

EAST AFRICA HUNGER EMERGENCY RESPONSE

World Vision

Situation report #7 | October 2021

Key messages

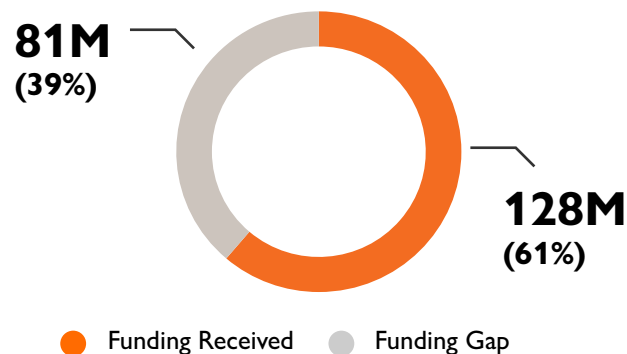
- A deadly mix of conflict, desert locust infestation, COVID-19 and the climate change crisis have pushed more than 26 million people across six countries in East Africa into a hunger crisis. According to UN reports, approximately 509,000 people in East Africa are under catastrophic conditions, a phase 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 7.1 million people are exposed to emergency phase (IPC4).
- The region has endured substantial and widespread breeding of desert locusts since late 2019, resulting in loss of pasture and crops. Additionally, between June to date rising conflict in Ethiopia and protracted instability in Sudan and Somalia has exacerbated the food insecurity situation in the region. The Climate Prediction and Application Centre and the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation had both made predictions of dry conditions and a worsening food insecurity situation in 2021. Coupled with the economic impact of COVID-19 lockdowns, which continue to destroy livelihoods and push millions into desperation. FEWS NET analysis indicated dipped harvests which affected local supplies and food prices.
- 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 October 2021

Key concerns



7.1 million

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



26 million

people are acutely food insecure



Fragility in the region is acute.

Continued conflict in Ethiopia, 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.



Poor rainy seasons in parts of East Africa region have resulted in below-average crop production, poor rangeland conditions, and rising cereal prices



10.6 million

Internally displaced people



4.7 million

Refugees and asylum seekers

Sources: UN OCHA, UNHCR

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*



4,128,791



Women 991,579

Men 825,721



Children **2,311,491**

Girls 1,168,596

Boys 1,142,895

(as of 31 October 2021)



105,834

People provided with clean, potable water



US\$ 22.8M

Amount of cash and voucher assistance distributed



895,874

People reached with cash and voucher assistance



199,924

Children receiving hot meals and/or dry rations through school feeding



2,505,889

Number of people who received (in kind) food assistance



157,016

Children renrolled in Supplementary and Therapeutic feeding programmes



59,261

People reached through primary healthcare support



54,146

Children reached through management of Severe Acute Malnutrition & Moderate Acute Malnutrition



802

Health centres equipped with medical/emergency supplies



106,293

People reached through provision of livelihood assets e.g. farm tools, seeds



58,205

People reached through livelihood training support



19,676

People benefiting from improving agricultural production



257

Savings groups formed and functioning



1,959

People receiving training on prevention & response to protection issues



1,296

People receiving psychosocial support

*The impact numbers take into account the risk of double counting.



ETHIOPIA

- According to [UN OCHA humanitarian update](#), more than 1.8 million people are in emergency level (IPC 4)* in Tigray and adjacent locations in Amhara and Afar affected by the conflict in May and June.
- FAO's Desert Locust Update issued on 23 September indicated that new summer-bred immature swarms have started to form between the Awash and Mille River in Afar region. The scale of the breeding is currently not known as most places are inaccessible by ground and the no-fly zone directive impedes survey for data collection.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- There is a need to increase and scale-up operations in northern Ethiopia to prevent further deterioration in food security.
- Drought affected population and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) need urgent humanitarian support through food assistance, provision of clean drinking water, hygiene services and essential relief items.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Rehabilitated water schemes reaching more than 2,000 people with access to clean water.
- Supported treatment of more than 2,600 children with Moderate and Severe Acute Malnutrition.



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. It is anticipated that there will be severe acute food insecurity in coast, northern and eastern Kenya through to December 2021. The decline in livestock productivity is constraining household access to food and income.

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

- Distributed food to more than 900 people in partnership with WFP in Turkana county of northern Kenya.
- Reached more than 12,500 households through hygiene promotion campaigns conducted in Mandera, Wajir and Tana River counties in north and northeast Kenya.
- Trained more than 4,300 mothers on early detection and prevention of malnutrition in children in Mandera, Wajir and Tana River counties.
- Trained more than 70 farmers on climate smart agriculture and good agronomy practices to enhance food security.



SOMALIA

- More than 1,000 displaced people in Puntland are in urgent need of protection and humanitarian assistance. The IDPs who include children were displaced from Las Canood, Sool region, and are now camping on the outskirts of Galkayo, Mudug and Garowe in Nugaal regions.
- The key drivers of acute food insecurity in Somalia include the combined effects of poor and erratic rainfall distribution, flooding and conflict.
- Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) September reports indicate more than 3.5 million people across Somalia are expected to face food consumption gaps or depletion of livelihood assets through the end of the year, if they do not receive humanitarian assistance. This includes more than 1.2 million children under the age of five, who are likely to be acutely malnourished, including more than 200,000 who are likely to be severely malnourished.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Urgent need of humanitarian assistance including food and shelter for host communities that are affected by drought, displacement and political strife.
- The desert locust infestation poses great risks to both pasture availability and crop production in Somalia.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- World Vision continues to collaborate with faith leaders, local government ministries and local non-governmental organisations to reach affected communities in remote locations and areas that are considered insecure and inaccessible.

* 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

- As of September 2021, more than 29 million people were facing high levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) in the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) region; including more than 400,000 people in Ethiopia and more than 100,000 people in South Sudan, who are facing catastrophic levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 5).

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Communities affected by the hunger crisis are in urgent need of; essential relief items, safe and clean drinking water to mitigate the risks of waterborne diseases, access to hygiene and sanitation facilities such as latrines, access to health services. As well as access to protection services to address issues of increased child marriage and abuse, and gender based violence emanating from lack of food and resources.
- There is need to scale up peace building activities to support mediation of community clashes.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Facilitated training for more than 4,600 people in livelihoods and resilience.
- Provided hot meals to more than 9,700 school children.
- Distributed cash to more than 34,000 people.
- Facilitated provision of curative consultations to more than 3,800 children under five.
- Facilitated awareness sessions and provided access to child protection information to more than 3,000 community members.



SUDAN

- Sudan is host to more than 1.1 million refugees and more than 3 million IDPs. According to UNHCR, more than 60,000 Ethiopians have fled into Sudan and are camping in the eastern cities bordering Ethiopia. This is further worsened by the impact of flash floods in White Nile State that displaced more than 80,000 people. The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification June to September 2021 report showed an estimated 9.8 million people (21% of the population) are facing high levels of acute food insecurity.
- The humanitarian community in Sudan continues to call for sustained support and funding to meet growing humanitarian needs amidst ongoing political uncertainties.
- According to FEWSNET, food staple prices remained extremely high amidst the harvest season that started in October driven by factors such as high production costs and some disruptions in the supply chain.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- The budget of the Sudan hunger crisis response is US\$ 64 million. More than 85% (US\$ 55 million) of the funding required has been secured. There is a gap of US\$ 9 million, which will cover the food security recovery activities and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Distributed food and cash to more than 500,000 beneficiaries including 213,000 children with cash and food assistance support to improve household food security.
- Distributed 6,684 metric tonnes of food commodities and US\$ 1.3 million in cash transfers.
- Screened more than 3,600 pregnant and lactating women and more than 14,500 children under five for malnutrition. The beneficiaries received 36.55 metric tonnes of nutrition supplies.



UGANDA

- According to [FEWS NET](#), the delayed and below-normal main season crop harvests in Karamoja, will affect household food availability. This follows below average and erratic cumulative rainfall since April, which negatively impacted crop growth. Flooding and water logging in September displaced hundreds of people and destroyed sorghum fields.
- 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 northeastern Uganda.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Reached 250 people through cash for work projects.
- Distributed 20 bags of beans to 10 savings groups reaching more than 300 people.



*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.



Food is 'more than a meal' for Michael and his siblings, who are amongst the more than 250,000 refugees that World Vision provides food to in Uganda, in partnership with WFP.

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:

Joseph Kamara
Regional Humanitarian & Emergency Affairs Director
E: Joseph_Kamara@wvi.org | P: +254 715 27 94 85

Jennifer Watson
Regional Communications & Public Engagement Director
E: Jennifer_Watson@wvi.org | P: +254 780 55 43 94