



# COVID-19 Emergency Response

## Middle East and Eastern Europe Regional Situation Report

Situation Report #13 | 17 September 2020

### Situation Overview

**COVID-19 Cases: 543,439**

**COVID-19 Deaths: 15,953**

After a decline in July, cases in the Middle East jumped back in August to average around 15,000 per day. Both **Israel** and **Turkey** are reporting over 1,500 new case per day. **Iraq's** record 5,036 cases on 4 September keeps it at the centre of the regional outbreak.

Uncontrolled contagion continues, despite some social distancing restrictions. Humanitarian access is a challenge, especially in Northern Iraq as the National Operation Command has stopped issuing access letters for INGOs operating there. Two new COVID-19 cases have been confirmed positive on 8 September in **Jordan's Azraq Refugee Camp**, which hosts 36,800 Syrian refugees. Monitoring and preventive measures to contain the spread of the virus have been immediately taken. Yet, with the rise of cases continuing across the country, World Vision is concerned about almost 22,500 refugee children still in the camp who are exposed to vulnerabilities that increase by the day. In **Lebanon**, COVID-19 cases in the past month have increased by 20 percent. As lockdown measures ease, the continued increase in COVID-19 cases are expected to continue stressing the already fragile health system and communities affected by the recent earthquake.

Surge in cases and stricter containment measures are observed in Eastern Europe countries as well, including **Romania, Georgia, Albania, and Bosnia and Herzegovina**.

(COVID-19 case and death figures for 9 countries with available data.  
Source: WHO, 14 September 2020)

World Vision

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



**1,259,184**



**Men 297,216**

**Women 352,865**

**Children 609,103**



**Boys 298,346**

**Girls 310,757**

(Based on figures as of 11 September 2020)

### Key Highlights



World Viion continues to call on **donors** to prioritise humanitarian access and protection of the most vulnerable in national responses, and to continue their commitment to the UN's Global Humanitarian Response Plan and provide additional funds.



World Vision urges donors to fund policies and COVID-19 response plans that holistically address the mental health of children and their families, and also the secondary impacts of the pandemic, particularly with respect to child protection, gender-based violence, education, water and sanitation, food security, and livelihoods.



While World Vision has advocated for stronger and more effective **coordination** between governments, UN agencies and NGOs, it has also actively contributed to local and national coalitions, with UNICEF, WHO, emergency coordinating NGOs, and clusters. World Vision has been able to engage children, parents, service providers, religious leaders, local, national and international NGOs, UN agencies, donors and governments.



Alongside calling on governments, the UN and international communities to do more for the most vulnerable, World Vision has contributed to developing and institutionalising the **guidance and frameworks** for case management referral policies, manuals and television programmes for parents and children in isolation, psycho-social support programmes, education and family strengthening programmes.



## 6 Months On

*In Afghanistan, Sakina learned how to protect herself from COVID-19 at a World Vision Street Working Children Enrichment Centre. ©World Vision*

**On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organisation declared COVID-19 a pandemic. Within hours, World Vision launched the largest global emergency response ever in its 70 year history.**

**Working closely together with governments, partners, supporters, and communities at all levels from grassroots to global, World Vision has worked to limit the spread of disease and reduce its impact on the most vulnerable children and families. Across the Middle East and Eastern Europe, World Vision:**

- Adapted project models that enabled staff to deliver activities remotely, as well as make content relevant to new COVID-19 realities. Adapted project models included Go-Baby-Go in Georgia, and Impact Clubs and School Student Parliaments in Jerusalem-West Gaza. Building digital literacy is critical for success of such adapted approaches.
- Carried out online regional meetings in Armenia with 200 health workers and decision makers in rural areas during the strict lockdown period that improved response capacity of the Ministry of Health and local authorities.
- Received an official letter of recognition from the Department of Public Health in Ghor, Afghanistan, for World Vision's health and nutrition programming and response to COVID-19.
- Reduced the risk of coronavirus outbreak by disinfecting public places on a daily basis in Afghanistan. The Great Mosque of Herat is one of those places. Despite the COVID-19 crisis, people are continuing to attend the Great Mosque of Herat. Recognising this, World Vision is making this location safer. World Vision is also working with faith leaders to promote other protective behaviours, such as regular hand washing with soap and water, and social distancing. Watch the video [here](#).
- Launched the report [Stolen Future: War and Child Marriage in Crises](#), which looked at the most insidious price children must pay as a result of war: forced and early marriage. COVID-19 prevention and response measures will push households already living in extreme poverty to new depths of vulnerability, placing children at heightened risk of neglect, violence and forced early marriage.
- Advocated at national and global levels for the renewal of a UN Security Council Resolution on the UN Cross-Border Mechanism, to demand access to cross-border aid, a vital lifeline mechanism for millions of Syrians, the majority being women and children.



## RESPONSE GOAL

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

## Strategic Objectives



1. Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of disease



2. Strengthen health systems and workers



3. Support for children impacted by COVID-19 through education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



4. Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected

## OBJECTIVE 1: Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of disease



**387,533**

People reached through promotion of preventive behaviours



**114,609**

Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed



**343,187**

Community members provided with preventive materials



**361,163**

Handwashing supplies distributed



**74,871**

Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed



**3,775**

Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities



**150**

Water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities constructed or rehabilitated



**886**

Faith leaders disseminating preventive measures

(Based on figures as of 11 September 2020)

## OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen health systems and workers



**2,754**

Community health workers trained and supported



**13,522**

Medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment (PPE)



**251,424**

Masks distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and communities



**843,767**

Glove sets distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and communities



**253**

Medical facilities assisted



**6,102**

Disinfectant kits distributed to health care facilities



**19,135**

People supported with the securing of safe quarantine and/or isolation spaces



**28**

Quarantine and isolation spaces supported, rehabilitated or set-up

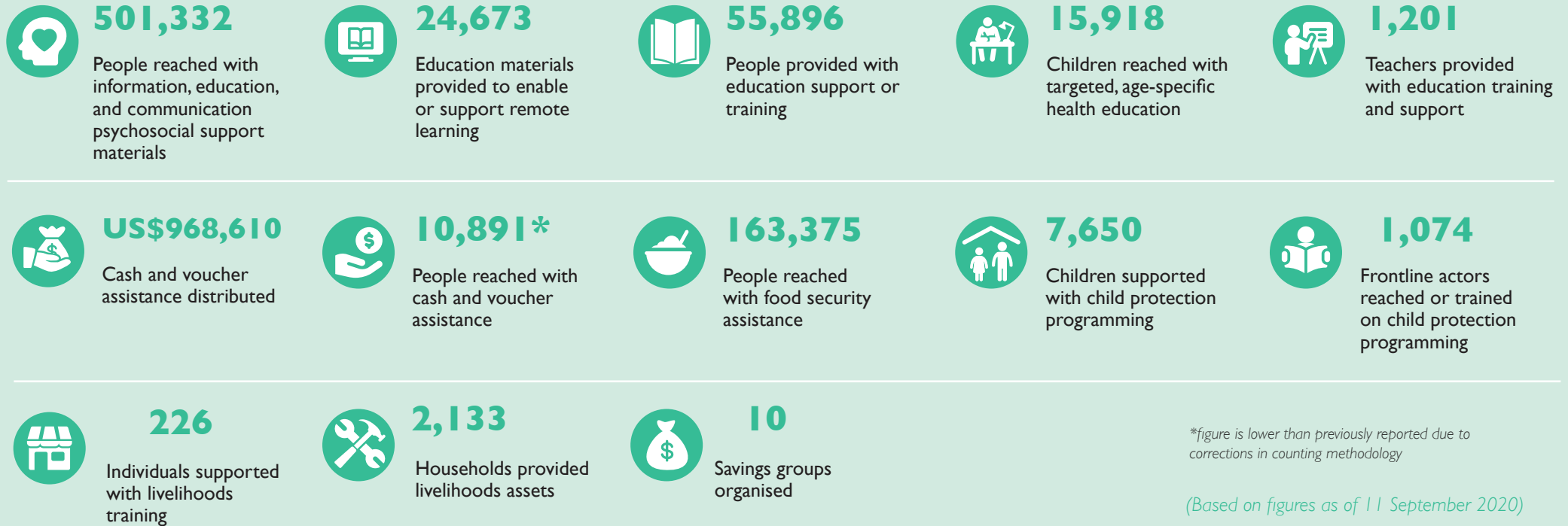


**1,520**

People provided with transportation support

(Based on figures as of 11 September 2020)

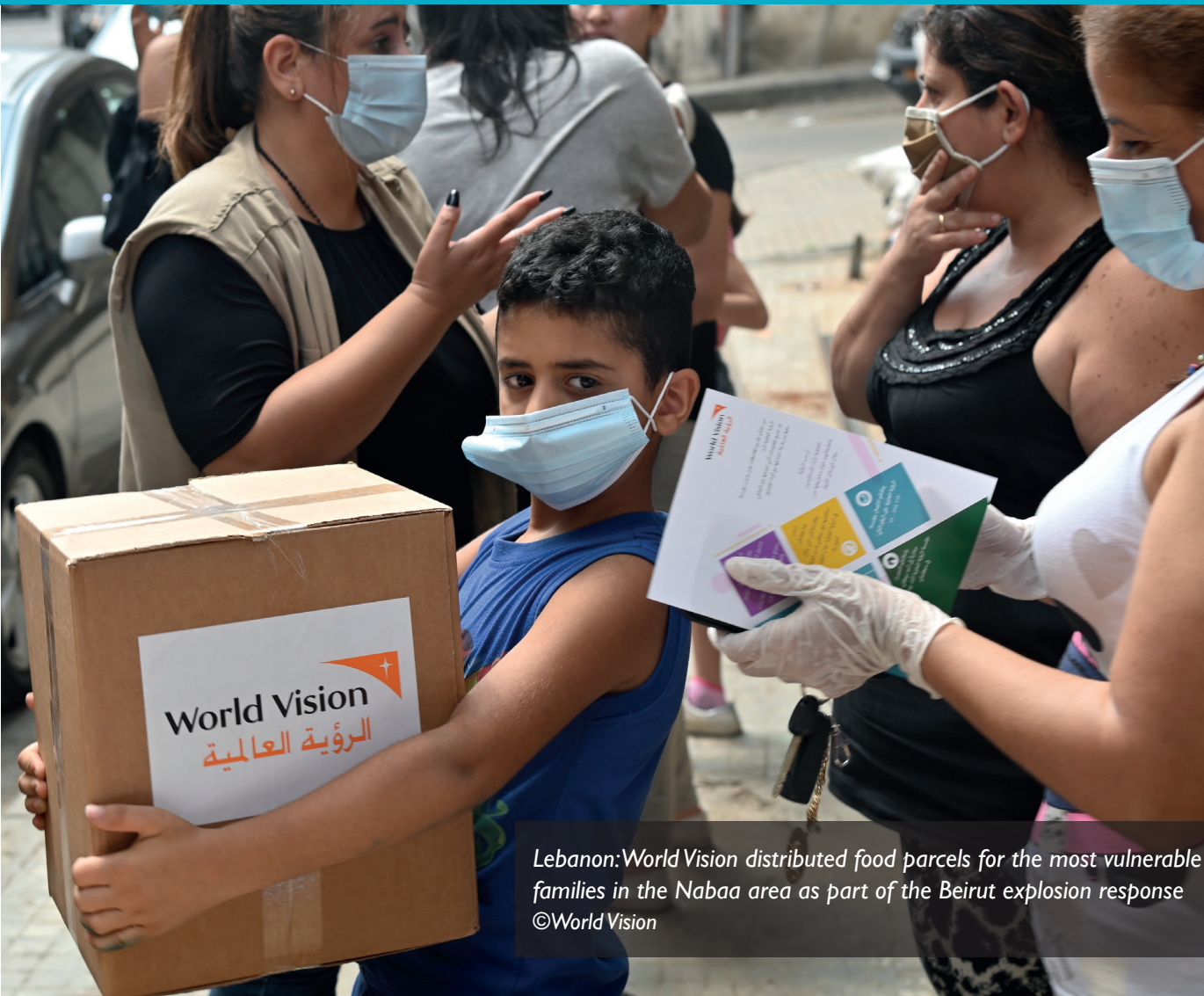
## OBJECTIVE 3: Support for children impacted by COVID-19 through education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



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







*Lebanon: World Vision distributed food parcels for the most vulnerable families in the Nabaa area as part of the Beirut explosion response*  
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German Missions



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