



THRIVE

TOWARDS HOLISTIC RESILIENCE IN VULNERABLE ENVIRONMENTS

THRIVE is centered on interactions among systems

Ecosystems drive rural livelihoods. Livelihoods in turn drive rural markets. The peaceful coexistence of these systems, functioning in collaboration, not in competition, provide the foundation for resilience.

ACTED addresses these systems and the inter-connected dynamics among them, through three pillars of THRIVE: REVIVE, EMERGE and INTEGRATE.

THRIVE engages communities, connects them with their neighbors, and aims to build and integrate these systems.



REVIVE starts by focusing on the effects that landscape degradation and desertification have had on livelihoods, championing nature-based solutions to restore ecosystem functions and productivity



EMERGE builds from this to support the diversification of livelihoods, inclusive of value chain development and post-harvest systems to support market and business development



INTEGRATE promotes social cohesion through community engagement and exchanges with a focus on natural resource management and economic integration



Degraded landscapes – expanding at an alarming rate due to destructive practices and climate change – have contributed to a cycle of worsening climate shocks, food and water insecurity. This in turn destroys livelihoods, drives migration, and creates conflict over limited resources. THRIVE is ACTED’s solution to address these issues through a nexus approach, reversing landscape degradation and increasing the socioeconomic health and stability of communities around the world. THRIVE targets areas of arid and semi-arid rangelands with agricultural, pastoralist or agro-pastoralist populations.

THRIVE is aligned with the international goals of the SDGs, the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, the COP 21, the new European Green Deal, and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030).

THRIVE also supports ACTED’s global 3Zero vision and programmatic strategy. Zero exclusion - supporting vibrant and inclusive social networks, and a pro-poor approach for livelihood development; Zero carbon through landscape restoration and carbon sequestration; and Zero poverty through improvement of agro, pastoral, and agro-pastoral production and inclusive value chains.



KEY
Recent or ongoing
THRIVE projects
Priority countries
with THRIVE
potential

REVIVE - REGENERATIVE EARTHWORKS AND VEGETATION FOR VIBRANT ECOSYSTEMS

ACTED's Approach to Ecosystem Restoration

REVIVE uses simple, natural and replicable practices for responsible land and livestock management. REVIVE restores the balance in water, carbon, and nutrient cycles - creating the conditions for a bio-diverse array of vegetation to thrive while sinking water and carbon back into the ground to recharge the landscape.

People and animals are reliant on plants to survive. Plants are reliant on healthy soils to thrive. Soil nutrients need to cycle

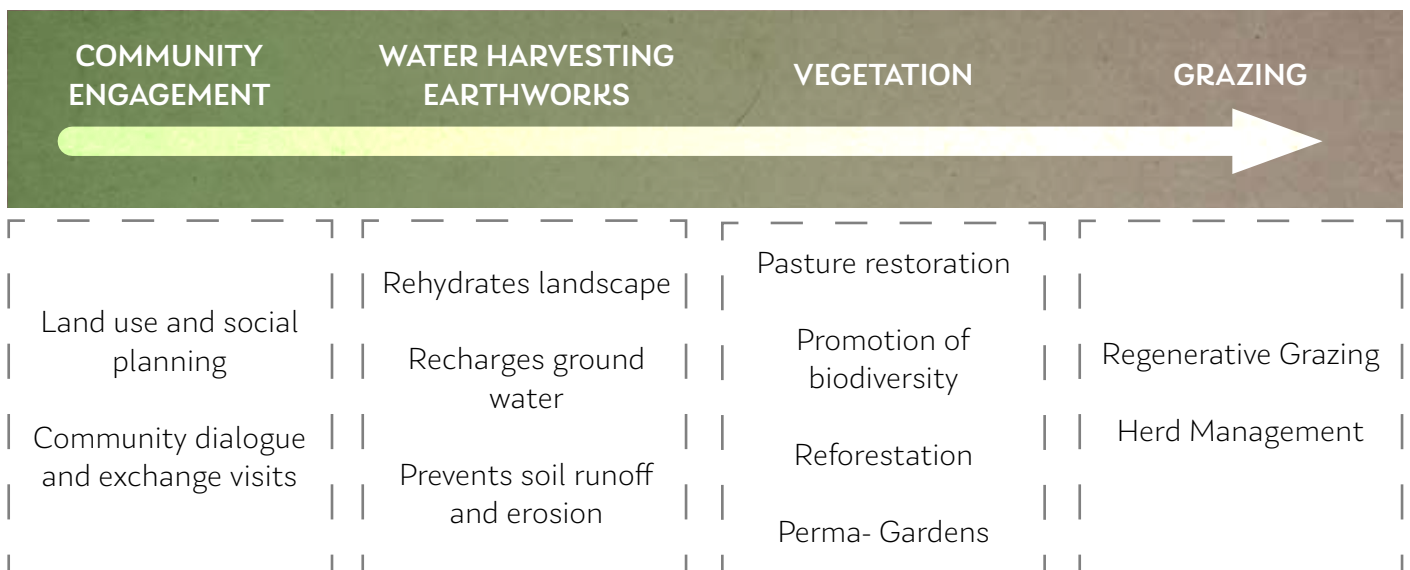
inputs from plants and animals to maintain a healthy composition. All of these are reliant on water. When any element in this system is out of balance, the natural system unravels, and socio-ecological cycles suffer. Landscapes degrade, erode, and dry out, leaving lands unproductive.

REVIVE aims to break the cycle of land degradation and restore the complementary balance of natural systems; returning rangelands to thriving, productive areas.

REVIVE applies principles of agro-ecology, agro-forestry, and

permaculture design to restore landscapes while producing food, cooking fuel, building materials, and animal fodder to meet household needs. Environmental benefits include: erosion control, rehydrating landscapes, recharge of ground water, and soil conservation for the creation of an enabling environment for vegetation to thrive. REVIVE restores livelihoods through supporting improved food production and income generation, diversified vegetation, and nutrition sensitive agricultural production.

Progression of REVIVE Activities



REVIVE also focuses on the positive impact that livestock can have for landscape restoration, when planned and managed correctly. Historically, livestock have been present on rangelands, and are fundamental to maintaining healthy soil and thriving vegetation conditions. Holistic Land and Livestock Management (HLLM) is a community-led methodology that supports communities to manage their pastoral livelihoods, ecosystems, and social settings in symbiosis. The technique of HLLM has been developed, tested, and refined over decades by the Savory Institute, with the mission to regenerate the world's grasslands through HLLM. ACTED hosts the Savory Global Network Hub in Uganda. This collaboration with the Savory Institute provides access to extensive resources and training opportunities with an industry leader.



EMERGE - ENHANCING MARKET ECONOMIES FOR RURAL GROWTH AND EMPOWERMENT

ACTED's Approach to Markets and Inclusive Value Chain Development

EMERGE aims to improve income generation and resiliency of livelihoods to move households from poverty into agribusiness. Working through a pro-poor approach to market systems, EMERGE trains communities on improved practices (climate smart agriculture and post-harvest techniques) and supports productive agro-business and market infrastructures, inclusive value chain development, and private sector engagement.

EMERGE's Key Themes

CLIMATE SMART INPUTS AND TECHNIQUES	Households/Farmer Field Schools are trained to improve productive capacity and increase yields with climate-smart and environmentally friendly methods.
POST HARVESTING HANDLING	Households/Farmer Field Schools/Cooperatives are trained on post harvest handling, and equipped for value addition processes including productive infrastructure.
SUPPORT TO DIVERSIFIED AGRO ENTERPRISES	Cooperatives/Enterprises/Households are supported for livelihood diversification and inclusive value chain opportunities.
INCLUSIVE VALUE CHAINS AND REINFORCEMENT OF AGRO-ENTERPRISES	Cooperatives and Enterprises are supported for improved agri-business and value chain development.
PRO-POOR MARKET SYSTEMS AND PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT	Creation of market linkages with private sector, improvement of market infrastructure and market information systems.

ACTED's interventions in EMERGE includes trainings, technical capacity building, value chain assessments, micro-enterprise start-up support and kits, savings groups, business grants for mid-sized agro-business development, productive and market infrastructure rehabilitation or construction through cash for work or grants, market fairs with private sector actors, and cash/voucher programs to stimulate demand.

EMERGE promotes responsible consumption and production through the Savory Institutes' - Land to Market (L2M) certification - that introduces new market opportunities to communities. The L2M seal raises awareness and builds consumer demand for ecologically responsible livestock products to incentivize communities to adopt regenerative land management practices



Resilient enterprises to create resilient value chains

Resilient agricultural and livestock businesses managed for profit, understand their enterprises, anticipate shocks and have strong relationships and cooperation with their communities. Resilient value chains embrace diversity, minimize waste, manage for ecosystem sustainability, stabilize production, and connect supply with demand. EMERGE promotes resilient enterprises that can drive the development of resilient value chains, maximizing the benefits for communities and respecting ecosystems.

INTEGRATE - INTERCOMMUNAL EXCHANGE TO GROW ROBUST AGROPASTORAL TRANSBOUNDARY ECONOMIES AND ECOSYSTEMS

ACTED's Approach to Social Cohesion

Conflict and tension over natural resources are common between and within agricultural and pastoralist societies. Conflicts tend to erupt when communities have disagreements over the access to, control and use of natural resources (such as water, pasture or land), or perceive that their interests and needs are incompatible with the priorities

of another group. These conflicts, if not addressed, can escalate into violence, which disrupts local livelihoods and services while further contributing to environmental degradation.

INTEGRATE puts community dynamics and participation at the heart of the THRIVE approach, leveraging the benefits of REVIVE and EMERGE to foster a more constructive, equitable and peaceful approach for

resource sharing in the areas of implementation. INTEGRATE focuses on 'governance of the commons' to ensure that resources and landscapes are best managed to provide for immediate needs while also preserving them to sustain future generations. These resources, in turn provide trade opportunities that support markets and economic development, further reinforcing peaceful co-existence between communities.

INTEGRATE's Trust Building Process



Understanding community dynamics is a critical first step of INTEGRATE. A conflict analysis and stakeholder identification is done to inform the action. Next, communities start a trust-building process, step-by-step, through holding dialogues (both within and between communities) and exchange visits to share lessons learned and identify areas for collaboration around their experiences with REVIVE (such as land use planning) and EMERGE (livelihood development). These common experiences provide the starting point for joint initiatives on natural resource management and trade.

Social cohesion through joint natural resource management and value chain integration is the ultimate objective of INTEGRATE. Through a participatory approach, communities progress from dialogue and exchanges into joint natural resource management (such as developing and signing land use or pasture management agreements) and/or events for trade and value chain integration (such as trade fairs and cash for work projects that support productive infrastructures through community collaborations).

INTEGRATE also aims to support traditional frameworks and mechanisms that communities and local authorities have formed to monitor and support local conflict resolution mechanisms.