

PATHWAY TO POSSIBILITY:

Outlining Our Climate-Smart Commitments

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Our Pathway to Possibilities Climate Commitment

Mercy Corps takes bold action to meet the urgency of the climate crisis, working with communities on the front lines of climate change. From those living in fragile places to those living in or at risk of extreme poverty, we collaborate with the community members—often women, girls, and other marginalized groups—who face disproportionate climate burden but are essential to communities' ability to face the crisis.

The climate crisis is here, and it is disrupting the way communities around the world live, work, and care for each other. For some, these changes are irrevocable. As a global organization looking to meet not just urgent needs but facilitate communities' efforts to make lasting change in their lives, we know the climate crisis is already impacting every aspect of what we do.

This is why Mercy Corps has outlined an ambitious climate commitment, through our new Pathway to Possibilities strategy, that will ensure our team, technical approaches, and operations are ready for and reflective of the urgency of this crisis. In essence, our commitments outline the ways our work must change to ensure our programs have the enabling conditions to achieve climate impact. As an agency, we are committing to:



Walking the Talk. To be successful in our commitment we must first ensure we are reflecting the right values and skills across our organization. This requires us to:

- **Build our Climate IQ:** Increasing our collective fluency in climate knowledge and skills and attracting qualified talent eager and ready to join a climate-literate agency.
- **Reduce our Agency Footprint:** Owning and living our environmental stewardship goals and organizational carbon reduction goal (i.e., 50% reduction by 2030) in ways that support program quality.



Institutionalizing Processes to Ensure Program Impact. Our ambitious climate program strategies are already supporting communities in addressing climate threats and protecting wellbeing, but we need to commit to a set of processes that will strengthen the enabling environment to accelerate uptake and impact across our portfolio. These processes will help us to:

- **Better understand climate risks to our work:** Integrating climate risk screening into all project and program designs and preparedness planning for humanitarian response.

- **Clearly visualize climate impact at the country level through climate action plans:** Implementing locally-led climate-action planning processes, ideally as part of our country-level strategy processes, to ensure every team visualizes both how climate change impacts our work in context and our role in aligning climate action with national and local policy priorities.
- **Innovate, test, learn, and scale-up solutions:** Providing dedicated support for a pipeline of new ideas that seek to address specific climate related challenges, and that could be integrated and scaled throughout our portfolio.



Engage with the Global Climate Movement. The climate crisis is global, and Mercy Corps cannot do this work alone. While the network of global climate stakeholders is already large and complex, Mercy Corps has a valuable perspective that straddles the humanitarian, peacebuilding, and development sectors. More intentionally engaging this movement will increase our visibility, influence, learning, and impact. This requires us to:

- **Expand our funding base to new donors:** Broadening private fundraising efforts to attract new and flexible funds that can support all climate action, including targeting foundations and corporations with growing interest in climate change and a desire to fund scalable models.
- **Develop meaningful partnerships with climate stakeholders:** Building and maintaining lasting partnerships with local governments and civil society to catalyze climate action and ensuring our work is locally owned and contextualized. The right technical partners will also help increase our technical quality and expand our thinking and innovation.
- **Focus our advocacy efforts on global climate policy:** Using evidence from our programs and our voice to help ensure climate funding grows and is deployed in productive and equitable ways in the places we work.

Building on a strong foundation of programming to address climate risk, we hope these commitments signal Mercy Corps' enthusiasm to engage in the robust, ongoing conversation about how we collectively will tackle the existential threat of climate change.



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