

STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE AND PROMOTING INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE PROGRAM (STRENPO) FOR WOMEN AND YOUTH IN VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES 2018-2021

Care international in Uganda is implementing “*Strengthening Resilience and promoting inclusive governance program (STRENPO) for women and youth in vulnerable communities 2018-2021*” project. The project is being implemented in partnership with the following partners: Environmental Alert (EA), Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE), Rural Initiative for Community Empowerment (RICE West Nile), and Joint Effort to save the environment (JESE).

The project will be implemented in Arua, Kyenjojo and Kyegegwa Districts focusing on addressing drivers of risk. The main drivers as analyzed by stakeholders are poor governance, increased population pressure on natural resources and gender inequality. Therefore the program will focus on addressing root causes of environmental degradation, asset base of the communities and refugees to cop up with climate variability and change, conflict and displacement, youth exclusion and limited engagement with private sector-led innovations.

The Program will promote an inclusive humanitarian and development approach that will lead to the economic empowerment of women and youth in refugee and host communities and improve governance of Natural resources; the programme will equip the target group with adaptive capacities against climate change and environmental degradation while facilitating peaceful co-existence and social cohesion among Refugees and host communities in the regions of Arua, Kyegegwa and Kyenjojo; the program will strengthen the capacities and assets of vulnerable households, in particular women and youth, to deal with shocks through a range of approaches, and successful models such as community-based adaptation (CBA) strengthening collectives for resilient livelihoods and financial inclusion, Community-Based Monitors (CBM) ensuring participation at community level, and the Inter-District Forums- as a multi-stakeholder space, serve as the foundation of the Strengthening Resilience program.

OBJECTIVES:

- I. Strong community-based organizations empower citizens and allow women and youth to build assets and take leadership roles in strengthening community resilience;
- II. Civil society organizations and networks have increased capacity and expand spaces for negotiation between empowered citizens and refugees and accountable duty bearers through multi-stakeholder platforms focused on resilience;
- III. Government and other duty-bearers, at district and national levels are inclusive and accountable in delivering a well-coordinated response to key drivers of risks and thereby responding to the demands and needs of citizens and refugees.

ROLE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ALERT (EA) AS A PARTNER

With a total *budget of 1,106,818,232 Ugandan shillings (\$305,984) for 4 years (2018-2021)*, EA will facilitate institutional and coordination of the Environment and Natural Resources-Civil Society Organizations, PROLINNOVA¹ and UFWG² Networks for building consensus for joint implementation of structured engagements that contributes to climate resilience at national and local level.

In order to achieve this, EA will employ the following strategies:

- i. Document best practices and lessons learnt on knowledge and application of methods and approaches on climate resilience;
- ii. Support capacity-strengthening for strategic CSO partners, networks and working groups at national and local level;
- iii. Facilitate institutional and coordination mechanisms of the ENR-CSO³, PROLINNOVA and UFWG Networks for building consensus for joint implementation of structured engagements that contribute to climate resilience at national and local level;
- iv. Facilitate national and local CSO networks to participate in national level processes such as: Joint Sector Reviews for Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Ministry of Water and Environment; Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Affairs, Refugee/Humanitarian Inter-agency meetings;
- v. Participation of CSOs and networks in joint sector review meeting.

For details

<http://envalert.org/current/>

¹ Promoting Local Innovation (PROLINNOVA-Uganda) is an NGO-led multistakeholder initiative to build a national learning network on promoting local innovation in ecologically oriented agriculture and natural resource management (NRM). PROLINNOVA–Uganda envisions, *‘a world in which women and men farmers play decisive roles in agriculture and NRM innovation processes for sustainable livelihoods’*.

² Uganda Forest Working Group (UFWG) is a platform with a broad spectrum of stakeholders who play different yet complementary roles in their individual, collective and institutional capacities. These include field technical support, small grants management, research and products development, awareness creation, piloting alternatives, media publicity of issues and policy processes, public debate, advocacy and legislative lobbying, budget analysis and advocacy as well as independently monitor the implementation of the Forest Policy commitments. Environmental Alert is the Secretariat of the UFWG.

³ The Environment and Natural Resources Civil Society Organization (ENR-CSO) Network is another civil society network that brings together local and international NGOs that work in the broader environment and natural resources sector. The ENR-CSO Network has an elected leadership and a secretariat that coordinates its activities. The Network is active in mobilizing its members' engagement in sub-national and national level forest policy process, including the national and district annual budget cycles.

Box 1. About Environmental Alert

Environmental Alert (EA) was founded in **1988 and this year (2018) marks 30 years** of contribution to improved livelihoods and development in Uganda through several interventions in sustainable agriculture, environment and natural resources management. EA is officially registered with the NGO Board as a Ugandan non-governmental organization, incorporated as a company limited by guarantee. EA is governed by an independent Board that is responsible for providing strategic oversight of the organization including ensuring its integrity as a voluntary service organization.

EA is a 1st prize winner of the Energy globe award for environmental sustainability-2005 under the category, earth.

EA is a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and a Member of The IUCN National Committee for Uganda.

EA envisions, *'Resilient and dignified communities, managing their environment and natural resources sustainably.'*

EA's mission is to, *'Contribute to improved livelihoods of vulnerable communities by enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainable natural resources management'*

Program and institutional Components:

1. Environment and Natural resources management;
2. Food security and Nutrition;
3. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene;
4. Finance and Administration;
5. Resource mobilization and Investment.

Scale of Implementation:

EA operates in selected districts for generation of evidence to inform policy engagements on agriculture, environment and natural resources at National and International levels. Currently EA's operations are in 20 districts across the country. EA undertakes area wide targeted awareness on selected issues in agriculture, environment and natural resources engagements

EA is a Secretariat for following networks:

- a) The Network for Civil Society Organizations in Environment & Natural Resources Sector (ENR-CSO Network) - <http://enr-cso.org/>;
- b) Uganda Forestry Working Group - <http://ufwg.entalert.org/>;
- c) The Standards Development Group (for promotion of Sustainable Forest Management in Uganda); and
- d) Promoting Local Innovation in ecologically oriented agriculture and natural resources management (PROLINNOVA-Uganda Network) - <http://www.prolinnova.net/uganda>.

Further information about Environmental Alert is available at: <http://entalert.org/>

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