

GLOBAL HUNGER RESPONSE

Situation report #1 | August 2022

The world is facing a massive hunger crisis. Tens of millions of children and their families are confronted with starvation. Conflict, COVID-19, and climate are acting as the drivers of this crisis. The war in Ukraine has also resulted in price spikes and shortages in food, fuel, and fertiliser around the world.

Nearly **50 million people** are on the edge of famine in 45 countries. Around 276 million people face acute food insecurity, with this number set to increase to 323 million due to the conflict in Ukraine.

World Vision is responding to this global emergency with a **US\$2 billion** appeal. In the organisation's 70-year history there has never been a larger appeal.

Food assistance and other life-saving support is immediately needed to prevent the deaths of thousands of people. International funding for the United Nations (UN) and agencies like World Vision is inadequate to meet the scale of need. The Response is targeting **22 million people in 25 hotspot nations**.^{*} Elsewhere World Vision is also working to adapt programming and responses where cost-of-living price shocks are hurting the vulnerable.

World Vision's focus is on scaling up operations, increasing funding, and influencing and mobilising the public to:

- get food and access to it, to people in need
- ensure clean water is available, plus promoting hygiene and sanitation to prevent disease
- get people emergency health and nutrition
- build household resilience with livelihoods support
- protect children, women and the vulnerable from the effects of the crisis.

World Vision is partnering with the UN World Food Programme (WFP), national governments, and institutional and private donors to respond to urgent need Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) 4 (emergency) and IPC 5 (catastrophic) levels of hunger to save lives.

^{*}In East Africa: Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda; in West Africa: Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Chad, Central African Republic (CAR), Mauritania; in the Middle East and Eastern Europe: Afghanistan, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen; in Southern Africa: Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Angola; in Latin America and the Caribbean: Venezuela, Guatemala, Honduras, Haiti; in Asia Pacific: Myanmar, Sri Lanka.

Situation overview

Globally, four times as many people (881,558) are living with catastrophic conditions of starvation than 15 months ago. The number of people living with emergency food insecurity rose by 43%, to 48.6 million.

The level of food insecurity is particularly high in Global Hunger Response priority countries, with Ethiopia, South Sudan, Somalia, and Yemen all experiencing famine-like (IPC 5) conditions.

Worryingly, the number of people at risk is rising – 274 million people will need humanitarian assistance and protection in 2022.

There is a significant increase from last year (235 million), which had been the highest figure in decades. Despite the costs of averting a catastrophe and paying for food assistance escalating, available funding is shrinking.

World Vision



People reached

14,818,697



Men 2,906,152

Women 3,754,917



Children 8,157,628

Boys 3,888,999 Girls 4,268,629

^{*}Based on figures as of 26 July 2022. People reached includes people supported in GHR's 25 countries of highest alert from 01 March 2021 through the current reporting period (01 April – 30 June 2022).

Key concerns

- War in Ukraine has prevented the forward shipment of millions of tons of grain from blockaded ports. This has led to shortages and driven up commodity prices, forcing ration cuts to refugees and the displaced. Fuel and fertiliser supplies have also been affected. Low-income countries and those reliant on these exports have been hit hard. This comes on top of COVID-19 that has left a legacy of economic and livelihood impacts.
- In the Horn of Africa, Somalia and Ethiopia continue to be affected by conflict, four consecutive years of drought, desert locusts, and rising food prices. Somalia now has 81,000 people in IPC 5 and a 'risk of famine' has been identified. Ethiopia remains at the highest level of alert with 401,000 people in IPC 5.
- In the Sahel, more than 11.8 million people in Chad, Niger, Burkina Faso, and Mali are projected to face high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC 3+) in the next six months, while above average rainfall is leading to flooding, crop damage, and the disruption of pastoral activities.
- Sri Lanka has been hit by its worst economic crisis since its independence in 1948. In June, food price inflation was over 80%, and the government suspended the distribution of fuel for private vehicles due to dramatic shortages, which caused schools to close. Ongoing protests and political turmoil have complicated ongoing negotiations for a financial bailout.
- Climate change is leading to year-on-year drought, extreme weather and driving migration and conflict for scarce resources.



RESPONSE GOAL: To reduce acute food insecurity and improve the resilience of 22 million of the most vulnerable people in countries experiencing growing hunger and the threat of famine

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS



Improve access to food for affected households



3,386,088

People reached with cash and voucher assistance



US\$116,599,674

Cash and voucher assistance distributed



798,027

Children receiving hot meals and/or dry rations through school feeding



7,057,867

People reached with (in-kind) food assistance



Increase access to curative and preventive quality emergency health and nutrition services



491,372

People reached through primary health-care support



314,988

Children reached through management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)



17,514

Children recovered from SAM



463

Primary caregivers benefited from infant and young child feeding (IYCF) promotion and action oriented sessions and counselling



Improve access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene promotion services to mitigate water-borne diseases



1,454,236

People with access to clean, potable water



144,318

People that have participated in emergency hygiene promotion activities with appropriate supplies



Ensure protection for children, women, and vulnerable groups including psychosocial support and provision of dignity kits for reproductive age girls and women



111,996

People receiving psychosocial support



49,759

People receiving prevention messages on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and/or positive coping strategies

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

**Household resilience to food insecurity and livelihoods-related shocks****300**

Households provided with livelihood physical agricultural assets

**14,412**

Households provided with conditional cash or vouchers to procure agricultural physical assets

**2,517**

People trained in climate change resilient farming practices

ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS

**World Vision and our partners are advocating to mobilise funding, improve access, and strengthen programmes**

- In May, World Vision signed onto a [joint NGO statement on global food security and conflict-induced hunger](#) aimed at catalysing action on global food security and resilience, focusing on the critical links between conflict and hunger, including the impacts of the war in Ukraine.
- World Vision carried out an advocacy campaign to influence the [G7 famine compact](#) ahead of the G7 leader's summit, where an additional US\$4.5 billion was pledged to tackle the hunger crisis.
- Ahead of the **African Union High-Level Humanitarian Summit and Pledging Conference** in May, Joining Forces – an alliance between the six largest child-focused agencies – published a [policy brief](#) about the ongoing food crises across sub-Saharan Africa, calling upon the African Union, donors, UN agencies and key stakeholders to urgently roll back hunger that is affecting the survival and well-being of Africa's children.
- As part of a core group of NGOs, **World Vision successfully advocated the Canadian government to commit [CA\\$250 million \(US\\$194 million\)](#)** in new and additional funds to help address the global food security crisis.
- **World Vision Guatemala presented an analysis of the food and nutritional security situation to members of Guatemala's Congress**, successfully positioning the need for Congress to present a resolution recognising hunger and malnutrition as a emergency and declare a food and nutrition insecurity national emergency.
- As part of **Protection of Civilians Week** in May, World Vision convened a virtual session, '[Addressing the impact of conflict on hunger](#)' alongside the governments of Canada, Ireland, the Netherlands, and the United States, together with WFP, FAO, the Global Network Against Food Crises, Action Against Hunger, CARE, Concern Worldwide, Save the Children, and the Global Rights Compliance, to bring attention to the growing impacts of conflict on food systems and food security, and the disproportionate impact on women, children, persons with disabilities, and other marginalised groups. Speakers included World Vision's Global Hunger Response Director, Amanda Rives.

REGIONAL OVERVIEWS



East Africa region

People reached **8,042,196**Children reached **4,434,757**

Situation overview

Approximately [39 million people](#) in East Africa are forecast to be food insecure in 2022 (living in IPC 3 crisis conditions or worse). The key drivers of food insecurity in this context remain conflict, displacement, recurrent dry spells, and economic decline, which is mainly attributed to the sluggish recovery from COVID-19 impacts and the Ukraine conflict driving up food, fertiliser, and oil prices. According to the [WFP](#), fertiliser prices in East Africa had more than doubled as of June 2022 from a year ago in the two months since the Ukraine invasion. Between the disruption this caused to the planting season and rising fuel costs preventing farmers from using machinery and transport, WFP estimates that cereal production could potentially decrease by 16%, leading to an estimated rise of 6–7 million people living in food insecurity by the end of 2022.

World Vision has been implementing a multi-country emergency hunger response in **Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda** as part of the East Africa Hunger Emergency Response (EAHER) since March 2021, enabling the repurposing and fundraising of US\$226 million. However, the needs have insurmountably increased; with an additional US\$181 million required in order for World Vision to deliver life-saving humanitarian assistance to the millions of children and their families affected by this crisis and mitigate the subsequent and secondary conflict-related crises likely to emerge.

Response highlights

- World Vision addressed the United States' (US) Congressional Hunger Caucus and, in coordination with the Inter-Agency Working Group, the United Nations' (UN) Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs about the impact of the hunger crisis on the Horn of Africa, additionally undertaking interviews with media outlets around the world, including BBC's Counties Radio, TV One New Zealand, The Christian Post, and Frunfurter Allgemeine, to bring more attention to this issue.
- World Vision's East Africa regional office contributed to the Regional Protection Working Group's policy brief on the Horn of Africa Drought Response.
- World Vision US' Vice President of Humanitarian Affairs, Mark Smith, travelled with the Inter-agency Standing Committee's (IASC) Emergency Directors Group (EDG) Mission to Somalia as part of an effort to identify gaps, challenges, and priority areas to scale up the drought response. This scale up would come at a critical time, with 800,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Somalia because of drought, with more people become displaced every week. This is increasing demand for humanitarian aid in places like Baidoa, where World Vision already supports IDPs.



West Africa region

People reached **1,991,560**Children reached **1,092,591**

Situation overview

West Africa is experiencing its worst food crisis in a decade with [more than 40 million people](#) across the region forecast to be living in crisis conditions (IPC 3) or worse ([up from 32.2 million](#) in 2021). This led World Vision to declare a multi-country emergency response – the West Africa Hunger Emergency Response (WAHER) – in April 2022 for **Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger**. World Vision is also closely monitoring the food security levels in Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Ghana. This Response is targeting 3.2 million people, including 1.6 million children, during its emergency phase (June–September 2022).

Repeated disasters, including recurrent cycles of rainfall deficit, and extreme poverty have undermined the ability of the most vulnerable to cope or time to recover from the compounded crises. The collateral effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ukraine crisis on global markets are also affecting the region's agricultural sector and access to basic market commodities.

The people most affected by hunger live in conflict areas where humanitarian access remains highly constrained. In Burkina Faso in particular, the security context has been seriously deteriorated by extremist groups exerting influence and control over populations. Incidents there have particularly affected humanitarian workers in the field and have led to the country experiencing one of the highest growth rates in displacement

in the world. There are currently 3.5 million people living in displaced or host communities in Burkina Faso who are in need of humanitarian assistance – a 52% increase since last year.

In Chad, more than 2.1 million people are projected to be living in food crisis situations during the country's lean season – between June and September 2022. The government has declared a food and nutritional emergency, calling for local and international communities to assist people affected and started sub-granting cereals in different provinces from strategic stocks.

Response highlights

- World Vision Chad, alongside a network of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), successfully advocated for the government to declare a food and nutritional crisis, which was announced on 1 June 2022.
- World Vision Mauritania trained 95 people, including 25 women, on disaster risk reduction, as part of ongoing efforts to build resilience.
- World Vision Burkina Faso joined the government's National Food Security Council and is working collaboratively with other NGOs to advocate for the mobilisation of more resources for the hunger crisis.

REGIONAL OVERVIEWS



Southern Africa region



People reached **2,356,954**



Children reached **1,403,454**

Situation overview

Recurrent droughts, floods, and other adverse effects caused by climate change have severely affected millions of already vulnerable peoples' livelihoods and eroded household capacity to cope with persistent shocks. These have led to an exponential increase in hunger across Southern Africa. Due to deteriorating situations, **Angola** and the **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** are priority countries of highest alert within the Global Hunger Response. World Vision has been responding to ongoing nutritional needs in Angola since September 2019. In the DRC, World Vision is implementing interventions to combat hunger as part of a response that was re-declared in July 2020.

Angola has been gripped by its most severe drought in four decades, which has been aggravated by disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Late rainfall occurred at the end of February and into March 2022, which helped recharge the water table and livestock pastures, but it was too late for crop production. This situation has resulted in reported crop losses of up to 40% in southern Angola, including livestock and asset losses, water scarcity, and population displacement. According to the IPC acute food insecurity assessment, 560,000 people in southern Cuando Cubango, Cunene, and Huila provinces require urgent humanitarian assistance.

Due to protracted conflict in the DRC, 5.5 million people have been internally displaced with a significant number of children being separated from their families.

However, the escalation of conflict between armed non-state group, M23, and government forces in Rutshuru, North Kivu, in eastern DRC in May 2022 led to 102,000 new displacements.

These displaced populations left their homes with little or nothing, resulting in an increasing number of people requiring humanitarian assistance.

Nearly 26 million people in the DRC are experiencing high levels of food insecurity with 5.4 million people living under IPC 4 conditions. Approximately 860,000 children under age 5 and 470,000 pregnant or lactating women are acutely malnourished.

The hunger crisis has been further compounded by the drastic rise (between 20–40%) in prices of local and basic commodities as well as the stifling of local market operations due to a new Cholera outbreak in eastern DRC, which has affected approximately 24,000 people.

Response highlights

- World Vision DRC is providing basic water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions to avert the Cholera outbreak and improve the access to potable water. Food security programming is also being implemented to address rising food needs, including within sustained internal displacements.
- World Vision Angola is providing malnutrition treatment interventions through food kitchens and climate smart agricultural practices.



Asia Pacific region



People reached **78,251**



Children reached **15,514**

Situation overview

Within the Asia Pacific region, **Myanmar** and **Sri Lanka** have been designated priority countries of highest alert within the Global Hunger Response. This is due to the large growth in humanitarian need and the number of economically vulnerable families who are more likely to fall deeper into food insecurity over the coming months.

WFP estimates that 1 in 4 people (**14 million**) in Myanmar are moderately or severely food insecure, particularly those caught up in conflict or the poorest living in urban centres. Many are also facing a fragile humanitarian situation due to instability arising from COVID-19, the military coup in February 2021, destroyed livelihoods and worsened access to food, health care, and education.

An escalation in fighting in various parts of the country and frequent indiscriminate attacks on civilians, has led to the displacement of more than 1 million people. In addition, thousands are in distress due to the increasing price of essential commodities, including food and fuel, partly due to the conflict in Ukraine.

Sri Lanka is currently experiencing its worst economic crisis in over 70 years. This has led to protests and riots and the resignations of the prime minister and president. This unrest, coupled with the indirect impacts of COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine, have pushed more people into poverty and hunger – some for the first time ever.

Children have been badly affected. Many have been going without meals,

their schooling disrupted, and their mental well-being harmed. A basic meal has fallen beyond the reach for many struggling families.

The National Nutrition Programme has been suspended in more than 50% of schools.

Response highlights

- Since being designated a priority country in May, World Vision Myanmar:
 - has distributed food aid to nearly 100,000 people and provided approximately US\$320,000 in cash voucher assistance to 11,164 people
 - has been working with VisionFund Myanmar – World Vision's microfinance subsidiary – to provide emergency loan products to affected families focused on restoring and strengthening agricultural businesses
 - is partnering with The Border Consortium on a humanitarian response project to provide assistance to affected populations in Kayin State in the southern part of Myanmar.
- Since declaring its emergency response on 6 June, World Vision Sri Lanka has responded with:
 - food security and livelihoods, health and nutrition, and protection programming
 - advocacy efforts including advocating for regular distribution of nutritious foods to rural areas, the resumption of school meals and voucher programmes, and the accessibility of psychosocial support services to children and families.

REGIONAL OVERVIEWS



Latin America and Caribbean region



People reached **251,094**



Children reached **125,385**

Situation overview

Four countries across Latin America and the Caribbean fall within the Global Hunger Response's priority countries of highest alert. **Guatemala, Honduras, and Venezuela** have been responding to concerning levels of malnutrition, people living in crisis or emergency food insecurity, and rising food inflation as part of the response. Due to the protracted crisis and deteriorating situation, **Haiti** has been added to the response to focus efforts towards meeting the needs of 1.3 million people living in emergency (IPC 4) food insecurity.

Poverty – affecting **60%** of the population – is at the root of Honduras' chronic hunger crisis. Between June and August, the number of Hondurans living in a food insecurity crisis or worse (IPC 3 and above) is expected to **rise to 2.6 million** (28%). However, the number of families affected may be higher due to basic food basket and fuel price increases, a lack of financing for and uncertainty around agricultural production due to irregular rains.

In Haiti, chronic socio-political instability and a deteriorating economy have led to increased security concerns and a sporadic disruption of movement, leading to limited access to essential services and markets in some areas, reduced economic and livelihood opportunities, and increased costs of food and other basic goods. In 2022, 4.6 million people are likely to be food insecure and in need of food assistance and livelihood protection, including 1.34 million living in an emergency situation (IPC 4).

Between March and May, Guatemala's economy saw a more than 100% spike in the cost of fuel, which resulted in a rise in prices

for goods and services, such as transportation, food, and clothing. Families in rural areas have been the most affected by these increases which have been compounded by a period of seasonal food shortages.

Response highlights

- World Vision Venezuela is providing direct food assistance to 600 families with children, pregnant women, or lactating mothers thanks to Viser Fund funding.
- World Vision Venezuela has provided 78 families in Zulia with access to clean water through ecofilters and trained people on water storage and treatment.
- World Vision Honduras is distributing agricultural tools and food kits, has established a strategic reserve of grains, and has identified vulnerable communities to improve beans production.
- World Vision Haiti provided more than 6,400 farmers with high value seeds (Congo beans, peanut, plantain, cassava, vegetable) and 2,690 farmers were trained on improved planting techniques.
- World Vision Haiti established 15 new Savings for Transformation groups and conducted trainings with the existing 131 groups to encourage the 5,600 members to use the groups' available capital (US\$377,193) to reinforce or establish small businesses.
- World Vision Haiti identified more than 1,100 vulnerable households to receive entrepreneurship training – 671 attendees received funds to start a small business.



Middle East and Eastern Europe region



People reached **2,098,642**



Children reached **1,085,927**

Situation overview

Due to emergency and catastrophic food insecurity levels, **Afghanistan, Lebanon, Syria, and Yemen** are all priority countries of highest alert in the Global Hunger Response.

In Afghanistan, **45% of the population** is facing high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC 3 or above) with only a minimal (2%) decrease (from 19.7 to 18.9 million) predicted for June to November 2022 due to below average harvest prospects for most of the country.

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates announced a US\$3 billion economic support package for Yemen in hopes of stabilising the economic freefall that is fuelling the rise in hunger and other needs. Even though the temporary truce between the Saudi-backed Yemeni government and the Iranian-supported Houthi rebels is still ongoing, Yemen has faced extreme humanitarian access constraints in the past six months, scoring 5/5 in **ACAPS Humanitarian Access Index**. While the flow of fuel products has continued into the Hudaydah port, which, despite fuel price hikes, has helped avoid disruptions in essential public services – such as clean water, health care, electricity, and transportation – and commercial flights are now able to fly into and out of Sana'a, many roads in Taiz remain closed.

Now in its 11th year of war, the situation in Syria reminds dire with needs increasing by 25% since 2020. There are 14.6 million people in need inside the country – half are children. Many of the internally displaced live in sub-standard informal settlements

or collective centres with significantly elevated health and protection risks for children.

The start of the Ukraine crisis in March not only severely affected the political, economic, and funding environment inside Syria and across the region, but also raised significant concerns about the deprioritisation of Syria by the international community. The ongoing fighting, war in Ukraine, and the COVID-19 pandemic have also worsened people's livelihoods and ability to cope with stressors. The economic situation has impacted children who have increasingly been forced into child marriage and child labour, while a spike in goods and commodity prices have left families with no ability to meet their ends.

Response highlights

- World Vision Syria reached more than 15,000 people with access to clean, potable water to mitigate waterborne disease.
- In Al Shat, Yemen, World Vision, through a local partner, conducted remote trainings on community health volunteering, behaviour change communications, and communicable diseases for health and community workers.
- World Vision Afghanistan provided food distributions and cash and voucher assistance to more than 480,000 individuals from vulnerable families.
- World Vision Lebanon is working with the WFP to distribute in-kind food, cash assistance, and cash-for-work projects, as well as training producers to improve production methods.



Aamina, age 1, has severe acute malnutrition (SAM) based on her mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC), which a recent bout with Acute Watery Diarrhoea has worsened. Due to shortages of clean drinking water where she lives in Somalia, waterborne illnesses and severe malnutrition are becoming increasingly common.

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World Vision is focused on helping the most vulnerable children to overcome poverty and experience fullness of life. We help children of all backgrounds, even in the most dangerous places. Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness. Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.

wvi.org/emergencies/hunger-crisis

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Global Hunger Response: April - June 2022

We would like to thank the hundreds of thousands of generous child sponsors, donors, partners, and supporters whose contributions make this work possible, including:



Other donors include:

AFD, BHA, BMZ, BPRM, DFAT, DRA, FCDO, GAC, GFFO, GPE, Institute Camões, Dutch Relief Alliance, Embassy of the Netherlands, UNHCR, Visser Relief Fund, World Bank