

GLOBAL HUNGER RESPONSE

Situation report #6 | December 2022



The world is facing a massive hunger crisis. **Tens of millions of children and their families are confronted with starvation.** Conflict, COVID-19, and climate change are acting as drivers of this crisis.

Nearly **45 million people** in 37 countries risk starvation. World Vision is responding to this global emergency with a **US\$2 billion** appeal – the largest in organisational history.

Food assistance and other life-saving support is immediately needed to prevent the deaths of thousands of people. Despite efforts from the United Nations (UN) and agencies like World Vision, needs continue to outpace the increasing funds raised. World Vision's Global Hunger Response is targeting **22 million people in 26 countries of highest concern.*** Elsewhere, World Vision continues to monitor the situation and is working to adapt programming and responses where cost-of-living price shocks are hitting the vulnerable.

** East Africa Emergency Hunger Response: Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda; West Africa Emergency Hunger Response: Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Chad, CAR, Mauritania; Sierra Leone; in the Middle East: Afghanistan, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen; in Southern Africa: DRC, Angola; in Latin America and the Caribbean: Venezuela, Guatemala, Honduras, Haiti; in East Asia: Myanmar; in South Asia and the Pacific: Sri Lanka.*



People reached

 **17,748,534**



Men 3,599,879

Women 4,616,956



Children 9,531,699

Boys 4,451,371 Girls 5,080,328

**Based on figures as of 21 December 2022. People reached includes people supported in GHR's 26 countries of highest alert from 01 March 2021 through the current reporting period (November 2022).*

Situation overview

As the recent [Global Humanitarian Overview](#) for 2023 highlights, the last four years has seen such a growth in hunger, it is now considered to be the 'largest global food crisis in modern history.'¹ An estimated 222 million people in 2023 will experience not knowing when or if they will ever eat another meal. As we close 2022, nearly 1 million people across six countries (i.e. Somalia, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Haiti, South Sudan, Yemen) are already experiencing famine-like conditions (IPC 5)² with people, especially children, dying, and, according to the [Global Hunger Index](#), **46 countries are on track to fail meeting the global goal of zero hunger by 2030.**

A recent analysis presented by ST4N³ warned that the global food crisis is likely to dramatically increase the number of children suffering from wasting⁴ – a lethal form of malnutrition. At present, 22 million children are suffering from wasting due to a lack of nutrition in their diets.⁵ This predicament will particularly affect the most vulnerable, particularly mothers and children who live in poor households, rural communities, and those who do not own farmland or cannot grow their own food.⁶ This calls for urgent humanitarian assistance and strengthening nutrition resilience of populations facing

food crises to prevent the devastating inter-generational impacts of malnutrition.

This situation is driven by factors such as conflict, disease, and natural hazards, as well as other underlying issues like poverty, inequality, inadequate governance, poor infrastructure, and low agricultural productivity that collectively contribute to chronic hunger and vulnerability. In many countries and regions around the world, current food systems are inadequate and unable to address these challenges and end hunger.⁷

¹ As of 1 December 2022.

² Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a system allowing governments, UN agencies, non-governmental organisations, civil society, and other relevant actors to work together to determine the severity and magnitude of acute and chronic food insecurity, and acute malnutrition situations in a country, according to internationally-recognised scientific standards.

³ [Standing Together for Nutrition \(ST4N\)](#) is a multi-disciplinary consortium, hosted by the [Micronutrient Forum](#), made up of leading nutrition, gender, economic, health, and food system experts examining the scale and reach of global economic, climate, and health shocks and their adverse impacts on nutrition for millions of vulnerable women and children.

⁴ Wasting refers to a child who is too thin for his or her height.

⁵ UNICEF (2022) [State of food security and nutrition in the world 2022](#)

⁶ ST4N (November 2022) [Global food crisis impact on child wasting in vulnerable communities](#), p1.

⁷ Global Hunger Index (December 2022) ["Global, regional and national trends"](#), [accessed 15/12/2022].

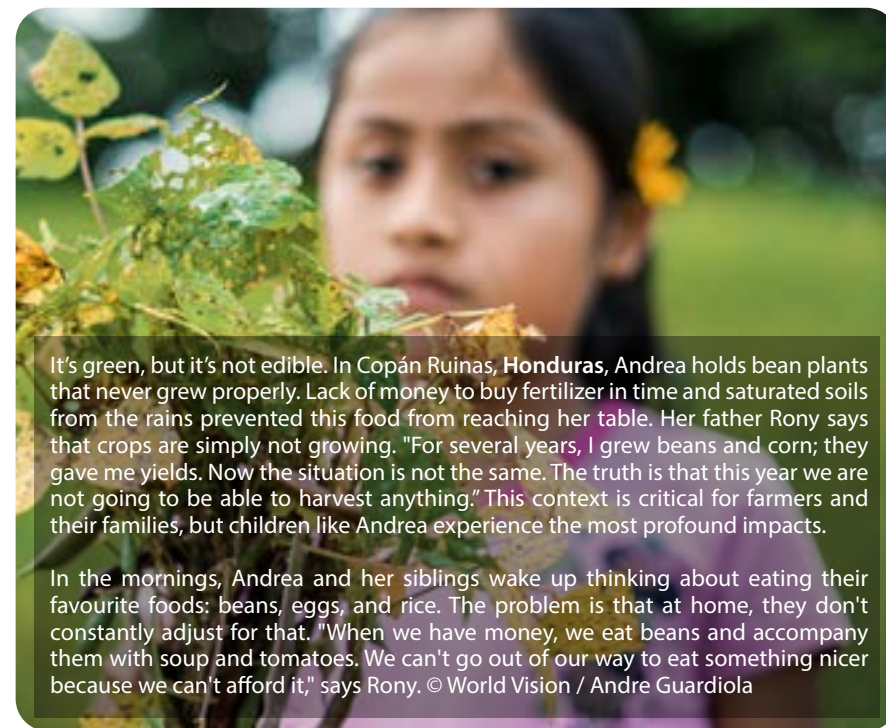


In Haiti, World Vision provides a woman with supplies to help her to set up a small business and diversify her income. Diversified incomes help families face economic shocks better, especially when a family's primary livelihood is agriculture/farming, and allows them to bring in income, even when farming is disrupted.

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Key concerns

- The humanitarian crisis deepens in **Mali**, especially in the northeast where conflict displaced thousands of people in October and November. Around 7.5 million people – more than a third of the population – now require humanitarian assistance.⁸ A projected 1.5 million children under 5 (including 367,000 cases of severe acute malnutrition), are expected to suffer from acute malnutrition between June 2022 and May 2023 – one in five more children (19%) than forecasted in 2021.⁹
- **Afghanistan**, one of the world's worst humanitarian crisis, is now facing harsh winter weather with stocks of food and medicines running low.¹⁰ Almost half of the country's population is food insecure, with child malnutrition cases having risen to nearly 50% in Afghanistan as hunger hits record levels.¹¹ High acute food insecurity persists, as a combination of a collapsing economy and drought is depriving more than 19 million Afghans of food, nearly 6 million of whom live in famine-like conditions (IPC 4) with 20,324 girls, boys, women, and men reportedly living in IPC 5 conditions.¹² As winter intensifies, families, particularly female-led, are resorting to negative coping mechanisms to keep their shelters warm and their children fed, such as burning plastics and reducing meals, leading to a further deterioration of health in these families and an increase in hunger and malnutrition amongst the most vulnerable.¹³ Worse still, the de facto authorities have further rolled back the rights of women, most recently on 24 December 2022 with the decision to ban women from working for non-governmental organisations (NGOs), leading World Vision and other partners to temporarily suspend operations while advocating for a solution. This directive impedes efforts to provide aid to the vulnerable populations of Afghanistan and will only compound situation of hunger and poverty in the country.
- The situation across multiple regions of **Somalia** is expected to continue to deteriorate in 2023; 1.8 million children are likely to be malnourished by July and an increasing number of people are expected to be living in famine conditions – IPC 5.¹⁴ As humanitarian funding is not expected to keep pace with growing need in 2023, the stark reality is that more than 8 million people will be in need of but not receiving any assistance.¹⁵
- **Sri Lanka** is experiencing its worst economic crisis with more than 6 million people currently food-insecure. Reduced domestic agricultural production, scarcity of foreign exchange reserves and depreciation of the local currency have caused food shortages and a spike in the cost of living. The vast majority (80%) of Sri Lankans are facing frequent water shortages with children under 5 enduring the most – 15% suffer from wasting and more than 1 out of every 6 (17%) are stunted.¹⁶
- As winter sets in across **Northwest Syria**, 4.1 million people reliant on food assistance delivered through the UN's cross-border mechanism are at heightened risk.¹⁷ Needs continue to grow and deepen, and humanitarian actors require more access, not less. To preserve this lifeline for Syrian women and children and continue to provide vital food assistance and other Response efforts and services, it is critical that the UN Security Council re-authorise the cross-border mechanism ahead of the 10 January 2023 deadline.



It's green, but it's not edible. In Copán Ruinas, Honduras, Andrea holds bean plants that never grew properly. Lack of money to buy fertilizer in time and saturated soils from the rains prevented this food from reaching her table. Her father Rony says that crops are simply not growing. "For several years, I grew beans and corn; they gave me yields. Now the situation is not the same. The truth is that this year we are not going to be able to harvest anything." This context is critical for farmers and their families, but children like Andrea experience the most profound impacts.

In the mornings, Andrea and her siblings wake up thinking about eating their favourite foods: beans, eggs, and rice. The problem is that at home, they don't constantly adjust for that. "When we have money, we eat beans and accompany them with soup and tomatoes. We can't go out of our way to eat something nicer because we can't afford it," says Rony. © World Vision / Andre Guardiola

⁸ *The New Humanitarian* (November 2022) "[Indonesia quake responders, Mali aid group suspensions, and refugee swimmers on Netflix: The cheat sheet](#)".

⁹ *IPC* (November 2022) "[Mali: IPC acute malnutrition snapshot, May–June 2023](#)".

¹⁰ *UN* (November 2022) "[UN news: Global perspective human stories](#)".

¹¹ *UNICEF* (October 2022) "[Half of Afghanistan's children under five expected to suffer from acute malnutrition as hunger takes root for millions](#)".

¹² *Integrated food security classification index (IPC)* (November 2022) "[IPC analysis portal](#)", [accessed 15/12/2022].

¹³ *World Vision International (WVI)* (December 2022) "[Out in the cold: Winter related challenges for female-headed households](#)".

¹⁴ *Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNUE), and IPC* (December 2022) "[Nearly 8.3 million people across Somalia face crisis \(IPC Phase 3\) or worse acute food insecurity outcomes](#)".

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ *World Food Programme (WFP)* (n.d.) "[Sri Lanka](#)" [accessed 15/12/2022].

¹⁷ *UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)* (December 2022) "[Health campaign worker takes on cholera](#)".

RESPONSE GOAL: 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

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

Improve access to food for affected households

- 5,367,328** People reached with cash and voucher assistance
- US\$186,320,811** Cash and voucher assistance distributed
- 693,533** Children receiving hot meals and/or dry rations through school feeding
- 6,985,474** People reached with (in-kind) food assistance

Increase access to curative and preventive quality emergency health and nutrition services

- 1,071,154** People reached through primary health-care support
- 410,626** Children reached through management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)
- 22,862** Children recovered from SAM
- 119,035*** Primary caregivers benefited from infant and young child feeding (IYCF) promotion and action oriented sessions and counselling

Improve access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene promotion services to mitigate water-borne diseases

- 1,817,147** People with access to clean, potable water
- 364,082** People that have participated in emergency hygiene promotion activities with appropriate supplies
- 2,029** Faith leaders engaged on hygiene promotion activities

Ensure protection for children, women, and vulnerable groups including psychosocial support and provision of dignity kits for reproductive age girls and women

- 216,125** People receiving prevention messages on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and/or positive coping strategies
- including 6,284** Faith leaders engaged in disseminating prevention messages on PSEA and/or positive coping mechanisms
- 127,935** People receiving psychosocial support

Household resilience to food insecurity and livelihoods-related shocks

- 3,242** Households provided with conditional cash or vouchers to procure agricultural physical assets
- 35,539** Households provided with livelihood physical agricultural assets
- 13,685** Households growing crops that are resilient to climate hazards/stresses
- 8%** Proportion of households with alternative and diversified sources of income
- 10,412** People trained in climate change resilient farming practices

*Note: Figure amounts are lower than previously reported due to a data review that resulted in changes in counting methodology.

RESOURCE HIGHLIGHTS

- [World Vision provides immediate food assistance to thousands of IDPs in northern Upper Nile](#) (South Sudan)
- [The homes of learning and nutritional recovery allow the recuperation of 1,256 malnourished children in Guidan Roumdji](#) (Niger)
- [Out in the cold: Winter-related challenges for displaced female-headed households](#) (Ukraine, Syria, and Afghanistan)
- World Vision Afghanistan's Asuntha Charles speaks to ABC News Australia: ['Heat their homes or eat': Afghan people facing tough choices](#)
- [From tears of hunger to showers of blessings for children affected by prolonged drought](#) (Kenya)
- [The effects of hunger and COVID-19 on Angel's life and her family](#) (DRC)
- [A first year working with vulnerable communities](#) (Burkina Faso)
- [East Africa Hunger Emergency Response situation report #8 – October 2022](#)
- [Good nutrition is essential for all children and adolescents, including migrants](#) (Venezuela Response)
- [What happens when . . . You give a baby the best start to life?](#)
- [What happens when . . . A mother gets a way to save money?](#)
- [What happens when . . . Women are empowered?](#)
- [A cycle of conflict robs children of their childhood](#) (DRC)
- [Humanitarian crisis as the number for children and families displaced by violence nearly doubles](#) (DRC)
- [World Vision thanks US House of Representatives for passing of key resolution on hunger](#)
- [GHR capacity statement](#)
- [Price shocks: Rising food prices threaten the lives of hundreds of thousands of children](#)
- [Hungry and unprotected children: The forgotten refugees](#)



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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

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