

November 2021 Report

Key messages

This is a children's crisis: Almost 21 million children are one step away from famine and face starvation. Urgent life-saving action is needed NOW to prevent a humanitarian hunger crisis in which tens of thousands of children could die. Famine has no place in the 21st century and is entirely preventable.

Conflict, COVID-19 and climate change are now interacting to create new and worsening hunger hotspots and reversing the gains families had made to escape poverty.

Time is running out. If the world stands by and does too little too late, children and their families will be forced to make dangerous survival choices that will have lasting harmful consequences for girls and boys, including preventable death.

Humanitarian funding and access to those who are starving is vital if lives are to be saved.

Everyone is exhausted by the battle to defeat COVID-19 but in the poorest parts of the world, families are now confronted by new spikes in the virus (due to the spread of the Delta variant and the arrival of new variant Omicron) and literally looking for their next meal. People know the value in coming together to defeat the pandemic and now we must urgently stand together to prevent catastrophic levels of starvation.

World Vision is on the ground in hunger hotspots around the globe, providing life-saving assistance, tackling malnutrition, providing clean water and protecting children from harm. Our response will target 15 million people who face life-threatening starvation.

US \$ 300 million
programmes target



World Vision is responding to the impact of hunger globally and aims to reach
15 million
people

\$305m
programmes in
implementation

Humanitarian response

45 million people in **43 countries** are on the edge of starvation.*

World Vision is working in **19 countries** where people are suffering unimaginable levels of hunger, to save lives.** We partner with the UN World Food Programme, government, institutional and private donors to respond to urgent need IPC 4 (emergency) and IPC 5 (catastrophic) levels of hunger.***

More than **540,000 people** face the threat of famine-like conditions^[1] in countries where World Vision funds operations. These countries are: South Sudan, Ethiopia and Yemen.

Afghanistan: Following the Taliban take-over the country is facing a massive hunger crisis with more than 8.7m people one step away from starvation (IPC4)^[1]. One million children could die if they don't get assistance in time. A financial and banking crisis, the withdrawal of international funding and economic collapse are leaving people desperate. The impact of drought combined with months of winter that will cut off villages from help, means food must be urgently pre-positioned. World Vision is distributing food, providing emergency nutrition and running mobile health clinics reaching more than 231,000 people.

South Sudan: More than 2.5 million people are one step from starvation (IPC 4&5)^[2]. The crisis has come about due to a mix of reasons, including flooding, conflict, displacement, pest invasions and poor rains during the cropping season. World Vision has been responding with food distributions, school-feeding programmes and working in partnership with WFP on food air drops into remote locations, reaching more than 1.3 million people.

Hunger brought about by a range of drivers, including COVID-19, climate change, hurricanes and drought, and economic challenges, are driving increased vulnerability, widespread hunger and migration in Central America and Venezuela.

* The 45m is the total number of people facing IPC 4 and 5 levels of hunger: source: [WFP](#)

**The 19 countries include: Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Mali, Niger, Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, Guatemala, Honduras, Venezuela

*** The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) system is 1) a standardised scale of food insecurity; and 2) a process for building interagency technical consensus on the state of food insecurity in a specific country at a given moment and aims to inform evidence-based decision making. The 5 'phases' of the IPC scale are: Phase 1 (None/Minimal), Phase 2 (Stressed), Phase 3 (Crisis), Phase 4 (Emergency) and Phase 5 (Catastrophe/Famine).

Response achievements

- 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 Improve 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 girls and women



733,398

People reached with access to clean, potable water



3,659,643

People reached with (in-kind) food assistance



236,206

Children reached with supplementary and therapeutic food



147,799

People reached through provision of livelihood assets



31,741

People receiving psychosocial support

Achievements to date*



7,079,301

People reached



Adults 3,101,747



Children 3,977,554



1,460,419

People reached with cash and voucher assistance



US\$ 43.7M

Amount of cash and voucher assistance distributed



316,974

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



334,405

People reached through primary healthcare support



178,344

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

Key concerns

Conflict: Conflict continues to be the primary driver of an alarming rise of food insecurity and malnutrition, particularly among refugees, internally displaced and the most vulnerable.

COVID-19: The pandemic has led to currency depreciation, income losses, rapid inflation, and has exacerbated pre-existing macroeconomic fragilities and debt levels in many countries, increasing the likelihood of macroeconomic crises. To make matters worse, in many low and middle-income countries widespread COVID-19 vaccination is not expected to be achieved before 2023. The discovery of the COVID-19 variant - Omicron - led to border closures for a number of nations in Southern Africa, and to travel, trade, economic and health impacts that affected the most vulnerable.

Climate change: Forecast below average rainfall seasons and dry conditions are likely to affect agricultural production in Afghanistan, southern Ethiopia, Haiti, Iraq, eastern Kenya, southern Somalia, and Syria.



Advocacy and external engagement

- Around World Food Day, World Vision and its faith partners held a Weekend of Prayer and Action to raise awareness and the need for great action from decision makers on the growing global hunger crisis. [Learn more here.](#)
- Reverend Andrew Morley, World Vision International President and CEO, made a statement at the [UN High Level Event on Action in Support of Preventing and Ending Famine Now](#). World Vision also supported the development of a joint NGO statement that was delivered at the event.
- At the World Food Programme's Annual Partnership Consultation, WV co-organised (with WFP and the Titi Foundation) a solutions-focused discussion with senior leaders on how to strengthen collective advocacy on famine prevention.

**Includes people supported in 19 countries globally for the reporting period 01 April - 30 November, 2021*

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



World Vision is on the ground in hunger hotspots around the globe, providing life-saving assistance, tackling malnutrition, providing clean water and protecting children from harm. Our response is focused on key life-saving and enhancing actions for those in desperate need.

We keep families and children alive with food or income support; provide drinking water and keep people clean and free of diseases by delivering sanitation services; provide emergency nutrition to extremely malnourished children, pregnant women and mums who are breastfeeding; help farmers and workers whose livelihoods are at risk of failing, with tools, animals, training and support; protect at-risk children from mental health and physical harm

Worsening hunger is concentrated in some of the world's hardest to reach, most dangerous places. These have both high levels of IPC4 as well as restricted humanitarian access issues due to conflict.

World Vision is responding to save lives in

19 countries

where people are suffering unimaginable levels of hunger.

Our **US\$**

300 million

programmes target aims to reach

15 million people

Latin America and

the Caribbean



139,134



67,577

West Africa Region



861,154



512,389

Middle East and

Eastern Europe



720,290



365,318

East Africa Region



4,308,745



2,385,529

Southern Africa Region



1,049,978



646,741

Total reach

Children

Response Highlights



5,000

children received a daily meal through community kitchens supported by World Vision in Angola



700,000

people reached with food and cash assistance in Sudan



1,000

backpacks distributed in Yemen in partnership with Medair and ADH as part of a back to school campaign



120,000

people affected by the hunger crisis provided with clean, safe potable water in DRC through rehabilitation and construction of water points



1,400

mothers trained to detect and prevent malnutrition in children in Kenya



4,500

children received school meals in South Sudan



Regional overview

East Africa

In East Africa 510,000 people face famine-like conditions (IPC5) while >7.1 million people face emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC4). Conflict in northern **Ethiopia**, new displacements, a lack of humanitarian resources and access present major challenges to reaching those in dire need. Most arid and semi-arid areas in **Kenya** have experienced below-average rainfall, resulting in poor crop production and deteriorated livestock. >360,000 people face IPC4 levels of food insecurity in the country. In **Somalia**, the humanitarian situation has worsened due to erratic rainfall, COVID-19 and desert locusts which have destroyed crops and pasture. >1.2 million children under the age of five were projected to be acutely malnourished by the end of 2021, with nearly 213,400 of them severely malnourished. In **South Sudan** > 800,000 people have been affected by flooding since May 2021. The country is ranked a top five nation for climate change impacts. Insecurity and broken communications have slowed humanitarian operations in **Sudan**. > 2.6 million people are living in IPC4 conditions. **Uganda's** Karamoja region continues to face dry spells that have left >27,000 people facing emergency levels of food insecurity (IPC4).

Southern Africa

In southwest **Angola**, the worst drought in 40 years and rising food prices have resulted in poor harvests and limited access to food. More than 416,000 people face emergency levels of hunger (IPC4). The humanitarian situation remains dire in the **Democratic Republic of Congo**. According to IPC, the country has the [largest number of highly food insecure people](#) in the world with an estimated 27 million people experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC3 and above) by the end of 2021 - around 26.5% of the population. 6.1 million people are experiencing emergency (IPC4) levels of food insecurity. This is due to persistent conflict, massive displacement, economic decline, chronic under-development, high food prices and the impact of COVID-19.

West Africa

Access to food is a major challenge in a region where millions need humanitarian assistance. **Burkina Faso** has one of the fastest growing displacement crises in the world. More than 340,000 people face IPC4 levels of food insecurity with COVID-19 and conflict-induced displacements contributing to a sharp spike in numbers. Conflict and climate crises continue to exacerbate hunger in **Chad** as frequent droughts and the economic impacts of COVID-19 strain vulnerable families whose livelihoods mostly depend on farming and livestock. IPC estimates that >214,000 children and 98,000 women will likely suffer acute malnutrition in **Central African Republic** where more than 2.1 million people are highly food insecure (IPC3 and above), including >620,000 facing IPC4 levels of food insecurity. The latest "Cadre Harmonisé" assessments in **Niger** estimate 2.3 million people are facing crises (IPC3 and above) or worse levels of hunger, with 164,000 of those classified as in emergency (IPC4). In **Mali**, increased insecurity and multiple weather-related disasters have disrupted livelihoods and led to displacements, with more than 51,000 people facing emergency (IPC4) levels of food insecurity.

Middle East and Eastern Europe

Drought, economic decline and funding flow restrictions have increased fragility in **Afghanistan**, it is projected that during November 2021 - March 2022, 22.8 million (55% of the population) will face crisis (IPC3) or worse levels of food insecurity, including more than 8.7 million people in emergency (IPC4) levels of food insecurity, the highest in the world. Approximately 3.5 million people who face crisis levels of food insecurity live in areas where World Vision has an operational presence. In **Syria**, more than a decade of conflict, a widespread economic crisis and the lack of accountability for the grave violations against children and civilians have taken a deep toll on Syrian children, their families, and communities. >1.3 million people are in emergency (IPC 4) levels of food insecurity. The humanitarian crisis in **Yemen** continues to deteriorate as a result of ongoing conflict, drought and economic collapse, with hostilities continuing along nearly 50 front lines. More than 5 million Yemenis are living in emergency (IPC 4) levels of hunger and 47,000 people are experiencing famine-like conditions (IPC 5).

Latin America and Caribbean

Guatemala is among the 10 countries [most vulnerable to natural disasters](#) and the effects of climate change. Over the past three years, extended dry seasons have had a severe impact on the livelihoods of subsistence farmers, who rely on rain-fed agriculture. The economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and hurricanes Eta and Iota have aggravated the multidimensional crisis in **Honduras**, weakening the resilience of communities. Rising levels of poverty, violence, displacement and limited access to basic social services are key factors leading to increased food insecurity and malnutrition. The ongoing displacement and economic crises in **Venezuela** has led to an estimated 2.3 million Venezuelans living in emergency (IPC4) levels of hunger.



Seven-year-old Faizullah with his grandmother Farokh have come to the World Vision Mobile Health Team clinic for treatment. They are internally displaced in Afghanistan due to conflict and drought.

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



World Food Programme

wfp.org



Irish Aid

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



OCHA
Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



European Union
Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid



World Health Organization



Aktion Deutschland Hilft
Germany's Relief Coalition



Canada, Taiwan, Hong Kong,
Australia, Korea

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World Vision is focused on helping the most vulnerable children to overcome poverty and experience fullness of life. We help children of all backgrounds, even in the most dangerous places. Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness. Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.
wvi.org/emergencies/hunger-crisis