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# Climate Action in Child Rights Programming

Terre des hommes' institutional approach and field innovations

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# Tdh & Climate Action Approach

Terre des hommes (Tdh) - a leading Swiss child rights NGO active in 27 countries

Since 2021: launch of a climate & environment strategy, supported by the [Climate Action Accelerator](#)

Today's focus:

1. Institutional approach & link to child rights
2. Pilot project: CRESH Bangladesh
3. Climate integration in partnership & localisation strategic objective



Child-led rally organized in India

# Institutional Approach and Child Rights

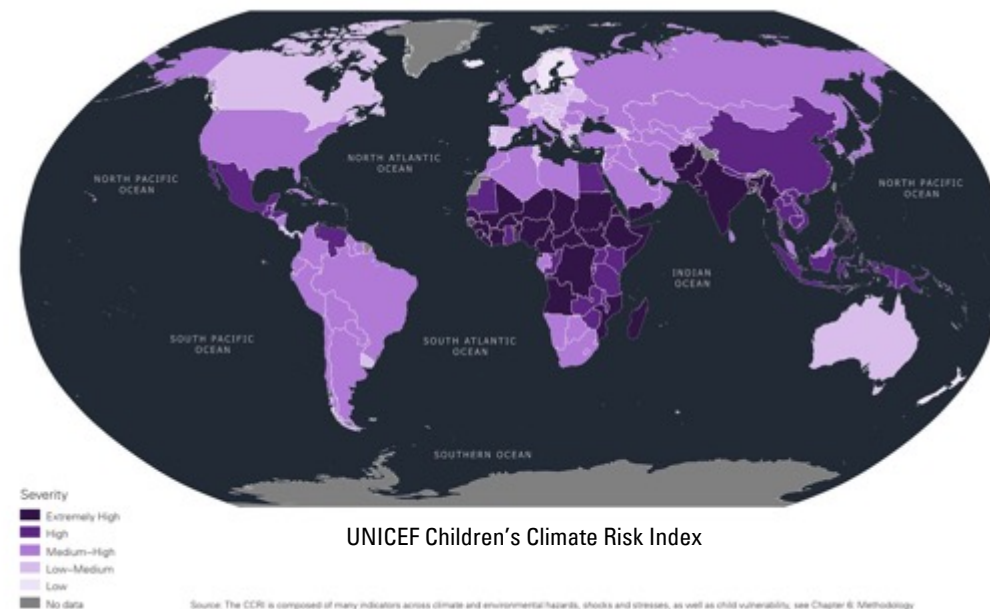
Key institutional enablers:

- Strong leadership and governance
- Dedicated staff
- Partnership(s)
- Clear institutional narrative

*Why climate action is core to Tdh's Mandate?*

- The climate crisis is a child rights crisis!
- General Comment No. 26: Children have a right to a clean, healthy, sustainable environment.
- Field evidence
- Intergenerational and geographical climate justice
- Accountability, responsibility and do no harm

**A clear institutional narrative connecting child rights, climate responsibility, and decarbonisation.**



Young boy in the flood-devastated village of Bichat, Satkhira District, Bangladesh

# Pilot project: CRESH Bangladesh

Example of climate-adaptation programming at Tdh

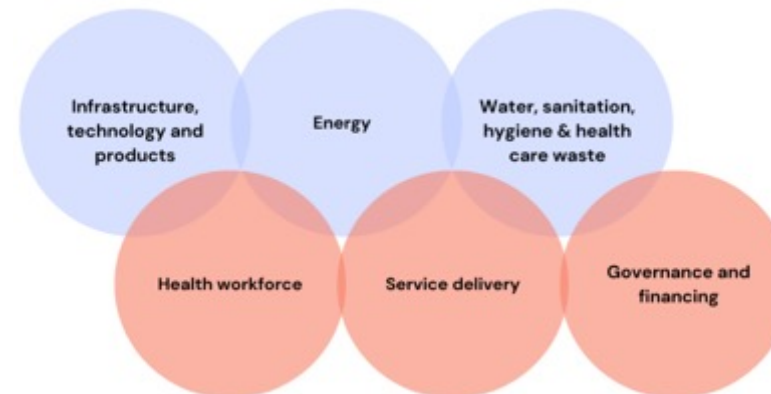
Regional focus: Southeast Asia

CRESH in a nutshell:

- Refugee context (Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh)
- 2 PHCs managed by Tdh and ~20 government-run health centres supported
- CRESH goal: strengthen the resilience of health centres to climate impacts
- Aligned with WHO's CRESH standards and Accelerator's Climate VCA



Tdh-run PHC 2 (Camp 27 - Teknaf) – Main Entrance



6 modules of CAA's Climate VCA methodology

# CRESH: Participatory Methodology, System Impact & Scale Up

Key lessons:

- ✓ Health authorities' engagement
  - ✓ Participation (health teams, community)
  - ✓ System-wide approach → expansion from 3 to ~15 health facilities in Teknaf under current project
  - ✓ Staff training
- **Next steps: scale up, capitalization, advocacy**



The Climate VCA is a highly participatory process.

The pictures show workshops organized with health workers and technical teams, as well as consultations held with community leaders



# Localisation, Partnerships and Climate Action

Integrating climate action into strategic ways of working:

- Localization and partnership approach
- Collective capacity-strengthening cycle for partners in Bangladesh (co-organized with CAA)
- Strong participatory + co-construction dimension
- Strengthens Tdh's partner support toolkit
- Innovative model with potential for replication

*Graph 1 - Terre des hommes' principles towards Partnerships for Localisation*





## Conclusion

How Tdh Advances Child-Centred Climate Action?

1. Institutional foundation linking climate action to child rights & organisational responsibility.
2. Pilot projects like CRESH to demonstrate Tdh's added value in strengthening child and community resilience.
3. Strategic alignment: integrating climate into localisation, partnerships, and operational models.

With the Accelerator, we aim to continue embedding climate and environmental considerations to help children and youth thrive in a healthy, sustainable future.

**Thank you!**