

HUMANITARIAN OVERVIEW 2019

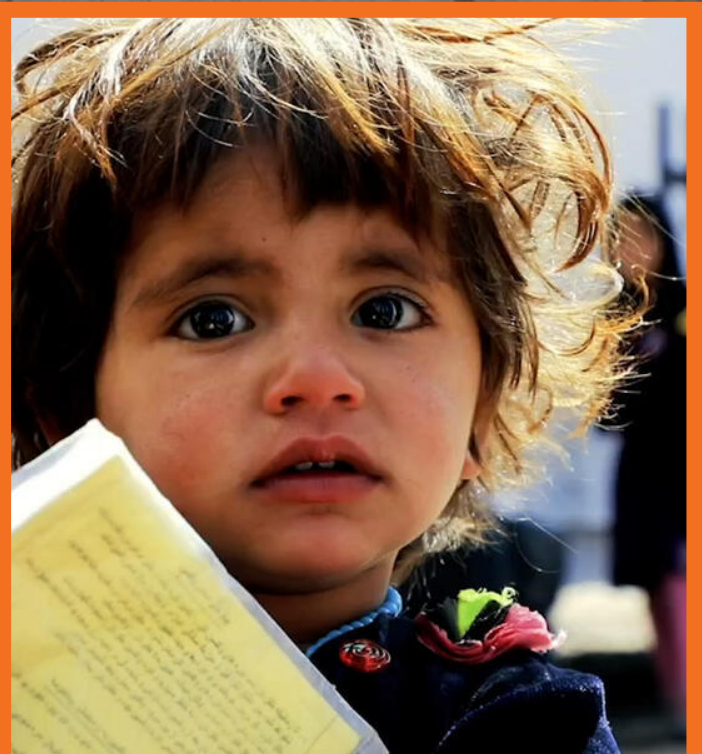


World Vision Middle East and Eastern Europe Regional Office (MEER) is operating in **13 countries** (Syria, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Jerusalem, West Bank and Gaza (JWG, also referred to as oPt), Armenia, Georgia, Albania and Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Romania). In addition, World Vision supports partners in Yemen.

During financial year 2019 (FY19 - October 2018 to September 2019), World Vision's humanitarian field budget reached **US\$297.1 million** in MEER. This supported humanitarian operations in Syria, Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Bosnia assisting around **3.7 million people** (including 2 million children) through life-saving humanitarian relief and recovery programmes.

Too many girls and boys in MEER have their childhoods severely damaged by conflict, natural disaster, migration and forced displacement. They are uprooted, forced to flee, sometimes without their families. On the run to seek protection and well-being, they find their way to camps, host communities, and foreign lands. Here they often experience further violence and may lack even basic support.

Across the region, children's education is disrupted, forced marriage is increasing and vulnerability to disease and food insecurity is growing. Poor shelter



Over 6 million children on the move

SYRIA TURKEY
 JORDAN **IRAQ**
 JWG LEBANON YEMEN
 GEORGIA **AFGHANISTAN**
BOSNIA ARMENIA
 ROMANIA ALBANIA KOSOVO

conditions expose them to freezing temperatures winter and scorching heat in summer. Further dangers include explosive hazards, contaminated water and lack of access to safe places to learn and play. They are also exposed to grave violations of their rights including sexual abuse, killing, maiming and recruitment into armed groups.

World Vision is supporting girls and boys that face war, gender discrimination and displacement across source, transit and destination countries. The survival, development and agency of these children on the move are at the heart of World Vision's humanitarian work.

Protracted conflicts have displaced more than **20 million people** in the MEER/Southwest Asia region in recent years, many of them multiple times, either internally or as refugees to neighbouring countries. They include an estimated **12.9 million IDPs**, largely in Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and Yemen, and **8.8 million refugees** living in places neighbouring the conflict zones, including Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Pakistan and Jerusalem, West Bank and Gaza. In Syria alone, more than **6.1 million people** remain internally displaced and at least **5.6 million** have sought safety abroad as refugees.



Dreams of a normal childhood

Hussein, Moustafa, and Douaa are three Syrian refugee children residing in Lebanon and forced to become the income-providers for their families, by selling products on the dangerous roads of the Bekaa valley. However, in the midst of this adult-like life, the children found joy and safety in World Vision's psycho-social support programming for children who are victims of child labour. "One day I want to stop working on the streets and go back to school." - says Douaa. "I want to go back to Syria so I can build a better future." - is dreaming Moustafa.

ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS

During 2019, World Vision MEER carried out the "It Takes a World" Campaign, focusing on abuse, neglect, corporal punishment, child marriage and other forms of violence against children. In this context studies have been conducted to inform an evidence based advocacy.

No Choice: It takes a world to end the use of child soldiers is a research conducted in Iraq, emphasizing how the recruitment and use of child soldiers steals the future of children and it is one of the most serious violations of children's rights.

In Afghanistan, World Vision worked with the Ministry of Education on developing a Peace Education Curriculum and has played a key role in the implementation of the National Action Plan to End Early and Child Marriage. World Vision has worked continuously to ensure the world does not forget the crisis in Syria and improve humanitarian access through influencing the Whole of Syria architecture and various UN agencies' response, advocacy towards the UN Security Council, critical operational decisions on refugee returns and cross-border coordination, as well as protective environments for refugee children in surrounding countries.

World Vision effectively engaged with faith leaders to enable them to have a strong voice regarding child protection issues, in the frame of Global Compact on Refugees. World Vision convened religious leaders in Amman and Beirut to make recommendations towards the implementation of the Global Compact. This involved consulting and training faith leaders on children's rights, and working directly with faith communities to assess need and deliver humanitarian aid.

World Vision has influenced key regional and global mechanisms with direct impact on children in humanitarian contexts, such as the Global Compact on Refugees, the revised Child Protection Minimum Standards, as well as the World Bank Strategy on Fragility, Conflict, and Violence.

Ending violence against children is at the core of advocacy in this region. World Vision is relentlessly advocating for every society and culture to make changes that will strengthen the protective environment around children and increase their access to essential services.



In response to the Syria refugee crisis, World Vision is managing a multi-country programme covering Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Turkey. The Syria conflict is in its 9th year and remains one of the biggest multi-country humanitarian crises in the world. Inside Syria, an estimated 11.7 million people need humanitarian assistance, 43% are children under 18 years old. Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Turkey are hosting over 5 million refugees. Many of these seek onward migration to Europe and other developed countries while few are returning to Syria.

In FY19, World Vision reached 2,289,500 unique beneficiaries in Lebanon, Syria, Turkey and Jordan with a funding of US\$242 million.

The funds were used to support families and their children with interventions in WASH, Child Protection, Education, Health, Shelter/NFIs, Food, Cash Assistance, Livelihoods and partnering.



Bosnia continues to be a migration route for migrants and asylum seekers travelling to Europe from South Asia and the Middle East. In 2019, 28,263 migrants were registered along with 8,380 refugees who were estimated to be in the country. As a result, **in FY19, World Vision Bosnia assisted 15,295 people with a funding of US\$638,448.**



As the humanitarian crisis in Iraq continues, almost 18% of the population is still in need of some form of humanitarian assistance. World Vision's work focuses on internally displaced persons, host communities and others in need of humanitarian assistance and protection. **In FY19, 586,736 people were reached with a funding of US\$27 million.**



Since 2018, World Vision Afghanistan has been responding to ongoing climate related emergencies and conflict. Severe flash floods in March 2019 affected over 143,000 people across Afghanistan. This led World Vision to extend operations to address acute food insecurity driven by conflict, droughts and floods. Programming included WASH, and Non Food items, essential medicine provision and livelihoods support. **In FY19, World Vision spent over US\$27 million to help 839,081 people affected by the droughts and the floods.**



Responding to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Yemen, World Vision International's Board of Directors approved working with partners.



World Vision is committed to operating in a way that respects the laws and regulations of each country we work in. All programmes are implemented in line with International Standards and coordinated through both the UN Cluster and relevant host Government systems. World Vision is a signatory to the Red Crescent/Red Cross Code of Conduct and abides by the Core Humanitarian Standard.

These standards reflect our commitment to provide assistance based on needs and in a neutral and impartial manner that does not favor or promote any political, religious or ethnic view point. We are active contributors to key sector initiatives like Sphere, the Core Humanitarian Standard - Alliance, and Humanitarian Quality Assurance Initiative.

A REGION OF DISPLACED PEOPLE

20 million

displaced people
in the Middle East and Afghanistan.

12.9 million IDPs,
largely in Syria, Iraq,
Afghanistan and Yemen.

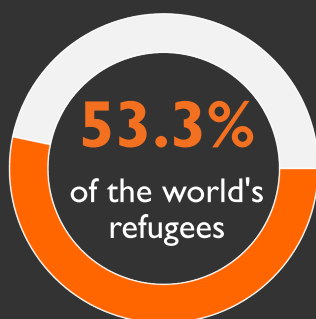


8.8 million refugees
living in places neighbouring the
conflict zones.

MEER has the
3 largest refugee hosting countries
in the world by proportion of population.



MEER includes the
top 3 refugee origin countries
in the world.



FUNDING

WV's value of humanitarian programmes
across the region in FY19 was

US\$297.1 million



World Food Programme

US\$193 million (65%)
in CASH programming

US\$165 million (86%)
of CASH programming is from WFP

HEALTH &
NUTRITION



US\$26 million

CHILD
PROTECTION



US\$4 million

WASH



US\$34 million

LIVELIHOODS



US\$13 million

FOOD



US\$173 million

EDUCATION



US\$13 million

World Vision received grant funding from the following agencies: BMZ, BPRM, Council of Europe, DFID, DRA, ECHO, EU, FAO, GAC, German Embassy, GIZ, Irish Aid, JPF, OCHA, OFDA, Patrip Foundation, Porticus Asia Limited, Start Fund UK, Takeda Pharmaceuticals, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNICEF, US government and WFP.

Private donations were also received from the following countries: Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Germany, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, Spain, United States and Vanuatu.

PROGRAMMES AND BENEFICIARIES

3,730,612

unique beneficiaries reached during FY19 in Syria, Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Bosnia and Afghanistan through humanitarian actions.

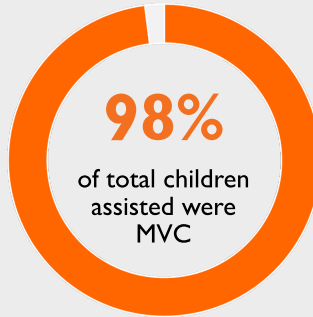
2,013,539

children assisted in FY19 in humanitarian programming (in Syria, Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Bosnia and Afghanistan).



1,977,735

Most Vulnerable Children (MVC) assisted across MEER in FY19.



BENEFICIARIES BY SECTOR (Children in brackets)

HEALTH & NUTRITION



578,765
(318,914)

CHILD PROTECTION



30,283
(17,426)

WASH



1.5 million
(774,015)

LIVELIHOODS/CASH



1,045,253
(474,139)

EDUCATION



148,854
(89,972)

FOOD



374,706
(226,093)

PROTECTION



80,783
(56,619)

CHILDREN IN EMERGENCIES



96,641
(75,838)

SHELTER



101,668
(59,284)

PARTNERING



3,569
(2,282)

Some sectors numbers overlap so numbers may be greater than the total for unique beneficiaries.

PARTNERING WITH FAITH ORGANISATIONS

6,737

faith leaders trained

6,270

partnerships with churches/faith entities/ communities

258,229

children and youth benefited from these partnerships



Afghanistan's young leaders speak up

Eidnaz, 12, was selected to be part of World Vision's 'Improving Adolescent Lives in Afghanistan' programme, funded by Unicef. She was part of a group of 20 teenagers who spent a few weeks in an intense training learning about self expression- and life-skills.

Eidnaz says the group has grown her into the confident girl she now is. "I have a lot of ambitions. I want to study law to become an attorney and then I want to work in the government. There's a lot to improve in my city - we don't even have paved roads - and I want to change that," she says. Eidnaz also admits that boys are given priority and increased opportunities. "There should be equal rights and that's what I want to focus my energy on. I'm already starting now, and I want to do more after finishing university."



A hidden gem

Farah had a talent for drawing, but it was not discovered until the day she entered the child friendly space. She was noticed by the facilitators and social workers for drawing remarkable sketches, but with sad tones. Her drawings were of women crying or with half covered faces. Later she explained that it was because of the struggles she had faced in her life.

"When I draw, I express what is inside me. Before I entered the child friendly space, I just used to scribble, but after I joined, they discovered my talent and they encouraged me. I developed, became better at drawing and participated in art exhibitions." - shared Farah.

* name has been changed to protect identity