

ANNUAL REPORT: October 2015 through September 2016

### **EMERGENCY RELIEF**

#### **GLOBAL SUMMARY**

Natural disasters can strike without warning, claiming thousands of lives in seconds. Man-made crises can simmer, putting millions at risk over the long term. Wherever the place, whatever the cause, a humanitarian crisis always delivers the heaviest blow to those living in poverty, especially children.

God is with those suffering from disasters—the refugee, the earthquake survivor, the family facing famine. He calls us to follow Him in offering hope to every last one.

Because no two disasters are the same, World Vision's response strategy considers the impact, context, and causes of each one. Our goal is to support families beyond immediate needs as they face the challenges of rebuilding their lives and livelihoods.

World Vision's emergency relief programs give priority to children—the most vulnerable community members during disasters. Children usually comprise more than half of the people affected.

That is why one of World Vision's core commitments is to be equipped by 2020 to reach 20 percent of vulnerable children when responding to conflict and natural disasters.

In 2016, World Vision reached 15.4 million people in disasters and crises with life-saving aid and critical relief. Some of these disasters dominated the news, but most received little attention.

World Vision is invested in people impacted by disasters—people who have lost homes, possessions, and loved ones. We are invested in the hardest, most challenging places—including those that are not in the news.

Through the support of grant funds and our private donors, \$401 million in humanitarian aid was provided to people across the globe.

But these figures do not capture the true impact of your support. Reaching someone in their greatest hour of



need provides so much more than food, water, or shelter—it reminds them of our linked humanity. It restores hope and dignity. It is our faith in action.

Thank you for partnering with World Vision in this humbling work.

#### **GLOBAL UPDATE**

MILLION PEOPLE in disasters and crises provided with cricital relief or life-saving services through the support of donors worldwide

130 DISASTERS AND HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES in 63 countries responded to by World Vision offices around the world

#### ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

Below is a summary of the humanitarian emergencies supported by World Vision U.S. private donors in fiscal year 2016. Please note that these response activities were funded by World Vision offices across the globe, thus the beneficiary numbers represent totals reached through the support of all donors and public grants.

#### **MEXICO**

On October 23, 2015, Mexico's Pacific Coast endured a Category 5 hurricane with the strongest winds ever recorded. Due to preparedness measures by communities, the government, World Vision, and other partners, no lives were lost. However, widespread flooding caused extensive damage that affected 3,500 families, primarily in agricultural areas.

Through the support of our donors, World Vision

provided 1,000 households with hygiene kits, water filters, infant supplies, and mattresses. In an area where a large number of families were forced to seek refuge in shelters, World Vision set up two Child-Friendly Spaces that served 80 children with emotional support.

In the year ahead, World Vision will assist families whose livelihoods were adversely affected by the storm, particularly those affected by crop damage.

## LATIN AMERICA - ZIKA VIRUS

Due to its suspected link to severe birth defects, the Zika virus was declared a public health emergency in February 2016. At the time, the virus was present in 26 countries across Latin America and the Caribbean.

Thanks to our emergency relief donors, World Vision was able to quickly respond in Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. In 2016, World Vision reached 474,446 people through public awareness campaigns

on prevention strategies, coordination with health facilities to track and report cases, and distribution of protection supplies including mosquito nets and insect repellent, particularly to pregnant women. World Vision also worked to control the mosquito population through spraying, waste disposal, and eliminating insect breeding sites.

Zika remains an ongoing public health challenge. World Vision is committed to supporting families through awareness,



prevention, and care for children born with microcephaly as a result of the virus.

## LATIN AMERICA - EL NIÑO

Severe weather conditions resulting from El Niño affected millions of people across Africa, Asia, and Latin America in 2016. In Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, 4.2 million people experienced extreme drought conditions that resulted in destroyed livelihoods, food insecurity, and water shortages.

To address this crisis, World Vision secured multiple grants that were matched with funds from private donors.

Drought relief projects benefited 147,588 people in Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua through constructing water supply infrastructure, implementing home gardens, and building local capacity to prepare for and respond to climate-related emergencies.

World Vision aims to reach nearly 341,000 people in Latin America through training and assistance.

#### **GUATEMALA**



In Guatemala, World Vision worked within one of our development communities to address the spike in malnutrition rates resulting from drought-related crop failure. Project staff worked with families from the communities of Capucal, Campanario, Timushan, and Taguayni to train

60 parents on prevention of child malnutrition. They learned how to prepare a balanced diet for their children. As a result of this training, 147 children under the age of 5 soon achieved their target weights.

#### **ANGOLA**

Angola is a country in Southern Africa known for its oil and mineral reserves. Sadly, it also claims the highest infant mortality rate in the world and 43 percent of its population is living below the poverty line. In December 2015, Angola detected an outbreak of yellow fever. Within a few months, 277 people had died and more than 2,100 were infected. When left untreated, yellow fever has been known to result in death within 14 days for half of all infected people.

To make matters worse, Angola's health facilities were overwhelmed by a spike in other mosquito and waterborne diseases, including malaria and dengue fever.

To combat this epidemic, World Vision worked in close coordination with the Ministry of Health, World Health Organization, and our partners in the field to reach 85,000 people. World Vision provided essential medical supplies to seven major hospitals in two provinces and conducted awareness campaigns in focused areas to help people understand how yellow fever is transmitted, treated, and prevented.

The outbreak has since stabilized, but World Vision and our partners continue to provide preventative care to those most vulnerable, including children under 5 and pregnant women.

#### SOUTHERN AFRICA

In 2015, irregular seasonal rains, flooding, and a prolonged dry spell resulted in Southern Africa's worst climate-induced food insecurity and water shortage in two decades. Throughout the countries of Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe—nearly 30 million people are now food insecure and 800,000 children are in need of treatment for acute malnutrition.

Although the scale of this disaster is overwhelming, World Vision is working in each of these eight countries to save lives, reduce suffering, and restore hope. Through your support, World Vision provided families with food aid, livelihood training, access to water, and medical assistance. World Vision is also focused on advocacy efforts and child protection initiatives to ensure overall well-being during this critical time.

In fiscal year 2016, World Vision reached 2 million people in Southern Africa with assistance and aims to support at least 2.6 million more this year.



### **ETHIOPIA**

In Ethiopia, an El Niño exacerbated drought—combined with extensive flooding and disease outbreaks—is having a devastating impact on the lives and livelihoods of 9.7 million people. The diminished agricultural production and resulting spike in food prices has caused widespread food insecurity and severe malnutrition, with cascading effects on livelihoods, water, sanitation, health, and education.

In fiscal year 2016, World Vision reached nearly 743,000 Ethiopians through the drilling of 44 wells,

rehabilitation of 196 wells and 24 springs; extension of water pipeline to 11 communities, 59 health facilities and 16 schools; and rehabilitation of latrines in 43 schools and health facilities.

Additionally, World Vision initiated projects to restore and protect the livelihoods of people living in the drought-affected areas. Nearly 92,000 households received seeds to reestablish their crops and 19,715 households received support for their livestock.



## **BURUNDI**



In 2016, malaria surged across the small Central African country of Burundi. Over 6.2 million people were affected and thousands died.

Through the support of our donors, World Vision provided lifesaving assistance to more than 1.2 million people through the promotion of prevention and treatment practices, distribution of insecticide-treated mosquito nets, preventative treatment for pregnant women, and case management for those infected, particularly infants and toddlers. We also funded projects to clear mosquito multiplication sites and spray indoor areas when applicable.

#### **SRI LANKA**

In May 2016, over 237,000 people across the island of Sri Lanka were affected by torrential weather, flooding, and massive landslides. Over 100 lives were lost and more than 8,000 families lost their homes.

World Vision and our partners provided temporary shelter for over 60,000 people through 250 safe houses. World Vision reached 8,500 families with relief and recovery aid including sanitation supplies, mosquito nets, and baby kits. Your support also provided water tanks and hand-washing stations in camps and five Child-Friendly Spaces, which help children recover from the stress of losing their homes, schools, and loved ones.



## **INDIA**

The people of India experienced two natural disasters in fiscal year 2016.

In August 2015, heavy rainfall resulting from Cyclone Komen caused flooding and landslides across nine states of eastern India. At least 293 lives were lost and one million people were forced to seek shelter in relief camps. An estimated 13.7 million people were heavily affected by the destruction of their homes, crops,

and roads. World Vision provided relief to 20,000 people through temporary shelters, emergency food and water supplies, and hygiene kits.

Less than four months later, India declared a national drought emergency due to significant crop loss across the country. The resulting food insecurity forced many families to sell their assets and migrate to nearby cities in search of resources

that could meet their basic needs.

To help the most vulnerable, World Vision provided nearly 170,000 people with food and water supplies during the summer of 2016, while also assisting with longerterm recovery projects. Our teams continue to work with families and communities to help them rebuild what was lost.

### **PAKISTAN**



In April of 2016, an earthquake shook the mountainous Hindu Kush region of northwest Pakistan, resulting in landslides that destroyed homes, roads, and infrastructure. Due to freezing temperatures, children suffered from exposure in the weeks that followed.

World Vision, our partners in the field, and community members worked together to reach the most vulnerable families with assistance. Nearly 19,450 people received medical care and 1,950 households received essential items like cooking pots, sleeping mats, warm clothing, and water storage containers.

## SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

Now in its sixth year, the war in Syria continues to take a devastating toll on families. The life expectancy among Syrians has dropped by more than 20 years, school attendance has dropped by more than 50 percent, and the majority of Syrians have lost their livelihoods.

At least 250,000 people have been killed and approximately 11 million people have been forced from their homes.

World Vision remains committed to supporting the people of Syria until a resolution to the crisis allows them to live in peace and dignity. Since 2011, World Vision has reached more than 2.5 million refugees and displaced people with critical aid. In fiscal year 2016, we provided more than 1.9 million people in the Syrian crisis and Iraq with food assistance, emergency supplies, water and sanitation,

health, education programs, and child protection interventions.

World Vision deepened its work with church partners in Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq, equipping them to care for refugees in their communities. We also launched new programs in southern Syria to reach underserved communities with critical health care and expanded our educational programs to provide more children with schooling and psychosocial support.

Thank you for your commitment to helping people affected by the Syrian crisis. Through your support, children and families are experiencing healing, hope, and God's unconditional love.



As Galatians 6:9 teaches, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (NIV)

### LOOKING AHEAD

MILLION PEOPLE in the Lake Chad Basin are in urgent need of food, water, and shelter. This year, World Vision will be there with lifesaving aid, thanks to our donors who support the Silent Disasters Fund.

#### CRISIS IN THE LAKE CHAD BASIN

Diminishing lake waters and Boko Haram violence are resulting in one of the most acute—and sorely neglected—humanitarian crises in the world.

Lake Chad was once a massive body of water, supporting life for people living in the African countries of Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Chad.

Since 1963, the lake has shrunk to nearly five percent of its original size due to climatic changes and high demands for agricultural water. As a result, the people living in this remote region are struggling with water shortages, crop failures, livestock deaths, collapsed fisheries, and increasing poverty.

Further exacerbating the situation, the extremist group Boko Haram began attacking villages in Nigeria, killing more than 20,000 people since 2011 and forcing 3 million people to flee into Chad, Niger, and Cameroon. Two of every three displaced people have moved more than once, each time testing their resilience and further deepening their suffering.

The United Nations estimates that 9.2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance throughout the Lake Chad Basin. In the two countries where World Vision works, Chad and Niger, over 4 million people are in desperate need of help.

Children have paid a heavy toll from the conflict—more than 478,000 are suffering from severe acute malnutrition. Hundreds of thousands more children are out of school, and many have been forcibly recruited by Boko Haram to carry out attacks. Girls are being forced into child marriage by parents who are desperate to feed their families with the dowry money they receive.

This humanitarian crisis is largely a silent one that has gained little media attention, yet the suffering continues to intensify. The number of displaced people has tripled in the last two years.

With the help of our donors, World Vision is working to scale up our emergency response in this region. In Niger, World Vision's response focuses on the Diffa region, where 280,000 people are living in makeshift shelters along the main road. They lack food, water, and basic necessities. Since most of these displaced people are women and children, there also is a heightened risk of abuse.

In Chad, an influx of refugees who fled conflict in neighboring countries has resulted in further strain on the country's limited resources. Severe malnutrition rates in one area of the country have reached 34 percent, nearly double the threshold for declaring a crisis.



World Vision's response is focused on providing life-saving services to the most vulnerable people. Together, we will:

- Provide shelter supplies, food assistance, cash, and clothing
- Promote livelihood diversification
- Increase access to water and sanitation
- Provide life-saving health and nutrition support
- Initiate measures that protect children and provide education
- Facilitate social cohesion to counter violent extremism





# My children get to eat nutritious food, and I manage to sell the surplus."

—Shega Haji Nasir, 28

#### **HUNGRY NO MORE**

While Ethiopia endures widespread drought and famine, these moms have learned how to break the cycle of hunger through gardening and joining a savings group.

"Learning how to save money and do some backyard gardening is helping me and my family survive these leaner times," said Hundeya Ersilo, a 35-year-old mother of seven children (pictured top left).

Hundeya is a member of a savings group in her community. The group is composed of 10 mothers who have been trained on how to start and manage backyard gardens and develop a savings culture.

In Hundeya's modest backyard, she grows vegetables that give her family nutritious food to eat. "I also sell the excess vegetables. With that money I was able to buy goats and variety of seeds," she said.

Shega Haji Nasir (pictured bottom left), 28 and a mother of three, also is a member of the savings group.

She said, "Before now, my husband was the sole breadwinner. He would go out early to work in the farm. But when the rain did not come, he could not plant. Around that time, World Vision came and supported and trained us on how to save money, raise poultry, produce fruit and vegetables right within our backyard. I planted onion, cabbage, carrot, and beetroot. World Vision also provided us six chickens. My children get to eat nutritious food, and I manage to sell the surplus."

Life continues to be tough for Hundeya and Shega, just like it is for most people in their community. But these mothers have learned how to help their families thrive, even as they wait for the rain to return.



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,

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