



RISING TOGETHER:

Hope for Every Child

South Asia and Pacific 2025 Impact Report

FOREWORD

Across South Asia and Pacific, children are facing a convergence of risks that is deepening vulnerability at an unprecedented scale. Climate shocks are more frequent and severe, instability and displacement are fracturing families and communities, and economic pressures are eroding hard won gains. Together these pressures are exposing more children to violence, exploitation, malnutrition, and exclusion.

The region is home to the largest number of vulnerable children in the world, yet vulnerability here is rarely uniform or easily visible. Instead, it is shaped by nuanced fragility, a layered mix of climate exposure, poverty, migration, urbanisation, conflict, governance gaps, and social exclusion. These dynamics play out differently across islands, borders, cities, and rural communities, requiring responses that are adaptive, locally-led, and grounded in evidence.

For more than seventy years, World Vision has worked alongside families and communities across South Asia and Pacific, including ten countries in the region and five additional Pacific countries through partners. From the Nepalese Himalayas to refugee camps in Bangladesh, conflict-affected areas in the Philippines and Papua New Guinea, fragile urban settings in Indonesia, and remote islands communities of Vanuatu. We have learned that child vulnerability is driven by interconnected risks that demand integrated, child centred responses.

Aligned with the global strategy Our Promise, our work in the region focuses on three interlinked shifts: deepening impact for the most vulnerable children, strengthening diversified and sustainable funding, and

amplifying influence to shape systems and policies that affect children's lives. Our integrated development and humanitarian approach spans child protection, gender equality and social inclusion, health and nutrition, education, water, sanitation and hygiene, livelihoods, climate adaptation, and disaster response.

In 2025 alone, more than 9.2 million people participated in our programmes across the region, including 5.8 million children, and we responded to fourteen emergencies, reaching over 1.4 million people with life saving assistance. These results demonstrate what is possible when locally-led action, strong partnerships, and evidence-based programming come together.

We offer this report as a platform for collective action. At a time of increasing fragility and constrained resources, progress for children will depend on our shared willingness to invest differently, work collaboratively, and act with urgency. Together, we can strengthen protection, build resilience, and ensure children across South Asia and Pacific are safe, supported, and able to realise their full potential.

Serving together,

Beng Yeoh,
*Interim Regional Leader,
South Asia and Pacific*

Sarah Bearup,
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Children across South Asia and Pacific are facing a convergence of crises. Climate shocks, economic strain, conflict, fragility, deepening inequality, and rapid urbanisation are reversing decades of development gains and increasing child vulnerability at an unprecedented scale. World Vision, with more than 70 years of experience in the South Asia and Pacific region and hosting 98% of staff members local to the region, is responding through long-term community partnerships and targeted, evidence-based programmes that reached over 9.2 million people in 2025, including 5.8 million children.

THE REGIONAL CHALLENGES

Despite progress in earlier decades, **the region is now at a turning point:**



Rising inequality affects 42% of the population, with 885 million now living under USD 3 per day; inequality has shown no improvement in 20+ years.



3,320 natural disasters were recorded across the South Asia and Pacific region in 2025.¹



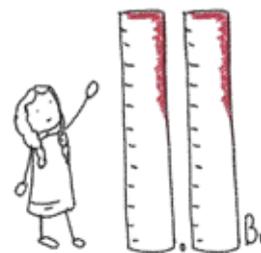
In 2024 alone, 17.5 million people were displaced by disasters across South Asia and Pacific, drastically increasing the risks facing children and families. 29.4 million children across the region currently live in slum conditions.



Children in South Asia and Pacific now face higher vulnerability to violence, disasters, migration pressures, and climate shocks than almost anywhere else in the world.



Violence against children is alarmingly widespread, with **more than 80% of children in several Pacific countries experiencing violent discipline**, and 42.2 million of children across South Asia at risk of violence.



Malnutrition remains a crisis. Over 1.1 billion people in Asia and the Pacific **lack access to adequate food**, and South Asia is home to 56 million stunted children.

¹ IFRC GO (<https://go.ifrc.org/>); ASEAN Disaster Information Network (<https://ahacentre.org/>); NASA FIRMS (<https://firms.modaps.eosdis.nasa.gov/>); EM-DAT (<https://www.emdat.be/>); Copernicus Emergency Management Service (<https://mapping.emergency.copernicus.eu/>); National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority Nepal (<https://ndrrma.gov.np/en/>); Pacific Community (SPC) Pacific Disaster Net (<https://gsd.spc.int/pacific-disaster-net>).

WORLD VISION'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

World Vision targets four core drivers of rising child vulnerability in the South Asia and Pacific region:



Violence against women and children

Violence is widespread across the region. Up to 80% of children and 50% of women in parts of the Pacific face violent discipline and intimate partner violence. World Vision strengthens families, shifts social norms and mobilises faith and community leaders to reduce the risks and impacts of violence, in the home and in the community.



Urbanisation and migration

Migration occurs internally and across borders, and is driven by climate change, disasters and escalating conflict. Migration reshapes family structures and exposes children to significant risks, such as disrupted education and exploitation. World Vision works with source communities to build resilience and reduce the need for migration, supports safer migration pathways, provides services for children on the move, and advocates for child-sensitive policies.



Climate change and disasters

The South Asia and Pacific region faces escalating environmental shocks, sea-level rise, and resource strains due to climate change. In response, World Vision works with vulnerable communities to implement climate-smart and nature-based solutions, respond to disasters, protect livelihoods and advance household and community resilience to minimise the impact of changing climates.



Child hunger and malnutrition

Malnutrition remains severe across South Asia and Pacific, with high wasting, stunting, and poor dietary diversity seen across most countries in the region. World Vision delivers multi-sectoral nutrition solutions and advocacy campaigns to improve services, promote nutritious diets, and partner with governments for sustainable systems change.

Call to Partnership

The South Asia and Pacific region stands at a critical juncture. Without urgent, coordinated investment, millions of children will face escalating vulnerability. World Vision offers scalable, evidence-based, locally led approaches that address the interconnected challenges of violence, climate change, unsafe migration, and malnutrition. Partnerships will enable World Vision to expand impact, strengthen community resilience, and ensure that children across the region are safe, nourished, and able to thrive.



2025 IN SAP: OUR IMPACT



9.2 MILLION

people reached



5.8 MILLION

children reached



**14 DISASTER
RESPONSES**

launched



2,139,145 people

reached through health and nutrition programming.



229,319 people

reached through community programming focusing on climate change and environmental protection, including disaster prevention and risk mitigation.



1,535,556 people

reached with programming focused on child protection, including violence reduction programmes.



**70,873 parents
and caregivers**

reached through positive parenting programming, contributing to reduced violence against children.



127,304 people

reached through targeted gender equality programming, and a further **60,163** through disability inclusion promotion programming. Additionally, gender equality and disability inclusion is integrated across World Vision programming region-wide.



891,166 people

reached through livelihood programming.



1.36 MILLION

people, including 678,000 children and 9,435 people with disabilities, reached through emergency response programming.



3,247 STAFF

are supporting the region, 98% of whom are local, delivering operations in 10 countries and working through partners in 5 additional Pacific countries.

70+

70+ YEARS

of regional experience.

SOUTH ASIA AND PACIFIC

A white outline map of the South Asia and Pacific region is centered on an orange background. The map includes India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, and the Indonesian archipelago. The text 'SOUTH ASIA AND PACIFIC' is overlaid in large, semi-transparent white letters.

OUR FOCUS:

FOUR KEY DRIVERS OF CHILD VULNERABILITY

At World Vision, we see four key drivers contributing to this increased child vulnerability. We have prioritised additional emphasis and investment in these areas and enhanced our broader programmes to improve child well-being across our region.

1

Violence Against Women and Children

Tackling root causes while addressing immediate and long-term impacts

3

Climate Change and Disasters

Supporting communities with disaster response, mitigation and adaptation strategies.

2

Urbanisation and Migration

Addressing risks of family separation and exploitation for children and families affected by migration.

4

Child Hunger and Malnutrition

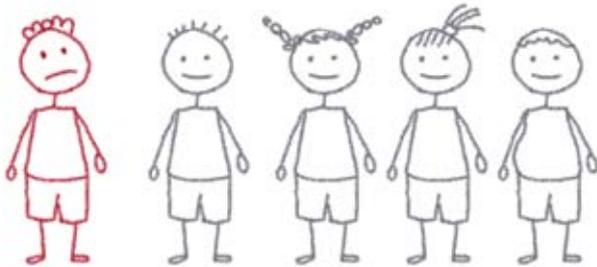
Delivering a cohesive approach to improving child nutrition across the region.

We are confident that our work in these areas will enhance our ability to turn the tide on increased child vulnerability, ensuring that every child in our region can thrive.

01. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN



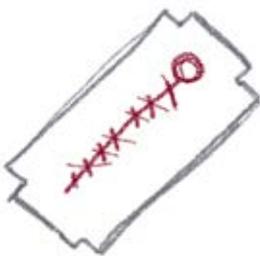
In our region, we have seen a staggering increase in violence, particularly violence against women and children. UNICEF reports that 61 million children in the region are at risk of violence, and estimates that 201 million children across central and southern Asia live with a mother who has recently experienced intimate partner violence. In South Asia, 25 million children report experiencing rape or sexual violence. In Sri Lanka, nearly one-third of the 15,000 legal trials pending nationwide involve some form of violence towards a child. UNICEF reports that violence towards children with disabilities is frequent across the region, as children with disabilities often face severe discrimination, are much less likely to be in school, and more likely to be victims of sexual, physical and verbal violence. World Vision data shows that children's exposure to violence and abuse across the region has deteriorated since 2021.



21% of children at risk of violence

Violence against women and girls also remains prolific. In Bangladesh, 47% of married girls aged 15-19 have experienced violence from their intimate partners. The World Health Organisation reports that the proportion of women in the region who experienced physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime is significantly higher than the global average of 27%. For example, 35% of women in India, 38% in Timor-Leste, and 50% or more in Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Bangladesh have experienced intimate partner violence.

Women and girls in the South Asia and Pacific region are also vulnerable to other forms of abuse, including:



Female Genital Mutilation



Early Marriage



Trafficking



Exploitation

In the Pacific, women and girls make up 68% of trafficked persons, and trafficking for sexual exploitation accounts for 64% of cases. In Indonesia, 49% of girls under 14 have undergone some form of female genital mutilation, although it is outlawed. Early marriage remains an issue, with 44% of all child brides, a total of 286 million, coming from South Asia. Papua New Guinea has one of the highest prevalences of early marriage, with 27% of women 20-24 years old reporting that they were first married or in union before they were 18 years old. In Indonesia, 32.1 million women aged 20-24 years reported that they were first married or in union before the age of 18.

Across the region, we are also seeing an increased linkage between displacement and violence against children. For example, ongoing violence in Rakhine State in Myanmar continues to lead to refugees seeking shelter in neighbouring countries. Currently, there are over 1.1 million Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, approximately half a million are children living in prolonged displacement, with at least one third considered vulnerable. According to World Vision's data, Bangladesh recorded a 55.8% increase in forcibly displaced children, the poorest outcome for the region.

Whether it is communal clashes in the Pacific or armed conflict in South Asia, children are uniquely and disproportionately harmed by fragility and conflict. There is extensive global and regional evidence showing deep, long-term impacts on their safety, development and well-being. Exposure to violence, such as witnessing killings, losing family members, or experiencing direct harm, leads to severe and lasting psychological trauma for children, which impairs cognitive development, learning, and emotional regulation. Children are often forced to flee their homes, losing access to schooling, health care, and stable caregiving and social structures. Conflict also disrupts services for children, schools are closed or destroyed, health facilities become inaccessible, and immunisation and nutrition programmes are interrupted, increasing risks of malnutrition, preventable disease and early death.

Nearly 7 in 10 trafficked persons are **women and girls**



Children in conflict and displacement are also at heightened risk of recruitment, exploitation, early marriage and trafficking, amongst other risks. Evidence from global datasets shows that children make up a disproportionate share of displaced populations and experience higher mortality and morbidity in conflict-affected settings. The cumulative effect is a generational setback. Disrupted learning, toxic stress, and entrenched cycles of poverty persist long after the violence subsides, making violence one of the most powerful drivers of child vulnerability in our region.

OUR WORK TO ELIMINATE

Violence Against Women and Children

World Vision has been effectively addressing violence against women and children for decades. In 2025, our child protection programmes reached 1.5 million. We work with children, parents, carers, teachers and other stakeholders to create a safer environment, reduce the risk of violence, exploitation and abuse for children, and build psychosocial well-being. We do this through the following programme models:



Celebrating Families

Celebrating Families is our evidence-based, faith-inclusive parenting model designed to strengthen the protective, nurturing environment children need to thrive. It equips parents and caregivers with practical skills to deepen attachment, improve communication, and create safe, loving, and violence-free homes. Grounded in positive parenting, child development science and culturally adaptable tools, our model helps families address harmful norms, reduce stress, and build resilience, especially in vulnerable or fragile contexts where children face heightened risks. By focusing on strengthening caregiver well-being as well as parenting behaviours, Celebrating Families contributes directly to improved child protection, emotional security, early development and long-term well-being, making it a high-impact, scalable approach for impactful, evidence-driven family strengthening interventions.



Channels of Hope – Gender

Channels of Hope – Gender is our proven social norms change model that mobilises faith leaders, communities and households to transform harmful gender attitudes and practices that undermine the well-being of women and children. Through facilitated dialogue, theological reflection, and community action planning, the model helps faith and community influencers confront beliefs that justify gender inequality, child marriage, and gender-based violence, replacing them with affirming, rights-based and faith-consistent messages that promote dignity, equity and protection.

It builds practical skills for positive gender relationships within families, strengthens local referral and support systems, and empowers women and girls to participate more fully in household and community life. Evidence from multiple countries shows that Channels of Hope shifts gender norms, reduces tolerance of violence, and improves child protection outcomes, making it a highly strategic investment for social norm transformation and sustainable community-led change.



The PROTECT Package

Our PROTECT model is a comprehensive child protection framework designed to prevent and respond to abuse, neglect, violence, and exploitation by strengthening the protective environment around children. It focuses on building family and community capacity to keep children safe, equipping parents, caregivers, teachers, faith leaders, community volunteers, and local institutions with the knowledge, skills, and systems needed to recognise risks, promote positive caregiving, and act when harm occurs. Our model integrates community-based child protection mechanisms, awareness-raising, referral pathways, and collaboration with government services to ensure that children have access to timely support. Through a combination of prevention, advocacy, case management, and community mobilisation, PROTECT aims to create resilient, accountable, and nurturing environments where children can grow and thrive free from violence.



Community-Based Violence Prevention Programmes

Our community-based violence prevention and social cohesion programmes work to reduce interpersonal and communal violence by empowering communities to identify root causes of tension and building locally led solutions. We strengthen social cohesion by facilitating dialogue between diverse groups, promoting equitable participation, and rebuilding trust in contexts affected by fragility, conflict, or rapid social change. Using approaches such as community peace committees, participatory conflict analysis, youth engagement, behaviour change methodologies, and specific approaches for men and boys, we help communities develop shared norms of non-violence and collective responsibility for safety.

Our programmes address underlying drivers of violence, such as gender inequality, harmful social norms, economic stress, and weak governance, whilst improving referral pathways and collaboration with authorities. The result is stronger, more resilient communities with increased capacity to prevent violence, manage disputes peacefully, and protect women and children from harm.

DEMONSTRATING OUR IMPACT

Celebrating Families in Sri Lanka



Over 2024, the Celebrating Families programme in Sri Lanka benefitted 3,683 children and 2,342 parents. A staggering 99% of participants reported that they could see evidence of change after the programme. 29.9% of parents reported improved relationships within the family, and 34.5% reported benefits such as improved interest and support for children's education. 35.6% noted improved health, nutrition or relationships with the community. 81% of parents reported a change in their parenting attitudes and practices since participation in the programme. For example, 28.6% of parents said that they had reduced scolding of children, and a further 6% reported less use of name-calling, hitting and other violent punishments. 62% of families reported reduced consumption of alcohol or other harmful substances. 96% of children reported positive changes in their parents' relationships with them and each other. 91% of children saw greater participation of their fathers in household work to support their mother.

Across the study, caregivers demonstrated increased knowledge of child development, strengthened positive parenting practices, and improved communication within the household. The programme contributed to reductions in physical and emotional punishment, healthier family routines, and more supportive relationships between parents and children. Children reported feeling more valued, safer, and more emotionally supported in their homes. Measurable improvements in the confidence, behaviour, and overall well-being of children were confirmed by both caregivers and children across multiple study districts. This study demonstrated that Celebrating Families not only shifts attitudes and behaviours but also produces tangible, sustained improvements in child protection and family resilience, making Celebrating Families a high-impact, scalable, and evidence-based solution to reduce violence against children in the South Asia and Pacific region.

Advancing Women's Equality Across the Solomon Islands



In the Solomon Islands, nearly two-thirds of women have experienced physical or sexual violence from a partner. Our Channels of Hope approach has delivered transformative results by dismantling the cultural and social drivers of abuse. In a single year, World Vision works with hundreds of community members to promote gender equity and inclusion more generally through this programme, motivating community action to address violence against women. Last year, this included 874 children and youth, 956 parents and caregivers and 158 faith leaders.

Rigorous evaluations demonstrate our success in effectively and sustainably changing deeply held beliefs. For example, in our project areas, the percentage of women who believed they should not have a voice in household decision making plummeted from 34% to just 4%. Simultaneously, male participants have shown a significant rise in recognising women's rights, with 83% acknowledging a wife's right to refuse sexual advances, compared to 70% before the programme. These significant changes in behaviour represent a critical transition toward a safer society where violence, particularly against women and children, is no longer accepted.

Our programming moves beyond individual attitude changes to creating a robust community-led protection network. For example, by mobilising Community Hope Action Teams (CHAT), we established a permanent community-led presence that links survivors to essential services, such as the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force and the Family Support Centre, as well as supporting their livelihoods and community participation. Last year, over 60% of our CHAT participants were women, many of whom transitioned into leadership roles within local saving and producer groups.

These outcomes represent a scalable, multisectoral and successful approach that could reduce the staggering USD 15 million annual productivity loss caused by gender-based violence in the Solomon Islands. It also demonstrates an effective approach to addressing community violence in the region, fostering social justice and contributing to greater economic stability.

02. URBANISATION AND MIGRATION



Across our region, we are seeing mass movements of populations within and across countries, leading to family separation and other severe impacts for children. Urban migration has accelerated over the past two decades, driven by interwoven factors such as economic inequality, environmental stress, and governance challenges.

The region's exposure to climate hazards such as floods, cyclones, droughts, sea-level rise, landslides, and the impact of climate change has intensified the movement of people, particularly from rural to urban areas. Our data shows that 17.5 million people were displaced by disasters across our region in 2024.

For example, in Nepal, a combination of glacial melt, erratic rainfall, and landslides has reduced agricultural viability, pushing rural households to migrate toward Kathmandu. In Sri Lanka, monsoon variability, floods, and prolonged droughts disrupt agricultural livelihoods in the dry zones, prompting migration to cities like Colombo. In Papua New Guinea, it is expected that almost 50,000 people will face permanent displacement by 2070 due to climate change and disasters.



Rural-to-urban migrants often find themselves without work or engaged in informal labour or domestic work, with limited protections. As a result, the urban poor, especially women and children, face unsafe living conditions, loss of social support networks, and limited formal work opportunities. Based on our data, we estimate that 29.4 million children across our region are living in slum conditions. This creates a significant increase in their vulnerability and exposure to risks of violence, disease, and ongoing poverty, as well as reducing access to education and critical services.

The Asia-Pacific region is also a major global migration hub and is estimated to host 27.2 million international migrant workers, accounting for 16% of the global migrant workforce. The region also accounts for a large share of global international migration, with Asia being the origin of 304 million international migrants. Intra-regional migration remains dominant, but movement outside the region is also continuing. The International Organisation for Migration reports that in a single year, 13.6 million people from India, 4.8 million from Bangladesh, 2.7 million from the Philippines, 1.8 million from Nepal, 0.8 million from Sri Lanka, and 0.2 million from Fiji migrated out of their home countries. Migration has wide-ranging effects on children, whether they remain at home or migrate with their parents. Children in home communities often experience emotional strain

from prolonged separation from their parents, changes in primary caregivers, and increased household responsibilities. This can contribute to school absenteeism and reduced academic performance. Children who migrate with their parents frequently face disrupted education, language barriers, lack of documentation, limited access to health services, unstable housing, social exclusion and discrimination in their new communities. In both situations, children's health and well-being can be put at risk.

Forced migration and displacement also make a significant contribution to the increased vulnerability of children in our region.

The Asia Pacific region hosts 17.3 million refugees, people in "refugee-like situations," asylum-seekers, stateless persons, internally displaced people and people protected by UNHCR.

8.1 million children were provided with assistance in the region, accounting for 47% of those assisted, despite representing only 27% of the region's population. Many forcibly displaced children spend their entire childhoods away from home, sometimes separated from their families. Some have witnessed or experienced violence and face heightened risks of abuse, neglect, violence, exploitation, trafficking or military recruitment while displaced.

OUR WORK TO ADDRESS

Children and Families on the Move

World Vision recognises that migration deeply affects children, families, and entire communities. All forms of migration pose risks to child well-being, whether internal, cross-border, seasonal, climate-induced, or forced by fragility, conflict or economic hardship. We view migration as a complex social phenomenon interwoven with poverty, environmental change, inequality and systemic vulnerability. Our goal is to promote safe, dignified migration, protect children and families at risk, and address root causes so that migration becomes a choice, not a necessity. Additionally, we work to ensure children's education continues through migration, and work towards household protection and resilience. Our approach covers all aspects of migration, from source communities to transit zones, and both destination and return contexts. Across our South Asia and Pacific countries, we estimate that we have supported 230,000 people with programming to support safe migration over the last year.

Prevention and Community Resilience

In many contexts, especially climate-vulnerable and disaster-vulnerable parts of our region, migration results from environmental stress, poverty and lack of livelihood opportunities. To address this, we work across all our programmes to strengthen community resilience, support sustainable livelihoods, and reduce the "push" factors that drive migration.



We also continue to invest in community development interventions that enhance access to water and sanitation, health services, nutrition, education, income-generation, and child safety in source areas for migration. We aim to make staying at home a viable, safe and dignified choice for all families. We work to protect the rights and well-being of children affected by migration. This includes both children on the move and those in home communities who are at risk of exploitation and abuse. We reduce this risk and promote safe and dignified migration, whilst enhancing access to essential services and child protection mechanisms. Through our approach, we empower displaced children and families to become active participants in shaping their futures.

Protection for Migrants - Especially Children and Families

For children on the move, or with home communities, World Vision provides protection services, including safe child-friendly spaces, psychosocial support, access to education, health services, and other support to reduce the risk of harm. For example, our Human Mobility and Migration programme combines migrant health, anti-human trafficking, decent work, and addressing the rights and needs of women and children.



We recognise that migrants face overlapping vulnerabilities in terms of health, labour rights, child protection, and legal status, amongst other issues, and tailor interventions to these areas, based on the local context. In situations of forced displacement, we work with refugees and internally displaced people, deploying an integrated approach that addresses both humanitarian and development needs of affected and host communities. This includes interventions to address water, sanitation, health, nutrition, livelihoods, child protection, and education that benefit both displaced and host communities, contributing to reducing social tensions.



Safer Migration Pathways – preventing exploitation, trafficking and abuse

In areas where cross-border labour migration is common, we establish programmes to prevent trafficking and unsafe migration. Our work aims to give migrants, and those considering migration, more information, support, and safer options for themselves and their families. This includes a specific focus on children and youth. For example, the World Vision Smart Navigator Toolkit provides life-skills and decision-making education that helps young people develop the resilience, knowledge and planning ability to avoid exploitative migration or risky journeys.

Promoting Inclusion and Integration of Displaced Children and Families



When migrant families settle in a new location, or return home after a period of displacement, we focus on supporting children's access to essential services such as education, healthcare, legal identity and registration, and social protection.

We also continue to work towards protecting children from violence and abuse, including addressing bullying at school and risks at home. More broadly, World Vision aims to foster inclusion, community belonging, and social cohesion in destination or host communities, helping migrant families integrate rather than be marginalised. When migrants return home, we support reintegration, helping families rebuild livelihoods, reconnect children with education, providing essential goods and restoring social support systems.

Research, Evidence & Advocacy - Informing Policy and Practice



We combine programme delivery with research. For example, documenting the link between climate change, vulnerability and migration to understand how climate-induced migration affects children who leave and children with their home communities, as well as their families and the broader community.

This helps us to highlight how environmental pressures, poverty, debt, and social marginalisation push families toward distress migration and why sustainable livelihood support, disaster resilience, and child-centred protection are critical. This research creates an evidence base to support us in advocating for policies that sustainably safeguard children's rights, promote safe migration pathways, protect against exploitation/trafficking, and ensure access to education and services irrespective of migrant status.

DEMONSTRATING OUR IMPACT

Preparing Families for Migration – the Famili I Redi programme in Vanuatu



Famili I Redi is a five-day training programme co-designed and delivered by World Vision and IOM, endorsed by the Vanuatu Department of Labour. The training helps labour migrants and their families maximise the benefits of labour mobility while reducing risks like family stress and gender-based violence. The programme equips workers and spouses with practical skills in communication, emotional resilience, financial planning, health and nutrition, positive relationships during separation, and reintegration planning, using a holistic approach that strengthens equitable partnerships. Famili I Redi achieved strong behaviour change results, with participants demonstrating increased stress management, violence-free relationships, positive communication during separation, age-appropriate parenting, and access to support services. Financial management outcomes were equally strong, with 78% finding budgeting the most useful component, and participants actively using budgeting tools to save, plan expenses, pay school fees, and prepare for migration costs. Impacts extended beyond participants, with 90% of participants sharing their knowledge so the broader community benefited.

Participant testimonies also revealed significant changes in decision-making and family well-being. For example, several couples delayed migration to safeguard their children's well-being, reflecting heightened awareness of family separation risks. Chiefs and community leaders reported fewer relationship breakdowns amongst participants, indicating increased social cohesion and violence prevention. The programme also promoted gender equality by involving partners, balancing financial decision-making, and addressing unpaid care work dynamics. Stakeholders confirmed that the training effectively mitigates key labour mobility risks, including relationship breakdowns, violence, financial stress, and negative child outcomes, filling gaps not covered in mandatory post-arrival briefings. Building on these strong results, this approach is being scaled up with adaptation for the Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste to address labour mobility in these countries.

Combating Trafficking and Online Exploitation of Children in the Philippines



In the Philippines, our Against Child Exploitation (ACE) project has established critical protections against child trafficking and the exploitation risks exacerbated by migration. In a country where an estimated 1.83 million nationals work abroad, millions of children remain at home whilst their parents and carers work overseas. This can increase their vulnerability to exploitation, including online exploitation, trafficking, child labour and other abuses due to shifted parenting dynamics and economic desperation. ACE has directly countered these impacts by institutionalising local protections and providing economic alternatives that keep families intact and children safe.

For example, the ACE project focuses on locations with high levels of migration, such as Quezon City and Cagayan de Oro. In these areas, the project addresses the specific risks faced by children in these communities, such as an increased risk of children being sold into labour or sexual exploitation by relatives, when parents are absent. To address this, we worked with local stakeholders to create a framework for longer-term protection for families. For example, Project ACE successfully advocated for local governments in Cagayan de Oro to increase budget allocations for at-risk families from 1% to 20%, reducing the financial pressure on parents to migrate or send their children into hazardous work.

Building on this success, World Vision played a pivotal role in the passage and localisation of Republic Act 11930 in the Philippines. This was a landmark law focusing on the prevention of Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children (OSAEC) and Child Sexual Abuse

or Exploitation Materials (CSAEM). Enacted in 2022, Act 11930 institutionalises a collaborative approach to prevent, detect, and prosecute the online exploitation of children. It also criminalises the digital trafficking of children, a form of exploitation that has surged as traffickers increasingly use online recruitment of at-risk children.

At the community level, the project has strengthened monitoring and action to better protect children. For example, through the establishment of Community Hope Action Teams (CHAT) and Barangay Children's Associations, the project trained over 1,100 child protection officers to identify early signs of trafficking and monitor the well-being of children in households affected by migration. Each year, programmes such as ACE reach over 61,320 people, including 45,678 children, and train a further 1,226 individuals to enhance the reporting and referral of child protection issues.

Building on our regional presence, the project also facilitated cross-border collaboration – supporting the sharing of information between the Philippines and Vietnam to address child labour and trafficking. This also ensured that survivors who return to the Philippines receive comprehensive legal and psychosocial reintegration support. This year, we aim to fully transition the project to a community-owned and self-sustaining system where local government units independently fund and enforce the child safeguards created by Republic Act 11930 and other laws to directly reduce the drivers of unsafe migration and better protect the rights of the Philippines' most vulnerable children.

03. CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTERS



Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, reshaping ecosystems, disrupting human development and destabilising economies across our region. Rising sea levels threaten the very existence of Pacific Island nations, while South Asia faces increasingly severe floods, droughts, cyclones and heatwaves that compound social, environmental and economic vulnerabilities. Home to 60% of the world's population and undergoing rapid urbanisation and industrialisation, the region both contributes to climate pressures and remains one of the most exposed to their consequences.

The impacts are stark. Pacific nations such as Vanuatu face sea-level rise of up to 30 centimetres by 2030, driving saltwater intrusion, eroding coastlines, destroying homes and livelihoods, and heightening the risk of displacement and social tension. Mainland countries like Bangladesh experience escalating climate extremes, typhoons, flooding and prolonged drought, disrupting essential services and deepening resource scarcity. Across the region, climate-related disasters threaten every community. Most people in the Pacific rely on agriculture for their food and income, so these impacts are threatening both health and livelihoods for the most vulnerable communities in the region. The consequences are far-reaching, with six out of ten Pacific Island Countries

now at risk of high debt distress due to climate impacts. Recovery and resilience to climate shocks are made even more challenging by the frequency and severity of disasters in the Pacific. Climate shocks are intensifying, with Pacific children now experiencing six times as many disasters as their grandparents, pushing families deeper into poverty and displacement. They face a risk of displacement, disruption to their education, food insecurity and other hardships because of this increased exposure to disasters.

Climate shocks are also reducing agricultural productivity, undermining food security and pushing already vulnerable families deeper into hardship across the region. Water scarcity now affects nearly 850 million people across the region, while climate-induced displacement uproots an estimated 12 million people each year, leaving families in prolonged instability that fuels social stress and protection risks. Environmental degradation, driven by unsustainable resource use, high population density and industrialisation, further erodes community resilience and increases the likelihood of natural-resource conflict, placing children at heightened danger. The economic toll is immense. Last year alone, natural disasters caused more than USD 85 billion in losses across the region, trapping millions in cycles of poverty.

OUR WORK TO ADDRESS

Climate Change and Disasters



World Vision launched 14 national disaster responses in 2025, reaching more than 1.36 million people; including 678,052 children in the region.

World Vision's global Environmental Stewardship and Climate Action portfolio helps families build resilience to escalating climate disasters and environmental shocks and address the broader impacts of climate change, including food shortages and poor nutrition.

Recognising that no single actor can address the climate crisis alone, we work in close partnership with communities, governments, businesses and development agencies to drive coordinated, high-impact solutions. Our work aligns with the *Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*, ensuring investments contribute directly to global commitments while delivering practical, community-led outcomes. Through innovative, evidence-based and scalable models, we support children and their families to live in safe, stable and thriving environments, supporting child health, family resilience, educational continuity, and advancing a more sustainable and equitable future for the region.

Our key programme models to address climate change and disasters include:



Natural Resource Management

World Vision promotes sustainable natural resource management through climate-smart farming practices, energy-efficient technologies and inclusive market systems that support women, small producers and other vulnerable groups to improve agricultural productivity and strengthen market access. By protecting and restoring land, vegetation and water, our programmes help rehabilitate fragile agroecosystems. Our work has a strong focus on smallholder farmers in semi-arid, rain-fed zones where declining food, income security

and increasing climate shocks place children's well-being at significant risk. Our interventions deliver measurable gains, including improved soil, water and vegetation conservation; expanded areas of land and forest under sustainable community management; increased vegetation cover, soil carbon and tree density; better household health and nutrition; and greater availability of fodder, firewood, timber and forest products.



Nature-Based Solutions

We work with communities to conserve and restore land and seascapes, creating more climate-resilient and sustainable ecosystems. Our flagship programme, **Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR)**, is a low-cost, community-led, nature-based solution. Through FMNR we work with communities to regenerate trees and shrubs to reverse environmental degradation while addressing poverty, hunger and climate vulnerability. FMNR delivers rapid environmental and microclimate benefits and can be integrated with climate-smart agriculture to maximise impact. Community stewardship of trees and

forest resources has been demonstrated to support sustainable harvesting of wood and non-timber products, reduce the labour burden on women and girls, and includes mangrove restoration in coastal areas. This results in increased tree cover across farms and communal lands, reduced wind and water damage to crops and soil, improved watershed water retention, enhanced nutrition and dietary outcomes, expanded employment and income opportunities, greater access to wood for household use and income, increased crop yield and diversity, and reduced need for migration.



Climate and Environmental Education

We strengthen climate action by empowering children, youth and communities in alignment with the UN **Action for Climate Empowerment**, using school-based programmes, curriculum integration and community-led environmental education to build climate literacy and drive behaviour change. By partnering with schools and Ministries of Education, we embed disaster

risk reduction and climate learning into national curricula, creating opportunities for meaningful child and youth leadership. As a result, children are actively engaged in climate action, including activities such as hazard mapping, and demonstrate increased understanding of the history, causes and impacts of climate change, positioning the next generation as informed, capable contributors to community resilience.



Climate Smart Agriculture

Our climate-smart agriculture initiatives strengthen the resilience and productivity of farming systems while reducing carbon emissions, using a suite of interventions such as agroforestry, conservation agriculture, water harvesting, crop diversification, biochar and composting, climate information services and erosion-control techniques. Tailored to local climate conditions, socio-economic contexts, and community priorities, these approaches help smallholder farmers manage climate risks, reduce the impacts of extreme weather events, and increase food

security through more reliable and productive livelihoods. As a result, farmers are adopting climate-smart technologies like solar pumps and drip irrigation, gaining improved access to tools, seeds and inputs, and achieving better soil fertility and higher residual soil carbon. World Vision interventions lead to improved household nutrition and dietary diversity, the establishment of kitchen and vegetable gardens, the creation of permaculture sites that enhance water management, and agroforestry systems that reduce erosion and increase water infiltration, all contributing to stronger, more climate-resilient communities.



Disaster Response and Risk Management

World Vision reduces exposure to climate risks through comprehensive **Community-Based Disaster Risk Management**. We strengthen local coping strategies and build the capacity of communities to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters through early risk identification and community-led mitigation and preparedness. This locally driven approach protects lives, livelihoods and the environment. We also deliver our **School Safety Approach**, a core component of our Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy, which promotes safe learning facilities, effective disaster management and resilience education. This is achieved by working with governments, teachers and

communities to embed disaster risk reduction into national education systems and teacher training. We also equip communities with **Anticipatory Action Training** that links early warnings to pre-emptive measures, and trains local Disaster Management Committees in leadership, first aid, early warning systems and search-and-rescue. As a result, communities are better able to prevent, reduce and respond to disasters. Our work leads to the establishment of **Community Action, Adaptation and Contingency Plans**, which include hazard-reduction strategies, and local governments are increasingly adopting disaster risk reduction approaches supported by trained committees.



Renewables and Energy-Efficient Technologies

We champion the adoption of green technologies, including solar energy, fuel-efficient stoves, and other solutions, to deliver both climate change mitigation and adaptation outcomes while safeguarding ecosystems. This reduces deforestation and carbon emissions, lowers household energy costs, and minimises indoor air pollution, benefiting women and children who are disproportionately exposed to woodsmoke, whilst also generating income opportunities for local communities. Our approach supports

informal employment for local stove artisans, fosters women's cooperatives, and promotes carbon credit revenue that funds microloans to empower communities economically and socially. World Vision programmes also build awareness of climate change among women and youth, ease the labour burden of firewood collection, and reduce pressure on forest resources. Together, this creates a holistic approach that integrates environmental sustainability, community resilience, and gender equity.



Integrated Water Resource Management

To promote effective and safe water management, we promote **Integrated Water Resource Management**. This includes wastewater reuse and water-saving irrigation technologies to address water scarcity challenges affecting vulnerable communities, ensuring equitable access for domestic use, agriculture, livestock, and livelihoods while mitigating pollution impacts. Central to this approach are WASH committees, which strengthen local capacity in water

management, community leadership, and governance. These committees consult with communities to identify needs, assess water supply, and guide actions to address gaps, with World Vision supporting them to manage water and sanitation resources safely, efficiently, and sustainably. Our programmes deliver improved access to water, rehabilitated infrastructure, and enhanced irrigation systems, and foster locally led solutions that safeguard both communities and the environment.



Waste Management

In densely populated and displaced communities, inadequate waste management systems create unsafe living conditions and promote the spread of disease. To address this, World Vision implements community-driven, environmentally sustainable waste management solutions where public services fall short, integrating circular economy principles, social enterprise, and local capacity building. Our initiatives include waste banks, soap recycling partnerships,

and programmes that transform waste into livelihoods. Such interventions simultaneously protect the environment, create employment, and generate income opportunities. By strengthening local systems, these approaches improve health and hygiene, build community resilience, and establish efficient and effective solid waste management, demonstrating a holistic model that balances social, economic, and environmental outcomes.

DEMONSTRATING OUR IMPACT

Turning Waste into Wealth with our PHINLA Project



The PHINLA Project is implemented by World Vision in the Philippines, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka with support from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). This project demonstrates a scalable, systems-based model for inclusive solid waste management. The initiative strengthens local government capacity to deliver decentralised waste services through training on waste policy, regulation, and recycling systems, while enabling low-income communities to participate in and benefit from waste value chains.

To date, PHINLA has facilitated the collection or diversion of over 610 tonnes of solid waste and engaged more than 136,000 people through training and awareness activities. In Sri Lanka, five Resource Banks now connect over 5,000 households (20,000 people) to formal waste collection and recycling systems. In the Philippines, 118 informal waste collectors have been organised as micro-entrepreneurs, with 49 reporting at least a 10% increase in household income. In Indonesia, 10 community recycling/resource banks have trained over 18,000 people, improving environmental outcomes, public health, and inclusive economic opportunities.

Sustainable farming drives improved nutrition in Papua New Guinea



The Better and Enhanced Agriculture for Nutrition (BEAN) project enhances food access, production, availability, and consumption of diverse, nutritious foods, especially for children and mothers across 11 remote communities within Papua New Guinea's Delta Fly District. Funded by the Australian Government, BEAN promotes sustainable farming and encourages balanced diets rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and dairy alternatives. Its goal is to make nutritious foods more affordable and accessible, especially for families with limited dietary choices. The project will ultimately benefit 12,393 people, living in some of the most climate-vulnerable and remote communities in the country.

BEAN trains farmers in sustainable agricultural techniques such as soil management, crop rotation, and composting to boost crop yields and optimise resource use. Recognising the impacts of climate change, the project integrates climate-smart farming approaches. It also promotes age-appropriate nutritious foods, highlighting balanced diets as critical for children's health and development. BEAN is implemented in close partnership with the National Agriculture Research Institute, the Department of Agriculture and Livestock, and other local organisations.

Last year, the project reached 6,035 people, including 740 children and youth. 80% of the farmers reported that not only had their knowledge of sustainable and climate-smart farming improved because of the project, but they had also shared this knowledge with others in the community. 80% of the participants shared that they were seeing positive changes in nutrition awareness and child feeding practices, with 70% reporting improved food diversity. Such outcomes demonstrate the ongoing impact of the BEAN project for improving livelihoods, food security and nutrition in Papua New Guinea and elsewhere.

04. CHILD HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION



Currently, the Asia-Pacific region is at a critical juncture. While hunger levels have marginally improved. Asia and the Pacific host 440 million hungry people. Our data also shows significant variations in food security across the region, both between and within countries. For example, we saw that food security improved by a mere 1.5% over 2021-2025. The rate of households facing food insecurity averages 59.3% across the region but ranges from 25.4% in Indonesia to 96.3% in Papua New Guinea. We believe that we will continue to see backwards steps in addressing hunger across the region, due to the compounding effects of climate shocks, regional conflict, and persistent food price inflation.

Children are highly vulnerable to food insecurity and poor nutrition. Severely malnourished children are 12 times more likely to die than well-nourished children. Children have far poorer access to appropriate nutrition services, with only one in three children in the region provided life-saving treatment for poor nutrition. Child wasting is reported at 8.9% in our region, significantly exceeding the global average of 6.7%. In South Asia, wasting is reported among a staggering 27.3 million children, creating a "red zone" for child survival. Across the region, nearly one in four children under five are stunted, and South Asia alone is home to 56 million stunted children. Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste report that nearly one in two children is stunted, amongst the highest rates recorded globally. Stunting and wasting significantly undermine the economic productivity and national stability of countries in our region.

The cost of a healthy diet in the region now averages USD 4.77 per person per day, making nutritious food unaffordable for over 850 million people, representing more than 40% of the population. In South Asia, every 10% increase in food prices has been directly linked to a rise of up to 4.3% in child wasting. In the Pacific, increased food prices are driven by a reliance on imports, with many nations now relying on imports for up to 80% of their caloric intake. This leaves vulnerable communities at the mercy of global price volatility. Climate change is also taking a toll on food security across the Pacific. In 2024 and 2025, back-to-back cyclones in Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands destroyed over 36% of household crops. Climate shocks are also forcing a shift away from nutritious local staples toward cheaper, nutrient-poor imported foods like noodles and sweets, directly driving a surge in child wasting.

At the same time, health and nutrition services are failing to reach the most vulnerable children due to a combination of access and financial barriers. The most severe outcomes are seen for children in remote areas, facing poverty, or unable to access critical nutrition information and services. Our data shows that only 38.9% of children in the region are exclusively breastfed until 6 months of age, ranging from 66.7% in areas of Bangladesh to as low as 7% in areas of Papua New Guinea. This could be addressed by better-quality nutrition services and support. However, such services are limited, particularly in rural areas, and many families lack the information or financial resources to seek the health and nutrition support that they need for their children to have a healthy future.

OUR WORK TO ERADICATE

Child Hunger and Malnutrition



We believe that no child should die from malnutrition. Our programmes support the recovery of malnourished children and mobilise communities to improve nutrition outcomes. We work with communities and local systems to improve the delivery of nutrition services, while promoting knowledge and practices that reduce malnutrition. In 2025, our health and nutrition programmes reached 2.1 million people, including over one million children, across our ten-country portfolio. Our programme models to end malnutrition include:

Food-Based Approaches



Positive Deviance – Health Plus (PDH+) uses locally available, inexpensive foods to treat and prevent malnutrition in children, while building community capacity for long-term support for optimal child nutrition. Even in hardship, some caregivers manage to raise well-nourished children. We work with communities to identify and understand these “positive deviant” practices to establish

effective, culturally appropriate and local nutrition solutions to improve child nutrition. Positive practices observed in the community are shared with malnourished households through a 10-12 day practical education session called ‘Hearth’, led by trained volunteers. During sessions, caregivers prepare and feed nutrient-rich meals to their children using low-cost, local ingredients. Hearth is followed by 4–6 home visits over two weeks to support caregivers in adopting and sustaining new behaviours. The ‘plus’ represents the inclusion of additional interventions targeting underlying drivers of poor nutrition to increase impact and sustainability. This includes activities such as growth monitoring, nutrition counselling, mother and care groups, kitchen gardens, biofortification, micronutrient powders, animal revolving funds and savings groups. This multi-sectoral approach strengthens household resilience and supports a more comprehensive, sustainable community-based nutrition approach.

Infant and Young Child Feeding



Infant and young child feeding practices are critical to the nutrition and health of children under two years. We promote safe infant feeding by supporting exclusive breastfeeding and optimal complementary feeding to prevent and treat malnutrition. Breastfeeding is one of the most effective ways to reduce child mortality. Breast milk is free, safe and

readily available, making it the most suitable option in most contexts. We support, promote and protect breastfeeding by working with families and communities in all contexts. Family support, especially from fathers and grandmothers, is essential to shift social behaviours around infant and young child feeding. We engage families to improve child nutrition, health, and development, addressing cultural and societal barriers in a respectful, locally appropriate way. In emergencies, we create safe spaces where mothers receive counselling on breastfeeding. We also procure and supply milk and milk-derived products in alignment with the **International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes**. To support communities, we empower community health workers by training them to provide breastfeeding counselling to pregnant and lactating women and strengthen peer support groups to sustain positive practices.

Social Behaviour Change



We believe that improving nutrition involves enabling positive practices. We use Social Behaviour Change, a systematic approach to influence individual and group behaviours for positive social outcomes. This approach

is applied across all programmes, deploying locally tailored interventions to meet local needs and improve nutrition outcomes. We engage communities in identifying and promoting culturally relevant, positive practices that support better nutrition outcomes, building on local knowledge and insights. We also address social norms to promote inclusion, service access, policy environments, and community perceptions. By working with communities, governments, and leaders, we remove access barriers and promote positive behaviours. We acknowledge that inequality and exclusion cause malnutrition, so we promote gender equality and inclusion to ensure equitable access to resources, decision-making, and inclusive systems at the household and government levels.

Addressing Child Hunger through our ENOUGH Campaign



The ENOUGH Campaign is part of a global World Vision initiative that aims to end child hunger and malnutrition, particularly in vulnerable communities affected by conflict and extreme poverty. It drives systemic change in food security and nutrition to reduce child vulnerability. ENOUGH advocates for expanded school meal programmes, influences government policy and investment to scale effective nutrition approaches, and amplifies children's voices in decision-making. Through a combination of advocacy from our regional office, Nutrition Dialogues from the grassroots to the regional level, and child- and community-led engagement in our country programmes, it translates the lived experience of hunger and malnutrition into policy-relevant evidence and recommendations. This work has helped improve alignment with global nutrition commitments and shape the enabling environment for stronger investment, accountability, and action on child nutrition across our region.

We also mobilise young people as advocates on issues that affect their lives through Child-Led Advocacy and Meaningful Participation (CHAMP). Through CHAMP, youth leaders from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, the

Philippines, and Sri Lanka have been trained in research skills by our partners at the Young and Resilient Research Centre at Western Sydney University. These young leaders designed and conducted research on the lived experiences, priorities and challenges related to food insecurity and nutrition in their communities and used the findings to advocate for change. This work has spotlighted how young people see barriers to nutritious food and what actions decision-makers should take, complementing our wider programming on nutrition across the region.

ENOUGH has achieved measurable impact. In Bangladesh, it contributed to seven key child nutrition policies, reaching over 47 million children. In Indonesia, it advanced the adoption of Nutri-Score labelling to guide healthier food choices. In Nepal, it strengthened school meal guidelines. In the Solomon Islands, it supported real-time growth monitoring for early detection and action to address undernutrition. Through these interventions, ENOUGH builds local capacity, strengthens community-led nutrition programmes and creates sustainable pathways to ensure children are healthy and well nourished.

DEMONSTRATING OUR IMPACT

Integrated Solutions for Nutrition Security in Rural Sri Lanka



In Sri Lanka's Uva and North Central provinces, increasingly erratic rainfall and chronic water shortages are putting nutrition and livelihoods at risk for thousands of children and their families. In turn, this creates significant and ongoing shortages of nutritious food and poor nutrition outcomes for children. Acute malnutrition affects 19–20% of children under five. This is well above the WHO "serious" threshold of 10% for public health concern. Stunting affects 14–15% of children under five, and 23–24% of young children are considered underweight. Food insecurity is significant, meaning that access to sufficient, nutritious food is a key underlying driver of poor nutrition outcomes for children. In response, World Vision partnered with Sarvodaya, a trusted local organisation, to deliver an integrated, community-led programme that strengthens nutrition security, builds climate resilience, and ensures a better future for children in this highly vulnerable region.

The Australian Government funded this project with USD 2.31 million to support smallholder farmers, preschool children, women, and people with disabilities. The project provided essential inputs, technical training, and stronger farming systems to 11,734 farmers, resulting in 8,781 acres of land cultivated across six nutritious crops and increased local food availability and household resilience to climate shocks. The project also delivered direct nutrition outcomes for children through a preschool mid-day meal programme, providing regular, nutritious meals to 2,478 young children at a critical stage of development. Additionally, 1,957 children benefited from targeted education on nutrition and hygiene, helping families build healthy practices that last beyond the project's duration. By linking climate-smart agriculture with child nutrition and inclusive community engagement, this partnership demonstrates how strategic investment can deliver lasting improvements in food security, child well-being, and resilience in some of Sri Lanka's most climate-vulnerable communities.

Improving Nutrition and Food Security in Timor-Leste



In Timor-Leste, World Vision is leading efforts to improve nutrition and food security across the region through the Better Food, Better Health programme, a five-year initiative funded by the Australian Government. This USD 8.5 million project is delivering positive nutritional outcomes by increasing access to, utilisation of, and demand for diverse and nutritious foods and cash crops. A combination of strategies is being adopted to address malnutrition and food insecurity created by climate change. This includes the promotion of healthier food, improved growing practices, livelihood diversification and nutrition-sensitive agriculture. The project is also supporting Savings and Loans Groups, providing families with financial tools to invest in food production and improve household dietary diversity.

The Better Food, Better Health programme led to a significant improvement in dietary diversity. At the project's start, only 13% of children in project areas met the minimum dietary diversity requirement of four food groups. After the project, 55% of children achieved this goal. The project also drove significant behaviour change, supporting communities to consume more nutritious "superfoods" as part of its nutrition-sensitive agriculture approach. This included soybeans, mung beans, red kidney beans, orange sweet potato, moringa and eggs. These foods are nutrient-dense, locally appropriate, and under-utilised. In the project, World Vision worked with farming groups, parents' clubs and community volunteers to grow, prepare, process and market superfoods. As a result, the number of mothers and children eating superfoods increased from 14% at the start of the project to 59% at the end. Such projects demonstrate how our systems-based approach connects agriculture, health, social behaviour change and economic empowerment to build long-term resilience in communities vulnerable to both climate change and malnutrition, and drive sustainable improvements for children.



PARTNER WITH US TO REDUCE CHILD VULNERABILITY IN SOUTH ASIA AND PACIFIC

Our South Asia and Pacific region is currently at a critical turning point, with a convergence of climate shocks, instability, and economic strain rapidly escalating the vulnerability of millions of children. This creates an urgent opportunity and responsibility to invest in actions that meaningfully reduce child vulnerability. Your support and partnership can make a transformative difference.

World Vision is delivering evidence-based, community-driven, scalable solutions to tackle these intersecting challenges. Our positive parenting and social norms programmes strengthen families and reduce harmful behaviours, contributing to safer, more nurturing environments for women and children. Our migration and urbanisation initiatives empower children and families to navigate mobility safely, access services, and reintegrate successfully. Our climate adaptation and disaster resilience programmes range from climate-smart agriculture to community-led disaster risk reduction, helping families to protect livelihoods, enhance food security, access essential services and better withstand future shocks. Our nutrition initiatives work with mothers, children, families and communities to enhance the prevention and treatment of child nutrition, ensuring children have the healthy start they need for lifelong development.

We offer strategic, high-impact investment pathways to accelerate community resilience and ensure children have the best chance at a better future:



Scale positive parenting and social norms interventions to reduce violence against women and children in high-risk and fragile contexts.



Expand safe migration pathways and anti-trafficking measures to ensure children and families are supported, protected and empowered before, during and after migration.



Invest in climate-smart livelihoods and child-centred disaster risk reduction to enhance the resilience of communities exposed to climate change and environmental shocks.



Strengthen nutrition systems through proven programme models and community-based resilience approaches to improve long-term child health outcomes.

We cannot address this challenge alone. By partnering with World Vision, you can leverage our 70-year, locally led operational presence to scale our proven approaches and accelerate transformative change. We are strategically committed to driving greater impact through strengthened partnerships, innovation and localisation models that empower communities to lead their own development.

Together we can strengthen community capacity, protect children from harm, and build resilience against shocks and long-term threats. We can ensure that vulnerable children in the South Asia and Pacific region grow up safe, nourished, and empowered to thrive, even in the face of unprecedented challenges.

APPENDIX: REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Across South Asia and Pacific, millions of children are facing a convergence of risks to their safety and well-being, including climate shocks, instability, and economic strain that are rapidly outpacing the systems meant to protect them. At this critical moment, the future of millions of children across South Asia and Pacific depends on bold, collective action from governments and development partners to address the key drivers of increasing child vulnerability across the region. Together, we can ensure that all children are protected and have every opportunity for a full and productive future.



World Vision has been working in the South Asia and Pacific region for over 70 years. We bring sustained presence, expertise, local partnerships, and institutional memory to our work. This gives us a deep understanding of the needs of children and their communities, as well as proven expertise to act effectively in improving the lives of children. Our current programme supports operations in ten countries, as well as partner-led programmes in an additional five Pacific countries (Figure 1). We have 3,247 permanent staff working in our offices across the region, including 34 regional staff. 98% of our staff are local, bringing invaluable knowledge, networks and understanding to everything we do. Our ongoing presence builds a depth of insight, community connection and programmatic experience that few organisations can match. Leveraging our expertise and leadership, we partner with governments, communities, donors and faith leaders to deliver an effective and holistic development model. We work across child protection, health and nutrition, education, water and sanitation, livelihoods, climate change and disaster-risk reduction so that children and their families can build resilience and live with dignity. Through long-term community-driven Area Development Programmes and rapid humanitarian response where crises arise, we tackle the root causes of poverty, whilst shielding children from violence, exploitation, malnutrition and exclusion. More than 9 million people, including over 5 million children, benefited from World Vision's programmes in 2025, demonstrating our deep, long-term impact across South Asia and Pacific.

Over decades of work in this region, we have witnessed significant development. However, we are now witnessing growing threats to our hard-earned progress. 42% of the region's population,

accounting for 880 million people, live on less than USD 3 per day, reflecting entrenched inequality that has not improved in more than 20 years (Figure 2).

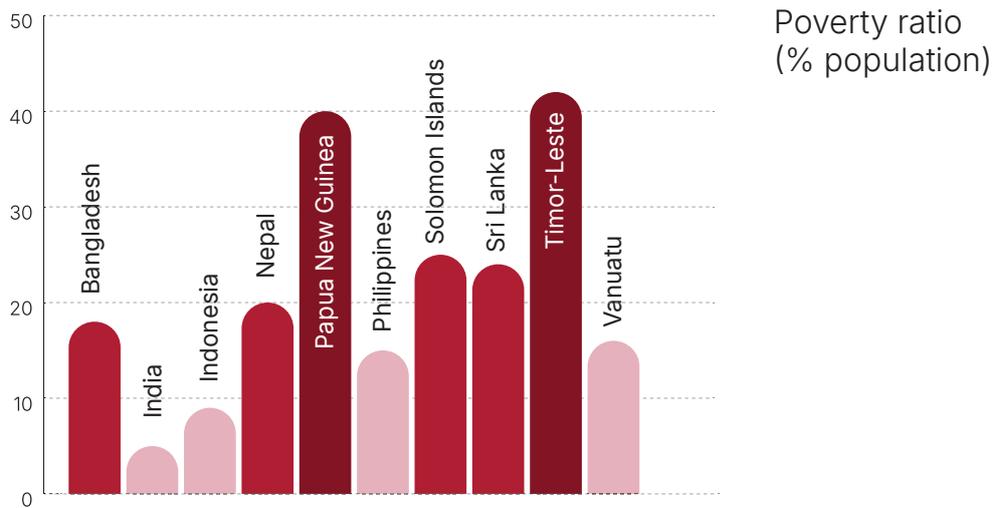


Figure 2: The percentage of each population in South Asia and Pacific countries living below the national poverty line, which is defined as living below USD\$3 per day.

This is driven by pockets of severe and ongoing inequality that are increasing the vulnerability of millions of children. Mapping of the Gini coefficient (GINI) illustrates the uneven distribution of income across countries and households in the region (Figure 3).

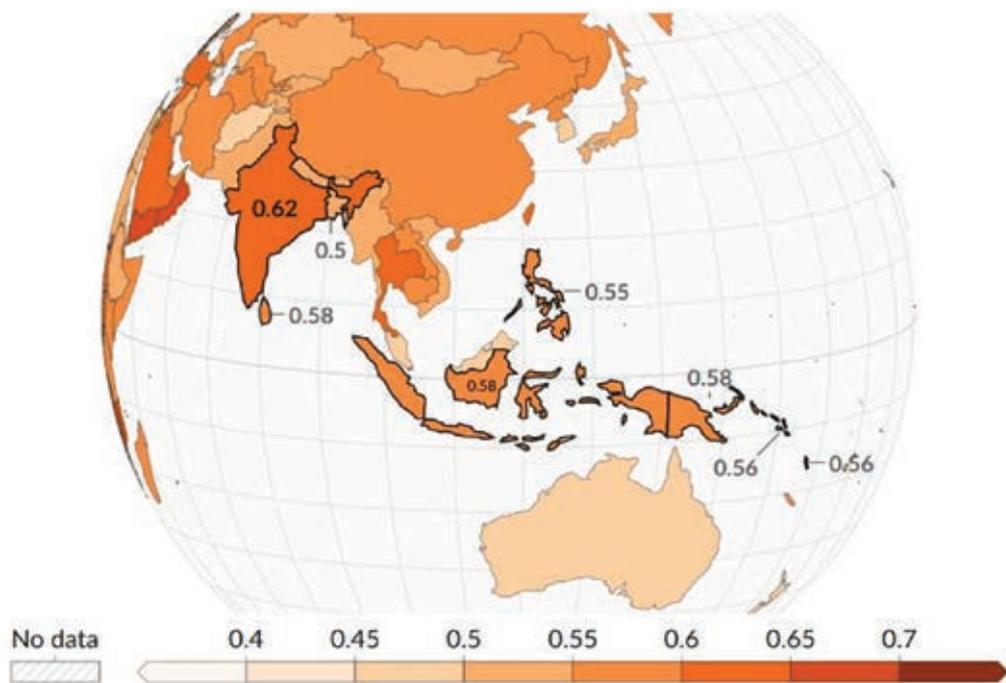


Figure 3: GINI values for World Vision South Asia and Pacific Countries

Higher GINI values indicate greater disparities in access to resources, opportunities, and well-being, linked with higher child vulnerability. Globally, most countries have a GINI score between 0.25-0.55. GINI scores for almost every country in our region exceed this average. Even more alarming, our analysis shows that despite our joint efforts, there has been little or no improvement in the inequality experienced across the region in more than 20 years (Figure 4).

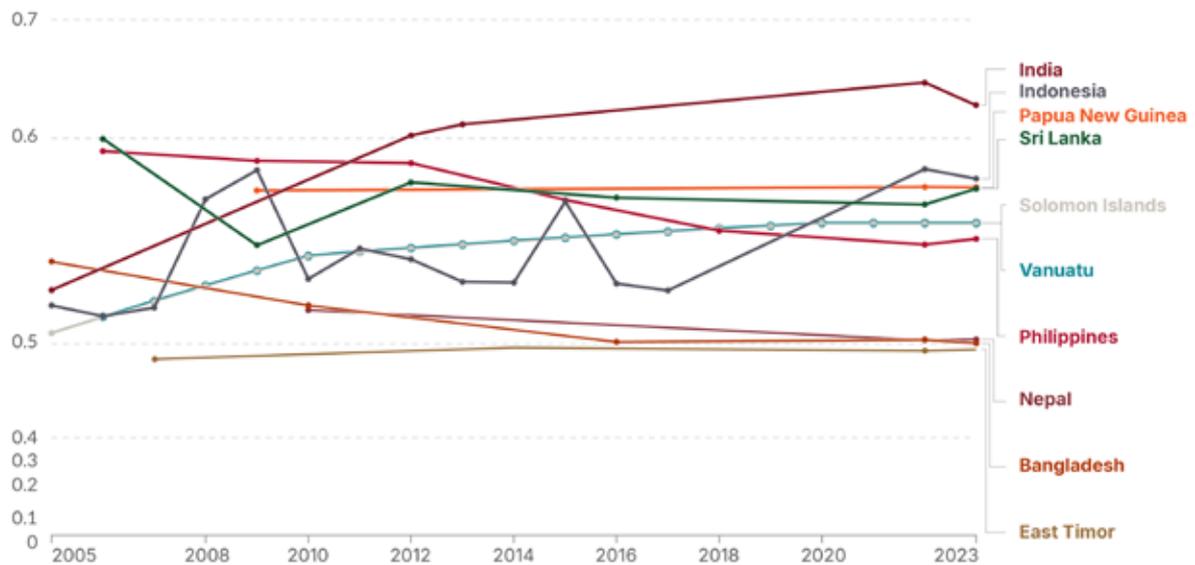


Figure 4: GINI values from 2005-2023 across the World Vision South Asia and Pacific region.

The erosion of development gains is also reflected in stagnating progress against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Figure 5).

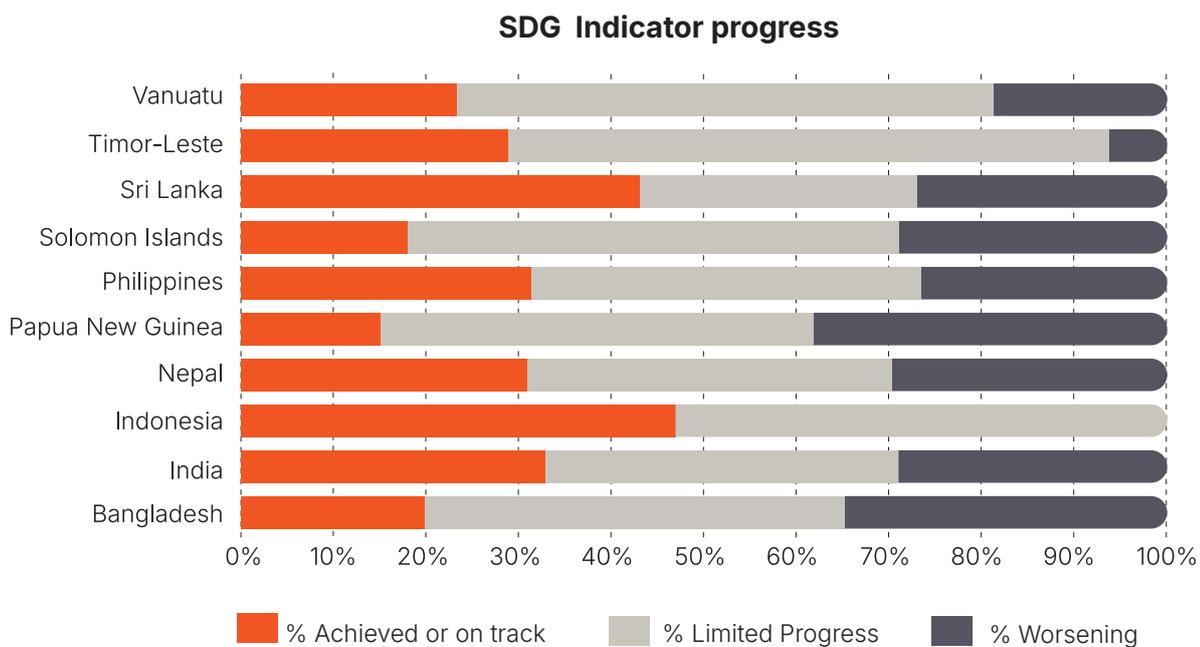


Figure 5: Progress achieved against the Sustainable Development Goals in South Asia and Pacific countries.

Within a single year, almost all countries within our South Asia and Pacific region have shown little or no progress against the SDGs or a disturbing reversal of previous gains. This is driven by overlapping crises, including climate shocks, conflict, economic strain and the long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. In turn, the attention demanded to address these issues has reduced national investment and capacity to deliver essential services and protect our most vulnerable. Fiscal constraints, rising debt and widening inequalities mean that children living in poverty, remote areas or fragile contexts are the first to feel the impact of stalled development and the last to benefit from recovery. Weak systems, data gaps and fragmented approaches further slow momentum, leaving millions of children exposed to risks that the SDGs were designed to reduce. This growing divergence between ambition and reality underscores the urgent need for targeted, coordinated investment to accelerate progress and ensure children are protected.

Our data shows that children in the South Asia and Pacific region are much more vulnerable to the impact of disasters, urbanisation, discrimination and violence than other children in the world (Figure 6).

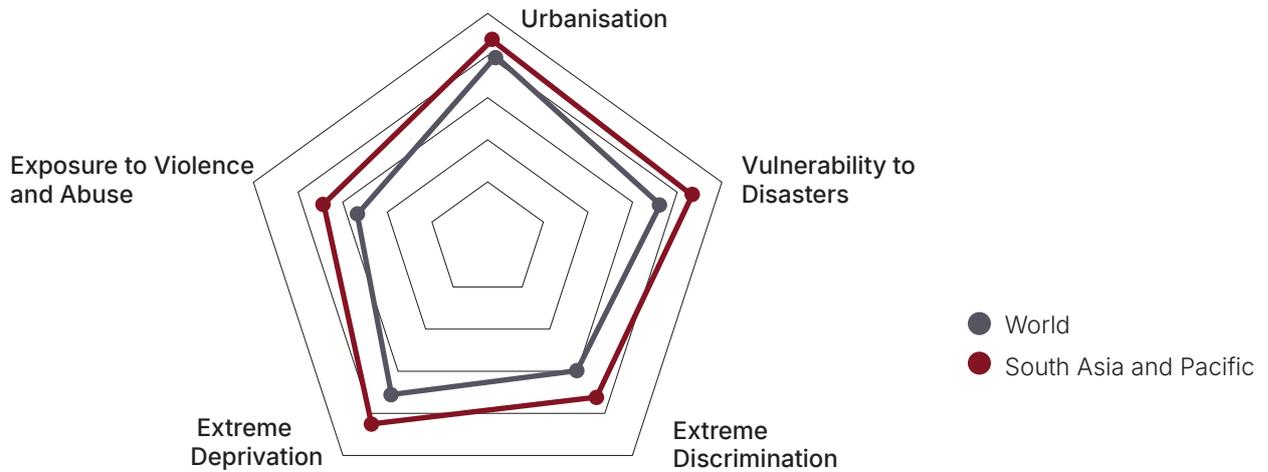


Figure 6: Radar map of multiple dimensions of child well-being for children in the South Asia and Pacific region, compared with the global average.

These issues compound developmental challenges and drive a high level of child vulnerability across the region (Figure 7).



Figure 7: Child Vulnerability in South Asia and Pacific Region, 2025

At World Vision, we see four key drivers contributing to this increased child vulnerability. We have prioritised additional emphasis and investment in these areas and enhanced our broader programmes to improve child well-being across our region. The first is addressing violence in the community, especially violence against women and children. Secondly, addressing the impact of urbanisation and migration on children. This includes the risk of family separation, as well as the high risk of exploitation and abuse for children who migrate and children who remain at home. Thirdly, we are working to address the impacts of climate change and disasters by working with communities to support mitigation and adaptation. Finally, we are delivering a cohesive approach to improving nutrition outcomes across our region. We are confident that our work in these areas will enhance our ability to turn the tide on increased child vulnerability, ensuring that every child in our region can thrive.



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