

## SUMMARY

In 2020, devastating food crises, protracted conflict, the health and economic fallout of COVID-19, mass displacement, and extreme weather exacerbated already fragile conditions, with a grim forecast projected through 2021 as well.

Under these circumstances, World Vision has remained committed to helping families living with or recovering from natural disasters and other emergencies around the world. The faithful prayers and gifts to the Global Emergency Response Fund from donors like you have allowed us to be immediately present after a natural disaster, remain in the community through the rebuilding process, and care for the ongoing needs of families facing conflict and displacement.

In this report, we highlight several of the 71 emergencies we have

responded to so far during the first half of fiscal year 2021, such as:

- Meeting urgent needs and equipping communities to rebuild after two hurricanes in Central America
- Addressing the long-term needs of displaced people and refugees in Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Africa's Sahel region
- Caring for ongoing needs of Rohingya refugees and responding to a fire that struck three camps
- Responding to famine, locusts, and prolonged crises in East Africa

As many of these crises do not receive much coverage in the news, people have been enduring hardships without the world seeing or even knowing. With your support, World Vision can assure these families that they are not alone or forgotten. Thank you for your continued partnership.



*From clean water and nutritious food to business training and cash assistance, World Vision's Global Emergency Response Fund is helping communities affected by disasters and other humanitarian emergencies.*

## GLOBAL UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

**10.1 MILLION PEOPLE** have been impacted by funding from U.S. donors in response to disasters and humanitarian emergencies since 2015, including 3,721,000 people in FY21.



**133,890**

people in South Sudan participated in community campaigns that encouraged community members to implement healthy, sustainable hygiene practices



**3,227**

households in Bangladesh earned money by participating in 41 community improvement projects, such as repairing roads, a drainage system, and a bridge

## MULTIPLYING YOUR IMPACT

In the first half of FY21, World Vision's U.S. office leveraged \$8.5 million in private gifts from U.S. donors to mobilize more than \$62.9 million in grants. Leverage refers to a multiplier effect that occurs when a private donation allows us to apply for and secure additional grant funding, maximizing the yield for each dollar donated.\* It creates greater donation impact and enables World Vision to do something we could not have done otherwise.

These leveraged grants from the U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. Department of State (Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UNICEF, and World Food Program (WFP) enabled us to assist 5.5 million people during this reporting period.

*\*The average leverage/multiplier effect across all of our grants is 1 to 8. However, this ratio differs from one grant to another.*



## FY21 GLOBAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Our emergency services include (but are not limited to):

- Nutrition
- Shelter
- Cash-equivalent cards (used where goods are locally available and markets are functioning and accessible)
- Healthcare
- Family reunification
- Education
- Child protection
- Food security
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

As we work with people to meet long-term needs and rebuild communities, some of the areas we address are:

- Disaster risk reduction
- Social cohesion/peacebuilding
- Vocational training
- Livelihoods and income generation



*During the first half of FY21, World Vision responded to disasters and humanitarian emergencies in 47 countries, shown in the orange portions of the map at left.*

# WORLD FOOD PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP

## SUMMARY

For 32 years, World Vision and World Food Program have been partnering to meet the most dire needs around the globe. We are WFP's largest partner and, likewise, WFP is our largest partner in cash-based programming.

During the first half of FY21, World Vision served nearly 3 million people in 15 countries spanning Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East (see map on this page), totaling \$120 million in programming. Every dollar donated toward our work with WFP translates to \$12 worth of programming to assist disaster-affected communities, improving health and education and empowering people to become self-reliant.

The following sections highlight our work in two countries.

### South Sudan

Our work in South Sudan remains the largest portfolio in our partnership with WFP, valued at \$20 million and currently reaching 514,000 people through seven projects, with the potential for more to be added. With several project areas officially receiving a famine classification—the highest food insecurity rating possible—our work with WFP is more critical than ever.

Our projects include school feeding programs, food distributions to displacement camps, and cash

distributions to help families purchase food, all of which have been resumed after a brief hiatus due to COVID-19.

### Ethiopia

While Ethiopia normally is not part of our WFP portfolio, World Vision stepped in to respond to the humanitarian crisis in Ethiopia's Tigray region. In early November, the ruling party of that region attacked an air force base, triggering the country's prime minister to order a military response. As a result, air space and roads were closed, and phone and internet services were cut.

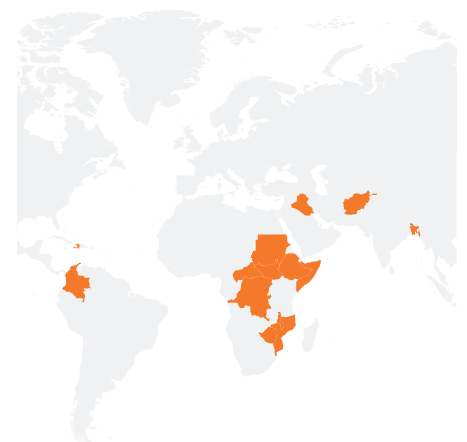
Since then, the region has seen a shortage of basic goods, displacement within Tigray and into Sudan, a lack of clean water, food shortages in refugee camps, and a depletion of drugs and supplies in hospitals. In addition, an erratic rainy season causing drought and floods, along with poor harvests and a recent locust swarm, are adding to the food shortages. The Ethiopian government estimates that 4.5 million people will need emergency food assistance in 2021.

In response, World Vision and WFP have been distributing food throughout the region, reaching 813,000 people to date. In March 2021, we started the process to implement a targeted supplementary feeding program that would feed more than 146,600 children and pregnant and nursing women.



*"[World Food Program] is continuing to improve, to reach the poor, the needy, the least of those that we have not reached yet—that's where we've got to be fixated, focused, and literally drive it home to reach every single person that's in need out there."*

— David Beasley, World Food Program's executive director, in an interview with World Vision U.S. President Edgar Sandoval Sr.



# RAPID ONSET DISASTERS

## SUMMARY

In early November 2020, Hurricane Eta unleashed heavy rains and winds of up to 150 miles per hour, wreaking havoc throughout Central America. Flooding and landslides devastated homes, schools, and health centers. The region was still recovering when Hurricane Iota—the strongest storm of the season—ripped through several weeks later. Iota landed just 15 miles from where Hurricane Eta made landfall.

With more than 4 million people affected, it will take years for the local economy, healthcare system, and infrastructure to recover. World Vision was on site as soon as it was safe to do so, sending hundreds of staff members to respond to immediate needs among affected communities.

### Helping the region recover

World Vision's response included:

- Helping more than 200,000 people in Honduras by distributing 19,200 personal hygiene kits; 1,677 WASH kits; 2,648 hazardous waste kits; 4,450 food ration kits; and shelter and non-food supplies, including bedding, bags, kitchen utensils, clothes, and shelter materials.
- Caring for nearly 179,000 children and adults in Guatemala through activities such as distributing oral hygiene kits (with items such as toothpaste and toothbrushes) to 55,000 children; supporting

3,654 people with food; providing psychosocial care to 1,274 children in 12 Child-Friendly Spaces; building handwashing stations for 2,500 children; and more

- Reaching nearly 94,000 people in Nicaragua by partnering with churches and schools to operate Child-Friendly Spaces; working with local partners to deliver aid to 9,335 people; providing school supplies to nearly 3,000 children; and supplying tools to help people rebuild their livelihoods
- Distributing more than 7,700 food, protection, and WASH kits, benefiting more than 11,000 people in El Salvador

As these countries continue to recover, World Vision is prioritizing activities that help families rebuild their livelihoods and income sources, clean up neighborhoods, and care for the mental and emotional well-being of children.

### Volcano eruption in the DRC

In late May 2021, Mount Nyiragongo erupted in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, destroying homes, health centers, schools, and power and water lines. World Vision's response aims to reach 30,000 people, focusing on providing food, cash, and psychosocial support, and addressing child protection, health, water, sanitation, and hygiene needs. A full summary will be included in our annual report.



*Donations of basic necessities and children's items are available for families in El Salvador living in a shelter after losing their home to Hurricane Eta.*

# BANGLADESH ROHINGYA REFUGEE RESPONSE

## SUMMARY

More than three years into a prolonged humanitarian crisis, 860,000 Rohingya refugees from Myanmar are living in some of the world's largest refugee camps. They fled their homes in Bangladesh to escape persecution, violence, and human rights abuses.

In March, a fire broke out in three camps, killing 11 people and damaging health centers, a food distribution center, and WASH infrastructures. More than 11,000 families were left without shelter, and many more lost access to food and clean water.

### Meeting needs of displaced families

World Vision's priority among the Rohingya refugee camps has always been to protect the refugees' rights, dignity, and well-being. In response to the fire, we expanded our work to achieve the following:

- Partnered with World Food Program to distribute more than 1.2 million food packets to approximately 50,000 people
- Addressed WASH needs by supplying water through a temporary tank, repairing 86 latrines, and repairing damaged water networks, among many other related activities
- Collaborated with local agencies to provide shelter and non-food items to meet the urgent needs of displaced families

### Rebuilding lives in refugee camps

Meanwhile, we continued working alongside the Rohingya refugees, empowering them to support their families through the following:

- Reached women from 1,000 households through 20 Community Cooking and Learning Centers, which give women a safe place to cook hot meals for their families, learn about proper nutrition, build social support, and gain new skills. During the pandemic lockdown, when outside agencies were not allowed into the camps, 58 lead mothers delivered 103 informational sessions about COVID-19 prevention and 66 sessions on proper hygiene.
- Empowered 238 women with basic sewing skills and business development, leading some women to make and sell floor mats, jewelry, and more for income.
- Provided 65,227 people with 130,454 face masks and information about COVID-19.
- Recruited 19,362 people for a cash-for-work program, which paid participants \$68.21 per month to help repair community roads. These hard-earned wages enable workers to support their families.



This photo shows an informational session conducted by one of the lead mothers at a Community Cooking and Learning Center (CCLC). “If there are any other problems in our community in the future, we can solve it from this community kitchen. So we hope deep in our hearts that this kitchen will last as long as we stay here,” said Fatema, one of the mothers who comes to a CCLC.

# SAHEL CONFLICT AND DISPLACEMENT

## SUMMARY

The complex crisis in the central Sahel region, encompassing Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger, is a culmination of armed conflict, displacement of more than 2 million people, extreme poverty, and a lack of access to basic services. Violent attacks against civilians have increased eight-fold over recent years. The situation—compounded by the pandemic—continues to deteriorate, making the need for humanitarian assistance more urgent.

In response, World Vision is addressing the holistic needs of people in Mali and Niger, prioritizing children's well-being, as they are often vulnerable to harm during humanitarian emergencies. In May 2021, we will begin working in Burkina Faso, aiming to reach more than 420,000 people.

### Caring for children

While the pandemic impacted children's education, rising attacks on schools by militant groups further put children in danger. As of October 2020, 3,500 schools in the Sahel region had closed due to direct attacks and lack of security.

In response, World Vision is:

- Working with health professionals in Mali to raise awareness about the dangers of child marriage, reaching nearly 500 adults and youth in March 2021 alone

- Equipping 50 volunteers to help children improve their reading skills
- Training community members to operate Kids Clubs and Child-Friendly Spaces, strengthening their skills to lead child-focused psychosocial and recreational activities
- Providing temporary learning spaces for hundreds of children whose schools had closed

### Meeting basic needs

Across this region, millions of people are suffering from the effects of food shortages. To address nutrition, water, and food needs, World Vision:

- Trained 575 refugees in Niger to properly maintain and use their water and sanitation facilities
- Provided 1,482 households in Mali with food and livelihood assistance
- Distributed cash vouchers in Niger to 4,446 households, enabling them to develop small income-generating outlets and better support their families
- Identified and cared for malnourished children
- Organized cooking demonstrations in Mali, benefiting 887 kids in March alone, and teaching adults how to prepare nutritious meals



Since April 2019, Amina and her nine children have been living in a refugee camp in Niger after fleeing their home in Nigeria. Drinking water was available only in a neighboring village, and a lack of latrines meant the bushes doubled as toilets. World Vision responded by building a mini water-supply system with six spigots, 52 latrines, and 32 showers, and distributing soap, detergent, gloves, shovels, clothes, and other essential items.

*“I will be forever grateful to World Vision because [these things] brought us relief,” Amina said. “Thanks to them, my life and that of the members of the camp have improved.”*

# EQUIPPING CHURCHES TO SERVE IN EMERGENCIES

## SUMMARY

Millions of Syrian, Iraqi, Jordanian, and Lebanese families are struggling for survival, either because war has torn them from their homes, or they live in communities stressed by an influx of refugees and displaced families. Disasters such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the explosion in Beirut have worsened conditions.

### Empowering local partners

World Vision's Equipping Churches to Serve in Emergencies (formerly Equipping Churches to Serve Refugees) supports faith-based partners in these countries to respond to the urgent and long-term needs of refugees and displaced people in their midst. As of March 2021, this project reached 845,607 people.

The previous phase of projects in Lebanon and Iraq ended in December, and have been subsequently redesigned to better address shifting needs in continually changing contexts in these two countries.

### Gaining skills to rebuild

Much of our partners' efforts focused on empowering community members to rebuild their livelihoods and equipping youth with valuable skills. In Iraq, our partners organized business training, which included coaching, mentoring, and micro-grants for people to invest in their businesses.

In Jordan, 147 youth took classes at a digital learning lab run by

Messengers of Peace, learning life skills and earning a global computer literacy certification. Also, 217 youth finished English courses through a new partnership with a local Greek Orthodox Church.

### Caring for mind, body, and soul

Our partners in Lebanon were quick to adapt their programming to COVID-19 restrictions, such as conducting online early education, life skills, and psychosocial support sessions for 1,095 children. They also distributed food, hygiene, and disinfection kits to 3,217 people.

During FY21, a new network of faith leaders, churches, and faith-based organizations in Lebanon was created to mobilize people to advocate for child protection and social justice issues. The network will implement World Vision's Channels of Hope COVID-19 vaccine module among faith leaders, equipping them to help people better understand and address concerns about the vaccine, in hopes of increasing vaccinations.

In Syria, we continued supporting a health clinic, which benefited 10,300 people during the first half of FY21, and continued working with a dialysis center, which reached a monthly average of 125 patients. In partnership with a new church partner, we distributed more than 2,000 hygiene kits to families.



*Orthodox Youth Movement (OYM), World Vision's partner in Lebanon, distributed drawing kits to youth as part of a three-month project to bridge the divide between the host community and refugees in the Beqaa area. The project culminated in an exhibition at a local museum and cultural center showcasing the images and stories of children, reflecting the social barriers that were overcome through the project.*

# EAST AFRICA CHILDREN'S CRISIS

## SUMMARY

Across East Africa, almost 33 million people are nearing famine levels. Countries that were dealing with crises such as prolonged conflict, flooding, drought, and locust infestations prior to the COVID-19 pandemic are at the greatest risk of famine, if conditions worsen.

In March, World Vision declared a Category III multi-country crisis, signaling the severity of the hunger crisis in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda. People are facing starvation, critical acute malnutrition, and death. Rising food insecurity also increases the risks of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation among women and girls.

### Fighting locusts in East Africa

More than 957,000 people in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, and Uganda have benefited from World Vision's response to the locust infestation. Our work included the following:

- Training 740 committees of government staff and 1,054 community leaders in Ethiopia on locust-control methods
- Providing cash to households in Ethiopia and Somalia to help them recover their livelihoods
- Distributing tools, early maturing seeds, and seedlings to farmers in Kenya to increase food production

### Meeting urgent needs in Tigray

The new conflict in Tigray, Ethiopia, has generated additional humanitarian needs and highlighted instability for the broader region. In response:

- World Vision gave 218 households iron sheets, wooden poles, nails, and tarps to build new shelters.
- We distributed cash transfers to help people buy construction materials and pay local carpenters to help build shelters.

### Protecting families in South Sudan

The impact of prolonged conflict and weak essential services have left 7.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Nearly 4 million people remain displaced, and 6.4 million people do not have enough food, with the pandemic leading to increased hunger and loss of livelihoods. Our response included:

- Providing 967,347 people with food and cash assistance, as well as support to rebuild livelihoods
- Reaching nearly 115,000 people through child protection and gender-based violence awareness activities
- Providing more than 100,000 people with safe drinking water through water treatment plants
- Distributing school supplies and supporting local schools, reaching 19,167 children



*In 2020, a swarm of locusts in Kenya destroyed many people's farms, including Amina (above, left), whose crops are necessary to provide food and income for her family. Without the crops, Amina's family went for days without food. World Vision stepped in by providing cash assistance and business training. Some recipients bought livestock, while others, like Amina, opened businesses and used some of the money to buy food and other essentials for their families.*



# AFGHANISTAN FOOD INSECURITY

## SUMMARY

Since October 2020, Afghanistan has seen less rainfall than normal, crippling the agriculture industry. This followed one of the country's most severe droughts in 2018, which displaced thousands of families, hindered crop production, and forced people to sell their possessions to survive. In addition, the country has faced years of prolonged conflict, weak economic growth, and rising poverty levels.

Increasingly recurrent and unpredictable droughts in Afghanistan have made it hard for households and communities to recover before another disaster hits. Afghans also struggle with ongoing food shortages, insufficient nutrition, livelihood opportunities, displacement, and conflicts over depleting natural resources.

Nearly 11 million people in Afghanistan are experiencing hunger due to insufficient access to and supply of food. Meanwhile, the costs of food and other essentials continue rising, not only due to COVID-19-related challenges, but also low harvests.

### World Vision's response

In May 2020, World Vision declared a Category III national office response—our highest classification—to respond to the life-threatening situation impacting children and their families in Afghanistan.

More than 664,000 people within World Vision's program areas are living one step away from a famine. They are not getting enough to eat and are suffering from acute malnutrition, leading to a higher than normal death toll. An additional 1.1 million people are not getting enough to eat, or have access to some food but at the expense of other needs and essentials.

During FY20, World Vision's efforts to fight hunger in Afghanistan reached 286,951 people, 171,574 of whom were children. During FY21, we are:

- Meeting immediate food, water, sanitation, nutrition, health and protection needs of approximately 1 million children and adults in western Afghanistan
- Partnering with community members, including children, parents, teachers, village councils, religious leaders, ministries, and national and international agencies, to most effectively reach areas in need
- Addressing child rights and protection issues among communities with rising numbers in early and forced marriages, forced child labor, and school dropouts, with the goal of curbing harmful negative coping strategies



*World Vision built solar-powered water networks in 20 villages in western Herat and Badghis provinces, supplying families with safer, more reliable water sources. One of the village leaders said, "This is the best and longest-lasting kind of help in times of drought ... This system is ours now. Everyone in the village is taking care of it as if they own it."*

## THANK YOU

We understand that the stories and needs within this report could feel overwhelming. It is hard to grasp the heartache and enormity of the circumstances mentioned. Yet we hope you also recognize that, to God and to all of us, every number included in this report is a girl, boy, woman, or man who now has extra support to rise above their challenges.

In an interview between World Vision U.S. President Edgar Sandoval Sr. and David Beasley, World Food Program's executive director, Beasley describes being in the middle of a war-torn country, and "out behind the rubble comes a child with bright eyes, with so much energy and life, just like a flower in the desert—that is what we're fighting for." Each child, each person, is worthy to live life to the fullest, and that is why World Vision remains committed to this work.

By helping families put food on their tables, building temporary shelters, restoring access to clean water, creating safe spaces for children, empowering parents with business skills, and more, we are sending a message of hope to the people we serve. We are reminding them of their strength and their resilience, and also demonstrating that we will walk alongside them through their heartache and their joy, until their lives are rebuilt.

We are deeply grateful for your partnership and your generosity in supporting the Global Emergency Response Fund. Thank you for joining us in striving to meet some of the most urgent needs around the world.



*World Vision's food distributions at a displacement camp in South Sudan provides families with staples such as vegetable oil, salt, cereal, and supplements for young children.*



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*World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.*

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Emergency Response\_Global Emergency Response Fund\_Report FY21 Semianual