



GETCARE FOUNDATION

BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Strategic Programme Area Framework

Building resilient communities through sustainable livelihoods, inclusive institutions, climate adaptation and economic transformation

GetCare Community Resilience Framework



Cross-cutting: gender equality, youth empowerment, social inclusion, environmental sustainability, digital transformation and partnerships

Publication Series: GetCare Foundation Strategic Programme Area Frameworks | 2026

Publication Information

Item	Details
Title	Building Community Resilience: GetCare Foundation Strategic Programme Area Framework
Institution	GetCare Foundation
Publication Series	Strategic Programme Area Frameworks
Version	Website Download Edition
Date	July 2026
Geographic Orientation	Ghana and West Africa, with global development relevance

This publication presents GetCare Foundation's strategic framework for strengthening community resilience as a core focus area. It is designed for communities, public institutions, development partners, researchers, private-sector actors, donors and collaborators seeking to understand GetCare's approach to enabling vulnerable communities to withstand shocks, adapt to change and build pathways toward sustainable prosperity.

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Foreword

Across Ghana, West Africa and the wider global South, communities are increasingly exposed to overlapping shocks. Climate change, environmental degradation, food insecurity, economic instability, rising input prices, health risks, migration pressures and weakened local institutions are converging in ways that threaten the long-term wellbeing of households and ecosystems.

For GetCare Foundation, community resilience is not simply the capacity to recover after a shock. It is the ability of people and local institutions to anticipate risk, organize collectively, protect assets, diversify livelihoods, access reliable markets and shape their own development futures. Resilience therefore requires more than emergency response. It requires a long-term investment in people, institutions, natural resources, local economies and knowledge systems.

This Strategic Programme Area Framework sets out GetCare Foundation's approach to building resilient communities through sustainable livelihoods, inclusive institutions, climate and disaster preparedness, and market-linked economic transition. It reflects our belief that vulnerable communities can move from survival to opportunity when development is designed with them, not for them.

Evans Odoom
Chief Executive Officer
GetCare Foundation

Executive Summary

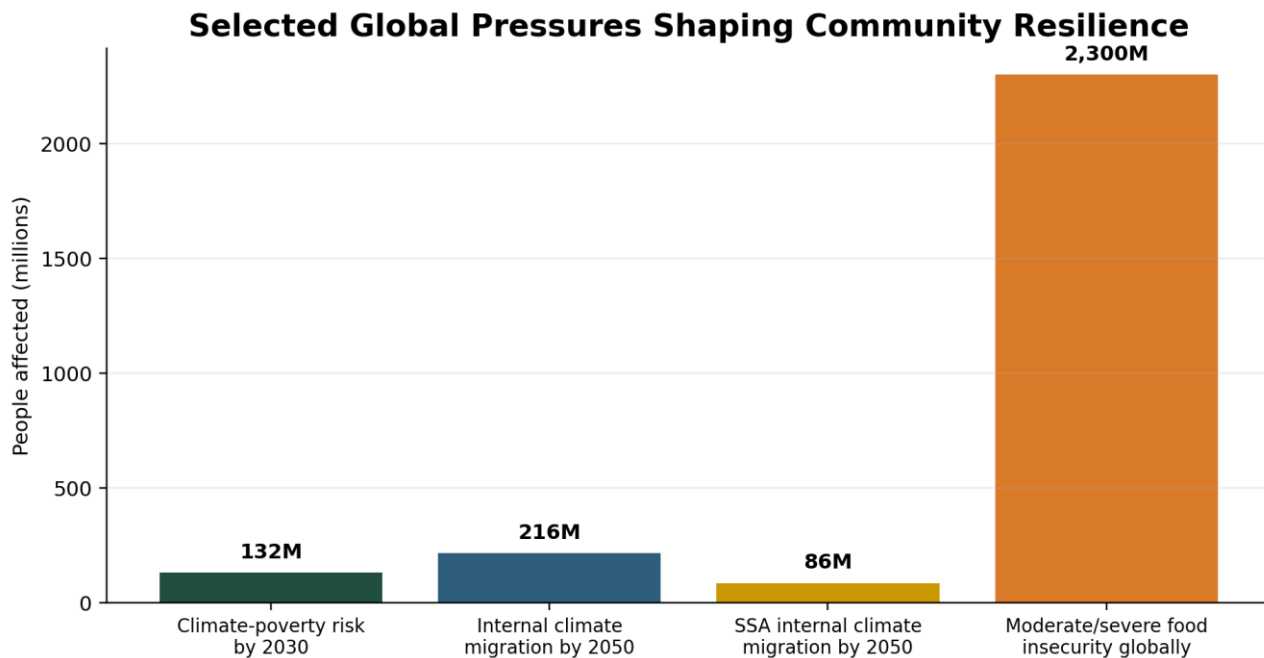
Building Community Resilience is one of GetCare Foundation's three Strategic Programme Areas. It complements the Foundation's work in Promoting Agrifood Systems and Improving Environmental Health by focusing on the households, institutions, social systems and local economies that must be strong enough to withstand shocks and sustain development gains.

Globally, climate change and economic instability are reversing development progress. World Bank climate-poverty estimates indicate that climate change could push up to 132 million additional people into extreme poverty by 2030 under many scenarios. The World Bank's Groundswell analysis also estimates that climate change could force 216 million people to migrate within their own countries by 2050, including up to 86 million in Sub-Saharan Africa. These pressures are especially acute in rural communities where livelihoods depend heavily on agriculture, natural resources and informal markets.

GetCare Foundation's Community Resilience Framework responds to these realities through four strategic pillars: strengthening and diversifying livelihoods; reinforcing community systems and institutions; advancing climate and disaster preparedness; and linking resilience to market systems and long-term economic transition.

This framework positions resilience as a pathway from vulnerability to opportunity. It emphasizes local leadership, inclusive economic systems, women and youth empowerment, climate adaptation, environmental sustainability, digital learning, market access and institutional partnerships. It is designed to support practical implementation while providing a credible platform for collaboration with governments, universities, development partners, private-sector actors and community institutions.

Framework Element	Strategic Emphasis
Primary Goal	Enable vulnerable communities to withstand shocks, adapt to change and build sustainable pathways to prosperity.
Core Beneficiaries	Smallholder farmers, women, youth, rural households, community groups, local enterprises and vulnerable populations.
Delivery Approach	Participatory planning, capacity building, institution strengthening, market integration, climate risk management and adaptive learning.
Expected Impact	Resilient communities with stronger livelihoods, inclusive institutions, diversified income, improved preparedness and better access to opportunities.



Sources synthesized from World Bank Groundswell and climate-poverty estimates; FAO/IFAD/UNICEF/WFP/WHO SOFI reporting.

Figure 1: Selected global pressures that increase the urgency of community resilience building.

1. The State of Community Resilience

Community resilience has become a defining development priority because many communities now face multiple shocks at the same time. Climate hazards are intensifying, food and energy prices fluctuate, conflicts disrupt livelihoods, ecological systems are under stress, and informal economies remain vulnerable to sudden downturns. These pressures affect people differently, but they often compound existing poverty and inequality.

For rural communities, resilience is strongly shaped by access to land, water, markets, finance, social networks, local leadership, infrastructure and climate information. When these systems are weak, a single shock can lead to crop failure, reduced income, school withdrawal, asset sales, food insecurity or migration. When these systems are strong, households can absorb shocks, adapt livelihoods and recover faster.

GetCare Foundation therefore approaches resilience as a systems issue. Rather than treating communities as passive recipients of aid, this framework recognizes them as agents of local transformation. The role of the Foundation is to strengthen the enabling conditions that allow communities to organize, learn, adapt and prosper.

Pressure	How it affects communities	Resilience response
Climate shocks	Crop losses, asset damage, water stress, displacement	Risk mapping, preparedness plans, climate-smart practices
Economic instability	Income loss, price volatility, reduced purchasing power	Income diversification, savings groups, market access
Environmental degradation	Reduced productivity, water insecurity, ecosystem decline	Restoration, natural resource governance, ecosystem-based adaptation
Weak institutions	Poor coordination, limited accountability, fragmented response	Community governance, cooperatives, leadership development
Market barriers	Low prices, post-harvest losses, unreliable buyers	Aggregation, quality assurance, buyer linkages, value addition

2. Community Resilience in Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa faces a distinctive resilience challenge because a large share of the population depends directly on climate-sensitive livelihoods, particularly rain-fed agriculture, livestock, fisheries, natural resource harvesting and informal trade. Climate variability interacts with limited infrastructure, constrained access to finance, market fragmentation and high youth unemployment to create recurring cycles of vulnerability.

The resilience challenge in Africa is not only environmental. It is also institutional and economic. Many communities have strong social capital and traditional knowledge, but local institutions often lack the technical resources, financing and coordination systems needed to respond effectively to shocks. This creates an urgent need for programmes that combine community leadership with evidence-based planning and market-oriented development.

For GetCare Foundation, Africa's resilience agenda must be rooted in practical local systems: diversified livelihoods, climate-smart agriculture, strong cooperatives, savings groups, inclusive markets, reliable data, preparedness plans and partnerships that help communities access opportunities before and after shocks.

3. Community Resilience in Ghana

Ghana's development progress has been significant, yet many rural and peri-urban communities remain vulnerable to climate, economic and environmental shocks. Agriculture remains a major livelihood base, while floods, droughts, land degradation, mining impacts, price volatility and limited market access continue to affect household stability.

In many rural areas, community resilience is shaped by the strength of farmer groups, savings associations, traditional leadership, local government institutions, youth networks, women's groups and market relationships. Where these systems are well organized, communities are better able to coordinate responses, mobilize resources and negotiate market opportunities.

GetCare Foundation's work in Ghana draws directly from field realities across farming communities, restoration landscapes and market systems. The Foundation's community resilience agenda is designed to support communities not only to cope with shocks, but also to build lasting institutional and economic capacity.

Ghana resilience priority	GetCare strategic response
Rural livelihoods and income security	Promote diversified income streams, agribusiness development and entrepreneurship.
Climate and disaster risk	Integrate climate risk assessment, early warning, adaptation planning and community preparedness.
Local institutional capacity	Strengthen cooperatives, savings groups, farmer networks and community governance structures.
Market access and transition	Link communities to value chains, reliable buyers, local processing and market information.

4. Understanding Community Resilience

Community resilience is the capacity of people, institutions and systems to anticipate, absorb, adapt to and transform in response to shocks and stresses. It includes the ability to reduce exposure to risks, protect key assets, maintain essential functions and pursue long-term development even under uncertainty.

GetCare Foundation applies a practical resilience lens. A resilient community is not defined only by what it can survive, but by what it can build: stronger livelihoods, better institutions, healthier ecosystems, inclusive markets and informed local leadership.

This approach recognizes five interdependent resilience assets: people and skills; institutions and governance; natural resources; markets and finance; and knowledge and data. When these assets are strengthened together, communities become more capable of managing change.



Figure 2: Community resilience as an integrated system of people, institutions, natural assets, markets and knowledge.

Dimension	Meaning in GetCare's framework	Illustrative actions
Absorptive capacity	Ability to withstand immediate shocks	Savings groups, emergency plans, social support systems
Adaptive capacity	Ability to adjust practices and livelihoods	Climate-smart farming, enterprise diversification, skills training
Transformative capacity	Ability to shift toward more sustainable systems	Market integration, local processing, governance reform, youth enterprise
Institutional capacity	Ability to coordinate and sustain action	Cooperatives, leadership training, community planning structures

5. GetCare's Community Resilience Vision

Vision Statement

A future where vulnerable communities across Ghana and West Africa are equipped with the capabilities, institutions, resources and market linkages needed to withstand shocks, adapt to change and build inclusive pathways to sustainable prosperity.

Strategic Mission

To strengthen community resilience through livelihood diversification, local institution building, climate and disaster preparedness, inclusive market systems, environmental stewardship and evidence-based development practice.

Strategic Objectives

- Improve household income security through diversified livelihoods and local enterprise development.
- Strengthen community governance, cooperatives, savings groups and social support systems.
- Increase community preparedness for climate, disaster and market-related shocks.
- Connect resilience-building efforts to structured market systems, value chains and long-term economic transition pathways.
- Promote gender equality, youth participation and social inclusion across all community resilience interventions.
- Use evidence, data and learning to continuously improve community-led development outcomes.

Guiding Principles

Principle	Application
Community-led development	Communities participate in diagnosing problems, defining priorities and managing interventions.
Systems thinking	Livelihoods, institutions, ecosystems and markets are treated as connected systems.
Inclusion and equity	Women, youth and vulnerable groups are deliberately included in decision-making and benefits.
Evidence and learning	Data, monitoring and community feedback guide adaptation and scale-up.
Sustainability	Interventions strengthen local capacity and reduce long-term dependency.

6. GetCare's Community Resilience Framework

The Community Resilience Framework organizes GetCare Foundation's work around four mutually reinforcing strategic pillars. These pillars are supported by cross-cutting commitments to gender equality, youth empowerment, social inclusion, environmental sustainability, digital transformation and partnership.

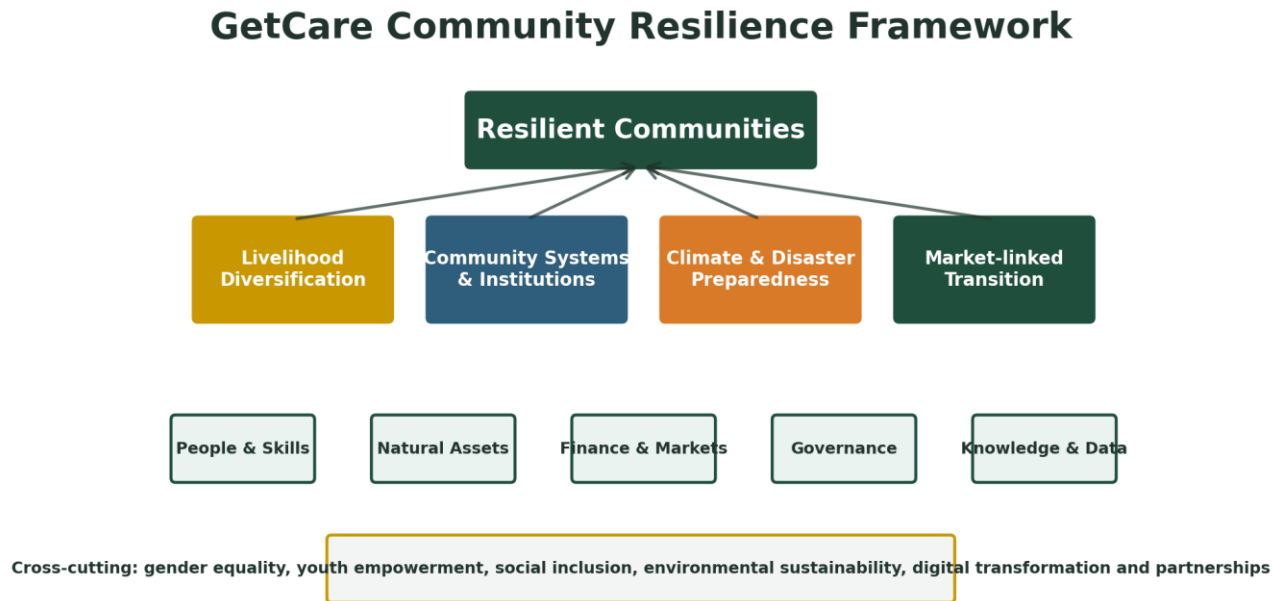


Figure 3: GetCare Foundation Community Resilience Framework.

Pillar	Core purpose	Typical interventions
1. Livelihood diversification	Reduce household vulnerability to single-source income and climate-sensitive livelihoods.	Agribusiness, entrepreneurship, skills, value addition, savings and finance.
2. Community systems and institutions	Strengthen local capacity to coordinate action and sustain development gains.	Cooperatives, savings groups, farmer networks, leadership, local planning.
3. Climate and disaster preparedness	Help communities anticipate, absorb and respond to climate-related and other shocks.	Risk assessment, early warning, preparedness plans, adaptation training.
4. Market-linked transition	Move communities from survival-based livelihoods toward structured economic opportunity.	Market linkages, aggregation, local processing, buyer relationships, enterprise growth.

7. Strategic Pillar One: Strengthening and Diversifying Livelihoods

Livelihood diversification is central to resilience because households that depend on a single income source are highly exposed to climate shocks, price volatility, seasonal hunger and market disruptions. GetCare Foundation supports communities to create multiple, complementary income streams that improve stability and reduce vulnerability.

This pillar includes agribusiness development, off-farm enterprise support, rural entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, value addition, skills development, women's economic empowerment and youth employment. It is designed to help households move from subsistence and crisis coping toward planned economic security.

In practice, livelihood diversification may include crop diversification, livestock and poultry, agro-processing, beekeeping, mushroom production, local services, small retail enterprises, environmental restoration jobs, nursery operations, compost production and community-based service delivery. The choice of livelihood pathway depends on local resources, market demand, climate suitability and community priorities.

Intervention area	Description	Expected resilience benefit
Agribusiness development	Support farmers and groups to plan, produce, aggregate and sell more effectively.	Improved income, reduced market isolation.
Entrepreneurship training	Build skills in business planning, costing, customer relations and financial management.	Stronger household enterprise capability.
Financial inclusion	Promote savings groups, linkages to finance and responsible credit readiness.	Improved ability to absorb shocks and invest.
Value addition	Support processing, packaging, quality improvement and local enterprise growth.	Higher margins and local job creation.
Women and youth enterprise	Target support to groups often excluded from finance and markets.	More inclusive economic resilience.

8. Strategic Pillar Two: Reinforcing Community Systems and Institutions

Resilient communities require strong local institutions. Even where households are resourceful, weak coordination can limit collective action, reduce bargaining power and undermine preparedness. GetCare Foundation therefore invests in the organizations, leadership structures and social systems that allow communities to work together.

This pillar focuses on cooperatives, farmer organizations, savings groups, community development committees, traditional authority engagement, youth and women's groups, leadership training, accountability systems and participatory planning. It recognizes that local institutions are the backbone of sustainable development.

Institutional strengthening also improves the ability of communities to engage with government, negotiate with buyers, manage shared resources, respond to crises and sustain projects after external support reduces. The Foundation's role is to support structure, capacity, trust and accountability without replacing local ownership.

Institutional mechanism	Role in resilience	GetCare support
Cooperatives and farmer groups	Aggregation, bargaining, access to services	Formation, governance training, records, market readiness.
Savings groups	Shock absorption and local finance	Group formation, financial literacy, linkages to formal services.
Community committees	Local planning and coordination	Participatory planning, leadership development, accountability tools.
Traditional authorities	Legitimacy, land governance and conflict prevention	Engagement, dialogue facilitation, community entry.
Youth and women's networks	Inclusive participation and innovation	Leadership, enterprise support, advocacy and skills.

9. Strategic Pillar Three: Advancing Climate and Disaster Preparedness

Climate and disaster preparedness is essential because communities increasingly face floods, droughts, heat stress, crop failure, water insecurity and other hazards. Preparedness reduces losses by helping people understand risks, plan ahead, coordinate response and protect assets before shocks escalate.

GetCare Foundation integrates climate risk management into local development planning. This includes participatory risk assessments, community hazard mapping, early warning communication, preparedness plans, climate information services, emergency savings, adaptation training and ecosystem-based risk reduction.

This pillar also links closely with GetCare's environmental and agrifood systems work. Healthy ecosystems reduce flood and erosion risk; climate-smart agriculture reduces production vulnerability; and strong community institutions make preparedness plans more practical and accountable.

Preparedness component	Purpose	Illustrative tools
Risk assessment	Identify hazards, exposure and vulnerable groups	Participatory mapping, seasonal calendars, vulnerability scoring.
Early warning	Improve timely action before hazards occur	Weather information, community alerts, radio and mobile messaging.
Preparedness planning	Clarify roles and response actions	Community disaster plans, evacuation routes, asset protection plans.
Adaptation practices	Reduce long-term vulnerability	Water harvesting, climate-smart agriculture, livelihood diversification.
Ecosystem-based risk reduction	Use nature to reduce hazards	Watershed restoration, riverbank protection, agroforestry.

10. Strategic Pillar Four: Linking Resilience to Market Systems and Long-Term Economic Transition

Resilience is not sustained when communities remain locked in survival-based livelihoods. For GetCare Foundation, long-term resilience requires connection to markets, value chains, enterprise opportunities, finance, processing and investment pathways that create durable income and employment.

This pillar ensures that community resilience does not stop at training or short-term relief. It links households and community groups to reliable buyers, structured aggregation, quality standards, storage, transport, processing, digital information and market intelligence. It also connects naturally with GetCare's MAGNET and agrifood systems work.

The long-term goal is economic transition: communities moving from fragmented, low-return activities toward organized, market-responsive and environmentally sustainable local economies. This transition is essential for reducing poverty, retaining youth, building local wealth and sustaining development gains.

Market system function	Community resilience value	GetCare contribution
Aggregation	Improves volumes and bargaining power	Organize producer groups, collection points and records.
Quality assurance	Improves buyer confidence and price potential	Training, grading, moisture control, standards compliance.
Market information	Reduces exploitation and improves decision-making	Price tracking, buyer mapping, digital tools.
Local processing	Creates jobs and captures value locally	Enterprise development, equipment pathways, business support.
Buyer partnerships	Improves reliability of demand	Link producers to processors, traders, exporters and institutions.

11. Cross-cutting Themes

The Community Resilience Framework integrates several cross-cutting themes across all interventions. These are not separate add-ons; they are design requirements that determine whether resilience outcomes are inclusive, sustainable and scalable.

Theme	How it is integrated
Gender equality	Women are included in leadership, enterprise development, finance access, planning and benefit-sharing.
Youth empowerment	Youth are supported through skills, enterprise pathways, digital tools and employment opportunities.
Social inclusion	Vulnerable groups are identified and supported through participatory targeting and inclusive planning.
Climate action	Climate risk assessment and adaptation are mainstreamed into livelihoods, institutions and markets.
Environmental sustainability	Natural resource stewardship, restoration and ecosystem-based adaptation are incorporated.
Digital transformation	Mobile data, dashboards, digital market information and climate services improve decision-making.
Partnerships	Government, private sector, research institutions and community organizations are aligned for scale.

12. Programme Delivery Model

GetCare Foundation applies an adaptive delivery model that begins with community assessment and participatory planning, moves into capacity building and implementation, links interventions to markets and institutions, and uses monitoring and learning to support scale-up.

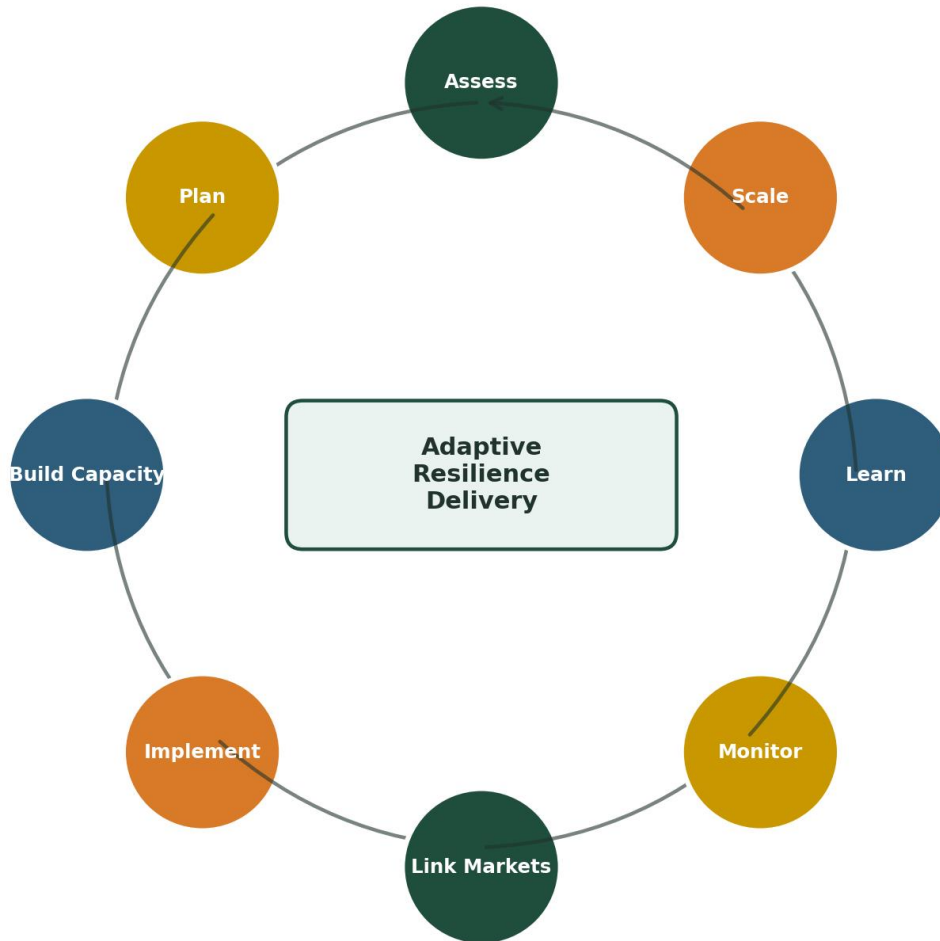


Figure 4: GetCare Foundation adaptive resilience delivery cycle.

Stage	Key activities	Outputs
1. Community assessment	Baseline profiling, stakeholder mapping, risk analysis, livelihood diagnostics.	Community resilience profile.
2. Participatory planning	Community dialogue, priority setting, action plan design.	Community resilience action plan.
3. Capacity building	Training for households, leaders, groups and enterprises.	Improved skills and institutional capacity.
4. Implementation	Livelihood, institution, preparedness and market interventions.	Active resilience initiatives.
5. Market integration	Buyer links, aggregation, enterprise support and finance readiness.	Structured economic pathways.
6. Monitoring and learning	Data collection, feedback, reflection and adaptation.	Evidence for improvement and scale.

13. Partnership Framework

Community resilience requires coordinated partnership. No single organization can build resilient communities alone because resilience depends on livelihoods, institutions, infrastructure, data, finance, ecosystems, governance and markets. GetCare Foundation therefore works through a partnership ecosystem that brings complementary capabilities together.

Partner category	Potential role in community resilience
Communities and traditional authorities	Local leadership, participation, land and resource governance, legitimacy.
District assemblies and public institutions	Planning alignment, policy support, extension services and public coordination.
Research institutions and universities	Evidence generation, baseline studies, innovation and technical advisory.
Development partners and donors	Financing, technical assistance, systems strengthening and scale support.
Private sector and buyers	Markets, inputs, logistics, processing, employment and investment pathways.
Financial institutions	Savings, credit, insurance, payment systems and enterprise finance.
Civil society organizations	Mobilization, advocacy, capacity building and inclusion support.

14. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) is central to GetCare Foundation's resilience work. The Foundation uses MEL not only for accountability, but also for adaptive management, community feedback and evidence generation. The MEL system tracks changes in household income, institutional capacity, preparedness, market access, inclusion and environmental resilience.

Result area	Illustrative indicators	Means of verification
Livelihood diversification	Number of households with at least two income streams; enterprise survival rate; income change.	Household surveys, enterprise records, group reports.
Institutional strength	Number of active groups; meeting regularity; quality of records; leadership participation.	Group records, governance assessments, attendance registers.
Preparedness	Number of communities with risk maps and preparedness plans; early warning reach.	Community plans, training records, alert logs.
Market integration	Volume aggregated; number of buyer linkages; price improvements; processing enterprises supported.	Sales records, contracts, market database.
Inclusion	Women and youth participation in leadership, training and enterprise opportunities.	Participant records, gender and youth disaggregation.
Learning and adaptation	Number of learning reviews conducted; programme adjustments made based on evidence.	Review reports, management notes, updated plans.

The Foundation will use both quantitative and qualitative methods, including baseline assessments, focus group discussions, household surveys, GIS mapping where relevant, digital data collection, partner reports, market records and community scorecards.

15. Expected Outcomes and Results Chain

The Community Resilience Framework is designed to produce results across three time horizons: immediate capacity gains, medium-term system strengthening and long-term transformation. The results chain below summarizes how GetCare expects interventions to translate into impact.

Theory of Change: From Vulnerability to Opportunity



Assumption: resilience improves when households, institutions, markets and ecosystems are strengthened together rather than through isolated interventions.

Figure 5: Theory of Change linking inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes and impact.

Time horizon	Expected results
Short term: 0-18 months	Communities profiled; groups organized; leaders trained; households engaged; livelihood and preparedness plans developed; initial enterprise pathways activated.
Medium term: 18 months-5 years	Households diversify income; cooperatives and savings groups function effectively; communities use preparedness systems; market linkages improve; women and youth participation increases.
Long term: 5+ years	Communities demonstrate stronger adaptive capacity, improved economic stability, stronger local institutions, reduced vulnerability and more sustainable development pathways.

16. Alignment with Global, Regional and National Priorities

The Community Resilience Framework aligns with global, continental, regional and national priorities related to poverty reduction, food security, climate adaptation, decent work, inclusive institutions and sustainable development.

Framework	Relevance to GetCare's Community Resilience Work
United Nations Sustainable Development Goals	Supports SDGs 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16 and 17 through poverty reduction, food security, gender equality, livelihoods, climate action and partnerships.
World Bank resilience and climate-poverty agenda	Responds to the need for integrated development solutions that reduce climate vulnerability and protect development gains.
African Union Agenda 2063	Supports inclusive growth, climate resilience, job creation, agricultural transformation and empowered communities.
ECOWAS regional development priorities	Contributes to regional resilience, food security, community stability and sustainable livelihoods in West Africa.
Government of Ghana development priorities	Supports rural development, local economic transformation, climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction and inclusive growth.

SDG Contribution Matrix

SDG	Contribution
SDG 1: No Poverty	Diversified livelihoods, financial inclusion and local enterprise development.
SDG 2: Zero Hunger	Resilient food systems, farmer support and market linkages.
SDG 5: Gender Equality	Women's leadership, finance access and enterprise opportunities.
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	Youth employment, entrepreneurship and local economic transition.
SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	Inclusive participation of vulnerable groups.
SDG 11: Sustainable Communities	Community preparedness, planning and local systems strengthening.
SDG 13: Climate Action	Climate risk management, adaptation and preparedness.
SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	Community governance, accountability and local institutional capacity.
SDG 17: Partnerships	Collaboration with communities, public institutions, researchers, donors and private sector actors.

Annex A: Illustrative Risk Matrix

Risk	Likelihood	Potential impact	Mitigation
Low community participation	Medium	Weak ownership and sustainability	Participatory planning, traditional authority engagement, continuous feedback.
Market volatility	High	Reduced income and enterprise viability	Diversified markets, buyer mapping, storage and quality systems.
Climate shocks during implementation	High	Asset and livelihood losses	Preparedness plans, climate information, risk-informed scheduling.
Elite capture or exclusion	Medium	Reduced equity and trust	Transparent targeting, inclusion safeguards, grievance channels.
Limited financing	Medium	Reduced scale and continuity	Partnership development, phased implementation, blended finance readiness.
Weak group governance	Medium	Poor records and conflict	Leadership training, constitutions, accountability tools and coaching.

Annex B: Glossary

Term	Meaning
Community resilience	The ability of communities to anticipate, absorb, adapt to and transform in response to shocks and stresses.
Livelihood diversification	The process of developing multiple income sources to reduce vulnerability to a single livelihood.
Adaptive capacity	The ability of people and systems to adjust practices, resources and strategies in response to change.
Social capital	Relationships, trust, networks and norms that enable collective action.
Market systems	The interconnected actors, rules, infrastructure and services that shape production, trade and value creation.
Disaster preparedness	Actions taken before a hazard occurs to reduce losses and improve response.

Annex C: References and Evidence Sources

- World Bank. Revised Estimates of the Impact of Climate Change on Extreme Poverty by 2030. 2020.
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- World Bank Climate Knowledge Portal. Climate Risk Country Profile: Ghana.
- FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2024 and 2025 editions.
- UNDRR. Disaster Risk Profile: Ghana.
- GetCare Foundation internal strategy discussions, programme experience and field learning across agrifood systems, environmental health and community development initiatives.

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