



Restoring Landscapes, Strengthening Communities

A NATURE+ FILM

A VIEWING GUIDE TO THE FILM

NATURE POSITIVE FOOD SYSTEMS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

(Nature+) is Canadian Foodgrains Bank's flagship initiative to strengthen climate resilience and food security in Eastern and Southern Africa through locally led Nature-based Solutions.

In this film, you'll meet farmers and project leaders sharing the impact of just two years of Nature+ programming. You'll see the regeneration of the land and its abundance, the transformation of livelihoods and landscapes, and the promise of a better future for people and ecosystems. Come and see – there is much to celebrate!



A collaboration of ten local partners, nine Foodgrains Bank member agencies, and six technical support partners, Nature+ is cultivating climate resilient ecosystems and incomes, food security, and inclusive governance in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe.

CONNECTED BY PURPOSE AND PLACE

Nature+ was made possible thanks to support from Global Affairs Canada and the collaboration of ten local partners, nine Foodgrains Bank member agencies, and six technical support partners, all coming together for a common cause. Through Nature+, local community members have been empowered to work together to cultivate climate resilient food systems—supporting improved incomes, food security, inclusive governance and gender equality.

Projects are operating in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe in landscapes that are recognized internationally as biodiversity hotspots with high levels of environmental degradation.

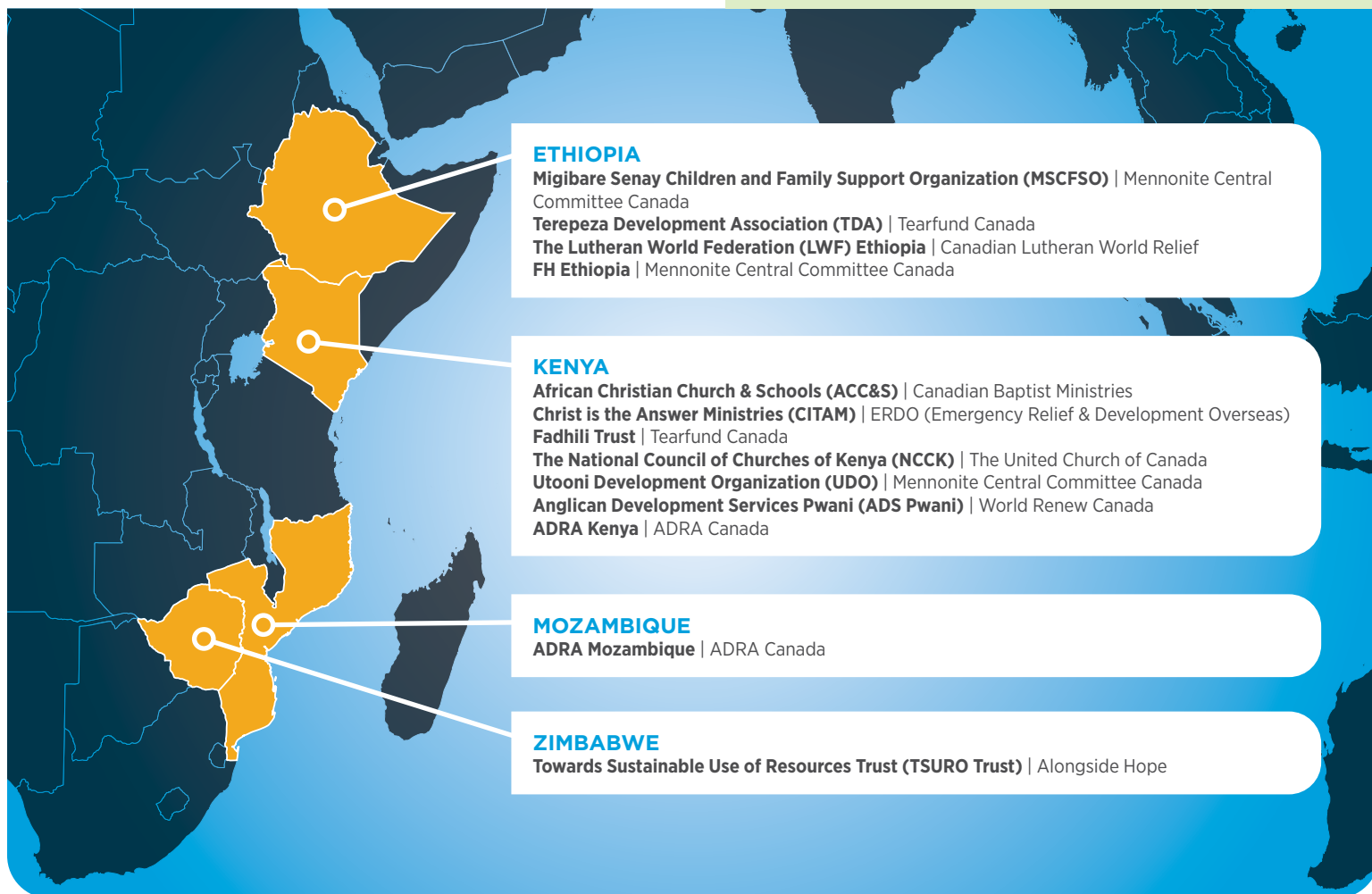
In the film, we meet farmers and other community leaders, as well as project staff, and see images of the landscapes where they live. These interviews and photographs were first taken in the early stages of the Nature+ program

in November/December 2023 and then again two years later in November/December 2025.

Together, the program reached **289,541 people** as of December 2025, with **17.9 million trees** planted!

“We have been participating in the Nature+ program almost as a whole family, and even the villagers as a whole. We have been collaborating with them in order to make our environment better. We saw it fit to adopt the alternative methods they taught us.”

Katuva Mutua – Participant, Kenya, through Fadhili Trust, partner of Tearfund Canada



ETHIOPIA

Migibare Senay Children and Family Support Organization (MSCFSO) | Mennonite Central Committee Canada
Terepeza Development Association (TDA) | Tearfund Canada
The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Ethiopia | Canadian Lutheran World Relief
FH Ethiopia | Mennonite Central Committee Canada

KENYA

African Christian Church & Schools (ACC&S) | Canadian Baptist Ministries
Christ is the Answer Ministries (CITAM) | ERDO (Emergency Relief & Development Overseas)
Fadhili Trust | Tearfund Canada
The National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK) | The United Church of Canada
Utooni Development Organization (UDO) | Mennonite Central Committee Canada
Anglican Development Services Pwani (ADS Pwani) | World Renew Canada
ADRA Kenya | ADRA Canada

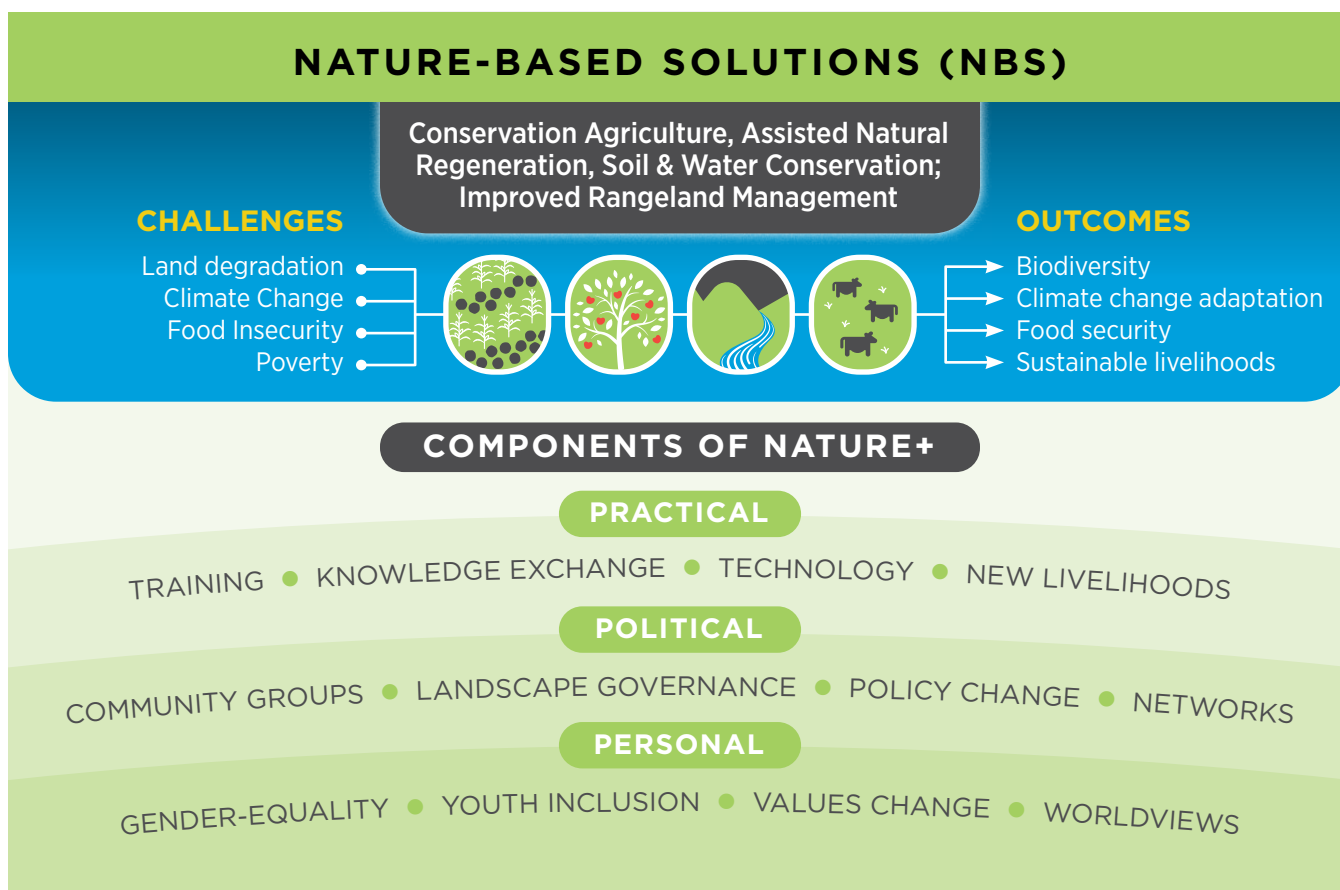
MOZAMBIQUE

ADRA Mozambique | ADRA Canada

ZIMBABWE

Towards Sustainable Use of Resources Trust (TSURO Trust) | Alongside Hope

BEHIND THE SCENES OF NATURE+



Nature+ uses a holistic “systems approach” to tackle the interconnected challenges of land degradation, climate change, food insecurity, poverty, and gender inequality. A systems approach asks, “What are the various causes of this situation and how are they connected? How are different people and places impacted, and why? What are the structural changes, such as government policies and local leadership, that are needed for lasting transformation?” Using this approach, Nature+ starts with practical, localized solutions, then adds structural elements that lead to sustainable, transformational change.

NBS PRACTICES

Through Nature+, the Foodgrains Bank network is promoting four key Nature-based Solutions (NbS) that protect and restore ecosystems and that address societal challenges like poverty and food security, especially among women and other vulnerable groups:

- **Conservation agriculture (CA)** applies three principles: minimizing soil disturbance, maximizing soil cover, and maximizing crop diversity.
- **Assisted natural regeneration and enrichment planting** focuses on the reincorporation of indigenous trees (and other beneficial trees such as fruit trees) into landscapes.
- **Improved soil and water conservation** includes the use of structures to control soil erosion, and small-scale community water harvesting.
- **Improved rangeland management**, such as community-planned grazing, improved fodder crops, and improved crop-livestock systems.

After three years, Foodgrains Bank-supported training and peer-to-peer learning has led to widespread adoption, with more than 52,000 farmers adopting one or more of these practices.

IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS

Through Nature+, the Foodgrains Bank network is supporting communities to improve incomes while strengthening biodiversity. These include community gardens, poultry farming, livestock, beekeeping, non-timber forest products, and grass and fodder production.

Adoption has been enhanced through:

- Conducting training and capacity building, particularly through farmer champions trained to support peers in poultry, beekeeping, and vegetable production.
- Financial inclusion through community-based savings groups—991 have been established since the program's start, improving access to credit and savings services.
- Improved technology, such as introducing more accessible beehives and fuel-efficient cookstoves, benefitting women's livelihoods and workloads, as well as local environments.

LANDSCAPE GOVERNANCE & GENDER EQUALITY

Nature+ is strengthening governance systems and advancing gender equality for transformational change. The Foodgrains Bank network is driving progress through:

- The empowerment of women and other vulnerable groups to participate and



lead in community and landscape level governance systems, such as Natural Resource Management Committees. By the end of 2025, of 5704 leadership positions, just over 50% were held by women, including 920 groups led by young women.

- The enhancement and adoption of socially and environmentally beneficial government policies and institutional practices. Community-based advocacy efforts led to positive changes in policies linked to improved environmental practices, access to land and water and more.
- Partnerships and linkages with local and national governments and other stakeholders, such as local businesses and national parks.

“One of the things this project has contributed is that we were put into groups called Village Savings and Loan Associations. Through the group we are able to save money together and take loans when we need to pay school fees or support our families.”

Ndinda Sikukuu – Participant, Kenya, through National Council of Churches Kenya (NCCCK), partner of The United Church of Canada

“We work closely with the communities so that they take ownership of restoring their landscapes. Women are also encouraged to participate in leadership and decision-making within these processes.”

Roseline Mukonoweshuro – Project Manager, Zimbabwe, through Towards Sustainable Use of Resources Trust (TSURO Trust), partner of Alongside Hope

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Tips for a great viewing experience

There is a lot to take in from this short film! To help you get the most from your viewing experience, try these tips.

SET THE STAGE

A film viewing is a great way to bring people together to learn about issues you care about! Consider sharing this film with friends, a youth group, class, Bible study or community group, or your own family.

POP SOME CORN, POP SOME QUESTIONS

Each of us might notice different details or be moved in different ways by a film. There's a lot we can learn from each other's reflections! Here are some questions that can help get the conversation flowing.

- What surprised or stood out to you in the Nature+ film?
- Tadesse Alemu, a project lead in Ethiopia shared, "As both a resident and a native of this area, I believe the healing of this land is medicine not just for the soil itself, but for the people, the animals and the climate." What are some examples you noticed of how Nature+ is helping people and ecosystems thrive?
- What features of the Nature+ approach are driving its success? What does that success look like for participating people and ecosystems? What might it look like beyond Nature+ programming?
- What questions did the film bring up for you? What would you like to learn more about after having watched the film?



WE ALL HAVE ROLES TO PLAY!

You can be part of the global community working together to end hunger! Now that you have learned about Nature+, how might you and your fellow viewers respond?



Learn

Find more information and resources at natureplusfilm.ca and nature-plus.ca



Pray

For people and places experiencing food insecurity, for fair food systems and healthy ecosystems, and for faithful responses that honour all God's creation.



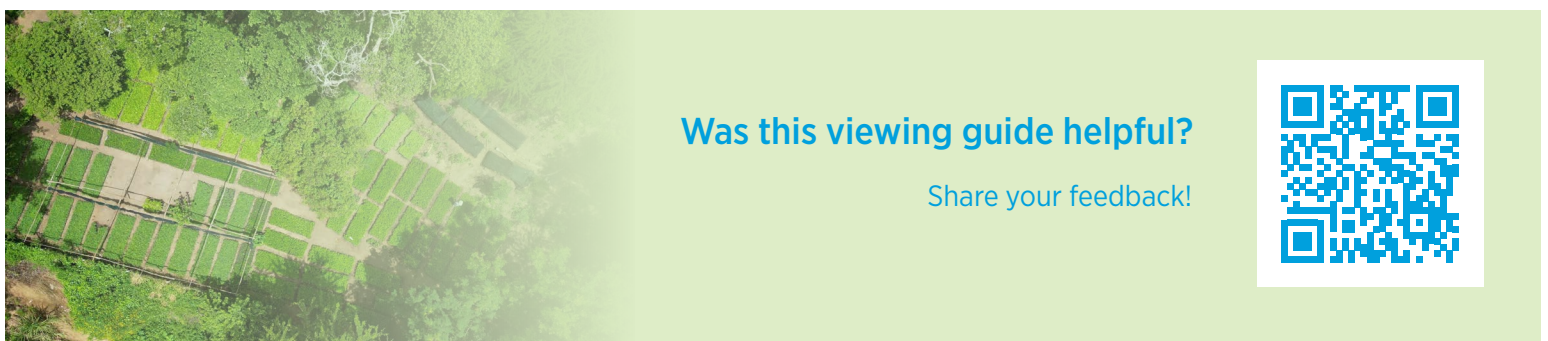
Give

Make a donation at foodgrainsbank.ca/give



Advocate

See back cover to add your voice!



Was this viewing guide helpful?

Share your feedback!



ADD YOUR VOICE

Invest in Proven Impact!

Nature+ was made possible thanks to funding from Global Affairs Canada. This funding represented a portion of Canada's Official Development Assistance (ODA) – the way countries like Canada provide international assistance.

The stories and images shared in this film present a powerful case study of how **Canadian ODA makes a real impact** for people facing food insecurity and climate challenges around the world. It also shows that hunger is preventable!

But the work of restoring landscapes and strengthening communities through Nature+ has only just begun. We need sustained support to see this work through.

ADD YOUR VOICE AND SEND A POSTCARD

Add your voice and let our government know you support Canadian ODA for agriculture and food systems.



“The type of change we want to see in landscape restoration and Nature-based Solution takes many years. Two years is a short time for environmental rehabilitation. The landscapes are now in the recovery stage. With more time, communities will begin to see the full benefits.”

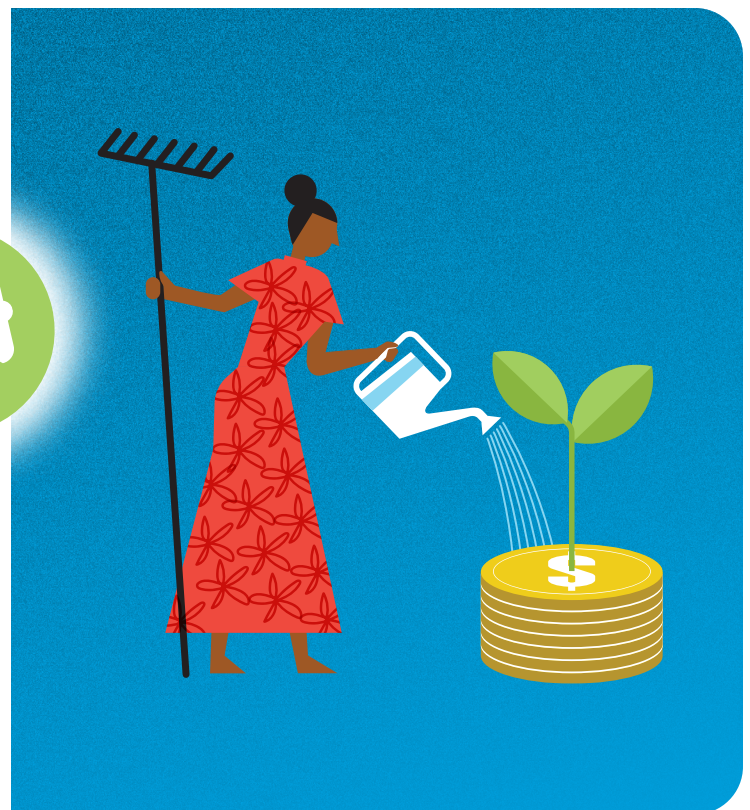
Yihenew Demessie – Programs Manager, Ethiopia, through Migibare Senay Children and Family Support Organization (MSCFSO), partner of Mennonite Central Committee Canada



If decision-makers don't hear from their constituents, they may assume people don't care about global hunger. Let's let them know Canadians care!

Scan the QR code to send your postcard today!

You can also order free printed postcards to mail postage-free at foodgrainsbank.ca/message



Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a partnership of 15 church and church-based agencies working together to end global hunger. We support programs implemented by our member churches and agencies through their local partner organizations in more than 35 countries around the world.