



World Vision

EMERGENCY RELIEF

ANNUAL REPORT » October 2017 through September 2018

Prepared January 2019

EMERGENCY RELIEF

GLOBAL SUMMARY

In a world in which information is at our fingertips, we have a greater awareness of how people around the world are impacted by humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters—most of which occur in the poorest countries.

World Vision is grateful for donors like you who saw the needs of others and responded. During fiscal year 2018 (October 2017 to September 2018), World Vision responded to 143 disasters and humanitarian emergencies in more than 44 countries. Thanks to you, we can walk alongside people impacted by disasters and provide vital resources to those who need them the most.

For example, this past year, we reached people in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Venezuela, East Africa, Syria, and India. Our programs helped people escaping from violence and conflict or recovering from severe drought, hunger, and flooding.

The common thread among all crises: Children suffer greatly and are the most vulnerable to violence and exploitation. In all we do, we prioritize the physical and emotional safety of children. We seek to meet immediate needs but, more importantly, aim to empower people to fully recover and thrive in the long run.



Partners like you who generously respond to disasters and emergencies make it possible for World Vision to run mobile clinics that bring much-needed healthcare to displaced people in Afghanistan.

IMPACT UPDATE

2.1 MILLION PEOPLE reached with emergency relief from October 2015 to September 2018—
1.2 million of whom benefited during FY18 alone—through private donors in the U.S.

101,065 PEOPLE in Afghanistan gained access to clean water, which reduced their risks of contracting waterborne diseases.

150,000 PEOPLE in Bangladesh received relief items, including hygiene kits, cooking equipment, baby supplies, and feminine hygiene products.

1,450 CHILDREN displaced by flooding in India visited World Vision's Child-Friendly Spaces and enjoyed stories, songs, dance, sports, and other activities that gave them a sense of normalcy and security.

WORLD VISION'S APPROACH

World Vision aims to respond to the changing dynamics and circumstances that threaten the safety and dignity of children affected by conflict, protracted fragility, displacement, and natural disasters. Our ultimate motivation is derived from what we have experienced in Jesus Christ and the belief that all of humanity is created in the image of God, and as such, has inherent value and dignity. Our faith calls us to protect lives, restore dignity, and renew hope.

Further, there are key principles that guide our work. These include:

We believe that action should be taken to prevent and alleviate the suffering of children, their families, and communities arising out of disasters, fragility, and conflict—and will strive to do so wherever crises occur.

We work in partnership with affected children, their families, and communities to help build their capacities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters and shocks.

Our holistic response provides emergency services and long-term solutions across multiple humanitarian sectors, depending on the situation and needs of the community.

Going forward, gifts to World Vision's Emergency Relief Where Most Needed Fund will be placed in our Global Emergency Response Fund, which is used to support emergency relief responses around the world. Future reports will focus on how that fund helped families impacted by disasters.

A DREAM WITHIN REACH



"Being able to be with the family gives you peace, strength, and joy, even if you are in a difficult situation or if you face unpleasant circumstances," said Ngwa Wu Mee.

When a civil war between the Bangladeshi army and ethnic groups broke out, Ngwa Wu Mee (pictured at left with her children) left her village in search of stability. She first lived in a refugee camp and then moved to a relative's house, but still needed assistance from aid agencies, including World Vision.

To earn money, Ngwa Wu worked as a day laborer in other people's farms. However, wealthy business owners bought local banana plantations and damaged the land, leaving farmers and day laborers without work and a stable income.

World Vision worked with people, like Ngwa Wu, who lost their jobs during that time. When a staff member asked what she needed for her family, Ngwa Wu said she wanted to open a small grocery store. "The next day, he personally went to the market with me and bought the necessary groceries for my store," she said. Today, profits from the store pay for her children's education, and she is saving money for her next goal to buy a sewing machine and open a tailor shop.

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This report highlights a few of the humanitarian emergencies that World Vision responded to in FY18 (October 2017 through September 2018). These activities were funded by World Vision offices across the globe, reaching people with the support of donors worldwide and government grants.

DROUGHT IN AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan is currently experiencing one of the worst droughts in over 10 years, affecting more than 2 million people. This crisis has been linked to La Niña, which causes hotter, drier conditions across Central Asia. A precipitation deficit of 70 percent has been registered across the country, with a record low snowpack—water feeding rivers and streams—and insufficient seasonal rain.

In Afghanistan, 15 million people rely on a strong harvest for food security and economic subsistence. However, rain-fed crop production is anticipated to be below average for the fifth consecutive year. This will leave millions of families struggling to put food on the table, pay for school expenses and healthcare bills, and meet basic household needs. Drought-induced displacement is approaching

critical mass, with 223,100 people already displaced in the Badghis and Herat provinces as households are unable to cope with difficulties.

Jim Alexander, country director for World Vision in Afghanistan, said, “Life has never been easy for these people ... but they had enough to survive. Because of this drought, that is no longer the case. Normal concerns have now turned to utter desperation, even to the point where thousands of families have felt their only option is to sell their young daughters into marriage in order to feed other family members. Yes, emergency response resources for those who are displaced will help, but equally, and perhaps more importantly, is to assist them before they are displaced, enabling them to stay on their land and in their homes—their daughters with them.”

In April 2018, World Vision declared an emergency response to better address the needs of people affected by the drought. Your gift enabled us to help 388,020 people in the Badghis and Herat provinces. Thanks to donors like you, World Vision:

- Distributed 4,725 tons of food to 177,506 drought-affected individuals
- Provided clean water to 101,065 people through bringing in water, rehabilitating wells, and building water networks
- Provided 32,822 people, including 820 severely malnourished children, with life-saving health and nutrition services



“I don’t know her exact weight, but I can feel she is getting heavier day by day,” said Gulbibi, Nasima’s mother, after bringing her daughter to a World Vision clinic for help.

ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

Mohammad and Gulbibi and their three children remember the prosperous life they led in Badghis, where they always had money for food, school supplies, and medicine. Now, they are among the thousands of internally displaced families living in Herat city, squeezed into small tents made from patchwork fabric.

By the time many people left Badghis, their sources of water had been depleted, and they had eaten their seeds designated for winter planting. Mohammad and Gulbibi’s family had only tea and bread to eat—if they were lucky. Gulbibi’s youngest child, 18-month-old Nasima (pictured at left), suffered the most when her mother’s breast milk dried up. When Gulbibi took Nasima to a World Vision mobile health clinic in the area, the little girl was pale, lethargic, and malnourished.

At the clinic, Nasima was given packets of highly fortified therapeutic food, and Gulbibi learned about proper hygiene practices. Over the month after the initial visit, Nasima gained weight, and her health continues to improve. World Vision runs two weekly mobile clinics to meet the health, hygiene, and nutrition needs of displaced families. Children like Nasima receive basic healthcare services, including growth monitoring and free medicine.

CONFLICT IN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

Conflict and displacement have made the DRC one of the worst places to be a child, and it is home to one of the world's worst child protection crises. Across the country, at least 13 million people need humanitarian assistance and protection, and more than 2 million children under age 5 suffer from severe malnutrition.

Today, the number of internally displaced people in the DRC has reached 4.4 million—the highest number of any African country. In 2017 alone, a surge in violent conflict forced more than 2 million people to flee their homes, many of them in the Kasai region. This averaged 50 families every hour, every day.

In the DRC's Tanganyika province, ongoing conflict between opposing groups has displaced more than a half-million people. Camp conditions are dire, with 80 percent of households without safe water. Forcible closure of some camps has left many people without shelter and basic necessities, and increased their vulnerability to violence.

Children bear the brunt of the crisis. They have been forced into militias by family members and other children, and they also are targeted by military and counter militia groups as suspected combatants.

In the midst of displacement, the DRC also has recently seen an influx of nationals returning from northeastern

Angola, many of whom are from the Kasai province. The movement is due to a campaign by Angola authorities to send unregistered migrants back to the DRC. En route to the DRC, many have faced violence, theft, and other protection concerns.

As people within the DRC are being internally displaced or are returning, refugees from the bordering country of the Central African Republic (CAR) have been fleeing to northern DRC to escape instability in their own land. More than 181,000 refugees are living in the DRC, half of whom are in Nord Ubangui—one of the most remote and poor provinces of the DRC. Sadly, the area doesn't have the resources to adequately serve the refugees.

The area also is dealing with serious health challenges. The Kasai region is suffering from a cholera outbreak and severe food security issues, likely to be exacerbated by the latest onset of displacement. Northeastern provinces of the DRC recently experienced an Ebola outbreak. As of mid-December, more than 500 people have been diagnosed with the virus, and 313 have died.

As we respond to all of these crises, World Vision's goal is to meet life-saving needs of children and families impacted by conflict, and to support peacebuilding and social cohesion through nutrition; protection; education; food security; and water, sanitation, and hygiene programming.

Recent accomplishments included the following:

- Distributed 500 hygiene kits to 250 schools and trained teachers, health workers, and faith leaders on preventive messages regarding the spread of Ebola.
- Provided 20,816 children under 5 and mothers in 20 health centers with treatment for malnutrition.
- Reached more than 445,000 with food items and cash to help buy food.
- Cared for more than 16,000 children through Child-Friendly Spaces.
- Installed a solar-powered water system to provide clean water to 10,500 people (including 9,700 CAR refugees).
- Maintained water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities in refugee camps and host communities for CAR refugees, resulting in a 25 percent increase in the use of proper hygiene practices.
- \$38,228 in donor gifts mobilized \$325,543 in food aid from World Food Program, reaching 69,715 people with food and livelihood support.

LOOKING AHEAD

World Vision aims to help 872,000 people in the DRC, prioritizing our programs in Kasai, the Ebola outbreak in North Kivu, displaced people and returnees in Tanganyika, and CAR refugees. Our work will touch on child protection, emergency education, emergency health (including disease prevention and control), nutrition, and food and cash assistance.



REFUGEE CRISIS IN MYANMAR AND BANGLADESH

In August 2017, hundreds of thousands of Rohingya—an ethnic minority group in Myanmar—fled violence and persecution in their country and settled in a refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, in the neighboring country of Bangladesh. Currently, 908,000 refugees are in the camp, and more than 1 million people in the camp and in host communities need humanitarian assistance.

The Myanmar government denies the Rohingya citizenship and considers them illegal immigrants from Bangladesh. Without a place to call home, refugees have sought shelter in camps, makeshift settlements, and host communities. Their lack of essentials such as food, shelter, and healthcare, and the absence of security and normalcy leaves them feeling unsettled.

Between September 2018 and December 2018, World Vision's programs in Cox's Bazar have reached more than 264,000 people with life-saving humanitarian assistance. This included:

- Reaching 158,000 people with clean water, sanitation facilities, and proper hygiene promotion
- Distributing relief items such as hygiene kits, cooking equipment, baby supplies, and feminine hygiene products to 150,000 people
- Providing nutrition support to more than 30,000 children and mothers
- Assisting 22,500 people with cash-for-work activities

- Organizing weekly child protection activities for 1,700 children

World Vision remains highly engaged in advocacy surrounding the Rohingya situation within Bangladesh and globally, especially around issues of repatriation and relocation.

In Myanmar, supporters like you helped World Vision raise \$122,000 that mobilized \$765,000 in U.S. government funding, reaching over 18,000 people. And in Bangladesh, \$528,000 in gifts was leveraged to mobilize nearly \$2 million from UNICEF to help 100,000 refugees receive clean water and proper sanitation. Thank you for your generosity!



LOOKING AHEAD

New strategic priorities have been identified for the refugee response program in Bangladesh. As funding allows, World Vision plans to expand our work into the education sector; scale up work in child protection and gender-based violence protection; and continue programs in the areas of nutrition, cash-for-work activities, and water, sanitation, and hygiene.

VENEZUELAN MIGRANT CRISIS

In November 2018, the hyperinflation rate in Venezuela reached 1.3 million percent, drastically raising the cost of household essentials. The inflation rate is predicted to reach 10 million percent by the end of 2019. With the cost of basic foods beyond their reach—and in the midst of extreme food shortages—Venezuelans are leaving their country to survive. An estimated 5,500 people leave each day, with Colombia and Peru absorbing most of the influx.

World Vision is responding with aid in Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, and Brazil. In Colombia, private donations were leveraged to win a grant from the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, aimed at helping 2,500 people on the border with Venezuela. Through this and other projects, World Vision provides training on child protection and teaches people to identify gender-based violence and prevention options. We also collaborate with the Colombian government to strengthen protection systems and provide seed funding for migrants starting new businesses.

Looking ahead, we are in the process of scaling up programs in Colombia and other response countries (Ecuador, Peru, and Brazil). Financial gifts will be used for assessments and technical support in order to leverage grant funding in these countries. With support from donors like you, World Vision will continue responding with programs that address protection, cash-based programming, distribution of relief items, and legal assistance.



Part of World Vision's response in Venezuela is to address health needs, particularly among the youngest and most vulnerable of the migrant population.

HUNGER CRISES ACROSS EAST AFRICA

As of November 2018, at least 9 million people have been displaced within their borders as a result of intercommunal conflict and violence. In 2018, World Vision programs assisted more than 2.7 million people in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and South Sudan.

The areas of greatest need are in Ethiopia and South Sudan, where many families are returning and need support to rebuild their lives. Since education for many children is disrupted when they are displaced, World Vision is running a program in South Sudan to reintegrate children previously in armed conflict back into formal education. In Rwanda, a program in refugee camps helped provide at least 27,000 refugees with education.



Your support also enabled World Vision to reach 519,778 people with food assistance, and provided 175,227 people with shelter and essential relief items. More than 170,000 people received healthcare services and 189,460 benefited from activities to protect them from abuse and exploitation. We also provided clean water and food to families across the region.



SYRIA AND IRAQ CRISES

As the war in Syria approaches its eight-year mark in March, more than 13 million people in Syria continue to need humanitarian assistance. Of that number, 5.3 million are children—many of whom have been forced to grow up too fast as a way to cope with the conflict and uncertainty that has disrupted their lives.

Thanks to your faithful and generous support, World Vision has been able to meet basic physical, mental, emotional, and social needs of people across Syria and in neighboring countries.

Child protection

Parents learned positive parenting skills and methods, particularly for raising children during the Syrian crisis and ever-shifting circumstances in their community. At child protection centers across three refugee camps, more than 1,400 children enjoyed positive activities in a safe environment. In addition, 166 girls and women learned about gender-based violence and gained knowledge and skills to protect themselves against harm. More than 1,200 women and girls also participated in vocational, educational, and recreational sessions. Our psychosocial support programming continues to address common mental health issues that impact people affected by disasters.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene

Through clean water, waste-removal services, and sewage systems, people living in displacement camps are less likely to get sick from waterborne diseases, and will maintain their overall health by living in a sanitary environment. New and repaired water networks are bringing clean water from boreholes to neighboring villages, reaching thousands of people. In some cases, our role is to pay for fuel, oil, and salaries to ensure that water and garbage collection services continue.

Health

Earlier this year, World Vision surveyed more than 1,200 Syrian children living in Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan, and more than half of them said they do not have access to healthcare. When living in overcrowded spaces where illnesses can quickly spread, the need for healthcare is magnified. In response, we supported three local hospitals with gynecological, obstetric, and pediatric services, basic trauma care, primary care, and internal medicine. Community health workers visited three refugee camps to screen children for malnutrition, provide maternal support, and make referrals to health facilities. To ensure the nutritional well-being of children, World Vision distributed more than 1.6 million meals to 22 schools in camps and taught families about healthy feeding practices for infants and young children.

FLOODING IN INDIA

In May 2018, unprecedented rainfall caused massive flooding in India's Kerala state, resulting in more than 500 deaths, affecting over 5 million people, and displacing more than 1 million.

The disaster severely impacted people's livelihoods and inflicted significant damage to infrastructure. Almost 12 of the 14 districts in the state were impacted by torrential rains that destroyed nearly \$50 million worth of crops. Flash floods ruined homes, bridges, schools, and roads, while rising water levels resulted in flooding in urban and rural areas.

World Vision responded immediately and has reached approximately 120,000 people to date.

Our assistance included:

- Providing more than 18,000 families with food, such as rice, lentils, sugar, and coconut oil

- Distributing essential household items, such as cooking supplies and kitchen utensils to more than 16,000 families, replacing items that they had lost in the floods
- Providing more than 5,000 families with water purification packets and training on how to use them
- Raising awareness of the importance of proper hygiene and sanitation, particularly after a disaster; this included providing 750 families with individual water filters, and renovating and reconstructing water pipes, toilets, and septic tanks
- Supporting 1,450 children through numerous Child-Friendly Spaces with storytelling, songs, dance, coloring, sports, and other programs, giving them a safe place and sense of normalcy

- Organizing activities relating to livelihoods, education, and psychosocial support

World Vision's response will continue for approximately one year, ensuring the long-term recovery of everyone affected by the disaster. Moving forward, gifts toward World Vision's emergency relief work will help support additional plans to provide household items and hygiene kits, repair and reconstruct sanitation infrastructures, distribute school supplies, strengthen livelihoods, rebuild shelters, and ensure the safety and protection of children.

We ask for your prayers as we continue working in areas severely impacted by emergencies around the world and for the millions of people who seek to rebuild their lives. Thank you again for your partnership and compassion!



Distributions of food and household items help families in India whose homes were submerged under flood waters. "We thank World Vision for the big helping hand they extend toward us," said one recipient. "None of us were prepared for such a calamity. ... And once it happened, we had no idea what to do. Organizations like World Vision are helping us to cope with and come out of it."



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, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

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