

Food Security on the Frontline

Small Scale Agroecological
Approaches for the COVID-19
Response and Beyond



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



SCALE

Strengthening Capacity in Agriculture
Livelihoods and Environment



Housekeeping

- Mute your mic and turn off your video
- Introduce yourselves in the chat box
- Use the chat box to share experiences, resources and information
- A recording of the webinar will be shared after the event
- Having technical difficulties? Private message Anusha Prasad or Abby Love by selecting their name in the chat box, writing your message and pressing send.



SCALE Introduction

- USAID Food for Peace-funded, Mercy Corps implemented with Save the Children (2018-2023)
- Capacity strengthening, knowledge sharing, learning
- Focus on agriculture, NRM and alternative livelihoods
- Improve the impact, sustainability and scalability of FFP's activities in agriculture, NRM and alternative livelihoods in emergency and development contexts





Small Scale Agroecological Approaches & COVID-19



- **Share** how a few different agencies are implementing small scale agroecological production approaches
- **Explore** what these strategies can offer now in the COVID-19 response and longer-term against other shocks
- **Discuss** with others programming adaptations, challenges and strategies for garden implementation given current restrictions



Presenters



Warren Brush

Resilience
Design
Consultant,
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**Dr. Meredith
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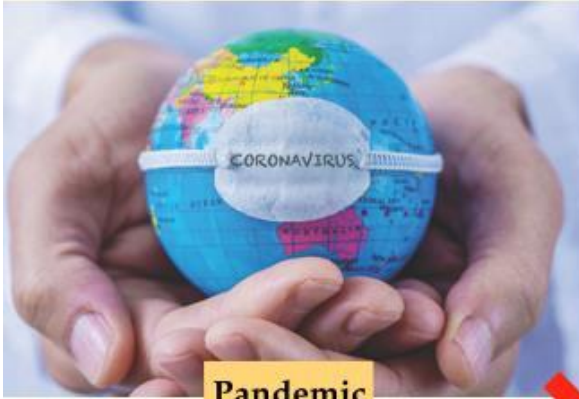
Natalie Topa

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Coordinator, East
Africa & Great
Lakes

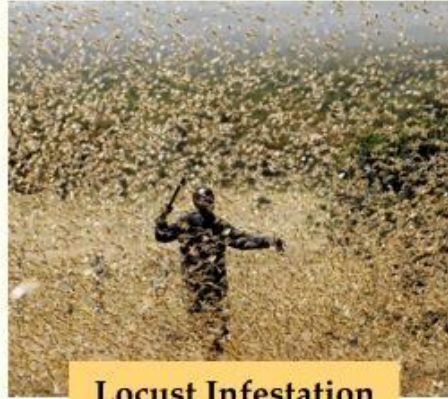


Combined Impacts of Multiple Shocks and Stresses

“ A multiplier effect for the most vulnerable ”



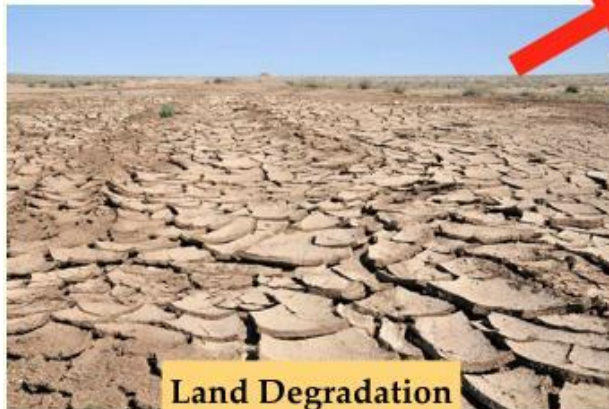
Pandemic



Locust Infestation



Climate Change



Land Degradation



Vulnerable Populations Increased Risk

**Political Unrest
Crop Failure
Gender Violence
Etc...**



Failing Economies



Resilient Household Food Production

- Biointensive
- Biodiverse
- Nutrition and Income
- Waste-water Integration
- Nutrient Cycling
- Annuals and Perennials
- Near the Kitchen
- Stable systems mimic natural processes



Kibondo, Tanzania



Resilient Farm Production

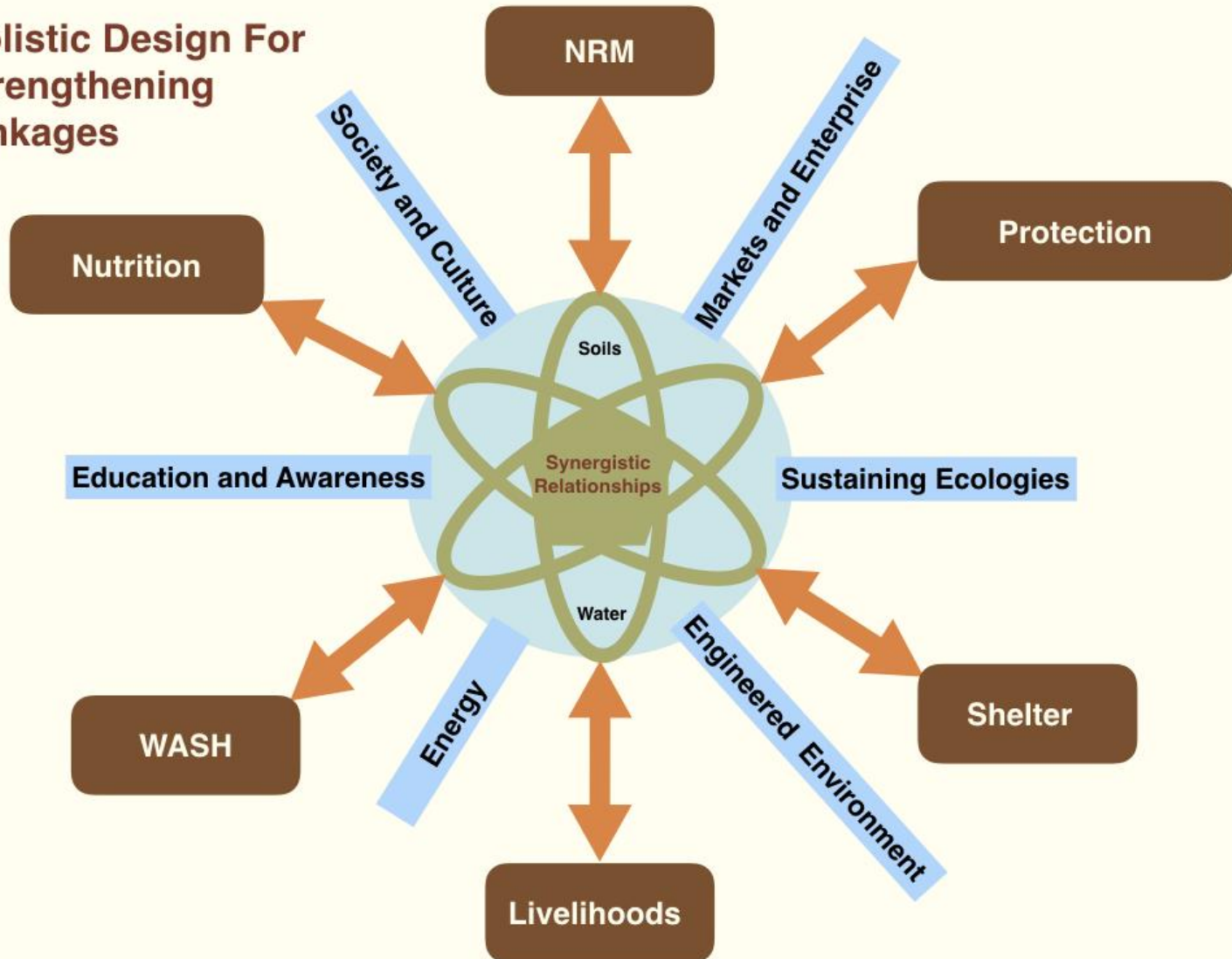
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Boosting the Micro-Biology
- 3-Dimensional Growing
- Annuals and Perennials
- Designed for Year-Round Nutrition and Income
- Livestock Integration and Holistic Management





Holistic Design

Holistic Design For Strengthening Linkages





Somalia IDP Camp

Food Production in Dollow, Somalia IDP Camp March 2019

Danish Refugee Council



A Permagarden is Created



Germination
in three days



Growth in five weeks



Permagardens for homestead food production



- Started in 2006 to help women recover from conflict
- Currently working with 20,000 women in Acholi region of Northern Uganda, including Palabek Refugee Settlement Camp (from June 2017)
- Focus: access to capital and savings, regenerative agriculture, girls education and adult literacy
- Built upon the belief that women should be active participants in defining their own development strategies, with focal areas identified by the women as cornerstones for their empowerment.





Permagardens in Displaced Settings



- Based on the permaculture design framework, bio-intensive techniques and agroecological principles- a regenerative lens for humanitarian work
- Whole compound approach- to maximize food, nutrition, income and ecological stability
- Focus on identifying and using local resources, participatory approaches, soil fertility, water harvesting, crop diversity (annual and perennial crop varieties)
- Dry season and lean season strategies for “banking” rainwater





Palabek Refugee Settlement



Participatory Impact Assessment (2019)

- Primary dry season income for camp residents in the program
- Increase in food consumption for refugee households
- Decreased reliance on WFP rations
- Improvements in household nutrition



IRC's Approach to Small Scale Agriculture

Climate-Smart and Nutrition-Sensitive

- Increasing agricultural production and incomes
- Building resilience to climate change
- Addressing underlying causes of undernutrition

Strong focus on USAID's Climate-Smart Principles:

Systems
Approach

Intentionality

Multiple
Benefits

Context-
Specific

Long-term
perspective



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OFDA “Emergency Life-Saving and Early Recovery Assistance for Conflict-Affected Communities in Yemen”

- Multisectoral program including multipurpose cash, health, nutrition, and livelihoods in 4 villages in Al-Dhale governorate
- Kitchen Gardening activity targeted malnourished HHs referred by nutrition team





Resilient Design and Regenerative Practices

- Localizing food security
- Community Engagement of key stakeholders
- Water: Promote use of gray water
- Soil: Training focuses on land preparation and compost making to improve soil health
- Seasonality: Training includes seasonal calendar for vegetable production



Helen Keller Intl: Improving Nutrition and Food Security through Enhanced Homestead Food Production

Enhanced Homestead Food Production

- Nutrition-sensitive agriculture (horticulture, animal husbandry, aquaculture)
- Nutrition and hygiene social and behavior change
- Gender transformative household approach
- Build livelihoods and resilience





Sustainable Agriculture Production Linked to Improved Nutrition Status, Resilience, and Gender Equity (SAPLING)

- Multi-sector approach reaching 48,000 households in Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh, 12 distinct ethnic groups
- Disaster-prone and post-conflict area
- SAPLING strengthens different pathways to resilience, including systems level strengthening
- Access to food and income: gardens, animal husbandry, aquaculture, small-scale production for income, nutritious foods available in markets





Family Nutrition Centers: Part of an integrated approach to increasing resilience capacity



- Community gardens
- Group decision-making, management
- Gender and Social Inclusion approach to create agency
- Mitigate food insecurity during and after disaster



Resilient Households



- DRC Compounds as Demo Sites
- Use of locally available resources

- Household/office flood control
- Income generation, nutrition security



Resilient Farm Design



- Design to harness storm water and nutrient run-on
- Mitigate erosion, convert water from floods to food
- Alley cropping for broadscale staples

- Food forestry for perennial stability
- Agrobiodiversity: Food, Fodder, Fiber, Fuel, Fertility
- Extending seasons, mitigating drought



Resilient Agroecosystems



- Design for flash floods, landslides
- Check dams in valleys and foot paths
- Gully restoration
- Boosting local biodiversity with FMNR
- Planting trees with water harvesting in water harvesting, fish-scale pattern

- Food forestry for carbon, ground water recharge
- Pathwater harvesting in to farms and trees
- Large scale road water harvesting and resilience design for infrastructure and landscape resilience
- Drought proofing land through long term hydration
- Recharge of boreholes and spring lines





Breakout Groups

1.ACCESS TO AGRICULTURAL INPUTS and MARKETS	
Key Questions / Challenges Under Theme	Solutions, Strategies, Key Resources and Related Organizations
•Farmers cannot access seeds	
Input disruption, lack of access fertilizers and tools for garden production	•
•Markets closed or inaccessible, Farmers cannot sell in the normal ways. What are alternatives?	•
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For more info: www.fsnnetwork.org/scale



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