The world is facing a massive hunger crisis. Tens of millions of children and their families are confronted with starvation. Conflict, COVID-19, climate change, and rising costs are acting as the drivers of this crisis, exacerbated by the war in Ukraine which has resulted in global inflation, price spikes, and shortages in food, fuel, and fertiliser around the world. After increasing our efforts to stave off famine, including issuing regional responses in both east and west Africa, World Vision declared a US$2 billion Global Hunger Response to reach 22 million people on the verge of famine on 16 May 2022. Since then, World Vision has escalated organisation-wide efforts to scale up operations, increase funding, influence decision makers, and inform and mobilise the public towards action and prayer. In the organisation’s 70-year history there has never been a larger appeal.

Our response goal
To use our global reach and grassroots connections to reduce acute food insecurity and improve the resilience of 22 million of the most vulnerable people in countries experiencing growing hunger and the threat of famine.

We know that rising costs and crisis levels of hunger come with other complex issues. Which is why, as a global leader in providing food assistance; nutrition; water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH); child protection; and livelihoods programming at scale as well as rapid and prolonged emergency assistance to refugees, displaced populations, and communities suffering extreme climate conditions and hunger; World Vision is scaling up our work around the world in order to:

- respond directly to hunger and price shocks with the provision of emergency food
- improve access to food for affected households
- provide clean water
- ensure access to nutrition and health services
- keep the most vulnerable safe
- improve household resilience to food insecurity and livelihoods-related shocks.
Our value add

70+ years of programming experience and responding to emergencies globally

World Vision is present in 100 countries globally and has been addressing the issue of hunger in fragile and emergency contexts for decades, including in some of the world’s most complex contexts. World Vision is responding in refugee camps, remote areas, where there is conflict, fragility, extreme weather conditions, and post-disaster scenarios, and where people are facing famine-like or severe hunger conditions. World Vision:

- has 1,600 area programmes and humanitarian responses around the world
- has been responding to the growing levels of hunger in 19 countries from March 2021 and has since scaled up to 26 countries of highest priority
- declared regional hunger emergency responses in East and West Africa.

The East Africa Hunger Emergency Response has reached 7.3 million people, including nearly 4 million children between March 2021 and September 2022.

The West Africa Hunger Emergency Response has reached 2.5 million people, including 1.3 million children between April and September 2022.

Critical technical experience

Thanks to our broad range of technical expertise, World Vision can integrate approaches to fit the unique needs of different contexts and communities.

- Our technical staff are recognised as experts amongst our peers – they are:
  - active in working groups across the sectors, including food security, livelihoods, nutrition, health, WASH, child protection, and cash and voucher programming
  - participate in global clusters and strategy advisory groups
- World Vision's Global Rapid Response Team, our locally-based staff – 99% of whom are nationals of the country where they are employed – and our strategically located pre-positioning warehouses around the world enable World Vision to respond to disasters with food, WASH solutions, relief supplies, and shelter within 24 to 72 hours.
- World Vision works with faith leaders using Channels of Hope, an evidence-based interactive process, to share messages that connect with communities and incorporate a behaviour-change communication approach.
- World Vision tackles hunger, poverty, and climate change utilising our award-winning farmer-managed natural regeneration approach, which has been recognised amongst the UN’s top 500 practices that contribute to 12 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals – its solutions have been found to be supportive of national objectives in 62 countries.

Cash and voucher assistance (CVA)

World Vision has proven experience providing CVA, particularly to people in fragile and conflict contexts, and is committed to promoting dignity for people affected by emergencies, providing them with choice, control, and flexibility.

- Cash and vouchers help build resilience by driving the recovery of local markets while providing immediate survival assistance and centring people in humanitarian responses.
- World Vision is ranked third in the global CVA (behind WFP and UNHCR).
  - Between 1 October 2021 and 30 April 2022, World Vision spent nearly one-third (US$100 million) of our humanitarian portfolio (US$341 million) on CVA.
- World Vision delivers technical, advocacy, and strategic expertise on CVA to other practitioners as a co-lead of the global Collaborative Cash Delivery Network – a network 14 of the largest non-governmental organisations delivering 80% of all ‘last-mile’ cash programming in every humanitarian crisis globally.

In 2021, more than 30.1 million people, including 15.7 million children, received humanitarian assistance from World Vision after 72 natural and human-made disasters in 52 countries.

6.7 million people in 50 countries, 78% of whom live in fragile contexts, received US$412 million in CVP assistance from World Vision in 2021.
Our value add

Nine out of every 10 children treated by World Vision for severe wasting between 2010 and 2020 have made a full recovery.

40,000+ farmers participated in World Vision trainings in 2021 and then implemented new agricultural methods that helped them produce more and increase their families’ incomes.

“World Vision is a great partner . . . we have a lot to do, we are going to do it together!”

– David Beasley, Executive Director, WFP

More than 450,000 faith leaders around the world have been trained by World Vision to address child well-being challenges within their communities and congregations.

Nutrition programming

As a humanitarian and development agency, World Vision is a global leader in nutrition within emergency, fragile, and vulnerable contexts. From 2010 to 2020, World Vision nutrition programmes supported the admission of almost half a million children with severe acute malnutrition into therapeutic programmes or in-patient care. Over 89% fully recovered. World Vision also builds on our grassroot presence and community-based approach to address health and nutrition and integrate education, WASH, and child protection issues in fragile and emergency contexts. World Vision:

- enables trained community health workers and volunteers using a nurturing care group project model to promote integrated behaviour-change messages and activities
- tackles malnutrition at scale with community-based management of acute malnutrition, which trains volunteers to identify, manage, and monitor childhood malnutrition
- builds capacity and empowers local communities using our community health committee model to coordinate activities, leading to strengthened community health systems and positive health outcomes
- collaborates with 184,000 community health workers, the point of the spear of many primary health-care services, in low-resource settings to provide broad family counselling, referrals, and treatment services for children.

World Vision is already responding to this food insecurity crisis – US$82 million were invested in nutrition-specific programmes between October 2021 and June 2022.

Since 2005, World Vision’s programmes focussed on the prevention and treatment of acute wasting in 31 countries, half of which are in the top 20 fragile states.

Partnering for greater impact

World Vision’s integrated approach builds strength from collaborating with a wide range of partners at the local, regional, and international levels – including the private sector, civil society, international organisations, governments, faith communities, and community leaders, amongst others. With a community presence in our countries of operations, World Vision’s grassroots focus is core to our work. By centring communities, we ensure lasting, more accountable change, which in turn allows for greater access and acceptance from those we serve. World Vision:

- has more than 20,000 partners and nearly 35,000 staff in 100 countries
- draws strength from our connections with Christian organisations and faith partners to provide life-saving support to those most affected by crises
- collaborates with more than 40,000 faith partners to address child well-being challenges within their communities
- is WFP’s largest implementing NGO partner for food assistance and has been for more than 18 years
- partners globally with many international agencies and donors, including WFP, UNICEF, UNOCHA, WHO, UNHCR, BHA, BPRM, DFAT, ECHO, FCDO, BMZ, DRA, GAC, GFPO, The Global Fund, GPE, as well as public and private donors, amongst others
- chairs the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR)
- is a member of key humanitarian coordination platforms and processes (e.g. clusters, IASC, CaLP) and actively participates in joint advocacy events at global decision-making forums (e.g. UNGA, ECOSOC-HAS).

Most recently, World Vision mobilised our partners’ networks to combat the spread and impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable communities in more than 70 countries.
Key interventions

**Food assistance**
- Food distributions
- Conditional and multi-purpose cash assistance for families to purchase food and address basic needs
- Blanketed and targeted programmes to provide families supplementary food in addition to basic rations
- School feeding programmes
- On-site feeding
- Food-for-assets

**Nutrition**
- Infant and young child feeding support
- Micronutrient supplementation
- Mid-upper arm circumference measurements to monitor malnutrition
- Decentralising growth monitoring and promotion
- Establishing and scaling up community-based and integrated management of acute malnutrition programming
- Positive deviance/hearth for underweight children and those with moderate wasting

**Health**
- Community health workers and community health committees
- Nurturing care groups for social behavior change
- Integrated community case management
- Problem management plus for groups
- Interpersonal psychotherapy for groups
- Channels of Hope and community hope action teams to mobilise faith leaders and congregations in support of child well-being
- Women, adolescents, and young children safe spaces

**WASH**
- Hardware and software to prevent malnutrition and associated infections (e.g. WASH services accessibility, multi-use water services) in combination with infant and young child social behavioural change messaging
- Supporting community-based and integrated management of acute malnutrition programming with WASH interventions

**Child protection**
- Training nurturing care groups and community health workers on psychosocial support and where to refer parents/caregivers for specialised psychosocial support
- Strengthening volunteers, community health workers, faith leaders, and other partners' abilities to identify gender-based violence and child protection cases, make referrals, and provide support
- Child protection within health facilities/joint awareness in health facilities
- Prevention of child marriage, child labour and trafficking, and other harmful coping strategies
- Empowering children with resilience (IMPACT+ nutrition module)

**Food security and livelihoods recovery**
- Leveraging CVA for financial inclusion interventions and graduating the ultra-poor out of poverty
- Recovery lending for resilience of existing savings for transformation groups
- Improving agricultural productivity of smallholder farmers
- Strengthening farmers' access to markets/financial services
- Improving food production and resilience to the effects of climate change
- Improving food security and livelihoods public services through social accountability
Advocating to key decision makers to improve children’s well-being

Advocacy is an essential part of World Vision’s work at the local, national, regional, and global levels. We mobilise and amplify voices – especially those of children – around the world to call for justice, lasting and sustainable impact, and the change of unjust policies affecting children’s well-being.

More than 250 million vulnerable children were affected by new or amended policies achieved through advocacy or external engagements by World Vision globally between March 2020 and December 2021.

Some key activities include:

- advocating for increased humanitarian response funding to match the growing food insecurity
- influencing parties to conflict and decision makers to increase operational access in the most fragile and restricted contexts
- focussing on child-led advocacy to ensure meaningful, safe, and appropriate participation and sustained child well-being
- adopting our Citizen Voice and Action approach to create opportunities for communities and supporters to take part in all aspects of advocacy planning, implementation, and evaluation
- advocating to decision makers to end harmful practices (e.g. child marriage, child labour, forced recruitment), which risk children’s safety and well-being
- influencing national governments to transform food systems and meet commitments made at the UN Food Systems Summit in September 2021
- calling governments and peer agencies to action with the Wasting Reset open letter
- committing to Nutrition for Growth position on global breastfeeding
- working alongside partners to prevent famine and towards other common objectives.

Environment and climate change

Climate change has increased the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, like hurricanes, wildfires, and droughts. These events threaten food production and supply, drive up food prices, and limit food availability. The ill-effects of climate change are mostly felt by the most vulnerable, many of whom are also experiencing conflicts, unsafe conditions, and political instability, which further compound these negative impacts. World Vision will continue to uphold our SDG commitment towards minimising negative impacts on the environment and deepen our commitments towards climate actions through this Response.

Gender focus

The impacts of catastrophes are disproportionately felt by women and girls who account for 60% of people facing chronic food insecurity. World Vision continues to identify the disparities people face due to age, gender, disability, socioeconomic status, or other social factors and ensures programme designs and implementation adequately address root causes of these disparities.

Humanitarian accountability

World Vision is accountable first and foremost to those whom we serve. Our programmes provide regular and inclusive opportunities for community consultation, including child-friendly, mobile, and digital approaches and set up channels for sensitive and non-sensitive feedback and complaints that are accessible to people on the move.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Justin Byworth
Global Humanitarian Director
justin_byworth@wvi.org

Mary Njeri
Response Director
Global Hunger Response
mary_njeri@wvi.org

Micah Branaman
Communications Technical Director
Global Hunger Response
micah_branaman@wvi.org

Kunal Shah
Asia Pacific
kunal_shah@wvi.org

Jose Nelson Chavez Rosales
Latin America and Caribbean
jose_chavez@wvi.org

Julian Srodecki
Middle East and Eastern Europe
julian_srodecki@wvi.org

Joseph Kamara
East Africa
joseph_kamara@wvi.org

Maxwell Sibhensana
Southern Africa
maxwell_sibhensana@wvi.org

Isaac Massaga
West Africa
isaac_massaga@wvi.org

OR THE REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN AND EMERGENCY DIRECTOR:

World Vision is focussed 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