

# Children and Young People Front and Center of Climate Action

The global climate crisis threatens the lives of millions of children and young people and their families. In comparison to adults, children and young people are more likely to suffer the immediate and long-term impacts of climate change (Sanson et al., 2019).

According to the “Guardians of the Planet”, Asia-Pacific children and youths consultation report, released by five leading international aid agencies, including World Vision International, in Asia-Pacific 77% of children and youth have noticed more climate-related disasters locally in the last two years. 23% of children reported experiencing extreme temperatures, while 30% experienced floods or more severe rainfall.

World Vision works with children, their families and communities to restore and protect the environment, catalyzing community-led and children-led solutions to systematically and progressively build healthier environments, while also supporting the community to adapt to the climate and mitigate the disaster risks to improve their resilience.



*World Vision believes that responding to climate change is a justice issue. We see climate justice as an approach that places children and young people at the front and center of the climate crisis and brings about solutions good for people and the planet by upholding their rights.*

## WORLD VISION'S COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



World Vision seeks to protect the well-being of children and families, impacted by natural disasters, health crises and protracted emergencies.



World Vision emphasizes green and sustainable recovery, and prioritizes the strengthening of households and building community resilience.



World Vision continues to prepare and implement robust humanitarian response and rehabilitation serving as advocates for the vulnerable children and their communities through responsive and need-based intervention

In 2021, World Vision took significant action to move forward in our commitment to environmental stewardship and reducing our negative impact on the environment by establishing policies on Environmental Stewardship and on Climate Action, which set in place an organization wide commitment to increase programs that promote positive environmental benefits for children, monitor, and take action to reduce our carbon footprint, and advocate for climate justice for children.

In 2021, globally, World Vision humanitarian assistance reached over 30.1 million people in response to 72 natural and human-made disasters across 52 countries. In Asia-Pacific Region, facing increased climate-induced disasters, pockets of fragility and conflict, and the gapping socio-economic impact of the pandemic, World Vision shifts to a more agile, responsive and integrated disaster management approach.

# World Vision DRR Key Interventions



## EARLY WARNING AND EARLY ACTION

WV monitors the indicators of threats, to take anticipatory action and reduce the impact of disasters, during monsoon and winter seasons especially for, floods, drought, landslides and dzud.



## COMMUNITY BASED DRR MANAGEMENT AND CHILD-FOCUSED DRR

WV monitors the indicators of threats, to take anticipatory action and reduce the impact of disasters, during monsoon and winter seasons especially for, floods, drought, landslides and dzud.



## SAFE SCHOOLS INITIATIVES

WV promotes the Comprehensive School Safety Framework. In schools, WV conducts disaster preparedness drills and activities, provides DRR facilities and invests in awareness-raising and training students and teachers.



## GENDER EQUALITY, DISABILITY, AND SOCIAL INCLUSION MAINSTREAMING

WV tailored our interventions to ensure the most vulnerable people can access information, are consulted, can participate and provide feedback on the assistance extended to them. Programs are gender-sensitive, inclusive to reach ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, communities without internet, migrants, and marginalized groups.



## INTER-FAITH ENGAGEMENT

WV engaged with faith leaders from different religions to promote positive behavioral change towards climate action and disaster risk reduction. WV worked with faith leaders to design and roll out interventions to create positive messaging and psycho-social support for early recovery.

## Our Ask: Act More Now, Together!

### Sustainable multi-level cooperation for climate action with nature-based solutions

World Vision acknowledges that effective action to address the climate crisis requires meaningful and long-term international coordination, complementarity and localization. World Vision calls the different stakeholders to protect the rights of children and young people to a healthy, safe and sustainable future through participatory mechanisms, nature-based solutions that are safe and child friendly.

### Strengthen commitment to leave no child and youth behind

World Vision calls government and policy makers to strengthen social accountability and foster greater participation of those most affected by climate change, especially children and young people by ensuring children and youth especially girls and boys with disabilities, children living in poverty and other vulnerable groups are included and prioritized in programs that seeks to address and mitigate the negative impacts of the climate crisis. Provide needs-based interventions to girls, boys and young people in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation by consulting and involving children and youth in the design.

### Children and Youth empowered to take action for DRR and Resilience

World Vision calls all stakeholders to ensure climate action targets the most vulnerable communities and is child-centered by empowering girls and boys to meaningfully participate in community, local, national and international planning, discussions and decision-making processes related to disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation. Preparing children and families to psychologically cope with crises increases their sense of urgency and efficacy; and may influence communities to invest more in disaster preparedness and mitigation.

### Economic logic for increased and efficient funding for DRR and Climate Change Adaptation

The cost of disasters is significant, both in terms of spending on relief and rehabilitation and in terms of lost GDP. While the cost-benefit ratio of DRR varies depending on context and type of measures used, appropriate DRR saves lives and money. World Vision calls governments, donors, private sectors and civil societies to scale up investment in programs that protect and restore environmental assets to support vulnerable communities' food security and livelihoods and mitigate climate change by creating an enabling environment for sustainable community management of natural resources, and investing in awareness raising for governments and development organizations on low cost regenerative agriculture and landscape restoration approaches that are rapidly scalable.

### Communities are adequately supported and empowered

World Vision calls all environmental actors to support communities to build their resilience to climate change and prepare, mitigate, cope and recover from the immediate impacts of climate-related disasters by investing in disaster-risk financing to support multi-year, community-focused programs that build resilience to climate change and reduce needs, vulnerability and risks over the long term; and providing timely, adequate support to anticipate and meet immediate humanitarian needs occurring due to climate change-related disasters and other climate change impacts.