

FACTSHEET

Promoting inclusive climate resilience in Bungoma County, Kenya

Disability leadership, early warning systems and livelihoods



Image caption: Wycliffe, 49, was given a white cane and training on climate change as part of CBM's project in Bungoma County. He is now a climate change committee member in his local ward. ©CBM UK/Plateau Media.

This project shows when barriers to participation are addressed people with disabilities act on early warnings messages at the same rates as other groups.

Project outcomes

8,417

people directly supported, including 2,380 people with disabilities

7,000

households assisted with livelihood strengthening and diversification

12,000+

community members educated on climate action via community engagement

16

local government first responders trained in inclusive emergency preparedness and first aid

Project description

Project Partners

CBM Global, CBM UK, The Kenya Red Cross, Kenyan OPD Disability Empowerment Network, County government of Bungoma and community groups of people with disabilities and youth

Funding Partners

Australian NGO Cooperation Program – DFAT ANCP

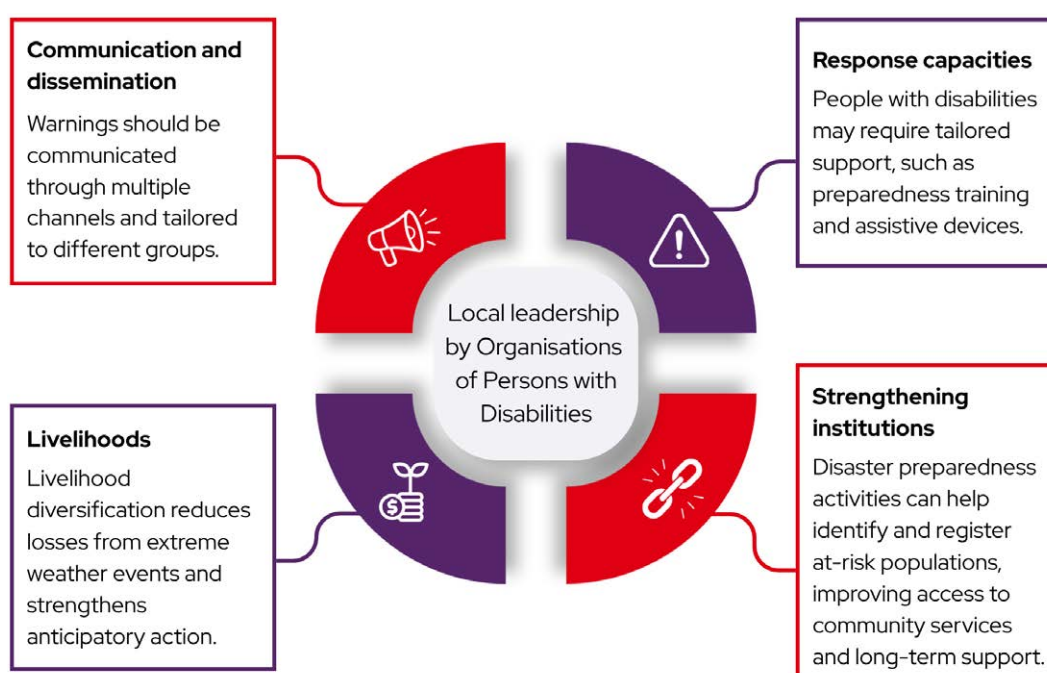
Project Timeline

April 2022 – December 2025

Bungoma County, Kenya faces recurrent floods, landslides and droughts that threaten agricultural livelihoods and food security. The Promoting Inclusive Climate Resilience project showed that combining inclusive early action early warning systems (EWEA) with climate-resilient livelihoods increased anticipatory action, and reduced household losses from natural hazards, including those associated with climate change. When barriers to participation are addressed, people with disabilities can access and act on early warning information at comparable rates to other groups.

Key factors of this success were collaboration between local authorities and Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs), accessible communication and information, strengthened links to community services and the integration of climate-resilient livelihoods with early warning systems. Interventions across four pillars of effective early warning systems contributed to more inclusive preparedness and anticipatory action.

Creating disability-inclusive early warning systems



Recommendations

The recommendations below identify priority actions for strengthening inclusive early warning systems and climate-resilient livelihoods.

1. Integrate climate-resilient livelihoods into inclusive early warning systems.

Funders should invest in livelihood diversification because it strengthens anticipatory action and reduces losses from climate-related shocks. Income resilience indicators such as stability, recovery time, savings and reduction in losses should be monitored in addition to increases in income.

2. Institutionalise OPD leadership in climate and disaster governance.

Policy makers and programme implementers should strengthen OPD participation within formal disaster risk management and climate governance structures. This can improve decision-making, accountability, and local ownership. This requires adequate resourcing and capacity support for OPDs.

3. Recognise and remove barriers to early action for people with disabilities.

Policy makers and programme implementers should prioritise the removal of systemic barriers that prevent people with disabilities and other marginalised groups from acting on early warning information. This includes preparedness support, accessible communication, disability registration pathways and access to assistive devices where required.

4. Strengthen disability-disaggregated data and evidence.

Reporting and monitoring, evaluation and learning systems should systematically collect and report disability-disaggregated data. Data disaggregation must move beyond broad demographic categories to better understand the intersecting nature of factors such as disability, age, gender and socioeconomics.

5. Utilise preparedness programmes to strengthen representation and access to services.

All stakeholders should utilise the opportunity presented during preparedness interventions to connect and increase the registration of marginalised groups such as youth and people with disabilities to available community-based services. This includes early warning systems, health services and representative civil society organisations such as OPDs.



Image caption: Wycliffe became a community climate champion as part of the Bungoma Project. He is now planting seedlings to protect against deforestation and speaking to churches and other local groups about climate change. ©CBM UK/Plateau Media.

Project partners



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