



Food for the Hungry
Position Statement on Climate Change
November 2022

Food for the Hungry is moved and inspired by our Christian belief that every person has intrinsic value, and that it's our responsibility to advocate for the poor and marginalized. We acknowledge our responsibility to protect the environment and mitigate the impact of climate change on our world as stewards of God's creation, as reflected in our Heartbeat values. Humanity's misuse and waste of God-given resources has exacerbated the severity and scale of negative impacts caused by climate change, resulting from our failure to care for God's creation properly, and it is a growing threat to society.

As a Christian-based organization that seeks to end all forms of poverty by reaching out to the world's most vulnerable people, we are uniquely positioned to take immediate action to maximize efforts to reduce climate impacts and engage our partners and those we serve to restore and protect God's earth and creation for future generations. We pledge to integrate climate change programming across the organization as part of our commitment to reconcile people and God's creation.

Climate change has negatively affected the health and security of the entire world, disproportionately affecting the poorest and most vulnerable populations. Climate change is adversely impacting global gains against injustice, inequality, corruption, and disasters, especially for women and children. Those who are least responsible for creating climate change are the most at risk. They lack the power, capacity, and resources to adapt when changes occur. Through its [Shared Resilience Approach](#), FH will be working with societies and governments to foster a range of resilient and positive coping capacities to absorb shocks and stresses better, adapt to crises, and transform formal systems and institutions.

Food for the Hungry has committed to the [Interaction NGO Climate Compact](#) and the [ICRC/IFRC Climate Charter](#). Through this, we have made promises to prevent and mitigate our negative impacts on the natural world, integrate environmental stewardship into all aspects of our global organization, and uphold clear and consistent standards across the entire organization that will help us to advance the global agenda to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions and alleviate the effects of climate change on the people we serve.

We have pledged to act aggressively to achieve these commitments in the following ways:

1. **Education and advocacy** - We will work proactively to improve understanding among our supporters, partners, and staff of the challenges caused by climate change and environmental degradation on our world and the people we serve. This includes a commitment to give voice to the communities and people that serve and advocate for local, national, and international policies that prioritize the mitigation of climate change impacts.
2. **Cross-sectoral programs** - We will strengthen our technical expertise to develop and implement climate-aware, environmentally sustainable programs and mainstream climate and environmental considerations into all stages of all of our programs with a primary goal to maximize the resilience and adaptation capacity of affected communities while ensuring that the voices from those communities, especially women, youth, and other marginalized groups, are informing and benefitting from that process.
3. **Internal operations** - We are committed to protecting and caring for God's creation by reducing our negative environmental impacts. This includes an assessment and implementation of actions to reduce our carbon footprint by incorporating environmentally sound practices and policies in all our offices and operations. This will also include an exploration of our organization's relationships with the fossil fuel industry and other industries that generate large-scale negative impacts on the environment.
4. **Learning** - Across the organization, we will continue to learn about and debate new approaches, tools, and processes in international development and humanitarian work to address climate change and environmental degradation.

As followers and servants of God, we have an ethical responsibility not only to bear witness to climate change but to commit to working on reconciling the brokenness between creation and people. We hold ourselves accountable to God, our donors, and the communities we serve. We keep our promises by adopting best practices to mitigate the most significant impacts of climate change on the most vulnerable people and advocating and elevating community voices about the existential threats caused by climate change. Delaying action to address climate change will increase the environmental and societal consequences as well as the costs and will threaten the sustainability of development programs and the wise investments mentioned in our core values.

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About Food for the Hungry

Food for the Hungry (FH) is a Christian humanitarian organization ending all forms of human poverty by providing life-changing development programs, disaster relief, and advocacy. For over 50 years, FH has been working to respond to human suffering and graduate communities from extreme poverty into self-sustainability within a decade. By creating context-specific solutions in education, agriculture, health, livelihood, clean water, and disaster risk reduction, the nonprofit focuses on transformational development, investing in children as the key to lift entire communities out of poverty. With 99% of staff working in their country of origin, FH works side by side with local leaders, churches, and families to implement innovative solutions. The organization currently serves in over 20 countries worldwide. For more information, follow FH on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#), or visit www.fh.org