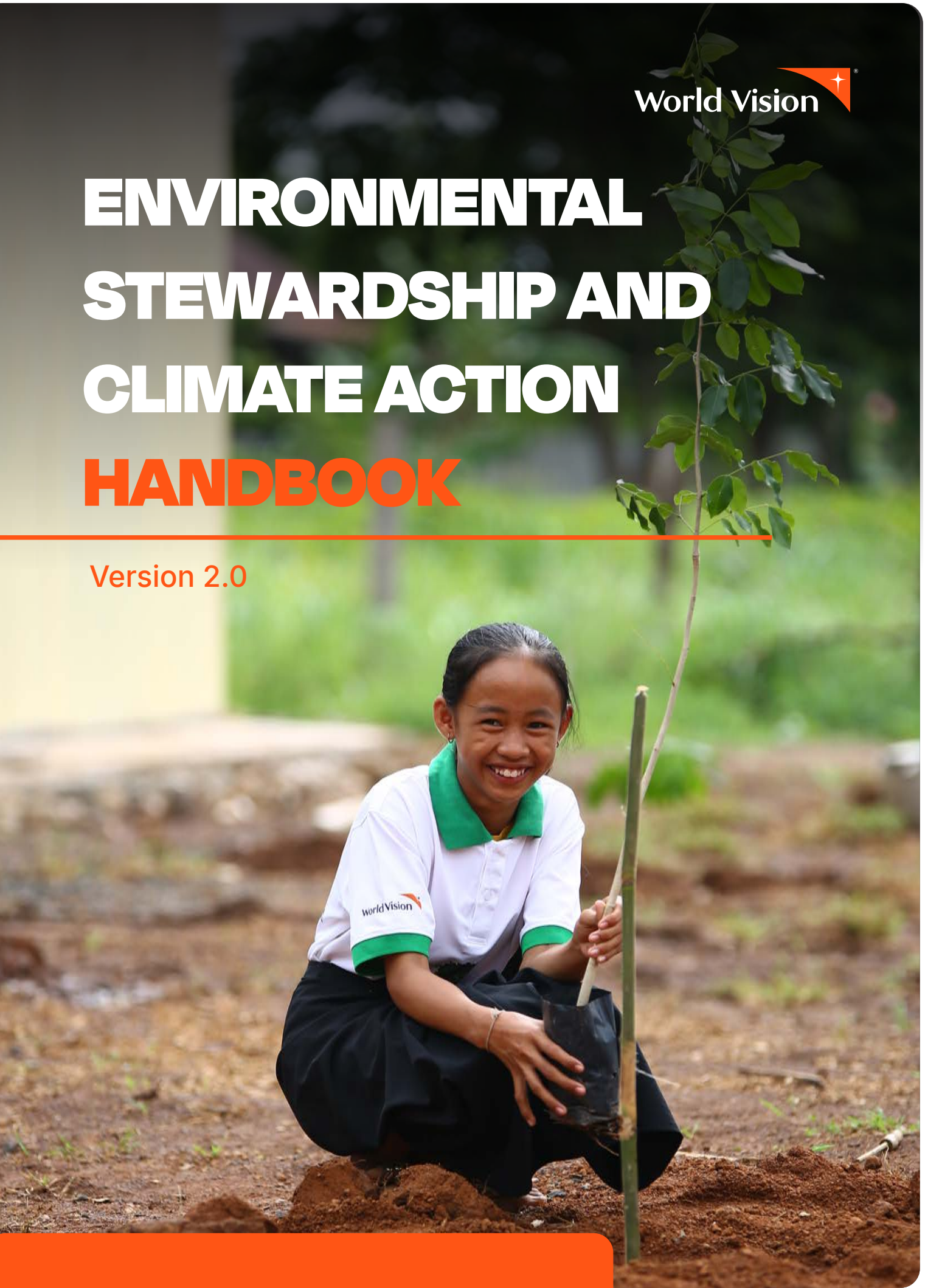
World Vision

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND CLIMATE ACTION HANDBOOK

Version 2.0



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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World Vision is a Christian relief, development, and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families, and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. Inspired by our Christian values, we are dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people. We serve all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACE	Action for Climate Empowerment
CBDRM	Community-based Disaster Risk Management
CEDRIG	Climate, Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction Integration Guidance
CO_2	Carbon dioxide
CSA	Climate-smart agriculture
CVA	Citizen Voice and Action
CVCA	Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis
DRR	Disaster risk reduction
ECHO	European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Operations
ERM	Enterprise risk management
ESCA	Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMNR	Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration
GEDSI	Gender equality, disability and social inclusion
GHG	Greenhouse gas
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IWRM	Integrated water resource management
MEER	Middle East and Eastern Europe Region
NEAT+	Nexus Environmental Assessment Tool
NRM	Natural resource management
OIOS	Our Impact, Our Story
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNDP	United Nations Development Fund
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene

1. PREFACE

1.1. Introduction

Climate change presents the single biggest threat to human development, with its widespread impacts disproportionately affecting the poorest and most vulnerable households in fragile and developing contexts – particularly women and children. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), between 2010 and 2020, climate-related disasters such as droughts, floods and storms killed 15 times as many people in highly vulnerable countries – particularly in Africa, which is responsible for less than 3% of global carbon emissions – compared to wealthier countries.[1]

Recognising environmental degradation and climate change are key accelerators of extreme child vulnerability, World Vision approved the Environmental Stewardship Management Policy ('the Policy') in 2021 and the Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action (ESCA) Strategic Roadmap in 2024. To support the implementation of the Policy and Strategic Roadmap, World Vision has developed this Environmental Stewardship and Climate Action Handbook ('the ESCA Handbook' or 'the Handbook'). This Handbook is designed to help offices across the World Vision Partnership implement best practice environmental management and climate action strategies, both in field programmes and in our operations and facilities.

World Vision acknowledges that effectively addressing the climate crisis and improving the well-being of children requires taking concurrent actions to end global poverty and inequality, support at-risk communities to build resilience, and reduce global environmental impact. Investments in climate mitigation also strengthen the resilience of ecosystems and the communities World Vision serves. The sustainable practices outlined in this Handbook aim to contribute to long-term economic and societal transformation, protecting vulnerable communities against future climate shocks.

World Vision has set a goal to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions from its operations and facilities by 2050, with an interim target of 20% reduction by 2030. This goal is essential for our vision and mission. While we work through field programming and advocacy to address the impacts of

[1] IPCC (2022). *Summary for Policy Makers, in Climate Change 2022 Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* doi:10.1017/9781009325844.001.

climate change on children and elevate their voices in global climate action, we must also ensure we 'do no harm' through our own activities. Reducing our operational carbon emissions is a vital component of our integrity and leadership in this space. Integrating environmental sustainability and climate action into all aspects our work – whether in our programmes, emergency response or advocacy – is critical to fulfilling World Vision's strategy, *Our Promise*.

As a Christian organisation, we are compelled to follow the ways of Jesus Christ, calling us to care for the 'least of these' (Matthew 25:40) – including the vulnerable children who are disproportionately impacted by climate change. Our response to the degradation of the environment is not motivated by political expediency or funding – but because we are called to steward God's creation (Genesis 1:28). This faith-based commitment underpins all our efforts to build a more sustainable and just future.

1.2. Objective

The primary goal of the ESCA Handbook is to support the implementation of the World Vision Partnership's Environmental Stewardship Management Policy and ESCA Strategic Roadmap so that World Vision programmes, operations and facilities, advocacy, and communications and marketing activities contribute to improved natural environments while improving the resilience and well-being of the children, families and communities we serve. The specific objectives of this Handbook are to:

identify and manage environmental impacts and climate risks both in World Vision field programming and across our operations and facilities

set minimum standards and requirements to integrate environmental safeguards and climate vulnerability and risk into programming.

1.3.Guiding Principles

Our environmental stewardship approach is founded in four core values:

1. **We are Christian and stewards of God's creation –** One of our core values states that 'We are stewards of God's creation. We care for the earth and act in ways that will restore and protect the environment.'
2. **We are committed to the poor and child focused –** Climate change and environmental degradation is a key driver of extreme poverty, inequality and child vulnerability.
3. **ESCA is what is expected from us**[2] – World Vision is a signatory of the Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations. World Vision agrees to fulfil the following seven commitments:
   - Step up our response to growing humanitarian needs and help people adapt to the impacts of the climate and environmental crises.
   - Maximise the environmental sustainability of our work and rapidly reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.
   - Embrace the leadership of local actors and communities.
   - Increase our capacity to understand climate and environmental risks and develop evidence-based solutions.
   - Work collaboratively across the humanitarian sector and beyond to strengthen climate and environmental action.
   - Use our influence to mobilise urgent and more ambitious climate action and environmental protection.

   Develop targets and measure our progress as we implement our commitments.
4. **We can improve our oganisation's impact on ESCA –** Implementation of the guidelines will help offices to both reduce our environmental footprint, which has a negative global impact on child well-being, and also potentially create financial savings (for example, from reducing travel or energy use), which will mean more funding can be used to reach more vulnerable children.

[2] Donors such as World Bank and the European Union (through their new 2021–2027 strategy) are also urging 'greener, smarter, more equitable' recovery path. The new Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Environment and Social Safeguards also now require all new aid investments to screen for climate change risk and disaster risk reduction.

1.4. Who Is the ESCA Handbook for?

This Handbook is relevant to all operational contexts and applies to all World Vision entities, including VisionFund and its affiliated microfinance entities. It is also the intent of the Handbook to guide World Vision fundraising and resource development efforts to fund Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship programming. It is the responsibility of World Vision leaders to ensure that all staff are aware of the Policy and supporting Guidelines, ESCA Strategic Roadmap and Handbook, and that all World Vision employees are in full alignment with this policy in their respective roles.

World Vision and VisionFund entities may adopt a self-paced and self-directed contextualisation of the Handbook depending on their capacity and applicability. Each office Green Team should be guided by the Handbook to identify and agree priority actions and add these to the combined action plans (e.g., Strategy or Strategy Support Team Action Plan). The action plan should be the responsibility of the Senior Leadership Team.

1.5. Related Policies

The Handbook supports the implementation of the Environmental Stewardship Management Policy and ESCA Strategic Roadmap. It is also related to the following policies (but not limited to):

- Partnership Policy on Transformational Development
- Partnership Policy on Witness to Jesus Christ
- Partnership Policy on Partnerships with Churches
- Partnership Policy on Disaster Management and Conflict Response
- Partnership Policy on Advocacy for Justice
- Partnership Policy on Public Awareness
- Partnership Policy on Fleet Management
- Partnership Policy on Grant Compliance
- Partnership Management Policy on Gender Equity, Disability and Social Inclusion
- Partnership Management Policy on Working with Partners

1.6. Structure of the Handbook

The Handbook will provide detailed information on environmental stewardship and climate action minimum standards, environmental safeguarding and climate vulnerability assessment processes, and training and resource materials to support the implementation of the Policy across development and disaster management projects and programmes in rural and urban contexts. The Handbook also provides information on how to embed climate action into World Vision's projects and programmes.

To meet the systemic challenges to children's well-being posed by environmental degradation and climate change, the Handbook is organised into four thematic areas:

Field Programming: Adapting development and disaster management programmes during design, implementation and decommissioning to identify risks of negative environmental impacts, ensure positive environmental outcomes, and mitigate the impacts from degraded environments, natural hazards and climate change on vulnerable children.

Operations and Facilities: Adjusting management practices in our operations and facilities (including offices) to know what our environmental footprint is, to reduce our negative impact on the environment – including our carbon footprint – and increase our positive impact on the environment through agreed approaches.

Advocacy: Recognising climate change as a justice issue to advocate for changes at the policy level. We see climate justice as an approach that places children at the centre of the climate crisis and brings about solutions that are good for people and the planet by upholding children's rights.

Communications and Marketing: Showcasing World Vision's contributions to climate mitigation, adaptation and justice, and raising our profile with donors and governments to invest in proven, scalable environmental and climate action approaches.

1.7. How to Use the Handbook

The Handbook should be used by our field and support offices during the planning, implementation and decommissioning phases of area programmes, institutional donor-funded projects, programmes and disaster responses. It should also be used to identify environmental impacts; develop management plans to monitor and reduce their impacts across both operations and facilities; and identify and implement appropriate advocacy, communication and fundraising strategies to promote good environmental stewardship, sustainability and climate action to all supporters.

What is the difference between environmental 'stewardship' and 'sustainability'?

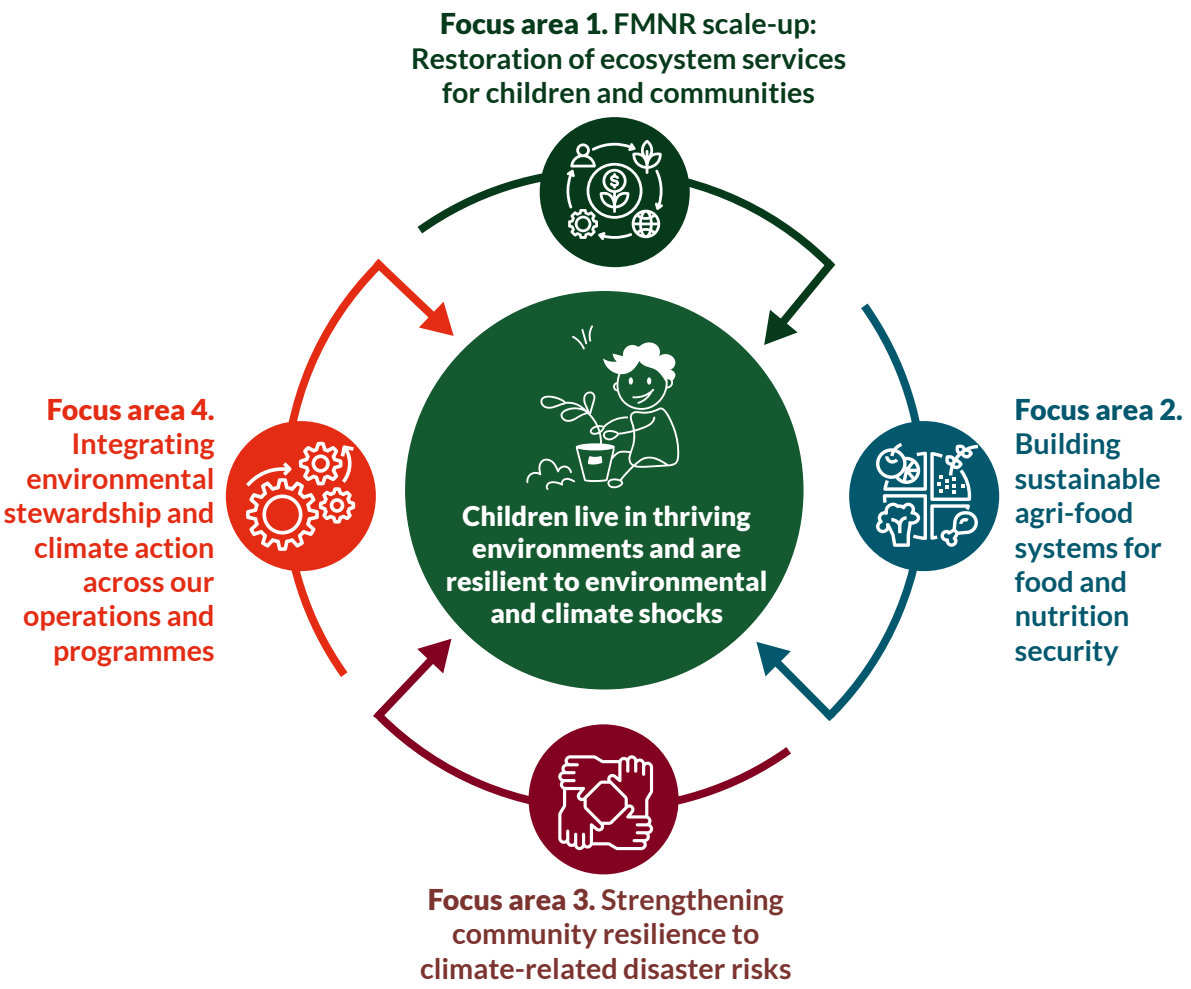
Environmental stewardship refers to responsible use and protection of the natural environment through conservation, restoration and sustainable practices. This concept derives from one of World Vision's core values: 'We are stewards of God's creation. We care for the earth and act in ways that will restore and protect the environment.' **Environmental sustainability** is the responsibility to conserve natural resources and protect global ecosystems to support health and well-being now and in the future. This is tied to the United Nations 2030 agenda and Sustainable Development Goals. As environmental sustainability is a more widely used concept in many regions and languages, this is the term we use commonly when speaking about our ESCA work.

2. WORLD VISION'S ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION

2.1. ESCA Strategic Roadmap

World Vision developed the Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action (ESCA) Strategic Roadmap for 2024–27. The core of the ESCA Strategic Roadmap includes ecosystem restoration through nature-based solutions such as Regreening Communities and Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), building sustainable agri-food systems for food security and nutrition, and strengthening community resilience to climate-related disaster risks. Through the ESCA Strategic Roadmap, our aim is 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.

Figure 1. ESCA Strategic Roadmap focus areas



Local to global advocacy by empowering children in climate action

Focus area 1: FMNR scale-up: Restoration of ecosystem services for children and communities	Degraded land will be protected, enhanced and/or restored through **nature-based solutions** like **FMNR** and **agroforestry** to enhance community resilience to climate change and other environmental threats. **Key targets and indicators** - 27 million hectares of degraded land will be protected and/or under restoration by 2033 - Invest US$1.8 billion in FMNR scaling and regreening programmes - # of children empowered through environmental and climate awareness sessions - # of green technology units deployed
Focus area 2: Building sustainable agri-food systems for food and nutrition security	**Sustainable agricultural practices** such as **nutrition-sensitive**, **climate-smart agriculture and agroecology** will be used to reduce the impacts of climate change on agri-food systems and the growing hunger crisis. **Key targets and indicators** - # of individuals trained in improved sustainable agricultural practices (including climate-smart agriculture and natural resource management) [OIOS 66] - % of households adopting sustainable agricultural practices - % of households that provide well for their children [OIOS 80]

Focus area 3: Strengthening community resilience to climate-related disaster risks 	To enhance community resilience to climate-related risks, **disaster risk management** will be integrated as a foundational component in all field programmes. **Key targets and indicators** - % of households who faced a disaster but were able to recover and now live at the level they did before [OIOS 75] - # of disaster risk management committees formed and strengthened at the community/village level - # of people targeted by Anticipatory Action Protocols
Focus area 4: Integrating environmental stewardship and climate action across our operations and programmes 	Climate change affects all aspects of World Vision's work, therefore integrating **environmental stewardship** and **climate action** across all World Vision's operations, facilities and programmes is critical to ensure we make systemic change across the whole of the organisation. **Key targets and indicators** - 100% of all World Vision projects and programmes complete environmental safeguard assessments and manage any ongoing negative environmental impacts - 20% reduction in organisational greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050

2.2. Overview of Key World Vision Environmental and Climate Action Technical Areas

World Vision is already responding in many ways to environmental degradation and climate change throughout our field programmes. World Vision implements eight key technical areas on environment and climate action across all sectors of operations for both development and disaster management programmes. These technical areas provide mitigation and/or adaptation benefits as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2. World Vision's environmental sustainability and climate action technical areas for enhancing climate resilience for children and communities

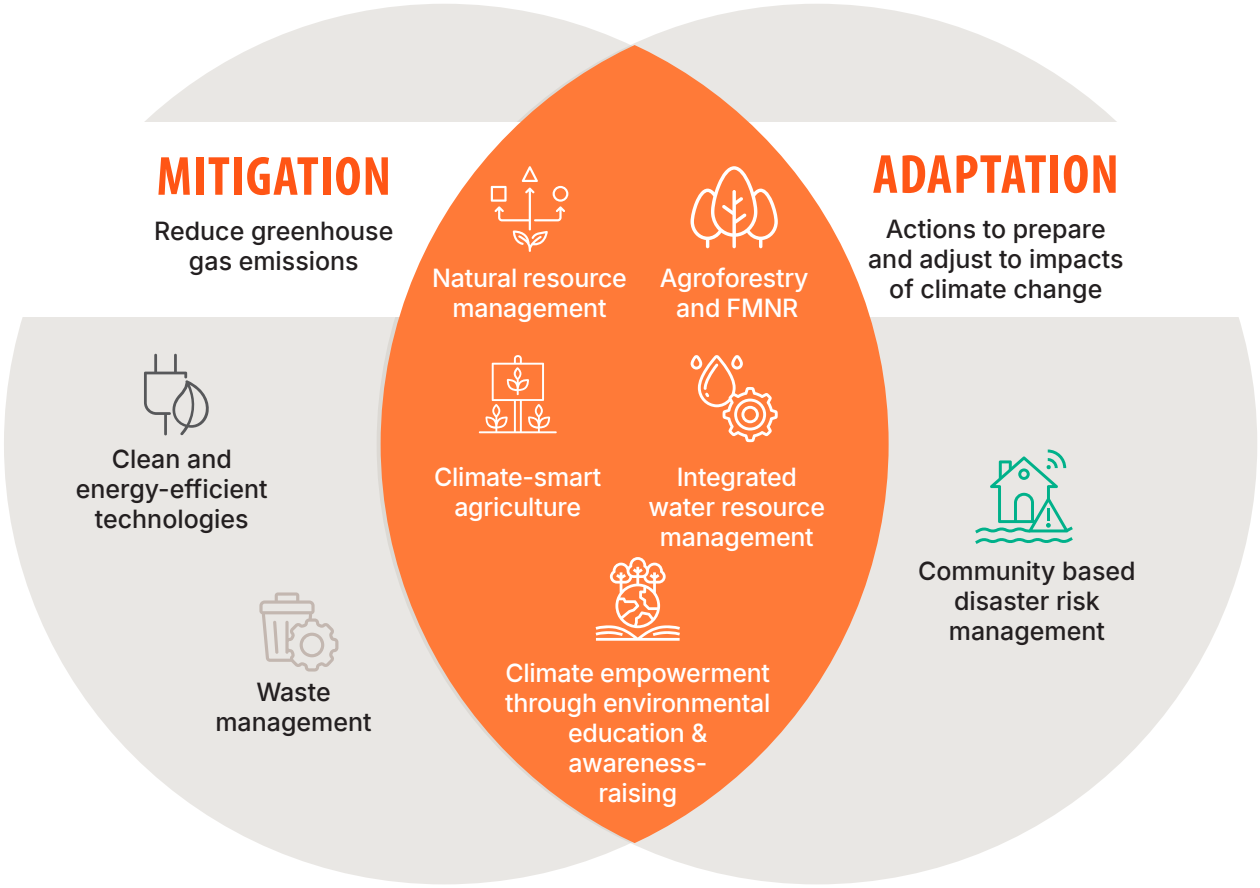


Table 2 provides a summary of World Vision's current eight environment and climate action areas, including how they integrate across the development sectors and align to the ESCA Strategic Roadmap Focus Areas, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and World Vision's child well-being objectives. For more information on World Vision's environment and climate areas of action, see:

- Shoots of Hope for a Greener Future
- Promising Practices for a Smiling Earth
- Investing in Sustainable Outcomes for Children.

While World Vision is already implementing a range of environment and climate action technical areas, field offices and support offices are encouraged to continuously look for new opportunities to address environmental degradation and climate change.

Table 1: World Vision's climate action contributing to child well-being outcomes

Technical areas	Climate action	Intervention examples	World Vision's child well-being objectives	Key SDGs
Agroforestry and FMNR 	Climate change adaptation and mitigation	FMNR with indigenous trees, enrichment tree-planting, woodlots tree-planting, community-generated by-laws	Children are well-nourished. Girls and boys are cared for, protected and participating. Children have hope and vision for the future. Community is resilient to shocks and disasters.	
Climate-smart agriculture and agroecology 	Climate change adaptation and mitigation	- Drought tolerant crops and livestock - Compost/biochar establishment - Nutrition/kitchen/home gardens establishment - Soil management practices including intercropping, crop rotation, integrated pest management		
Natural resource management 	Climate change adaptation and mitigation	- Infiltration trench maintenance and establishment, dead and graded contours establishment - Stone bunds establishment, gully reclamation, establishment and management of protected areas		
Integrated water resource management 	Climate change adaptation and mitigation	- Rehabilitation/construction of water infrastructures (boreholes, wells, water reservoirs, water harvesting) - Construction/maintenance of check dams and sand dams, including gabions to protect watercourse; watershed restoration	Community has access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene. Children are well-nourished.	

Technical areas	Climate action	Intervention examples	World Vision's child well-being objectives	Key SDGs
Climate empowerment – Environmental education and awareness raising 	Climate change adaptation and mitigation	- Livelihood-based trainings (e.g. FMNR, climate-smart agriculture, apiculture, mangrove restoration) - School-based awareness-raising, including safe school initiatives	Children are well-nourished. Children have hope and vision for the future.	
Community-based disaster risk management 	Climate change adaptation	- Child-focused disaster risk management planning and awareness-raising at school/ community - Training in disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and disaster management - Development of hazard risk reduction plans, strategies and policies, anticipatory action, and disaster preparedness and contingency plans	Community is resilient to shocks and disasters. Girls and boys are cared for, protected and participating.	
Waste management 	Climate change mitigation	- Community-based solid and liquid waste management; human and animal faeces management - Recycling of waste for circular economy and green job creation - Recycling of waste and awareness-raising; sanitation promotion, hygiene practices	Children are protected from infectious disease and preventable death.	
Renewable and energy-efficient technologies 	Climate change mitigation	- Fuel-efficient stoves - Use of solar photovoltaic panels for water pumps	Children are protected from preventable death.	

3. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION IN FIELD PROGRAMMING

3.1. Our Approach to Environmental Stewardship and Climate Action in Field Programming

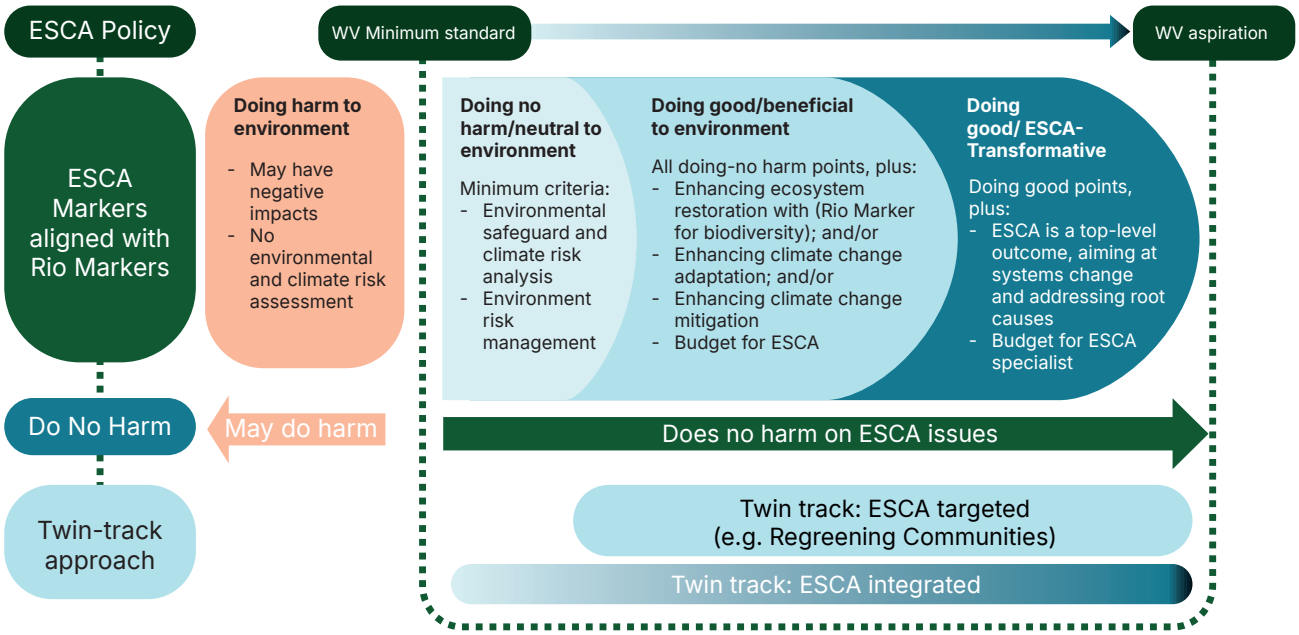
All World Vision field projects and programmes are expected to undertake environmental safeguards and climate risk and vulnerability assessments to ensure good stewardship. Minimum requirements that every office must meet are provided in this Handbook and include our Do No Harm principles and gender-responsive and child-focused engagement processes, presented below.

Do No Harm Principles

World Vision's environmental stewardship and climate risk minimum standard is guided by the 'Do No Harm' principles. This means managing the environmental and climate risks and vulnerabilities in all projects, programmes and disaster responses (e.g. child sponsorship, government and multilateral grants) to ensure that no harm is caused to the environment and also to create opportunity for a positive environmental outcome.

Based on this principle, World Vision will ensure that its projects, programmes and humanitarian responses will undergo environmental safeguards and climate risk and vulnerability assessments to avoid – and where avoidance is not possible, to minimise or mitigate – adverse impact to people and environment. Environmental safeguarding and climate risk assessment should occur during the assessment and planning stages of every project/programme through the analysis of potential positive and negative impacts of proposed activities and identification of mitigation measures. An environmental safeguard and climate risk and vulnerability assessment should also identify opportunities to contribute positive environmental measures into projects and programmes.

Figure 3. ESCA integration



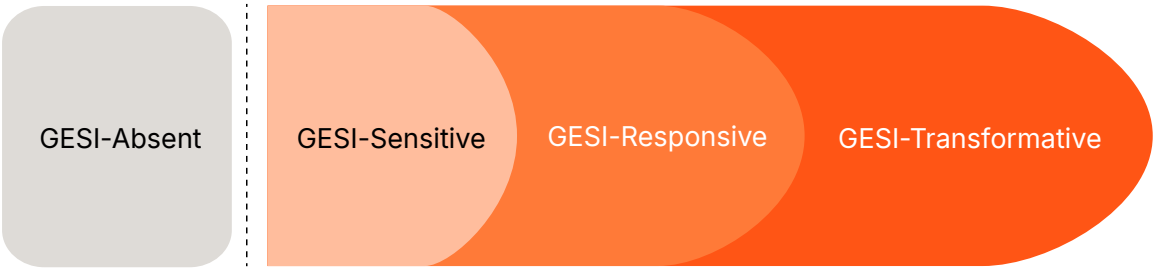
Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion

Environmental safeguard and climate risk and vulnerability assessments should incorporate gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) mainstreaming approaches that take into account specific needs of vulnerable women and men, girls and boys, people with disabilities, and marginalised groups and communities. GEDSI factors will be considered in every aspect of World Vision's programming, including the promotion of conservation of biodiversity and traditional knowledge, sustainable use of natural resources, and equitable sharing of benefits from these resources.

Mainstreaming gender equality and disability inclusion involves looking at the experience and interests of women and men, boys and girls as well as people with disabilities in the development process and addressing these realities in such a way that challenges existing social norms and puts everyone on a level playing field. GEDSI mainstreaming goes beyond counting the number of women and men, boys and girls or people with disabilities in a room but rather addresses disparities that are at the core of project, policy or process, leading to more GEDSI-responsive actions.[3]

World Vision programming embraces a Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion approach, seeking to empower women to ensure children's well-being will be improved. Therefore, World Vision GEDSI guidance should be reviewed prior to undertaking the environmental safeguards and climate risk and vulnerability assessment to ensure GEDSI-sensitive design approaches are incorporated into the assessment. GEDSI experts should also be consulted.

Figure 4. GEDSI Continuum



[3] United Nations Industrial Development Organization (2015). *Guide on gender mainstreaming: environmental management projects*.

Child-centred Programming

World Vision will ensure all programming adheres to the Child Protection Minimum Standards, as we are member of The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action. We also ensure meaningful child participation in programming, advocacy and our own decision-making. Therefore, these requirements should also inform the environmental safeguards and climate risk and vulnerability assessment. The specific needs and vulnerabilities of children in relation to the conservation of biodiversity, protection of the environment, sustainable use of natural resources and equitable sharing of benefits from these resources needs to be considered when assessing the potential impacts of a project or programme on the environment. This can be achieved by including children in the assessment process to ensure their opinions are gathered and needs met.

World Vision's child-centred and GEDSI approaches along with the Do No Harm principles apply to all technical sectors and disaster management including:

Child Protection and Participation: World Vision's systems approach to child protection helps strengthen the protective environment around children.

Education: Our education programmes equip children and adolescents with the knowledge and skills to adopt and advocate for sustainable practices. Schools and informal learning spaces are ideal spaces to engage children and their caregivers in learning about and caring and advocating for their environment. Further, schools are often a principal platform for community disaster risk management and gathering place in times of climate shocks; school-based anticipatory action can mitigate harm and provide space for young people to participate in risk reduction and disaster preparedness.

Health and Nutrition: We ensure that project-related activities avoid or minimise any potential community exposure to health risks (i.e. pollution and contaminants); protect nutrition and health (including mental health) and prevent malnutrition and diseases (i.e. waterborne, vector-borne, communicable and non-communicable diseases); and appropriately manages hazardous materials (e.g. biohazards) in accordance with internationally accepted standards.

Livelihoods: World Vision recognises and supports the conservation of biodiversity and the management of ecosystem services, which are fundamental in the sustainability of food and agricultural systems. We promote climate-smart agriculture, low-emission production systems and technologies, green income sources, and effective nature-based solutions to support both climate change mitigation and adaptation goals as a global response to the climate crisis.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH): World Vision's approaches to WASH support access to safe, reliable and sustainable WASH facilities and services. World Vision will ensure that all WASH projects contribute to protecting and, where possible, enhancing water resources, including ground and surface water sources. This includes avoiding the over extraction of water resources and avoiding contamination of them.

Disaster Management: World Vision is committed and contributes to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 that calls for inclusive and risk-informed decision-making to prevent, reduce, manage and strengthen resilience to hazards, including 'build back better' after disasters to increase resilience.[4] Moreover, cash and voucher programming provides environmentally viable modality options (service, in-kind, cash, vouchers) and delivery channels (mobile money or cash in envelope, etc.).[5] The Humanitarian Response Operational Framework provides time-bound benchmarks (e.g. appointment of ESCA focal point within the first 14 days after a World Vision emergency declaration by the response manager) needed to uphold the Do No Harm principle and Core Humanitarian Standard commitment.

[4] World Vision supports a wide-ranging disaster risk reduction (DRR) component in its projects depending on the crisis faced and supports local government and communities in the development of an inclusive Disaster Risk Management Plan to strengthen resilience to shocks, disaster, conflict and emergencies.

[5] World Vision is part of an inter-agency consortium facilitated by the Collaborative Cash Delivery Network to establish environmental impact standards to measure cash voucher assistance and other modality options (in-kind, services) and delivery channels, comparing urban, rural and camp settings. See also https://ehaconnect.org/.

3.2. How to Integrate Environmental Stewardship and Climate Action in Field Programming

Integrating environmental stewardship and climate action activities needs to be considered right from the start of the strategy, programming and project cycles, with good situational analysis identifying risks, vulnerabilities and capacities at an early stage.

Some critical steps that can be taken to create an enabling environment for integrating and mainstreaming environmental stewardship and climate action into the project cycle include:

- Have the commitment and support of leadership and management.
- Include environmental stewardship and climate action in the field programming strategy.
- Build the capacity by employing dedicated staff for ESCA, training existing staff, promoting sharing and learning among the ESCA staff through Green Teams, and making everyone's job a 'climate' job by including actions in job descriptions.
- Develop training resources to build the capacity of staff, particularly on our key project models such as Regreening Communities.
- Include environmental stewardship and climate action in all stages of project planning, needs assessment, budgeting, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and knowledge sharing.

Advocate environmental stewardship, sustainability and climate action internally and externally (see Section 5 for more information).

3.3. Environmental Safeguard and Climate Risk and Vulnerability Framework

Environmental sustainability and climate action should be taken into consideration throughout the programming cycle. World Vision's programming applies the Adaptive Programme Approach which enables World Vision to work across the humanitarian, development, and peace nexus in fragile, stable, urban and rural contexts. Environment and climate action can be incorporated relatively easily and effectively into standard project planning tools such as logical frameworks and environmental risk assessments. It can also be built into the whole project cycle using tools such as checklists (e.g. environmental and safeguard and climate risk screening questions provided in Section 3.4). Checklists set out a series of questions relating to environment, climate and disaster management issues to be answered when developing project planning documents.[6]

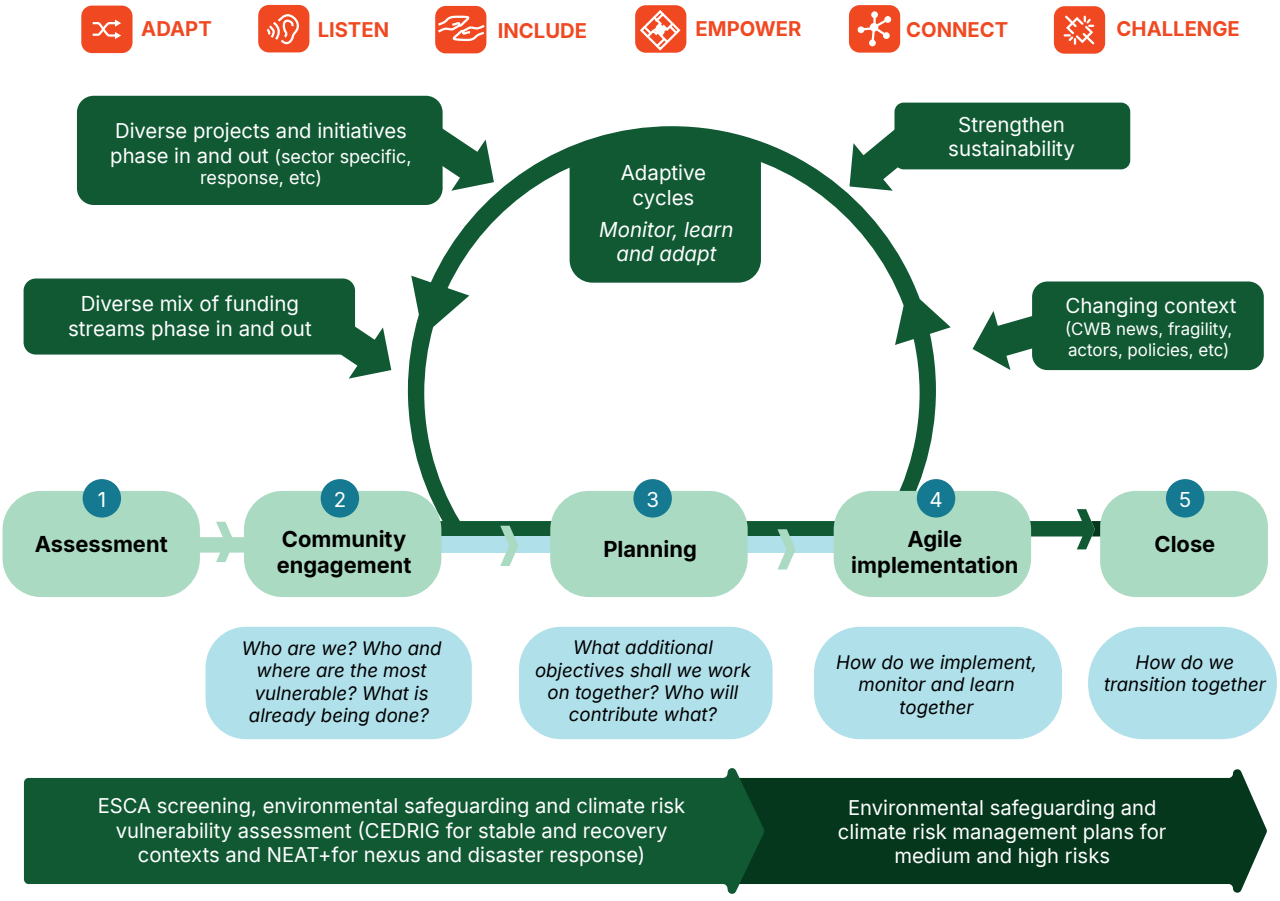
[6] Twigg, John (2015) (new edition). *Disaster Risk Reduction: Good Practice Review 9*. Commissioned by Humanitarian Practice Network, Overseas Development Institute.

The field programming environmental safeguarding and climate risk and vulnerability framework requirements apply to all field projects and programmes including area programmes, grant-funded projects and disaster management. At a minimum, all projects and programmes will be expected to undertake the environmental safeguard and climate risk and vulnerability framework procedure as shown in Figure 4.

In instances where projects are funded by donors that have their own environmental safeguarding or impact assessment requirements, or there are government regulations that require an environmental impact assessment be undertaken, they will replace any World Vision requirements. This is to avoid duplication of effort by field offices.

Figure 5 provides the key steps for integrating environmental stewardship and climate action across the World Vision's Adaptive Programming approach. The Handbook applies to all field office programmes, including disaster response projects.

Figure 5. World Vision's Adaptive Programming Approach



Assessment and Community Engagement

During the Assessment and Community Engagement stages, it is good practice to assess if proposed project activities may cause environmental impacts (e.g. over extraction of water from crop irrigation) or have exposure to hazards from climate change. This can be done through an environmental safeguards and climate risk screening assessment. If project activities have not been identified during this stage, then the environmental safeguards and climate risk screening assessment can be done at a later stage when they are known.

Planning

During the Planning stage, the team may need to undertake an environmental safeguards and climate risk and vulnerability assessment as part of the design process, depending on the results of the environmental safeguards and climate risk screening assessments conducted in the assessment stage.

Beyond addressing any critical risks identified, the project design team should also be looking for opportunities to make the project design more environmentally sustainable and climate resilient. For example, in designing WASH projects, integrated water resource management, where appropriate, should be incorporated into the project design. In another example, rural economic development projects should incorporate climate-smart agriculture/agroecological practices into the project design. In the case of humanitarian response, waste management activities such as recycling and debris collection after a disaster should be considered standard practice. This should be done regardless of whether any risks were identified during the screening and assessment process for environmental safeguards and climate risks. At all stages of community engagement, teams should seek to enable child participation in consultations and decision-making. Young people have unique perspectives and can often point to issues and risks ignored or unseen by adults.

Agile Implementation

Where medium to high risks have been identified during the environmental safeguards and climate risk and vulnerability assessments, an environmental safeguards management plan and climate risk management plan will need to be developed. Section 3.4 provides more information on this process. Both these plans should be included in the project logframe and monitoring and evaluation plan.

Design, Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (DMEAL) is World Vision's approach to maximising impact for vulnerable children across all contexts and funding streams. Monitoring occurs throughout the life of the programme and supports timely management decisions and reporting. Programme evaluation assesses the effectiveness of programme design and implementation, with results feeding into redesign where the programme enters a new cycle.

Our Impact Our Story (OIOS) is dedicated to enabling World Vision to articulate a credible and consistent narrative of the transformation of lives for vulnerable children, their families, and communities, thereby enhancing child well-being. The Annual Impact Measurement (AIM) is a vital data collection and measurement component that will be used to collect and measure any results related to level 1 indicators for ESCA.

For monitoring and evaluating environment and climate risks for all programmes, World Vision's Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Framework should be used. Further guidance on this is provided in Step 3 of Section 3. For monitoring and evaluating environment and climate action projects, appropriate activities and progress indicators will be present in the programme design, logframe, and monitoring and evaluation framework.

Spotlight: Environmental Safeguard and Climate Risk and Vulnerability Framework in Urban Contexts

In urban contexts, where density, informality, and fragmented governance are prevalent, integrating environmental and climate considerations requires a tailored lens. Therefore, in the urban setting, World Vision's **Citywide Assessment Tool (CWA)** should be used during the assessment phase to understand macro urban vulnerabilities – including climate risks, service gaps and informal dynamics. This tool helps identify spatial inequities, policy gaps, partnering opportunities and market dynamics that are key to roll out green infrastructure, urban resilience strategies, and inclusive environmental interventions. For strategic entry points to operationalise ESCA in urban contexts, read World Vision's **Urban Programme Approach (UPA).**

3.4. Environmental Safeguard and Climate Risk and Vulnerability Framework Steps

In line with best practice across the aid and development sector,[7] World Vision's environmental safeguard and climate risk and vulnerability framework operational procedure includes both screening questions and more detailed assessments and management plans where potential risks are identified during the screening questions. The purpose of the environmental safeguard and climate risk and vulnerability framework is to:

- Determine whether a project or programme activity may have a negative impact on the environment or lead to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions, or whether it creates new or exacerbates existing risks.
- Assess whether project or programme activities or outcomes are potentially at risk due to climate change, environmental degradation or natural hazards.
- Identify risks that may impact the environment in the project area, rate their likelihood and impact, assess the effectiveness of any current controls in place to mitigate this risk, and then determine and document (with a management owner and due date) the mitigating measures and monitoring responsibilities for ongoing risk management during project/ programme implementation.

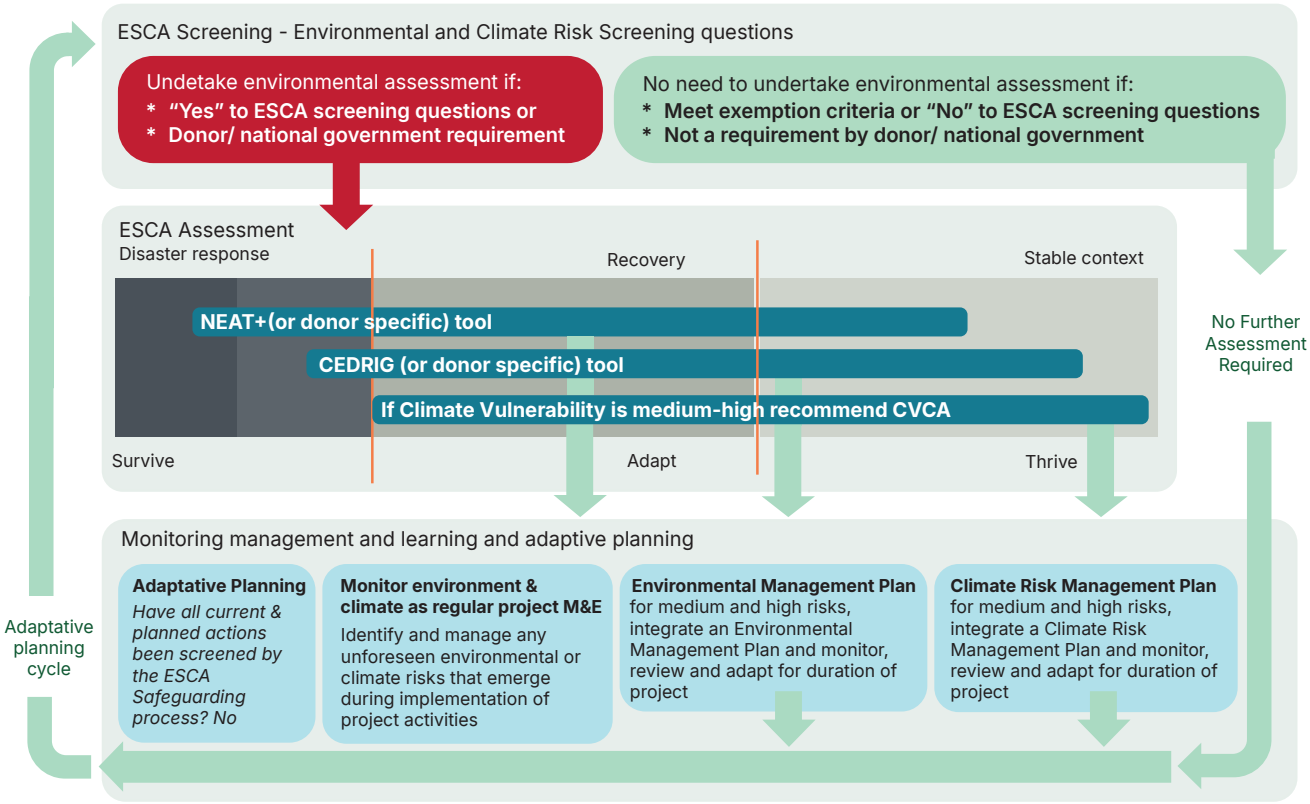
Subject matter experts such as an ESCA advisor or sector experts (e.g. WASH advisors) must be consulted during the assessment process to ensure a rigorous assessment and that all possible risks are identified. Each field office has a designated 'Risk Prime'[8] who has been trained on enterprise risk management methodology. These focal points can provide guidance and tools to help design and execute an appropriate environmental risk assessment.

In instances where donors or host governments (location of field projects and programmes) have their own specific environmental policies, standards and guidelines for undertaking safeguarding and/or impact assessments, **World Vision shall follow donor/host government guidance** (assuming they meet or exceed World Vision standards). The environmental safeguard and climate risk and vulnerability framework is described in more detail in Figure 6.

[7] See for example the Climate, Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction Integration Guidance (CEDRIG) by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) (https://www.cedrig.org/) and Nexus Environmental Assessment Tool (https://resources.eecentre.org/resources/neat/).

[8] Every World Vision office (field, support, region, relief and shared service centres) will designate a person responsible (Risk Prime) for the risk management process. It will typically be a dedicated risk manager, a member of senior management, or their designate (ERM Framework version 4.0).

Figure 6. Environmental Safeguard and Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Framework



Step 1. Environmental safeguard and climate risk screening questions

The first and **mandatory** step in the environmental safeguards and climate risk and vulnerability assessment process is to conduct a rapid screening of the potential environmental impacts of the project and the climate hazards it may face. The Handbook provides a list of screening questions in Table 2 that field offices can use to determine if they need to undertake additional detailed environmental safeguards and/or climate risk and vulnerability assessments. The screening assessment should take between 15 minutes and 2 hours to complete and will help to determine if you need to undertake more detailed assessments using tools such as NEAT+ and CEDRIG.

Exemptions to Environmental Safeguards and Climate Risk Assessments

Projects and activities that are considered to have low impact on the environment or have low exposure to climate hazards are exempt from going through the environmental safeguard and climate risk framework procedure. If your project satisfies one of the criteria provided, then your project activities are exempt from undertaking an environmental safeguards and climate risk assessment:[9]

a) preparation and dissemination of reports, documents and communication materials
b) organisation of an event, workshop and/or training
c) capacity building activities
d) awareness-raising and advocacy campaigns.

However, projects that include other activities considered to have higher risks (i.e. construction of infrastructure, high water usage such as irrigation, consumption of large amounts of raw materials) will still need to follow the environmental safeguard and climate risk framework procedure.

[9] The exemption list is based on the UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards and International Fund for Agricultural Development's Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures.

Screening Questions

Table 2 provides mandatory screening questions designed to help if a project is required to undertake a more detailed assessment using tools such as NEAT+ and CEDRIG. The purpose of this screening is to ensure that field offices do not undertake detailed assessments unnecessarily, while still meeting minimum environmental safeguard and climate risk standards.

However, in cases where a project is funded by a donor with its own environmental safeguarding or impact assessment requirements—or where government regulations mandate a formal environmental impact assessment—this Handbook's screening step may be bypassed. In such instances, field offices should proceed directly to the donor-mandated or government-required assessment tools, including NEAT+, CEDRIG, or other specified methodologies, provided they meet or exceed the rigor of the Handbook's screening process.

If a field office or regional office has developed their own screening assessment adapted in their local context, this can be used in place of the screening questions provided in this Handbook.

Projects operating in urban environments should ensure that the environmental screening also accounts for urban-specific risks, including exposure of informal settlements to climate shocks (e.g. heat islands, flood zones), pressure on urban ecosystems and constrained service infrastructure. The Citywide Assessment Tool should be used to assess spatial exposure and socio-environmental vulnerability in cities, with emphasis on slums/ informal settlements.

Table 2. Environmental safeguards and climate risk screening questions

Environmental and climate screening question	Examples
a) **Is the project activity planned located in an ecologically sensitive location or sector?**	***Some ecologically sensitive locations include:*** - Forests, including tropical rainforests or vegetation, temperate forests and natural grasslands - Wetlands, flood plains, lakes, mangrove swamps, beaches, coastal dunes or beach ridges, and coral reefs - Areas subject to desertification or other arid or semi-arid lands - Water sources and their margins - Steep lands, highlands or mountain areas, and karst (limestone) landscapes - Areas affecting national parks, protected areas or locations of high biodiversity value - Undulating lands with fragile, unstable and impermeable topsoil prone to erosion - Areas where surface and ground water supplies are scarce and prone to silting or drying up ***Some environmentally sensitive sectors World Vision works in that may affect the environment include:*** - Rural economic development, including agriculture, forestry and fisheries - Construction of service infrastructure including access roads, water pipelines, and all other infrastructure such as buildings in the education and health sectors - Manufacturing including textiles, food processing and charcoal production - Water resources including water supply systems, irrigation, dams and flood control - Waste management including sewerage disposal and solid waste landfilling

Environmental and climate screening question	Examples
b) Is there potential for the activity to have a negative impact on the environment or climate?	***When undertaking this first step, consider the extent, if any, to which the proposed activity could result in:*** - Any environmental effect on a community (e.g. reduction in water supply from ground or surface waters) - The transformation of any area (e.g. clearing of forests) - Any impact on the ecosystems of an area (e.g. impact of aquatic species due to a reduction in water flows from irrigation) - Any reduction of the aesthetic, recreational, or other environmental quality or value of an area - Any adverse effect on an area or structure that has cultural, heritage, historical, or social significance or other special value for the present or future generations - The endangerment or further endangerment of any species of fauna or flora - Important long-term effects on the environment (e.g. use of pesticides and herbicides that can reside in soils for decades) - The degradation of the quality of the environment (e.g. WASH projects leading to reduction in water quality of natural water systems) - Environmental problems associated with the disposal of waste - Increased demands on natural resources that are, or are likely to be, in short supply - Adverse impact on the atmosphere (e.g. release of GHG gases) ***Examples of activities involving agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries/aquaculture, WASH, waste management, health infrastructure and construction which may produce negative environmental impacts that:*** - Impair biodiversity and the continued survival of flora and fauna - Damage ecological processes and life support systems, including hydrological regimes - Create a significant demand for a resource that is likely to be in short supply, or already has competing demands - Impair sites, items or activities of conservation, historic, traditional or cultural (i.e. heritage) significance (e.g. destruction of sacred religious sites) - Cause changes or result in extensive disturbance of land-based or coastal zone resources - Create subsidence and instability and have the potential to cause erosion - Involve draining, clearing, burning or modification of vegetation - Involve changes in the quality, quantity or availability of surface or ground water

Environmental and climate screening question	Examples
	- Result in permanent alteration of water courses or drainage patterns through the construction of dams or irrigation systems - Cause relocation of water courses, or through action that significantly alters the flood potential of water courses - Involve disposal of sewage from latrines into natural water systems (e.g. groundwater) - Create solid waste from the construction of buildings or dwellings - Include increased construction or use of a large number of buildings or dwellings - Involve increased or changed use of pesticides, fertilisers and other chemicals - Include significant discharges of greenhouse gases from land clearing or use of fossil fuels
c) Is your project *highly* vulnerable to climate change impacts and natural hazards?	***Is the project located in an area known to be 'highly' exposed to any of the following hazards:*** - Flooding (riverine, coastal, flash) - Drought - Cyclones/hurricanes/typhoons - Landslides or unstable slopes - Wildfires - Extreme heat waves - Earthquakes/tsunamis (if relevant to your operating region) ***Does the project's outcome depend on climate-sensitive natural resources?*** *(e.g. freshwater for irrigating crops, livestock, forestry)*

The tools and resources provided in Section 3.6 can be used to support answering the screening questions. It is expected that two hours will be required to undertake this step.

This initial screening step should be undertaken during the assessment stage of the project cycle described in Figure 5 World Vision's Adaptive Programming Approach in Section 3.4.

Answering yes to any of these environmental safeguards or climate risk screening questions triggers the need for an Environmental Safeguards Assessment and/or Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment. If the project is largely unaffected by climate/natural hazard risks or has little to no environmental impacts (e.g. digital-only activities, stand-alone training in non-exposed areas or activities), then a deeper assessment is not required. For disaster responses, World Vision recommends that all CAT1, CAT2 and CAT3 (categories 1, 2 and 3) declared responses must at a minimum consider the questions above and then determine whether further environmental assessment is required. The Humanitarian Response Operational Framework for ESCA details this process further.

Spotlight: Middle East and Eastern Europe Region (MEER)'s regionally contexualised screening processes.

MEER uses an integrated process that enables quality assurance and assessment of the ESCA portfolio, rooted in the principles of 'Do No Harm'.

Benefits of the ESCA checklist?

- **Clear project rating**: Instantly see, rate your projects from: 'Doing harm'; Doing No Harm', 'Doing Good' to 'Transformational'.
- **Risk mitigation:** Rapidly identify environmental, brand and reputational risks in programming and support decision-making on elevating assessments.
- **Continuous improvement**: Easily spot trends, support capacity building and drive continuous improvement.
- **Monitoring progress**: Serves as an ongoing baseline to monitor your progress with every new project engaging the ESCA process from the design phase.
- **Leadership ready**: Presents a simple, actionable status overview for senior leadership.

How does it work?

- One checklist is used per project.
- With the approval of each project, an ESCA checklist is developed.
- The checklist quickly rates the project, highlighting those that require deeper assessment and guiding users to improve environmental performance to the required standard.
- If required, project designers undertake deeper assessments to minimise environmental impact or make immediate design changes to avoid the requirement of deeper assessments.
- Final reports are linked and embedded in the checklist and the checklist updated.

Step 2. Environmental safeguards and climate risk and vulnerability assessments

An environmental safeguards and climate risk and vulnerability assessment is used to determine whether a project or programme activity may have a negative impact on the environment or is at risk from climate change. The assessment also determines whether there are opportunities to implement good environmental and climate practices into the project design. Identification of negative impacts and risks should be identified and assessed in the first instance.

World Vision recommends using Climate, Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction Integration Guidance (CEDRIG) for stable and recovery context, the Nexus Environmental Assessment Tool (NEAT+) for disaster response, and Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA) for climate adaptation projects, as these are now widely accepted across the development and humanitarian sectors.

A general overview of the tools is provided below and will be covered in tools like CEDRIG, NEAT+ and CVCA.

Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Tools

Climate, Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction Integration Guidance (CEDRIG)

CEDRIG is a practical and user-friendly tool developed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. This tool provides a process to assess whether a strategy, programme or project is potentially at risk due to climate change, environmental degradation or natural hazards. It also aims to determine whether a strategy, programme or project may have a negative impact on greenhouse gas emissions or the environment, or whether it creates new or exacerbates existing risks. CEDRIG provides two modules – CEDRIG Operational which is for project-level assessment, and CEDRIG Strategic which is for strategy-level assessment. CEDRIG should be used in stable and recovery contexts.

Nexus Environmental Assessment Tool (NEAT+)

NEAT+ was developed by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Joint Environment Unit. As an environmental assessment tool, NEAT+ allows humanitarian actors to quickly identify issues of environmental concern before designing longer-term emergency or recovery interventions.

The tool provides modules for assessing environmental sensitivity and humanitarian activities. For further guidance, there is a World Vision NEAT+ user manual and e-campus e-learning module. NEAT+ should be used for the protracted crisis contexts and disaster responses.

Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments

Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments, developed by CARE International, are participatory tools used to help communities identify the climate risks they face and the resources they can draw upon to cope with and recover from those risks. CVCA should be used when working directly with communities on climate adaption projects.

Appendix 1 provides further information on each of these tools which can be used to determine which tool you should apply in your project or programme.

Where a project or programme activity is assessed to have a medium to high risk of causing a negative impact or is potentially at risk due to climate change, then an Environmental Safeguards Management Plan and/or Climate Risk Management Plan should be developed. Where no medium or high risks are identified, then monitoring of any low-rated environmental impacts should be monitored as part of regular project monitoring and evaluation.

Step 3. Environmental safeguards management plan and climate risk management plan

Following the environmental safeguards assessment and climate risk and vulnerability assessment, where negative environmental impacts from project activities are considered to have a medium to high risk or project activities are assessed to have medium to high-risk exposure to climate change, then environmental safeguards and climate adaptation management plans should be developed and monitored for the duration of the project. At a minimum, the management plans should outline the medium and high risks identified, the mitigation measures proposed to reduce the risk and who is responsible for monitoring.

The project design and implementation teams will be responsible for engaging with the relevant Risk Prime in the field office to ensure risks identified during the environmental safeguard assessment are captured in the office risk register. To ensure risks identified are managed together with other forms of risk (e.g. corruption, child protection), they should be added to the field office's risk register in accordance with the World Vision's **Enterprise Risk Management (ERM)** Framework which serves as a core guidance document that enables World Vision entities to operate ERM programmes in a consistent manner across the entities. It contains useful tools and guidance on how to conduct a risk assessment, including technical guidance and detailed guidelines that can be utilised in coordination with the other tools provided here. Additionally, we recommend coordinating with your office's designated ERM Risk Prime to ensure overall alignment with your office's ERM programme and methodology and to appropriately escalate any significant risks identified in the climate risk assessment.

Monitor Potential Environmental Impacts through the Monitoring and Evaluation Process

If no medium to high risks are identified during the assessment process, then the monitoring of potential environmental risks and climate hazards should be part of regular project monitoring and evaluation and there should also be continuous engagement with communities and partners to identify and manage any unforeseen environmental risks or climate hazards that may emerge during implementation. If additional risks are identified during implementation, then they should be assessed, and mitigation measures identified and implemented.

Where a project or programme activity is assessed to have a medium to high risk of causing a negative impact on the environment or is potentially at risk due to climate change these need to be placed on the ERM Risk Register and managed accordingly.

3.5. Donor Expectations

Most donors now require environmental safeguard/impact assessments. **Where donor directives for environmental safeguarding are required, these should be applied in place of the requirements outlined in the ESCA Handbook.** Examples of such donor requirements include ECHO and UNDP, as shared below.

European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Operations (ECHO)

The European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Operations (ECHO) shared 'Minimum Environmental Requirements and Recommendations'. These apply to projects and appraisal processes. They touch on supply chain and material efficiency specifically and will impact procurement decisions and considerations for ECHO-funded actions.

The ECHO Guiding Environmental Principles are organised under the following areas: CO_2 emission mitigation, waste management, water and wastewater management, energy, supply chain and material efficiency, biodiversity, natural habitat and land preservation, and localisation of resources.

ECHO has developed sector-specific recommendations and requirements on food assistance, shelter, settlements and infrastructure, WASH, public health, nutrition, camp coordination and camp management, livelihoods, and education in emergencies. There are also seven cross-cutting areas of recommendations and requirements in projects which should entail:

- a longer-term vision and encourage linkages with development actors
- risk-informed approaches
- a protection and gender lens in the implementation
- promotion of localisation and participation of local stakeholders
- promotion of sustainable management of solid waste and chemicals
- sustainable supply chains and optimisation of logistics
- environmental efficiency in cash and voucher assistance.

The main elements to keep in mind when engaging with ECHO is that:

- A mainstreaming approach is crucial to reduce environmental impacts at the project level (carbon offsetting) and the organisational level (greening offices).
- ECHO recognises and co-finances additional costs – up to 10 per cent of total direct costs – related to the implementation of minimum environmental requirements.
- ECHO appreciates and co-finances actions with positive long-term returns.

Some key components of ECHO's approach include:

- ECHO recommends doing an environmental risk screening/assessment for all projects, except for WASH, shelter and settlements, and camp decommissioning where this is mandatory. The NEAT+ or another similar tool can be used to conduct project-level environmental screenings/assessments in coordination with fellow partners. For DG ECHO, environmental risk screening can also be applied to other sectors to comply with the Minimum Environmental Requirements (MERs).
- ECHO has a resilience marker for all proposals that includes ensuring a systematic consideration of negative environmental impacts of the project and inclusion of mitigation measures to avoid these negative impacts.
- ECHO has developed indicators that monitor environmental considerations across projects. In 2024, ECHO developed seven environmental Key Outcome Indicators and 39 environmental Key Result Indicators. These are optional, but ECHO highly encourages its partners to use them as part of their routine monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning processes. Environmental considerations are a key priority across the European Union (EU) and in all EU aid, with the EU aiming to be carbon neutral by 2030 – including ECHO and the department for International Partnerships (INTPA). In EU external development aid, there are not yet any minimum environmental requirements, but some practical actions might be forthcoming in the future,

possibly related to greening supply chains. In EU humanitarian aid, environmental considerations should be integrated in all sectoral policies and interventions, even short-term emergency ones.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDP programmes and projects must adhere to the objectives and requirements of their Social and Environmental Standards , which have the goals to:

- strengthen the social and environmental outcomes of programmes and projects
- avoid adverse impacts to people and the environment
- minimise, mitigate and manage adverse impacts where avoidance is not possible
- strengthen UNDP and partner capacities for managing social and environmental risks
- ensure full and effective stakeholder engagement, including through a mechanism to respond to complaints from project-affected people.

The Social and Environmental Standards are designed as an iterative process that requires pre-screening by the project developer to inform the project design. A mandatory screening assessment is to be conducted and reviewed by UNDP for approval. For potential moderate or high-risk projects, a scope of required social and environmental assessment is determined and is conducted as part of project preparation. During project implementation, UNDP will check for ongoing compliance with the SES to ensure social and environmental risk management and mitigation measures have been implemented and monitored. Risks are logged (at least annually), regularly updated, mitigated and managed as necessary.

Examples of other donors that have environmental policies and safeguard assessment requirements include:

- Asian Development Bank – Environmental Safeguards
- Australian Government: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – Environmental and Safeguards Policy
- European Union's International Partnerships Directorate-General (INTPA) and other EU external services) – Greening EU International Cooperation Toolbox
- Global Environment Facility – Environmental and Social Safeguards Standards
- Global Affairs Canada – Environmental Integration Process – Screening Tool, and Environmental Impact Assessment
- Green Climate Fund – Environment and Social Safeguards
- International Finance Corporation – Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability
- The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation – Cross-cutting Issue: Environment and Climate
- Swedish International Development Agency – Environmental Assessment Requirements
- UNEP – Integrated Environmental Assessment Guidelines
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees – Environmental Guidelines
- World Bank – Environmental and Social Standards (ESS)
- World Food Programme – Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework

3.6. Tools and Resources

The following resources can be used to help undertake the environmental safeguards and climate risk and vulnerability assessment process during both screening and assessment phases.

Environmental Safeguards

- Key Biodiversity Areas – provides a free searchable global map of the location of key biodiversity areas.
- Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) – provides commercial access to global biodiversity datasets and derived data layers including the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species™, the World Database on Protected Areas and the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas.
- Global Forest Watch – is a free online platform that provides free data on the state of the world's forests through a searchable map. It provides data on changes in tree cover, carbon density, fire events, land use types, indigenous and community lands, biodiversity, and land cover.
- Water Scarcity Atlas – provides an introduction to water scarcity and showcases analysis that cover the whole world.
- IUCN Red List – provides a list of the worlds threatened and endangered species; provides a free searchable map to locate where endangered and threatened species are located.
- World Atlas of Desertification – provides a searchable online map on areas that may be facing aridity, water stress, decreasing land productivity, climate-vegetation trends, fires and tree loss.

Climate Risk

- IPCC – determines the state of knowledge on climate change, including climate trends, adaptation and mitigation opportunities.
- National Adaptation Plans – provides information on national level climate risk and adaptation plans.
- ThinkHazard! – provides a general view of the hazards, for a given location, that should be considered in project design and implementation to promote disaster and climate resilience.
- CRISP – is an interactive tool that supports project managers to mainstream climate risk considerations into project design and implementation.

Training Courses

- Environmental Emergencies Learning Centre – This was developed by UNEP and OCHA on a range of environmental emergency preparedness and response topics.
- WWF training on Green Recovery and Reconstruction (GRRT) –The GRRT online training modules are designed for humanitarians, government officials, and local communities to increase awareness and knowledge of environmentally responsible disaster response approaches. The in-depth training modules are available in English, Spanish and Bahasa Indonesia.
- World Bank Environmental and Social Framework – The World Bank offers an online course aimed at environmental and social practitioners who are interested in an in-depth knowledge of the Environmental and Social Framework.
- United Nations Environmental Management Group – Moving towards a common approach to environmental and social standards for UN programming – The model approach represents a key step in moving towards a common approach among UN entities for addressing environmental and social standards in programming.
- ESCA Essentials in NEXUS Settings – This 1.5-hour e-campus module equips all World Vision staff – especially ESCA focal points, sectoral staff and response leadership in humanitarian contexts – with essential knowledge, core concepts and programming principles for environmental safeguarding in humanitarian response, with a focus on the use of the NEAT+ tool.

Guidelines, Handbooks and Practitioner Guides

Agroforestry and FMNR

- FMNR Resources (World Vision)
- Practitioner's Field Guide: Agroforestry for climate resilience (World Agroforestry, 2021)
- Regreening Communities Project Model Handbook (World Vision, 2023)

Climate-Smart Agriculture

- Climate-Smart Agriculture Sourcebook (FAO, 2013)
- Climate-Smart Agriculture 101 (The CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security)
- World Vision Climate-Smart Agriculture Guidance Note

Disaster Risk Management

- CBDRM Handbook (World Vision, 2024)
- Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis Handbook, Second Edition (Care International, 2019)
- Participatory Capacity and Vulnerability Analysis: A practitioner's guide (Oxfam Australia, 2012)
- Towards Resilience: A guide to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation (Catholic Relief Services, 2013).

Integrated Water Resource Management

- Guidelines for local-level integrated water resource management (International Water Management Institute)
- Water Security Planning (World Vision)
- Building Water Security: Protecting Our Source Waters (World Vision, 2025)

Climate Empowerment – Environmental Education and Awareness-Raising

- Eco-IMPACT+ Framework, Curriculum and Facilitator's Guide (for adolescents aged 12-18) (World Vision, 2024)
- Action for Climate Empowerment Guidelines (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change [UNFCCC])
- Working Together for the Care of Creation (A Rocha)

Waste Management

- Handbook for urban poor communities on waste management: Education, Advocacy, Solutions (Sahmakum Teang Tnaut)

Energy-efficient and Renewable Energy Technologies

- Igniting Change: Strategy for universal adoption of clean cookstoves and fuels (Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves)
- Clean Cooking Alliance

Guidance for Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Interventions

- Guidance Note 2: Selecting indicator for climate change adaptation programming (UKCIP, 2014)
- Framework of Milestones and Indicators for Community-Based Adaptation (CARE)

3.7. Design, Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning of Environment Sustainability and Climate Action

The selection of indicators for ESCA objectives should be SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound). Other considerations may include prioritising indicators that:

- align to World Vision strategies such as the ESCA Strategic Roadmap
- are required by the donor
- can be competently, consistently and cheaply measured
- are relevant to programme learning, management and decision-making
- are 'industry standard' (e.g. indicators used externally).

It is important to review indicators available in World Vision's Our Impact Our Story (OIOS) indicators and to use existing ones where they are of sufficient quality and relevance. It should also be noted that there will be some indicators required by donors that will need to be taken into consideration which will not be part of World Vision's OIOS indicator set. Depending on the specific design and stated objectives of the environment and climate project, indicators selected should ideally align to the ESCA Strategic Roadmap Annual Indicators Monitored:

Annual indicators monitored under the ESCA Strategic Roadmap

- Number of people reached by community programming on environment and climate action [OIOS #103]

Focus area 1: FMNR scale-up: Restoration of ecosystems and ecosystem services for children and communities

- 27 million hectares of degraded land will be protected and/or under restoration by 2033 [FMNR business plan is by 2033] – number of hectares of land protected and/or under restoration [OIOS #104].
- Investment on FMNR scaling and regreening programmes [from FMNR scale up]
- Proportion of households applying Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) [OIOS #105]
- Number of water supply systems using solar energy [WASH business plan]
- Number of children who participated in environmental and climate awareness sessions
- Number of children, adolescents and young people (CAYP) supporting regreening their environment [OIOS Level 2]

Focus area 2: Building sustainable agri-food systems for food and nutrition security

- Number of individuals trained in improved sustainable agricultural practices (including Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA), natural resource management (NRM), Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), sustainable fisheries, ecosystem restoration, etc.) [OIOS #66]
- **Proportion of households adopting sustainable agricultural practices [OIOS #68]**
- **Proportion of households who are food insecure according to the Coping Strategies Index [OIOS #69]**
- Proportion of households that provide well for their children [OIOS #80]

Focus area 3: Strengthening community resilience to climate-related disaster risks

- Proportion of households who faced a disaster but were able to recover and now live at the level they did before [OIOS #75]
- Number of disaster risk management committees formed and strengthened at the village level [OIOIS level 2, DM core]
- Number of people targeted by Anticipatory Action Protocols [OIOIS level 2, DM core]

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

- Number of projects which conducted environmental safeguard assessments
- Organisational greenhouse gas emissions

For additional indicators, visit the OIOS site.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP IN OUR OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES – CARBON FOOTPRINT MANAGEMENT

4.1. World Vision's Carbon Emissions Reduction Principles Towards Net Zero

World Vision has set global carbon emission reduction targets that include:

- We will ensure 100% of all World Vision projects and programmes complete environmental safeguard assessments and manage any ongoing negative environmental impacts.
- We will achieve a 20% reduction in organisational greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050.[10]

To effectively prioritise and manage carbon emissions, World Vision has adopted a structured Emission Reduction Hierarchy. This hierarchy guides staff in identifying and implementing emission reduction opportunities, focusing on eliminating emissions at their source before considering offsetting.

1. Avoid

- Eliminate unnecessary emissions-generating activities.

2. Reduce

- Enhance efficiency and sustainability in operations.
- Improve energy and resource use across facilities, logistics, and supply chains.

[10] These goals are for emissions from World Vision's own operations and facilities, including scope 3 emissions for goods and services used in support of operations, but excluding goods and services provided to programme participants and emissions by partner organisations. They apply to all field offices and the Global Centre. Support offices are also strongly encouraged to work towards them and report on progress, but it is recognised that many support offices have to comply with emissions reduction and reporting requirements by their own governments, which may require them to set and track different targets.

3. Substitute

- Switch to low-emission alternatives.
- Transition to renewable energy sources and sustainable materials and technologies.

4. Offset (for Residual Emissions Only)

- Compensate for emissions that cannot yet be avoided or reduced.
- Use verified, high-quality carbon offset projects to balance out remaining emissions.

How to Use Carbon Credits Responsibly

The Voluntary Carbon Market Integrity (VCMI) initiative established the Claims Code of Practice which outlines how to use carbon credits responsibly based on the following criteria.

Foundational Criterion 1: Maintain and publicly disclose an annual greenhouse gas emissions inventory using the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard.

Foundational Criterion 2: Set and publicly disclose science-aligned near-term emission reduction targets, and publicly commit to reaching net zero emissions no later than 2050.

Foundational Criterion 3: Demonstrate that the company is making progress on financial allocation, governance, and strategy towards meeting its near-term emission reduction target.

Foundational Criterion 4: Demonstrate that the company's public policy advocacy supports the goals of the Paris Agreement and does not represent a barrier to ambitious climate regulation.

Field Projects which Generate Carbon Credits

Projects that generate carbon credits can involve a range of interventions, including reforestation, Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR), Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA), and clean energy initiatives. Carbon credits are the market 'product' of this intervention, meaning the amount of carbon sequestered or reduced has a value. This credit has a fluctuating market value that companies buy to offset their carbon emissions generated by their business. To issue valid carbon credits, all projects must be certified by recognised standards, such as the Gold Standard and Verified Carbon Standard.

Field offices may consider developing carbon credit projects as a new source of revenue. World Vision's Guidance Note for Developing Carbon Projects for Children should be consulted prior to beginning the process. The guidance note informs how World Vision should engage with carbon markets to make sure that our carbon projects serve the most vulnerable children.

4.2. Carbon Footprint Measurement and Management Process

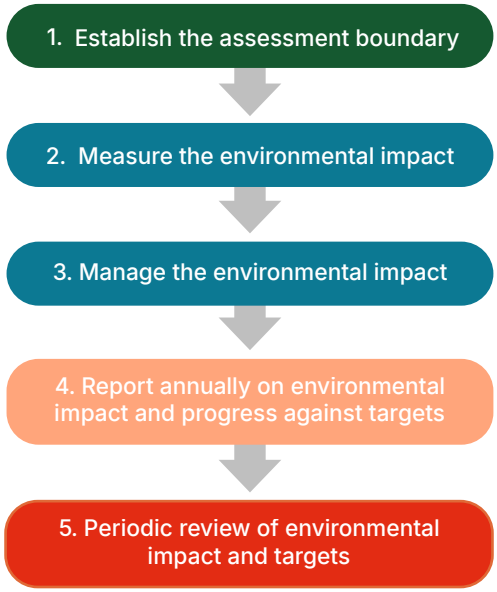
This section focuses on measuring and reducing the carbon footprint in World Vision's operations and facilities, which includes all World Vision offices, transport and activities related to supporting staff to carry out their work.

The following steps should be followed by each World Vision office to manage the process outlined in Figure 5:

1. Set up a Green Team (or Sustainability Team/Green Squad) with support of senior management to implement the commitments made by senior management and monitor performance.
2. Measure current carbon footprint, identify some commitments and set targets the organisation can undertake to reduce the impact on the climate. Field offices are required to set targets aligned with World Vision's overall net zero goal.
3. Report commitments including targets to the Global Centre. Field offices are required to report on how they are tracking against their net zero targets while support offices are encouraged to report at least one target such as a carbon emissions reduction target. These targets can be captured through annual plans.

The process for measuring and managing the carbon footprint caused by operations and facilities is provided in Figure 7.

Figure 7. Process for measuring and managing carbon footprint from operations and facilities



Step 1. Establish the assessment boundary for the carbon footprint

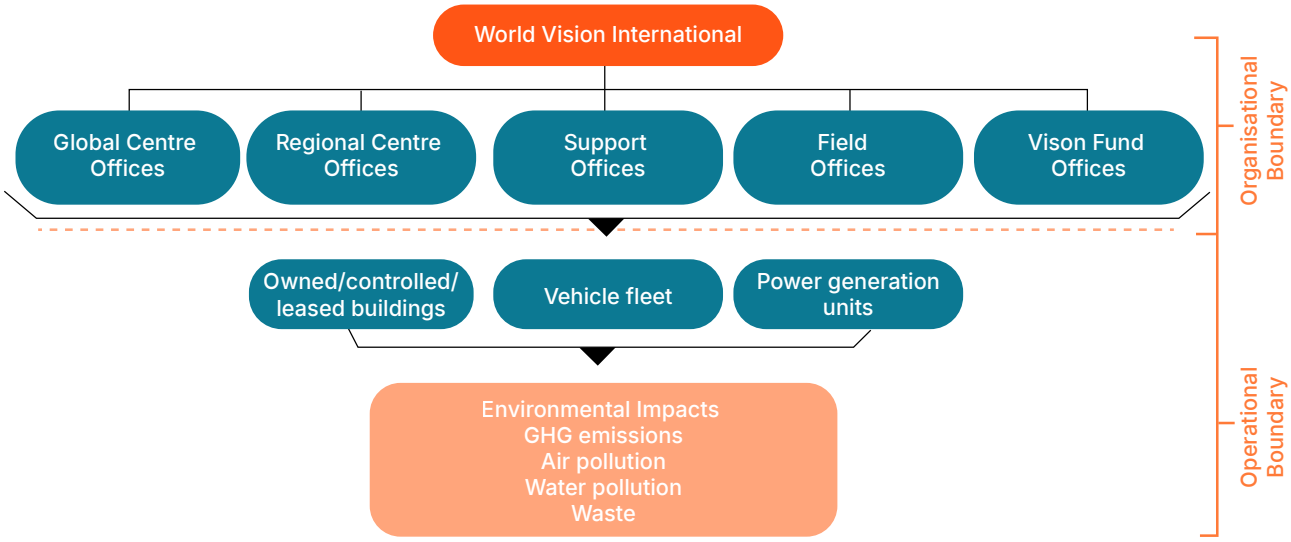
The assessment boundary is divided into the organisational and operational boundaries in accordance with the GHG Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard.

The organisational boundary defines which businesses and operations constitute the organisation. Regarding the World Vision organisational structure, the World Vision Partnership includes World Vision International which includes Global Centre offices, regional offices, field offices and VisionFund and support offices[11].

The operational assessment boundary defines the scope of operations and facilities that fall within the organisational boundary. Examples of these include buildings that are either owned, controlled or leased by World Vision or VisionFund offices, vehicle fleets and power generation units.

Figure 8 provides an overview of the relationship between the organisational and operational boundaries for World Vision.

Figure 8. Organisational and operational boundaries for assessing the carbon footprint



[11] Support offices form part of the World Vision Partnership, bounded by the Covenant of Partnership.

A range of activities may occur within the operational boundary, some examples include:

- Owned/controlled/leased building:
  - electricity usage
  - natural gas consumption
  - paper consumption
  - water consumption
  - waste production
  - business travel
  - purchase of goods and services
  - refrigeration
- Vehicle fleets
  - fuel consumption
- Power generation units
  - fuel consumption.

Carbon emissions occur from electricity usage and fuel consumption, deforestation from the consumption of paper and other goods and services, and emissions of ozone depleting gases from refrigeration.

For World Vision, the primary focus should be on measuring carbon emissions arising from the management of operations and facilities. However, we are committed to minimising supply chain emissions associated with field programming to the greatest extent feasible – without compromising the quality of service delivered to children and communities.

To ensure transparency and avoid double counting, carbon emissions from donor-funded projects should be estimated and reported separately from those related to general operational and facility management. This distinction is increasingly important, as more donors are requesting specific emissions data linked to the projects they support.

Step 2. Measure the carbon footprint

World Vision has committed to measuring carbon emissions from the following activities:

- **Scope 1 – in-house fuel consumption, including natural gas and diesel fuel** (kWh, megajoules or litres) – used for cooking and heating and/or powering generators.
- **Scope 1 – fleet (local business travel)** (litres of fuel or distance travelled in km) – includes all travel undertaken for work purposes including fleet vehicles, taxis and ride-share services
- **Scope 2 – electricity usage** (kwh) – all electricity consumed onsite for powering appliances and equipment, lighting and heating
- **Scope 3 – air travel** (km travelled) – includes both domestic and international flights
- **Scope 3 – paper usage** (kilogrammes) – includes all paper products consumed, for example printing, packaging, mail and cleaning

World Vision has three centrally managed sources of carbon emissions data including:

1. a dashboard that draws on data from **ProVision**, World Vision's global procurement management system, updated daily
2. an annual calculation of emissions from **World Vision's vehicle fleet**, carried out by Global Fleet Management using odometer readings
3. the **global travel centre**, **FCM**, which tracks emissions from flights, train journeys, hotels and hire cars booked through FCM.

Emissions from goods and services not purchased through the global systems will need to be tracked manually using the Carbon Footprint Tool v5.0 which has been developed by World Vision. This can also be used to integrate emissions data from the different sources into a single summary,

ProVision

Data is extracted from ProVision, to provide a dashboard tracking greenhouse gas emissions for scopes 1, 2 and 3. Except for electricity, where ProVision now asks users to enter quantities in kWh, the dashboard uses financial data to calculate greenhouse gas emissions. This is a more approximate method than quantity-based calculations, but needs no extra effort, providing commodities are entered correctly in ProVision. The minimum requirement to use ProVision for estimating greenhouse gas emissions is that offices should continuously monitor emissions in the ProVision dashboard to check that the data is accurate and that they are tracking towards meeting their targets.

Emissions from vehicle fuel usage are not included in this dashboard, as ProVision is not yet able to capture fuel data in the form needed, so offices need to refer to the report from Global Fleet Management for these. Air travel also needs to be estimated separately; offices using the global travel centre, FCM, can request emissions statements, but offices using local travel agents may need to track flights manually.

Carbon Footprint Tool v5.0

Offices wanting more precise data can also choose to estimate emissions manually using World Vision's Carbon Footprint Tool v5.0. The tool can be used by World Vision offices to record activity data associated with their operations and facilities which then calculates the carbon footprint associated with these activities. The tool is available online through the Global Centre which offices can fill in, and then the data will feed into Power BI for automated analysis; MEER offices have done this for FY23 emissions. This tool can be used to help create awareness of climate change within the organisation, measure the emissions and create management options to reduce the carbon footprint. The Carbon Footprint Tool v5.0 is mandatory for all field offices to use if not using ProVision,[12] and must be used by all other offices if they don't use their own carbon footprint tool. A summary of the data requirements to measure the core environmental focus areas is provided in Table 3.

[12] Note that offices not using ProVision are not required to track all Scope 3 emissions, as this would be very time consuming.

Table 3. Data requirements and sources for each carbon emissions source using the Carbon Footprint Tool v5.0

Carbon emissions source	Data requirements	Source of data
Air travel (Scope 3)	Flight details including length of flight in km, origin and destination of flight	Flight vendor
Local business travel (Scope 1)	Fuel type, quantity of fuel or travel distance	Invoices, receipts
Paper usage (Scope 3)	Type, source, weight and cost of paper used	Invoices, receipts, product specifications
Electricity usage (Scope 2)	Kwh	ProVision purchasing system
In-house fuel consumption (including natural gas and diesel fuel) (Scope 1)	Tonnes, litres or kWh	Invoices

Carbon Footprint Measurement Methodology

To ensure high quality data is obtained, it is important that each office establishes a data management plan. Some critical features of the plan should include:

- a description of data collection procedures:
  - processes/activities within the defined organisational boundaries
  - activities/processes outside (upstream or downstream) of the defined organisational boundaries – specific, average, or generic data
- data sources
- calculation methodologies
- data transmission, storage and backup procedures
- quality control and review procedures for data collection, input and handling activities.

Other Carbon Emissions Sources

While World Vision has established the carbon footprint for selected sources, it is also encouraged that offices measure and manage other carbon emission sources relevant to their context. World Vision also encourages offices to suggest additional carbon emission sources over time; these will be added to the tool, beginning with the areas users identify as the top priorities. Some suggestions as to what other carbon emission sources could be measured and managed include (but are not limited to):

- **commuter transport** (litres of fuel or distance travelled in km) – includes all commuter travel to and from work including private vehicles and public transport such as buses and trains
- **biomass usage** (tonnes of wood or charcoal) – combustion of fuel wood or charcoal for cooking and/or heating purposes
- **water consumption** (litres) – includes all water consumed such as for drinking, washing and flushing toilets
- **waste** (tonnes) – includes all solid waste disposed during the course of operations; examples of solid waste include food, paper, cardboard and plastic materials
- **construction materials** (kilograms) – includes all construction materials used for offices, such as concrete, steels and bricks
- **accommodation** (money spent) – includes all accommodation used during business travel
- **purchase of goods and services** (money spent) – includes contractors, IT services, office equipment, etc.

Step 3. Manage the carbon footprint and establish carbon reduction targets

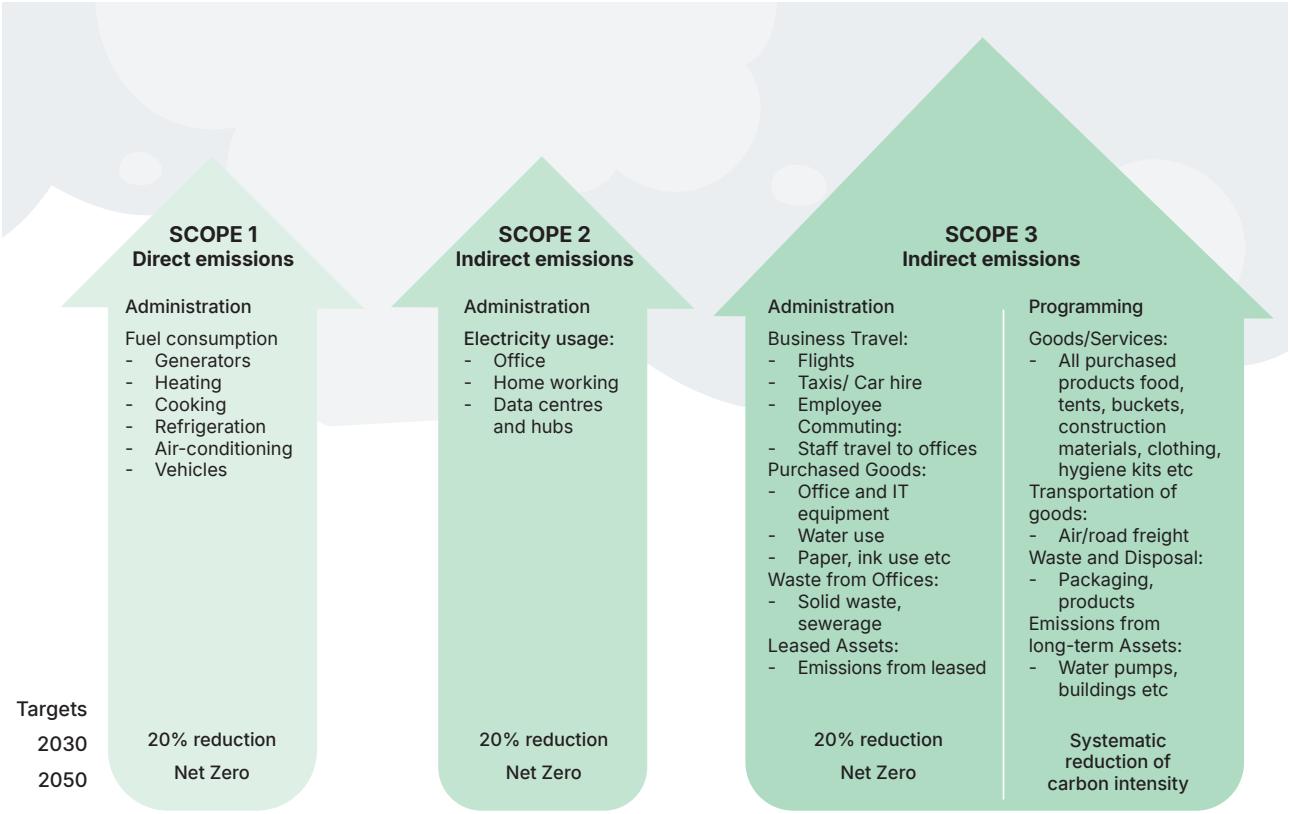
Once an office has undertaken an initial measurement of their carbon footprint, known as the 'baseline year', the office must then develop a management plan which should consist of setting carbon emission reduction targets and measures to reduce or avoid each carbon emission source identified.

World Vision offices are encouraged to set ambitious, achievable carbon reduction targets tailored to their context. To do this effectively, offices should distinguish between emissions from **administration** (operations and facilities supporting project delivery) and emissions from **programming** (goods and services delivered through humanitarian and development projects) which accounts for approximately 70% of our carbon emissions.

Below is a sample set of targets to guide offices and regions, which should be adapted or made more ambitious as appropriate:

- **Administration (Scope 1, 2, and 3):** Aim for a 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, with a long-term goal of achieving net zero emissions by 2050.
- **Programming (Scope 3):** Each office should strive to demonstrate systematic, year-on-year reductions in the carbon intensity of their programming activities.

Figure 9. Understanding our emissions: examples of reducing emissions



Note: Regarding vehicles, our goal is to achieve net zero emissions, but we recognize that progress will depend on the availability of technology and local infrastructure to support hybrid, electric, or alternative vehicle options.

These examples serve as a launch pad for each office to develop more detailed and context-specific targets, going further where possible and adjusting based on local opportunities and constraints. Regarding vehicles and flights, our goal is to achieve net zero emissions, but we recognise that progress will depend on the availability of technology and local infrastructure to support hybrid, electric or alternative low carbon transport options.

When developing and reviewing the objectives and targets, offices should take the following into consideration:

- commitments made in the Environment Stewardship Policy, Guidelines and the ESCA Strategic Roadmap
- applicable legal and other requirements
- significant environmental focus areas (identified during initial baseline measurements)
- progress against existing objectives and targets
- technological options to reduce or avoid impacts
- financial and operational requirements
- expectations of stakeholders (both internal [e.g. senior management] and external [e.g. donors]).

The focus should be on setting targets for World Vision's selected carbon emission sources outlined above.

Carbon Emissions Reduction Measures

Once the carbon emissions reduction targets are set, opportunities will need to be identified to either reduce or avoid carbon emissions going forward. The options to reduce or avoid carbon emissions should be developed in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders including senior managers, finance department, human resource department, property managers and fleet vehicle managers, to name a few. Once the carbon emissions reduction opportunities are identified and agreed, these should be widely publicised across the office to ensure buy-in from all staff. This will give the best chance of achieving the targets, particularly ones that require staff behaviour changes. Table 4 provides some carbon reduction options that offices may like to target.

Table 4. Carbon emissions reduction opportunities and additional office benefits

Carbon emission sources	Emission reduction opportunities
World Vision's commitment to carbon emissions reduction sources	
Air travel (Scope 3)	- Emissions from air travel can be reduced through the use of video-conferencing technology and cutting down on unnecessary business travel. - Where air travel is necessary, choosing direct routes can reduce emissions; the FCM travel portal and online tools such as Google Flights now provide emissions estimates for alternative flights. - Choose alternative travel modes such as trains for short domestic and international travel where available, safe and practical to do so.
Local business travel (Scope 1)	- Local business travel can be reduced through the use of video-conferencing technology and cutting down on unnecessary business travel. - Convert fossil fuel-powered fleet vehicles to low emissions options such as hybrid and electric vehicles where practical.
Paper usage (Scope 3)	- Promote paperless offices. - Use of recycled paper products can help to reduce the amount of paper used and therefore impacts on deforestation and greenhouse gas emissions.
Electricity usage (Scope 2)	- Install energy efficient equipment (e.g. LED lights). - Switch to green energy sources (e.g. chose a supplier of certified green energy whenever available in-country, install solar panels). - Reduce data storage. - Turn equipment off at the end of the day and use energy-saving settings. - Use smart thermostats and energy management systems.

Carbon emission sources	Emission reduction opportunities
Natural gas consumption (Scope 1)	- Improved building insulation can help to reduce the need for heating. - Switch to electrical appliances such as heat pumps and induction cookstoves where practical.
Office supplies and equipment (Scope 3)	- Maintain good inventory management to avoid over-purchasing and to ensure efficient use of resources. - Work with IT to avoid replacing IT equipment more frequently than necessary, while ensuring good functionality.
Other carbon emission sources	
Commuter transport	- Promote working from home. - Carpool and use public transport. - Cycling to work
Biomass usage	- Use of fuel-efficient biomass stoves or switching to electric stoves will reduce consumption of fuel wood
Water consumption	- Install water-efficient toilets. - Recycle grey water for use on gardens.
Waste	- Implement bans on single use plastics. - Use containers that can be reused several times and promote recycling. - Choose a service supplier that provides disaggregated waste management for recycling and safe disposal. - Offer onsite composting of vegetable and fruit material.
Purchased goods and services	- Implement green procurement policies. - Work with suppliers to understand their sustainability practices and encourage them to reduce their carbon emissions.

The Humanitarian Carbon Calculator – Reductions levers strategy and tips of reduction per cluster is also a useful guide for identifying opportunities to reduce emissions within your operations and facilities.

Offices that implement some of the carbon reduction opportunities outlined above are likely to achieve significant office costs savings due to reducing expenditure on energy consumption, office supplies (e.g. paper) and staff business travel. These costs savings may result in additional funding available for field programming.

Sustainable Procurement

World Vision entities should preference partners with demonstrated values of good environmental stewardship. For example, partners should have an environmental policy and demonstrate action on climate change (i.e. have set carbon reduction targets and can show actions to reduce emissions). For enduring contracts with large corporations, due diligence check must be carried out on their environmental and climate performance. World Vision entities shall not work with any partners or institutions that have caused severe environmental impacts (among other things) such as widespread deforestation and pollution of water bodies. For further guidance on sustainable procurement, the UN Global Compact for sustainable supply chains can be referred to. For disaster response operations, refer to the Logistics Cluster's Green Procurement Specifications.

Spotlight – Greening through Procurement: Leading the Way to a Sustainable Future

Offices in the Middle East and Europe Region (MEER) have been pushing to remove single use plastic in catering services. In Albania, for instance, our teams have driven suppliers to use biodegradable/paper food packaging. Clearly demonstrating our commitment to ecological responsibility is more than just words. MEER launched a guidance note to champion ecological best practices in hotel and catering procurement, with two key approaches:

- With existing suppliers: Gently influence and motivate suppliers to embrace greener practices, fostering a culture of continuous improvement.
- With new suppliers: Use preferred and required environmental criteria to inform the selection of service providers, ensuring sustainability is at the heart of every partnership.

The Greening Meetings and Conferences guidance from Southern African Region was developed with the aim of minimising the region's carbon footprint towards net zero. It proposes greener options during meetings, zero use of plastic bottles and pooling vehicles for participant travel.

Step 4. Reporting the carbon footprint and reduction targets

Each office is required to report on their carbon footprint and performance against carbon reduction targets annually, aligned to financial year reporting.

The annual report should be brief and include the following sections:

a) description of the reporting office including organisational boundary
b) description of the operational boundaries and list the specific types of activities and environmental focus areas covered
c) the reporting year covered
d) information on environmental impact data:
   - activity data collected for each environmental focus area
   - methodologies used to calculate carbon emissions
   - any specific carbon emissions excluded from facilities and/or operations
e) information on performance against goals and targets.

The reported should be brief (two to four pages) and provide a snapshot of how the office is tracking towards the environmental targets set. The report should present both the impacts and mitigation activities implemented. World Vision Global Centre provides an online template that offices can access for annual reporting.

Step 5. Periodic review of carbon footprint and reduction targets

To ensure the carbon footprint and the office objectives in relation to goals and targets remain relevant, periodic review should be undertaken by an internal review team. The internal review team – Green Team – should be made up of key stakeholders across senior management, finance, property management, fleet vehicle management, etc. The review should include:

- progress against targets
- benefits and costs of implementing mitigation opportunities
- relevancy of existing environmental focus areas
- identification of new environmental focus areas.

Ideally, the review will occur at the end of each reporting year to ensure the office objectives remain relevant and any issues with progress against targets can be identified and addressed at least on an annual basis.

4.3. Tools and Resources

Some good resources that can be used to identify carbon emissions caused by an organisation and how to measure and manage them include the following:

Greenhouse Gas Inventories and Management

- The GHG Protocol – A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard – a globally accepted standard for measuring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions for organisations.
- Climate Charter – Humanitarian Carbon Calculator – a tool to assess the direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions associated with their activities.
- Science-Based Targets Initiative – a tool to be used to set science-based emission reduction targets and learn how to achieve net zero emissions.

Sustainability Standards

- The Global Reporting Initiative Standards – a set of standards covering environmental, economic and social impacts.

Climate, Forests and Water Standards

- CDP – a non-profit organisation that runs the global disclosure system for investors, companies, cities, states and regions to manage their environmental impacts.

Environmental Management Systems

- ISO 14000 Family – Environmental Management – an environmental management system which can be certified.

5. PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND CLIMATE ACTION THROUGH ADVOCACY

World Vision is committed to advocating for greater global action for climate justice for children. We are committed to empowering local communities and girls and boys to become agents of change, ensuring that their active participation and opinions are reflected in climate action decision-making at the local, national and global levels. Read the full version of World Vision's policy position on climate action for more information.

Figure 10. Climate change impacts on children's wellbeing

HEALTH

Children's unique metabolism and development needs mean they are especially vulnerable to climate change impacts.[i] Children face greater risk of vector-borne diseases, undernutrition, diarrheal diseases and heat stress than adults.[ii]

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Almost half of the 345 million people facing acute hunger in 2022 were estimated to be children,[iii] due in part to climate change affecting weather patterns and causing droughts and heavy rainfall. Without urgent climate action, by 2050, the risk of hunger and malnutrition could rise by 20%.[iv]

EDUCATION

Climate-induced extreme weather events significantly impact children's access to education.[v] More than 400 million students have been affected by climate-related school closures since 2022.[vi] The longer children, in particular girls, are out of school, the less likely they are to return.[vii]

CHILD PROTECTION

Severe droughts and extreme weather also affect families' livelihoods, contributing to an increased risk of violence against children, including child labour and child marriage.[xii]

MENTAL HEALTH

Extreme heat is associated with an increase in mental health problems.[viii] Children are also disproportionately impacted by climate-related displacement and migration, especially if they have experienced a traumatic extreme event, become separated from their family, or disconnected from their ancestral homes.[ix]

'I'm sad and also afraid because we will no longer have coconuts available for the future, both for consumption and for producing crops to earn money.' —A child from Solomon Islands

CONFLICTS AND DISPLACEMENT

Compound impacts of climate change – disrupted livelihoods, food insecurity, and diminished natural resources – increase competition for resources and contribute to conflict and displacement.[x] By 2050, 216 million people across Sub-Saharan Africa, East Asia and the Pacific, North Africa, South Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe & Central Asia, could be internally displaced as a result of slow-onset impacts of climate change including water stress, crop failure and sea-level rise.[xi]

To ensure children's rights to a healthy, safe and sustainable future, World Vision calls on governments, corporations and the international community to support the full realisation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the SDGs, the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030), and the goals of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030). In particular, we call on governments, corporations and the international community to ensure the following:

Ambitious climate action: Keep global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees by accelerating mitigation efforts and greenhouse gas reduction.

Children's and young people's participation as agents of change: Prioritise child-centred approaches and ensure children and young people's meaningful participation - with special emphasis on the most vulnerable children, women and Indigenous community members.

Enhanced resilience and climate change adaptation: Ensure sustainable and climate resiliente agrifood systems.

Accessible and adequate climate finance: Ensure climate finance is adequate, accessible, inclusive and transparent, including technology transfer and capacity building.

Equitable access to loss and damage financing: Ensure timely, adequate and direct access of funding from the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage for affected communities and children facing climate-induced natural hazards.

World Vision is committed to Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) – a concept adopted by the UNFCCC, which aims to empower all members of society to engage in climate action and includes:

- education – to change habits in the long-term
- training – to develop practical skills
- awareness-raising – to reach people of all ages and walks of life
- participation – to make information freely available
- public access to information – to involve all stakeholders in decision-making and implementation
- international cooperation – to strengthen cooperation, joint efforts and knowledge exchange.

5.1. From Local to Global – CVA for Climate Action

World Vision has adapted its Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) for climate action to support field offices to equip local communities with information, tools and spaces to participate in local-level advocacy for accountable environmental management and climate action. Through the CVA process:

- World Vision works with community groups and government stakeholders to identify key public policy documents that both outline detailed government commitments and standards on environmental stewardship and climate action and that are most relevant to the local community.
- These standards, communities' rights and entitlements on climate action

are then simplified and shared with local groups through civic education processes.

- World Vision follows participatory processes to bring stakeholders together to assess the quality of their public services and to identify ways to improve their delivery. This involves community, frontline service providers and decision makers' participation in the mini social audits, community scorecards and interface sessions, resulting in a community action plan.
- Young people should be key actors and catalysts in CVA for environmental management and climate action.
- Some climate action and environmental management issues may be resolved at the local level or through collective action (e.g. enforcement of livestock grazing guidelines and waste disposal). However, the complexity and systemic nature of other concerns (e.g. recruitment of extension officers), may require higher level advocacy at provincial and national levels.
- The CVA database helps aggregate the volumes of citizen-generated data from CVA to create data insights that help inform policy engagements.

Furthermore, World Vision also supports the initiatives led by other faith-based organisations and groups such as **Season of Creation** initiatives formed to help Christians around the world to take care of the nature.

6. HOW TO INFORM WORLD VISION STAFF AND SUPPORTERS THROUGH COMMUNICATION AND MARKETING

Communication and marketing is a critical function of World Visions environmental safeguards, sustainability and climate action work. This function informs supporters and donors of what we are doing in this field and also to raises awareness both within World Vision and with global citizens of the problems and solutions that exist. Here are some key elements to consider in communications and marketing.

Inform Supporters and Donors

Where contextually appropriate, ensure that each office's marketing methods, channels and products promote our approach to care of creation, environmental stewardship and climate action. Each office may also like to communicate to donors and supporters what actions they are undertaking within their operations and facilities through their green teams.

Awareness-Raising

World Vision offices should aim to systematically create awareness on environmental sustainability and climate action to encourage individual and collective action for both World Vision staff and global citizens. The 'green' or 'sustainability' teams together with advocacy and marketing teams should communicate with staff through awareness campaigns and sharing the results the organisation has achieved against the commitments made. Some examples of awareness campaigns within the 'office' can include:

- promoting recycling and encouraging staff not to use single-use plastics
- running webinars and seminars on environmental issues
- celebrating international days such as World Environment Day

- involve staff in the environmental commitments made by the senior leadership team
- share results through staff meetings and other forums
- promote and fund green travel options like bike sheds.

Relevant international days focusing on environment and climate also provide good opportunities for awareness-raising. Some of the key international days include:

- March 21 – International Day of Forests
- March 22 – World Water Day
- April 22 – Earth Day
- May 22 – World Biodiversity Day
- June 5 – World Environment Day
- June 8 – World Oceans Day
- June 17 – World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
- October 13 – International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction
- October 24 – International Day of Climate Action

Environmental Products

Where appropriate, develop environmental and climate friendly products that can be offered to supporters to fund field programmes and encourage donors to reduce their own carbon footprint.

Participate in Regional and Global Environmental Forums

To promote World Vision's work, World Vision should participate in relevant global and regional forums. Some relevant forums include:

- UNFCCC Conference of the Parties on climate change (November/December)
- UN Forum on Forests (May)
- Bonn Climate Change Conference (June)
- UN Biodiversity Conference (December – usually held biennially)
- UNCCD Conference of the Parties (December – usually held biennially)
- Climate Vigil (November)
- Season of Creation led by World Council of Churches (September)
- Climate Vigil led by World Evangelical Alliances (November)

7. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Agri-food systems	Agri-food systems encompass the entire range of actors and their interlinked value-adding activities in the primary production of food and non-food agricultural products, as well as in food storage, aggregation, post-harvest handling, transportation, processing, distribution, marketing, disposal and consumption. Within agri-food systems, food systems comprise all food products that originate from crop and livestock production, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, and from other sources such as synthetic biology, and that are intended for human consumption.[13]
Carbon footprint	A calculation that estimates the amount of emissions in carbon dioxide equivalent that a country, a business, an organisation, an individual or another stakeholder is responsible for.[14]
Carbon markets	Carbon markets are trading systems in which carbon credits are sold and bought. Companies or individuals can use carbon markets to compensate for their greenhouse gas emissions by purchasing carbon credits from entities that remove or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
Carbon sequestration	The physical uptake/removal and storage of carbon. Trees and plants, for example, absorb carbon dioxide, release the oxygen and store the carbon.[15] Carbon can also be naturally sequestered in soil, oceans and coastal mangroves.
Carbon offsetting	A market mechanism for companies, individuals and governments to pay for carbon reduction or removals elsewhere and claim that 'credit' for carbon reduction within their own organisations. Offsets can be generated from both mitigation (e.g. a reduction in expected emissions) and sequestration projects.
Climate change	A change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is, in addition to natural climate variability, observed over comparable time periods.[16]
Climate action	Any measure, programme or policy that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, builds resilience to climate change or supports and finances those goals.
Climate change adaptation	The process of adjustment in ecological, social and economic systems in response to both the current effects of climate change and the predicted impacts in the future.[17] Adaptation actions range from setting up early warning systems for cyclones to switching to drought-resistant crops, among others.
Climate change mitigation	Avoiding and reducing emissions of heat-trapping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere to prevent the planet from warming to more extreme temperatures or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases. Mitigation measures include use of renewable energy and waste minimisation processes, among others.[18]

[13] FAO (2021). *The State of Food and Agriculture 2021*, https://www.fao.org/3/cb4476en/online/cb4476en.html#chapter-1_2
[14] UNFCCC. *Climate Neutral Now – Guidelines for Participation*.
[15] UNFCCC. 'Glossary', https://unfccc.int/resource/cd_roms/na1/ghg_inventories/english/8_glossary/Glossary.htm#C.
[16] UNFCCC (1992). *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, article 1, point 2.
[17] UNFCCC. 'What do adaptation to climate change and climate resilience mean?', https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/the-big-picture/what-do-adaptation-to-climate-change-and-climate-resilience-mean.
[18] IPCC (2018). Annex I: Glossary [Matthews, J.B.R. (ed.)]. In: *Global Warming of 1.5°C.*, https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/glossary/.

Climate empowerment	Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) is a term adopted by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The over-arching goal of ACE is to empower all members of society to engage in climate action, through education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information and international cooperation on these issues.[19]
Climate resilience	Broadly defined as the ability to anticipate, prepare for, adapt to, absorb and recover from the impacts of stresses imposed by climate change.
Climate-smart agriculture (CSA)	An approach to help the people who manage agricultural systems respond effectively to climate change. The CSA approach pursues the triple objectives of sustainably increasing productivity and incomes, adapting to climate change, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions where possible. It is not a set of practices that can be universally applied, but rather an approach that involves different elements embedded in local contexts.[20]
Disaster risk	Disaster risk is the potential for harm, including loss of life, injury, or damage to assets, caused by a disaster. It's the result of the interaction between a hazard, the vulnerability of people and systems, and the level of exposure to the hazard.
Ecosystem services	These are the contributions of ecosystems to benefits used in economic and other human activity. The following are three broadly agreed on categories of ecosystem services:[21] a) Provisioning services, which represent the material and energy contributions generated by or in an ecosystem to economic and human activities – for example, fish or plants with pharmaceutical properties extracted for final consumption by households or intermediate consumption. b) Regulating services, which result from the ecosystems regulating climate, hydrologic and biochemical cycles, earth surface processes, and various biological processes. These services often have an important spatial aspect. c) Cultural services, which are generated from the physical settings, locations or situations that give rise to intellectual and symbolic benefits experienced by people from ecosystems through recreation, knowledge development, relaxation and spiritual reflection.
Environmental degradation	The deterioration of the environment through air pollution, habitat destruction, soil erosion, desertification, ocean acidification and many other changes that are causing significant stress to ecosystems.[22]
Environmental impact	Refers to the direct effect of socio-economic activities (e.g. burning of fossil fuels, deforestation) and natural events (e.g. storms, droughts) on the components of the environment (e.g. air quality, climate, soils, forests, water quality).
Environment safeguards	Policies, standards and operational procedures designed to identify, prevent and minimise undue harm to people and their environment in field programming.
Environmental stewardship	Responsible use and protection of the natural environment through conservation, restoration and sustainable practices. This concept derives from one of World Vision's core values: 'We are stewards of God's creation. We care for the earth and act in ways that will restore and protect the environment.'

[19] UNFCCC. 'What is Action for Climate Empowerment?', https://unfccc.int/topics/education-youth/the-big-picture/what-is-action-for-climate-empowerment.
[20] FAO. 'Climate Smart Agriculture', https://www.fao.org/climate-smart-agriculture/en/.
[21] UN System of Environmental Economic Accounting. 'An Introduction to Ecosystem Accounting', https://seea.un.org/Introduction-to-Ecosystem-Accounting (Last accessed 24 January 2025).
[22] International Organization for Standardization. 'Environmental Degradation, https://www.iso.org/foresight/environmental-degradation.html

Environmental sustainability	The responsibility to conserve natural resources and protect global ecosystems to support health and well-being, now and in the future. This is tied to the Sustainable Development Goals.
Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration	A low-cost land restoration technique used to combat poverty and hunger among poor farmers by increasing food and timber production and resilience to climate extremes. In practice, FMNR involves the systematic regrowth and management of trees and shrubs from felled tree stumps, sprouting root systems or seeds.[23]
Greenhouse gases	The gaseous constituents of the atmosphere, both natural and anthropogenic, that absorb and re-emit infrared radiation. Carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and chlorofluorocarbons are examples of greenhouse gases.[24]
Global warming	Warming or heating of the earth (land and water) caused by solar radiation (heat) being trapped in the atmosphere by greenhouse gases.
Integrated water resource management	A process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources, in order to maximise the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems.[25]
Natural resource management	The sustainable use and management of natural resources such as forests, land, water, soil, plants and animals with a particular focus on how management affects the quality of life for both present and future generations.
Nature-based solutions	Actions to protect, sustainably use, manage and restore natural or modified ecosystems which address societal challenges, effectively and adaptively, providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits.[26]
Resilience	The capacity of social, economic and [ecological] systems to cope with a hazardous event, trend or disturbance, responding or reorganising in ways that maintain their essential function, identity and structure while also maintaining the capacity for adaptation, learning and transformation.[27]
Net zero emissions	Net zero emissions are achieved when *anthropogenic emissions* of *greenhouse gases* to the *atmosphere* are balanced by *anthropogenic removals* over a specified period.[28]
Vulnerability	In the context of climate change, it refers to the potential for negative effects resulting from the impacts of climate change. Vulnerability to the same risks may differ based on gender, wealth, mobility and other factors. It is influenced by adaptive capacity – the higher the adaptive capacity, the lower the vulnerability.[29]

[23] FMNR Hub, https://fmnrhub.com.au/.
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APPENDIX 1. CLIMATE RISK AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT TOOLS ASSESSMENT

	Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (CVCA)	Climate, Environment and DRR Integration Guidance (CEDRIG)	The NEXUS Environment Tool (NEAT+)
Purpose	A tool to assess community-level climate vulnerabilities and adaptation capacities.	A tool to integrate climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction (DRR) risks into projects or new strategies.	A project-level screening tool for climate and environmental risks, particularly for humanitarian response projects.
Process/ Methodology	CVCA follows a seven-step process using participatory tools, key informant interviews, and secondary research to identify vulnerabilities and adaptation opportunities.	CEDRIG provides two modules: (1) a project-level module and a (2) strategic-level module. These modules use three main steps including (1) context analysis, (2) risk identification and impact analysis, and (3) decision-making and integrating key findings into actionable project changes. The modules require a participatory approach.	NEAT+ provides automated tools that users input contextual and site-specific data. The tool then generates a report categorising environmental risks (low/medium/high) providing organisations with a snapshot of local environmental vulnerabilities and highlights environmental risks associated with specific humanitarian activities.
Time required	Varies based on scope, stakeholder involvement, data availability and community access. At a minimum it is likely to require five days to complete the stakeholder consultations with community.	Three to five days (depends on level of stakeholder consultations undertaken)	One to two days but may take longer if stakeholder consultations are also undertaken
Main uses	- Informs community adaptation plans - Can support project design and advocacy	- Risk screening for strategy or project designs - Can help determine if an environmental impact assessment is required	- Screening for environmental risks in humanitarian settings - Supports proposal development, M&E and awareness-raising

	Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (CVCA)	Climate, Environment and DRR Integration Guidance (CEDRIG)	The NEXUS Environment Tool (NEAT+)
Pros	- Allows practitioners to conduct a deep analysis of the vulnerabilities and barriers; allows us to identify how we can counter these barriers - Strengthens communities' knowledge on climate change and ability to identify the impact of climate change - Builds communities own agency and focuses on community-led actions - Integration of cross-cutting issues such as gender, ecosystems and inclusive governance were very beneficial - The facilitation team can develop and strengthen their understanding of the local reality, the climate-related problems communities face and their capacities and how this relates to governance, gender and ecosystems - Provides several resources to undertake the field work	- The structure of the modular process allows for a stepwise approach starting with an initial filter of impacts and risks (CEDRIG Light); then, depending on the results from the CEDRIG Light analysis, deeper analysis can be undertaken using CEDRIG strategic or operational modules - Can be applied to all development sectors and humanitarian responses - Helps to raise awareness of the potential impacts a project might have on the environment and can inform whether an Environmental Impact Assessment is required	- A simple, user-friendly way for non-environmentalists to identify environmental concerns - Has specific tools for urban and rural context - Used to determine if more detailed environmental assessments are needed - Can be used at head office or in the field - Does not require high levels of expertise to use the tool

	Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (CVCA)	Climate, Environment and DRR Integration Guidance (CEDRIG)	The NEXUS Environment Tool (NEAT+)
Cons	- Difficult to integrate cross-cutting issues effectively - Time consuming - Difficult to get secondary data - Requires training of facilitation team to use the tool - Does not consider environmental impacts projects or programmes might have on the local community - Mainly applied to climate/natural resource management-focused projects	- Superficial consideration of community vulnerabilities - Does not consider cross-cutting issues such as gender - Requires expertise in understanding and using data related to climate hazards and environmental impacts	- Limited use within humanitarian responses within specific sectors – WASH, Shelter, and Food Security and Livelihoods. - Only superficially considers climate change and cross-cutting issues such as gender
Donor preference		Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Swiss Development Corporation	DG ECHO
When in the project cycle	Planning or Agile Implementation	Assessment or Planning	Assessment or Planning
Complementary tools	thinkhazard, CRISP, IBAT, Global Forest Watch, Water Scarcity Atlas		

APPENDIX 2. WORLD VISION'S ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE AREAS OF ACTION CONTRIBUTING TO CHILD WELL-BEING OUTCOMES

Areas of action	World Vision sectors addressed and corresponding project models	ESCA Roadmap focus areas	World Vision's child well-being objectives
Natural resource management  	- **Health and Nutrition** – Improved soil fertility leads to higher farm productivity, access to more food and improved nutrition. - **Livelihoods** – Improved soil fertility leads to higher farm productivity and opportunities to generate more income through the sale of agricultural products. - **WASH** – Natural resource management promotes the saturation of precipitation into underground reservoirs and minimises runoff that fails to nourish the land. Reduction in soil erosion further leads to improved surface water quality and therefore improved access to clean water. - **Disaster Management** – Flooding is reduced through water management interventions such as infiltration trenches. - **Relevant project models**: Regreening Communities, Inclusive Markets for Communities (M4C), FMNR	Roadmap focus areas: 1, 2, 3 	- Children are well-nourished. - Girls and boys are cared for, protected and participating. - Children have hope and vision for the future. - Community is resilient to shocks and disasters.
Agroforestry and Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration  	- **Health and Nutrition** – Regeneration of multipurpose indigenous tree species use can directly improve access to nutritious foods and medicines. - **Livelihoods** – Introduction of fast-growing multipurpose trees can enhance farm productivity and opportunities to generate income from tree products. - **WASH** – Restoration of vegetation cover slows rainwater runoff and increases infiltration and recharge of groundwater in watersheds, therefore increasing access to water. - **Disaster Management** – Increasing tree density across the landscape helps to control wind and water erosion, stabilises soils, and reduces flooding. - **Education** – Awareness and skills building of adolescents for meaningful participation in community forestry initiative; session dedicated to Regreening and FMNR with promotion of regreening service-learning. - **Relevant project models**: Regreening Communities, Inclusive Markets for Communities (M4C), FMNR, Eco-IMPACT+	Roadmap focus areas: 1, 2, 3 	

Areas of action	World Vision sectors addressed and corresponding project models	ESCA Roadmap focus areas	World Vision's child well-being objectives
Climate empowerment – Environmental education and awareness-raising  	- **Education** – Climate awareness-raising, skills building, and active citizenship initiatives in schools leads to improved knowledge and awareness, leading to behaviour change and improved practices; nature-based and life skills reinforce formal curriculum and learning outcomes. - **Disaster Management** – Empowerment of communities through education and training can lead to better disaster preparedness and resilience to climate shocks. - **Relevant project models**: Citizen Voice and Action, Eco-IMPACT+, Inclusive Markets for Communities (M4C); topic-specific adaptations forthcoming to Early Childhood and Basic Education/SEL models.	Roadmap focus areas: 1, 2, 3, 4 	- Children are well-nourished. - Children have hope and vision for the future. - Adolescents report increased well-being
Climate-smart agriculture  	- **Livelihoods –** Trained farmers apply climate-smart agricultural practices including efficient water systems such as solar pumps and drip irrigation, increasing farm productivity and therefore income-generation opportunities. - **Health and Nutrition** – Improved soil fertility (e.g. from nitrogen-fixing leguminous crops) leads to improved farm productivity, which leads to improved nutrition, dietary diversity and access to food. Biofortified crops are often drought-tolerant and can enhance nutritious food access and micronutrient health. - **WASH –** Permaculture sites are established to support household-level water management and household gardens, therefore improving access to safe, clean drinking water. - **Disaster Management –** Installation of infiltration dykes, contour bunds and strip vegetation prevents erosion and increases water infiltration, making farms more resilient to natural hazards and climate impacts. - **Corresponding project models**: Regreening Communities, Inclusive Markets for Communities (M4C)	Roadmap focus areas: 1, 2, 3 	

Areas of action	World Vision sectors addressed and corresponding project models	ESCA Roadmap focus areas	World Vision's child well-being objectives
Community-based disaster risk management  	- **Livelihoods –** Training farmers and communities in hazard reduction and disaster preparedness can increase resilience to climate related shocks. - **Health and Nutrition –** Disaster preparedness measures for health providers can reduce the spread and manage surges of malnutrition and diseases. - **WASH –** Early warning systems and hazard reduction plans can help to prevent flooding and storm events, which may protect drinking water supplies. By incorporating climate-focused, risk-based planning into the design and siting of WASH infrastructure and emphasising high-quality materials and construction, we increase the resilience of WASH structures and reduce communities' vulnerability to extreme weather. - **Education –** Disaster awareness-raising in schools leads to improved knowledge and awareness, and facilitates contribution and meaningful participation of children and adolescents in community-based DRR activities. - **Corresponding project models**: CBDRM, Eco-IMPACT+	Roadmap focus areas: 3 	- Community is resilient to shocks and disasters. - Girls and boys are cared for, protected and participating

Areas of action	World Vision sectors addressed and corresponding project models	ESCA Roadmap focus areas	World Vision's child well-being objectives
Integrated water resource management  	- **Livelihoods** – Construction of dams and protection of water courses provides more reliable access to water for crop irrigation and livestock, improving farm productivity. - **WASH** – Best practices from IWRM protects the quantity and quality of source waters that water supply systems depend on. Developing awareness about the long-term trends of the watersheds we work within, such as hydrologic yield patterns and flood or drought events, also helps safeguard clean water access and strengthen the stewardship of precious water supplies for households and institutions. - **Health and Nutrition** – Improved access to clean water and sanitation reduces the incidence of malnutrition, waterborne and other infectious diseases. - **Disaster Management** – Construction of dams and gabions helps to reduce impacts of hydrological disasters such as floods and drought. - **Education:** Awareness and skills building of adolescents for meaningful participation in community water management; session dedicated to Water with promotion of service-learning**Corresponding project models**: WASH Core Project Model, Eco-IMPACT+	Roadmap focus areas: 1, 2, 3 	- Community has access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene. - Children are well-nourished.
Waste management  	- **Health and Nutrition** – Safely managed waste creates a more hygienic environment and reduces risk of contamination of water supplies and disease/malnutrition, thus creating positive health outcomes for local communities. - **Livelihoods –** Creation of waste management facilities creates employment for local communities. - **WASH** – Well managed solid and liquid waste reduces the likelihood of contaminating drinking water sources, therefore reducing the incidence of disease. - **Education –** Adolescent active citizenship initiatives to identify and address environmental issues in their communities, often related to waste management and a clean environment; session dedicated to plastic pollution. - **Corresponding project models**: Citizen Voice and Action, Eco-IMPACT+, Inclusive Markets for Communities (M4C)	Roadmap focus areas: 3, 4 	- Children are protected from infectious disease and preventable death.

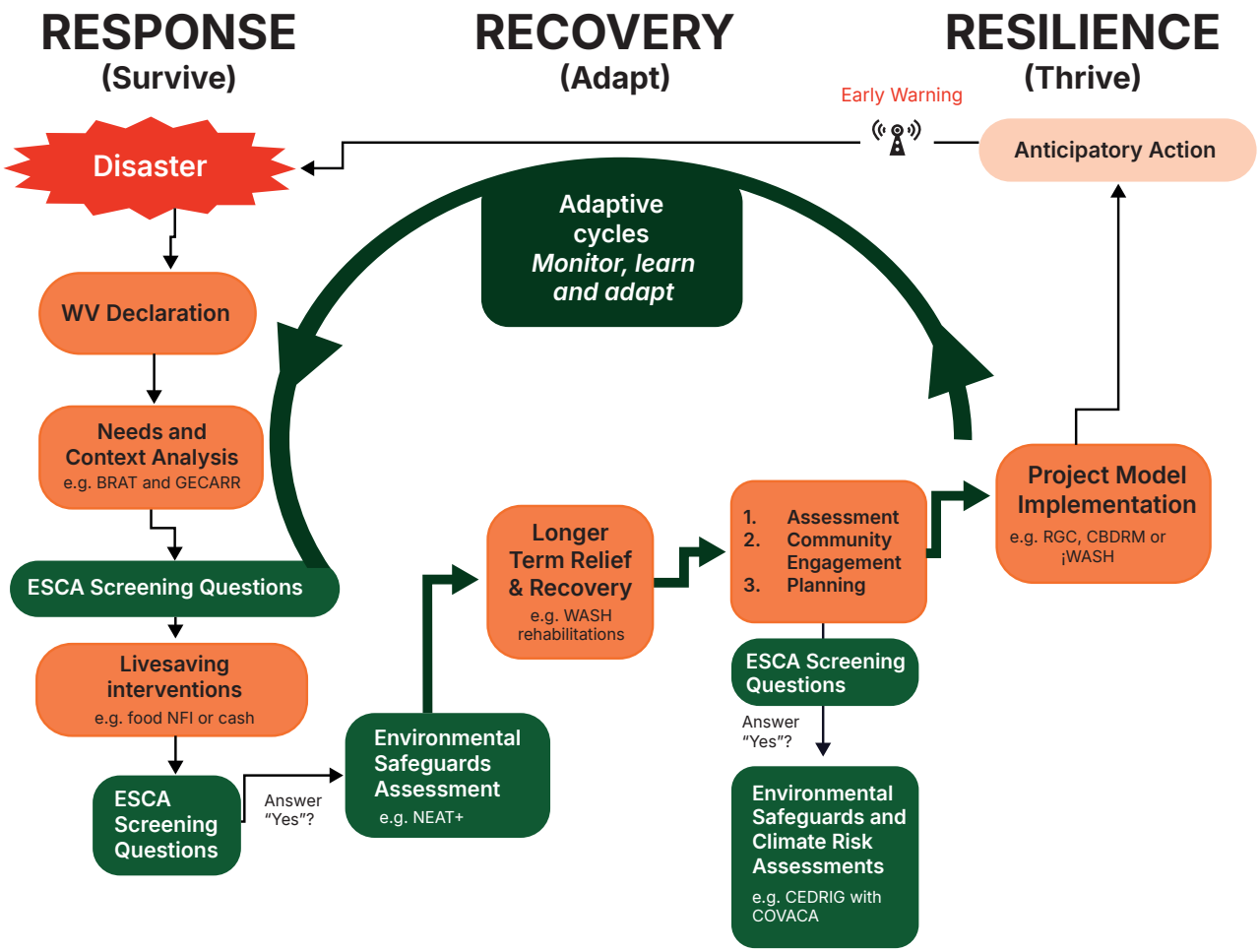
Areas of action	World Vision sectors addressed and corresponding project models	ESCA Roadmap focus areas	World Vision's child well-being objectives
Energy-efficient and renewable energy technologies  	- **Education** – Solar lamps allow children to do homework at night improving their education outcomes. - **Livelihood –** Renewable energy technologies such as solar water pumps reduce farm expenditure, allowing farmers to invest into improving farm productivity. - **Health and Nutrition** – Fuel-efficient cookstoves and solar lamps reduce exposure to harmful indoor air pollutants from the burning of wood and kerosene. Solar or other renewable technologies power health facilities and support continuity of service (including nighttime health services). - **WASH** – Transition to renewable energy sources, such as solar, for water supply systems contributes to our climate goals while enabling remote communities to access clean water piped into their homes or yards. - **Corresponding project models**: Citizen Voice and Action, Eco-IMPACT+, Inclusive Markets for Communities (M4C)	Roadmap focus areas: 1, 2, 3, 4 	- Children are protected from preventable death.

APPENDIX 3: WORLD VISION'S ADAPTIVE PROGRAMMING AND FRAGILE CONTEXT PROGRAMMING APPROACHES

World Vision's Adaptive Programme Approach (APA) enables us to work across the humanitarian, development, and peace nexus in fragile, stable, urban and rural contexts. Central to the APA are the Transformational Development Principles, Drivers of Sustainability, and Critical Path questions, which guide World Vision's presence in target areas. The APA applies across funding types, emphasises commitments to GEDSI, Child Protection and Participation, and fosters locally led approaches for greater impact. The APA integrates aspects of the Fragile Context Programme Approach (FCPA) for fragile settings and enables work across the humanitarian, development, and peace nexus. It equips teams and partners to understand changing contexts, manage risks proactively, and empower local actors to adapt activities and budgets for lasting transformation.

Environmental sustainability and climate action should be taken into consideration throughout of the programming cycle. Figure 11 illustrates the nexus between emergency response and development. It outlines the relevant

Figure 11 ESCA for World World Vision's Adaptive Programming and Fragile Context Programming



processes, programming phases, and the corresponding environmental screening and assessment tools (shown in green boxes). Due to the fluid nature of fragile contexts, a project may transition back and forth between phases as conditions change. Some field offices may operate simultaneously in multiple phases across different geographical areas or sectors.

- Emergency Response (Survive): When a disaster is declared by World Vision, the initial priority is to conduct a Basic Rapid Needs Assessment (BRAT). This is followed by environmental screening questions for proposed life-saving distributions (e.g. food or non-food item distributions). Once immediate life-saving interventions are underway, more comprehensive environmental safeguards assessments – such as NEAT+ – can be used to further inform emergency and recovery programming.
- Recovery (Adapt): This phase may involve various environmental safeguarding tools, depending on the context and type of grant. It is often most relevant in protracted crisis settings, where situations may fluctuate between emergency response and development efforts.
- Resilience (Thrive): When conditions permit, a project-level environmental safeguards assessment, such as CEDRIG, should be conducted to inform the design of World Vision's core project models. Participatory tools like COVACA or CVCA, which assess community vulnerabilities, can significantly enhance the CEDRIG process. This is a setting to strengthen early warning especially within the community and link to anticipatory action protocols to further strengthen the resilience to future climate related shocks.

Endnotes

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World Vision is focused on helping the most vulnerable children overcome poverty and experience fullness of life. We help children of all backgrounds, even in the most dangerous places, inspired by our Christian faith.

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