WHO WE ARE:
DanChurchAid (DCA) is a Danish humanitarian, not for profit NGO based in Copenhagen. Established in 1922 the organization has its roots in the Danish Evangelical-Lutheran Church, which still today serves as a central pillar of DCA’s constituency, providing the organisation with the foundation and moral obligation to operate across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. DCA envisions a world without hunger, poverty or oppression where political and popular powers work for a just and sustainable use and distribution of resources. We strive to fulfill this vision by achieving three overarching goals: Saving lives, Building resilient communities, and Fighting extreme inequality.

STRATEGIC COMMITMENTS AND CLIMATE POLICY:

- **DCA has taken a strategic commitment** to consider climate change in all DCA projects by 2022, building resilience to climate change impacts and taking action to mitigate climate change. DCA raises issues of climate justice in our global advocacy and engagement work in Denmark.
- In 2019, DCA adopted an internal policy to address climate change – taking emission reduction measures in our operations and measuring the organizational carbon footprint.
- DCA is off-setting emissions from air travel through a tree planting project in Uganda, which delivers climate resilience benefits to local communities, while compensating emissions.

WHAT WE DO:

DCA takes a climate risk informed approach to programming across the HDP nexus, ensuring fast humanitarian and emergency response to climate induced disasters and bridging early recovery to long term climate change adaptation and resilience building measures. Building on solid experience on locally-led, community-based Disaster Risk Reduction, we integrate climate risk analysis in DRR and ensure links with national Early Warning Systems.

Taking a holistic approach to resilient communities and livelihoods, DCA integrates environmental sustainability considerations, adaptation to climate change and low emission development. DCA has a particularly strong expertise on climate resilient agricultural livelihood approaches, ensuring that agricultural enterprises build on sustainable agroecology practices, support local agrobiodiversity and are connected to relevant weather forecasts, climate risk information and agronomic advisory services.

DCA also has significant experience in integrating low emission technologies in our humanitarian and development work. These range from clean and affordable energy interventions, which support community safety, health and environmental protection to promotion of climate friendly, sustainable livelihoods and value chain development, with examples including low emission construction technologies in humanitarian response and value chain development for insect based food products.

Our deep commitment to the Human Rights Based Approach and gender equality is also evident in our work to address climate change. We support inclusive decision-making processes on environment and climate related issues as well as institutional capacity building for strong, accountable and responsible institutions. At the global level, through the ACT Alliance, we are strong advocates on climate justice.

Climate change action is a focus area for DCA’s campaign and media work in Denmark. Danish climate related activities include advocacy for sustainable consumption and reduced food waste through WeFood shops and second-hand shops, which actively contribute to reducing emissions and raise awareness on climate change. Climate change is also a prioritized theme for national allies, including DanChurchAid Youth and “Grøn Kirke”, an ecumenical working group for greening Danish churches and faith-based organizations.
**Climate Change**

**HOW AND WHERE WE WORK:**

As part of ensuring **improved food and nutrition security** of vulnerable households in drought prone areas in **Ethiopia**, DCA, funded by Danida and USAID, introduced quinoa, which is resistant to drought and irregular rainfall as well as being a highly nutritious crop. DCA collaborated with several companies to develop a sustainably produced, high energy biscuit made of quinoa for humanitarian food relief in the region, ensuring a ready market for quinoa produced by local smallholder farmers.

In Northern **Kenya**, DCA supports small scale cricket farming with refugees, who use cricket powder to improve nutrition intake in their household and for livestock feed. Together with the refugees DCA are exploring opportunities for commercialisation of cricket products as a sustainable livelihood option, which is adapted to dry conditions with less carbon footprint and environmental impacts than livestock production.

In an effort to reduce the impact of climate related disasters, DCA works with **forecast based disaster risk reduction**

In **Cambodia**, DCA has partnered with UNDP on establishing provincial **drought information hubs** and to train local communities in **climate-resilient agriculture** in two of Cambodia’s most at-risk provinces, Kampil and Takeo. DCA has also been part of developing the EU-funded **Khmer Smart Farming app**, helping Cambodian farmers to **adapt to climate change** and unpredictable weather situations by linking them with information on climate resilient crop varieties, agronomic advice and weather forecasts.

In **Zimbabwe**, DCA is building **capacity for resilience** in three districts highly exposed to increasingly frequent and intense droughts and mid-season dry spells. Under the Zimbabwe Resilience Building Fund (funded by UNDP, DFID, EU and SIDA), DCA and partners build capacity of local government authorities and communities to monitor multiple hazards, incl. climate risks, in order to trigger interventions for preparedness well before a crisis happens - and better crisis management, when a crisis hits. Interventions include capacity building for disaster risk reduction and resilience planning along with support for climate resilient agricultural production and value chains.

In **Uganda**, DCA is scaling up **energy and environment** interventions to address severe deforestation and land degradation issues in refugee-hosting areas, owing to increased pressures on forests for agricultural lands and high reliance of wood for cooking and shelter construction among refugees and host communities. Funded by UNHCR, DCA Energy and Environment interventions have improved **self-reliance and livelihoods** for conflict-affected refugees and host communities, introducing sustainable **livelihood solutions**, strengthening local entrepreneurship and value chain development for **energy saving and sustainable energy technologies** and enhancing **institutional capacities** on sustainable energy and natural resources governance and **community led governance of natural resources**.

Funded by NCF, DCA in partnership with NNSWA and Build Up Nepal has introduced a new **eco-friendly, interlocking brick technology** in **Nepal**. The brick technology is cheap, easy to use and reduce emissions from construction of buildings by up to 60% (compared to traditional burnt bricks or cement). At the same time, it delivers a resilient building design in a country, very exposed to earthquakes - and by using local materials and supporting local micro enterprises, the brick technology contributes to local employment and income-generating option for poor and marginalized families.