



World Vision is responding to the impact of COVID-19 in 17 countries in the Asia Pacific, especially in places where children and families are most vulnerable.



(COVID-19 case and death figures for 15 countries with available data. Source: [WHO](https://www.who.int), 12 December 2020)

People Reached

15,855,827

Men 4,383,446 Women 4,640,450

Children 6,831,931

Boys 3,450,846 Girls 3,381,085

(Based on figures as of 8 December 2020)

Asia Pacific Regional Situation Report

Situation Report #22 | 14 December 2020

Several countries in Asia Pacific are experiencing new surge of COVID-19 cases and have tightened restriction measures. On 11 November, the government of Mongolia announced a five-day nationwide lockdown to curb the spread of the virus.¹

At the same time, countries are faced with challenges of natural disasters, including floods, typhoon/cyclone, and La Niña. These recurring natural disasters, in addition to the ongoing pandemic and economic downturn put children at greater risk of food insecurity and make them more vulnerable to health-related issues.

World Vision is currently responding to floods and typhoons in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam. In the Philippines, the ongoing Typhoon Goni and Vamco Response has reached over 6,400 families with shelter, hygiene, and kitchen kits and non-food items² While hurrying to support families with in-kind items, protection services, and cash assistance to reduce suffering and meet basic needs, World Vision also takes serious precautions to protect its staff and communities against the coronavirus.

Key Concerns



Due to a surge of cases in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, the government imposed a full lockdown, restricting movements across the country. World Vision will use its existing resources to conduct small-scale responses to support food and/or cash needs.



Sri Lanka is also experiencing another wave of COVID-19. World Vision is updating its response plans and utilising existing resources to respond to the needs of the communities.



The presence of multi-hazard risks in a global pandemic situation demands COVID-19 preparedness plans to rely heavily on real-time ground data and risk analysis combined with social registries of poor households at risk of hazard exposure to help with geographic prioritisation.

¹ <https://montsame.mn/en/read/242695>

² <https://reliefweb.int/report/philippines/one-month-world-vision-assists-over-27000-people-typhoon-battered-luzon>

Single mother of two is grateful for livelihood restoration amid COVID-19

Stories from the frontlines

In a countrywide lockdown that extended for more than three months, Guddiya, 36, lost her only source of income. A widow and a mother of two school-going children, she is the only breadwinner in the family.

Guddiya's husband used to run a roadside tea stall in north Delhi before he passed away in 2012. That little makeshift tea stall under the banyan tree became her workplace. Before the lockdown, she worked 12 hours a day serving tea and snacks. When the lockdown began on 25 March 2020, she was forced to shutdown her business.

"During the lockdown, we got assistance from World Vision and the government," said Guddiya. She received dry rations from World Vision India's COVID-19 response. "But I also used up all of my little savings because I couldn't work for three months."

Guddiya's two sons, Minashu, 17, and Subham, 12, a sponsored child, are both enrolled in government school. Guddiya who didn't attend school knows the importance of education, and, as a single mother, wants to give them the best. She spends at least 1,000 rupees (US\$14) on private tutoring for her sons. Their education is her long-term investment.

"When I wanted to open my tea stall again, I had no savings left. This was when I got another assistance from World Vision. I'm so grateful that I can resume my business," she shared.

Guddiya received help through World Vision's economic development assistance programme. This initiative provides a little push for struggling families to stand back on their feet. It helps people start small businesses, like tea stalls, petty shops, or vegetable carts. Beneficiaries repay 20% of the amount received to a World Vision initiated self-help group or child protection unit so that the funds can be recirculated and reach more people.

Guddiya received goods from this fund worth 8,000 rupees (US\$110), giving her business a fresh start.

"I needed sugar, tea packets, snacks, and other essentials, and World Vision India gave me that. Before the lockdown, I'd earn around 300 rupees (US\$4) a day. Things are slowly going back to normal."

Now, Guddiya earns around 200 rupees (US\$3) each day – a big step forward for her. Her business restoration success bodes well for the future of her children who are dependent on her.

Thanks to this support, Minashu and Subham are able to continue their education; they receive worksheets from their teachers

through WhatsApp. While face-to-face classes would be more effective, this is the best opportunity they have to continue studying while the country is still fighting the pandemic.

"I want to be an engineer," said Subham, sitting by his mother as she made tea for customers.

To date, World Vision India has reached 208,474 beneficiaries through cash and voucher programming; 18,168 households were provided livelihoods assets, and 5,381 small entrepreneurs were supported with assistance to restart businesses.





RESPONSE GOAL

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

Strategic Objectives



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



3. Support children affected by COVID-19 with education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



2. Strengthen health systems and workers



4. Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected

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



6,009,685

People reached through promotion of preventative behaviours



2,216,811

Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed



4,588,013

Community members provided with preventative materials



1,439,712

Handwashing supplies distributed



1,843,610

Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed



11,372

Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities



15,377

Community-level public handwashing stations established or maintained



19,088

Water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities constructed or rehabilitated



5,046

Faith leaders disseminating preventative measures

(Based on figures as of 8 December 2020)

OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen health systems and workers



15,685

Community health workers trained and supported



85,309

Medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment (PPE)



3,849,359

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



758,828

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



2,572

Medical facilities assisted



107,896

Disinfectant kits distributed to health-care facilities



23,218

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



295

Quarantine and isolation spaces supported, rehabilitated or set up



1,373

People provided transportation support

(Based on figures as of 8 December 2020) 3

OBJECTIVE 3: Support children affected by COVID-19 with education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



(Based on figures as of 8 December 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 8 December 2020) 4



Bhumika continues her studies at home. Online classes were introduced by the Bangladesh government, but Bhumika could not afford an Internet connection and does not have a computer or a smartphone. © Suborno Chisim / World Vision

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



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