



CARE Laos

# Flexible Funding

An Agile Response in Times of Change

## Retooling for the Future

In today's world, meeting **CARE's commitment to defeat poverty and achieve social justice** means facing complex challenges – devastating conflict, the effects of climate change, a staggering global food crisis, and the consequences of the pandemic. Traditional funding, usually tightly restricted, is no longer adequate. To help people adapt and thrive in the face of constant change, **CARE needs to be innovative and nimble** – ready to shift on a moment's notice and to test and scale the most effective solutions. This calls for **flexible funding that can be deployed quickly where it is needed most**.

## Resourcing the Vision

**The Impact Fund is an indispensable tool** in challenging times. In response to a convergence of unpredictable factors, CARE has made a strategic shift toward more flexible funding, powered largely by the Impact Fund. **Your donation is part of an investment approach to giving**, looking at the broader scope of CARE's work, and leveraging each dollar for maximum impact for the world's most vulnerable people.

## The Impact Fund in Action

CARE aims to create lasting change in the lives of 200 million people by 2030 by addressing the world's greatest challenges. In the three years since we rolled out our Vision 2030, CARE and our partners have positively impacted some **56.6 million people** (28% of our goal). To stay on track and meet our goal, we need flexible resources for the Impact Fund to help drive our program priorities forward.

## The flexible funding advantage

Communities increasingly face urgent and unexpected needs due to evolving crises – such as extreme weather, a rapid economic downturn, or an infectious disease outbreak. Donations to a specific program often cannot be applied to unforeseen needs. Flexible funding allows CARE to adapt programming quickly.

With flexible funding, CARE can invest in testing and refining innovative, cost-effective new approaches, continuously improving our work to increase impact – a process that is not always funded by traditional grants but that can pay off many times over the long term.

---

**Your gift to the Impact Fund helps women and their communities navigate rapid change and build resilience for the future.**

CARE makes **strategic allocations of flexible resources** from the Impact Fund to a variety of programs, including some of CARE's most innovative and successful interventions. Some key examples:

**WOMEN'S ECONOMIC JUSTICE:** CARE's signature **Village Savings and Loan Associations** (VSLAs) empower women to save, invest in small businesses, and become leaders. CARE has created 890,400 VSLAs in 64 countries, with 19.9 million members (80% women). We multiply impact and unlock millions in additional funding through **investment in digitalization and collaboration with governments** to implement national VSLA approaches. CARE aims to scale VSLAs to reach **62 million people** by 2030.

**RIGHT TO EDUCATION:** CARE's accelerated learning program, **Strengthening Opportunities for Adolescent Resilience (SOAR)**, gives a second chance to girls who were forced to drop out of school or never had a chance to enroll. By providing a **primary school education in just 11 months**, SOAR prepares girls to transition to formal schools, training, or employment. In Nepal, **86% of girls graduate and move to secondary schools**. Since 2021, CARE has helped **+380,000 students** improve their grades in school.

**RIGHT TO HEALTH:** Frontline community health workers (FCHWs) are a key to healthcare access in hard-to-reach communities, but they face many barriers. **CARE strengthens frontline workers and systems to provide care at the last mile**. Through our new **She Heals the World** initiative, CARE ensures that FCHWs, particularly women, are adequately supported, compensated, and integrated into formal healthcare systems. By 2030, **CARE aims to support 50 million people to achieve their right to health**. Since 2021, **1 million women** have had access to contraception because of CARE's programs.

**HUMANITARIAN ACTION:** CARE works across the spectrum from providing immediate, lifesaving aid to rebuilding for a safer, more prosperous future. Our humanitarian interventions reached **21.9 million people** last year. CARE recognizes that **women and girls are disproportionately affected by crisis**. We work to ensure that humanitarian programming is designed with and led by people who know the context best – **recognizing the role of women** as key frontline responders.

**CLIMATE CRISIS AND FOOD SYSTEMS:** Solutions to the complex, interrelated crises of environmental degradation, hunger, and inequality must involve women small-scale farmers, who feed much of the world. CARE's proven **Farmer Field and Business School** approach **helps women farmers** increase production, improve resilience, adapt to climate change, diversify diets, improve nutrition, access markets, and sell their harvests, making them successful entrepreneurs and boosting their status. **Since 2021, some 577,000 people have maintained or improved their livelihoods despite climate-related shocks.**



**Your support of the Impact Fund** is a vote of confidence in CARE and communities in more than 100 countries striving for a better future. Your gift enables CARE to invest in the most impactful and cost-effective manner to save lives, defeat poverty, and achieve social justice. We thank you for your trust.