they are pro-poor, gendered, fair and transparent will require much more work. Equity principles should apply in all areas. International Financial Institutions (IFIs) such as The World Bank and private companies are also significant players. This is

particularly true in terms of financial flow and carbon-trading mechanisms. Their roles need to be clearly defined and, in many cases, reformed.

Our work needs to influence policies and practices to ensure they adequately respond to climate change in an equitable way. We will need to engage with governments, groupings such as the G20, private companies, inter-governmental organisations, IFIs, other multilateral institutions and key stakeholders. We will do this in collaboration with partners, allies and communities. We will use a combination of research, analysis, monitoring, policy development, advocacy and popular campaigning. We will draw lessons from our programming experience on the ground. Our work will be at the country, in-Australia and global levels.

Hold Governments, Stakeholders and Ourselves to Account

We need to continue holding governments and other actors to account. They need to deliver on their climate change commitments and responsibilities, at a global, national and local level. This may include research, analysis, monitoring, policy development and advocacy. It is critical to include popular campaigns so communities can participate in these processes.

We also need to hold ourselves accountable to communities and others who we work with. We must meet our obligations of transparency, participation, evaluation and complaint-and-response mechanisms, as detailed in our accountability framework.

Support Active Communities

Underpinning this will be our work with partners, allies, civil society and communities. We will enable them to hold duty-bearers to account and have a say in shaping policy and practice. This is critical if communities' needs and aspirations are to be reflected in policy and practice. Part of this will involve raising awareness, but we also need to provide tools and resources. Communities need to be able to speak for themselves on the effects of climate change. They need to be able to articulate themselves to governments and in international fora. A particular focus will be working with women and women's organisations so they can engage in these processes.

When bringing about changes to policy and practice, it is also important that decision-makers at all levels recognise broad-based community support. Without such demonstrated support, it can be more difficult to create change. We will raise awareness of these issues both in Australia and through our country programs. We will also work with civil society and communities to engage in debates and decision-making processes, ensuring they have their opinions heard.

STRONG ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH

Climate change risk and impacts are highly variable, as are the governmental and institutional mechanisms to address it, be they existing or emerging. Our program development must be based on strong contextual analysis. The data should identify local climatic and disaster trends, impacts on communities, vulnerabilities and risks, political environments and structures aimed at addressing climate change and disaster risk.

Focal countries, in particular, will need to undertake or draw on existing analysis. They will need to utilise community knowledge and scientific data that identifies local climate change and disaster risks and impacts. Accurate power analysis and mapping will need to inform our advocacy and campaign work. It will be important that analyses undertaken at global, national and local levels are shared — only then can we coordinate our work across the organisation.

Our analysis will be supported by our research capacity, including our partnership with Monash University. Climate change is one of this partnership's research priorities, and will focus on how it impacts vulnerable communities. Research priorities across the organisation will be identified through input from our staff and partners. It may include topics such as adaptation measures, the impact of international carbon trading on communities, or effective governance mechanisms and institutional arrangements.

CAPTURE THE LESSONS AND INCREASE IMPACT

Climate change is an important developmental and political issue, and a relatively new area in Oxfam Australia's work. It is similarly new to the development sector more broadly. As a result, the need to capture the lessons from our work



is pressing. It is vital that we learn from our experience so we can continually improve our practice, influence others and be held accountable for what we do. This includes learning from our work as Oxfam Australia and Oxfam International, our work with our partners and allies, governments and other stakeholders. Strong documentation and dissemination of these lessons will also help us be transparent and accountable.

A global learning strategy will be developed. This will foster learning both within and between our country programs, our Australia-based work, Oxfam globally and key external stakeholders. See “Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning” in Section 4 for more detail.

STRENGTHEN CAPACITY

To deliver on this plan, we will need to build our own capacity across the organisation. Adequate planning — particularly in our focal countries — will identify what we need and how to achieve it. This may include building the technical skills of staff and partners, improving program design, improving development skills, or improving the ability to secure and manage resources. We will need to focus on how to better integrate DRR and climate change, and how this is incorporated into our sectoral programs.

It will also be imperative to strengthen the capacity of community members, government and non-government agencies, networks and social movements. Only then will we be able to create and sustain strong climate change action, policy and practice.

SECTION 4 – Implementing our work

FOCAL COUNTRY APPROACH

To implement this plan, we will develop climate change programs in up to four key countries, selected through an open process using clear criteria. One key criterion will be the expectation that climate change is prioritised in the Oxfam Joint Country Analysis and Strategy (JCAS) for that country. Focal countries may include those where Oxfam Australia is an implementing affiliate, is part of the Country Leadership Team, has an on-going funding relationship, or is conducting our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders People’s Program. This will complement both our Australian and global work.

Focal countries will be responsible for developing programming that is aligned with our climate change framework and the country JCAS. Programming is expected to start in key strategic areas (depending on local capacity and resources) and then build up over the life of the plan.

To support their work, focal countries will have to receive support from our Program Development Unit, Humanitarian Support Unit, Program Policy and Outreach Section as well as others (as required). This support may include planning and strategy development, capacity building, technical advice, program design/planning, funding support or other areas identified and agreed to by country teams. The Program Development Unit will also link support and learning between country programs. The Unit will use existing information technology systems as a key resource. See Annex A for more detail on supporting focal countries and the role they play.

“Non-focal” countries are encouraged to develop similar programs where climate change has been identified as a JCAS priority. These countries will still have access to some targeted support.

TIMELINE

This is a five-year plan (2010 – 2015),¹³ a period that allows time to build the necessary knowledge, experience and resources to deliver on our objectives. While capacity and resourcing varies across the organisation, it is anticipated that our initial work will focus on the following areas:–

- continuing current advocacy and campaigning;
- building our analysis, capacity and strategic planning;
- securing resourcing; and
- integrating climate change and DRR into existing programs.

What we learn from this work will see us scale-up to deliver targeted country programs in our focal countries. It will also enable us to effectively link up our work across the organisation.

The table below provides an overall indicative timeline of our work. The solid green colour represents where that work will be more intensive, while the grey shaded areas indicate where work might be more limited.

Activity	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
In-Australia and global campaigning	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey
Monitoring, learning and program review	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Analysis and research	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Program identification and design	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Capacity planning and development	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey
Funding and resourcing	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey
Program implementation	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Program scale-up	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green
Evaluation and review	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Green

RESOURCES AND FUNDING

Up to and including 2015, the total indicative investment needed across the organisation is \$14.6 million AUD. The allocation of this investment is as follows:–

13. While Oxfam Australia’s current Strategic Plan ends in 2013, given the high priority of climate change to the organisation it is assumed that our investment in this area will continue into the next strategic plan period.

Organisational Technical Advice, Capacity Building and Learning	\$ 930,000
Campaign and Advocacy Programming and Support	\$ 3,120,000
Research	\$ 600,000
Focal Country Programming	\$ 8,500,000
Non-Focal Country Programming	\$ 1,450,000

This funding will come from a mix of supporter funds and institutional donors. We will capitalise on current income streams, identify new institutional sources and investigate new marketing products.

The Program Development Unit will compile and disseminate donor and funding information that identifies opportunities. They will also build relationships with potential global donors and work with Marketing to identify opportunities for Australian community support. Relevant units will be responsible for raising and managing their required resources. In order to identify local funding opportunities for Oxfam and our partners, it will be critical for country teams to undertake in-country donor mapping and relationship building.

In order to secure funds, it will also be imperative to develop and package program proposals for different donors. This will be the responsibility of the country programs and relevant units, with support and technical input from the Program Development Unit and others as required.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

Oxfam Australia uses monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment to learn from our work, adapt our programs and improve our effectiveness. It also increases our accountability and influences the policies and practice of others. These principles underpin our climate change plan. Over the life of this plan, we will use a range of measures to assess and learn from our work. These measures include:–

Learning strategy – This will be overseen by the Program Development Unit, in collaboration with key stakeholders. They will coordinate our learning across the organisation, over the life of this plan. It will allow us to continually build our knowledge, learn from our experience, improve our

work and influence others. The learning strategy will help us identify:–

- areas in which we wish to build our capacity;
- how we will capture information, structures and mechanisms for storing and disseminating what we learn; and
- opportunities for cross-organisational learning.

It will also build on existing mechanisms, and explore innovative ways to document and share our work through new media.

The learning strategy will build on formal monitoring and evaluation, research and other formal and informal learning opportunities. We will ensure these are available to, and utilised by, staff from across the organisation.

Program monitoring and evaluations – Climate change initiatives — including specific programs or areas of work — will have their own monitoring, evaluation and learning components, in line with Oxfam standards. This may include regular monitoring, reflection and end-of-project evaluation, ensuring this information feeds back into our work. Peer reviews, within and across our programs, will be encouraged. These will be developed and managed by the relevant program managers. Outcomes and lessons learnt will contribute to the overarching learning mechanisms.

Mid-term review – Given the complexity of climate change and external contexts, we will take time at through this plan to reflect and review our work as a whole. We will assess what we have achieved and learnt, how the context has changed and how we are working as an organisation. We will re-check the priorities outlined in this plan and amend them as required. This will be coordinated by the Program Development Unit in collaboration with key stakeholders.

Final evaluation – An evaluation of our overall work after five years will be critical for our learning and the future direction of our work. It is expected to include an analysis of key achievements, successes, challenges and the impact of our work as a whole. This will provide an assessment of how we have linked our goals together as an organisation as well as within Oxfam International. Key lessons learnt will be included, as will recommendations for future work and focus.

SECTION 5 – The framework

WHAT IS IT?

The framework is our primary tool for planning, designing and developing our climate change program across the organisation. It describes the outcomes needed to achieve our goals and objectives, how to achieve these outcomes and how the components fit together.

These separate components are like building blocks for work at different levels, timescales and locations. While they can be developed separately, together they form our overall programming approach. The framework can therefore be used to guide overall planning of climate change initiatives or to design specific interventions.

The framework will also be used as a tool to monitor and evaluate our progress against this plan.

WHAT'S IN THE FRAMEWORK?

The framework is set out in three tables that describe Country Level Programming, In-Australia Programming and Global Work. Each of these include:

- **Program outcomes** – these describe each of the framework components and what they aim to achieve. They are the priority areas of Oxfam Australia's climate change work.
- **Indicative Activities** – examples of activities that could achieve the program outcomes.
- **Rationale** – the reason for focusing on these areas.

While each component will lead to significant outcomes on their own, it is only when implemented as a whole that they can address the complex issues of climate change comprehensively. We are therefore aiming to deliver on all the components of the framework, although this may be done over different time scales, in different locations and by different parts of the organisation.

HOW TO USE IT

For planning purposes, the framework can be used to make decisions on what areas to focus on, how the necessary components will be phased in, what capacity and resourcing is needed, and who might be involved.

On a country level, planning should identify how to address the framework components, who will do so and what the timeline will be.

The In-Australia and Global level frameworks should be used to coordinate annual operational planning across the head office operations. It should articulate how the program outcomes will be met and by whom. However, plans may change over time as programs develop and as external environments change.

In terms of developing specific programs, the framework identifies the focus of interventions, how this might be done and who will be involved. This should be done in conjunction with the Oxfam program management guidelines.

It is not expected that all aspects of the framework will be implemented by Oxfam Australia. We may support this work through partnerships, alliances or with other Oxfam affiliates. Nor will all components necessarily be undertaken at the same time — we need to ensure we have the capacity and resources to do the work, whilst also being responsive to communities, external environments and opportunities.

WHO IS INVOLVED

Different parts of the organisation will be involved in delivering the framework. However, there will be areas of collaboration across country, Australian and global programs, particularly where these areas of work link together. The main areas of involvement will be:—

Country Level Programming – All aspects of country-level work will be led by the Country Director and team, in collaboration with the Country Leadership Team. This will be supported, where necessary, by staff from our head office. Links will be made to ensure a coordinated approach in areas such as advocacy, campaigning, humanitarian support, research, funding and learning components.

In-Australia Programming – Our In-Australia advocacy and campaigns are lead by the Advocacy and Campaign Units, supported by Media and Marketing. The Research Unit will provide links and support in national and global research work. The Program Development Unit, in collaboration with the Humanitarian Support Unit, will provide technical input and capacity building.

The Program Development Unit will also be responsible for:–

- coordinating evaluation;
- review and learning processes across the organisation; and
- identifying potential funding partnerships.

All of this work will have links to our country programs.

Global Work – This area of work is largely led by our In-Australia Campaign, Advocacy and Media Units. However, as country programs develop, country or regional teams may have direct coordination and involvement with Oxfam’s global work.

COUNTRY FOCUS

PROGRAM OUTCOMES	INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES	RATIONALE
<p>1. Climate Information and Analysis <i>Oxfam, our partners and communities, have an increased understanding of local disaster and climate risks, impacts, community perceptions and political context.</i></p>	<p>Undertake climate change and disaster risk analysis using participatory vulnerability and capacity assessment combined with scientific climate change knowledge; review and update contingency plans; analyse national government’s current climate policies and practices; undertake power analysis of key actors; identify information needs for differing stakeholders; develop information into useable formats for targeted audiences.</p>	<p>Climate change and disaster impacts – and the policies to deal with them – are highly variable. Decisions around local strategies, resource requirements and governance arrangement must be based on accurate data and analysis, including local knowledge.</p>
<p>2. Water Management <i>Equitable access and use of safe water for women and men, in a way that is sustainable and resilient to shocks and longer-term climate change impacts.</i></p>	<p>Undertake water mapping that includes available resources, storage and trends; analyse governance arrangements and policies; identify water needs for women, men, children and vulnerable groups; install/upgrade efficient water harvesting systems; design and install water-efficient irrigation systems; identify and prepare for disaster risks or conflict over water supplies.</p>	<p>Development outcomes cannot be sustained without secure access to water. Changed hydrological regimes (shocks and long-term change) are a key impact of climate change. They may further threaten already vulnerable water supplies, impacting heavily on women. Water supply for multiple uses must be supported.</p>
<p>3. Sustainable Livelihoods <i>The livelihoods and natural resources used by women and men have increased resilience to shocks and longer-term climate change impacts.</i></p>	<p>Train women and men in water-efficient food production; introduce appropriate drought-tolerant crops; promote improved soil management and diversified livelihood options; establish women’s savings and credit groups; facilitate access to insurance; undertake mangrove or tree planting; identify and prepare for disaster risks to livelihoods of women and men; analyse migration trends and the impact on livelihoods.</p>	<p>The ability to secure a sustainable livelihood is at increasing risk from climate change, both short-term shocks (small and large) and longer-term changes. Households must become more resilient to these shocks and changes, to ensure livelihoods are not undermined. Climate change will impact on both rural and urban livelihoods, including the ability to secure food.</p>
<p>4. Active Citizenship <i>Women, men and children have an increased awareness about climate change, can articulate their needs and actively influence government/private sector accountability, policy and practice.</i></p>	<p>Host public events and media engagement initiatives (including social media) to raise awareness; support networks and community engagement structures; develop education/media resources; raise awareness of key policy-making processes (including international) and support partners/communities to get involved; produce digital stories that highlight community impacts and their solutions, and disseminate to key actors.</p>	<p>Women and men are key actors in addressing climate change. They need to be well-informed of how climate change will impact upon them, and articulate their demands to decision-makers. They are key to shaping climate change policy and holding duty-bearers to account, to ensure outcomes are relevant, effective and equitable. We need to hold ourselves accountable to communities and actively seek their engagement in our work.</p>
<p>5. Gender <i>Women are active players in finding solutions to climate change.</i></p>	<p>Undertake gender analysis in the design and implementation of activities, including gendered risk/impacts/capacities; undertake gender sensitisation within partner organisations; partner with/support women’s organisations to be involved in decision-making processes; support women’s leadership on climate change issues.</p>	<p>Climate change impacts women and men differently. Any program must identify and address these gendered needs, both practically and strategically. Women are also a key to finding solutions on climate change and need to be part of decision-making fora.</p>

COUNTRY FOCUS – ENABLING OUTCOMES

PROGRAM OUTCOMES	INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES	RATIONALE
<p>6. Impact, Accountability and Learning</p> <p><i>The impact we make will be improved by a strong evidence base (specifically on climate change and disaster impacts), effective response strategies and governance arrangements.</i></p>	<p>Document critical climate change risks and successful responses; undertake action research in parallel with program activities; identify targets for dissemination; share lessons learnt with internal and external stakeholders; establish links for sharing knowledge amongst Oxfam affiliates in-country and globally.</p>	<p>We need to learn from our experience and ensure we have a solid understanding of climate change and disaster impacts. Our way of responding must continually improve. This knowledge will be used for both the work of Oxfam and others, and influencing decision-makers. We also need to learn from the experience of others.</p>
<p>7. Capacity Building</p> <p><i>Strengthened capacity in partner countries to deliver on climate change outcomes.</i></p>	<p>Develop a capacity building plan, identifying needs of Oxfam and partners; develop links to external expertise; employ staff with specific experience or skills; deliver training for stakeholders such as government actors and communities; share learning among partner organisations and allies; host learning events with partners and allies.</p>	<p>Most country programs have limited experience in addressing climate change. Capacity building measure for communities, partners, governments and ourselves need to be in place to ensure longer term benefits and policy structures.</p>
<p>8. Advocacy and Influencing</p> <p><i>Improved climate change policy and practice of local, national or regional governments and the private sector.</i></p>	<p>Undertake power analysis of key actors; identify key policy and practice changes and the strategies and tools to achieve them; analyse key policy decisions; develop national/regional policy positions; participate in Oxfam's global campaigns; undertake or support direct lobbying – particularly with women's organisations – of key government stakeholders; track progress on government policies and campaign when commitments not met.</p>	<p>Given the relatively recent focus on climate change, strong policy mechanisms and governance needs to be put in place. This needs to take place at the local, national and international levels, which support outcomes for vulnerable women, men and children. Oxfam and our allies can play a strong role in shaping this. Governments also need to be held to account for ensuring policy measures are backed up by action.</p>

IN-AUSTRALIA FOCUS

OUTCOMES	INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES	RATIONALE
<p>1. Build Community Knowledge</p> <p><i>The Australian public has increased understanding of climate change impacts in developing countries and our responsibility to act.</i></p>	<p>Develop on-line tools for the public to engage with Oxfam's climate campaign work; produce and distribute climate change videos for public viewing; develop climate change information resources; host public information events; work collaboratively with a broad range of partners both internally and externally to meet our objectives.</p>	<p>Climate change is a long-term issue. We can play an important role in raising cross-generational awareness in Australia. The community can be made aware of the impacts of climate change on poor women, men and children in developing countries. We can also inform them of the necessary adaptation and mitigation measures and the role that Australia can — and should — play. Campaigns play an important role in supporting the work of advocacy and programs.</p>
<p>2. Build a constituency who will take action on climate change</p> <p><i>And increased number of Australians are empowered and have the tools to bring about change in climate change policy, practice and beliefs. These changes can be made both by the broader community and by decision-makers.</i></p>	<p>Organise petitions supporting stronger action on climate change; partner with non-traditional allies to engage diverse sectors of the community in Oxfam campaign actions; increase pressure on government and key decision-makers through public actions; hold community meetings to promote dialogue and discussion around climate change; develop and lead lobbying projects like UN Climate Trackers; provide updated and credible information on our website linked to relevant actions.</p>	<p>The Australian government is unlikely to move beyond the perceived support of the Australian public. Oxfam can play an essential role in building public understanding and encourage people to put pressure on the government to take strong and swift action on climate change domestically and internationally. As climate change will continue to be an issue into the future, an informed and active constituency will be able to hold decision makers, government and other key stakeholders (including the private sector) to account.</p>
<p>3. Informing and Influencing the Australian Government and private sector</p> <p><i>Improved Australian Government policy, practice and funding models – both domestic and international.</i></p>	<p>Analyse Australian and international government policy, practice and funding models; research and develop Oxfam policy positions; meet and lobby with key decision makers in the Australian Government, supported by our campaign work such as media events and on-line actions; disseminate key information to corporate entities.</p>	<p>Australian Government policy directs the quality and quantity of our national development assistance for mitigating and adapting to climate change. It also determines the role Australia plays in pushing for fair, ambitious and legally binding international agreements. We need to ensure that government decisions support the interests of poor and vulnerable women and men.</p>
<p>4. Research and Innovation</p> <p><i>Our links with academic and other institutions builds our knowledge and finds innovative ways to tackle climate change.</i></p>	<p>Identify key knowledge gaps in our program or policy work; identify appropriate research areas; recruit academics/interns to work on research project(s); establish funding stream for selected innovative partners/programming to pilot new initiatives; publish key research findings.</p>	<p>As an emerging area, there are aspects of climate change and its relationships to communities we need to know more about. The knowledge gained will then inform both our and others' program and policy work. This includes learning from our own activities as well as external research. We will tap into academic and other research expertise and build our capacity. Our programs also need opportunities to tackle new problems with new approaches, supporting innovation in our work.</p>
<p>5. Increasing Impact</p> <p><i>The learning and evidence base from across our programs improves both our work and that of others..</i></p>	<p>Identify key areas to focus learning; establish email list for Oxfam staff/partners to communicate directly; collate country level capacity/vulnerability assessments and analyse for trends, then package up trend information for various audiences (internal, external, for policy work or media); collate reports, evaluations and other program outcomes and disseminate; develop summary reports for external dissemination; review program design to incorporate lessons learnt; host in-country forums to disseminate and discuss findings; participate in regional Oxfam learning initiatives.</p>	<p>Our experience working with communities, civil societies and governments around the globe will provide a valuable evidence base. We will know which measures are most effective in reducing the impacts of climate change and increasing the benefits for poor women and men. We can use these lessons for multiple purposes — to improve our practice and that of others, to raise awareness and understanding in all the regions where we work and to push for effective policy outcomes. We will support coordinated learning and links across Oxfam International, from country programs to the global.</p>



OUTCOMES	INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES	RATIONALE
<p>6. Tools and Resource Development</p> <p><i>Staff and partners are equipped with the information, tools, technical support and funding to deliver high quality climate change and DRR programs.</i></p>	<p>Develop targeted campaigning tools and resources; upload Oxfam Australia intranet site with key information and resources; identify and/or develop assessment tools; develop and roll out capacity building plans for focal countries; build links to national academic institutions to access technical support; share key tools and resources with Oxfam affiliates and partners; disseminate analysis of funding information and sources; build relationships with key donors.</p>	<p>Climate change is a relatively new area of work for development organisations and we need to ensure our staff and partners have access to the necessary resources. This will include assessment, programming, advocacy and campaigning tools, technical advice and guidance, links to external resources and access to funds. Our geographical spread means we will use a variety of communication media to disseminate these resources.</p>

GLOBAL FOCUS

OUTCOMES	INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES	RATIONALE
<p>1. International Research and Policy Development. <i>Oxfam International research and policy development identifies strong policy and practice outcomes.</i></p>	<p>Contribute to or lead the development of Oxfam International (OI) briefing and policy papers; share analysis and lessons learnt with OI; utilise and promote OI research and policy positions in our advocacy work in Australia, our focal countries, regional bodies, key committees and to groupings such as the G20.</p>	<p>As a member of the Oxfam International confederation, we have the ability to contribute to and draw on our global research and policy development. Our global reach will be strengthened by the experience, analysis and stories we gather from the countries we work in.</p>
<p>2. Influence International Negotiations and Agreements. <i>Global agreements on climate change ensure the needs of poor women and men are addressed.</i></p>	<p>Utilise Oxfam briefings to influence key negotiators leading up to international meetings; attend/contribute to key decision-making fora such as the UNFCCC; contribute to global media promotion of international negotiations; support national organisations in attending international meetings; share analysis of global negotiations; build community support for our key demands through campaigns coordinated on the local, national and global levels.</p>	<p>Global agreements are urgently required to prevent temperatures increasing over 1.5 degrees, and to ensure we adapt to current changes. However, international negotiations need to be equitable and address poor women and men. We need to contribute to the work of Oxfam International, particularly in bringing the voices of communities we work with into the debates.</p>
<p>3. Linked-Up Popular Campaigns. <i>Climate change action will be coordinated, global and popular. They will raise awareness of the needs of poor women and men, and build links between campaigners around the globe.</i></p>	<p>Coordinate the planning of local, national and global popular mobilisation activities; foster links between global campaigners and partner organisations.</p>	<p>Timed well, coordinated local, national and global campaigns can have a strong impact on awareness and levels of support. Links between southern and northern campaigners will strengthen the call for effective, global change.</p>

ANNEX A

Focal country roles and support

Delivering on this climate change plan will require significant effort across the organisation and needs to be adequately resourced and supported. The most significant areas of program development will occur in our four focal countries, whose teams will be responsible for developing and implementing national climate change initiatives. Their work will be a large component of this plan.

There will be dedicated resources to support this work — country teams will need to identify the support and input required. This may come from Regional Units, the Program Development Unit, the Humanitarian Unit, the Public Policy and Outreach Section or others as necessary.

The Program Development Unit — through the Climate Change Program Advisor — can assist in identifying and coordinating support.

Indicative Support and Resources for Focal Countries:–

- **Strategic Planning** — overall strategising and planning of country climate change work.
- **Analysis and information** — support in context, as well as power analysis and information access.
- **Program development support** — support in program identification and design, technical input and review, and resource planning (both directly and through links to external resources).
- **Capacity development planning and implementation** — help in identifying capacity needs, both internally and with partners, and assistance in rolling plans out. This may include:–
 - technical advice and input, including distance input, field visits and links to expertise;
 - coaching/mentoring of staff — individual plans to tap into internal and external support;
 - identifying and rolling out key tools, information and resources;
 - links to key internal and external resources, both in Australia and globally.
- **Assistance in documenting and communicating program achievements** — our Marketing and Campaign Units will offer advice on content, design and targeting. Examples from other countries will also be shared.

- **Coordinated learning support** — facilitate shared learning between country programs, within Oxfam and externally.
- **Funding and resourcing support** — this will include research on global funding trends and opportunities, technical input for proposal development, linking to human resources and other requirements.
- **Identifying research and development needs** — where gaps in knowledge have been identified, facilitating further research in aid of programming and policy work.
- **Facilitating connections with relevant organisations and individuals** — to tap into expertise and resources, build relationships and alliances.

Country Role:–

- **Development and implementation of programming that aligns with the climate change framework** — based on in-country analysis and planning.
- **Capacity development** — having identified existing capacity and additional requirements, build capacity needs.
- **Funding management** — lead on development of funding proposals and building relationships with in-country donors (with support from Regional Funding Coordinators and Program Development Unit).
- **Engaging with relevant advisory support** — based on agreed issues and areas of work, communicating progress and identifying support needs. Includes field visit from advisor(s).
- **Engage with campaigns/advocacy staff** — from Oxfam Australia, other affiliates and Oxfam International to strengthen and coordinate agreed activities.
- **Sharing program learnings** — includes documenting our work and making that information available for others to use.
- **Accommodate requests for communications materials** — ensure our program work supports — and is supported by — Campaigns, Advocacy, Communications and Marketing.
- **Participate in meetings/fora** — planned internal events aimed at building our capacity and sharing lessons learnt, be they internal or external.

ANNEX B

Key terms

There is a lot of jargon and terminology related to climate change. The following provides an explanation of some of the more common terms.

Adaptive capacity: the potential of individuals, communities and societies to be actively involved in the processes of change. This allows them to minimise negative impacts and maximise any benefits from changes in the climate. Adaptive capacity therefore strengthens resilience and reduces vulnerability to a wide range of climate-related changes.

Climate: the average weather over at least a 30-year period. Note that information on climate patterns taken over different periods of time (e.g. 30 years or 1,000 years) may be different.

Climate change: a change in climate patterns that persists for decades or longer. It arises from human activity that alters the composition of the atmosphere (i.e. greenhouse gas emissions) that is over and above natural climate variability.

Climate-compatible development: development that takes climate hazards and impacts into account, be they possible or predicted. It is also sustainable over time in light of these changes.

Climate variability: Natural variations in the climate that are not caused by greenhouse gas emissions (e.g. it rains more in some years and less in others).

Climate change adaptation: actions that people and institutions make in anticipation of, or in response to, a changing climate. This includes altering the things they do and/or the way they do them.

DDR: Disaster Risk Reduction

Mitigation: measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This can be reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the burning of fossil fuels as well as the storage of carbon in trees and other ecological systems. *(Note that the term "mitigation" is used differently by DRR practitioners. They use it to mean reducing or limiting the adverse impact of hazards and related disasters.)*

Resilience: the ability to absorb shocks or ride out changes. This specifically relates to the ability to influence and respond to processes of change directly, whether shaping, creating or responding to change.

Vulnerability: the characteristics and circumstances of a community, system, or asset that makes it susceptible to the damaging effects of climate change and other hazards.

Weather: the specific condition of the atmosphere at a particular place and time. It is measured in terms such as wind, temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure, cloudiness and precipitation. In most places, weather can change according to hour, day and season.



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