

THE GCERF CAROL BELLAMY LEADERSHIP AWARD 2023 AWARDEE REPORT: **EMERGENCY & RISK ALERT INITIATIVE**

AT A GLANCE: EMERGENCY & RISK ALERT INITIATIVE

The Emergency & Risk Alert Initiative (ERAI) is registered in Nigeria with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC). Its vision is a world where everyone takes informed and appropriate action to reduce vulnerability, and also, to prepare for emergencies. ERAI's mission is to work with people and communities as well as organisations and institutions to create a safe, secure, and just society. ERAI works across multiple themes. These include conflict and emergencies, humanitarian aid, resilience building, gender and women's rights, youth, governance and education.



**ERAI has operated in
Nigeria since 2010**

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The ERAI was awarded the CBLA for their project "Strengthening Resilience of Women Smallholder Farmers to Climate Crises in Nigeria."

Women smallholder farmers have tremendously contributed to food security in Nigeria. In the last few years, this category of farmers has been negatively affected by climate change. In turn, this has affected their livelihoods, diminished their productivity, undermined their income and reinforced their vulnerability.

There is an urgent need for adaptation to lessen the impact of climate crises. In particular, adaptation-related projects are necessary to reduce the vulnerability of women smallholder farmers to climate change.

ERAI's project seeks to empower women smallholder farmers and improve their resilience to climate change.



Through their project, the ERAI will ensure women are empowered to tackle and reduce their and their community's vulnerability to climate change. Further, by training women, the ERAI also seeks to enhance space for the broader and more inclusive participation of women in their community more broadly. Women will be more engaged in socio-economic activities in their community and in discussions related to communal land use, too.



CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION TRAINING

27 women smallholder farmers underwent training both to understand the impact of climate change as well as best ways to mitigate the impact of climate change, too.

Furthermore, climate resilient seedlings were distributed to women in the community. These treated seeds - with shorter gestation periods and higher yield potential as compared to traditional seeds - were planted. Today, the women farmers are tending to their crops, and awaiting harvest.



NETWORK BUILDING

After having been trained in climate resilient farming methods, smallholder farmers began the process of forming a cooperative society. In so doing, they were able to connect to state level networks of women-led NGOs and high-level stakeholders.

The cooperative plans to share issues affecting women smallholder farmers in the state. They seek to advocate for the mainstreaming of climate actions in line with national development priorities which seek to develop climate resilient communities.



FUTURE STEPS

ERAI expects to now continue its work building a wider network of women-led and women-focused NGOs at the state level in Nigeria. In so doing, ERAI seeks to eventually develop a formal Advocacy Committee on Climate Change Adaptation and Women Farmers (ACCCAWF).

