

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION

BACKGROUND

Climate change presents the single biggest threat to human development, and its widespread impacts disproportionately burden the poorest and most vulnerable households in fragile and rural developing contexts – particularly women and children. As the impacts of climate change exacerbate children's vulnerability due to their special developmental needs, the climate crisis risks reversing 25 years of gains made in child health and reducing child mortality. Rising global temperatures are diminishing agricultural yields and increasing both the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events such as floods, droughts and storms, risking lives and livelihoods and disrupting education, while increasing hunger and malnutrition. Severe droughts and extreme weather also affect families' livelihoods, contributing to an increased risk of violence against children including child labour and child marriage.

Nearly **920 million** children are exposed to water scarcity

At least **222 million** people across 53 countries are expected to face acute food insecurity and need urgent assistance, including 45 million at risk of starvation

It is estimated that for every 1 degree rise in temperature, **1 billion** people will be displaced; we have already seen the climate related displacement of over 200 million people



1 billion children live in extreme high-risk countries of climate change

600 million children are exposed to vector borne diseases such as malaria and dengue

Across the **15** countries hardest hit by the global hunger and nutrition crisis, more than 30 million children are suffering from wasting (acute malnutrition) and 8 million are severely wasted the most life-threatening form of undernutrition

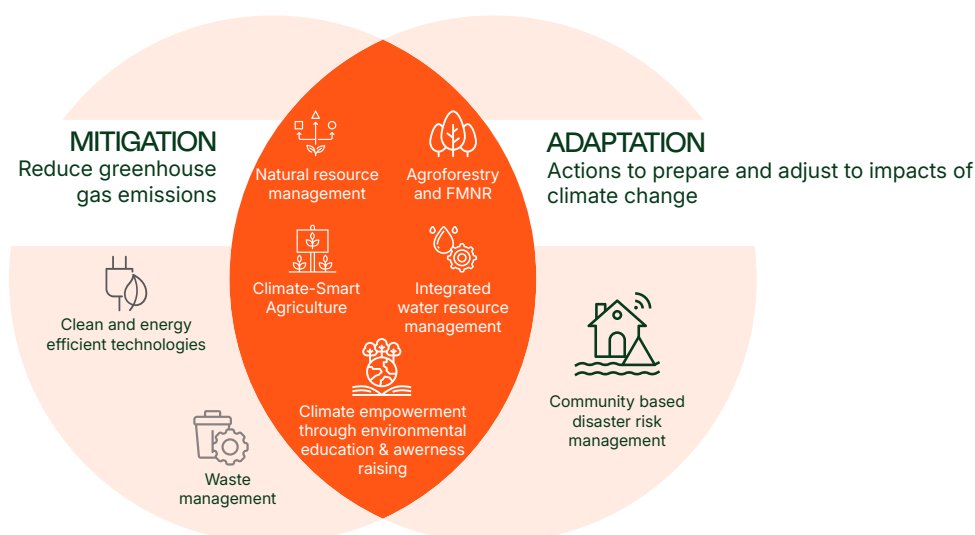
3.2 billion people including smallholder farmers and rural communities are directly affected by land degradation



OUR APPROACH

World Vision has a long history of implementing programmes that address the impacts and causes of climate change while delivering positive outcomes for children living in vulnerable communities. We also recognise that to effectively address the climate crisis, we must take concurrent actions to end extreme poverty and inequality, support at-risk communities to build resilience, and reduce global climate and environmental impact to create a climate-safe future.

World Vision's technical work contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation



OUR AMBITION – THRIVING ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILDREN

World Vision aims to reach **20 million people (10 million children)** by 2030, so that children and their caregivers can live in a thriving environment with improved resilience against environmental and climate shocks.

Our response to the climate crisis focuses on these four main areas:

Farmer managed natural regeneration (FMNR) scale-up and ecosystem restoration for children and communities by restoring 27million hectares of land

Building sustainable agri-food systems for food and nutrition security

Strengthening community resilience to climate-related disaster risks

Integrating environmental stewardship and climate action across our operations and programmes with 20% emissions reduction and net zero by 2050.

Focus Area 1. FMNR scale-up: Restoration of ecosystem services for children and communities

Focus area 4. Integrating environmental stewardship and climate action across our operations and programmes

Focus Area 2. Building sustainable agri-food systems for food and nutrition security

Focus area 3. Strengthening community resilience to climate related disaster risks

In fiscal years **2023-24**, across **69 countries**, **World Vision** achieved the following:

Over 10 million people, including 4 million children, participated in ESCA-related programmes

More than **1.22 million** hectares of degraded land are under protection and restoration

In Ethiopia, through natural regeneration projects (Humbo and Sodo projects, 2005–2035), **3,227** hectares of land have sequestered **432,642** tons of CO₂e to date

World Vision's carbon projects through clean cookstoves and agroforestry are expected to reduce approximately **6,591,000** tCO₂ over their combined crediting periods

Over **350,000** households are adopting sustainable agricultural practices thanks to World Vision

Where over **665,000** people were targeted by anticipatory protocols, over 321,000 people were reached with humanitarian assistance through the Anticipatory Action activities

USD\$369 million were spent in ESCA-related programmes

At least **17,000** hectares of land have been placed under improved watershed management, supporting rehabilitation and restoration of the water catchment areas

Approximately **2,000** partner organisations are collaborating for our Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) scale-up initiative

Over **92,000** people were trained as FMNR trainers

Over **525,000** individuals have been trained in improved sustainable agricultural practices, including climatesmart agriculture (CSA), natural resource management (NRM), FMNR, sustainable fisheries, and ecosystem restoration

At least **4,800** disaster risk management committees were formed

GRANT EXPERIENCE

World Vision has extensive experience managing grants from a wide range of institutional donors including bilateral and multilateral agencies: Austrian Development Agency, DFAT (Australia), DFID (UK), European Commission, German Agency for International Cooperation (BMZ and GIZ), Global Environmental Facility, Green Climate Fund, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Korean Cooperation Agency (KOICA), UNDP, UNEP, US Department of State, and others.



SPOTLIGHTS

The Regreening Africa Project funded by the European Union is co-led by the Centre for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF) with several partners, including World Vision, and is expected to bring 5 million hectares under restoration by 2030, boosting biodiversity and supporting local communities. The first phase of Regreening Africa was carried out from September 2017 to March 2023 across eight countries in sub-Saharan Africa. World Vision led the implementation of Regreening Africa in Kenya, Rwanda, Somaliland, Senegal, Ghana, and Niger, and supported implementation in Ethiopia and Mali. The initiative led to the regreening of over 350,000 hectares across the eight countries, reaching more than 607,000 households through training and tree growing efforts such as FMNR, adopting new regreening practices or intensifying existing ones.. The success of this project has led to it being recognised as one of the seven [UN World Restoration Flagships](#).

In Ethiopia, community-led Assisted Natural Regeneration Projects (Humbo and Sodo projects, 2005–2035), aims to restore 3,227 hectares of land for smallholder farmers. This is the first Africa's large scale land restoration initiative under the Clean Development Mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol. The restored landscape has also helped to strengthen livelihoods in the local community through increased grass cover for livestock, increased availability of firewood, recovery of springs and groundwater, decreased erosion, and less flooding.



OUR NETWORKS FOR ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

World Vision is a results-oriented organisation. As an important part of its local level programming World Vision prioritises the importance of monitoring and evaluation of the impact of our interventions on the lives of vulnerable children and their communities. We systematically carry out project monitoring and evaluations through monitoring and evaluation systems and processes that have been well established in each office. We strategically invest in focused research and targeted learning. We also carry out meta-analyses of our evaluation and research findings and conduct intentional learning from our experience. We are engaged in strategic research with leading academic institutions, including, IIED, Tulane University, University of Technology Sydney's (UTS) Institute of Sustainable Futures.

World Vision is actively engaged in and leading multiple inter-NGO and inter-governmental coordination coalitions. This included our participation in the launch of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration in 2021; co-leading the Regreening the Globe movement; leading the FMNR learning hub.

ⁱUnited Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (2017), 'Analytical Study on the Relationship between Climate Change and the Full and Effective Enjoyment of the Rights of the Child (A/HRC/35/13)',

https://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/35/13

ⁱⁱPhilipsborn, P and Chan, K (2020), Climate Change and Global Child Health,

<https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/pediatrics/141/6/e20173774.full.pdf>.

ⁱⁱⁱChuang E, Pinchoff J, and Psaki S (2018), Brookings Institution, How Natural Disasters Undermine Schooling,

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/education-plus-development/2018/01/23/how-natural-disasters-undermine-schooling/>

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