

COVID-19: Our partners show resilience

Our holistic approach promotes resilient systems, local leadership and resilience. In this way it helps village communities to respond to challenges - even those such as the current one. In response to the pandemic, The Hunger Project has mobilized over 500,000 trained, local leaders in 13 countries around the world. We are working through this network to ensure our community partners have the tools and information needed to respond to any shocks to their food systems.

Africa

In Southern Africa, where the harvest season is ending, our teams activated our network of trained animators to lead the effort to restock local food banks. In other parts of Africa, where communities are entering planting season, animators are urging farmers to plant despite the pandemic and have trained people how to do so while maintaining recommended distancing. Where necessary, we are working with communities to access markets to resupply the food banks with dry rations.

Across Africa, rural banks at THP Epicenters are operating with protective measures in place. This is a crucial time for many farmers; they need to deposit earnings from the harvest or take money out of their savings to buy seeds to plant. By keeping the banks open we are also ensuring that people can freely use their savings to purchase nutritious food, should there be a dramatic increase in price or a shortage.

Across Africa, our colleagues are leveraging WhatsApp, radio, loudspeakers and megaphones to share messages about food security and nutrition, continuing our programming on these topics from a safe distance.

Each program area also has dedicated WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) animators, whose main role is to promote health and hygiene practices in their communities. The significance of the work they do is now much more evident and was intensified in the past immediate weeks.

India

In India, where we train elected women representatives, our team, in tandem with our community-based partner organizations, have personally reached out to each one of the 8,000 elected women that have gone through our training program to equip them with information about the virus and new government relief efforts. These women can then confidently connect their constituents, including returning migrant workers who are at significant risk for food insecurity, with the safety net programs.

In addition, our partners are using local and national media to draw attention to the scarcity and challenges in the provision of state services, such as food distribution. The aim is to enable the government to adapt its aid systems accordingly, especially if they are needed in the longer term.



ZEWO recertification and annual report 2019

The Hunger Project Switzerland has been recertified by ZEWO for another five years, as it still meets the required 21 ZEWO standards. The annual report 2019 is available in German and French at: www.hungerprojekt.ch (in German and French) or can be ordered from: alexandra.koch@hungerprojekt.ch (Tel. 044 586 68 34).

THP on Swiss television

The team leader of SRF mitenand, Mitja Rietbrock, visited the Hunger Project in Ghana at the beginning of the year. The 3-minute program entitled «Ghana - Building a future thanks to microcredit» was broadcast on 31st May 20 on SRF (in German). Here is the link (or put the following German words in the internet browser «SRF mitenand Ghana» or French words «RTS ensemble projet fair»): <https://www.srf.ch/play/tv/mitenand/video/ghana—eine-zukunft-aufbauen-dank-mikrokredit?id=8f3c90f5-8ca5-4b8c-a54d-bd-4d8bdf17c0>

Animators Rising To The Challenge COVID-19 – In Numbers

- 3,326 Tippy Taps installed in villages to bring simple handwashing stations close to the homes of people. Animators have led the education and training in how to properly use them.
- 8,000 Elected Women and 3,600 Adolescent Girls trained by THP formed phone trees and What's App groups to deliver accurate, easy-to-understand health information to 500,000 people
- 9,400 community members participated in specially designed Water, Sanitation and Hygiene workshops so they are personally equipped to prevent the spread
- 913 Animators newly trained in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene best practice
- 81,414 face masks made and distributed – 'sewing armies' have been set up in some areas to learn from one another and keep collectively strong while giving back
- 71,912 kgs of soap and 19,096 kgs of hand sanitiser distributed to people so they can protect themselves and their families
- 91 operational health units in action receiving patients for testing and treatment where possible. Animators are mobilising people to get tested if they are showing signs (where testing is available)
- 52,399 food rations distributed to those who have been identified by Elected Women as on the brink of absolute destitution. Although THP usually has a 'No handouts' policy, this new idea was put forward by Elected Women who saw the dire need in their villages
- 174,797 families receiving community philanthropy (goods and cash), mobilised by Animators in Bangladesh
- 87,334 public health leaflets distributed. These have often been translated into local languages or the information is shown in pictures, so that as many people as possible can understand them



And these are just the highlights...! We hope you feel as proud as we do to stand alongside our Animators and Elected Women as they rise to the challenge to reach the 16.5 million people living in THP communities globally.

Thank you for your commitment and dedication to ending chronic, persistent hunger by 2030!
Alexandra Koch, Managing Director THP Switzerland

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Koch', located at the bottom right of the page.