Situation Overview

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to influence people’s access to services and assistance, and humanitarian actors’ access across and within countries of the Middle East and Eastern Europe Region.

The increase in COVID-19 cases in Government of Syria controlled areas have overwhelmed the capacity of local hospitals, with the Ministry of Health instructing hospitals in Damascus and rural Damascus to stop taking in COVID-19 patients. The COVID-19 outbreak in northwest Syria has led to restrictions on freedom of movement. Following the recent detection of the first COVID-19 cases in Syria’s northwest, Idlib, western and northern Aleppo saw a return to the implementation of COVID-19 precautionary measures.

Israel continues to struggle to contain the pandemic and its economic fallout; public protests are increasing in size and intensity. Israel prematurely lifted most restrictions in late May, resulting in a surge of new infections and prompting the government to reimpose many restrictions. The surge in cases comes as the government wrestles with widespread unemployment and allegations that it failed to support businesses and workers as lockdown restrictions returned.

A rise in number of COVID-19 cases in Lebanon, Iraq, Romania, Albania, and Kosovo have forced governments to reintroduce lockdowns and travel restrictions, impacting access and reach of World Vision operations.

COVID-19 Cases: 244,466
COVID-19 Deaths: 8,924

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World Vision Syria

World Vision Syria, in a joint statement with other NGOs, demanded access to provide cross-border aid, as it is a vital lifeline mechanism for millions of Syrians, the majority being women and children.

World Vision International President and CEO, Andrew Morley, urged the UN Security Council members to adopt a resolution that authorises UN cross-border operations and allows unfettered humanitarian access to all Syrians.

While World Vision welcomed the UN Security Council Resolution 2533, we still call for the UN Security Council members to urgently find a solution for the northeast, and to expand access to all of the northwest. The urgency is also due to new COVID-19 cases.

World Vision Albania and Kosovo

The Child Protection in Education working group, which World Vision co-leads, appealed to the Government of Albania concerning two severe cases: a sexually abused girl and an adolescent beaten by the police for not following lockdown restrictions.

As a result, the prime minister approved a new order aiming to establish the Inter-Institutional Working Group to improve systems to prevent and address violence against children. Also, the parliament issued a resolution committing to monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child by all relevant institutions engaged in child protection, especially gender-based violence.

World Vision is responding to the impact of COVID-19 in 13 countries and territories in the Middle East and Eastern Europe, especially in places where children and families are most vulnerable.

People Reached:

- **929,835**
  - Men 223,948
  - Women 261,466
- **444,421** Children
  - Boys 217,648
  - Girls 226,773

(COVID-19 case and death figures for 9 countries with available data. Source: WHO, 27 July 2020)
## Objective 1: Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of disease

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People reached through promotion of preventive behaviours</th>
<th>Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed</th>
<th>Community members provided with preventive materials</th>
<th>Handwashing supplies distributed</th>
<th>Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>297,866</td>
<td>101,985</td>
<td>259,014</td>
<td>280,385</td>
<td>49,947</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **3,501** Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities
- **186** Faith leaders disseminating preventive measures

(Based on figures as of 24 July 2020)

## Objective 2: Strengthen health systems and workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community health workers trained and supported</th>
<th>Medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment (PPE)</th>
<th>Masks distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and communities</th>
<th>Glove sets distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and communities</th>
<th>Medical facilities assisted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,322</td>
<td>13,045</td>
<td>213,366</td>
<td>838,767</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disinfectant kits distributed to health care facilities</th>
<th>People supported with the securing of safe quarantine and/or isolation spaces</th>
<th>Quarantine and isolation spaces supported, rehabilitated or set-up</th>
<th>People provided with transportation support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5,502</td>
<td>8,371</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1,448</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Based on figures as of 24 July 2020)
**OBJECTIVE 3:** Support for children impacted by COVID-19 through education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods

- **498,616** People reached with information, education, and communication psychosocial support materials
- **21,111** Education materials provided to enable or support remote learning
- **53,724** People provided with education support or training
- **15,656** Children reached with targeted, age-specific health education
- **1,154** Teachers provided with education training and support
- **27,534** People reached with cash and voucher assistance
- **89,071** People reached with information, education, and communication psychosocial support materials
- **7,461** Children supported with child protection programming
- **784** Frontline actors reached or trained on child protection programming
- **US$20,694** Cash and voucher assistance distributed
- **125** Individuals supported with livelihoods training
- **1,757** Households provided livelihoods assets
- **10** Savings groups organised

*(Based on figures as of 24 July 2020)*

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

- **12** Regional and national policy changes achieved through advocacy and external engagement to improve the international responses to COVID-19
- **91** External engagements where World Vision is advocating on priorities, including ending violence against children in the context of COVID-19
- **35** External actions, including sign ons and public statements
- **335** External engagements with Tier 1 and Tier 2 stakeholders where World Vision is chairing, presenting or leading
- **25** External engagements with faith actors where World Vision is chairing, presenting or leading

*Examples of Tier 1 and Tier 2 stakeholders include WFP, WHO, Global Fund, UNICEF, UNHRC, UNOCHA, and national governments*

*(Based on figures as of 24 July 2020)*
Afghanistan: Esmatullah, 11 (right), participating in a COVID-19 awareness raising campaign conducted by World Vision and receiving a hygiene kit.

We would like to thank our generous donors, partners, and supporters including:

WFP
unicef
OCHA

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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