



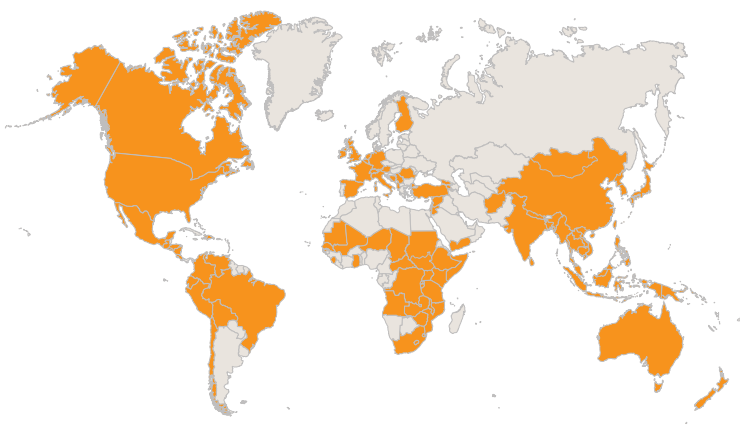
COVID-19 Emergency Response

Situation Report #18 | 22 October 2020

World Vision is responding*
to the devastating impact of
COVID-19 in **more than
70 countries.**

Our **US\$350 million response**
aims to reach,
72 million people,
including **36 million children,**
especially the most vulnerable.

* responding includes field programming and/or fundraising



COVID-19 Cases: 40,251,950

COVID-19 Deaths: 1,116,131

(COVID-19 case and death figures. Source: WHO, 20 October 2020)

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 world's most vulnerable children and families.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, more than one million people have died globally, while over 40 million people have been infected.

New country spikes and second waves mean lockdowns are lifted and reinstated. The pandemic's economic toll has left families, already living on the edge, out of work, has forced vulnerable children out of school due to lockdowns, and threatened millions more with hunger and starvation.

Up to 150 million people are at risk of being pushed into extreme poverty by 2021 because of COVID-19, according to a recent [World Bank report](#).


World Vision continues to call for a united, global effort to fight the impact of the pandemic, especially for the most vulnerable children.

People Reached

 **54,301,033**

 **Men 14,244,496**  **Women 15,766,887**

Children 24,289,650

 **Boys 11,863,922**  **Girls 12,425,728**

(Based on figures as of 14 October 2020)

World Vision

Key Concerns



We urge the world to stand together with the most vulnerable children to fight COVID-19, especially refugees and the internally displaced. We are deeply concerned that the impacts of COVID-19 will permanently scar the development of a generation of the world's most vulnerable children.



Devastating aftershocks of the crisis are putting at least 85 million more children at risk of violence. Millions of parents and caregivers have lost incomes and jobs due to COVID-19, forcing 8 million children into child labour in Asia alone. As many as one million girls may drop out of school across Sub-Saharan Africa due to teenage pregnancy and school closures. We urgently need to address both the direct health impacts of the virus and the secondary shocks brought about by viral containment measures.



The impact from COVID-19 is threatening to reverse decades of progress in the fight against poverty and income inequalities. The impact from COVID-19 is threatening to reverse decades of progress in the fight against poverty and income inequalities. World Vision has warned that over 19 million people, including 10 million children, are at risk of famine in 12 of the world's most fragile countries due to a deadly mix of conflict, the economic impacts of COVID-19 and climate-related natural disasters.



Joining hands with faith leaders remains critical to bring hope and strengthen preparedness, behaviour change and protecting children.

Regional Overviews

(figures as of 14 October 2020)



Africa Region



People Reached 27,485,949



Children Reached 12,307,840

Situation overview

In the Africa region, increasing vulnerabilities and worsening humanitarian needs due to lockdowns are devastating livelihoods.

The impact of school closures has negatively affected children's learning and has led to higher teenage pregnancy. According to a recent [World Vision study](#), as many as one million girls may drop out of school across Sub-Saharan Africa.

Reduced funding commitments and COVID-19 lockdowns have increased vulnerabilities among forced migration populations (Internally Displaced Persons and refugees) and migrant workers across East, West and Southern Africa Regions.

Gender-based violence and mental health challenges are also increasing due to lockdowns and lost livelihoods.

Countries in Africa are facing a triple threat – the COVID-19 pandemic, desert locust infestation and flooding. Desert locusts have devastated vegetation in East Africa, while floods in West and parts of East Africa have killed and displaced people, damaged infrastructure, affected access to basic services and disrupted crop planting.

Response highlights

- Trained faith leaders to mobilise the community and disseminate messages on COVID-19 prevention across the region.
- Supported governments in setting up and maintaining quarantine spaces.
- Negotiated with governments for humanitarian assistance to be classified as essential services and the adaptation of standard operating procedures.
- Prepared for school opening by supporting the sanitising of schools, local production of face masks for use by students and orientation of teachers on how to achieve social distancing within the classroom environment.
- In Mozambique, World Vision provided clean and safe water to more than 45,000 people through the construction of 151 new water points.
- In Mali, we supported 15 local soap manufacturers with cash to improve soap production at an affordable cost.
- In Somalia, we continued to support health workers through training, distribution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and providing mental health and psychosocial support.



Asia Pacific Region



People Reached 14,780,699



Children Reached 6,431,969

Situation overview

While World Vision continues its recovery response, there continues to be a sporadic surge of COVID-19 in many Asia Pacific countries. As per WHO's latest¹ update, India has reported over 500,000 new cases per week since late-August, contributing to 91 per cent of cases in the region and 27 per cent of global cases last week.

Indonesia is the region's second most affected country with over 28,000 new cases in the past week. In Myanmar, COVID-19 cases have risen sharply, with cumulative numbers almost doubling each week since mid-August. Rakhine State and the country's largest city, Yangon, has reported around 75 per cent of cases and has been hardest hit to date.

Based on the Early Recovery Rapid Assessment results, livelihood recovery has been prioritised in many countries, with mixed approaches that include in-kind distribution, capacity building and cash-and-voucher programming (CVP). Education is also another priority sector, aiming to equip families and low-resourced communities with tools to help children study at home while schools remain closed.

¹ <https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/situation-reports/20201005-weekly-epi-update-8.pdf>

Response highlights

- In Cambodia, over 11,800 positive parenting information education materials on psychosocial support for COVID-19 were distributed and over 91,600 educational materials were provided to children to support remote learning.
- World Vision Lanka has successfully advocated to the Ministry of Education for policy reforms to adapt education approaches to the "new normal" and for accountability of online and offline education, to ensure education for all children.
- World Vision Vietnam has provided in-kind support and training for livelihood restoration in rural areas, by providing seeds (rice, corn, peanuts and vegetables), animal stock (chickens, ducks and pigs), agricultural inputs (animal feed, fertilizer, fences, cages, etc.) and training.
- In Cox's Bazar district, World Vision Bangladesh has implemented a [COVID-19 response plan](#). It aims to scale up preventative measures to limit the spread of the disease among both refugee and host communities, strengthen health systems, support children impacted by COVID-19 through education, child protection, food security and livelihoods, and advocate for protection of vulnerable children.

Regional Overviews



Latin America and Caribbean Region



People Reached **8,722,430**



Children Reached **3,396,271**

Situation overview

Latin America and the Caribbean persists as the epicenter of COVID-19 infections. In the 15 countries where World Vision operates, the number of confirmed cases increased 22 percent and deaths by nearly 17 per cent over the past month.

On October 9, the [World Bank](#) released a report stating that Latin America is the worst hit region. The loss of lives in proportion to each million inhabitants is higher than Eastern European countries, yet Latin America has less resources to deal with this.

The regional economy is expected to recede 7.9 per cent in 2020 and 4 per cent in 2021. Acute fiscal deficits and increasing unemployment have undermined social protection systems. This situation has sparked social unrest in countries, such as Costa Rica. In Chile, the government fears a violent uprising in the wake of the first anniversary of protests.

This pandemic has also deepened the region's unprecedented migrant crisis, where 7 million children are on the move.

Response highlights

- World Vision Latin America and Caribbean launched a [digital platform](#) – Conexión Temura - for child protection practitioners across various countries and sectors. The platform enables online interaction and provides courses, blogs, testimonies, lectures and other resources in areas such as spirituality, positive parenting and education.
- The sanitary crisis caused by COVID-19 is worsened by an extremely active hurricane season with 26 events that have affected the region. World Vision has provided timely and lifesaving humanitarian aid to vulnerable populations in Aragua, Venezuela, Honduras and El Salvador; complementary to our COVID-19 response.
- A multi-country effort by World Vision in Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia led to the training of 705 church members on the use of digital tools, emotional support and attention to the needs of faith communities during COVID-19.
- World Vision travelled to the Amazonas region with its Solidarity Ship, providing medical attention, food, hygiene kits and educational materials on COVID-19 for vulnerable people, reaching 1,400 families.

(figures as of 14 October 2020)



Middle East and Eastern Europe Region



People Reached **1,697,301**



Children Reached **881,717**

Situation overview

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 governments in the region are prioritising economic recovery over strict containment measures.

COVID-19 case increases in Northwest Syria have reached alarming levels - almost 100 new cases are being reported daily as 2.7 million people remain displaced in the area. Without immediate international support for the weakened health system, the situation will dramatically worsen.

In Jordan, Turkey and Syria, 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, wage cuts and increased poverty 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.

Response highlights

- World Vision Syria Response is increasing the visibility of the needs of people inside Syria as a result of the pandemic. Together with the SIRC 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 needs during the pandemic this winter.
- 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 co-created resources, 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



28,967,961

People reached through promotion of preventive behaviours



4,859,144

Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed



14,082,968

Community members provided preventive materials



4,339,388

Handwashing supplies distributed



2,632,494

Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed



244,282

Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities



83,431

Community-level public handwashing stations established or maintained



52,542

Water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities constructed or rehabilitated



113,469

Faith leaders disseminating preventive measures

(Based on figures as of 14 October 2020)

OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen health systems and workers



136,090

Community health workers trained and supported



416,452

Medical personnel provided personal protective equipment (PPE)



7,541,683

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



4,471,260

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



16,123

Medical facilities assisted



437,972

Disinfectant kits distributed to health care facilities



416,353

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



1,048

Quarantine and isolation spaces supported, rehabilitated or set-up

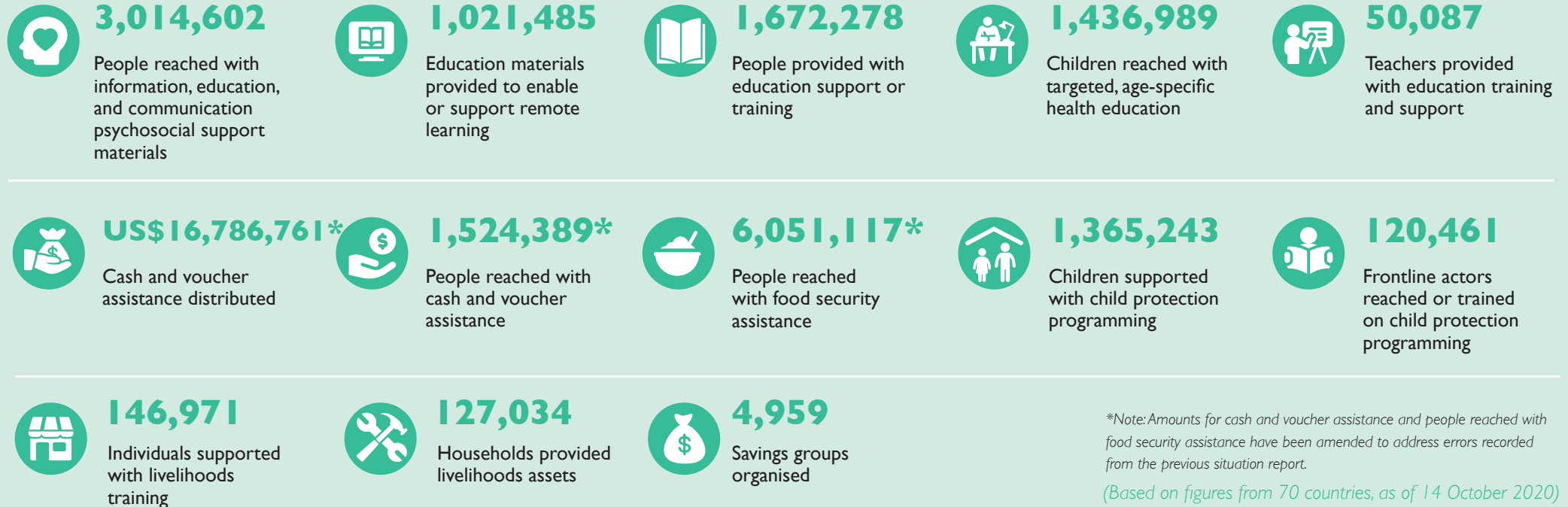


10,049

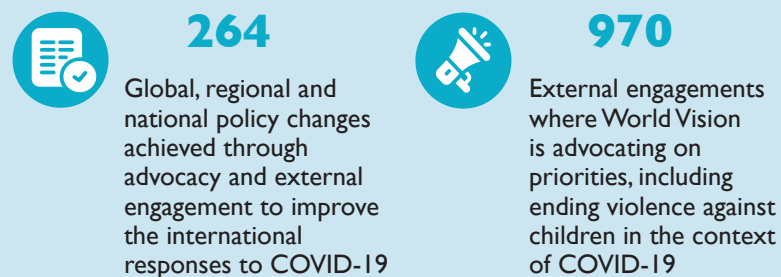
People provided transportation support

(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



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



(Based on figures from 70 countries, as of 14 October 2020)

- For the 75th Session of the United Nations General Assembly World Vision hosted an interactive dialogue with children and young people, "Mobilizing to Prevent a Lost Generation", that was attended by Henrietta Fore, UNICEF executive director. During the event young leaders discussed how COVID-19 has changed their lives and hopes for the future.
- World Vision also hosted a virtual event during the United Nations General Assembly focusing on COVID-19 Child Sensitive, Inclusive & Greener Recovery Strategies to Build Back Better. The session was moderated by the Mission of Slovenia in Geneva and with opening remarks from Andrew Morley, World Vision President and CEO.
- In **Democratic Republic of Congo**, World Vision organized a workshop for Members of Parliament and government officials, who after the analysis of COVID-19 impact developed provincial edict to establish a fund to support the construction of 4,232 classrooms as one of the ways to reinforce social distancing measures in school to prevent the spread of the virus.
- In **Vietnam**, World Vision conducted a workshop with the Department of Labor, Invalids & Social Affairs, which resulted in a public Action Plan that prioritizes child protection measures in response to COVID-19 impacts, as well as establishes reporting and coordination mechanism among district departments.
- In **Ethiopia**, World Vision started training 300 religious leaders on alternative digital communication skills during COVID-19.

OBJECTIVE 4.1: Engage communities to ensure programme relevance as context changes, in the overall global results framework.



90 %

of respondents reported satisfaction with World Vision interventions



68 %

of respondents reported they have received information about World Vision, expected staff behaviour, World Vision programmes and how to provide feedback



79 %

of complaints/feedback from community resolved based on agreed timeline

(indicator data based on 17 Field Offices (FOs) reporting against these indicators as of 2 September 2020)

Humanitarian Accountability

A key focus for World Vision's COVID-19 emergency response is to provide information, consult people on their needs and how they want to participate in their own self-recovery, and take action based on the feedback and complaints we hear from people so that we remain accountable to the children and communities that we serve. Here are the top trends of what communities* are telling us this reporting period:

30%

Field offices reported community feedback related to beneficiary selection and unmet need within the community

37%

Field offices reported receiving positive feedback/appreciation of World Vision's support from communities

33%

Field offices reported that community members submitted feedback requesting more information about World Vision programmes and distribution, for information to be shared through different channels or in different languages, or to clarify confusion and rumours

30%

Field offices reported community feedback about requesting food security and livelihoods support

We listen to communities and respond

Communities and health facilities outside the World Vision operational areas continued asking for assistance. In response, **in Zambia** World Vision has moved to support the health centres as well as spreading community sensitization programme to non-World Vision operational areas.

In Vanuatu, results from the recent post distribution monitoring surveys and ongoing community feedback has informed the selection of pre-positioned Non-Food Items and some modifications have been made to ensure distributions better suit the context based on community feedback.

In Afghanistan, community leaders are engaging with and sensitising communities in response to concerns around cash assistance. Due to the high vulnerability, community members are asking to be included in the distribution lists however, only those who meet the vulnerability criteria are included, therefore, World Vision teams are informing the beneficiaries and community members about selection and verification criteria.

World Vision **in Jerusalem West Bank and Gaza** is receiving requests from community leaders and the Department of Education to help address the psycho-social impact of COVID-19 on children once schools open. World Vision is considering what type of support could be provided but any outside curricula activity remains a challenge both as it exposes children to possible risk of COVID-19 and the restricted curricula hours makes it difficult to do extra-curricular activities. At this point, we are focusing on providing teachers with effective training on the use of Personal Protective Equipment, and compliance with COVID-19 prevention measures to enable a "safe" opening of schools. We have flexible plans in place to scale up provision of psycho-social training for teachers and school councillors.

Resources & Publications

Reports

[World Vision COVID-19 Emergency Response 100 Days On](#)

[COVID-19 Aftershocks: Secondary impacts threaten more children's lives than disease itself](#)

[COVID-19 Aftershocks: A Perfect Storm](#)

[COVID-19 Aftershocks: Out of Time](#)

[COVID-19 Aftershocks: Access Denied](#)

[COVID-19 Aftershocks: Deadly Waves](#)

[Children's voices in times of COVID-19](#)

[Migration and COVID-19: Venezuelan children between a rock and a hard place](#)

[Stolen Future: War and Child Marriage in Northwest Syria](#)

Policy Briefs

[COVID-19 & Child Protection in Fragile and Humanitarian Contexts](#)

[COVID-19 & Risks to Children's Health and Nutrition](#)

[COVID-19 & Disruptions to Education](#)

[COVID-19 & Urgent Needs of Child-Sensitive Social Protection](#)

[COVID-19 & the Risks to Children in Urban Contexts](#)

[COVID-19 & Poverty and Hunger](#)

[Faith Actors in the COVID-19 Response](#)

Global Response Plan

[World Vision's COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan Phase 2](#)

Learn more about World Vision's response to COVID-19, please visit: www.wvi.org



Thailand: Paeng and Daranee, her mother, with their happy smiles upon the receipt of a set of the food supplies that keep the family fed amidst the income shortage.

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