DAI empowers communities in Nepal to adapt to a changing climate.

DAI AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Even with collective action to keep the rise in global temperatures below 2 degrees Celsius, our weather is poised to become more extreme and our weather patterns less reliable. The climate emergency is imposing additional stress on the world's most vulnerable people, many of whom rely on agriculture and natural resources for their livelihoods, driving up to 132 million more people into poverty by 2030.

DAI has been at the forefront of climate action for more than a decade, supporting governments, communities, and businesses to adapt to a changing climate. Enabling individuals and organizations to become more resilient to the existing and predicted impacts of climate change requires us to take a holistic and nuanced approach. Anticipating, reacting to, and recovering from shocks is complex and multifaceted, calling on DAI and our partners to understand and respond to numerous drivers of vulnerability and resilience. This document—highlighting six key, interrelated aspects of climate adaptation—provides a snapshot of DAI's experience in these areas over the past decade.

DAI

Shaping a more livable world.

42,197
PEOPLE HELPED
including 16,246 women

◄ APIK project built the capacity of local communities in Indonesia to address climate change and weather-related hazards, and supported information for climate and disaster risk management.

DAI's Commitment to Climate Action

In 2015, world leaders signed the Paris Agreement, a legally binding treaty committing its signatories to cut greenhouse emissions, to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

The Paris Agreement provides a guiding framework to reduce emissions globally through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Signatories also agree to a rigorous monitoring regime, with an enhanced transparency initiative kicking in by 2024.

The ultimate goal is to limit global temperature increases to well below 2°C — preferably to 1.5°C; the challenge now is to ensure countries are following the trajectory outlined by the Paris Agreement and sharing practical examples of how to achieve this goal as quickly as possible.

DAI works with development partners, governments, businesses, and communities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Not only are we directly involved in supporting climate adaptation and mitigation, but we also look for opportunities to mainstream low carbon development pathways through the projects we design and deliver around the world.

In 2021, DAI signed up to the Science Based Targets Initiative, committing us to submit science-based targets for emission reductions across the business in line with the Paris Agreement, reaching Net Zero by 2050.

CLIMATE ADAPTATION FOCUS AREAS

GOVERNANCE

The science on climate change is clear and the impacts are becoming increasingly apparent. However, governments and businesses that lack coherent frameworks to resource, budget, and integrate climate change into their planning face mounting challenges. At the national, subnational, and organisational levels, they need policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms designed specifically to make progress on adaptation, including clear, ambitious targets that are well monitored and well managed. They need help identifying champions to drive change and providing decision makers with information and the right tools to develop new policies and legislation.

INCLUSION

In adapting to climate change, it's imperative that we engage—from the outset—the communities and stakeholders with first-hand experience of the impacts and empower them to inform and implement the solutions we collectively identify. Groups that are vulnerable and marginalized, and lack of access to resources, often bear the brunt of climate change. They must be involved in the design and implementation of interventions, helping to ensure they are appropriate, locally owned, and thereby conducive to resilience. We need to design interventions that understand the role gender and youth play in adaptation and consider the effect on disenfranchised groups. Nobody should be left behind.

INTEGRATION

Sustainable adaptation involves multiple sectors, supply chains, and policy frameworks. Our work must bring together expertise from diverse disciplines—from governance to climate science, ecology to economic development. We need to understand the way systems interact if adaptations are to be sustainable and equitable, which will in turn lead to better mainstreaming of climate action into all development programs. This will provide a broader understanding of risks and vulnerabilities, and how these can be managed and addressed.

CLIMATE SERVICES

Climate change is often defined as a "wicked" problem, meaning that it presents multidimensional and interacting elements, and a range of views on what the solutions should be. We do know that business as usual is not an option. As climate science and data improves, we need to ensure that governments and the private sector keep pace with promising developments and can use this knowledge to inform policy and planning. We need to drive innovation in technology, whether that be in terms of digital solutions, or novel partnerships, or fresh thinking across the public and private sectors. And we must continue to encourage experimentation in new approaches to adaptation in finance, industry, agriculture and energy.

FINANCE

Commitments to funding adaptation go back to COP15 in Copenhagen (2009) but have not yet been fulfilled. Too often, encouraging examples of adaptive approaches have stalled due to a lack of additional finance. We need new ways of financing adaptation that draw on private sources, as well as "unconventional" public funding mechanisms, such as green bonds, climate insurance packages, or payment for ecosystem services. Existing mechanisms, meanwhile, must become more responsive and agile.

KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING

As the climate community's experience deepens, we must share learning widely and promptly so that others can adopt best practice, leveraging the momentum for workable solutions. We need to ensure that knowledge is accessible and appropriate for different levels of application and across disciplines. And we must facilitate discussion and thought leadership on key issues to underpin the progress being made.

GOVERNANCE
SELECT PROJECTS

DAI helped communities in the Pacific Islands with infrastructure projects to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Adaptasi Perubahan Iklim dan Ketangguhan (APIK)

APIK project supported the Government of Indonesia to strengthen climate and disaster resilience. The project adopted an integrated, context-specific approach to engage stakeholders at national, regional, and community levels.

- Helped the Government of Indonesia develop a national climate change adaptation plan that informed the 2020–2024 National Development Plan.
- Ensured climate and disaster risk was front and center of Indonesia's planning and budgeting processes, with US$3 billion assigned to support key sectors over five years.
- Worked with 174 government institutions to improve their capacity to manage climate risk.
- Supported 150 climate-related laws, policies, and regulations that had been proposed, adopted, or implemented.

Indonesia 2015–2020
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Decentralization and Renewable Natural Resources (EU-TACS)

EU-TACS supports the implementation of the EU's bilateral development cooperation strategy with Bhutan, with a focus on two EU budget support programs: 1) rural development and climate change, and 2) local governance and fiscal decentralization.

- Providing technical assistance to the Royal Government of Bhutan, focusing on capacity building in renewable natural resources (including climate change response) and local government and decentralization.
- Facilitating climate change related policy dialogue between the Government of Bhutan and the EU to support resilient livelihoods.
- Strengthening the National Statistical Bureau and improving the statistical system at central and local levels to enhance natural resource management and local governance of sustainable development programs.

Bhutan 2019–2021
European Union (EU)

INCLUSION
SELECT PROJECTS

Paani is working with civil society to help shape Nepal's management of water resources.

Program for Aquatic Natural Resources Improvement (Paani)

Paani enhances Nepal's ability to manage water resources for multiple uses and users through climate change adaptation and the conservation of freshwater biodiversity. Paani employs an integrated approach with activities at the watershed, river basin, and national levels to reduce threats to freshwater biodiversity and build resilience among targeted ecosystems and communities.

- Shaping Nepal's management of vital water resources, taking an inclusive approach that engages local civil society organizations and river-resources dependent groups.
- Building capacity of more than 5,000 members of local groups on climate smart practices and aquatic resources management.
- Increasing the ability of human and ecological communities to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change through improved water management in the Karnali, Mahakali, and Rapti river basins.
- Using grants to institutionalize sustainable capacity in local organizations so that Paani activities can continue after the program's completion; Paani grants are open to local civil society and research organizations, community groups, universities, and the private sector.

Nepal 2016–2021
USAID

Coastal Community Adaptation Project (C-CAP)

C-CAP built the resilience of vulnerable coastal communities in the Pacific region to withstand more intense and frequent weather events and ecosystem degradation in the short term, and sea-level rise in the long term. The project worked directly with Pacific Islands communities to rehabilitate or build new, climate-resilient, small-scale community infrastructure, and to build capacity for disaster prevention and preparedness.

- Worked with 12 Pacific Island nations to synchronize national policies with community implementation.
- Upgraded the disaster risk management strategies of vulnerable communities to mitigate climate risks.
- Created an Infrastructure Prioritization Index to help communities to analyze assets and vulnerabilities and prioritize actions.
- Doubled the awareness of climate adaptation strategies.
- In 9 countries, 77 communities adopted this participatory approach to climate adaptation and 34 climate-resilient infrastructure projects benefitted more than 20,000 at-risk people.

Pacific Islands 2012–2017
USAID

INTEGRATION
SELECT PROJECTS

GCCA+/Climate Smart Mainstreaming into the Productive Safety Net Program (Climate-Smart PSNP)

Climate Smart PSNP is designed to improve the resilience and adaptive capacity of targeted communities by mainstreaming climate-smart planning and implementation into the next phase of the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP).

- Supporting the national PSNP by mainstreaming climate-smart approaches into the Public Works and Livelihoods Units.
- Integrating climate risks into the national guidelines for Community Based Participatory Watershed Development.
- Co-designing a roadmap for climate-smart programming.
- Piloting new watershed development plans and practices in 22 woredas.
- Strengthening information systems to improve knowledge management.

Ethiopia 2018–2022

European Union

Sahel Region Analysis of Adaptive Social Protection

This analysis guides GIZ on how to expand its adaptive social protection portfolio in the Sahel, taking account of the linkages between social protection, climate change, and conflict. It sheds light on how assistance can support and integrate with existing initiatives, link with other activities, and expand.

- Mapping stakeholder initiatives, approaches, and objectives to create a knowledge base for a larger and more coherent German commitment to adaptive social protection in the Sahel.
- Clarifying the challenges to providing sustainable support in the region by examining social protection in the context of poverty and crisis.
- Identifying synergies with the broader portfolio of German development cooperation in the Sahel countries.

Sahel Region 2021

GIZ

Southeast Asia Mekong Adaption and Resilience to Climate Change (ARCC)

Mekong ARCC increased partner communities' adaptation capacity and resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change.

- Developed cutting-edge, landscape-level, impact models, which revealed predicted climate shifts and the impact they would have on livelihoods.
- Created an integrated vulnerability assessment and adaptation decision-making framework, merging local knowledge with scientific information.
- Piloted the framework in five highly vulnerable provinces to improve communities' understanding of climate impacts and adaptation strategies.
- Incorporated experiences of pilot sites into subnational planning.

Southeast Asia 2011–2016

USAID

CLIMATE SERVICE
SELECT PROJECTS

RCCP's "Coffee Cloud" app connects decision makers around daily and seasonal forecasting for coffee crops

Regional Climate Change Program

Led by our partners at the Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE), the Regional Climate Change Program (RCCP) developed plans of action with countries throughout Central America and the Dominican Republic to respond to the impacts of climate change. DAI was responsible for three main deliverables: a regional clearinghouse (Climate Services Portal) based on user-centered design requirements; a Global Development Alliance related to the sustainability of the Climate Services Portal; and decision-support tools related to climate change adaptation, biodiversity, and water.

- Hosted the NASA Space Apps Challenge in Costa Rica in 2015 in partnership with Instituto Tecnologico de Costa Rica; teams supported by RCCP specialists won second- and third-place prizes.
- Created the "Coffee Cloud" with NASA Space Apps participants. This is an open source app that centralizes and disseminates information and connects decision makers around daily and seasonal forecasting for coffee crops, and reports outbreaks of diseases such as rust that affect coffee beans.
- Large coffee institutes led by Promecafe have accepted the Coffee Cloud as their official tool to respond to coffee rust throughout the region.
- The Coffee Cloud app continues to evolve and be updated. Currently, it has more than 5,000 active users in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Costa Rica.

Central America and Dominican Republic 2013- 2018

USAID

Tayar Improved Disaster Risk Management Project

Tayar is USAID's flagship disaster preparedness and response program for Nepal, focused on strengthening institutions at both national and local levels.

- Supporting national agencies, including the newly created National Disaster Management Agency, to conduct disaster simulations, improve disaster response technologies, and establish a National Disaster Training Academy.
- Working with urban municipalities to develop risk-sensitive land use plans that increase disaster resilience, including for slope stabilization, humanitarian open spaces, and building retrofitting.
- Mobilizing financial and other resources to help Nepal's micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises return to operation.
- Adapted to meet changing needs due to COVID-19 after the program's Flexible Rapid Emergency Response Mechanism was activated in 2020.
- Delivering livelihood and economic support activities for COVID-affected households, primarily through cash-for-work programs and conditional cash transfers for livelihood support, including agricultural assistance.

Nepal 2019–2024
USAID

StARCK+ supported 15,000 farmers in Kenya to adopt climate-smart agricultural practices

FINANCE
SELECT PROJECTS

Strengthening Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change in Kenya Plus (StARCK+)

StARCK+ followed the original StARCK program (2011–2013) and supported a holistic range of activities to assist in Kenya's approach to climate change and resilience. DAI was responsible for the overall coordination of the program portfolio, implemented by a range of delivery partners. We also implemented StARCK+ Technical Assistance to the Government of Kenya and the Finance for Innovation and Climate Change Fund (FICCF) component. The FICCF worked with the private sector to develop markets and value chains through partnerships with microfinance organizations, aggregators, insurers, and providers of technical assistance and climate information.

- Mobilized £2.7 million in private sector funding through the FICCF for climate-relevant private sector initiatives.
- Developed and de-risked microfinancing solutions through insurance and guarantee instruments, advancing climate-smart agriculture across multiple counties and value chains.
- Supported 15,000 farmers to adopt climate-smart agricultural practices and afforded 20,000 farmers access to downscaled weather and climate information services.

Kenya 2013–2018
U.K. Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)

Building Regional Resilience through Strengthened Meteorological, Hydrological, and Climate Services in the Indian Ocean Commission Member Countries

This technical assistance project is implemented through Agence Francaise de Developpement's Adapt'Action Facility, in which DAI leads a consortium supporting Lot 1: Facility Framework for Small Island Developing States.

- Designed a $60 million program in line with World Metrological Organization Global Climate Services Framework to strengthen hydro-meteorological agencies, improve regional cooperation, modernize equipment, and deliver impact-based climate services.
- Produced feasibility study and held consultations and national and regional workshops in Madagascar, Comoros, Mauritius, and the Seychelles.
- Produced a business model for the financial sustainability of climate services.
- Developed full proposal, which secured a Green Climate Fund grant.

Indian Ocean 2019-2021
Agence Francaise de Developpment (AFD)

KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING
SELECT PROJECTS

Global: Expert Advisory Call Down Services (EACDS) Lot B: Strengthening Resilience and Response to Crises Facility

Under Lot B, DAI manages a technical advisory call-down service that provides rapid-response, expert support to FCDO and other U.K. Government agencies, and other donors. Lot B is a 63-member consortium established to respond to the varied requirements of our clients—to help them make risk-aware investments and provide analysis and practical expertise to respond to crises where they occur. The service also shares lessons learned in cross-sectoral resilience building and crisis mitigation with U.K. Government stakeholders and the donor community.

PROGRAMS UNDER LOT B

Flood Early Warning Pilot

This program is delivered by a consortium of expert technical partners including HR Wallingford, University of Reading, University of Bristol, FATHOM, U.K. Met Office, and the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts:

- Developing Standard Operating Protocols (SOPs) to inform responses to flooding under extreme event scenarios.
- Enhancing the effectiveness and execution of SOPs that have been tested in early warning real event scenarios.
- Supported U.K. responses to Hurricane Iota, Nicaragua (2020) and Tropical Cyclone Eloise, Mozambique (2021), providing critical learning and recommendations as an outcome.

Village members in Vietnam re-ranked their vulnerabilities after learning about Mekong ARCC climate projections

Climate Responsiveness of Tanzania's Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN) Program, Learning Review

- Drew out both the current benefits of PSSN in stabilizing household incomes to withstand the impacts of climate variability and the immediate opportunities to address climate resilience.
- Assessed the opportunities safety net programs offer to help communities transition to less climate-vulnerable livelihoods.
- Outlined the opportunities and challenges for creating a climate-responsive PSSN, highlighting the building blocks required and the ways institutions can adapt and innovate in response to climate change.

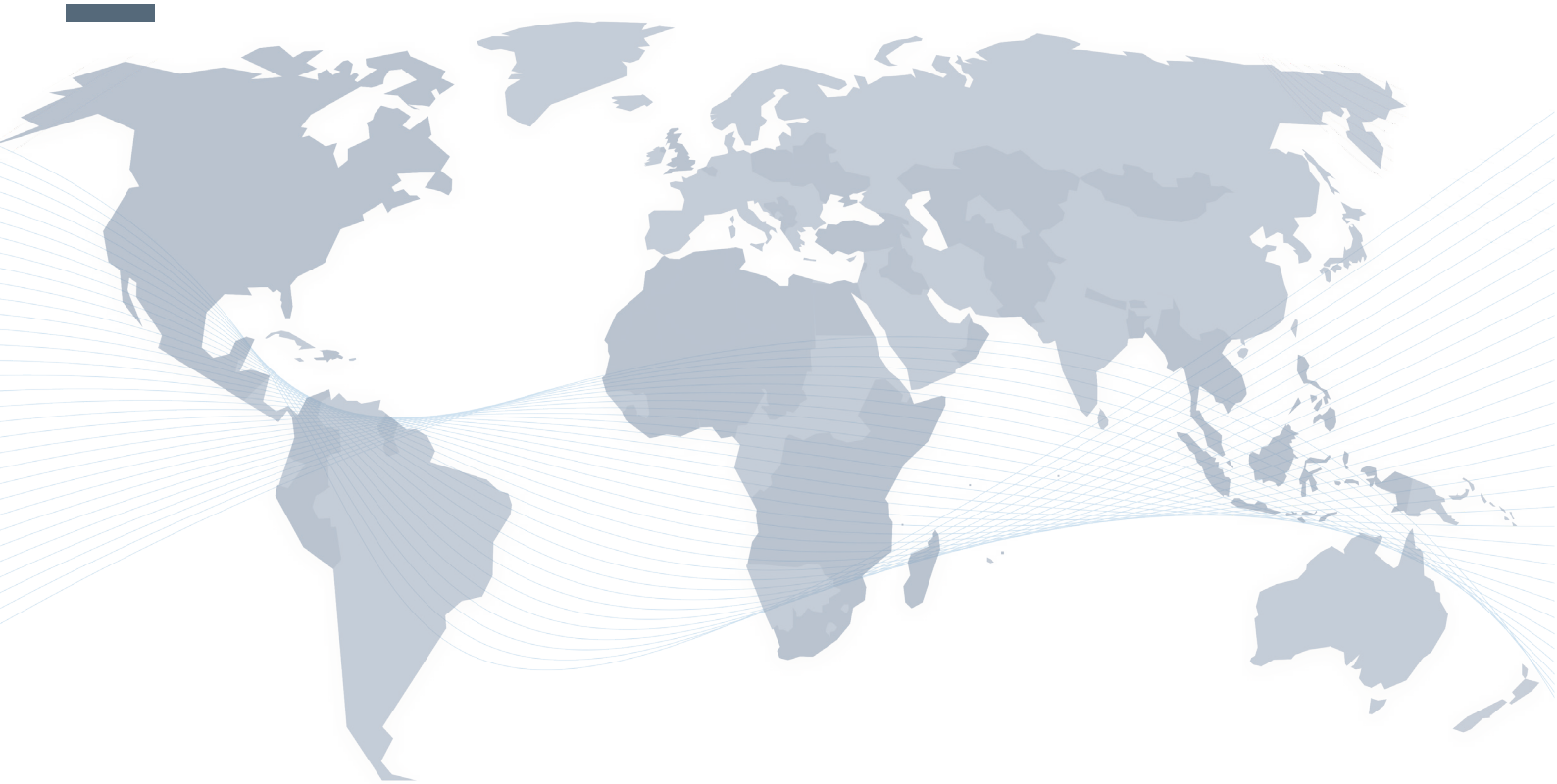
British Virgin Islands

In 2017, Hurricanes Irma and Maria had a devastating impact on the Leeward Islands of the Caribbean, including the territory of the British Virgin Islands. DAI, working with subcontractors Agency Red and local architect STO Enterprise Ltd, supported the recovery process. This work was overseen by the Governor's Office, working closely with the Government of the Virgin Islands and connecting with regional organizations and initiatives.

- Assisted the Ministry of Housing and Social Development to develop its Housing Recovery and Adaptation Policy and action plan and built on learning from the hurricane response to develop an Inclusive Housing Policy that provided stronger social protection for vulnerable households.
- Worked with a vocational training college and industry bodies to develop and operationalize training programs to engage the local workforce in high-priority recovery sectors (construction and maritime), and support employment.

Global 2016–2021, U.K. Government Departments

SHAPING A MORE LIVABLE WORLD.



70%
LOCAL EMPLOYEES

100+
COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE

150+
CURRENT PROJECTS

5,000+
PEOPLE WORLDWIDE

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