



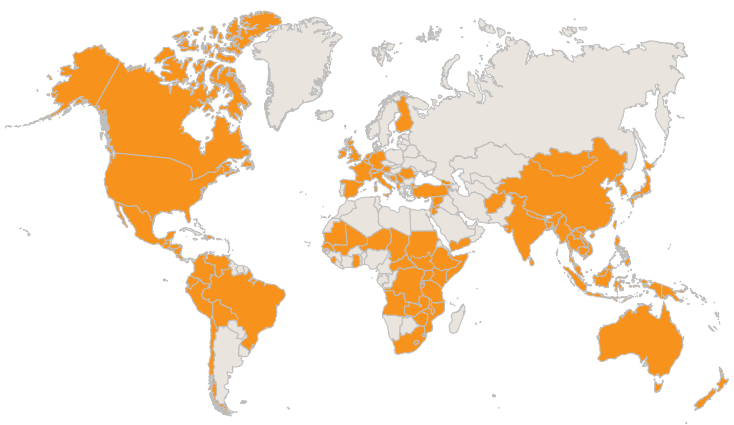
COVID-19 Emergency Response

Situation Report #19 | 16 November 2020

World Vision is responding*
to the devastating impact of
COVID-19 in **more than
70 countries.**

Our **US\$350 million response**
aims to reach,
72 million people,
including **36 million children,**
especially the most vulnerable.

* responding includes field programming and/or fundraising



COVID-19 Cases: 51,251,715

COVID-19 Deaths: 1,270,930

(COVID-19 case and death figures. Source: [WHO](https://www.who.int), 11 November 2020)

On 11 March 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic. Within hours, World Vision launched its largest global emergency response in its 70 year history.

Working closely together with governments, partners, supporters, and communities at all levels, from grassroots to global, World Vision has worked to limit the spread of the disease and reduce its impact on the world's most vulnerable children and families.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, more than 1.2 million people have died globally, and over 51 million people have been infected. The pandemic's economic toll has left families, already living on the edge, out of work, has forced vulnerable children out of school due to lockdowns, and threatened millions more with hunger and starvation.

A recent World Vision consultation with children and young people from 50 countries shows that violence has surged in the past year, with 81% of those interviewed stating that they had seen or faced violence in their homes, communities, or online since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and 82% saying COVID-19 has disrupted their education.

Children are urging world leaders to protect them from the rise in violence and consult them as nations respond to COVID-19.

People Reached



55,925,108



Men 14,670,966

Women 16,241,113

Children 25,013,029



Boys 12,224,678

Girls 12,788,351

(Based on figures as of 11 November 2020)

World Vision

Key Concerns



We urge the world to stand together with the most vulnerable children to fight COVID-19, especially refugees and the internally displaced. We are deeply concerned that the impacts of COVID-19 will permanently scar the development of a generation of the world's most vulnerable children.



Devastating aftershocks of the crisis are putting at least 85 million more children at risk of violence. Millions of parents and caregivers have lost incomes and jobs due to COVID-19, forcing 8 million children into child labour in Asia alone. As many as 1 million girls may drop out of school across sub-Saharan Africa due to teenage pregnancy and school closures. We urgently need to address both the direct health impacts of the virus and the secondary shocks brought about by viral containment measures



The impact from COVID-19 is threatening to reverse decades of progress in the fight against poverty and income inequalities. World Vision has warned that over 19 million people, including 10 million children, are at risk of famine in 12 of the world's most fragile countries due to a deadly mix of conflict, the economic impacts of COVID-19, and climate-related natural disasters.



Joining hands with faith leaders remains critical to bring hope and strengthen preparedness, behaviour change and protecting children.

Regional Overviews

(figures as of 11 November 2020)



Africa Region



People Reached 27,930,965



Children Reached 12,556,577

Situation overview

Increasing vulnerabilities and worsening humanitarian needs due to lockdowns have devastated livelihoods in sub-Saharan Africa.

School closures have negatively affected children's learning and led to higher teenage pregnancy rates. According to a recent [World Vision study](#), as many as 1 million girls may drop out of school across sub-Saharan Africa.

Reduced funding commitments and COVID-19 lockdowns have increased vulnerabilities amongst forced migration populations (i.e. internally displaced persons and refugees) and migrant workers across east, west, and southern regions.

Reports indicate that gender-based violence and mental health challenges are also increasing due to lockdowns and lost livelihoods.

Countries across sub-Saharan Africa are facing a triple threat of issues from health, climate change, and loss of livelihoods with the COVID-19 pandemic; desert locust infestations in East Africa devastating vegetation; and flooding in parts of West and East Africa resulting in loss of life, displacement, infrastructure damage, inaccessibility to basic services, and crop disruptions.

Response highlights

- Trained hundreds of faith leaders across the region on COVID-19 awareness, mental health concerns, how to support affected families, digital communication skills, disseminating COVID-19 preventative messaging, and small group Bible study facilitation in accordance with COVID-19 restrictions.
- Engaged community health workers in 10 internally displaced person camps in Baidoa, **Somalia**, in partnership with the government, to conduct hygiene promotion and disseminate COVID-19 messaging.
- Facilitated the visit of First Lady of **Democratic Republic of Congo** to the Kongo Central programme area where she addressed the secondary impact of COVID-19 on communities, amongst other initiatives.
- In **Sudan**, World Vision continued to collaborate with the ministry of health to reach communities in remote areas with COVID-19 preventative messaging using community radio.
- In **Malawi**, World Vision launched an advocacy project to mobilise communities against child abuse, teenage pregnancy, and early marriage, all of which have been on the rise during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Asia Pacific Region



People Reached 15,680,172



Children Reached 6,751,814

Situation overview

As the region experiences more intense disasters and changing geography of disaster risks, alongside the implications of a global pandemic, children are at greater risk of food insecurity and more vulnerable to health-related issues.

Displacement of affected populations, destruction of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities and loss of household necessities may increase the spread of COVID-19 and add an extra burden on households' and countries' already strained livelihoods and food security, making early recovery extremely challenging.

Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam are facing tropical storms that have brought excessive rainfall and widespread flooding, causing colossal loss to properties, infrastructures, and livelihoods, and the Philippines has estimated agricultural damages, caused by Typhoon Goni, as high as US\$48.6 million.

Response highlights

- Lack of availability and access to food can negatively affect children's health and nutrition and also put children under 5 at risk for malnutrition in countries affected by floods and tropical storms.
- Continuous risk messaging and safe access to clean water and sanitation facilities will prevent communities from furthering the spread of COVID-19 and other infections, including waterborne diseases, during floods.
- All stakeholders, including humanitarian organisations, donors, and governments, should continue to invest in appropriate disaster risk reduction actions that include pandemic planning so they do not become a health disaster.

Regional Overviews

(figures as of 11 November 2020)



Latin America and Caribbean Region



People Reached 9,167,499



Children Reached 4,090,421

Situation overview

The virus is surging across the region, with reported cases rising daily. In North America, states in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico are experiencing spikes in cases due to the gradual reopening of economic and social activities, but cases are decreasing in some countries in the Caribbean, Central America, and South America. Brazil continues to have the third highest number of confirmed cases in the world and remains the hardest hit nation in the region. However, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru have all dropped in the global ranking of infections to ninth, 11th, and 12th, respectively.

November's Hurricane Eta exasperated the already difficult conditions faced by millions of families in Central America; an area already facing increased economic devastation, hunger, and unemployment because of COVID-19. Approximately 3.4 million people have been directly affected by Eta, with 1.5 million in need of urgent humanitarian aid and more than 91,000 relocated to temporary shelters. Eta's effects on the region's infrastructure, crops, and families, particularly children, are devastating. And now the region is being threatened by another storm – Iota.

Response highlights

- Lifting preventative measures and lessening restrictions for confinement may lead to an increase of cases throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Mental health issues in children may severely increase after a long period of confinement.
- The situation may rapidly deteriorate for thousands of children in **Venezuela** and host countries in South America as families are selling or trading their goods, intensifying their precarious economic situations; children are being separated from their parents; and an increase in cases of child marriage are being reported.
- **Central America and southeast Mexico** are dealing with a double crisis after Hurricane Eta. The cyclone worsened the already perilous situations for thousands of vulnerable people affected by the economic crisis brought on by the pandemic. As of 13 November 2020, the sub-region is on high alert for the arrival of a new storm, Iota, whose effects are predicted to be catastrophic.



Middle East and Eastern Europe Region



People Reached 1,847,021



Children Reached 957,430

Situation overview

Cases in northwest Syria recently reached alarming levels amongst the 2.7 million internally displaced persons. Many health workers also reportedly tested positive for COVID-19, putting effective containment and the response at even greater risk. However, due to the incapacity to test, a perception of underreporting, and the general wariness to seek treatment due to stigmatisation or fear of catching the disease, aid agencies fear that the actual number of positive cases is much higher.

Lebanon is grappling with the rapidly escalating public health crisis, along with its economic fallout, escalating unemployment, and currency devaluations, pushing high numbers of local communities and refugee populations below the poverty line.

An increase of infections in Iraq led the Kurdistan region of Iraq's government to issue a new set of public health guidelines to prevent further spread. Ongoing conflict in Armenia, resulting in thousands of displaced families arriving from Nagorno-Karabakh to collective living arrangements with host families, is also adding pressure on national health systems and undermining efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Romania, Georgia, Albania, and Bosnia and Herzegovina have all seen surges, despite stricter containment measures being observed.

Response highlights

- As winter approaches, World Vision is extremely worried about the safety of vulnerable displaced children.
- Equal access to medical care for all – displaced populations and local communities – is key to preventing yet another crisis in **northwest Syria**. World Vision believes that for this to happen, fighting must immediately stop and health facilities must be strengthened to accommodate the growing number of cases in the country.
- **World Vision Lebanon**, with UNICEF, collaborated with 12 faith- and three community-based organisations in Beqaa to provide key child protection messaging. The organisations will, in turn, support children's well-being by disseminating the messaging to their community members through initiatives funded by a US\$2,000 contribution from World Vision. Faith leaders also received training on Channels of Hope, including ways to address violence against children and various forms of abuse, neglect, and exploitation, first aid, and raising awareness on COVID-19.
- At a World Health Day event, **World Vision Bosnia and Herzegovina** launched a COVID-19 manual for children, parents, and professionals.



RESPONSE GOAL

To limit the spread of COVID-19 and reduce its impact on vulnerable children and families

Strategic Objectives



1. Scale up preventative measures to limit the spread of disease



2. Strengthen health systems and workers



3. Support children affected by COVID-19 with education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



4. Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected

OBJECTIVE 1: Scale up preventative measures to limit the spread of disease



29,404,971

People reached through promotion of preventive behaviours



5,173,199

Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed



14,339,665

Community members provided preventative materials



4,451,798

Handwashing supplies distributed



2,686,773

Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed



250,750

Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities



87,187

Community-level public handwashing stations established or maintained



88,343

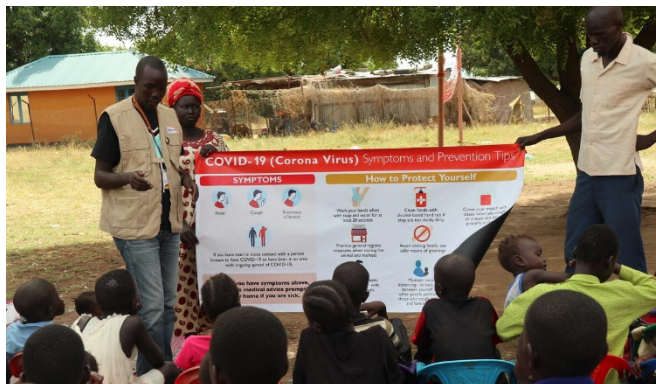
Water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities constructed or rehabilitated



205,845

Faith leaders disseminating preventative measures

(Based on figures as of 11 November 2020)



Sebit James, explaining COVID-19 preventative measures to the children in a World Vision's Child Friendly Spaces in South Sudan.

Hygiene kit delivery to vulnerable families in Honduras.

World Vision is continuing essential activities like nutritional support for children at risk of malnutrition, in the Rohingya refugee camps during the COVID-19 crisis, while maintaining social distancing and promoting hand washing.



OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen health systems and workers



138,434

Community health workers trained and supported



420,221

Medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment (PPE)



7,870,353

Masks distributed, including to health facilities, health workers, and communities



4,601,663

Glove sets distributed, including to health facilities, health workers, and communities



17,927

Medical facilities assisted



447,891

Disinfectant kits distributed to health-care facilities



419,646

People supported with the securing of safe quarantine and/or isolation spaces



1,181

Quarantine and isolation spaces supported, rehabilitated, or set up



8,077*

People provided transportation support

**Note: Figure amounts are lower than previously reported due to address changes in counting methodology.*

(Based on figures as of 11 November 2020)

Doctors installing the medical equipment provided by World Vision in China. 30 bi-level positive airway pressure ventilators, 30 respiratory humidifiers and 24 ECG monitors were given to 3 hospitals in Wuhan.



World Vision staff delivers medical, biosecurity and hygiene supplies to a Health Center in Honduras.

World Vision provided Dr. Jose N. Rodriguez Memorial Hospital (DJNRMH) in the Philippines with three tents. The tents will be used as 1) units for employees who will be quarantined for 21 days, 2) room prior to the admission of COVID-19 patients 3) units for COVID-19 patients while some hospital facilities are under maintenance. DJNRMH is one of the three referral hospitals identified by the government to manage COVID-19 cases.



OBJECTIVE 3: Support for children affected by COVID-19 through education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



3,154,279

People reached with information, education, and communication psychosocial support materials



1,047,313

Education materials provided to enable or support remote learning



1,735,049

People provided with education support or training



1,441,099

Children reached with targeted, age-specific health education



54,426

Teachers provided with education training and support



US\$17,051,055

Cash and voucher assistance distributed



1,820,301

People reached with cash and voucher assistance



6,213,995

People reached with food security assistance



1,399,294

Children supported with child protection programming



121,604

Frontline actors reached or trained on child protection programming



154,051

Individuals supported with livelihoods training



144,737

Households provided livelihoods assets



4,985

Savings groups organized

(Based on figures from 70 countries, as of 11 November 2020)



Harly, 11 (second from left) and his family from the Philippines, show the items they received from World Vision. Some of the vegetables they received are good when paired with chicken tinola (Filipino ginger soup), said his mother Maribel who has been raising chickens for the family's consumption.

World Vision Mongolia is trying to adapt to the situation, even though the planned development activities and training for children and families have been cancelled. To adapt, World Vision developed a "Board Game" based on the Positive Parenting and handed over to 300 households with sanitizer and COVID-19 preventive messages.

Maria Olallam 34, from Ecuador, and her three daughters, Elianeth, 5, Scarlet, 11, and Valeska, 9 after receiving a food kit and education kits from World Vision.

