

A young woman with dark skin and short hair is the central figure. She is wearing a bright green t-shirt with a colorful paisley pattern and a red and black patterned scarf. She is carrying a large, white, woven sack on her head, which has a rainbow-colored band around its middle. She is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The background shows a blue metal structure, possibly a truck or a storage container.

EMERGENCY
RELIEF

GLOBAL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

» SEMIANNUAL REPORT: October 2019 through March 2020

Prepared July 2020

GLOBAL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

SITUATION UPDATE

In 2020, COVID-19 has been the crisis on everyone's mind. Yet while the global community continues to grapple with this virus, many countries continue to suffer from pre-existing disasters and humanitarian emergencies. Drought, floods, civil conflict, food shortages—they don't pause simply because a pandemic has surfaced. COVID-19 has complicated World Vision's response efforts and limited our access and mobility, but our dedication to address ongoing crises has not stopped.

Thanks to your faithful prayers and gift to the Global Emergency Relief Fund, World Vision continues to provide humanitarian assistance to children and families living with or recovering from natural disasters and other emergencies. Since 2016, World Vision has reached 84.3 million people with emergency relief. Between October 2019 and March 2020 alone, we served more than 19 million people impacted by disasters and humanitarian emergencies.

In this report, we highlight only five of the 51 emergencies we responded to over the past six months. We hope you will be encouraged by how your partnership is making a difference among Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh,

communities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo recovering from Ebola, people impacted by civil unrest in Iraq and Niger, and Mozambicans rebuilding their lives after Cyclone Idai.

Even without COVID-19 in the forefront, many of these crises do not receive much coverage in the news. People facing these hardships have suffered long and in silence. We walk alongside them, providing food, access to clean water and improved sanitation, child protection, healthcare, support for rebuilding livelihoods, and more. Our work and your partnership ensure that these communities are not forgotten.

In response to COVID-19, we adapted our project activities to include raising awareness about the virus and emphasizing hygiene practices to reduce the risk of infection. Looking ahead, we will adapt our emergency programming and work to mitigate COVID-19's secondary impacts. This means addressing livelihoods, food shortages, child protection, education, and mental health.

Thank you again for your support and for joining World Vision in being the hands and feet of Jesus among people who are hurting and suffering.



In East Africa, locusts, widespread flooding, and COVID-19 are threatening the health and well-being of millions of families. The pests are decimating livelihoods and rural economies across nations, leaving families hungry, malnourished, and desperate. Heavy rainfall and floodwaters have submerged crops and damaged homes. Thanks to the Global Emergency Relief Fund, World Vision will be implementing response plans in East African communities impacted by these natural disasters.

EMERGENCY RELIEF UPDATE

In the first six months of fiscal year 2020 (October 2019 to March 2020), World Vision:



Responded to **51 DISASTERS AND HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES** in **59 COUNTRIES**



Provided humanitarian aid to more than **19 MILLION PEOPLE**

MULTIPLYING YOUR IMPACT

World Vision is focused on leveraging gifts from generous donors like you for greater impact in the field. Leverage refers to a multiplier effect that occurs when a private donation allows us to apply for and secure additional grant funding, maximizing the yield for each dollar donated. It creates greater donation impact and enables World Vision to do something we could not have done otherwise.

So far, in FY20, World Vision leveraged \$12.6 million in private grants to mobilize almost \$75 million in grants from U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), U.S. Department of State (Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, and World Food Program (WFP). These grants enabled us to assist more than 4 million people.*

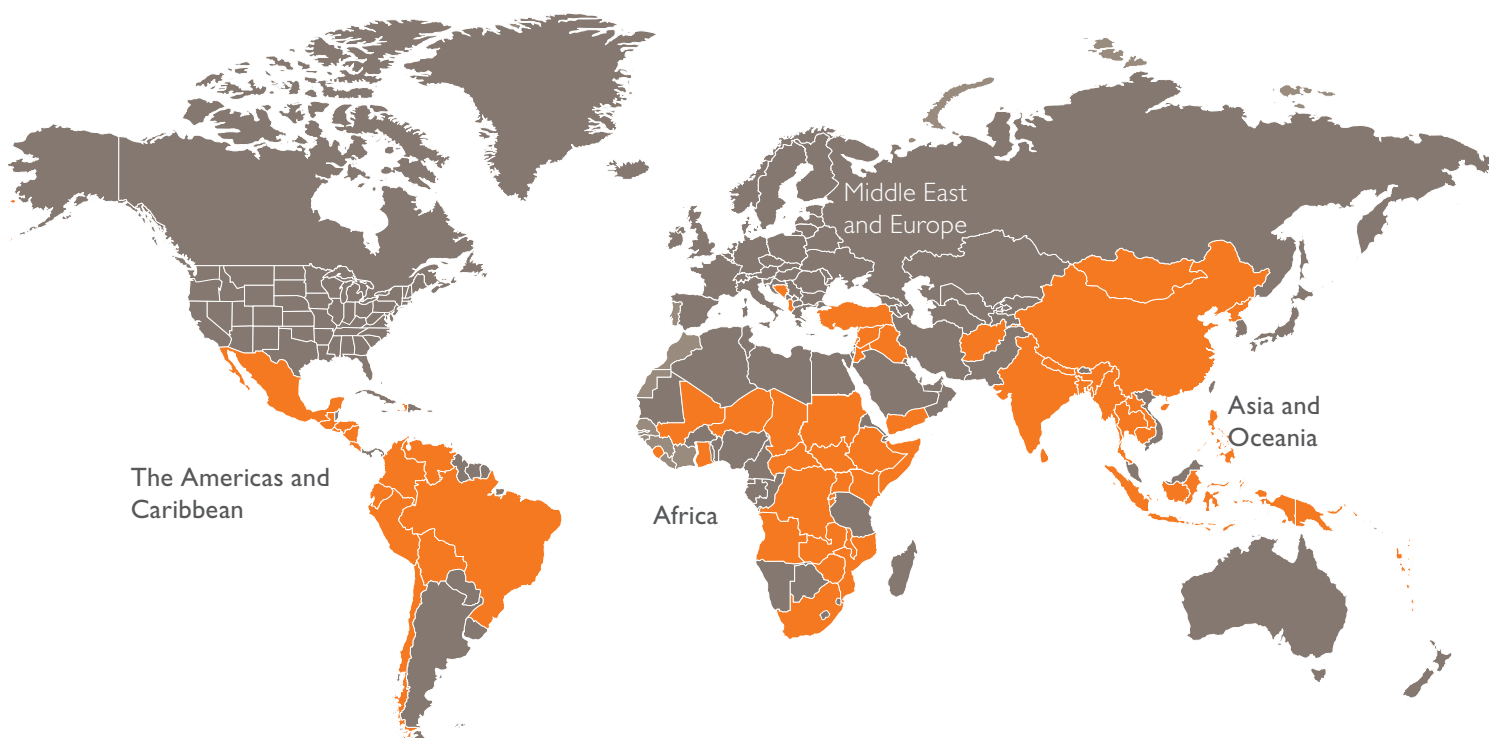
**The average leverage/multiplier effect across all of our grants is one to six. However, this ratio differs from one grant to another.*

FY20 GLOBAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Our emergency services and long-term solutions include (but are not limited to):

- Nutrition
- Disaster risk reduction
- Food security
- Cash-equivalent cards (used where goods are locally available and markets are functioning and accessible)
- Shelter
- Education
- Child protection
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Vocational training
- Family reunification
- Healthcare
- Livelihoods and income generation
- Social cohesion/peacebuilding

During the first half of FY20, World Vision helped provide humanitarian aid to vulnerable children and families facing disasters and emergencies in 59 countries (see map below).



WORLD FOOD PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP

For 32 years, World Vision has been partnering with World Food Program, developing an extensive network of relationships to improve our efficiency and reach. World Vision is WFP's largest partner and, likewise, WFP is our largest partner in cash-based programming. Over the past year, World Vision and WFP have worked together in eight countries—many of which are the most fragile in the world—distributing food, supplementary feeding supplies, cash, and food vouchers.

The following sections highlight our work in South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

South Sudan:

In South Sudan, nearly 7 million people are facing a crisis of extreme food shortages. Conflict that began in 2013 has killed an estimated 400,000 people and driven millions from their homes. Some live in overcrowded camps, severely straining limited resources and services.

Of the countries in which World Vision and WFP work together, South Sudan has the most beneficiaries. During the

first half of FY20, World Vision and WFP implemented 15 programs across the country, benefiting 643,435 people. Our work also included the following:

- Offering traditional food and/or cash distributions in Warrap, Upper Nile region, North Bahr el Ghazal, and the capitol city of Juba
- Providing emergency food assistance to vulnerable people in response to severe flooding
- Providing supplementary feeding for children under 5 and pregnant/nursing women suffering from malnutrition

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

The DRC hosts one of the world's most complex and longstanding humanitarian crises, with ongoing armed conflict and general insecurity. In the eastern part of the country, ethnic violence, massacres, and an Ebola outbreak have forced millions of people into other parts of the country.

World Vision and WFP currently have five programs in three regions of the

DRC, serving areas hit hardest by food shortages. Our recent accomplishments, benefiting 240,149 people, included:

- Distributing food to vulnerable, displaced people
- Running a supplemental feeding program specifically for groups hit by the recent Ebola outbreak



“World Vision is a great partner, one of our greatest partners around [the] world. We have high expectations ... we have a lot to do, we are going to do it together!”

— David Beasley, CEO, WFP
(pictured above, right)



Marie Ferete, who lives in a refugee camp in South Sudan, received seeds, tools, and training on agricultural production and marketing, empowering her with resources to support her family.

Rebuilding life in South Sudan

In 2008, an armed group attacked Marie Ferete's village in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, forcing her family into hiding in the bush. They then walked for three days without food or water to reach a refugee camp in neighboring South Sudan. Her husband stayed with them for a while before returning to the DRC, leaving Marie to raise their nine children alone.

Twelve years later, Marie now gets paid by World Vision to be a leader in her community and to help implement program activities. She uses her stipend to buy school supplies and food for her children. She also raises vegetables to supplement her income, and receives food from World Vision and World Food Program's food assistance program.

“We survived because she kept us going,” said Pierre, Marie's 21-year-old son, reflecting on their escape from the DRC. But it's a sentiment that still rings true for his mother's selflessness and resilience to see her family thrive.

BANGLADESH ROHINGYA REFUGEE RESPONSE

In 2017, the Myanmar government committed what the United Nations has described as genocide, following decades of persecution and human rights abuses against the Rohingya people. This sent nearly 700,000 of them fleeing into Bangladesh.

Today, more than 1 million Rohingya refugees—more than half of whom are children—live in the world's largest and most congested refugee settlement. Families with as many as 10 people live in shelters measuring 10 x 16 feet, making social distancing and quarantine measures difficult to enforce.

As a stateless population, Rohingya are vulnerable to systematic discrimination, violence, and repression. Access to basic rights and services is severely restricted. Women and girls are particularly vulnerable due to the stresses of living in refugee camps and Rohingya cultural norms that limit women's personal autonomy. Children are growing up in instability and are at risk of physical violence,

sexual exploitation, and mental health concerns.

During the first half of FY20, World Vision served nearly 392,000 people. Recent accomplishments include:

- Serving 2,100 women through 42 centers where they could cook, build friendships, and take classes on meal preparation, nutrition, and personal hygiene; the construction of new centers allowed 600 more women to benefit
- Implementing 24 cash-for-work community rehabilitation projects, benefiting 3,314 people
- Installing 219 wells, 1,900 latrines, 2,381 hand-washing stations, and 675 bathing units, benefiting more than 219,000 people in 11 camps
- Supporting more than 1,000 water, sanitation, and hygiene committees to maintain camp facilities
- Providing informal education for 3,156 children, and academic classes and life-skills training for up to 8,400 adolescents
- Promoting gender equality and the end of gender-based violence on International Women's Day, in partnership with faith leaders, women leaders, and traditional leaders, reaching 2,863 people
- Preventing and treating malnutrition in children under 5
- Conducting 48 meetings to share information about COVID-19 and how to prevent it
- Teaching and paying 24 women to sew cloth masks through a project funded by USAID, with a goal of making 41,000 masks over six months



Najir's children enjoy the apples he bought as part of monthly food rations from World Food Program's e-voucher store, which is run with support from World Vision.

Apples for children, peace for parents

Najir, a father of seven, carefully selects perfectly shaped, unbruised apples to bring home to his children, who love apples. He remembers when food options were slim for Rohingya families like his living in Cox's Bazar, the world's largest refugee camp in Bangladesh. Najir would line up for hours for simple distributions of rice, lentils, and oil.

"Before, my family had no choice over what we ate," Najir said. His children wanted fish and meat, which the family couldn't afford.

Thanks to large e-voucher stores run by World Food Program and World Vision, Najir's family—and so many other refugees—now enjoy a diverse and nutritious diet. World Vision partners with World Food Program to run four stores serving nearly 224,000 refugees from 10 camps. Each month, families receive a food assistance card loaded with \$10 per family member. Shoppers choose from 20 fresh food items, including fish, chicken, fruits, vegetables, eggs, and spices. Porters are available to help carry heavy bags of groceries home.

"Every time I go to the shop, I keep enough money on the card to buy some [apples] for them," Najir said. "When I see them eating apples and smiling, I feel peace."

EBOLA IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

For more than two years, the Democratic Republic of the Congo has been battling an Ebola outbreak that infected 3,444 people and killed 2,264 (as of March 2020). While Eastern DRC was recently declared Ebola-free—as there are no new cases and all patients have been released from treatment centers—the country now faces rising cases of COVID-19.

This new virus—along with ongoing challenges of measles, cholera, hunger, and chronic societal conflicts—continues to challenge the mental and physical health and well-being of children and families. Even once Ebola is under control in the rest of the DRC, the country will be recovering from its effects. Community services, relationships, and education have been disrupted because of the illness.

Children will be growing up without parents, or will be haunted by watching a loved one die.

In response, World Vision has reached almost 1 million people through food assistance; water, sanitation, and hygiene projects; community engagement, and child protection activities. Recent accomplishments include:

- Collaborating with faith leaders to reach nearly 111,000 people with messages promoting Ebola vaccinations and early treatment
- Training 456 people to reduce the stigma against children who have been affected by Ebola and to refer children to organizations providing psychosocial support
- Starting water, sanitation, and hygiene projects in 60 villages, including building latrines and drilling boreholes for clean water
- Equipping 90 volunteers to share with communities how to keep their villages healthy
- Providing food to 10,503 people who have been impacted by Ebola
- Reaching 2,469 people with messages about proper hygiene and sanitation
- Providing more than 11,000 hygiene kits to families, schools, and churches



Young students file into class, where they will learn about Ebola from a World Vision-trained educator.

Education saves lives—literally

At a primary school in the DRC, a World Vision-trained educator is giving students a lesson that can save their lives. When asked who has heard of Ebola, all hands shoot up in the air. But when given the opportunity, the children bombard the facilitator with questions about how the disease is transmitted, what happens if you do—or don't—get the vaccine, and whether or not sitting in a cramped classroom puts them at risk of catching Ebola. They tell stories of what they have heard from adults about the vaccine. Some accounts are accurate while others are not, a disconcerting representation of the confusion among community members.

Thanks to World Vision's efforts to raise awareness about Ebola, nearly 270,000 children have learned more about the prevention and treatment of the disease. Equally as important, the facilitators are equipped to identify students who could be emotionally impacted by the disease, to address psychosocial needs, and to reduce the stigma behind Ebola.

As the children leave the classroom, it is clear that they are now armed with accurate information about Ebola. For many, simply expressing their fears and questions brought relief. But for others, worries and uncertainties still linger—and it is especially for these children that World Vision remains committed to helping communities in their long-term recovery from Ebola.

IRAQ CRISIS RESPONSE

Nearly 1.4 million people are internally displaced in Iraq, as of March 2020, as a result of years of political uncertainty and social, ethnic, and sectarian tensions. In addition, military operations by Turkey in northeast Syria have driven thousands of Syrian refugees into Iraq. Living in limbo leaves them vulnerable and in need of humanitarian assistance. The situation was further exacerbated when schools closed due to COVID-19 in February. The closure continues to leave all school-age children without access to education.

To slow the spread of COVID-19, the government implemented curfews and nationwide closures, severely impacting the delivery of humanitarian aid. Prior to the pandemic, humanitarian workers already were facing access issues, including checkpoints, continuously changing travel requirements, and sudden discontinuation of previously authorized access.

Despite these challenges, World Vision reached nearly 374,000 people,

219,035 of whom were children, during the first half of FY20. Recent accomplishments included:

- Adapting projects to address COVID-19, such as modifying health and hygiene awareness sessions, and distributing cleaning supplies, disposable gloves, and masks
- Distributing hygiene kits containing shampoo, toilet paper, soap, and more to 12,768 individuals in a refugee camp
- Teaching 5,542 Syrian refugees about various health topics and counseling 650 pregnant and nursing women on proper nutrition and feeding infants
- Training 15 Department of Health staff members on immunization, nutrition, and health promotion, resulting in 3,150 children receiving vaccinations for polio and/or measles
- Providing emergency response services, solid waste management, and hygiene promotion in a refugee camp, benefiting 1,200 Syrian refugees
- Repairing three boreholes, giving 3,900 people improved access to clean drinking water
- Distributing school supplies to 15,266 children and providing psychosocial support for 1,167 children
- Conducting campaigns that promoted proper hygiene, impacting 4,280 people
- Installing 400 water tanks, enabling 800 households to store clean water for drinking, cooking, and hygiene purposes
- Providing 40 individuals with self-employment toolkits, empowering them to start their own businesses



A student leads her classmates in a pledge to keep themselves and their environment clean.

A lesson in clean water and resilience

"I am the superstar for water and hygiene. I promise to drink, drink, drink only safe water. I promise to wash, wash, wash my hands after using the bathroom and before eating," sing students in a classroom as part of World Vision's WASH UP! program.

Developed in partnership with Sesame Street, the program teaches children across the globe about good health and proper hygiene behaviors. In Iraq, the program has been adapted to support the socio-emotional needs of Syrian refugee children, many of whom have experienced significant trauma. Children learn about coping with big feelings, building resilience, being hopeful, conflict resolution, and practicing mutual respect and understanding.

Since December 2019, WASH UP! has been introduced in nine schools, reaching 1,055 students and 20 teachers.

CYCLONE IDAI IN MOZAMBIQUE

Cyclone Idai hit the central and northern regions of Mozambique more than a year ago, but residents remain on a long road to rebuilding their lives. More than 1.8 million people were impacted by the cyclone, with nearly 240,000 homes either partially or completely destroyed or flooded. Without homes, more than 90,000 people moved into resettlement sites throughout the country.

The cyclone ripped up farmlands and crops, drastically reducing the country's food source. This is particularly detrimental for the millions of farmers who rely on a strong harvest for income and food. Some households have turned to home gardens as a source of income and food, but are challenged by low rainfall and extended dry seasons.

Today, approximately 2 million people remain in need, with food shortages being the most pressing issue.

Resettlement sites have limited clean water systems, and do not have enough latrines or hand-washing stations. Without opportunities to practice proper hygiene or use sanitation facilities, people are at risk of contracting and transmitting diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, malaria—and, most recently, COVID-19.

Since World Vision began responding to the needs of people impacted by Cyclone Idai, we have reached more than 1.4 million people. Most recently, we accomplished the following:

- Distributing food to 128,492 people and providing cash/ vouchers for food to 25,580 people
- Providing the lining for latrine pits and installing concrete slab flooring, enabling 572 households to build latrines, benefiting nearly 3,000 people
- Completing a solar-powered water supply system, improving access to clean water for 1,465 people
- Promoting proper hygiene and COVID-19 awareness messages, reaching more than 10,000 people
- Reaching 7,909 children with education activities
- Assisting 145,904 people with rebuilding their livelihoods
- Providing 438 children with psychosocial support, empowering them with coping mechanisms, and building their resilience in the face of trauma and instability
- Rehabilitating 23 classrooms in six schools



After losing their homes, belongings, and sense of normalcy, children impacted by Cyclone Idai are grateful for an opportunity to learn again.

Education after Cyclone Idai

Anora, 14, lives in Sofala, one of the areas in Mozambique hit hardest by Cyclone Idai. She remembered the day of the cyclone, when intense winds blew her house down and she lost many of her belongings—including her school supplies.

Although their school was destroyed by the cyclone, Anora and her classmates attempted to continue their education. “We studied under the trees, and when it rained, we were forced to interrupt the lessons,” Anora said. “The movement of people crossing the street used to distract us, [challenging] our learning process.”

Thanks to generous donors, World Vision built temporary learning spaces, distributed school supplies and teaching tools, and trained teachers in providing psychosocial support, impacting 13,000 students. Now, Anora can continue working toward her dream of becoming a nurse and ensuring that all girls enjoy their rights to good health.

“Today, I can say thanks a lot to God because if I continue studying, it is [because] of World Vision building these classrooms for us and providing the school supplies,” Anora said.

NIGER CONFLICT AND DISPLACEMENT RESPONSE

Niger has a long history of violence, environmental hardships, and health crises. Over recent years, sporadic rainfall and pest outbreaks have hindered crop production, destroyed farmers' livelihoods, and left people hungry and malnourished.

In addition, civil conflicts and cross-border violence are displacing people within Niger; as well as people from the neighboring countries of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Nigeria—totaling nearly 570,000 people.

According to UNICEF, nearly 3 million people—more than half of whom are children—need food assistance, clean water, and proper sanitation and hygiene. The dire situation was further exacerbated by COVID-19, with positive cases at 655 (as of April 2020). The number of cases is likely to be under-reported due to a weak health system and testing challenges.

World Vision's goal is to meet immediate needs and increase the resilience of 242,000 people between July 2019 and September 2020. So far, we have reached more than 368,000 people. Recent accomplishments include:

- Raising awareness about COVID-19 prevention, including airing messages on radio stations, reaching more than 2.5 million people
- Distributing bars of soap to more than 1,200 households, and 64 hand-washing kits and 44 liters of bleach to health centers
- Giving community members cash/ vouchers for food as payment for setting up compost bins, conducting sanitation workshops, and doing school construction projects
- Distributing vouchers for two months' worth of food rations, benefiting 2,457 people
- Improving hygiene and sanitation by building hand-washing devices, latrines, and showers; and teaching about basic hygiene practices, proper use of sanitation facilities, and the dangers of open defecation
- Training leaders on two faith-based approaches: Celebrating Families, a method for changing harmful parenting behaviors and promoting positive relationships; and Empowered Worldview, an approach to help participants recognize their worth—based on readings in religious texts—and transform their mindset from one of dependence to one of empowerment and personal responsibility
- Reaching more than 2,000 children through four Child-Friendly Spaces, which give vulnerable children a place to safely play and learn



Funded by the Global Emergency Relief Fund, World Vision's horticulture production project vaccinated goats, distributed seeds and tools, organized savings groups, and hosted training on crop production and other agriculture best practices.

WITH GRATITUDE

Thanks to your support of the Global Emergency Relief Fund, World Vision is responding to the changing dynamics and circumstances that threaten the safety and dignity of children affected by conflict, natural disasters, and displacement, as you read about in the preceding pages. Our ultimate motivation is our 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.

Your committed prayers and partnership make it possible for us to meet millions of people in their time of greatest need. We are grateful for your generosity that enables us to care for people every step of the way—from when a disaster hits, to when families rebuild their lives. Thank you for joining us in this valuable, life-changing work.



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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