

Situation report #6 | September 2021

Key messages

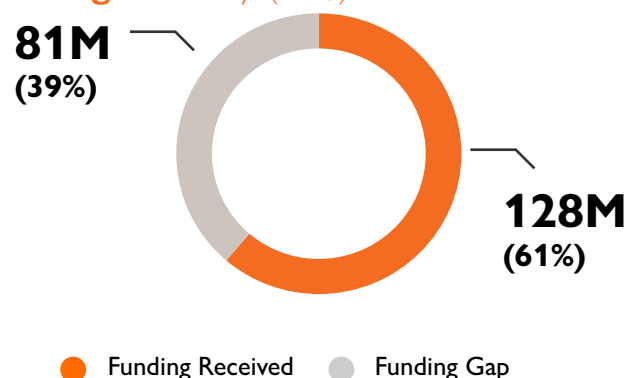
- A deadly mix of conflict, desert locust infestation, COVID-19 and the climate change crisis have pushed more than 7 million people across six countries in East Africa into a hunger crisis. According to UN reports, approximately 108,000 people in East Africa are under catastrophic conditions, a phase marked by critical acute malnutrition, hunger, 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 as many as 26 million are classified at 'crisis level' (IPC3), where action is needed now to stop them from 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, which 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\$ 209 million*** to reach **7.1 million** people, including **3.4 million** children.

Funding summary (US\$) **



*Includes new, internal and repurposed funding

**Funding figures are different from the previous report and are consistent with the approved response plan

(as of 31 July 2021)

Key concerns



7.8 million

people are experiencing emergency levels of food insecurity and require urgent humanitarian assistance



38 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.



Desert Locust threat continues across the

region with rains creating favourable conditions for breeding. It is critical for ground and aerial teams to intensify control operations to limit breeding.



9.6 million

Internally displaced people



4.7 million

Refugees and asylum seekers

Source: UN OCHA

Strategic objectives



1. Improve access to clean water hygiene and sanitation promotion services to mitigate waterborne diseases



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 for reproductive age girls and women.

People reached



2,046,911



Women 555,309

Men 514,500



Children 977,102

Girls 490,566

Boys 486,536

(as of 31 August 2021)



103,747

People reached with access to clean, potable water



21,258

People who have participated in hygiene promotion activities with appropriate supplies



250,313

People reached with cash and voucher assistance



74,160

School children receiving wet feeding



620,840

Number of people reached with (in kind) food assistance



62,462

Children reached with Supplementary and Therapeutic food



29,442

People reached through primary healthcare support



370

Community health volunteers and or workers trained



60,698

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



9,350

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



13,941

People recalling target nutrition messaging



55,852

Children reached through Severe Acute Malnutrition & Moderate Acute Malnutrition management



254,178

People reached through provision of livelihood assets



45,975

People reached through livelihood training support



6,859

People benefiting from improving agricultural production



ETHIOPIA

- The food security situation in the country [has been further exacerbated by drought conditions](#) affecting 5.8 million people in Somali and Oromia regions due to below-normal seasonal rains, while at the same time floods have affected 270,000 people in Afar, Oromia, SNNP and Somali regions.
- According to UN OCHA, the conflict along the Amhara-Tigray and Afar regional border is worsening. As of the first week of August, regional authorities in Amhara region reported that more than 1.3 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are in need of urgent humanitarian support. The numbers are likely to increase due to ongoing conflict, flash floods and failed seasonal rainfall.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- The newly displaced population needs urgent humanitarian intervention including food and essential relief items. World Vision calls for collective effort between all parties to the conflict and the humanitarian community in the regions, particularly in responding to the humanitarian crises and, to mobilise resources in support of the affected communities.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Distributed seeds to more than 7,000 households recovering from the impact of the desert locust infestation. More than 5,000 drought-affected households also received emergency seeds.
- Supported more than 1,000 displaced and drought-affected households with water, sanitation and hygiene non-food items and constructed two public sanitation facilities in the IDP sites.



KENYA

- The Government of Kenya recently [declared the ongoing drought a national disaster](#). According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network, northern, eastern, and southeastern Kenya received less than 85 per cent of normal rainfall. The cumulatively below-average rainfall across most of the country resulted in below-average crop production activities and below-average regeneration of forage. Livestock body conditions are below average across most pastoral areas. It is anticipated that there will be severe acute food insecurity in coast, northern and eastern Kenya through to December 2021.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Delayed rainfall and drying up of water points has significantly affected crop production.
- Malnutrition in children and lactating mothers remains critical and most households are facing reduced income and access to food.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Reached more than 73,000 people through food distribution in partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP) in Turkana County of northern Kenya.
- Reached more than 5,000 households through hygiene promotion campaigns conducted in Mandera, Wajir and Tana River counties in north and northeast Kenya.
- Trained more than 1,000 mothers on early detection and prevention of malnutrition in children in Mandera, Wajir and Tana River counties.
- Trained more than 300 farmers on climate smart agriculture and good agronomy practices to enhance food security.



SOMALIA

- More than 3.5 million people across Somalia are projected to experience food consumption gaps or depletion of livelihood assets indicative of Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes through the end of the year.
- The key drivers of acute food insecurity in Somalia include the combined effects of poor and erratic rainfall distribution, flooding and conflict.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Affected populations that are facing adverse food insecurity require interventions to reduce food consumption gaps, eradicate acute malnutrition, save lives, and protect livelihoods.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Distributed food and cash to the drought affected population in Puntland, Somaliland, Jubaland and South West states.



Household food insecurity not only affects normal physical growth of children, but also adversely affects their intellectual capacity and social skills. This school in Puntland Somalia with children in a classroom, is currently experiencing pupils' absenteeism due to ongoing drought.

* 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.



SOUTH SUDAN

- According to Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) reports, an estimated 7.2 million people (60 per cent of the country's population) are facing crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3 and above) levels of food insecurity and are in need of emergency humanitarian assistance. Key drivers of the high levels of acute food insecurity in the country include delayed rainfall during the cropping season, flooding, conflict and insecurity, population displacements as well as diseases and pests that negatively affect crop production, access to food and livelihoods.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Flooding in South Sudan has affected more than 130,000 people since the start of the rainy season, damaging homes and agricultural fields in Upper Nile and Greater Bahr el Ghazal. Affected households are in need of food, shelter, non-food items, and health services.
- There is need for child protection and gender-based violence services to address issues of increased levels of child abuse, child marriage and violence against women, which are emanating from lack of food and resources, insecurity and community clashes. There is need to integrate protection programming since mental health issues are reported to be on the rise.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Reached more than 250,000 people through food assistance. This includes more than 18,000 children reached through the school feeding programme.
- Reached 915 children under five through curative consultations.
- Reached 592 community members through awareness sessions on child protection.
- Equipped more than 9,000 people with livelihoods knowledge and skills.
- Equipped 9,361 people with livelihoods knowledge and skills.



SUDAN

- Heavy rains and flooding have affected more than 100,000 people across the country since the start of the rainy season in July, according to the Government Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC). Close to 15,000 homes were damaged and more than 5,000 homes destroyed. This is in addition to the already existing humanitarian needs in Sudan driven by internal conflict, poor macro-economic conditions, and climate change worsened by the impact of COVID-19.
- The IPC projection for the period between June and September showed that Sudan food insecurity levels continue to rise with an estimated 9.8 million people (21% of the population) facing high levels of acute food insecurity. This includes 2.7 million people (6% of the population) who are facing emergency levels of acute food insecurity (IPC level 4), while approximately 7 million people (15% of the population) are facing crisis levels of acute food insecurity (IPC level 3).

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Sudan is host to 1.1 million refugees and more than 2.5 million remain displaced, this caseload requires humanitarian support. More than 2 million food insecure people are in four states where World Vision has operations. The World Vision response is currently reaching more than 700,000 people.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Conducted unconditional cash distribution to more than 190,000 IDPs, as part of the scale-up for cash transfers in South Darfur.
- Not clear what improved access to nutrition services means. I suggest we state – Reached more than 10,000 children under five and pregnant and lactating women through nutrition services for treatment of acute malnutrition.
- Distributed food to more than 52,000 people and reached more 75,000 school going children through the school feeding programme.



UGANDA

- According to FEWS NET, the food security situation will continue to worsen up to January 2022, this is due to the impact of the delayed rainfall, COVID-19 movement restrictions, insecurity, flooding, and below average income.
- Restrictions to curb the spread of the COVID-19 virus have affected most of the savings groups activities including: farming and Savings for Transformation* (S4T) because gatherings of more than 20 people are currently prohibited. Decreased purchasing power has also affected savings groups' initiatives as earnings are mostly spent on food.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- The prolonged drought has resulted in food shortages and low household purchasing power forcing some community members to migrate, especially in the karamoja region of north eastern Uganda.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Screened more than 2,400 children under five for malnutrition. Children identified with Severe Acute Malnutrition and Moderate Acute Malnutrition were referred to respective health facilities for further management. This type of community screening has enabled mothers to be able to know their children's nutrition status and regularly improve on their nutrition and health care practices to ensure that their children's health does not deteriorate.

**World Vision's transformational project model known as 'Savings for Transformation' is one of the key models developed to provide families with a sustainable platform for accessing savings and small loans.*



Mobile clinics run by World Vision Somalia and the Ministry of Health, bring healthcare and nutrition services closer to vulnerable communities and the internally displaced living in Dalsan village. During this drought season, the clinic has played an important role in ensuring the level of malnutrition is contained.

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



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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