



GLOBAL PROGRAM UPDATE: FOOD SECURITY

Your Impact: Food & Agriculture

Around the world, one in nine people don't have enough food to eat. Extreme hunger is a direct result of poverty, and it makes focusing on anything other than survival difficult. Malnutrition means that children aren't able to develop properly and immune systems are less able to fight disease.

Hunger is truly a global issue, and Nazarene Compassionate Ministries partners with churches around the world to address it through agriculture projects. In Rwanda, a banana plantation project has generated additional sources of income that help participants secure food, medical care, education, and other essentials.



Ongoing food relief efforts continue in the **Middle East** for refugees who have fled Syria and Iraq.



580 people in **Zambia** have benefitted from a conservation farming project that trains members to maximize harvests while replenishing the soil.



In **Rwanda**, 40 members of a savings group are cultivating a banana tree plantation that produces food and generates income.



22 families that lacked local access to fresh produce are now enjoying organic vegetables grown in an aquaponics system in **Brazil**.



Sifa stands next to her piglet nursery.

Food Security in Rwanda

Sifa, the mother of a student at a Nazarene child development center, explains that a banana plantation is also a great place to raise a pig. Her story began when members of a savings group in Rwanda partnered with Nazarene Compassionate Ministries to plant 750 banana tree seeds on the property of a local Church of the Nazarene. With revenue from the banana plantation, the group established several piggeries, which then fertilize the soil of the plantation. As pigs reproduce, NCM purchases piglets from banana farmers and then distributes the piglets to beneficiaries, who can raise them at their homes for food or profit.

As a beneficiary of an NCM piglet, Sifa raised her pig, bred it, and welcomed a litter of nine piglets. She sold the piglets and used the money to purchase materials to cement the floor of her home, a luxury in Rwanda that is both dignity-affirming and helpful for avoiding disease.

"Now I am living in the house with concrete," Sifa says. "The remaining money I used to build a [piglet] nursery." Sifa has plans for the money she will get from selling the next litter. After paying for health insurance, she says, "I will buy a dress and something else for the family." Sifa is currently raising seven piglets in a nursery shaded by her own tall banana trees.

Learn more at ncm.org/hunger