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SAMPLE PROPOSAL · 2026

Building Climate Resilience: Sustainable Livelihoods Initiative for Displaced Populations in the Coastal Belt

This proposal seeks to support climate-displaced communities through green skills training, cooperative micro-enterprises, and market linkages to create sustainable, inclusive, and resilient livelihood opportunities.

Executive Summary

The 'Building Climate Resilience' initiative addresses the urgent socioeconomic vulnerabilities faced by families displaced by rapid and slow-onset climate disasters in the southern coastal belt. Over the past decade, rising sea levels and intensifying tropical storms have eroded arable land and traditional fishing grounds, forcing thousands of households into precarious informal settlements. This 18-month project aims to transition 500 climate-displaced households from cyclical poverty to self-sufficiency by introducing diversified, climate-smart income-generating activities. By combining vocational training in green construction and organic horticulture with seed capital grants and structured market linkages, the project fosters long-term economic independence. Implemented in close coordination with local civil society and municipal bodies, this initiative directly contributes to Sustainable Development Goals 1 (No Poverty), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and 13 (Climate Action).

Background and Context

The target region has experienced unprecedented environmental stress, characterized by recurrent saltwater intrusion, prolonged droughts, and severe cyclone activity. These phenomena have systematically undermined the agrarian and artisanal fishing base that historically sustained the local population. Consequently, an estimated 15,000 individuals have been internally displaced to peri-urban transition zones over the last five years. These transition zones lack adequate infrastructure, and the influx of displaced job seekers has saturated the informal labor market, driving down wages and exacerbating food insecurity. Women and youth are disproportionately affected, often facing heightened protection risks and exclusion from formal financial systems. While humanitarian relief has provided short-term survival support, there is an acute absence of structural livelihood programming capable of absorbing displaced populations into viable, future-proof local economies.

Problem Statement

Climate-displaced communities in the transition zones face a compounding crisis of joblessness, skill obsolescence, and financial exclusion. Traditional livelihood skills—such as coastal farming and near-shore fishing—are no longer viable in their current settlement areas, leaving heads of households without reliable income sources. Furthermore, prevailing market barriers prevent displaced persons from accessing micro-credit, formal employment, or technical mentorship. This economic disenfranchisement leads to negative coping mechanisms, including chronic debt bondage, child labor, and the depletion of meager household assets. Without targeted intervention to equip these communities with modern, climate-resilient skills and cooperative business structures, displaced populations will remain trapped in chronic dependency and extreme vulnerability.

Goal

To foster economic self-reliance, social inclusion, and long-term resilience among climate-displaced communities through sustainable, green livelihood opportunities and robust market integration.

Objectives

- Train 500 displaced individuals (targeting 60% women and 30% youth) in market-driven, climate-smart vocational skills including organic vertical farming, eco-brick construction, and solar appliance maintenance.
- Establish and register 15 community-based producer cooperatives equipped with shared asset toolkits and seed capital grants.
- Forge formal supply chain agreements with at least 8 regional private-sector partners to secure consistent product off-take and employment placement for program graduates.
- Provide financial literacy and digital inclusion training to 500 direct beneficiaries, facilitating access to micro-savings accounts and mobile money platforms.

Project Description

The project operates on a holistic, phased capacity-building model designed to transition beneficiaries from vulnerability to enterprise ownership. Phase one focuses on inclusive community mobilization, beneficiary selection, and participatory market assessments to identify high-demand green sectors. Phase two delivers intensive, hands-on vocational training coupled with psychosocial support and foundational business literacy. In phase three, trainees are organized into cooperative groups and receive micro-grants alongside asset packages (such as drip-irrigation kits, solar repair toolkits, and organic seed banks) to launch their enterprises. Finally, phase four embeds ongoing mentorship, quality control mechanisms, and structured B2B networking events to ensure commercial viability and market integration. Throughout the implementation cycle, a rights-based approach guarantees that marginalized groups, particularly female-headed households, retain equitable access to resources and leadership roles.

Key Activities

- Conduct participatory baseline surveys and detailed value-chain mapping in target peri-urban settlement areas.
- Design and execute three specialized vocational training curricula tailored to green construction, urban agriculture, and renewable energy servicing.
- Facilitate the formation of 15 producer cooperatives and disburse structured seed capital grants alongside shared equipment packages.
- Deliver financial literacy workshops in partnership with local microfinance institutions to promote savings and credit management.
- Host quarterly buyer-seller forums connecting cooperative enterprises with regional retailers, construction firms, and agricultural wholesalers.
- Establish peer-led business advisory clinics providing ongoing technical troubleshooting and bookkeeping support.

Expected Outcomes

- 500 displaced individuals acquire certified, market-demand vocational skills relevant to the green economy.
- 15 functional, legally registered producer cooperatives generating steady autonomous income.
- A minimum 40% average increase in monthly household income among direct project beneficiaries compared to baseline levels.
- 8 active commercial supply chain partnerships ensuring sustained market access for cooperative products.
- Improved financial inclusion, with 500 beneficiaries actively utilizing savings accounts or mobile financial services.

Timeline

Month 1-3: Community mobilization, stakeholder alignment, baseline surveys, and curriculum finalization.

Month 4-9: Recruitment of beneficiaries, execution of vocational training programs, and financial literacy workshops.

Month 10-12: Cooperative formation, disbursement of seed capital grants, and distribution of asset packages.

Month 13-16: Establishment of market linkages, B2B networking forums, and intensive business advisory mentoring.

Month 17-18: Final project evaluation, impact assessment reporting, and handover of cooperative asset management to community leaders.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The project will employ a robust Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) framework to track progress against quantitative indicators and qualitative milestones. A baseline survey at project inception will establish benchmark metrics for household income, skill levels, and market access. Monthly progress monitoring will be conducted by field officers using digital data collection tools (KoboToolbox) to track training attendance, cooperative output, and grant utilization. Mid-term and terminal evaluations, led by an independent external consultant, will measure intermediate outcomes and long-term socioeconomic impact. Feedback accountability mechanisms, including community suggestion boxes and bi-monthly town hall meetings, will ensure continuous beneficiary engagement and adaptive management throughout the project lifecycle.

Risks and Mitigation

Risk: Extreme weather events or recurring climate shocks disrupt training sessions and field activities. Mitigation: Build flexible scheduling into the work plan and utilize resilient community spaces for training. Risk: Low market demand or price volatility for cooperative products. Mitigation: Conduct rigorous pre-project value-chain analysis and diversify product lines across multiple high-demand sectors. Risk: Resistance to cooperative governance models among beneficiaries. Mitigation: Provide intensive leadership training, transparent accounting protocols, and facilitated conflict-resolution workshops.

Sustainability

Project sustainability is embedded in its cooperative enterprise design and local capacity-building focus. By organizing beneficiaries into legally registered cooperatives and equipping them with shared assets, the project creates self-governing business entities capable of operating independently after donor funding concludes. Linkages forged with regional private-sector buyers ensure ongoing market demand without relying on NGO intermediation. Furthermore, training local community members as master mentors guarantees that technical know-how remains embedded within the settlement, supporting future cohorts of displaced entrepreneurs organically.

Project Management

The project will be managed by a dedicated team based in the regional field office, overseen by an experienced Project Director with a background in climate adaptation and sustainable livelihoods. The team includes a Livelihoods Coordinator, a Cooperative Enterprise Specialist, a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, and two community mobilizers. Financial administration and procurement will be handled centrally by the NGO's finance department in compliance with international accounting standards. Monthly internal coordination meetings and quarterly steering committee reviews—involving representatives from local government, community leaders, and donor representatives—will ensure transparent oversight, adaptive execution, and strict adherence to project timelines and budgets.

Budget Overview

Personnel (Project Director, Livelihoods Coordinator, Field Officers, M&E Officer)	\$45,000
Program Activities (Vocational training modules, workshops, B2B networking forums)	\$28,000
Capital Grants & Equipment (Seed capital grants, toolkits, drip irrigation, solar kits)	\$35,000
Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (Baseline survey, mid-term review, final impact evaluation)	\$8,000
Administrative & Operational Costs (Office rental, utilities, local travel, communication)	\$14,000
Indirect Costs / Organization Overhead (8%)	\$10,000
Total Requested Grant	\$140,000

Conclusion

As climate change continues to displace vulnerable populations across the region, traditional relief models are no longer sufficient to secure human dignity and economic stability. This initiative offers a practical, scalable pathway from displacement to sustainable prosperity by investing in green skills, cooperative enterprise, and market integration. With targeted financial support, this project will empower 500 climate-displaced households to reclaim their economic independence, build resilience against future environmental shocks, and contribute actively to the regional economy.



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