

Situation report #3 | June 2021

Key messages

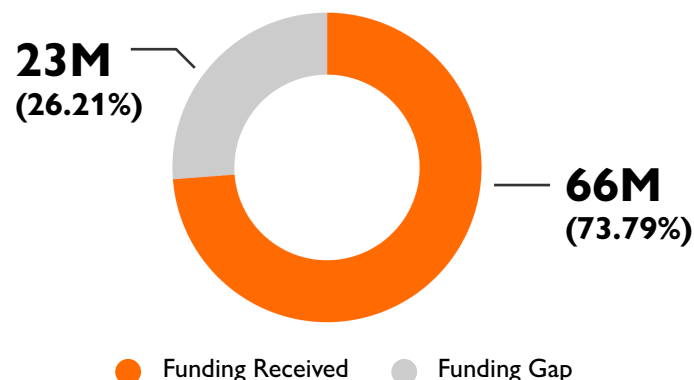
- A deadly mix of conflict, COVID-19 and the climate crisis have pushed more than 7 million people across six countries in East Africa to the very edge of starvation. According to UN reports, approximately 108,000 people in East Africa are under catastrophic famine-conditions, a phase marked by critical acute malnutrition, starvation, destitution and death – this phase is understood in the humanitarian sector as the highest and most urgent Integrated Food Insecurity Phase Classification (IPC) of level 5. Additionally, almost 7.8 million people are exposed to emergency phase (IPC4), and if things worsen are one step away from famine, and as many as 26 million are classified at ‘crisis level’ (IPC3), where action is needed now to stop them sliding into emergency.
- The region has endured substantial and widespread breeding of desert locusts since late 2019, resulting in loss of pasture and crops. Added to this, between June – December 2020 rising conflict in countries such as Ethiopia has exacerbated the food insecurity situation in the region. The Climate Prediction and Application Centre and the UN’s Food and Agriculture Organisation have both made predictions of dry conditions and worsening food insecurity situation in 2021. Coupled with economic impact of COVID-19 lockdowns continue to destroy livelihoods and push millions into desperation.
- This challenging period could erode human and economic development gains that have been made towards the global Sustainable Development Goals across the region. The rising food insecurity also increases the risks faced by women and girls, including gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse.

Response countries



World Vision is responding to the impact of hunger in six countries in East Africa and requires **US\$ 89 million** to reach **3.2 million** people, including **1.2 million** children.

Funding summary (US\$) *



*Includes new, internal and repurposed funding

Key concerns



7.8 million

people have been pushed to the very edge of starvation



34 million

people are acutely food insecure



Fragility in the region is acute.

Continued conflict in Tigray, protracted conflict in South Sudan, Sudan and Somalia threaten human and economic development gains.



COVID-19 aftershocks ripple through

communities with declining income opportunities, lost livelihoods and diminished purchasing power.



9.6 million

Internally displaced people



4.7 million

Refugees and asylum seekers



12.8 million

Acutely malnourished children

Source: UN OCHA

Strategic objectives



1. Improve access to clean water and sanitation services



2. Improve access to food for affected households



3. Increase access to curative and preventive quality emergency health and nutrition services



4. Improved sustainable livelihoods to support households and communities to multiply resilient food systems



5. Ensure protection for children, women and vulnerable groups, including psychosocial support and provision of dignity kits for reproductive age girls and women.

People reached



1,455,868



Women 344,368

Men 340,504



Children 770,996

Girls 381,543

Boys 389,453

(as of 31 May 2021)



91,356

People reached with access to clean, potable water



35,112

People reached with cash and voucher assistance



311,466

Number of people reached with (in kind) food assistance



13,561

People reached through primary healthcare support



240

Community health volunteers and or workers trained



23,469

Children under five reached through curative consultations provided by World Vision supported primary health care facilities.



6,825

Discharged cases (infants < 6 months, and children 6-59 months) from Outpatient Therapeutic Programme or who recovered from severe acute malnutrition



240

People recalling target nutrition messaging



19,003

Children reached through Severe Acute Malnutrition & Moderate Acute Malnutrition management



38,026

People reached through provision of livelihood assets



42,203

People reached through livelihood training support



ETHIOPIA

- As of 31 May 2021, approximately 12.9 million people are facing acute food insecurity, malnutrition and water shortages in the pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities living in southern and south-eastern lowlands, (*Ethiopia: IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis May - September 2021, Issued June 2021*). Projections indicate that despite humanitarian assistance, 12.9 million people are facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC phase 3 and above)*, including more than 2.6 million who are in emergency (IPC phase 4). Latest, June 2021 IPC figures are inclusive, but only in areas where data was sufficient to conduct a projection analysis.
- According to the May FAO desert locust report; there was a steady decline in desert locusts across Ethiopia during the 2021 dry season. However, there is still a likelihood of hatching and formation of small hopper bands through mid-June in northern Somali region, eastern and southern Oromia region, and Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's (SNNP) region.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Food security analysis for rural populations in long and short rains dependent areas shows that more than 12.9 million people will be in crisis or worse condition (at least through June 2021) and will need urgent action to reduce food consumption gaps, restore and protect livelihoods.
- Nutrition services for children, Pregnant, and Lactating Women (PLW) - current projections indicate that more than one million children will suffer from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), over 3.2 million children aged 6-59 months will suffer from Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM), and 2.9 million PLWs will suffer from acute malnutrition in high-risk districts.



KENYA

- It is estimated that currently, two million people are in acute food insecurity and need emergency relief support.
- The nutrition situation has remained similar across arid counties compared to the August 2020 analysis and was critical (IPC Phase 4) in Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, Isiolo, Samburu, Turkana, North Horr and Laisamis sub-counties in Marsabit county and Tiaty in Baringo county.
- The main reason for the high levels of acute malnutrition is largely attributed to reduced milk production and consumption among children.



Through the support of WFP and USAID, World Vision Kenya is responding to 28,000 vulnerable women and children who are facing malnutrition.

** The IPC Acute Food Insecurity classification provides differentiation between levels of severity of acute food insecurity. The units of analysis are classified in five distinct phases: (1) Minimal/None, (2) Stressed, (3) Crisis, (4) Emergency, (5) Catastrophe/Famine. Each of these phases has important and distinct implications for where and how best to intervene, and therefore influences priority response objectives.*



SOMALIA

- Population in crisis (IPC 3 and above) has increased from 1.6 million in April to approximately 2.7 million by the end of May 2021.
- There are concerns of another surge of desert locusts, particularly in parts of Somaliland due to favourable conditions following the Gu' rains. The spread of existing and newly formed swarms is likely to cause significant crop loss and pasture availability, exacerbating food insecurity in high-risk areas of Somaliland, Puntland and parts of South West State.
- An average of 100-200 households migrated from Bari region to Nugaal region. The migrations of population are mainly associated with hot weather conditions in Bosaso city during summer, as well as poor rainfall in some areas in Nugal region forcing many to move in search of pasture for their animals.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Communities will require sustained assistance when the desert locusts hit.
- The migrating communities will require food, shelter and pasture for their livestock in order to cope with the harsh weather in parts of Puntland.
- Funding to respond to the communities who will be affected by the forecasted desert locust infestation and to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.



SOUTH SUDAN

- Almost 70 per cent of South Sudan's population is in need of urgent humanitarian assistance. Thousands of people are living in dire food insecurity conditions, and undernutrition is at critical levels. As hunger levels continue to deepen in South Sudan due to a combination of violence, floods, droughts and COVID-19, there is need for urgent response to reach the 7.2 million affected people with life-saving assistance and protection.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Despite life-threatening levels of food insecurity and malnutrition in South Sudan, the humanitarian response remains largely underfunded.
- There is a need to complement and strengthen food security and livelihood, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), nutrition, health and protection services. Shelter, emergency food assistance, non-food items (NFI), WASH and hygiene facilities are lacking among the internally displaced persons (IDPs) camps.



World Vision Sudan conducts mass screening to detect early cases of malnutrition and provide early therapeutic care and treatment.



SUDAN

- According to UN OCHA at least 2.5 million people remain displaced in the greater Darfur region and other parts of the Sudan due to conflict. Sudan also hosts 1.1 million refugees and asylum seekers mainly from South Sudan, Central African Republic, Eritrea, Syria and most recently 62,000 people fleeing from the crisis in Ethiopia, Tigray region. Internally Displaced Persons, returnees, refugees and the vulnerable host population face high levels of poverty, further exacerbated by the continued economic crisis and inflation, the COVID-19 pandemic and seasonal flooding.
- The economic crisis in Sudan continues to reduce households' purchasing power thus negatively impacting vulnerable children and households. According to the Sudanese Central Bureau of Statistics, annual inflation surged to 331 per cent in February 2021. This is the highest level of inflation in decades.
- Food insecurity remains alarmingly high in Sudan, where more than 7.3 million people (17 per cent of the population) are severely food insecure. At least 1.8 million people are facing emergency levels of acute food insecurity, while more than 5.5 million people are facing crisis levels of acute food insecurity. Of the 7.1 million people who are severely food insecure, more than two million people (28 per cent) are in South Darfur, East Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile, where World Vision operates.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- An estimated 365,000 individuals in the four States where World Vision operates require cash for food security, nutrition services for prevention and treatment of malnutrition, provision of water and hygiene services and support for the upcoming agricultural season.



UGANDA

Currently the target response locations are facing challenges due to food insecurity. Most households have lost their livestock and food supply.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Trained 222 lead farmers in kitchen gardening, post-harvest handling, consumption and utilisation of vegetables.
- Distributed a variety of agricultural seeds to 105 groups to enhance food security in the districts where World Vision operates.
- Conducted Saving for Transformation (S4T) training for 48 trainer of trainers (ToTs) and eight agricultural officers. The participants will cascade the knowledge to 240 groups.
- Distributed anthropometric equipment such as weighing scales and Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) Measuring Tapes to Village Health Teams to support them in conducting nutrition screening among children under five, pregnant and lactating mothers.



World Vision interventions with refugees in Uganda include provision of seeds and knowledge on growing vegetables in their small gardens to help them cope with the food crisis.



World Vision is responding to the impact of drought on communities in northern Kenya through food aid, water trucking initiatives and treatment referrals for women and children facing acute malnutrition.

We would like to thank our generous child sponsors, donors, partners, and supporters whose contributions make this work possible, including:



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