



EMERGENCY RESPONSE | Global Emergency Response Fund

Progress Report

October 2024–March 2025

EMERGENCY
RESPONSE

SEMIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

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SUMMARY

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

—1 Thessalonians 5:16–18 (NIV)

Rejoicing seems a strange and difficult command in the face of the world’s suffering. Prayer seems more needed than thanksgiving. But we are called to all three, and because God is at work in the midst of suffering, we invite you to rejoice, pray, and give thanks with us.

We invite you to rejoice with us.

Rejoice that, after 13 years, new leadership has brought new hope in Syria. Rejoice that we’ve reached nearly a million people in the Middle East with critical food, water, and education support since October 2023. Rejoice that so far in fiscal year 2025, we reached more than 14 million people through 65 emergency responses in 61 countries.

We also invite you to pray with us.

The needs are great. Pray with us for children at risk of being recruited into armed groups in Haiti, Mali, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Pray for lasting peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, and Myanmar. Pray for the 123.2 million people worldwide who have been forced to flee their homes (UNHCR). Pray for families affected by deep cuts to international funding.

And we invite you to join us in giving thanks.

We first give thanks to God, who blesses and multiplies our work. We thank God for equipping us to serve others, for strength when we are weary, and for wisdom when responding to complex emergencies.

And we joyfully give thanks to you, our donor partners, who help make it possible to save lives, reduce suffering, and share hope with millions across the globe.



This little girl in Afghanistan was brought to a World Vision clinic suffering from severe malnutrition. After nine weeks of nutritional treatment, she has gained enough weight to be in the healthy range again.

Learn more about our work in Afghanistan on page 5.

GLOBAL UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

14,227,636

PEOPLE, including 7,682,679 children, impacted by disasters and humanitarian crises were provided with urgent relief, assistance, and hope from October 2024 through March 2025. Of those, 1,697,833 people were reached through gifts from private individuals from the U.S.



1,304,457

people, including 744,138 children, have been reached with critical aid in response to the hunger crisis in Sudan and surrounding countries in FY25.



1,052,610

people, including 591,380 children, have been reached with critical aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in Somalia in FY25.

MULTIPLYING YOUR IMPACT

Your gifts are used strategically to mobilize funding streams that increase our impact. Like seed money, your gifts are leveraged to apply for and secure additional funding—usually from government and international organization grants—to maximize each dollar donated.

Your gift to the Global Emergency Response Fund, combined in part with public grants and other partner support, will multiply 5X in impact!

In the first half of FY25, we leveraged \$5,570,000 in private gifts from U.S. donors to mobilize \$265,700,000 in grants from World Food Programme and other U.N. agencies. This has enabled us to reach more than 3.5 million people. We are grateful to our faithful U.S. donors for making this possible.

World Vision responded to 65 disasters and humanitarian emergencies in 61 countries in the first half of FY25, shown in the orange portions of the map below. **These include the [conflict in Somalia](#) and the [hunger crisis in Sudan](#), each of which are covered in separate reports.**

OUR RESPONSE STRATEGY

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

- **Emergency food**
- **Cash-equivalent cards** (used where goods are locally available and markets are functioning and accessible)
- **Mental health and psychosocial support**
- **Healthcare**
- **Education**
- **Nutrition**
- **Shelter**
- **Family reunification**
- **Child protection**
- **Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)**

We also work to help meet long-term needs and rebuild stronger communities through disaster risk reduction, community building and reconciliation, vocational training, livelihoods development, and income generation.



MIDDLE EAST RESPONSE

SUMMARY

“Whenever my children inquire about things they desire but we cannot afford, I encourage them to appreciate the blessings we do have and the kindness we receive,” says Layla, a mother of three receiving food parcels from World Vision in Lebanon. Ongoing violence in the Middle East is depriving millions of children, like Layla’s, of food, education, and safety.

Prioritizing children in the West Bank
Violence in the West Bank escalated in January of 2025, displacing more than 40,000 people. In 2024, 700,000 people in the West Bank needed food assistance—up 100% since 2023. Three in four families are now unable to cover their basic needs.

Since October 2023, we have directly reached 415,000 people, (230,000 children) with critical aid in the West Bank. In addition to meeting basic needs, we are helping children heal from trauma. The constant threat of violence causes stress that can affect children’s development and forces schools to close often, isolating children from their friends. World Vision is ensuring children and their families receive mental health support to help them cope and recover through Child-Friendly Spaces.

Our response in the West Bank since October 2023 has reached:

- 76,000 people with psychosocial support

- 27,207 people with in-kind assistance, cash, or vouchers for food and basic necessities
- 160 schools with support in emergency preparedness/ response and psychosocial care

Meeting basic needs in Lebanon

Across the country, 98,994 people have been forced to leave home since the September 2024 escalation in violence. Entire neighborhoods, especially near the border, were left in ruins, which means water, electricity, and medical services are unreliable or completely destroyed.

To help displaced families manage the cold months in insufficient shelter, we provided warm clothing, bedding, and heating materials. Where goods are available, we distribute cash so families can visit local markets to buy what they need.

In the governorates of Bekaa and Baalbek-Hermel, we are working with local government to restore damaged water systems and equipping families with hygiene kits and water storage tanks.

Our response in Lebanon since October 2023 has:

- Reached 552,524 people with critical humanitarian assistance
- Distributed 3,421,286 food parcels and hot and cold meals
- Distributed 89,901 hygiene kits (with toiletries, sanitary pads, etc.)



Children enjoy a nutritious meal of lentils, rice, and salad at a community kitchen in Beirut.



Since our emergency response in the Middle East began in October 2023, World Vision has provided critical aid to 972,858 children and their families (including the West Bank and surrounding countries).

Please pray with us for the safety of all children facing violence in the Middle East.

AFGHANISTAN RESPONSE

SUMMARY

“My children learned hunger when they were still in my arms, too small to walk, too young to understand why there was no food,” says

Maryam,* widow and mother of three in Afghanistan (story at right). Like half the country’s children, Maryam’s know hunger all too well.

The international withdrawal in 2021 left Afghanistan’s economy in shreds. In 2023, back-to-back earthquakes killed 2,000 people in the west. In 2024, flash floods in the northeast claimed 180 lives and destroyed infrastructure. These crises, combined with decades of conflict, have left an estimated 22.9 million people—half the population—in urgent need.

“That is the worst feeling a mother can have—to see hunger in her child’s eyes and know you have nothing left,” says Maryam. Nearly 45% of children under 5 are too short for their age because they don’t have enough to eat. In 31 of 34 provinces, hunger has reached crisis levels.

Our response: Relief and partnership

In the country since 2001, we understand Afghanistan’s complex humanitarian needs. We are supporting families with health, nutrition, education, livelihoods, and WASH programs. The communities we work with are critical partners, involved in decision-making and planning for their long-term recovery. Our priority is serving children and the most vulnerable.

Our impact

Note: Numbers on this page represent the number of times we reached a person between October 2024 and March 2025. One participant may have been reached more than once.

In the first half of FY25, we reached 926,115 people in Afghanistan, including 445,390 children.

Through 54 health centers and five mobile teams, we provided:

- 330,372 outpatient care visits
- 34,098 child malnutrition screenings, with 4,485 children admitted for treatment
- 23,463 maternal and newborn care appointments
- Support for 986 births

To help relieve the crushing hunger in Afghanistan, we are distributing food and supporting local production.

In FY25, we reached:

- 386,320 people with lifesaving food and cash vouchers for food
- 36,190 farmers with training to boost food production
- 113,026 people with clean water

“All I want is for my children to have enough. Enough food so they do not wake up hungry. Enough warmth so they do not shiver through winter,” says Maryam.

Thank you for helping care for families like Maryam’s.



Maryam’s 5-year-old son plays with a goat provided by World Vision. “The goats are not just a source of income,” Maryam says. “We drink their milk every morning. We make yogurt. Some days, yogurt is all we have to eat. **It is the difference between hunger and a full stomach.**” Maryam is pictured below with her three children.



**name changed to protect identity*

UKRAINE RESPONSE

SUMMARY

“We see every day death. We see every day destruction. There’s too much pain and sorrow,” says Hanna, mother of Mykhailo and Dasha (at right). After fleeing at the start of the war in February 2022, Hanna’s family returned to Dnipro, determined to give their children a sense of normalcy.

Since the conflict began, 6.8 million people have fled Ukraine and another 3.7 million are internally displaced. Overall, 12.7 million people are in need. The toll on children still in the country is staggering.

Growing up in a conflict zone

On average, 16 children have been killed or injured every week in Ukraine since February 2022. A national report found that 49% of the country’s children had been directly exposed to war. Some children spend up to six hours a day sheltering in basements during air raids (UNICEF).

The well-being of children is at the heart of our work in Ukraine. We run summer camps, offer mental health support, and connect families to essential services. Our Child-Friendly Spaces provide structured psychological care, helping children and families heal and regain a sense of safety and hope.

Since the response began:

- 65 Child-Friendly Spaces have been opened and are operating (22 in Ukraine and 43 in Moldova, Romania, and Georgia).

- 129,956 children have attended Child-Friendly Spaces (88,607 in Ukraine; 41,349 in surrounding countries).
- 139,842 people have been reached with psychosocial support services.

Missing out on education

An estimated 4 million children face lost education in Ukraine. Over 3,600 schools have been damaged, destroyed, or closed due to the war—putting an entire generation’s education at risk.

World Vision is supporting children through emergency education programs in Ukraine, Moldova, Romania, and Georgia. We distribute materials, train teachers, and run catch-up classes—ensuring children can keep learning despite the crisis.

Since the response began through March 2025:

- 875 educational personnel in Ukraine have been trained to support children’s mental health.
- 278,673 children have been reached through educational programming (241,534 in Ukraine; 37,139 in surrounding countries).

World Vision has reached more than 2.2 million people (1 million children) with support in protection, education, livelihoods, and food security since March 2022.



“Bringing my children to this [Child-Friendly Space] once a week is a blessing,” says Hanna. “They not only find safety and an opportunity to play here, but they also receive the assistance they need from the on-site psychologist. War has left its mark on all of us, and these facilities assist to heal those unseen wounds. It’s a place where we can find comfort and hope.”



MYANMAR RESPONSE

SUMMARY

“I told my daughter to flee the house, but she hid under a table, as taught in school. We held each other tightly, and I shielded her with my body, knowing we couldn’t escape,” says Aye. When a 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck Myanmar on March 28, 2025, Aye’s home was destroyed. Within minutes, a 6.4 magnitude aftershock hit further south. The quakes claimed more than 3,600 lives and left 5,000 injured.

World Vision is supporting families, including Aye’s, with food, water, and essential supplies.

Compounding emergencies

This disaster struck a country already in crisis. The coup in 2021 triggered ongoing armed resistance. A surge in violence since October 2023 increased displacement and further weakened the economy. For many families, even essential goods are now unaffordable. According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 15 million people are facing acute food insecurity and more than 3.5 million have been forced to leave home to find safety.

Rapid response to immediate needs

Within hours of the earthquake, World Vision declared an emergency response. Our teams were on the ground the same day, delivering lifesaving aid. **By June 10, we had reached 332,631 people with critical support, including:**

- 172,109 people reached with food
- 92,466 people reached with water, sanitation, and hygiene resources
- 11,511 reached with multipurpose cash assistance where products are locally available
- 6,157 reached with mental health and psychosocial support

With the support of our donors and partners, our goal is to assist 500,000 people in Myanmar with vital aid in the first six months of the response.

World Vision’s rapid response strategy

Our global rapid response strategy is built on decades of experience, worldwide coordination, and deep community partnerships so that when disaster strikes, World Vision is already on the way. Our approach prioritizes:

Preparedness: We work with communities to develop disaster plans that identify local risks and lifesaving actions.

Speed: Our teams respond within 24 to 42 hours, using pre-established logistics, programming standards, and pre-positioned supplies from warehouses located strategically worldwide.

Sustainability: Beyond the initial response, we support communities with permanent housing, clean water systems, food security, education, healthcare, and recovery loans to rebuild livelihoods.



“Our kitchen walls were also damaged, so we can’t cook rice or proper meals yet,” says Alinka, 6. “When we get hungry, my brother and I snack on the biscuits from World Vision and the World Food Programme. We both really love them.” Alinka was injured when a brick wall fell on her leg during the earthquake.

[Watch the first two months of our response in Myanmar](#)



SYRIA RESPONSE

SUMMARY

“We don’t just want to survive; we want to rebuild,” says Um Muhammad,* a mother living in a displacement camp in northwest Syria (at right). **“I dream of a day when I can provide for my family without relying on aid.”**

After more than 13 years of civil war, Syria is entering a new chapter. A new government was installed in December, and Syrians are beginning to rebuild their lives. As of the end of March, about 1.2 million people have returned home, including 926,000 who were internally displaced.

We thank God for a renewed sense of hope in Syria.

The road ahead remains difficult. Civilian casualties from explosive ordnance are reported almost daily, and hostilities continue in northwest Syria. Recent airstrikes in northern Syria cut off water and electricity for 413,000 people. And 14.5 million Syrians lack enough food to meet their basic needs.

Still, there is a growing sense of cautious hope. A recent UNHCR study found that 1 million people living in displacement camps in northwest Syria plan to return home within the next year.

Our recovery response

As the outlook shifts, so does our response. In April, we launched our 18-month “Whole of Syria” plan focused on improving immediate

living conditions and restoring essential services. Our strategy will deliver assistance across all of Syria, including government-controlled and opposition-held areas. This will ensure a consistent response and harmonize efforts across regions.

Expanding hospital care in Aleppo

As part of our emergency response, World Vision is helping manage a surgical and pediatric hospital in northern Syria. In Aleppo, we’re working with our partner, Hand in Hand, to restore the hospital to full capacity. We completed staff recruitment in March, and the hospital now averages around 200 outpatient visits per day. It also offers new specialized services, including dental and malnutrition clinics. Our next goal is to restore the intensive care unit so that it is functional again.

Since the beginning of the year, the hospital has served over 5,000 children.

Doing more through partnership

Together with Action for Humanity, we’ve launched two new projects:

- The Integrated Nutrition and Protection project to address critical nutrition needs, focusing on children under 5
- The Emergency Relief for Syria project to provide essential hygiene support, including distributing dignity kits to women and girls and baby kits to mothers



“Hope is what keeps us alive,” says Um Muhammad. Her husband was killed during a bombing, leaving her to support her children on her own. She found refuge in a displacement camp in northwest Syria, where her family receives food through World Vision and the World Food Programme.

*“The food basket may seem small, but it makes a big difference for us. I have a child with delayed growth, and the basket contains special butter that has been vital in helping him recover. **This support means the world to me and my children.**”*

**name changed to protect identity*

VENEZUELA RESPONSE

SUMMARY

“Some nights we put the children to bed without eating, sometimes they only drank water with sugar to sustain their stomachs. When we received the bags of food it was a great joy,” says Amalia of the food support she receives from World Vision. She became the caretaker to her four grandchildren in Venezuela after the children’s mother died at the hands of criminals after immigrating to Colombia.

Since 2014, Venezuela’s economic collapse and political unrest have forced 7.8 million people to flee—25% of them children. Most remain in Latin America and the Caribbean, facing uncertain futures. Migrant children especially face risks, including family separation, missed education, and recruitment by criminal groups. At least 30,000 children have already been recruited by armed groups in the region (U.N.).

Hope Without Borders: Venezuela

Through the “Hope Without Borders” project, World Vision has supported 2.7 million people since 2019, focusing on child protection, education, food security, clean water, and livelihoods in Venezuela and neighboring countries.

So far in FY25 in Venezuela:

- 19,953 households were reached through food kits, school meals, and community kitchen support.

- 3,236 people were given health referrals; 26 health workers were trained in emergency care.
- 900 school kits were distributed to students and teachers.

Our regional response

In neighboring countries, we are helping families obtain documentation that ensures legal status and access to educational and employment opportunities. Our collaboration with faith-based organizations is vital and enables us to offer safe spaces, skills training, and language classes. In FY25:

- 3,714 migrants in Colombia received hot meals.
- 1,300 people in Colombia were trained in preventing violence and forced recruitment.
- 40 churches in Ecuador were certified as “Humanitarian Churches,” which means they were trained to protect children, support emergency responses, and help migrants and refugees with compassionate integration.
- 1,688 children in transit in Peru received care and emotional support in Child-Friendly Spaces.
- 1,786 students in Brazil were integrated into local schools using trilingual visual materials.

In the first half of FY25, “Hope Without Borders” has reached over 193,000 people.



A girl smiles while enjoying her lunch at school in Colombia. Supporting school meals helps migrant children continue their education.

[See how the Hope Without Borders project is empowering families to grow their income in Venezuela](#)



FORGOTTEN RESPONSES: HAITI, MALI, AND DRC

SUMMARY

Not all emergencies make the news. Thanks to the Global Emergency Response Fund, we can act swiftly where help is needed, even in places that don't get international attention.

Crises like those highlighted here demand both urgent aid and sustained care. In these settings, we adapt constantly—monitoring violence to protect staff and respond quickly to emerging needs.

Haiti

“Pray for the bandits to put down their guns. God can do everything. When you pray, ask God to cleanse our country, to unite us.” —Rosemerline, mother in Haiti

For the past two years, gang violence in Haiti has steadily pushed the country into crisis. In March 2025, armed groups attacked Mirebalais, a once-peaceful city. Fires, gunfire, and mass panic followed. The police station was burned, and over 500 inmates were freed. Approximately 85% of Port-au-Prince, the capital city, is now controlled by gangs.

Violence has displaced 580,000 Haitians within their own country. In FY25, we reached 32,447 people with food, protection, and WASH programming.

Mali

“Without this project, I don't know if my child would still be alive.” —Fatoumata, mother in Mali, speaking of World Vision and UNICEF

Since a 2012 coup, Mali has faced repeated uprisings by extremist groups. Massive flooding in mid-2024 destroyed 43,400 homes, pushing vulnerable families to desperation. Most recently, attacks on main roads have hindered movement for people and relief organizations.

So far in FY25, we have reached 270,134 people with critical services including health, nutrition, livelihoods, and clean water.

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

“Lord, I beg you, give wisdom to our leaders so that they put an end to this war. We can't go on like this.” —Clementine, mother in the DRC. Two of her children were killed when a bomb hit their house.

Hostilities have plagued the DRC since the 1960s, but in 2022, a surge in violence forced thousands to seek refuge in Goma, where World Vision began been supporting people living in long-term displacement camps.

But in January, armed forces captured Goma, forcing World Vision to suspend program activities due to extreme danger to staff. As families flee—again—we have shifted our response to reaching those on the move. We're partnering with the World Food Programme to deliver millions of pounds of food to displaced people. In FY25, we've reached 1.8 million people with food, protection, and clean water.



Hawa got separated from her mother while they were fleeing the violence in their hometown in Mali. A host family took her in and is caring for her with support from World Vision.

In central Mali, World Vision distributes cash to vulnerable households and displaced people so they can retain autonomy in meeting their needs and support local markets.

Please pray with us for lasting peace in Haiti, Mali, and the DRC, and for the safety of World Vision staff and the staff of other relief organizations.

OUR COMMITMENT DESPITE FUNDING CUTS

In the wake of significant U.S. Government funding cuts, over \$100 million in grants for World Vision's emergency response programming have been canceled—impacting 21 emergency programs across more than 20 countries and placing over 1 million lives at risk. These cuts have halted critical services such as food assistance, healthcare, nutrition, shelter, and child protection, particularly in high-need regions like Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia, and Central America. Vulnerable children and families now face the loss of access to essentials such as clean water, medical care, and other basic necessities.

Despite these challenges, World Vision remains steadfast in our mission. We are prioritizing lifesaving interventions and leveraging every available resource to sustain core services. Private, flexible funding—especially through the Global Emergency Response Fund—is more vital than ever.

Your gifts help bridge the gap, equipping us to adapt quickly and rush resources to where needs are most urgent. Private donations also strengthen our ability to secure future grants, multiplying your impact up to fivefold. We are deeply grateful for our faithful donor partners as we adapt to a new landscape and continue bringing lifesaving aid to some of the world's most vulnerable people.

THANK YOU

We praise God for committed donor partners like you. God's grace and your gifts allowed us to reach more than 14 million people facing crises so far in FY25—more than half of them children. **Thank you for helping us save lives, reduce suffering, and share hope.**

But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.

—Psalm 33:18-19 (NIV)



Abu Ali feeds his child nutrition supplements he received from a World Vision feeding program in Syria. "These supplements are a blessing, they help fight malnutrition and give our children a small chance to grow strong," he says. Bombing forced Abu Ali and his family to flee their home and take shelter in a displacement camp in 2019. "Thank you from the depths of my heart, and I hope this project continues to support all the people in the camps."*

**name changed to protect identity*



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**75 YEARS OF
BELIEF**



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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