

# The Growing Place: Update from *A Place to Grow*

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*“A Place to Grow” seeks to enable CARE to develop a deeper organization-wide understanding of how it can support women and girls in taking key leadership roles in its agriculture-related programs and accessing equal rights to agricultural development. It also seeks to better understand how to involve male decision-makers in supporting women in agriculture. CARE will identify some of its best practices in gender equality and agriculture in the field and develop and test practical tools for improving its programming at every stage of project design, implementation, measurement, documentation, and learning.*

To date, the project has:

- developed an assessment framework;
- selected projects for inclusion in a global desk review and contacted CARE offices for help in locating and collating documentation;
- begun a preliminary review of the documentation; and
- worked with CARE offices in Mozambique and Ghana to organize in-depth reviews of their agricultural and natural resource portfolios.

## Assessment framework developed

With the inputs of the Project Committee and other CARE staff, an assessment framework was developed in April, 2008 to guide the review. The framework consists of the conceptual underpinnings, key questions, project selection criteria, and methodology for the review of CARE’s agricultural portfolio.

## Desk review: Initiatives selected

Using the criteria outlined in the assessment framework, a number of projects were identified from the C-PIN 2007 database for inclusion in the desk review. The assessment will review project documents, evaluations, reports, and other relevant materials for projects in the agricultural/natural resources portfolio. A preliminary review of available documentation has been undertaken. However, responses to some requests for, or clarifications about, documentation are still pending. The documentation is being analyzed against the assessment framework. The Strategic Impact Inquiry (SII) also informs the analysis.

It is expected that some preliminary findings of the desk review will be available in early July.

Projects selected for inclusion in the desk review are:

- **Ethiopia:** ETH067 HH Income Building and Rural Empowerment for Transformation (HIBRET) South Gondar
- **Sudan:** SDN 113 – Southern Kordofan Emergency Assistance Project (SKEFAP)
- **Tanzania:** TZA050 Integrated Natural Resources Management Project (INRM)
- **Tanzania:** TZA053 Incomes and Village Institutions in the Ngurus (LIVING)
- **Kenya:** KE565 Kenya Horticultural Marketing Alliance (VEGCARE)
- **Kenya:** KEN081A Livestock Production and Marketing Enterprises Project (LIME)
- **Uganda:** UGA080 Agricultural Marketing Initiative (AMI)
- **Uganda:** UGA932 Income Smoothing Through Agricultural Marketing Interventions (ISAMI)
- **Burundi:** BD1048 Livelihood Security Initiative
- **Ghana:** GHA029 Trade Investment Program for a Competitive Export Economy (TIPCEE)
- **Malawi:** MWI1017 Improving Livelihoods through Increasing Food Security (I-LIFE)
- **Mali:** ML1066 Sécurité Alimentaire a travers la Promotion de l’Irriguées
- **Mozambique:** MOZ068 Strengthening Civil society for Rural Empowerment (SCORE)
- **Sierra Leone:** SLE042 Livelihood Enhancement and Asset Creation (LEAD)
- **Zambia:** ZMB066 Partnership Fund
- **Zimbabwe:** ZWE051 Consortium of Southern Africa Food Emergency (C-SAFE)
- **Angola:** AG0058 Best Practice for Food Security (FAO/SPA)
- **Chad:** TCD304/TD370 Promotion de la Production Agricole dans l’est du Tchad
- **India:** Sustained Nutrition Education Health And Livelihoods Program (SNEHAL)
- **Bangladesh:** to be identified
- **Central America** (to be determined by local consultant)

## In-country review

Over the past month, the project has worked with CARE offices in Mozambique and Ghana to organize in-country reviews of the countries’ agricultural portfolios. The in-country review will take place in Mozambique between 15 – 27 June and in Ghana from 30 June to 9 July.

The work will include a full review of the agricultural portfolio as well as more in-depth review of selected projects.

The full review will consist of a documentation review, interviews, and focus group discussions with relevant staff. Organizational and programming aspects will be considered in terms of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges to addressing gender equality and women's empowerment in the agricultural portfolio.

A more in-depth "case study" review will be undertaken of the following projects and will involve a review of documentation and focus groups and interviews with key informants, partners, staff, and beneficiaries and others.

Projects for in-depth review include:

#### **Mozambique**

- MOZ032 Olima Wo Suka (OWS) complemented by
- DANIDA Framework for conservation agriculture and natural resource management, 2007-2012, Nampula
- Northern Inhambane Conservation Farming Project

#### **Ghana**

- Conservation Agriculture Project (CAP), Northern Ghana complemented by
- Sustainable Farming Systems Extension (FASE), Northern Ghana

While Angola is not included in the in-country visits, a more in-depth review of CARE's agricultural portfolio will also be undertaken during the assessment.

### **Central America**

Terms of Reference (TORs) have been prepared for a national consultant to undertake a desk review of CARE's agricultural projects in Central America as well as an in-depth assessment in Honduras.

### **Capacity strengthening approaches & materials**

CARE Country Offices involved in the desk review have also been requested to provide the project with documentation on the capacity strengthening approaches and materials on gender equality and women's empowerment which they have used in relation to their agricultural or natural resources projects.

This capacity strengthening material will be reviewed along with any further documentation identified during in-country work in Mozambique and Ghana.

### **Next steps**

Upon completion of the in-country reviews, the project will undertake an analysis and of the information gathered and prepare documentation in line with the project requirements.

### **For more information**

The project document with details on proposed outcomes, outputs, and activities, along with the timeline and consultants' biographies, are available at [www.edu.care](http://www.edu.care).

For further information on *A Place to Grow*, please contact:

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