

SCALE Support | COVID-19

What is SCALE?

The **SCALE** (Strengthening Capacity in Agriculture, Livelihoods and Environment) Award is a five-year initiative funded by USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) to enhance the impact, sustainability and scalability of FFP-funded agriculture, natural resource management and alternative livelihoods activities in emergency and development contexts. SCALE is implemented by Mercy Corps in collaboration with Save the Children.

Technical areas of particular interest and recent work for SCALE include:

- Alternative livelihoods, with a focus on youth engagement
- Resilient agricultural systems, including the role of permagardens in fragile contexts
- Social and behavior change (SBC) for agriculture and livelihoods staff

How can SCALE support in COVID response?

The COVID-19 pandemic poses significant challenges for Food for Peace-supported communities around the globe. Disruptions to smallholder agricultural production, income generating activities and market access will be particularly devastating to the food security of already vulnerable households. As an implementing community, our normal ways of working are no longer possible. This crisis demands that we rapidly innovate, adapt and learn from one another.

The SCALE team is committed to supporting FFP partners throughout this crisis and what comes next.

Ways we can support include:

- **Convening Practitioners for Technical Discussions and Brainstorming Sessions** on topics such as ensuring continuity of food systems, agricultural production and extension services; assessing emerging livelihoods opportunities; and remote financial inclusion options
- **Documenting Lessons Learned and Sharing Experiences** by hosting webinars and drafting case studies, learning briefs and tips sheets on how your programs are adapting, lessons learned from previous crises and advice to other partners
- **Providing Remote Technical Support and Capacity Strengthening** such as through remote mentorship calls and video trainings with agriculture and livelihoods staff
- **Identifying and Disseminating Tools and Approaches** related to agriculture, NRM and alternative livelihoods that have practical application in this context, and developing new materials as needed. We invite you to add resources to our crowdsourced [document](#).
- **Research and Assessment Support** through guidance on best practices and innovations for remote data collection and monitoring of agriculture and livelihoods-related interventions.

How can I contact SCALE?

The SCALE team invites members of the FFP implementing community to let us know how we can support you. Do you have an idea for a webinar or virtual roundtable discussion? Want to share a useful tool or need help drafting a learning document? Reach out to us at scale@mercy Corps.org.