



COVID-19 Emergency Response



Middle East and Eastern Europe Regional Situation Report

Situation Report #14 | 22 October 2020

Situation Overview

COVID-19 Cases: 799,602

COVID-19 Deaths: 20,378

There has been a sharp increase in cases both in Eastern Europe and Middle Eastern countries; states that had seemingly controlled infections are once again on high alert (**Jordan, Georgia, and Israel**). Most of the governments in the region are prioritising economic recovery over strict containment measures, except for few states with contentious policies that continue to abuse the pretext of coronavirus restrictions to shut down dissent.

COVID-19 case increases in Northwest Syria have reached alarming levels - almost 100 new cases are being reported every single day as 2.7 million people remain displaced in the area. Unless the already weakened health system receives immediate international support, the situation will dramatically worsen.

Secondary impacts of the virus also continues to increase across all of the three countries where World Vision Syria operates - **Jordan, Turkey and Syria**. In these countries, host communities and refugees are struggling to make ends meet, while children are most affected by rising levels of begging, child marriage, abuse and other negative coping mechanisms

In **Lebanon**, soaring unemployment rates and salary cuts, increased poverty rates among local populations and refugees are adding to an already critical situation regarding the growth in COVID 19 cases and access to treatment. According to the World Bank, one million people in Lebanon are living below the poverty line. The price of a monthly food has more than doubled over the past six months.

(COVID-19 case and death figures for 9 countries with available data.
Source: WHO, 18 October 2020)

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

 **1,697,301**

 **Men 372,133**  **Women 443,451**

Children 881,717

 **Boys 436,075**  **Girls 445,642**

(Based on figures as of 14 October 2020)

Key Concerns



While Armenia finds itself in the grips of conflict, COVID-19 cases tripled last week. The ongoing conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh and displacements of affected people into the territory of Armenia further jeopardizes the containment measures and contributes to increased transmission rates across the country. World Vision Armenia, alongside international and national partners, calls on the government and other decision-making stakeholders to focus on areas such as:

- Prioritising of the continuation of services for vulnerable groups
- Developing a unified Government approach to protect children during state of emergency.
- Training and equipping Community Social Workers and frontline workers
- Prioritising child-centred services



World Vision Syria Response is also concerned about escalating needs as winter approaches.

Achievements



World Vision Syria Response is increasing the visibility of the needs of people inside Syria as a result of the pandemic. Together with the SIFR PAWG (International NGO Regional Forum's Working Group), World Vision has developed a briefing about COVID-19 impact on Syrians for donors, which was disseminated by World Vision in the UK and Germany. World Vision Syria Response has also contributed to the North West Syria advocacy Working Group's statement raising the alarm on the escalating winterisation needs during the pandemic.



On October 10th, World Mental Health Day, **World Vision Bosnia and Herzegovina** joined forces with Republika Srpska Ministry for Health and Social Protection and the Society of Psychologists to launch child protection resources, aimed to protect children at risk of neglect and deteriorating family relations during times of extreme stress. The resources are developed in the context of the It Takes A World campaign highlighting the importance of stimulating child-parent relations at times of emergencies and providing tools to support them.



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



458,089

People reached through promotion of preventive behaviours



134,892

Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed



549,662

Community members provided with preventive materials



447,705

Handwashing supplies distributed



130,244

Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed



8,307

Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities



31

Community-level public handwashing stations established or maintained



188

Water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities constructed or rehabilitated



910

Faith leaders disseminating preventive measures

(Based on figures as of 14 October 2020)

OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen health systems and workers



2,841

Community health workers trained and supported



14,053

Medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment (PPE)



292,177

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



843,848

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



264

Medical facilities assisted



7,661

Disinfectant kits distributed to health care facilities



27,657

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



31

Quarantine and isolation spaces supported, rehabilitated or set-up



1,527

People provided with transportation support

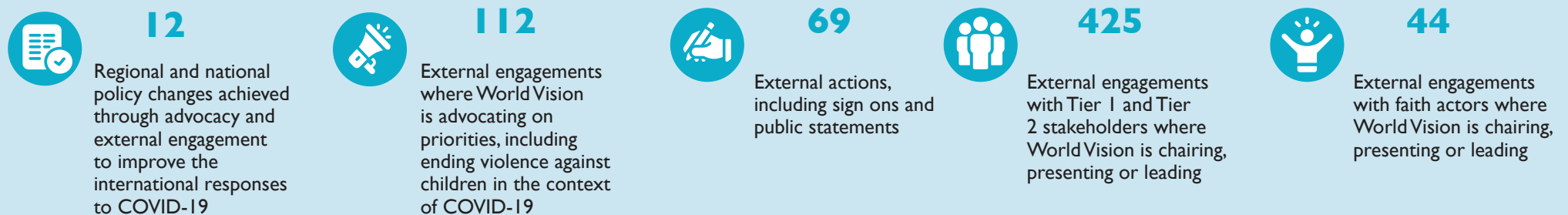
(Based on figures as of 14 October 2020)

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



(Based on figures as of 14 October 2020)

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



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

(Based on figures as of 14 October 2020)



Afghanistan: COVID-19 Awareness Raising Campaign and hygiene kit distribution implemented by WV Afghanistan funded by PATRIP Foundation- Ghoryan district of Herat province Afghanistan.

©World Vision

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



German Missions



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Tata Mikeladze

Acting Regional Humanitarian Emergency Affairs Director
Middle East and Eastern Europe Region

E: tata_mikeladze@wvi.org | P: +995 599 41 4184 | Skype: tatamikel