

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE TO EL NIÑO IN ASIA-PACIFIC

Snapshot of interventions in priority countries and funding available per response (as of April 2016)

World Vision

Situation Overview and Response

The latest round of El Niño - the warming of ocean surface waters that triggers extreme weather worldwide - has been rated one of the severest ever. The World Meteorological Organization noted 2015 was the warmest year on record.

Since early 2015, parts of the Asia-Pacific have had an uptick in dry spells and prolonged droughts, as well as increased frequency and intensity of floods/cyclones. Harsh effects on affected communities were strong through March 2016; experts estimate partial relief during the second quarter of 2016. The UN estimates almost 350 million persons in the seven profiled countries to the right live in areas that are, or will be, affected by El Niño.

Assessments in World Vision operations across 18 Asia-Pacific countries since late 2015 have revealed, to varying degrees, food insecurity due to crop failures and livestock deaths/ malnourishment, coupled with dwindling sources of safe drinking water and worsening sanitation. Most the hardest-hit communities already had elevated rates of malnutrition and widespread poverty, making it difficult for residents to withstand the impacts of this slow-onset disaster.

In cooperation with governments and other humanitarian agencies, World Vision has responded with interventions ranging from food, water purification tablets and cash distribution to localizing IEC materials, counselling farmers on crop insurance services, and supporting livestock and livelihood recovery.

Despite the signs of a weakening El Niño, history and scientists suggest the high possibility of another destructive weather trend, La Niña, setting in almost immediately afterward. China is expected to see flooding more severe than in the 1998 Yangtze River disaster that killed more than 3,000 people.

World Vision continues assessing the situation, while equipping communities with additional skills and tools to mitigate risks. Local operations can quickly access up to 20% of their budgets for emergency response. With project timelines of 10-15 years, World Vision Asia Pacific will continue to mainstream risk reduction into field operations/project design.

Sources: World Vision Asia Pacific, OCHA, US National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, World Meteorological Organization



FUNDING
US\$800K - various WV offices

- Facilitating identification and registration of most vulnerable households in government's safety net initiatives
- Assessment/planning to distribute food kits to most vulnerable households (estimate 4M), supply water and fodder to cattle and veterinary camps in 7 drought-affected states

FUNDING
US\$347K - WV Canada, Start Fund

- Oct-Nov 2015 haze response in Kalimantan Barat
- Oct 2015-16 support monitoring effects, early warning and preparedness for next dry/haze season; conducting health research with UNICEF
- Ongoing reforestation through Farmer Managed Natural Resources in East Sumba, Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) where some 9,800 affected persons live in WV coverage area
- Provided cash transfers to 1600 households, East Sumba, in April-May 2016
- Developing interagency response plan in NTT with other Emergency Capacity Building partners

FUNDING
US\$50K - WV Korea

- Conducted a joint assessment with DFAT Humanitarian Partnership Agreement agencies
- On-going health/economic development programming in Baucau to mitigate El Niño impact on vulnerable communities

FUNDING
US\$611K - Start Fund, UNICEF

- Lead agency of dzud response. Providing 2 months of food distributions in 10 provinces targeting 6,260 households. Last stage to be completed in Jul 2016.

FUNDING
Existing project budgets

In 7 drought-affected provinces with 14.5K sponsored children, total 1.2M population in 18 municipalities WV covers:

- Adjusting project technical requirements to monitor El Niño impact
- Finalizing local-language IEC materials targeting 1.2M persons
- Informed farmers about crop insurance and other related mitigation/adaptation services

FUNDING
Existing project budgets

- Provided families with water supply facilities in 2 drought-affected districts where some 300,000 people reside
- Supported DRR-CCA outreach to schools and community groups
- Boosted search-and-rescue skills through refresher training for Rapid Response Teams

FUNDING
US\$1.3M - DFAT, MFAT, PNG Gov.

- Distributed 20-litre jerry cans and aquatabs to 2,424 households in 20 communities including 6 in Southern Highlands Province, integrated with WASH promotion
- Validating target beneficiaries in Hela province