

CONTENTS

Message

Page 5

Our Mission

Rural Poverty

Page 6

Page 9

Our Work

Our Reach

Page 10

Page 12

Protecting the Planet

Four Pillars for 2019

Page 28

Page 27

Empowering People

Page 34

Creating Sustainable Prosperity

Fostering Innovative Pedagogy

Cornerstones of IIRR's work

Page 40

Page 46

Some of Our Impact

Page 13

Our programs in Africa

Page 14

Our programs in Asia

Page 15

2019 At a glance

Page 17

Financials

Page 57

Page 52

Our Partners

Page 61

Our Country Programs

Pages 18-25

Cambodia Ethiopia Kenya Myanmar Philippines South Sudan Uganda Zimbabwe **Our Supporters**

Page 63

Board of Trustees

Page 64

Our contacts

Page 65

Dear Friends and Partners

For 59 years, we at IIRR have been a significant global driving force in strengthening the economic opportunities of rural people by improving their health, education, and environment. As we prepare to celebrate our 60th founding anniversary in 2020, we look back on our journey with pride and look forward with optimism. Our country offices continue to work tirelessly, constantly assessing how rural communities engage with agriculture, nutrition, and climate change. IIRR's historically pioneering approach to locally relevant solutions has only become more relevant, inclusive, and people-centered over time.

2019 is a year that marks a significant milestone: as we reached 15 million lives through our anti-poverty programs in Asia and Africa over the last 59 years. We continue to implement innovative solutions for the well-being of rural communities and families and to provide mechanisms for them to ultimately realize their full potential. IIRR's impact has only made us even more enthusiastic about our future as we enter our 60th year.

We are deeply grateful to Dr. Isaac Bekalo for his outstanding leadership contribution to IIRR as well as our Board of Directors, our funders, partners and supporters whose collective efforts in 2019 propelled the growth and achievements of our organization, including our ongoing nutrition program, that aims at reaching 12M children in the Philippines.

Today, IIRR's work remains as relevant as ever. There are still over 700 million rural residents living in extreme poverty. Approximately 80% of the world's poor live in rural areas. To achieve Sustainable Development Goal 1.1 to "eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere", the global community must explore new ways of working.





To this end, IIRR is committed to expanding our resource base, our influence, our scope for action, and most importantly our impact on these rural communities we exist to serve.

We give you our heartfelt thanks, on behalf of the Board, the staff, and the communities, which you have supported, for your continued trust in our goal and mission. Our steadfast promise to you is that the interest of the communities we serve will always be at the heart of our plans and our work.

As we prepare this annual report in the spring of 2020, we too have had to pivot in step with the world as the effects of COVID-19 hit our communities, but we remain optimistic and look forward to celebrating with you our 60th anniversary in meaningful and creative ways. Stay tuned!

Ricardo Anzaldua-Montoya

Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Peter Williams

IIRR President

OUR MISSION

We enable communities and those who work with them to develop innovative, yet practical, solutions to poverty through a community-led development approach and to widely share these lessons to encourage replication.

Our commitment to ending extreme poverty in rural areas remains at the core of our mission.



Since 1960, IIRR has helped improve the lives of more than 15 million people from rural communities all over the world. From Asia to Africa, to South and Central America.

As the scope of our work continues to expand, we ensure that our results address the global challenges related to poverty reduction, inequality, health, education, climate crisis, and environmental degradation.





RURAL POVERTY

Currently, more than 700 million people live in extreme poverty. Approximately ten percent of the global population still survive on less than US\$1.90 a day.

80% of the world's poor live in fragile and conflict prone rural areas

Worldwide, the poverty rate in rural areas is at 17.2% — more than three times higher than in urban areas.

Every day, these communities fight hunger, malnutrition, diseases, and conflicts. They have limited access to education, medical services, and other essentials. Climate change, overpopulation, and weak government increase their daily suffering.

OUR WORK

For nearly 60 years, IIRR has been one of the world's leading NGOs focused on rural development. We have worked across the globe to build economic opportunities for rural people by improving their health, education and environment.

We have directly **impacted the lives of over 15 million people** through peoplecentered, innovative, and sustainable approaches for rural development.

Our relationship with the SDGs

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Clean Water, Reduced Inequality, Climate Actions, Strengthen Institutions and Build Partnership for Sustainable Development perfectly align with our mission, areas of impact, and interventions. In the country section of this report, you will see the relevant SDG icons indicating the goals that are addressed by our country interventions.

We deliver our services by employing the following four approaches to empower rural communities towards self-development, dignity and ultimately, end extreme poverty.





Learning community

Together with our local development partners, we learn and jointly incubate anti-poverty reduction models.

Community-led and managed

Interventions are designed to allow communities to take control and engage actively.





Scaling-up knowledge

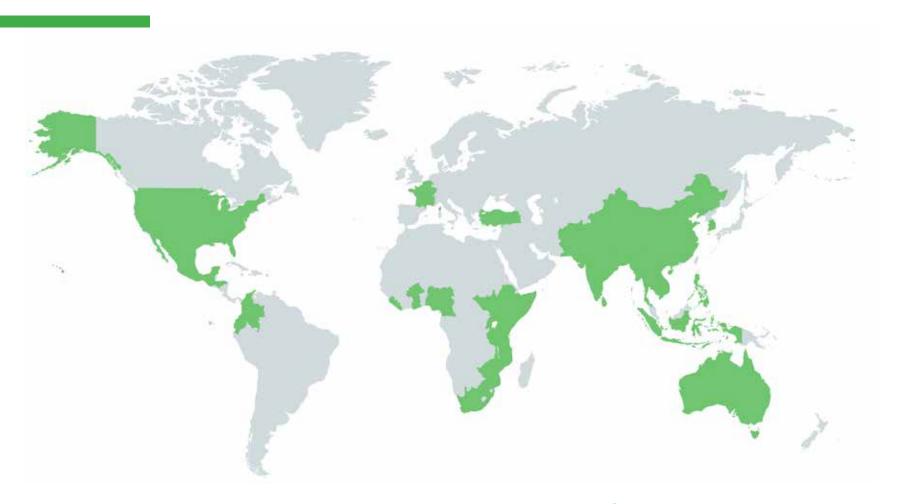
Lessons learned and knowledge from programs are strategically scaled to reach more communities, governments and development actors for a wider adoption.

Building a community of practice

Encouraging local leaders and experts within the learning communities to bring the knowledge, experien.ces and benefits from program innovations to more communities.



OUR REACH



More than 14,000 development professionals in 46 countries trained and collaborated with us in charting solutions that will end rural poverty.

some of our impact

in individual farming incomes by adoption of climate-smart agriculture techniques





addressing malnutrition

Over the last 8 years, we have reached 796 schools and 659.893 beneficiaries through our Integrated School Nutrition Model in Philippines.

\$150 millior

funds raised to support rural programs over the years

Every \$1 invested in livestock management practices is yielding \$4-6 in economic returns to the pastoralists **livestock**

15 million lives improved

through our anti-poverty programs in Africa and Asia

Countries we have reached

Afghanistan

Mozambique

Australia

Mvanmar

Bangladesh

Nepal

Belgium

Nigeria

Bhutan

Pakistan

Burkina Faso

Philippines

Cambodia

Rwanda

Cameroon

Sierra Leone

China

Somalia

Colombia

Solomon Islands

Ecuador

South Africa

Ethiopia

South Korea

South Sudan

France Ghana

Sri Lanka

Guatemala

Honduras

Sudan

India

Tanzania

Thailand

Indonesia

Timor Leste

Kenya

Turkey Uganda

Laos Liberia

USA

Malawi

Vietnam

Mexico

7imbabwe

13

OUR PROGRAMS IN AFRICA ETHIOPIA YEAR ESTABLISHED: 1997 SOUTH SUDAN YEAR ESTABLISHED: 2012 UGANDA YEAR ESTABLISHED: 2006 KENYA YEAR ESTABLISHED: 1995 ZIMBABWE YEAR ESTABLISHED: 2012



In 2019, we implemented anti-poverty programs that had direct impacts on **448,759** people in 8 countries.





696 individuals benefitted

from Zimbabwe's Bio-intensive Gardening Project

farmers trained on System of Rice Intensification in Cambodia

128,293 through our nutrition programs in the Philippines

20,000 land titles/Certificate of Customary distributed in Uganda

\$3,651,484 to implement our anti-poverty programs in Africa and Asia

12,566 girls

continued their education and learned their rights in Kenya

32,000 pastoralists improved resilience

through improvedmarket linkages, improved incomes & improved access to weather climate information in **Kenya**

1,200 learners in 9 cattle camps

in South Sudan were equipped with literacy and numeracy skills

38,964 women beneficiaries

climate-smart villages supported in Myanmar

30 knowledge materials

2019

developed and widely shared by all our programs in 2019

learning events facilitated in various countries



CAMBODIA

PEOPLE REACHED

16,560

WOMEN BENEFICIARIES

70%



Poorly functioning markets and lack of infrastructure contribute to the economic failures of smallholder farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs in Cambodia. IIRR works to address food insecurity, malnutrition and climate change impacts on rural farmers. To date, our programs have contributed to building the local communities' self-reliance by strengthening their ability to plan, finance, and implement their own development solutions.























ETHIOPIA

PEOPLE REACHED WOMEN BENEFICIARIES

77,928

50%



Ethiopia is prone to drought, famine, conflict and climate variability. The unpredictability of climate patterns leads to low crop yields and decreased livestock sales that have pushed 15 million Ethiopians to the edge of poverty. Pastoralists and women are particularly affected by these challenges. Since 1997, IIRR has worked in Ethiopia to bring education for pastoralists and disadvantaged communities. IIRR also works to enhance access to livestock markets and data to strengthen livelihoods focusing on women, young girls and youth.

















KENYA

PEOPLE REACHED

70,602

WOMEN BENEFICIARIES

53%



In Kenya, the most basic education systems available to pastoralists are characterized by limited access, gender inequality, low retention, and poor infrastructure. Kenyan girls and women remain economically disadvantaged, with no access to education, health services, and in exercising their rights. IIRR develops a flexible education curriculum-mobile schools, evening classes, ample materials and review—to fit with pastoral mobility patterns and allow communities to help with their families by becoming independent and contributing to their household income.



















MYANMAR

PEOPLE REACHED

1,632

WOMEN BENEFICIARIES

35%



While Myanmar shows signs of economic growth and engagement within the region, a significant percentage of the population is still poor. As much as 25% of Myanmar's households live below the official poverty line and about 10% live even below the food poverty line. In 2013, IIRR promoted climate-smart agriculture and community-based adaptation for the resilient livelihood of local villages. To date, the Myanmar program now supports four climate-smart villages representing different agro-ecologies in the country.





















PHILIPPINES

PEOPLE REACHED WOMEN BENEFICIARIES

168,091

50%



The majority of rural communities rely on agriculture for livelihood. Natural calamities and economic shocks in the past few years brought significant damage to the economy and have pushed farmers deep into poverty. Food insecurity is also a serious issue among millions of children. IIRR works to advance and uplift the lives of the rural marginalized communities by working with local communities for a more resilient livelihood and to end hunger and by addressing the alarming malnutrition rates in the country.























SOUTH SUDAN

PEOPLE REACHED

48,000

WOMEN BENEFICIARIES

60%



South Sudan continues to experience isolated incidences of conflicts in many parts of the country resulting in an increased number of internally displaced people and refugees. IIRR works to strengthen food security and provide quality education for South Sudan's pastoralist communities.















UGANDA

PEOPLE REACHED

65,250

WOMEN BENEFICIARIES

55%



IIRR in Uganda works to strengthen the livelihoods, education and land tenure of rural communities. For instance, the program helped improve the capacity of land actors in land administration which helped the vulnerable men and women in society including widows, poor youth and persons with disability realize their land rights. IIRR has helped over 20,000 smallholder farmers in the Elgon and South Western regions of Uganda to acquire documented evidence of land ownership in the form of Certificates of Customary Land Ownership.























ZIMBABWE

PEOPLE REACHED

696

WOMEN BENEFICIARIES

68%



In an effort to overcome the challenges associated with malnutrition, IIRR, the government and non-governmental organizations have consistently promoted community nutritional gardening to improve the nutritional value of agricultural production of vulnerable households. Activities focus on diet diversification, vegetable production and nutrition awareness. IIRR Bio-intensive gardening practices contributed to food, nutrition and provided income security of 116 households.















OUR PILLARS

For this year's annual report, we have divided our programs accomplishments into four pillars, namely; **Planet, People, Prosperity,** and **Pedagogy**. These pillars highlight how we use an intertwined framework to work towards fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals.

The world is facing a climate emergency that is outpacing our efforts to mitigate it. Our **Planet** pillar provides an insight into the programs that protect and conserve our environment.

Additionally, as we know, the world is on a path to dignity and a healthy environment. Still, we need to face complex challenges like conflict and climate change that directly impact the well being of humankind. Therefore, our **People** pillar emphasizes how education in all forms empowers the rural communities to fight the daunting challenges.

With access to quality education, the marginalized communities become equipped with tools that help them in management and marketing strategies.

Our **Prosperity** pillar provides an insight as to how IIRR is unleashing the power of rural people and making them self-sufficient.

Most of the times, livelihood skills and tools come in the form of simple solutions. Our **Pedagogy** pillar showcases IIRR efforts in bringing about life-changing solutions with the help of practical skills and techniques.

There is a reason why the whole world has come together to create the Sustainable Development Goals and other development indices: to develop a plan of action for the planet, people, prosperity, and pedagogy. The challenges facing the world are grave and even more complicated for the neglected and unheard rural communities.

2020 was dubbed as "the decade of delivery" by the United Nations at the World Economic Forum. This allows IIRR to align its sustainability while empowering the rural communities in the best possible way.





PROTECTING THE **PLANET**

A healthy environment plays a key role in maintaining the balance of the earth's ecosystem. With climate change causing more frequent and extreme weather events, the world needs to pick up the pace and put greater effort into finding better solutions to pollution, climate change, and biodiversity loss to transform societies and economies. IIRR implements community-centered approaches, featuring strong learning elements, that help promote out-scaling of models for bringing about the needed transformation on a scale that has a larger and more lasting impact.

In the Philippines, environmental ordinances and sustainable management strategies are being implemented to preserve a peatland. Peatlands are critical for preserving biodiversity, minimizing flood risk, and helping mitigate climate change impacts.

In Uganda, land ownership is being provided to smallholder farmers to provide food and financial security. This enables communities to become more productive while ensuring that their practices are sustainable, intensify agricultural productivity, improve household nutritional practices, diversify livelihood sources, and protect the environment on which their livelihoods depend.





NAVIGATING LEGAL CONCERNS IN PEATLAND CONSERVATION

Focus area: Leyte Sab-a Peatland Forest, Leyte, Philippines

Issue addressed: During the 1980s, the peatland was placed under the government's Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), whereby 1,756 hectares were distributed to farmers for agriculture. At that time, the government was nescient about the unsuitability of peatlands to agriculture. The conversion severely degraded the peatland forest and threatened the ecosystem services it provides, including its carbon sequestration functions. If left unprotected and unmanaged, the effects are detrimental to the environment and the communities surrounding it.

Our work: In partnership with the Forest Foundation Philippines, IIRR is facilitating a 5-year project to protect, restore, and sustainably manage 1,936 hectares of the Leyte Sab-a Peatland Forest. This includes reinstating, reverting, and restoring areas that come under the CARP. Since these areas are owned by poor farmers, IIRR is working with the Environmental Legal Assistance Center, Inc. (ELAC) to determine the best ways to conserve them.

One option was for the Agrarian Department to

cancel the titles while another was to revert the lands before the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). After ELAC assessed the status of the CARP lands and studied the legal options, a third option that is now being considered is to involve the landowners in the restoration and conservation efforts so as not to disenfranchise the owners. Meanwhile, the titles of abandoned lands (due to unproductivity or inaccessibility) can be cancelled and reverted to forestlands.

IIRR's main activities are:

- · Building legal and scientific evidence
- Development of environmental ordinances
- · Sustainable peatland management strategies

Peatlands provide many important ecosystem services, including water regulation, biodiversity conservation, and carbon sequestration and storage. IIRR will continue to work with communities to safeguard these services to mitigate climate change and protect the remaining peatlands and other important ecosystems from further degradation.



Peatlands are often burned by locals for other traditional uses.

SECURING LAND TENURE AMONG SMALLHOLDER FARMERS

Focus area: Elgon and South Western Uganda

Issue addressed: According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, Uganda has over 3.6 million small farms averaging less than 2.5 acres in size. Employing 70 percent of the population, agriculture contributes to half of Uganda's export earnings as well as a quarter of the country's gross domestic product. In such a scenario, it becomes critical that the smallholder farmers are the owners of their land in order to have a financially secure future.

Our work: Over 20,000 smallholder farmers in the Elgon and South Western regions of Uganda have acquired documented evidence of land ownership in the form of Certificates of Customary land Ownership (CCOs), through a project that is being implemented is being implemented by a partnership between the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), UN-Habitat, and IRR, to strengthento strengthen the capacity of land actors in land administration and realize land rights for vulnerable men and women in society including widows, poor youth and persons with disabilities.



I HAVE RESCUED MY MARITAL HOME

Kyomuhendo Roibah, 45, lives in Kishaze village, Rwanyana Parish, Rubaya Sub County in Kabale district. Kyomuhendo's husband passed away in 2017, leaving her with 9 children (4 boys and 5 girls). 2 of the children are already married, 1 is pursuing a teaching course in Kigongi Primary Teachers' College, 4 are in primary school while 2 are still in nursery school.

Kyomuhendo's land is approximately 2 acres where her marital home is situated. She also cultivates the rest of the area to grow various crops including, Irish potatoes, beans, sweet potatoes, sorghum as well as fruits and vegetables – passion fruits and cabbage. She says that farming is helping her to earn an income and feed her family on a balanced diet.

As a widow, Kyomuhendo always felt insecure. Her in-laws demand to take up the property and take care of the estates, leave her with a small chunk to grow just food for consumption.



"

""In July 2018, I attended a sensitization meeting at Rwanyena Trading centre where I got advice and courage to register my land, at just 10,000 Uganda Shillings. I applied and registered the land where my house is located. The fear I have been living in is no more!" "
--- Kyomuhendo Roibah, 45 years old, Kishaze Village, Rwanyana Parish, Rubaya sub-county, Kabale District, Uganda





EMPOWERING **PEOPLE**

Globally, the poverty rate in rural areas is 17.2% - that's three times higher than in urban areas. The rural people in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa are struggling to fulfill the most basic needs like education, health and access to water, sanitation, and sustainable food supply.

Education plays crucial role in rural development. IIRR bridges these gaps and enables access to education and necessary technical skills for communities to thrive amid poverty. With the right education, there is always a bright future in store for rural and marginalized communities.

The literacy program in South Sudan is based on appropriate learning models that are compatible with the pastoralist and nomadic cultures and lifestyles of the communities. In Myanmar, the community-based approach training is being imparted through the development of climate-smart villages.

Access to primary education and teaching people how to deal with climate change in agriculture is an urgent solution that will break the cycle of rural poverty. IIRR remains committed to bringing opportunities to the rural communities we serve.



IMPLEMENTING LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS IN CATTLE CAMPS

Focus area: Lake State, South Sudan,

80 percent of the South Sudanese population cannot read or write. Less than 1 percent of the Children who complete level 3 can join mainstream girls in the country complete primary education. primary school education. The curriculum for each have continuous access to quality education.

Our work: Integrated Field School Program has opportunity to attain an education that they cannot been implemented in Lake State in partnership access due to their mobile nature of life with FAO and UNESCO. The implementation is in the scale- up phase for the period of September 2019 - March 2021. A total of 27 community A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR ME facilitators were selected from the cattle camps, deliver the Mobile Pastoralist Education curriculum. attached to conduct the teaching and learning in each cattle camp. Each facilitator is designated youth, and adults. A total of 1,200 (800 females, 400 males) learners in 9 cattle camps were equipped with literacy and numeracy skills. Taking teaching more with fellow youth in the cattle camps. and learning to the cattle camps have increased literacy levels by 35%. The adult learners are trained using functional adult literacy methodologies. The

Issue addressed: According to the UN, more than topics of each session are linked to their livelihoods.

Due to the nomadic nature, the marginalized level is designed for 6 months. Children can read pastoralist community living with cattle do not and write their names, name items, dial and make calls, count money, tell the expiry date of the drugs, tell the date and time. This alternative education strategy provides children in the cattle camp

trained for 5 weeks in October-November 2019 to Deng Gop Awur, 30 years old is a learner in Nem-thok Learning Centre. He is one of the many youths in The facilitators live and move with the cattle camp the cattle camps that had never gotten a chance of communities. Three community facilitators are attending school. Deng says all he knew was to look after cattle and provide security to other members against attack or cattle raiding. When asked if he to handle a specific category of learners; children, will continue with the learning Deng shared that he is excited because we thought education would never come to the cattle camps. He now interacts



"I am grateful for the opportunity to learn. Our facilitators are welcoming and they keep encouraging us to attend the learning sessions. In the beginning I was shy and could not mention my name loudly when many people were listening. I have now learnt how to differentiate pictures of different items by name like trees, animals, and houses. I am learning how to write my name. I am sure I will be able to read like my brothers and sisters who are studying in towns. I call upon other youth to join so that we are not looked at as illiterates any more"

--- Deng Gop Awur, 30 years old, Nem -**Thok Learning Camp, South Sudan**

ENHANCING THE ADAPTIVE CAPACITIES OF FARMERS UNDER A CHANGING CLIMATE

Focus area: Myanmar

Issue addressed: Climate variability is experienced in most parts of Myanmar. Some parts receive excessive rain while other parts deal with drought during the cropping cycles. Access to safe and reliable water is a key constraint to livelihoods and food production particularly for agriculture, livestock, and domestic use. Poor women suffer disproportionately from hunger, food insecurity, and the lack of adequate health services. Women have relatively lower status in the household and are the first to sacrifice their hunger and nourishment if the household does not have sufficient food.

Our work: IIRR promotes climate-smart agriculture and community-based adaptation to diversify the options of local farmers and poor communities. Establishing evidence base through participatory and collaborative approaches associated with action research ensures more active involvement of farmers, including women in the adaptation process. IIRR collaborates with development partners to deliver climate-resilient options that will protect and benefit rural communities.



GOATS - PROMISING LIVESTOCK FOR CENTRAL DRY ZONES

Daw Ngwe Po from the Myanmar dry zone participated in small-scale homestead goat rearing. This is one of the many options for building climate resilience in the Myanmar dry zone implemented by IIRR and its local NGO partner Community Development Association. She received 2 goats on 19 February 2019 to support her household.

Goats are promising livestock in the dry zone. Raising goats does not require a lot of water compared to other small livestock and feeds can be grown in homesteads. Farmers can also grow legume fodder crops that can enrich the soil and the greens can be harvested to feed the goats. Goats multiply fast and they provide meat to supply protein the village.

After 10 months of receiving goats from the project, she now owns a total of six goats including 4 newborns. She can now manage her own business and not just rely on farming which is affected by long dry seasons. She also participated in training programs such as proper feeding and caring for the goats that IIRR provided. She is actively participating in the village meetings where she shared her experience and lesson learned to other



beneficiaries.

Daw Ngwe Po hopes that she will own 15-20 goats in the next one year under her proper care and management. This is an example of how IIRR achieves the goal of building resilience to climate change, creating income and empowering vulnerable women to become active in the village development.

"I am the head of our family and we are farmers. Farming is also very difficult now because of the long dry season and rain is very limited. My family have no choice but to work outside the village as a wage laborer. This is why I am very happy that I was selected to receive goats so that I will no longer depend on farming. Goats are very good animals to keep here in our village"

--- Daw Ngwe Po, Myanmar





CREATING SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY

Poverty has many dimensions, but its main causes include unemployment, social exclusion, and high vulnerability of susceptible populations to diseases. The vicious cycle of poverty prevents people from being productive.

Although disadvantaged, rural communities have the potential for self-development and dignity. When given the right opportunities they possess the power to make permanent changes to the quality of life.

In Cambodia, sustainable cassava farming techniques have increased the farmers' income tremendously thereby making them economically independent. In Ethiopia, the initiative of strengthening livestock market information is being implemented so that the local pastoralists can make better informed decisions that are profitable.

IRR helps release the power of the rural hard working people to attain economic and social prosperity, equality, and peace by providing training in livestock management, enterprise development, marketing strategies and climate change adaptations to make rural livelihoods more resilient.



PROMOTING INFORMATION PLATFORMS FOR LIVESTOCK PRDUCERS

Focus area: Borena Zone, Oramia Region, Ethiopia

Issue addressed: Infrastructural, institutional and policy constraints can reduce livestock smallholder producer's ability to benefit more from their production activities.

In Borena Zone, livestock producers don't have special forums to discuss their critical concerns like feed/forage issues, livestock market price, weather information, government policy, access to finance, and other constraints to marketing and trade that aggravates the economic hardships of the pastoralists. Moreover, livestock trading enterprises and the concerned government officers didn't have a joint forum to come together and discuss the challenges in the sector. As a result, there is a general lack of cohesion in the chain with every one of them operating independently. There is no one responsible to coordinate various efforts as livestock actors traded across the chain. They rely on their gut feeling to decide on the buying and selling of livestock.

Our work: IIRR worked along CLIMARK on the initiative of strengthening the livestock market information and to protect the smallholder producers by forming a project steering committee and livestock marketing stakeholders' forums. The steering committee meets every month and



with a mandate to support the CLIMARK project implementation in line with the needs of the local value chain actors.

The steering committee is also a member of the stakeholder forum and engages with other project members to tackle the progress of implementations. The committee also contributes to the discussion of other relevant issues to empower the market chain. The stakeholders' forum convenes every quarter to reflect on issues raised by the livestock market stakeholders - from policy issues, access to finance, market infrastructure, and linkage with high end market, Due to this, the livestock producers have found a platform to express their needs and challenges to their stakeholders.



"As a result of the continued forum discussions, we finally have recognized challenges of the youth and women livestock producers and enterprises to trade in bulk. We pledge to assist in some ways. We will build a collection centre and to free transport service form the collection centres to the slaughter and processing facility"

--- Ilana Frigico Boran Foods PLC and Organic modern mojo

43

BOOSTING CAMBODIA'S SUSTAINABLE CASSAVA FARMING

Focus area: Banteay Meanchey and Oddar Meanchey provinces, Cambodia

Issue addressed: After planting cassava for several years in Cambodia, the soil fertility has decreased and hence the cassava yield also decreased.

Cassava is a common crop for smallholder farmers in Cambodia. It is grown for export to Vietnam and Thailand. China is a country that buys a huge amount of cassava. In addition, cassava is considered as a drought tolerant crop suitable for many areas in Cambodia, especially in the upland areas. It is now the second largest crop production in Cambodia after rice. It is grown primarily for the extraction of starch and animal feed. In recent years, there has also been a major interest in using cassava as a raw material for the production of ethanol. Banteay Meanchey and Oddar Meanchey provinces are among the provinces with high numbers of cassava farmers. With the growing demand, it becomes imperative to introduce sustainable farming techniques in order to main soil fertility and increase yield per hectare.





Our work: Mr. Neab Nei, is a cassava demonstration farmer with the RED IV Program in Banteay Meanchey province. He has joined the training and capacity building activities provided by the IIRR,

Together with other farmers, he has participated in the technical training, follow-up visits, and coaching.

He has learned the cropping system, good planting material selection, storage, land preparation, planting technique, fertilizer application, weed, and pest management among others.

The training also included ideas for operating a successful cassava business, how cassava could be sold with a better price that provides farmers with a higher profit, He now knows how to select good planting materials used for cutting the cassava stems. The success of growing a healthy cassava also relies on how it is cut. If done incorrectly, the cassava would grow slow and would be susceptible to pest and disease which can result in low yield and income.

Since attending the training, he understands the competition of nutrient absorption between cassava and weed, he is now trying to conduct more weeding to enhance the growth and development of the cassava.

"

"Appropriate fertilizer application has enabled me to save expenses on buying fertilizer from the market, and more importantly to make cassava grow fast in good performance. My income had significantly increased from \$441 to \$1,088. That's over 240% increase. I am grateful. "--- Mr. Neab Nei, Cassava demonstration farmer under the IIRR RED IV Training Program





FOSTERING INNOVATIVE PEDAGOGY

Education gives those in rural communities the power to transform their lives. It builds the knowledge and confidence needed to achieve dreams and breaks down barriers to opportunity.

Communities in rural areas have limited access to education that will prepare them to fight poverty. Climate change and societal inequalities increase their daily suffering.

In such scenarios, it has become imperative to train the communities on specific skills so that they can attain sustainable livelihoods.

In Zimbabwe, the farmers are being trained in regenerative agriculture techniques to attain food security. In Kenya, a weather information mobile app is being used to mitigate the impacts of climate change and ensure food security in the areas severely impacted by rapidly changing microclimates.

IIRR believes in introducing practical yet innovative training methods to the local communities, thereby making them self-sufficient and proficient in livelihood skills. Supporting education and trainings in all forms is the guiding force of the IIRR team.





REVITALISING REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

Focus area: Shurugwi district, Zimbabwe

Issue addressed: Currently, an estimated 5.5 million rural Zimbabweans face food insecurity.

Our work: The UN has declared Zimbabwe to be on the brink of human-made starvation. Zimbabwe experienced a drought in the 2018-2019 agricultural season. According to the 2019 Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee an estimated 5.5 million rural Zimbabweans face food insecurity. The role of smallholder farmers is critical in achieving food security.

Our work - IIRR, together with the Women in Communities (WICO), implemented a Regenerative Agriculture Approach through Bio-Intensive Gardening (BIG) project in ward 5 of Shurugwi district in Zimbabwe in February 2019, The communities are already reaping benefits from the technology. The project targeted a community garden reaching 580 direct beneficiaries from 116 households.

The beneficiaries were trained on BIG principles and practices which included use of ashes as lime, deep dug beds, composite making and using composite, use of liquid manure, growing fertilizer trees in the garden, pest control and using plants like hot pepper which they can grow on their own.



The beneficiaries have intensified their production and are currently getting enough vegetables for their families. They are able to sell the surplus locally.

One of the objectives of this project is to have this site as a learning center for BIG principles for the surround communities and hence the need for further support to fully demonstrate the BIG principles. This will enable it to reach about 2000 households from the surrounding eight community gardens.

"Before IIRR came to train us on BIG principles, we used to get very low yields from our vegetables. Now that we are growing our vegetables using BIG principles, our yields have increased more than 3 times what we

used to get. "

--- Mrs Thandiwe Chigovera, Mfiri Consolidated garden.

MAKING WEATHER INFORMATION ACCESSIBLE **TO PASTORALIST COMMUNITIES**

Focus area: Marsabit County, Kenya

Issue addressed: Climate change has resulted in severe weather disruptions leading to prolonged drought and food insecurity in Kenya. Due to the bureaucratic ways of interpreting and writing weather alerts, the meteorological services are prone to delays in the rural areas. The alerts only cover the large areas at county and sub-county level. The microclimates within the targeted regions are often neglected and not tracked.

Our Work - IIRR has been the implementing partner of the CLIMARK project that was set up assist pastoralist in adapting to the effects of climate change. Amfratech, a consortium member of CLIMARK developed a functional, easy-to-use mobile application and dashboard that collects weather information from an approved agriweather information source (aWhere) and sends through the forecasted weather patterns and provides actionable information to stakeholders.





"

"Approximately 3.4 million Kenyans are severely food insecure.
According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification System, large swathes of Marsabit county have reached 'crisis' levels of hunger and are increasingly vulnerable to 'emergency' levels. This is one step away from famine "

--- African Futures and Innovation Programme

The CLIMARK agri-weather is accessible using a Mobile Application, SMS, and the Dashboard. It supplements the use of traditional methods and uses technology to provide real time weather advisory. myAnga can provide 14-day forecasted weather information and forage cover prediction at the county ward level.

CLIMARK mainly focuses on areas that will develop systems that liberalize access of a weather

information for onward dissemination to beneficiaries.

CLIMARK helps in setting up of ward level community climate centers. The presence of smart subsidies to enable access to timely and actionable weather information. The project encourage partners to offer weather advisory by creating a conducive environment for Public Private Partnership.

CORNERSTONES OF IIRR'S WORK

INNOVATIVE SOLUTION

Cambodia's Drip Irrigation System

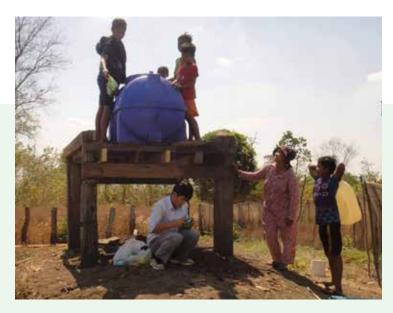
Drip irrigation is a type of micro-irrigation system that has the potential to save water and nutrients by allowing water to drip slowly to the roots of plants, either from above the soil surface or buried below the surface.

The goal is to place water directly into the root zone and minimize evaporation.

IIRR and CEDAC has installed 74
drip irrigation systems for target
farmers (37 women)
in 22 villages across
11 communes in
08 districts of Koh Kong
and Mondul Kiri province.
It has increased the water use
efficiency by 30-40%

Climate-smart agriculture

Water resources are dwindling in Cambodia as a result of climate change. On an annual basis, the country imports around 100,000 tons of fresh vegetables worth roughly US\$200 million from Vietnam, Laos and Thailand. Seasonality of vegetable growing plays a crucial role for the small farmers of Cambodia. As most of the vegetables are grown in the wet season, the dry season faces shortages of supply, and, the country has to depend on cross border imports of vegetables and fruits.



IIRR and the Cambodian Center for Study and Development in Agriculture (CEDAC) implements the Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Project (BCCP) with the purpose to address the impacts of climate change and variation on small farming family agriculture. Farmers have less water for cropping, especially in the dry season, therefore, efficient water use is badly needed for farmers. Furthermore, the drip irrigation system reduces the burden on women labor. With this solution, farmers can save water by 30-40%. Farmers can now apply family home gardening and vegetable growing to produce healthy and nutritious food for family consumption and income.

Empowering women and young girls

Women living in rural areas often have limited access to resources and have greater difficulty than men in gaining access to public services, social protection and decent employment opportunities. In villages in rural Kenya this is often the lived reality for women, increasing their risks of violence and harmful traditional practices such as Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) and early and forced marriage.

Managed by the UN Women on behalf of the UN system, the UN Trust Fund (UNTF) supports projects that focus on preventing violence, implementing laws and policies to address and eliminate violence against women and girls, and improving access to essential services for survivors.

Learning our way out - LOWO

The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women and IIRR implemented a project focused on addressing sexual and gender-based violence, ending early marriage and FGM/C in rural Kenyan communities. The "Learning our way out - LOWO" project soughts to improve the implementation of laws and policies designed to achieve social protect and equal opportunities.

The activities included training of local community-based facilitators to lead conversations with small groups, helping friends and neighbors to recognize the link between gender-based discrimination, women rights and socioeconomic situation. A community based referral system was built to help link survivors to legal support, medical services, psychosocial therapy, shelter and protection.



- 77

"I support IIRR in ending violence against women and girls. Let us stop FGM and discrimination among women. It is the first organization to ever penetrate through villages to meet women like me and teach. Thank you IIRR, because of you, I now have courage to report cases.

- Mama Rose Lekirpini from Sordo Village of Wamba-Samburu County, Kenya

MEANINGEUL PARTNERSHIPS

The United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund)

UNTF is the only global grant-making mechanism exclusively dedicated to eradicating all forms of violence against women and girls.

In the 22 years of its existence, it has supported 493 organizations,

investing in innovative and evdence-based civil society-led solutions and life-changing projects (UNTF, 2018)

Through LOWO, **92% of women and** girls are now aware of the violations against them. This was a **52% increase** from the start of the project.

68.2% of the girls and women felt

safe from female genital mutilation, forced marriage and other forms of sexual gender-based violence as compared to 35% at the start of the project and 50% of them are now aware of the response mechanisms to violence against them.

CORNERSTONES OF IIRR'S WORK

DEDICATED PROGRAMS

IIRR Philippine Program

The Philippine Program addresses key development issues such as income inequality, food insecurity, malnutrition, gender and education, climate change and disaster risk reduction.

IIRR Philippine Program has significantly contibuted in strengthening the country's capacity to improve health and nutrition of children and women in rural communities.

The Philippine's Department of Education has mainstreamed IIRR's Integrated School Nutrition Model by supporting the **training of 215**schools nationwide with a combined population of 237,120.

Scaling models on nutrition education and nutrition-sensitive programming

Of the 13.5 million children in Filipino public elementary schools, 2.3 million are severely wasted, wasted or obese. Malnutrition is an endemic problem in the Philippines where approximately one in three children under the age of 5 is stunted. Almost half of stunted children come from the poorest households, compared to only 15% from the wealthiest households. The country's progressive economic growth has not manifested in a significant reduction of high stunting and wasting rates which have increased over past years.



After 120 feeding days, 4 in 10 undernourished students (aged 5 – 10 years) attained normal status. With an additional 80 days of extended feeding for these children, there was a significant increase in mean weight and height: 0.44kg and 1.57cm for boys and 0.55kg and 1.96cm for girls. IIRR achieved these results by working in partnership with the Government's Department for Education and Food and Nutrition Research Institute, Department of Science and Technology, Philippines. 272 lighthouse schools per school division have been established till now. Over a period of 8 years, 81,055 children have been given supplementary feeding and approx. 659,893 learners received gardening and nutrition education.

Eco-Friendly highlights for 2019

Adapting the Energy and Resource Assessment by the Zero Carbon Resorts Project through GrAT -Center for Appropriate Technology based in Vienna, Austria, the Yen Center have taken simple steps yet with winning impacts on the environment.

Vision for 2020 - We envision the center to be more vibrant and competitive by 2020. Sustaining and further building on what it has achieved in the last eight (8) years to become a major revenue unit for the organization. Plans will need to be precisely implemented to fast track transformation of the center into a more marketable and profitable facility but limited to a variety of learning events. It will also aim to further transform itself into an environmentally friendly learning and nature discovery facility that is able to pay for its operating costs and infrastructure improvements. The Yen Center will adopt the concept of 3Rs (R-educe, R-eplace, R-edesign) in its operations to reduce resource consumption and costs by implementing available solutions, increasing productivity and ultimately reduce its carbon footprint.

POLICIES IMPLEMENTED



ENERGY CONSERVATION

- Use of LED light bulbs
- · Inverter type AC units
- Use of clear glass windows to allow use of natural light

REDUCTION OF WASTE WATER

- Full rehabilitation of campus water system
- Use of dual flush water closet
- · Rain water harvesting





DISPOSABLES AND CLEANING

- Banned the use of styrofoam packaging
- Policy in place for single use plastic bags
- Use of natural cleaning agents

FOOD AND COMPOSTING

- Integration of campus farm products and produce to our menus
- Window and vermin composting practiced
- Setting up of material recovery facility stations



SUSTAINABLE LEARNING CENTER

The James Yen Center

Named after IIRR founder, Dr. Y.C. James Yen - is a glorious **50-hectare campus** of foliage, birds, and insects fenced in by a greenbelt mini-forest. The Center is the headquarters of the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR), Regional Center for Asia, and Philippine Country Program.

It also houses **Yen Center conference facilities**, in an environment away from the hustle and bustle of the city, conducive to reflection, recreation, and learning.

In FY2019, the Yen Center **served 12, 608 clients** coming from government, academic, development, and faith-based organizations.

It has also been involved with the **Zero Carbon Resorts** Project through GrAT
Center for Appropriate Technology based in Vienna, Austria.

CORNERSTONES OF IIRR'S WORK

LEARNING BY DOING

Global Learning Program

IIRR continues to be an international training and enabling institution of choice for development practitioners.

From planning to the evaluation phase, the GLP regularly reviews the training methods and the results IIRR achieves. It also puts high value in tracking the applicability of training approaches that it passes on to every participant.

GLP has trained 282 participants in 2019 and has jointly organized a Regional workshop on

"Establishing Climate-Smart Villages (CSVs) in the ASEAN Region to Improve Food Security and Resiliency in Local Communities"

Overview for the year 2019

The Global Learning Program brought together development professionals from multifaceted spheres to address the impending challenges on climate change, food security and resilient livelihoods, education and nutrition.



Learning events

It organized two international courses – Participatory Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning, and Engaging Communities for Climate Change Adaptation Actions for Food and Livelihood Security. It also conducted learning events for local government units on 'Climate Resilient Agriculture and Family Farming' in the Philippines. The cohort included representatives from the government, university students, and farmers.

IIRR in partnership with the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), and the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture, and Food Security (CCAFS), jointly organized a workshop on Establishing Climate-Smart Villages (CSVs) in the ASEAN Region to Improve Food Security and Resiliency in Local Communities. It was held on 9-13 July 2019 to share innovations in implementing climate-smart agriculture concepts in rural communities and scaling it up through CSVs. Representatives from the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN), particularly from Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, and Thailand, participated in the workshop.

Partnerships formed

IIRR signed an agreement of cooperation with the University of Virginia - International Studies Office to jointly organize a Global Studies Practicum for its undergraduate students. It is a 3 weeks course that will cover topics such as rural development, food security, justice, nutrition and health, gender justice, and climate change.

FINANCIALS 2019

FINANCIAL REPORT

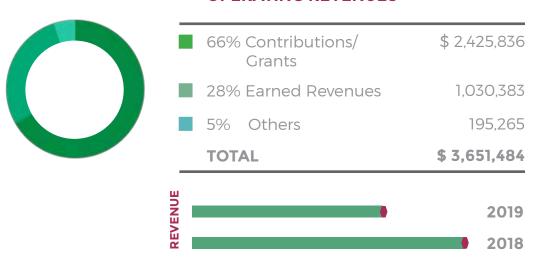
We are sincerely thankful to our supporters, donors, partners, and volunteers for providing necessary resources that helped us achieve our work and mission. Through your generous support, 2019 revenue reached \$3.6 million, of which \$2.4 million or 67% came from partner project funding and various other contributors supporting our programs. The remaining 33% of revenue, or \$1.2 million, came from offering training courses, technical assistance, and other services that augment the development funds for the communities we serve.

For the year 2019, spending was \$4.9 million; this includes expenses in implementing the projects that were approved in the current year and also from previous years. Of this spending, 89% or \$4.3 million was used to implement our core programs on Education, Food Security and Resilient Livelihoods, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Climate Change Adaptation. The remaining 11%, or \$560 thousand, was expenses for Management, General Operations, and Fund Raising.

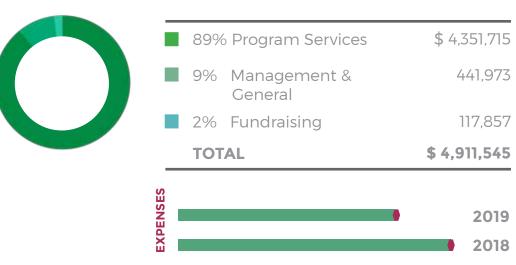
The financial audit for the current year is delayed due to the COVID-19. We will make the 2019 audited financial statements available on the IIRR website once they are complete.

We are proud to be recognized as an accountable and transparent organization receiving the highest ratings in the industry.

OPERATING REVENUES



OPERATING EXPENSES



STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES & CHANGES IN NET ASSETS (in US Dollars)

	nout donor	With donor restrictions	Total 2019	Total 2018
OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Operating Revenues:				
Contributions/Grants				
Foundations	\$ -	\$ 1,755,765	\$ 1,755,765	\$ 2,645,951
Governments	-	241,168	241,168	1,321,232
Individuals	168,562	30,376	198,938	907,818
Corporations	29,555	200,410	229,965	39,285
Use of campus facilities	644,802	-	644,802	556,538
Training courses, study missions and technical assistance	353,269	-	353,269	142,207
Workshops	28,411	-	28,411	78,203
Publication Sales	3,901	-	3,901	651
Others Reveneus	195,265	-	195,265	20,682
Total operating revenues before releases	1,423,765	2,227,719	3,651,484	5,712,567
Net assets released from restrictions:				
Satisfaction of program restrictions	3,070,591	(3,070,591)	-	-
Expiration of time restrictions	-	-	-	-
Total operating revenues	4,494,356	(842,872)	3,651,484	5,712,567
Operating expenses:				
Learning Community	3,648,335		3,648,335	4,639,787
Applied Learning	703,380	-	703,380	624,512
Management and General	441,973	<u>-</u>	441,973	551,382
Fund Raising	117,857	<u>-</u>	117,857	110,275
Total operating expenses	4,911,545	<u> </u>	4,911,545	5,925,956
Total operating expenses	4,511,545	-	4,911,545	5,925,956
Change in net assets from operating activities	(\$417,189)	(\$842,872)	(\$1,260,061)	(\$213,389)
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Contributions	_	_	_	6,249
Interest income	24,312	-	24,312	799
Interest expense	-	-	27,012	(2,435)
Translation and exchange gain (loss)	(148,468)	-	(148,468)	(28,869)
Investment return - net	152,970	_	152,970	(5,110)
Change in net assets from non-operating activities	28,814	-	28,814	(29,366)
Change in net assets	(388,375)	(842,872)	(1,231,247)	(242,755)
Net assets, beginning of the year	1,842,049	3,906,651	5,748,700	5,991,455
Net assets, end of the year	1,453,674	3,063,779	4,517,453	5,748,700

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION (in US Dollars)

- 1. The audited financial statements is delayed due to the COVID-19.
- All audited financial statements for prior years are available at IIRR website: www.iirr.org.
- Latest annual report filed with the Attorney General of the State of New York is available from IIRR or from the offices of the Attorney General of the State of New York, Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.
- 4. The Institute is exempt from Federal income taxes under Section 501 (c) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and has been classified as an organization which is not a private foundation under Section 509 (a).

The Institute qualifies as an organization to which contributions are subject to special limitation provisions under Section 170 (b) (1) (a) of the Code. Donations and contributions made to IIRR are tax deductable.

	As of December 31		
	2019	2018	
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,393,240	\$1,949,858	
Investments	766,401	663,552	
Current portion of contribution receivables	1,769,816	2,062,093	
Other receivables	104,007	106,992	
Prepayment and other current assets	212,043	25,619	
Total Current Assets	4,245,507	4,808,114	
Noncurrent Assets			
Noncurrent portion of contribution receivables	709,017	1,537,275	
Property and equipment - net	236,966	214,685	
Pension asset - net	-	32,948	
Other noncurrent assets	37,682	42,706	
Total Noncurrent Assets	983,665	1,827,614	
	\$5,229,172	\$6,635,728	
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	\$709,082	\$884,921	
Other noncurrent liabilities	2,637	2.107	
Total Liabilities	711,719	887,028	
Total Liabilities	711,713	007,020	
Net Assets			
Without donor restrictions	1,453,674	1,842,049	
With donor restrictions	3,063,779	3,906,651	
Total Net Assets	4,517,453	5,748,700	
	\$5,229,172	\$6,635,728	

OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

We are grateful to all of our partners and supporters and would like to take this special opportunity to acknowledge the following institutions and individuals for their commitment to the rural poor. Your generosity and support are helping us to enable communities to reach their full potential and implement solutions to poverty.

Thank you!

DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES, GOVERNMENT AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

Anonymous

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Asian Zone Emergency and Environment Cooperation Network (AZEECON)

Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), Department of Agriculture (DA) - Philippines

Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation (CEDAC)

Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)

Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

European Union (EU)

Family Health International Solutions LLC (FHI)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Kenya Markets Trust (KMT)

Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development (MoFPED) - Uganda

Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

(UNWomen)

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)

United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

ViiV Healthcare

World Food Program (WFP) - Uganda

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

FOUNDATIONS

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC)

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Charina Foundation

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Jewish Communal Fund

Give2Asia

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63

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PUBLISHING DETAILS

PUBLISHED BY

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PUBLISHED IN June 2020

Printed in IIRR Headquarters, Silang, Cavite 4118, Philippines A PDF version of this report can be downloaded at iirr.org/about-us/financials

65

