

ANNUAL REPORT

World Vision
EAST AFRICA REGION

**2025 HUMANITARIAN AND
EMERGENCY AFFAIRS – EAST
AFRICA REGION**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3	Foreword by Lilian Dodzo	16	Enhancing Disaster Response Agility through Prepositioned & Flexible Funding in East Africa
4	Preface by Barzil Mwakulomba	17	Anticipatory Action: Acting earlier to Protect Lives , Dignity & Resources
5	Humanitarian Landscape 2025 and Beyond	18	Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM)
6	FY25 Humanitarian Impact Research Summary	19	World Vision Ethiopia Rapid Response Mechanisms Achievement in FY25
7	East Africa Region Humanitarian Context for 2025	20	Call for Humanitarian Advocacy on Protracted Crises in E. Africa
12	Forced Displacement in East Africa in 2025	21	Human Impact Stories
14	Impact of Ration and Funding Cuts to Communities	22	Donors and Partners

FOREWORD

REGIONAL LEADER

The past year tested the foundations of humanitarian action in East Africa. Never before have needs been so vast while resources diminished so sharply. In Financial Year 2025 (FY25), conflict, climate shocks, disease outbreaks, and economic stress converged across the region, driving humanitarian needs to unprecedented levels at the very moment global funding contracted and access grew more constrained. These realities demanded not business as usual, but a decisive shift in how we operate, prioritise, and partner. In this environment, World Vision East Africa chose to adapt with purpose. Guided by our commitment to the most vulnerable—especially children—we reshaped our humanitarian response to be faster, leaner, and more anticipatory. Despite severe funding pressures, our teams reached 7.5 million people, including 4 million children, through integrated, multi-sectoral interventions spanning food and cash assistance, health and nutrition, education, WASH, protection, livelihoods, and mental health and psychosocial support across the nine countries in our Region. This impact was made possible not by scale alone, but by flexibility, innovation, and the steadfast support of our donors, partners, and the wider World Vision Partnership.

FY25 underscored a hard truth: the future of humanitarian effectiveness lies in early action, local leadership, and adaptive financing. As crises became more frequent and protracted—from Sudan's catastrophic conflict and mass displacement to climate-driven emergencies in Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, and refugee-hosting countries—we invested in anticipatory action, disaster risk reduction, and flexible funding mechanisms. These approaches allowed us to act earlier, adjust programming in real time, protect development gains, and reduce the human and financial cost of delayed response. In many contexts, our ability to pivot swiftly meant the difference between crisis escalation and stabilization. At the same time, we leaned into stronger integration across humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding efforts. Community-based disaster risk management, early warning systems, and locally led response structures were not add-ons; they were central to sustaining impact amid uncertainty. This approach aligned closely with emerging global reforms and



Lilian Dodzo

the UN-led Humanitarian Reset, reinforcing a shared imperative to prioritise life-saving action, localisation, efficiency and principled engagement.

None of this was achieved alone. In a year marked by difficult trade-offs and painful programme reductions across the sector, our progress is a testament to the trust and collaboration of institutional donors, private partners, peer agencies, national governments, and World Vision Support Offices. Your partnership enabled us not only to respond, but to evolve, testing new models, strengthening accountability and placing communities at the centre of resilience and recovery.

As we look ahead, the outlook remains sobering. Needs in East Africa are expected to remain at record highs, while humanitarian space and resources continue to tighten. Yet FY25 has reaffirmed our belief that even in constrained environments, it is possible to make humanitarian action more effective, dignified, and forward-looking. This Annual Report is both an account of what we have achieved under pressure and an invitation to continue shaping a humanitarian response that is adaptive, child-focused, and fit for the challenges ahead. On behalf of the World Vision East Africa team, I extend my sincere gratitude for your solidarity, partnership, and shared commitment. Together, we can continue to protect lives today while building the foundations for a more resilient tomorrow.

PREFACE BY

REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY AFFAIRS DIRECTOR



Barzil Mwakulomba

The FY25 reporting period unfolded against one of the most testing humanitarian landscapes in recent history. Across East Africa, the convergence of protracted conflict, climate-induced shocks, disease outbreaks, mass displacement, and an unprecedented contraction in global humanitarian financing forced difficult trade-offs—both for affected communities and for the humanitarian system itself. In this environment of heightened need and constrained resources, World Vision's Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs response was defined not only by scale, but by adaptability, principled prioritisation, and a deliberate shift toward anticipatory and flexible action.

Across contexts, adaptive programming proved essential. In Sudan, one of the world's most severe and complex humanitarian crises, flexible and pre-positioned funding enabled World Vision to respond rapidly to both sudden-onset disasters and protracted needs. Through mechanisms such as the Nexus Accelerator Fund, communities

in Blue Nile State were supported with early livelihood inputs, health surge capacity during cholera outbreaks, and community-led disaster preparedness—demonstrating how flexible financing can bridge emergency response and early recovery.

In Somalia, where climate variability, conflict, and displacement intersect, anticipatory and community-owned approaches were critical. World Vision embedded early warning data, crisis modifiers, and local disaster risk management structures to trigger early action when drought indicators worsened. This enabled timely livelihood protection, cash support, and WASH and nutrition interventions, reducing downstream humanitarian costs while strengthening resilience and local ownership in fragile settings.

In Uganda, the region's largest refugee-hosting country, adaptive Humanitarian-development-Peace (HDP) nexus programming supported both refugees and host communities facing prolonged displacement and service overstretch integrating sponsorship in Refugee setting. By linking emergency assistance with livelihoods, social cohesion, and accountability mechanisms, World Vision helped communities navigate recurring shocks while safeguarding development gains under declining humanitarian coverage.

As this report illustrates, the lessons of FY25 are clear: in a constrained financing environment, anticipatory action, flexible funding, strong local systems, and principled prioritisation are no longer optional—they are essential. World Vision's ability to adapt, innovate, and act earlier has been central to sustaining impact for children and communities at greatest risk. We extend our deep appreciation to our front-line staff, donors, strategic partners, and World Vision colleagues across the partnership whose solidarity, trust, and collaboration made this impact possible. As humanitarian needs continue to outpace resources, we remain committed to stewarding investments responsibly, adapting our approaches, and working together to protect lives, dignity, and hope for the most vulnerable.

Humanitarian Landscape 2025 and Beyond

The year 2025 marked a definitive turning point in global humanitarian action defined by unprecedented need, shrinking resources, reduced humanitarian space, and structural shifts that profoundly impacted the sector and the people it serves.

The [Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2025](#) recorded the sharpest drop in international humanitarian funding ever recorded. Most of the Humanitarian Response plans were significantly underfunded globally. While the humanitarian funding was contracting, the humanitarian needs expanded exponentially driven by the intersection of conflict, climate-related hazards and disease outbreaks. East Africa Region was among the hardest hit regions grappling with the worst displacement crisis in Sudan, a severe cholera outbreak in South Sudan and Uganda's status as the highest refugee-hosting country on the continent. Faced with shrinking resources, humanitarian teams were forced into hyper-prioritization, scaling back or exiting lower priority crises despite rising needs. As a result, hundreds of health and nutrition facilities were closed, food assistance ration cuts left millions more vulnerable, and numerous programs and aid organizations shut down.

On the other hand, UNOCHA strongly advanced the Humanitarian Reset discourse - a proposed system-wide reform to overhaul the global humanitarian aid architecture in response to deepening crises, severe funding cuts, and growing concerns about inefficiency, legitimacy, and the ability to meet record-high needs. The reset called for a fundamental realignment in how humanitarian action is planned and delivered, prioritizing life-saving assistance, streamlining bureaucracy, strengthening local leadership and community-centred responses, and upholding core humanitarian principles.

In 2025, the Humanitarian Space saw a frightening disregard for International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the erosion of Core Humanitarian Principles.

We experienced unprecedented violence and attacks on aid workers, seeing the highest targeted civilians and humanitarians alike as was seen in Sudan and South Sudan. Humanitarian access was impaired. Humanitarian actors experienced a surge in bureaucratic hurdles including strict registration requirements and delays in travel permits, visa, and customs which significantly restricted efficient and timely aid delivery. Access was obtained through dialogue and agreements with governments, armed groups, or community leaders to allow safe and impartial humanitarian operations. In active conflict zones, damaged roads and infrastructure, checkpoints, and threats to convoy security made travel dangerous or impossible, forcing organizations to periodically suspend operations.

Amid these challenges, the sector embraced digital, data-driven, and field-adapted technologies to improve access, efficiency, accountability, and safety amid growing crises and funding constraints. Artificial intelligence (AI), satellite imagery and data analytics supported forecasting, early warning systems, damage assessment, displacement monitoring and prioritization. Drones enabled aerial assessments, mapping, and last-mile delivery of commodities and supplies in hard-to-reach areas. Digital data collection and needs assessment tools utilizing mobile platforms such as Kobo Toolbox and ODK were widely used for rapid assessments, monitoring, and feedback. Digital cash and e-voucher systems improved the efficiency and flexibility of cash-based programming, while remote management tools including video reporting, remote and third-party monitoring provided viable alternatives especially in high-risk environments.

Looking ahead, the Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) 2026 projects a historically staggering scale of need, driven by the "triple threat" of entrenched conflict, climate overshoot, and economic collapse. We enter 2026 carrying tough and painful memories of 2025, but with bold hope and a renewed resolve to serve the people in need with greater passion, efficiencies, and solidarity amid the reduced resources.



FY25 Humanitarian Impact Reach Summary

Global Hunger Response
Sudan Crisis & Migration
Emergency Response
Sudan Marra Mountains
Landslide Response
People reached - 1.1 million
Children reached - 592K

Global Hunger Response
South Sudan Cholera Emergency
Response
Sudan Crisis & Migration
Emergency Response
South Sudan Sustained Humanitarian
Response
People reached - 1.9 million
Children reached - 1.4 million

Uganda Refugee Response
Uganda Flood Response
Global Empox Response
People reached - 295K
Children reached - 147K

Rwanda Refugee Programming
People reached - 137K
Children reached - 48K

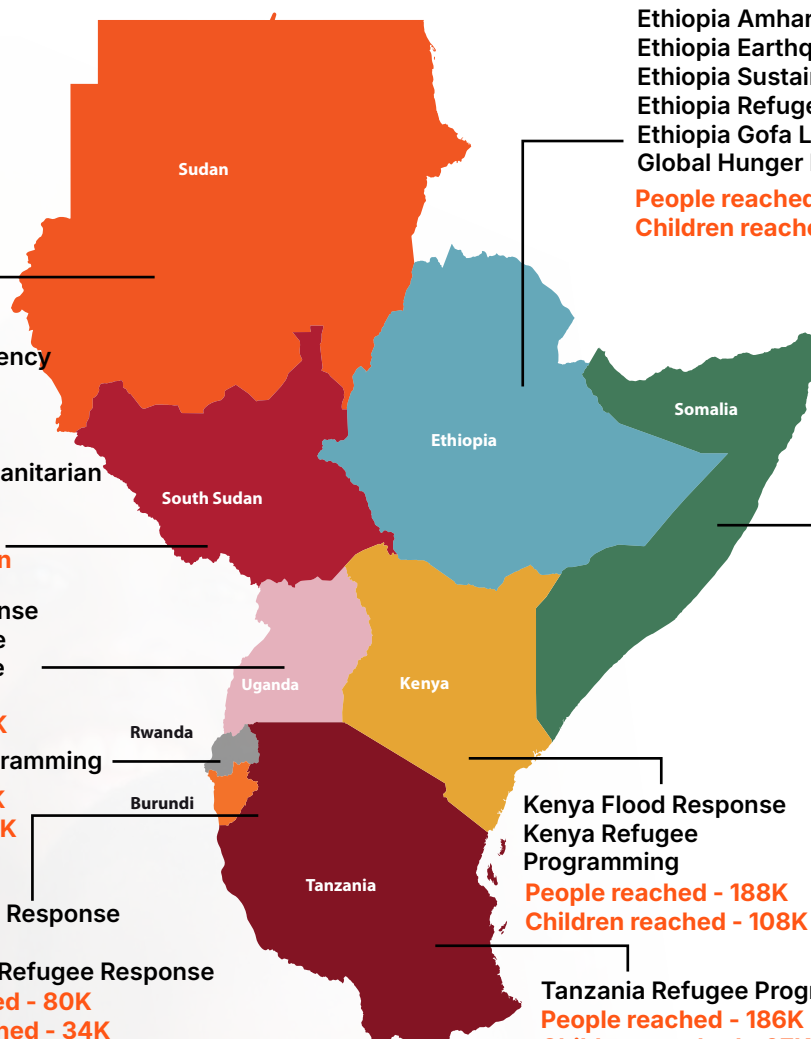
Burundi Flood Response
Program
Burundi-DRC Refugee Response
People reached - 80K
Children reached - 34K

Ethiopia Amhara Polycrisis
Ethiopia Earthquake Response
Ethiopia Sustained Humanitarian Response
Ethiopia Refugee Programming
Ethiopia Gofa Landslide Response
Global Hunger Response
People reached - 2.8 million
Children reached - 1.6 million

Global Hunger Response
Somalia Sustained
Humanitarian Response
People reached - 1.3 million
Children reached - 0.7 million

Kenya Flood Response
Kenya Refugee
Programming
People reached - 188K
Children reached - 108K

Tanzania Refugee Programming
People reached - 186K
Children reached - 37K



Burundi
Ethiopia
Kenya
Rwanda
Sudan
South Sudan
Somalia
Tanzania
Uganda

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



7.5
Million People
Reached



Including
4 Million
Children



1.28 Million
Men Reached.



1.85 Million
Women Reached.

IMPACT BY SECTOR



Food & Cash Assistance
People reached - 2.06 million



Health & Nutrition
People reached - 1.73 million



Livelihoods
People reached - 1.18 million



Education
People reached - 1.14 million



**Water, Sanitation and
Hygiene (WASH)**
People reached - 1.12 million



**Child Protection and
Participation**
People reached - 495K

HUMANITARIAN

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

► BURUNDI

A growing humanitarian crisis in Burundi in 2025 was driven by a massive influx of Congolese refugees and Burundian returnees, with 53% identified as children. Overcrowded transit sites were marked by limited access to water, sanitation, and shelter, while Mpox, cholera, and measles outbreaks were reported and the living conditions were further worsened. Inadequate funding was faced as a continued challenge to the Refugee response throughout the year.

In FY25, a multisectoral response to the Burundi-DRC refugee crisis was implemented by World Vision Burundi, through which over 80,000 people, including 34,000 children, were reached with child protection and participation, livelihoods assistance and WASH support.

► ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia faced a complex humanitarian crisis driven by armed conflict, intercommunal violence, climate shocks, and disease outbreaks, leaving about 10.2 million people including 8 million children in urgent need of assistance. Education was severely disrupted, with over [8 million children \(49% girls\) out of school](#) and 18% of schools damaged or destroyed. Displacement remains critical, with 3.3 million IDPs across 200+ sites, 128 lacking shelters, and 63% without privacy, heightening GBV risks. Food insecurity affects 4.1 million people, while Health and nutrition needs were acute, with 1.7 million targeted for assistance amid cholera, malaria, measles, and Mpox outbreaks. Ethiopia also hosts over 1.1 million refugees and asylum seekers, compounding resource strain.

Amidst all these needs, World Vision Ethiopia managed to reach 2.8 million people, including 1.6 million children through its sustained humanitarian response, all the while responding to the Amhara Polycrisis, the Marburg outbreak, and the cross-border effects of the Sudan crisis. Further, WVE sustained its refugee and host community response in Gambella, delivering food assistance to over 390,000 people, school meals to 54,000 children, and integrated health, nutrition and

protection services to more than 19,000 malnourished women and children through WFP partnerships. Moreover, this humanitarian response was delivered within World Vision Ethiopia's Humanitarian Development Peace (HDP) Nexus approach, which combined emergency relief with longer term development and peacebuilding efforts to address the root causes of vulnerability.



► KENYA

Kenya's humanitarian situation in 2025 was driven by prolonged drought across Arid and Semi-Arid Lands counties (ASAL) and intermittent flooding, through which 1.76 million people were left acutely food insecure, projected to rise to [2.12 million by early 2026](#). Severe Acute Malnutrition was reported, with 741,000 children under five and 109,000 pregnant/lactating women affected. Disease outbreaks like cholera, [malaria](#), [Rift Valley fever](#) were reported, and the capacity of underfunded health system was further strained. Refugee hosting continued, with 850,000 refugees accommodated across the country, where ration reduction was experienced and living conditions worsened despite ongoing integration [efforts under the Shirika Plan](#).

In FY25, a response to flood and landslide was implemented by World Vision Kenya alongside refuge programming in Kakuma Camp, through which 188K people, including 154K refugees, were reached.

► RWANDA

Rwanda hosts over 137,000 refugees, mainly from DRC and Burundi, while managing periodic influxes of returnees due to conflict in eastern DRC ([UNHCR](#)). Refugees and vulnerable host communities experienced Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food insecurity, worsened by high food prices and limited livelihoods, despite WFP's continued food, cash, and school meal support ([WFP](#)). Health systems were under pressure from cholera, measles, and mpox outbreaks, while seasonal floods and landslides further threatened lives and livelihoods in an agriculture-dependent economy ([FEWSNET](#)). Women and girls faced heightened risks of gender-based violence and barriers to reproductive health and were supported with funding from agencies like UNFPA ([UNFPA](#)). However, funding shortfalls have forced NGOs to cut services in camps, increasing vulnerability.

In partnership with multiple partners, World Vision Rwanda reached 137K refugees, with the provision of WASH services, resilience activities through the Graduation Model and education.



► SOMALIA

Towards the end of 2025, the impact of drought was already observed and the peak was expected to hit mid-2026, resulting in a rapidly worsening humanitarian crisis, with 3.4 million people (18%) classified in IPC Phase 3+, with numbers projected to rise to over 6.5 million in 2026 due to below-average Deyr rainfall, high food prices, and conflict-related displacement. About 1.85 million children aged 6–59 months were expected to suffer from malnutrition through July 2026, including 421,000 SAM cases and 1.43 million MAM cases, representing a 12% increase in Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) compared to 2024.

Humanitarian funding was reported as critically low, with assistance coverage reduced from 1 million to 850,000 people per month, leaving millions without access life-saving support. Within this context, the Somalia Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) targeted at US\$1.42 billion, but only 28.8% was funded ([OCHA-FTS 2025](#)) representing a significant funding shortfall. Health facilities were reported closed and nutrition services suspended due to funding shortfalls while hyper-prioritization was adopted.

Despite funding challenges, World Vision Somalia's Sustained humanitarian and drought responses were implemented, through which 1.3 million individuals reached, with strong commitment demonstrated toward inclusive humanitarian assistance for people living with disabilities, marginalized groups, and the elderly. WV Somalia Global Fund TB Program operations were conducted in 78 districts, with 108 TB Centres supported while SomReP programming was layered through multi-sector, multi-year program focusing on food security, livelihoods, economic empowerment, DRR, climate adaptation and NRM.

► SOUTH SUDAN

South Sudan remained one of the world's most fragile and conflict-affected countries, ranked 156 out of 163 on the [2025 Global Peace Index](#), with over 9.3 million people who needed humanitarian assistance, where 54% are children. It was classified as a medium-intensity conflict setting on the World Bank's Fragile Situations list. The country faces one of the world's most neglected displacement crisis, with almost 1.3 million arrivals from Sudan, including nearly 400,000 children, adding pressure to 1.8 million existing IDPs. On the other hand, food insecurity is severe, with

[5.9 million people](#) being acutely food insecure and [2.1 million children projected](#) to suffer from acute malnutrition through 2026 including the 650,000 SAM cases. Inflation exceeds 40% driven by currency depreciation and reduced oil revenues, worsening humanitarian needs.

In FY25, WV South Sudan responded to the Sustained Humanitarian Response (SHR), the persistent Cholera outbreaks, the growing Sudan crisis, as well as the intercommunal violence in Western Equatoria.



► SUDAN

Since 2023, Sudan has been challenged with unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe, with over 30 million people identified as being in need of assistance amid famine, conflict, and displacement. Famine (IPC Phase 5) was confirmed in Zamzam IDP camp in El Fasher, North Darfur, where all three Famine thresholds were surpassed by June 2025, and was assessed as likely ongoing in Abu Shouk and Al Salam camps, with a high risk of spread across Greater Darfur and the surrounding areas should escalating violence and access constraints be sustained.

Overall, 21 million people were assessed as facing acute food insecurity, while half of Sudan's localities were projected to experience Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes during the lean season. Since April 2023, nearly 12 million people were displaced by conflict, including 7.3 million internally displaced persons and 4.2million refugees, with additional mass displacement triggered by recent Rapid Support Forces (RSF) advances in El Fasher. Despite modest access gains, humanitarian assistance was reported as remaining grossly inadequate due to insecurity, bureaucratic barriers and severe funding gaps.

Through the Sudan Crisis and Migration Emergency Response, World Vision Sudan reached over 1.1 million people with critical humanitarian assistance, addressing both immediate and long-term needs.

► TANZANIA

In FY2025, Tanzania hosted over 230,000 refugees and asylum seekers, mainly from Burundi and DRC, concentrated in Nyarugusu and Nduta camps in Kigoma region. Health systems were under strain following a Marburg virus outbreak in Kagera Region and ongoing malaria and communicable diseases. Refugees faced restricted movement, limited livelihoods, and heightened risks of gender-based violence and reproductive health barriers, while competition for resources fuelled social tensions. Funding shortfalls led to gaps in therapeutic food, WASH facilities, and clean energy options, leaving critical needs unmet. Climate shocks continued to undermine agriculture and infrastructure, compounding vulnerability for both refugees and host communities.

In FY25, World Vision Tanzania played a critical role in supporting the government's response to



a cholera outbreak across five regions, Lindi, Simiyu, Tabora, Shinyanga, and Kigoma and contributed through community awareness campaigns and provision of essential medical supplies to curb the outbreak. Further, WV Tanzania managed general food distribution and supplementary feeding for refugees in Nyarugusu and Nduta camps; and reaching over 186,000 people.

► UGANDA

Uganda hosts nearly 2 million refugees, the largest in Africa, including over 1 million children, mainly from South Sudan, DRC, and Sudan ([UNHCR](#)). In 2025, arrivals peaked at 460 people per day, adding pressure on the 13 settlements. Kampala's 159,000 urban refugees faced unemployment, poor housing, and GBV ([Ops Update](#)). Severe flooding and landslides in eastern districts displaced thousands and damaged infrastructure, while prolonged drought in Karamoja deepened food insecurity ([ReliefWeb](#)). Consequently, Uganda remained highly vulnerable to health crises, with outbreaks such as mpox and cholera reported during the year ([WHO](#)).

A severe funding shortfall has forced partners to scale back critical services like health, education, WASH, GBV prevention, mental health and child protection, and focusing only on emergency aid for new arrivals ([OCHA](#)).

Despite Uganda's progressive asylum policies, vulnerability is deepening, as 94% of refugees and 83% of host communities are in need ([UNHCR](#)). According to the recent [HNO](#) 2.1 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, of which 1.8 million people need to be urgently prioritized.

World Vision Uganda has been responding to the refugee crisis with multisectoral humanitarian assistance, including food security and livelihoods, child protection and MHPSS (Mental Health and Psychosocial Support)



Forced Displacement in East Africa

Forced displacement remained a defining driver of humanitarian need across East Africa in 2025, shaped by the convergence of armed conflict, climate shocks, economic stress and disease outbreaks.

The conflict in Sudan continued to drive the largest displacement crisis in the region. In 2025, nearly 12 million people were forcibly displaced, including over 9.1 million internally displaced persons and more than 4.4 million refugees and asylum seekers who fled to neighbouring countries, primarily South Sudan, Ethiopia and Uganda.

Children accounted for over half of the displaced population, facing heightened risks of malnutrition, family separation and protection violations, making Sudan the world's largest child displacement crisis during the reporting period.

Neighbouring countries absorbed significant displacement pressures. Uganda remained Africa's largest refugee-hosting country, with close to 2 million refugees by 2025, of whom more than 52% were children, placing sustained

strain on education, child protection and health services in refugee-hosting districts. Ethiopia and Kenya continued to host large refugee and asylum-seeking populations while managing internal displacement linked to conflict and climate shocks.

In Somalia, displacement was driven by conflict, recurrent drought and flooding, and large-scale forced evictions in urban centres. By 2025, Somalia had over 3.8 million internally displaced people, with children representing approximately 60% of the displaced population, needing protection, nutrition and education assistance.

Throughout FY25, World Vision East Africa responded across refugee, asylum seekers, IDP and returnee contexts, reaching over 3.5 million displaced people with multi-sector humanitarian assistance. As displacement becomes increasingly protracted, World Vision remains committed to principled and adaptive responses that address immediate life-saving needs while supporting longer-term recovery and resilience, consistent with global humanitarian priorities.



We responded to 20 Emergencies in 9 Countries across East Africa.

South Sudan Sustained Humanitarian Response



Burundi Flood Response



Burundi-DRC Refugee Response



Ethiopia Amhara Polycrisis



Ethiopia Earthquake Response



Ethiopia Gofa Landslide Response



Ethiopia Refugee Programming



Ethiopia Sustained Humanitarian Response



Global Hunger Response



Kenya Flood Response



Kenya Refugee Programming



Rwanda Refugee Programming



Somalia Sustained Humanitarian Response



South Sudan Cholera Emergency Response



Sudan Crisis and Migration Emergency Response



Sudan Marra Mountains Landslide Response



Tanzania Refugee Programming



Uganda Refugee Response



Uganda Flood Response



Global Empox Response



IMPACT OF RATION AND FUNDING CUTS TO COMMUNITIES

2025 was characterised by unprecedented challenges in the humanitarian world marked with extremely high needs in new and protracted crisis and a dramatic reduction in funding and international solidarity. Funding cuts were described by practitioners as taking from the hungry to feed the starving- a measure that rapidly renders the hungry themselves destitute. Agencies faced shrinking resources alongside rising needs, forcing impossible decisions: restricting food assistance, exiting programs altogether; and the moral and ethical dilemmas of choosing which vulnerable lives and families to prioritize. The people in need protested in some contexts and little could be done.

World Vision's studies around the impact of

funding and ration cuts revealed a devastating toll on displaced families and children. The consequences are harrowing and immediate. Hunger is forcing children out of school and into exploitative situations. Many are being made to work, beg, or even enter into early marriages in order to help their families survive. One mother from a refugee camp in Uganda said, *"My daughter wanted to become a teacher. Now, she spends her days searching for scraps to sell at the market. She's 12."* Children in food-insecure households are eight times more likely to be engaged in child labour and nearly six times more likely to be married early. The likelihood of children being forced to beg increased by more than ninefold, while the risk of exposure to violence rose nearly fivefold.

Let me bring some perspective: the people whom humanitarians serve are innocent victims of the consequences of conflict, war, climate shocks, diseases and have done nothing to deserve the pain they are in. The humanitarian imperative calls on us to seek to serve them wherever they are found. This is HUMANITY! Funding cuts have directly impacted education in emergencies with less prioritization on education. More than half of refugee parents and caregivers report that their peers are no longer able to afford education expenses or have had to withdraw their children from school. On the other hand, the closure of health and nutrition facilities in remote areas left the sick walking long distances to receive medical care. What happens to the children who were malnourished and under treatment at the Nutrition Centres which are no longer functional or have no supplies? It is deeply worrying. The situation needs to change as lives of millions remain at risk.

Funding cuts led to ration cuts, which meant reduced quality and quantity of food consumed. Prolonged and acute food insecurity negatively affects children's and carers' physical health in many ways. In addition to pre-existing health needs, caregivers thought the ration cuts were exacerbating already dire health problems, including malnutrition and waterborne diseases.

"We are not just witnessing a hunger crisis. We are witnessing the systematic dismantling of childhood. We are seeing children forced out of classrooms into dangerous work, early marriage, and exploitation simply because they don't have enough to eat. A child who is hungry cannot learn. A child who is working to feed their family cannot grow. A child who is married at 13 has had her future stolen before it began."

*Amanda Rives, World Vision
Global Advocacy Director.*

The study revealed three critical findings:

- 42% of the surveyed caregivers perceive that food ration cuts contributed to children suffering from malnutrition due to reduced nourishment and micronutrients, with other consequences including stunted growth, weakened immune systems, increased susceptibility to infections, and deficiencies in essential nutrients.
- There is a complex relationship between food security and mental health. The stress of experiencing rations cuts may compound past traumatic experiences, such as bombings, escapes, or conflict events. Children who have previously experienced traumatic events, such as forcibly displaced children, are more vulnerable to new stressors. Fear of death, destruction, injury, and loss of loved ones may resurface together with overarching fear and sadness. Ration cuts are putting social cohesion at risk within homes and entire communities.
- With each ration cut, families increasingly resorted to dangerous strategies to cope including encouraging early marriages for their daughters as a way of ensuring their safety while reducing the number of mouths to feed.

In conclusion, there is need for all to open their eyes to see the grim situation and choose to make their contribution count. Donors, governments, and humanitarian organizations each have a critical role to play. To the donors, your support has been a lifeline to many. To governments and leaders, we need to enact and implement policies and build systems that shall sustain the gains made and safeguard the lives of many. To the humanitarian agencies, our work remains relevant, but we must strive to adapt, innovate, and find new efficient and effective ways to serve the people in need despite the funding cuts.

Humanitarianism is Noble! It saves Lives! Let the People in Need Live! Let us support Humanitarianism!



Enhancing Disaster Response Agility Through Prepositioned and Flexible Funding in East Africa (EPRF, NEPRF, and NAF)

When a disaster strikes (especially rapid onset emergencies), response speed is of essence to save lives, assets and livelihoods. This can only be possible with availability of funds. In FY25, Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund (EPRF), National Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund (NEPRF) and Nexus Accelerator Fund (NAF) enabled our field teams to deliver support to affected communities quickly when crises struck.

In FY25, WV Sudan was able to secure USD 126,000 from the EPRF pool to respond to the Marra Mountain Landslide crisis while WV Ethiopia was able to utilize NEPRF funding to quickly respond to the earthquake in Afar and Oromia as well as Marburg Virus in Southern Ethiopia. In South Sudan, NAF funding allowed real-time redirection of resources to address the evolving needs as a result of the ongoing cholera outbreak, floods, and conflict across the country.

In Blue Nile State, Sudan, the NAF programme demonstrated how prepositioned and flexible funding enables faster, more adaptive disaster response while strengthening long-term resilience in fragile contexts. Early access to funds enabled 9,000 households to receive timely agricultural inputs and training resulting in improved food production, nutrition, income generation options, a rapid health response during the cholera outbreak enabling the treatment of over 4,219 cases and reducing mortality through strengthened local treatment capacity. Youth peace committees and women's networks further strengthened social cohesion and inclusive decision-making, contributing to more stable and resilient communities.

In Somalia's drought and conflict-affected districts of Luuq (Jubbaland) and Hudur (Southwest State), NAF strengthened community-led disaster preparedness, anticipatory action and response. Through World Vision's Community-Based Disaster Risk Management and Community Action and Adaptation Plans (CAAP) processes, communities identified key risks, developed 10 community action plans aligned with district DRR systems, and formed DRR committees in 10 locations. More than 7,000 people were reached through inclusive preparedness, early warning, and peacebuilding activities.

When drought indicators worsened, NAF's crisis modifier enabled flexible, trigger-based financing for anticipatory action, allowing timely interventions such as pre-agreed response measures, rapid DRR committee activation, and strengthened coordination with authorities. Early recovery assistance also reached vulnerable households through cash support for 300 families, improved WASH governance, expanded nutrition referrals for over 5,500 households, and livelihood support including climate-smart agriculture, and vocational skills for women and youth. Adaptive approaches like shifting to drought-tolerant crops in Luuq and replacing failed agricultural activities with cash in Hudur—demonstrated strong contextual flexibility.

Key learnings show that community-owned, trigger-based crisis modifiers and strong DRR structures significantly enhance preparedness, though fragmented assessments and limited joint planning remain challenges for full HDP Nexus operationalisation.



Over **4,219 cases** of Cholera outbreak were treated through the **rapid health response**.



In Somalia, more than **7,000 people**, were reached through **inclusive preparedness, early & Peacebuilding activities**.

Anticipatory Action: Acting earlier to protect lives, dignity and resources

As humanitarian needs continue to rise while funding contracts, the cost of delayed response has become untenable. At the same time, crises are becoming more predictable. Technological advances in climate forecasting, market monitoring, and disease surveillance now enable many risks to be identified weeks or months before they fully unfold. Waiting until impacts peak is no longer effective or sustainable.

In East Africa, World Vision is embedding Anticipatory Action into its humanitarian programming so that early warning translates into early decision making and community level action. In World Vision Uganda and South Sudan, for example, disaster management teams are using climate forecasts, disease surveillance, and market data to inform preparedness measures. These have included early livelihood protection, water interventions, community mobilisation, and pre-positioning of supplies, enabling faster responses and reducing pressure on emergency

systems when shocks escalated.

This shift is particularly critical in the current funding environment. Anticipatory action offers a rare opportunity to use limited resources more strategically by acting upstream, when assistance is more cost-effective and human impact is greatest. Early action reduces the scale, duration, and cost of later emergency response while preserving dignity and resilience for affected communities.

Looking ahead, scaling anticipatory action across WVI will require continued investment in forecasting, flexible financing, and strong links between humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding efforts. As needs grow and resources shrink, anticipatory action represents one of the most credible ways for humanitarians to protect children, steward resources responsibly, and uphold humanitarian principles. Acting earlier is not only smarter, but also essential to sustaining impact in a constrained and uncertain humanitarian future.



COMMUNITY-BASED DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (CBDRM)

Across World Vision's East Africa countries, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) was recognised as a critical priority for protecting lives and sustaining development gains. DRR was integrated into National Office programming through a standardized Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) model implemented at field level across the region. Moreover, DRR was incorporated as a strategic priority across all Field Offices (FOs) during strategic refresh for the upcoming strategic period of 2026–2030. The participatory CBDRM model was applied to strengthen community capacity through vulnerability and capacity assessments, hazard mapping, and context specific action and adaptation plans, while DRR Committees were established and trained to lead preparedness and response efforts. Strategic investments in early warning systems, preparedness initiatives, and mitigation measures were made, through which community safety was enhanced, response capacity was strengthened, and faster, more sustainable recovery during emergencies was supported.

World Vision Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia have incorporated the Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) approach into their 2026–2030 strategies to strengthen resilience. In

Somalia, community based disaster management structures were strengthened through the establishment and training of more than 200 CBDRM/DRR and Early Warning Committees across the country under resilience and recovery projects, through which local preparedness and response capacity was significantly enhanced.

In Ethiopia, DRR capacity was strengthened across operational areas through coordinated assessments, technical support, and staff development initiatives. Using government disaster hotspot data, hazards were mapped across Area Programmes (APs), and 44 APs were facilitated to conduct risk assessments, enabling the development of Woreda-level DRR and Contingency Plans to inform FY26 operational planning. To enhance organisational preparedness and anticipatory action capacity, 250 staff were trained on early warning and early action, preparedness, assessment methodologies, and broader DRR approaches.

Through this comprehensive approach, resilience was strengthened, and communities were enabled not only to withstand shocks but also to sustain development gains amid ongoing uncertainty.



World Vision Ethiopia Rapid Response Mechanisms Achievement in FY25

In FY25, World Vision Ethiopia's rapid response mechanisms were demonstrated as instrumental in the delivery of timely, lifesaving assistance during sudden and fast escalating humanitarian crises. Through flexible and rapid modalities, resource mobilisation was enabled and coordinated multi sector responses were delivered in conflict, displacement, flood, and health affected settings, through which protection, health, and WASH related risks were significantly reduced, particularly for displaced women and children. Through the ECHO-supported Rapid Response

Mechanism (RRM) and the OCHA-funded SWAN response mechanism, assistance was provided to nearly 414,000 people, including over 101,000 children and 260,000 women, while USD 2.51 million was mobilised. Beyond scale, the strategic value of these mechanisms was reflected in the translation of funding into immediate, high impact action, the delivery of assistance at critical moments, and the prevention of further deterioration of humanitarian conditions. Collectively, World Vision Ethiopia's surge capacity, sector leadership, and effectiveness in safeguarding lives and dignity under extreme time and access constraints were reinforced.



Providing health consultation for earthquake affected communities.



Providing Water treatment chemicals to protect affected communities from communicable diseases.



A call For Humanitarian Advocacy on Protracted Issues in East Africa.

For many years, the East African Region has been facing a severe humanitarian situation with over [48 million people](#) in need of assistance; with fragile countries like Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia leading in food insecurity and displacement. The region is also dealing with a massive displacement crisis, with over 14 million people displaced internally and across borders.

As OCHA noted in its [June 2025 snapshot](#), *"The humanitarian situation in Eastern Africa is rapidly deteriorating, driven by escalating conflicts, political instability, economic shocks, disease outbreaks, and extreme climate events. The region accounts for nearly 21 per cent of the world's humanitarian caseload and bears some of the worst humanitarian indicators. Sudan alone hosts a staggering 10 per cent of the world's number of people in need of assistance."*

The humanitarian response is severely hampered by funding shortfalls and operational constraints, leaving many people without access to basic assistance and protection. Sustained, coordinated advocacy is essential to address the complex and protracted crises faced by the region.

Together, let's raise our voices to advocate for:

Anticipatory Action and DRR: Scaling up anticipatory action and disaster risk reduction as championed through the Eastern Africa Dialogue

Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action and the 'Mombasa Declaration 2024', which is crucial for building resilience in the face of compounding and complex crises.

Humanitarian and development programming (HDP Nexus): Promoting the integration of humanitarian responses and long-term resilience programming to enhance aid efficiency and contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals.

Funding: Urging governments and donors to increase the humanitarian funding to match the scale of need.

Enabling policy environment

Protection: Call for ceasefire, civilian protection, and respect for the International Humanitarian Law.

Humanitarian Access: Advocating for unimpeded humanitarian access especially in active conflict zones.

These advocacy efforts are essential for sustaining recovery and reconstruction in situations of protracted conflicts or crises, emphasizing the importance of local empowerment mechanisms to enable recovery during ongoing crises and conflicts. LET'S ACT NOW!



Human Impact Stories

Somalia

Impact Story Link: [Hope After the Deluge: How Luug is Rebuilding After Somalia's 2023 Worst Flooding in a Century](#)

Through the Nexus Accelerator Fund, World Vision is helping families recover and adapt by providing drought-tolerant seeds, irrigation support, livestock treatment kits, and climate-smart training, enabling 200 farmers and 15 Community Animal Health Workers to regain stability. Abdinasir, a farmer from Taleh Village, captures the shift: *"Instead of going to the market, we'll be harvesting tomatoes, peppers, and watermelons from our own farms,"* reflecting renewed hope as communities harvest again, strengthen livelihoods, and rebuild their resilience. For communities that watched the 2023 floods sweep away crops, livestock, and livelihoods, this return to productive farming marks more than recovery. It signals a rebuilding of resilience in the face of compounding climate shocks.

Uganda

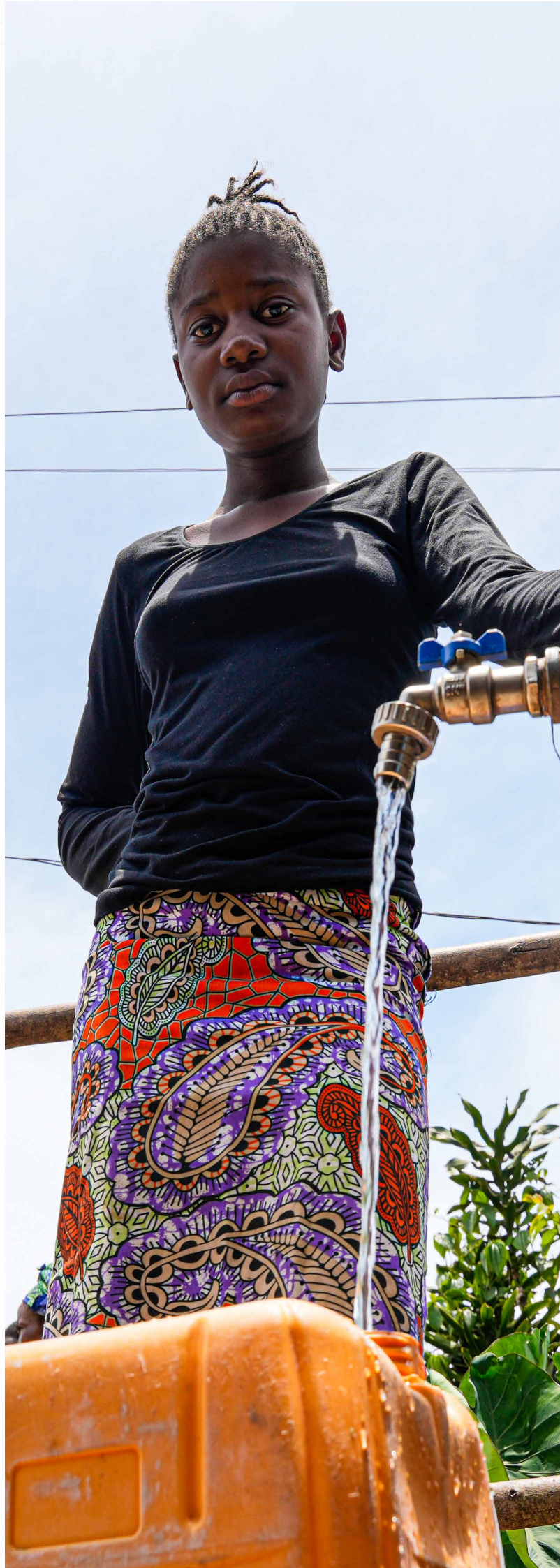
Impact Story Link: [WV Uganda_SRM_Success Stories.pdf](#)

In 2025, Malish Isaac, a 32-year-old refugee in Uganda's Bidibidi Settlement, experienced a major turning point after years of hardship following his displacement from South Sudan. Selected as a Trainer of Trainers for World Vision's Empowered World View (EWV) model, he began applying goal-setting and local resource use to improve his livelihood. Using his training refund, he started vegetable farming and soon earned enough to buy his wife a sewing machine, enabling a small family business. He now shares EWV principles in his community, affirming: *"It is my prayer that this project reaches many more people so they can also change the way they see life."*

Kenya

Impact Story Link: [WV Kenya_Success story-chicken farming.docx](#)

In Kakuma 3, World Vision's livelihood programming is advancing refugee self-reliance through financial inclusion and practical skills. After years of depending on aid while raising nine children, Josiana joined a Savings for Transformation group in early 2025, gaining access to loans, business training, poultry-farming skills, and Empowered World View coaching. She now runs a small poultry enterprise that supports her family's basic needs. As she notes, *"Before, I had nothing left after spending, but now I can plan, support my children, and still grow my poultry business."* She is steadily saving to expand her flock to 200 chickens.



Donors and Partners

In FY25 a total of **\$270,893,968** was raised



Ministry for Foreign
Affairs of Finland



World Food
Programme

**Australian
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EAST AFRICA REGION



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