



# REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER SURVEY FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE COUNTRIES

JUNE-AUGUST 2020





# BACKGROUND

In June 2020, World Vision conducted a rapid internal survey to assist in scaling up its work with Community Health Workers<sup>1</sup> (CHWs) as part of the COVID-19 Emergency Response (COVER); enabling World Vision to identify, mobilise, and support the CHWs appropriately. The survey was targeted at all 68 field offices implementing the COVID-19 response from all the seven World Vision regions. Of the 68 offices, 46 reported working with CHWs. In August 2020, a second survey with a limited set of follow up questions was administered; with 41 of the 46 implementing field offices responding.

## RESULTS

The response rate for the first survey was 86.7%. By July 2020 and confirmed in December 2020, 59 field offices had responded, of which 46 reported directly supporting a total of **184,229 CHWs**. Most of the CHWs are linked to Ministry of Health, and most of them are volunteer (unpaid) CHWs. Eighty percent of the top 10 offices with the highest number of CHWs are in Africa. The majority come from East and Southern Africa, followed by West Africa, South Asia/Pacific, East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Middle East and Eastern Europe regions. Mozambique leads the pack with 49,184 CHWs supported by World Vision.

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<sup>1</sup> Paid and unpaid Community Health Workers, which include community health volunteers, Care Group Volunteers, and other volunteer cadres. Does not include health staff working in hospitals or clinics.

## TYPES OF WORLD VISION SUPPORT TO CHWS AND CHW PROGRAMMES

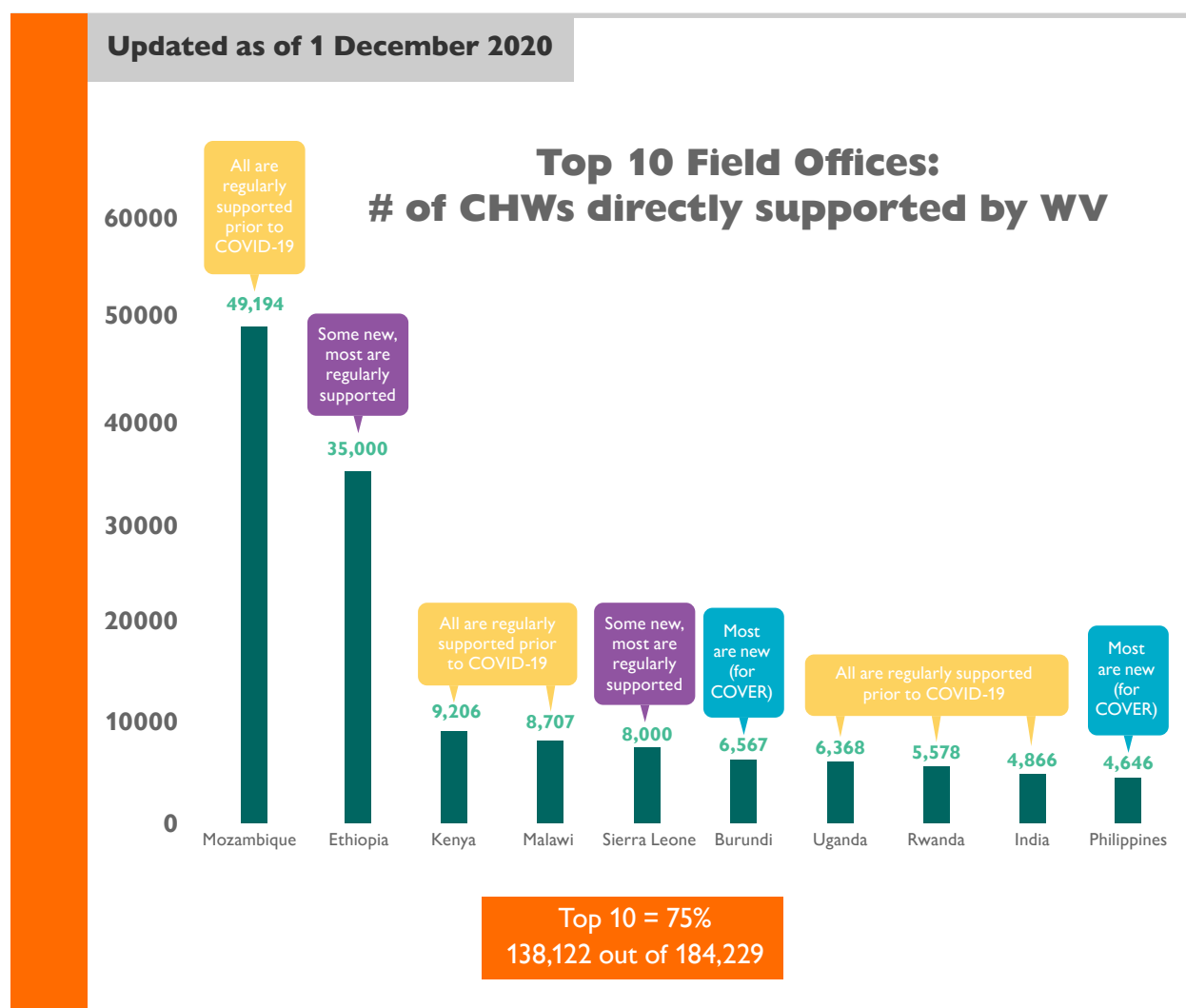
- The majority of field offices support CHWs through trainings, meetings, field observation, supervision, and data collection; all of which are crucial components for CHW programme functionality.
- 80% of offices provide health commodities, including PPE, to CHWs; essential for COVER.
- 80% of offices provide financial or non-financial incentives to the CHWs.
- 56% of offices provide technical assistance or capacity building for the Ministry of Health on CHW programming at the national level.
- 50% of offices have supported curricula development for CHW training which is used by the Ministry of Health in and outside World Vision programming areas.
- Eleven field offices provide financial support to the Ministry of Health for CHW programming in and outside World Vision programming areas.

## TARGET POPULATIONS SERVED BY CHWS

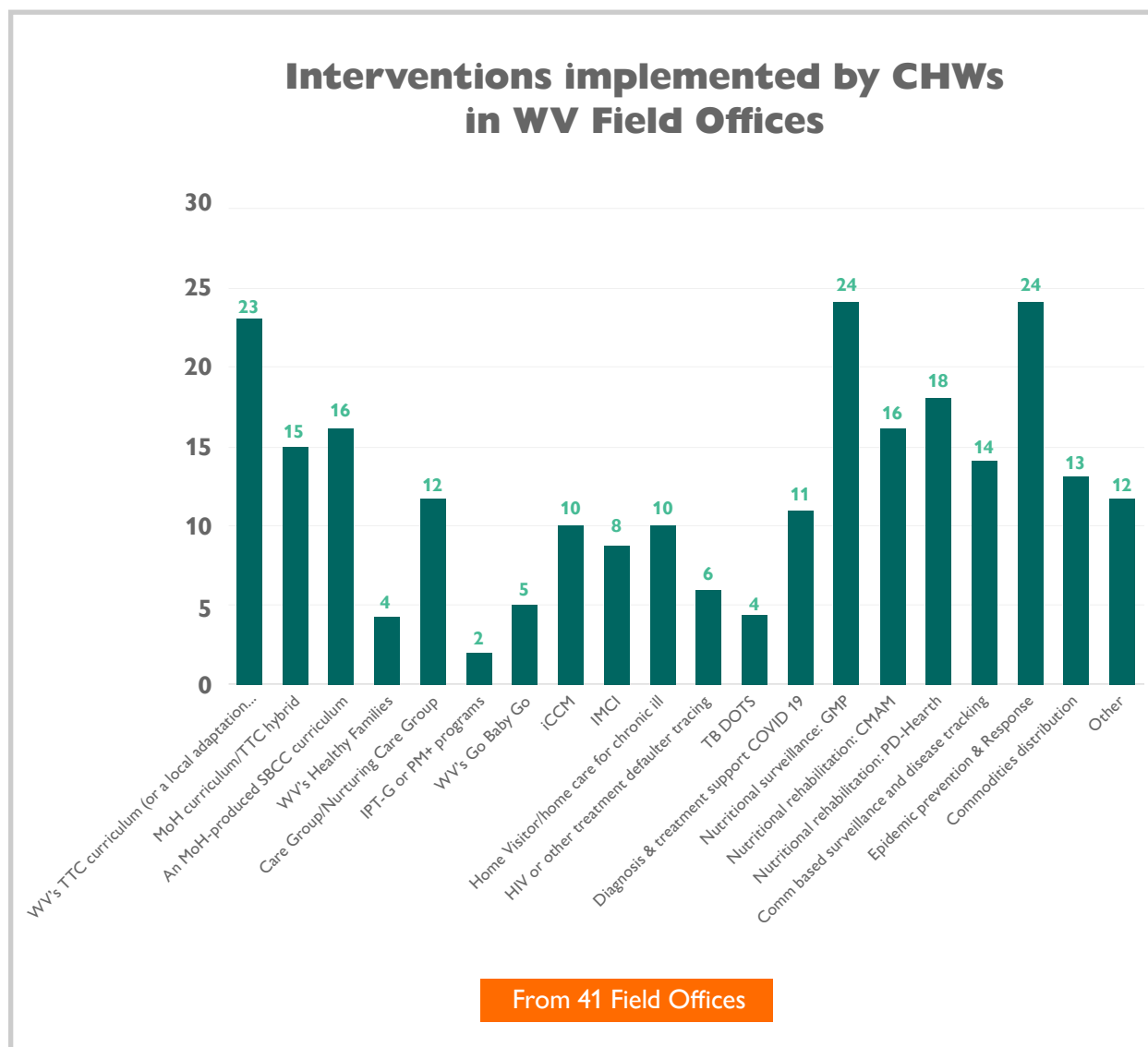
- CHWs in the majority of offices serve pregnant women, newborns, children under two and children under five years of age.
- CHWs in 74% of offices reach women of reproductive age (15-49 years old).
- 65% of offices see CHWs targeting children with disabilities, or Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC).
- 63% of offices mobilise their CHWs to target adolescents (age 10 to 18/19 years old); a potential platform for integration with other sectors.

## OTHER INSIGHTS

- Despite COVID, 98% of CHWs continue to circulate and provide their services, even though 74% of these CHWs are in countries that have put restrictions on movement into place.
- 80% of CHWs have mobile phones. World Vision can reach 82% of CHWs through either their own phones, or the phones of a spouse or neighbour.
- Two-thirds of World Vision-supported CHWs (97,000) have been trained in COVID-19 programming to date, and this figure continues to increase.
- 71% of CHWs have some form of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Most offices were working with and supporting the CHWs through regular programming before the COVID-19 pandemic. A minority of countries reported that their CHWs were newly mobilised in response to COVID-19. See the diagram for more detail.

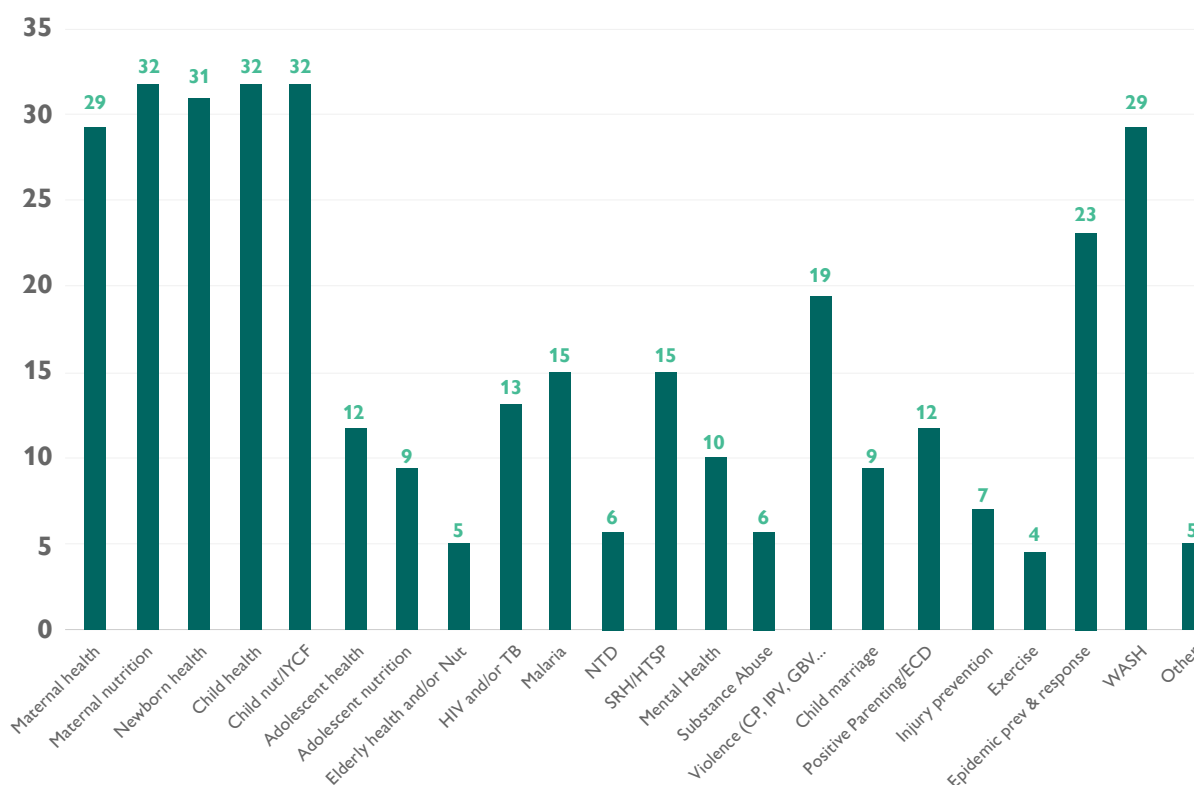


# TYPES OF INTERVENTIONS CARRIED OUT BY CHWS



# CHW TRAINING TOPICS

## The CHWs were trained in these topics:



Other, include:  
Livelihood training (India)  
Child Protection, DRR, Climate Change (Bangladesh)

From 41 Field Offices

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