

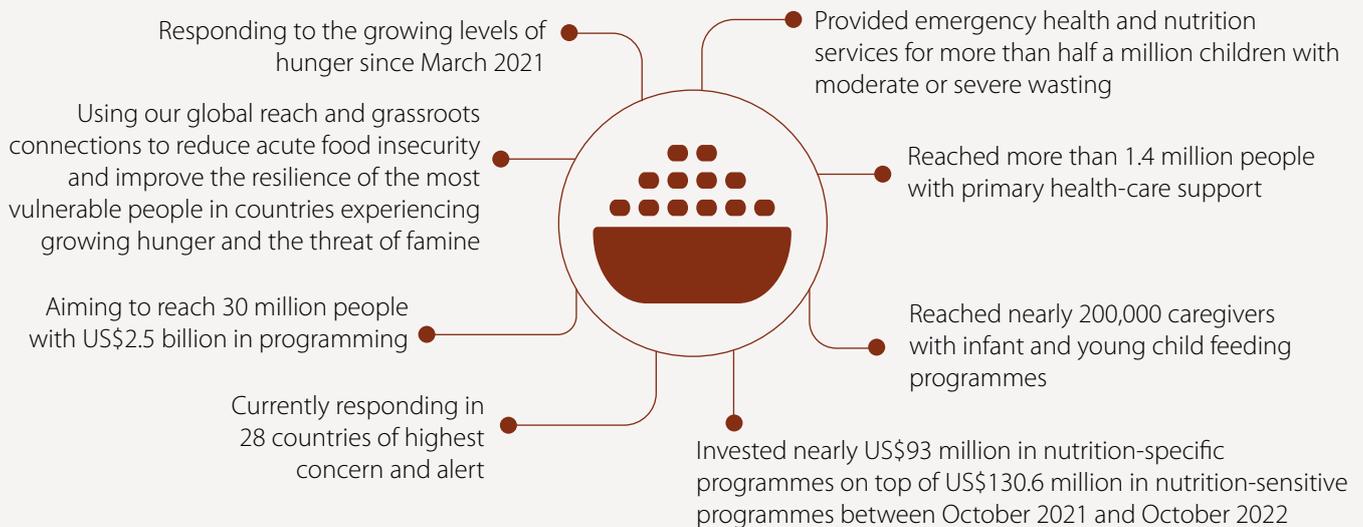
HEALTH AND NUTRITION CAPACITY STATEMENT



Every 60 seconds a hungry child is fed as part of World Vision's programmes.

A mother holds her child who is eating ready-to-use therapeutic food to treat their malnourishment.
© World Vision Afghanistan staff

GLOBAL HUNGER RESPONSE OVERVIEW



ABOUT WORLD VISION

World Vision has 70+ years of experience operating in 100 countries around the world. Our focus is on helping the most vulnerable girls and boys to overcome the root causes of poverty and injustice so they can experience the fullness of life now and in the future. Our work reaches children no matter their background or the dangerous places they live.

We have been addressing the issue of hunger in fragile and emergency contexts for decades, including in some of the world's most complex contexts. We partner with local communities to implement 'anticipatory' interventions before emergencies hit to reduce vulnerability during disasters and prevent or mitigate potential impacts. When crises strike, World Vision coordinates closely with broader recovery efforts and our global capacity ensures we are able to quickly provide urgent, life-saving support to reduce suffering and are ready to meet the full demand of any crisis, regardless of size, location, nature, or complexity. We stand with communities from disaster through recovery to rebuilding. As a crisis transitions, World Vision adapts its operations to build resilience in children and their families in order to restore their lives.

THE FACTS

The world is in a massive hunger crisis, yet it continues to face global health crises. The COVID-19 pandemic; recent cholera and measles outbreaks; and the rapid spread of vector-borne diseases, such as malaria and dengue, exacerbated by the climate crisis, have created an increasingly complex global public health landscape, but children face the greatest risk. Chronic hunger and malnutrition affect children's physical and mental (or intellectual) development, resulting in disability, poor health, and future loss of livelihood



The number of people affected by acute food insecurity has nearly doubled over the past three years. By the end of 2022, nearly **35 million people** across 39 countries or territories were enduring extremely severe, acute food insecurity (IPC 4+), at risk of starvation, and after year-on-year increases, over a quarter of a billion people – 258 million – were estimated to be suffering acute food insecurity (IPC 3+).



At least **45 million children** are already suffering from wasting (low weight-for-height), and, in the 15 worst-affected countries, one additional child became severely wasted every single minute in 2022.



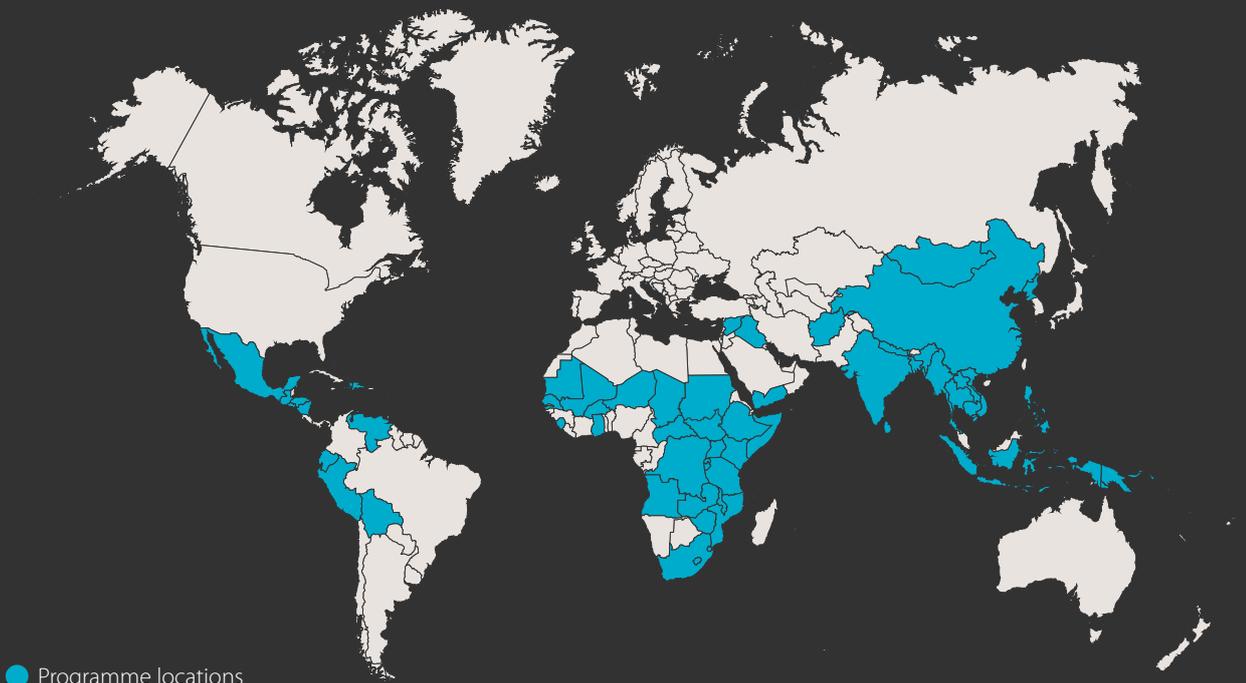
80% of the children in need of lifesaving treatment remain untreated, despite the increased risk of death and long-term health impacts.



More than 148 million children suffered from stunted growth and development in 2022 due to a chronic lack of nutritious food and exposure to disease.

HEALTH & NUTRITION PROGRAMMING IN DISASTERS

As part of our global hunger response, we aim to increase access to curative and preventative quality emergency health and nutrition services for those affected by food insecurity. Our global reach, government partnerships, and grassroots connections empower children, families, and communities to ensure they can access essential health and nutrition services in the immediate aftermath of a disaster and strengthen health and nutrition systems to meet the immediate and longer-term needs of affected populations. Through better access to health and nutrition services, lasting behavioural change, and community connections, families and communities are supported to understand, monitor, and protect themselves from public health risks, so children and families can survive and thrive. World Vision is bolstering nutrition monitoring systems in 40+ countries, including strengthening capacities within health ministries, and, since 2005, our programmes have focussed on the prevention and treatment of wasting in 32 countries, half of which are in the top 20 fragile states.



● Programme locations

OUR DIFFERENTIATORS



70+ years
of experience in the health and nutrition
sector and emergency responses



Health and nutrition programmes in
61 countries



58 disaster responses
in 52 countries in 2022 (in addition to our
global COVID-19 Response)



Network of more than
184,000 community
health workers



Critical technical expertise

World Vision's health and nutrition programmes strive for the highest programme quality through technical best practice, pursuit of global humanitarian standards, community appropriateness, continuous innovation, and rigorous evaluation. Our technical health and nutritional staff collaborate in global inter-organisational committees as well as locally in responses.



Grassroots to global reach

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.



Long-term commitment – before, during, and after disasters

In the contexts where we work, World Vision often draws on its decades-long presence in country. Such a durable commitment before, during, and after crises allows for deeper, transformative positive change, often in close partnership with local and national authorities.



Gender focus

The impacts of catastrophes are disproportionately felt by women and girls [with the gender gap in food insecurity reaching 2.4 percentage points in 2022](#). 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 information sharing and community consultation, including child-friendly, mobile, digital approaches, and channels for sensitive and non-sensitive feedback and complaints that are accessible to people on the move.



10,000+
faith leaders mobilised
in response to the
mounting hunger crisis
to date



Engaging faith in responses

As a faith-based humanitarian organisation, World Vision draws strength and service from our connections with Christian organisations and faith partners to provide life-saving support to those most affected by crises. Our experience shows strategic, coordinated engagement between faith communities and more traditional relief actors yields strong impact.



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.



Advocating to key decision makers to improve children's health and 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 lasting and sustainable impact and the change of unjust policies affecting children's health and well-being.

KEY INTERVENTIONS

As a humanitarian and development agency, World Vision is a global leader in nutrition within emergency, fragile, and vulnerable contexts. From 2010 to 2022 World Vision nutrition programmes supported the admission of more than 700,000 children with severe wasting into therapeutic programmes or in-patient care. Over 88% fully recovered. World Vision also builds on our grassroots presence and community-based approach to address health and nutrition and integrate education; water, sanitation, and hygiene; and child protection issues in fragile and emergency contexts.

Early detection, referral, and treatment of wasting

World Vision provides vital life-saving treatment for wasting and supports community access to treatment. This is achieved through **community-based management of acute malnutrition**, including simplifying protocols, engaging community health workers, and partnering with ministries of health to manage the treatment of children suffering from acute malnutrition in emergency and fragile contexts. Through **decentralised growth monitoring and promotion**, World Vision identifies malnourished children in the community and refers them for appropriate care.



more than
1.4 million people
reached through primary
health-care support

Infant and young child feeding

Caregivers receive skilled infant and young child feeding support through the establishment of **women, adolescent, and young child safe spaces** where mothers can receive skilled counselling and targeted advice about breastfeeding, complementary feeding, and nutrition. World Vision also protects and supports infants and young children who are not breastfed to meet nutritional needs and minimise their risks as well as pregnant and lactating women and young children to meet their nutritional needs by providing **micronutrient supplementation**.

World Vision works with trained **community health workers and volunteers** to promote integrated behaviour-change messages and activities. **Positive deviance/heardh** is a food-based approach used by World Vision to rehabilitate underweight children and those with moderate wasting.



Hundreds of thousands
of caregivers (238,000+) reached with
infant and young child feeding action
sessions and counselling



150,000+ people
receiving psychosocial support

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

World Vision works alongside health services and other partners to support **community health workers** to provide preventive and treatment support in vulnerable communities. These workers are present in the most crisis-affected areas and able to provide many basic services for people experiencing acute hunger, such as psychosocial support, **infant and young child feeding** counselling, growth monitoring and promotion, early detection and referral for malnourished children, and disease prevention.



nearly
50,000 children
recovered from severe acute malnutrition



over
half a million children
reached through severe and moderate acute
malnutrition programming, such as screening,
referrals, and treatment

Capacity strengthening and community mobilisation

World Vision supports ministries of health and other partners to provide health services to underserved areas by providing capacity strengthening to local staff, to increase their skills and capacity to meet the changing needs of the community, or provide temporary static or mobile services to displaced or people on the move who have limited or no access to health services. This includes training of midwives and skilled birth attendants, and infection control, disease prevention, and service delivery in static and mobile clinics with partners.

World Vision empowers local communities using our **community health committee model** to strengthen community health systems and positive health outcomes, particularly for underserved areas, displaced people, and people on the move. In addition, World Vision works with communities to **mobilise faith leaders** and congregations in support of child well-being.



Hundreds of community
health workers
(1,100+) trained on community management of acute
malnutrition and infant and young child feeding

OUR COORDINATION EXPERIENCE

World Vision holds our responsibility to coordinate as paramount. Whether globally, regionally, nationally, or locally, World Vision recognises when organisations coordinate the 'whole can be greater than the sum of its parts'. With that, World Vision engages with community, national, and global stakeholders to ensure the most effective response, including in:



the United Nations local cluster system (and its working groups) as well as with national ministries of health

the global health and nutrition clusters, such as the Global Health and Nutrition Cluster's Strategic Advisory Group, and the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 Hub Advisory Group

as a co-lead for the Global Nutrition Cluster Technical Alliance (2018 to 2023) and principal representation on the Wasting Action Review Panel and the Wasting Advocacy Coalition

global working groups: wasting management; Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health Accountability; Scaling Up Nutrition Accountability; Management of at-risk Mothers and Infants; Infant Feeding in Emergency Core Group; and Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies steering committee

taskforces on cash, quality, and innovation; capacity building; and COVID-19 (including representation on a key COVAX working group on COVID-19 vaccines country readiness and delivery and demand)

DONORS & PARTNERS

We thank the hundreds of thousands of generous child sponsors, donors, partners, and supporters whose contributions make this work possible, including:



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Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



World Food Programme



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World Vision is a Christian relief, development, and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities to reach their full potential by tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.



wvi.org/emergencies/hunger-crisis

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