Asia Pacific Regional Situation Report
Situation Report #18 | 13 August 2020

Situation Overview

COVID-19 Cases: 2,777,910
COVID-19 Deaths: 59,453

World Vision Asia-Pacific’s early recovery assessment report has received a lot of interest among various stakeholders, triggering a series of webinars that are being organised. External regional webinars are being planned, in collaboration with UN agencies and other external stakeholders, to highlight assessment results primarily focusing on the loss of livelihood, social and child protection issues. World Vision is also working to bring these key findings from Asia to heads of UN agencies at the global level.

Livelihood will be the lead focus of World Vision’s recovery planning, since it has a significant impact on other sectors, including access to basic services and protection. World Vision’s assessment report highlights the need to support micro, small, and medium enterprises to achieve business continuity through flexible finance.

The universal access to affordable housing, healthcare, child protection, education, social protection for the most vulnerable is also of paramount importance. Field offices are also supporting sustainable income generation opportunities for the urban poor in national and local development plans beyond the COVID-19 crisis.

Key Messages

- Stakeholders should invest in and leverage faith-based responses and economic recovery programmes that put seed capital in the hands of vulnerable households.

- All stakeholders, including NGOs, government and donors must work together to support a green and resilient recovery, as the window for incorporating climate adaption and resilience building, into COVID-19 recovery planning is short.

- With the start of the monsoon season, countries should be prepared to handle major climate-related disasters during COVID-19 response and recovery.

Highlights

World Vision Asia Pacific uses a range of traditional and innovative approaches to engage with communities and share knowledge on COVID-19. Especially in restricted settings, World Vision aims to reach the most vulnerable, including people with disabilities, children, and communities who may not have access to the internet or digital devices. Each approach is contextualised to increase the impact of the messaging. The impacts and experiences are captured in online case studies.

People Reached:

12,940,990

- Men 3,481,693
- Women 3,693,371
- Children 5,765,926
- Boys 2,910,617
- Girls 2,855,309

(Crédit photo World Vision Asia Pacific, © 2020)

(COVID-19 case and death figures for 17 countries.
Source: WHO, 10 Aug 2020)
**COVID-19 Emergency Response Highlights**

**RESPONSE GOAL**
To limit the spread of COVID-19 and reduce its impact on vulnerable children and families

**OBJECTIVE 1: Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of COVID-19**

- **People reached through promotion of preventive behaviours**: 5,415,358
- **Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed**: 1,725,728
- **Community members provided preventive materials**: 3,836,727
- **Handwashing supplies distributed**: 773,523
- **Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed**: 1,646,062

- **Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities**: 4,929
- **Community-level public handwashing stations established or maintained**: 12,106
- **Water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities constructed or rehabilitated**: 547
- **Faith leaders disseminating preventive measures**: 4,588

(Based on figures as of 10 August 2020)

**OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen health systems and workers**

- **Community health workers trained and supported**: 12,265
- **Medical personnel provided personal protective equipment (PPE)**: 77,353
- **Masks distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and communities**: 2,999,264
- **Glove sets distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and communities**: 677,452
- **Medical facilities assisted**: 1,778

- **Disinfectant kits distributed to health care facilities**: 103,530
- **People supported with the securing of safe quarantine and/or isolation spaces**: 9,347
- **Quarantine and isolation spaces supported, rehabilitated or set-up**: 283
- **People provided transportation support**: 1,373

(Based on figures as of 10 August 2020)
### OBJECTIVE 3: Support for children impacted by COVID-19 through child protection, education, food security, and livelihoods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>578,979</strong></td>
<td>People reached with information, education, and communication psychosocial support materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>134,053</strong></td>
<td>Education materials provided to enable or support remote learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>135,814</strong></td>
<td>People provided with education support or training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>171,867</strong></td>
<td>Children reached with targeted, age-specific health education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>801</strong></td>
<td>Teachers provided with education training and support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1,155,329</strong></td>
<td>Cash and voucher assistance distributed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1,068,617</strong></td>
<td>People reached with food security assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>333,037</strong></td>
<td>Children supported with child protection programming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1,068,617</strong></td>
<td>People reached with food security assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>401</strong></td>
<td>Individuals supported with livelihoods training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6,326</strong></td>
<td>Households provided livelihoods assets</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Based on figures as of 10 August 2020)

### OBJECTIVE 4: Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>33</strong></td>
<td>Global, regional and national policy changes achieved through advocacy and external engagement to improve the international responses to COVID-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>45</strong></td>
<td>External engagements where World Vision is advocating on priorities, including ending violence against children in the context of COVID-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>213</strong></td>
<td>External actions, including sign ons and public statements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>409</strong></td>
<td>External engagements with Tier 1 and Tier 2 stakeholders where World Vision is chairing, presenting or leading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>91</strong></td>
<td>External engagements with faith actors where World Vision is chairing, presenting or leading</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Examples of Tier 1 and Tier 2 stakeholders include WFP, WHO, Global Fund, UNICEF, UNHRC, UNOCHA, and national governments*
Continuing children’s education in the midst of COVID-19

Stories from the frontlines

Nexi, 12, is both excited and nervous for school possibly opening this month. Last March, her most anticipated graduation was held online to keep her and other students protected. She was the valedictorian.

“I was hoping I could walk on the stage with my parents as we receive my award. Sadly, COVID-19 prevented that from happening. But I understand it’s for our safety. I’m just happy that I can be in Grade 7 this year,” she shares.

Nexi still prefers face-to-face learning. Nothing beats sharing stories or doing assignments with her close friends, she said. The pandemic has affected more than 20 million learners across the Philippines. With cases of coronavirus still rising, students may still not be able to physically go to their schools. Authorities say that face-to-face classes will be postponed until there is a vaccine for COVID-19. Instead, distance or blended learning which explores different lesson delivery outside traditional methods will be implemented. The use of radio, TV, online and modular learning will be maximised.

Online learning requires gadgets, and a steady internet connection

In a recent assessment conducted by World Vision in 21 provinces of the Philippines, 89% of the children respondents expressed their concerns about online learning. The study also showed that 46% of the households surveyed do not have access to internet.

“I do not have the gadgets I need. My mother has a cell phone but I don’t think that’s enough. I have a sister who is also studying and who I have to share the gadget with in case we go for distance learning,” Nexi shares.

Poor to no internet connection is also a concern for Nexi and her family. Her father’s work as a construction worker was disrupted because of the imposed community quarantine.

“We can barely provide for our daily meals. We have a lot of debts to pay because my husband has been out of work for months now. We do not have money to spare for better internet,” explains Catherine, Nexi’s mother.

Learning should not stop

Acknowledging the concerns of both parents and students like Nexi, the education department of the Philippines said that in places where there is no access to digital technology, schools will provide students with printed modules.

“World Vision supports this initiative of the department of education. We have to find ways to ensure that children’s learning is not further disrupted by the pandemic,” says Geomel Jetonzo, Education Manager of World Vision in the Philippines.

Aligned to this, World Vision, in partnership with the department of education officially launched the Abutin Na10 campaign, an initiative that aims to raise funds to help provide necessary gadgets and printed modules to at least 10 million students across the country.

Aside from this, World Vision is also supporting the agency’s learning continuity plan by assisting in the digitisation of reading materials while classroom learning is not yet possible. These materials will be uploaded on DepEd Commons, a free online resource for students and teachers. World Vision has also started distributing learner’s kits to children who need them.

As for Nexi, no matter what the mode of learning is, she’s determined to do her best. “I know there will be challenges when we start our classes but I will still do my best. I want to study well so that I can be an engineer someday,” she shares.

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