Build for Safety: women contributing to climate resilient housing in Bangladesh

Description of the project
In Dinajpur, Bangladesh, a construction training program led by AzuKo and a local NGO supports impoverished women with a comprehensive strategy. The program contributes to enhancing community resilience to climate-induced disasters by promoting eco-friendly design and locally available materials and strengthening women’s skills in the male-dominated building sector. This multifaceted initiative challenges patriarchal norms and persisting gender inequalities by fostering democratic decision-making for women in their communities. AzuKo also supports women’s saving groups through low-interest loans and financial training.

Transformative outcomes

Climate impact
House strengthening techniques foster resilience to climate disasters, addressing climate injustice.
Using local, ecological and cost-effective materials to reduce carbon footprint.
Recovery from loss and damage by upgrading housing quality and safety.

Gender impact
727 women equipped with knowledge, skills, and confidence in designing and building safer homes. 1000 more will be trained until 2025.
Accessibility to trainings is enhanced by alleviating women’s childcare burden, accommodating training schedules and providing travel support and local language.
Supports women’s saving groups via access to loans and financial trainings.

Scalability / replicability
Collaborates with local women’s organizations to expand training and advocacy initiatives.
Conducts housing needs assessments, pre- and post-training surveys, individual interviews, and focus groups.

Solar refrigeration systems empowering women dairy farmers

Description of the project
One Lamp provides digital financing for smaller women-led dairy farms that have no access to national energy grids in Uganda to invest in solar cooling systems. Because inheritance laws prevent women from accessing equal rights to land and property, One Lamp promotes inclusivity in a circular economy. The project provides women farmers with a rent-to-own financing system, enabling them to access solar refrigeration and reduce milk spoilage by up to 90%. Using a mobile money app, investors can make flexible monthly or weekly payments over two years. Thanks to solar-powered televisions they learn how to use refrigeration to improve their income in the dairy value-chain. They gain new knowledge about health care, women’s rights and gendered roles.

Transformative outcomes

Climate impact
Promotes the use of solar energy for milk cooling, lighting, charging mobile phones and other appliance.
104 tons of GHG emissions saved thanks to the sale of 200 solar cooling systems.

Gender impact
Women farmers gain access to climate / sustainable energy financing system.
LED lights protect women’s health from dangerous kerosene or diesel flames.
Job creation and new income opportunities for women thanks to new value-added products.

Scalability / replicability
Program will install 1000 solar milk coolers across six milk sheds in Uganda thanks to local and international partnerships.
Conducts housing needs assessments, pre- and post-training surveys, individual interviews, and focus groups.