Empowering Women & Girls
Building Community Resilience

Founded in 1945, CARE (Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere) is a leading global humanitarian and international development organization dedicated to defending dignity and eradicating poverty. CARE enables lasting change by strengthening the capacity of communities and households through social, political and economic opportunities, delivering relief in emergencies, influencing policy decisions, and addressing discrimination.

In fiscal year 2018, CARE and partners worked in 95 countries to reach 56 million people directly through 965 projects and initiatives. CARE also reached 340 million people indirectly through its advocacy, replication of successful programs and scale up of innovations.

Our Focus on Women & Girls

Most of the 1.2 billion people around the world who live in poverty are women and girls. They are denied basic human rights, have limited access to health care, to education and to the opportunity to earn a living. They are frequently denied the opportunity to have a say in the decisions that affect their future.

Women and girls are not just the faces of poverty – they are the key to overcoming it and CARE invests in them as the greatest sources of untapped human potential in the world. When women are healthier, their children and families are healthier. For every year a girl spends in school, she raises her family income by up to 20 percent. And when women have an income, they invest in their children and families, creating benefits for generations to come. But women’s empowerment can only be achieved when we include men and boys, engaging with them so that they realize that the empowerment of their wives, sisters or mothers benefits the whole family. Promoting gender equality and empowering women is one of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For CARE, women’s empowerment is the key to lifting entire families out of poverty – and it defines our programmes worldwide.

CARE’s Program Strategy

**Humanitarian Action:** Our humanitarian work includes emergency preparedness and early action, emergency response and recovery, and also encourages future resilience and equitable development.

**Promoting Lasting Change and Innovative Solutions:** We support new ways of supplying or strengthening essential service delivery, building capacities, strengthening resilience to reduce risks, and empowering the most vulnerable, particularly women and girls.

**Multiplying Impact:** Together with our partners, CARE uses the evidence, learning and innovation from our humanitarian and long-term development work to influence broader change, at significant scale.
CARE IN THE PHILIPPINES

CARE has been providing emergency relief and development assistance in the Philippines since 1949. Over the years, the organization has developed strong working relations with local communities and local non-government organizations throughout the country and is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the Republic of the Philippines.

CARE has a long history in the Philippines being a partner of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) for the implementation of Nutribun program in the 1970s. Nutribun was designed as a convenient “ready-to-eat complete meal” for public elementary school feeding programs to combat child malnutrition in the Philippines.

Currently, CARE Philippines is implementing a number of programs, ranging from disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in rural and urban areas, to humanitarian assistance focusing on food, shelter, cash, protection, water, sanitation & hygiene, to recovery and rehabilitation focusing on women economic empowerment, health and livelihoods, across the Philippines.

Over the last six years, CARE Philippines has managed a portfolio of $45 million providing disaster response and rehabilitation assistance to approximately 600,000 people across the Philippines.

CARE’s main donors include the European Union, the Governments of Canada, Netherlands, Germany, France, USA, UK, as well as corporate donors such as Abbott, Diageo, International Hotel Group, Rationale Group, the Scala Initiative, etc.

In fiscal year 2019 CARE Philippines has reached **135,983** people directly and **2.06 million** indirectly through **19** projects.

CARE’S PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

CARE has a unique approach in the Philippines by partnering with over 30 local non-government organizations across the country. CARE has established its innovative Humanitarian Partnership Platform (HPP) with national organizations, local cooperatives, people’s organizations and private companies. The partnership allows CARE to respond to natural and man-made disasters with speed, scale and quality. CARE’s partners have strong and established presence in all regions of the Philippines.

CARE is a signatory for Charter for Change, and is committed to implementing all programs in the Philippines through partnerships with national organizations, thus increasing impact, sustainability and scalability of its programs.

ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN COORDINATION GROUPS

CARE is the current convener of the Philippine International NGO Network (PINGON), a member of Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), and a chair of Philippine Decision Making Group of Start Network.

CARE is also an active member of the following:

- Cash Working Group
- Mindanao Humanitarian Team
- Gender and Protection Working Group in Mindanao
- Humanitarian Communications Group & Community of Practice on Community Engagement led by United Nations OCHA
- Community of Practice on Community-Driven Development led by the Department of Social Welfare and Development.
- PINGON HR Network

CARE Philippines Capacity Statement | 2019
CARE works closely with local organizations, cooperatives, logistics companies and relief item suppliers across the Philippines in implementing both emergency & development projects.

LOCAL PARTNERS:

CARE’S FOCUS PROGRAMS

Humanitarian Response: CARE responded to the country’s major and minor emergencies such as typhoon Haiyan in 2013, typhoons Hagupit in 2014, Koppu and Melor in 2015, Sarika, Haiyan, Nock-ten in 2016, and the earthquake in Surigao City and Marawi siege in 2017, and typhoon Mangkhut in 2018. In each humanitarian response, we develop a Rapid Gender Analysis to better understand the power imbalances and social injustices in a given emergency – and to tailor our aid accordingly. We have built our internal capacity to ensure we have the right tools and the right specialists in place. The CARE Gender Marker tool evaluates our humanitarian aid from the planning stage through to the delivery of a response; rating to what extent a project has integrated gender into the approach. This helps us to refine and improve our aid delivery.

In fiscal year 2019, CARE has responded to emergencies in Surigao del Sur, Mountain Province, Kalinga, Benguet, Cagayan, Northern Samar, Leyte, Antique, Zamboanga City.

CARE Philippines self-recovery approach is a winner of the UK-based World Habitat Award in 2017 (https://www.world-habitat.org/world-habitat-awards/winners-and-finalists/post-haiyan-self-recovery-housing-programme/)

Livelihoods Recovery: CARE has a strong experience implementing livelihoods recovery programs with local partners. As one of the implementing organizations of the Global Affairs Canada, CARE supported over 153,000 people in 474 communities and 3 provinces through the Typhoon Haiyan Reconstruction Assistance. Using the “value chain approach”, CARE worked with local organizations in providing financial and training assistance to 145 community-based associations involved in cassava, seaweeds, vegetables, abaca and herbs production.

The project was also composed by strong advocacy components, being able to submit 44 policy proposals to government units on gender integration, disaster risk reduction, environmental management, commodity inclusion and sustainability, etc. In the province of Antique, CARE and partner Antique Development Foundation successfully influenced the Provincial Government to include abaca (Manila hemp) in the Provincial Commodity Plan providing more support to abaca farmers. To support the sustainability of the established community enterprises, CARE facilitated the 50 formal agreements of supported associations with collectives and market institutions.
**CARE’S FOCUS PROGRAMS**

**Integrated Risk Management (IRM):** In the Philippines, CARE empowers vulnerable communities & local advocates to strengthen their resilience to various disasters. Thus, CARE is integrating disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation & ecosystems restoration and management across all our programs.

Currently, CARE is largely supporting the urban resilience of vulnerable cities in the country through the Partners for Resilience (PfR) program. Funded by the Netherlands’ Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the PfR builds capacity in policy dialogue among civil society to promote the IRM approach, in planning, policies and programmes of national, provincial and municipal governments, and the private sector. In addition, CARE is leading the European Union-funded Moving Urban Poor Communities Towards Resilience (MOVE-UP) project which is implemented in Metro Manila, Cebu, Cotabato and other major cities across the country, to actively engage local government units and community members in fortifying their capacity to prepare for and respond to natural disasters.

INCREASE, a CARE project funded by Germany-based Scala Initiatives, on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation is implemented in four disaster-prone areas in the Philippines (Cagayan, Mountain Province, Northern Samar and Surigao del Sur) through capacity building of communities in preparing for and mitigating hazards and risks, as well as involving the government units for more inclusive programming.

CARE also pilots the Resilience and Innovation Learning Hub (RILHub), a hub that gathers, produces and shares knowledge on IRM and innovations documenting and replicating best practices and works on new practical innovations to improve and address the gaps in current IRM work. The RILHub organizes learning sessions such as fora, workshops and conferences, as well as produces case studies, modules and other resource materials with local organizations involved in building resilience. An online platform hosts all the materials on www.rilhub.org.

**Health:** Globally, CARE has a strong portfolio and experience implementing health programs. CARE has started addressing health problems in disaster-affected communities since 2018. In Marawi City, CARE provided support on sexual and reproductive health and rights engaging regional, provincial and rural hospitals and health units. CARE also provided training on maternal health and family planning to community health workers, midwives and health providers in Marawi City and Lanao del Sur. CARE also provided maternal health supplies and medicines to rural health units in Lanao del Sur.

Currently, CARE is implementing the “Addressing Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs) in Humanitarian Settings”, a pilot program supported by Abbott for the management and prevention of certain NCDs such as diabetes, hypertension and obesity in conflict-affected areas. CARE’s health experts closely work with the Department of Health, the World Health Organization, the private sector and the Academe in implementing this project. Also, as dengue has been declared as an epidemic in the new Bangsamoro region in Mindanao, CARE proactively provided dengue prevention kits and awareness raising campaigns in various evacuation centers in Marawi City and Lanao del Sur.

**Gender-based Violence Prevention:** Gender-based violence (GBV) is one of the most pervasive and yet least-recognized human rights abuses in the world. As many as one in every three women has been beaten, coerced into sex or abused in some other way – most often by someone she knows, including by her husband or another male family member.

CARE has proactively helped in the prevention of GBV in Marawi City and Lanao del Sur after the Marawi siege. Through the partnership with AMDF, CARE was able to provide family conversation sessions, GBV awareness campaign tapping Muslim leaders and the establishment and dissemination of GBV referral pathways for women and girls. Also, CARE has been mainstreaming protection across all its programs with partners.

During the World Humanitarian Summit, CARE pledged to triple our funding to women-led groups by 2020 to enable them to engage meaningfully in humanitarian action, remaining committed to continuing our “gender transformative” approach.
**Innovations:** CARE, together with other international NGOs, established the TUKLAS Innovation Labs (Tuklas is the Filipino word for “discovery”). CARE led the Central and Southern Luzon and Metro Manila lab, supporting Filipino innovators and host communities fostering innovative solutions on disaster preparedness. The project provided them seed funding and capacity building to pilot and scale up their innovations around disaster risk reduction and management. CARE also initiated activities and events to connect the innovators to potential investors for further financial assistance.

CARE Philippines also won the Scale X by Design Cohort 3 program of CARE USA through the aGAP or Asenso sa Good Agricultural Practices. aGAP is a social enterprise project developed by CARE Philippines that provides small-scale farmers a bundle of farming solutions based on their preferences and needs. The innovation was born out from the interventions of the THRA project that assisted farmers in increasing their productivity through a package of farming solutions, quality inputs, updated farming techniques and information, access to market and financial service providers.

**Research:** CARE has been conducting research studies particularly on gender, humanitarian action and resilience. CARE is part of an action research to improve the integration of gender into Open Government Partnership processes and commitments. It is part of the Feminist Open Government Initiative in partnership with Results for Development and the Government of Canada through the International Development Research Center. Also, CARE is conducting a study on Climate Change Adaptation Funding, and a research on Self-Recovery Approach by the Communities in areas affected by typhoon Haiyan as part of the collaboration with World Habitat. CARE will be conducting a research project on Female Genital Mutilation in Mindanao funded by Vital Voices.

**LIST OF PREVIOUS AND ON-GOING PROJECTS OF CARE IN THE LAST 3 YEARS:**

- Moving Urban Poor towards Resilience in the Philippines (MOVE UP) - Funded by the European Union
- Partners for Resilience (PfR) - Funded by the Government of Netherlands, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Typhoon Haiyan Reconstruction Assistance—Funded by the Global Affairs Canada
- Addressing Noncommunicable Diseases in Humanitarian Settings—Funded by Abbott Fund
- Comprehensive and Integrated Response to the Forgotten Crisis in Mindanao—Funded by the European Union
- Response to the Unmet Needs of the Displaced Populations in Mindanao—Funded by the European Union
- Emergency Responses to Typhoons Haima, Nock-ten, Tembin, Yutu, Kai-tak, Marawi siege
- Anticipation Action for Lahar Risks—Funded by START Network
- TUKLAS Innovation Labs—Funded by the START Network
- Typhoon Mangkhut Response—Funded by the European Union
- Supporting Access to Family Planning and Post-Miscarriage Care in Mindanao
- Prevention of Gender-based Violence in Marawi City after the Siege—Funded by Vital Voices
- Community Enterprise Facility for Typhoon Haiyan-affected communities
- Women Enterprise Fund for Typhoon Haiyan-affected Women—Funded by H&M Foundation
- Typhoon Koppu and Nona Response—Funded by the European Union
- Emergency Responses to Surigao and Leyte earthquake, fire in Navotas, drought in Cordillera and Northern Samar