

Situation report #9 | December 2021

Key messages

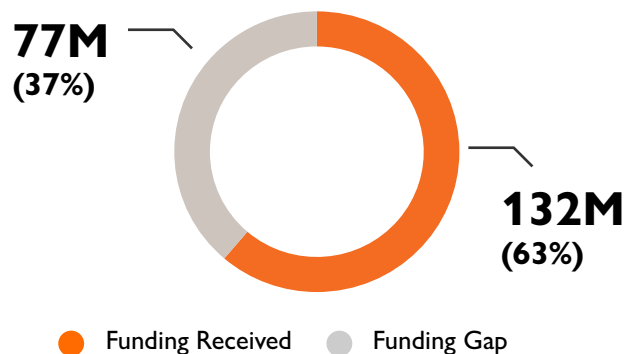
- A deadly mix of conflict, desert locust infestation, COVID-19 and climate change crisis have pushed more than 26 million people across six countries in East Africa into a hunger crisis. According to UN reports, approximately 509,000 people in East Africa are under catastrophic conditions, a phase marked by critical acute malnutrition, hunger, destitution and death – this phase is understood in the humanitarian sector as the highest and most urgent Integrated Food Insecurity Phase Classification (IPC)* of level 5. Additionally, almost 7.2 million people are exposed to emergency phase (IPC 4).
- The region has endured substantial and widespread breeding of desert locusts since late 2019, resulting in loss of pasture and crops. Additionally, between June to date rising conflict in Ethiopia and protracted instability in Sudan and Somalia has exacerbated the food insecurity situation in the region. The Climate Prediction and Application Centre and the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation had both made predictions of dry conditions and a worsening food insecurity situation in 2021. Coupled with the economic impact of COVID-19 lockdowns, which continue to destroy livelihoods and push millions into desperation. FEWS NET analysis indicated dipped harvests which affected local supplies and food prices.
- This challenging period could erode human and economic development gains that have been made towards the global Sustainable Development Goals across the region. The rising food insecurity also increases the risks faced by women and girls, including gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse.

Response countries



World Vision is responding to the impact of hunger in six countries in East Africa and requires **US\$ 209 million*** to reach **7.1 million** people, including **3.4 million** children.

Funding summary (US\$) **



*Includes new, internal and repurposed funding
 **Funding figures are consistent with the approved response plan

As of 31 December 2021

Key concerns

- 7.2 million** people are experiencing emergency levels of food insecurity and require urgent humanitarian assistance
- 26.5 million** people are acutely food insecure
- Fragility in the region is acute.** Continued conflict in Ethiopia, protracted conflict in South Sudan, Sudan and Somalia threaten human and economic development gains.
- COVID-19** aftershocks ripple through communities with declining income opportunities, lost livelihoods and diminished purchasing power.
- Poor rainy seasons** in parts of East Africa region have resulted in below-average crop production, poor rangeland conditions, and rising cereal prices
- 10.6 million** Internally displaced people
- 4.7 million** Refugees and asylum seekers

Sources: UN OCHA, UNHCR

* The IPC Acute Food Insecurity classification provides differentiation between levels of severity of acute food insecurity. The units of analysis are classified in five distinct phases: (1) Minimal/None, (2) Stressed, (3) Crisis, (4) Emergency, (5) Catastrophe/Famine. Each of these phases has important and distinct implications for where and how best to intervene, and therefore influences priority response objectives.

Strategic objectives



1. Improve access to clean water hygiene and sanitation promotion services to mitigate waterborne diseases



2. Improve access to food for affected households



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



4. Improved sustainable livelihoods to support households and communities to multiply resilient food systems



5. Ensure protection for children, women and vulnerable groups, including psychosocial support for reproductive age girls and women.

People reached*

4,580,256

(as of 31 December 2021)



Adults 2,057,614



Children 2,522,642



125,405

People reached with access to clean, potable water



2,622,348

People reached with (in-kind) food assistance



197,759

Children reached with supplementary and therapeutic food



1,071,951

People reached with cash and voucher assistance



US\$ 33.1M

Amount of cash and voucher assistance distributed



74,029

People reached through primary healthcare support



69,269

Children reached through management of Severe Acute Malnutrition & Moderate Acute Malnutrition



276,318

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



132,693

People reached through provision of livelihood assets



4,467

People receiving psychosocial support



The food distribution programme at Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya helps improve the health and nutrition of children and families. World Vision's Citizen, Voice & Action approach has helped refugees understand the food distribution process.

*The impact numbers take into account the risk of double counting.



ETHIOPIA

- October to December rainfall was delayed and has performed poorly to date with prolonged dry conditions in many southern and southeastern pastoral areas. This has resulted in 50 per cent crop loss and massive livestock mortalities since October 2021.
- Approximately 68,000 animals have died and over 1 million animals were in poor condition (Food and Agriculture Organisation Rapid Drought Assessment report for Borena and Dawa Zones, November 2021).
- Additionally, UNICEF estimates that 850,000 children will be severely malnourished across Southern Nations, Nationalities, and People's Region, Oromia, Afar and Somali regions due to multiple causes namely conflict, drought, and economic downturn in 2022.
- Desert locust swarm formation and spread is much lower than in the past two years. There are no reports of large-scale crop pest or disease outbreaks.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- To address the increased humanitarian needs, we need to expand operations into regions which have experienced new displacement, and drought by mobilising additional resources.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Screened more than 3,800 children and linked them to appropriate nutrition services.
- Trained 361 community volunteers on child protection.



KENYA

- According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), below-average regeneration of forage in the pastoral areas has affected livestock productivity, which is reflected in declining livestock prices. Reduced income and food sources have pushed affected communities to mostly stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes across the country and crisis (IPC Phase 3) levels of food insecurity in northern Kenya.
- Kenya mid season short rains assessment indicate an increase from 2.1 million to 2.8 million of food insecure people in need of immediate humanitarian assistance. Most affected counties are ;Turkana, Marsabit, Wajir, Garissa, Tana river, Samburu and Isiolo (Kenya Food Security Steering Group, December 2021).

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Affected communities in Mandera, Wajir, Turkana and Tana River counties need food, shelter and sanitation support. Reported increase of cases of nutrition related illnesses among pregnant, lactating women and children below five years.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Conducted screening and identification of malnutrition cases through integrated health outreaches and family Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurements.
- Distributed cash to 330 households in affected communities.



SOMALIA

- The severity of the drought in Somalia has continued to worsen. Currently, more than 90 per cent of the country is experiencing drought conditions at different magnitudes with the southern and central parts being worst affected.
- An estimated 3.8 million Somalis are at risk of severe food insecurity, and this number is expected to increase to 4.6 million by May 2022. An estimated 1.2 million children under the age of five years are facing acute malnutrition(FSNAU).
- The failed 2021 seasonal (October to December) rains have led to the worst seasonal harvests on record, excess livestock losses and exceptionally high cereal prices.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Affected communities are in need of clean drinking water sanitation and hygiene facilities.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Reached more than 6,300 households through multipurpose cash transfer amounting to US\$ 280,084 in December 2021.
- Supported the treatment of more than 800 livestock against internal/external parasites and infectious diseases across three districts.
- Constructed 15 latrines fitted with handwashing stations and soap in three Internally Displaced Persons camps in Baidoa, district.
- World Vision in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, carried out data collection and mapped all the World Vision constructed water points using mWater surveyor.



SOUTH SUDAN

- Physical access remains a major challenge for humanitarian organizations as roads have become impassable and communities are cut off by floodwaters.
- Humanitarian organizations must rely on air and rivers to transport relief supplies and to access the affected areas, which is costly. Recurrent conflict and sub-national violence in the flood-affected areas, particularly in Warrap, Western Equatoria and Unity states, are deterring the ability to verify people's needs and the response.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- Funding constraints and limited core pipeline supplies continue to be a challenge, which hinders the overall response.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Distributed food to more than 56,000 people.
- Reached more than 12,000 people through cash programming.
- Reached more than 1,700 children through nutrition interventions.
- Trained 255 people on food security and income generating activities.



SUDAN

- Humanitarian assistance needs remained high in December 2021, despite being a harvest season. This is driven by political instability, above-average food prices, and reduced household purchasing power, along with the impact of increased conflict, tribal clashes, and protracted displacement in parts of Darfur, Kordofan, and Blue Nile state, along with an influx of Ethiopian and South Sudanese refugees.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- There is a gap of US\$9 million to cover recovery food security and livelihoods activities, and WASH services.
- According to UNOCHA, priority needs include; education, food, health, sanitation and hygiene, shelter, non-food items, protection, and water.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- More than 700,000 beneficiaries in all the four States where World Vision operates are currently receiving cash and food assistance support. Granted a two-month extension for WFP food assistance projects to cover January and February 2022.



UGANDA

- According to the [FEWS NET](#), exceptionally dry conditions are causing early declines in livestock productivity, while rising food prices and below-average harvests are expected to drive further declines in food availability. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes will persist through at least May 2022 in large parts of Karamoja.
- The impact of drought continued in December with agro-pastoralists struggling to find water and pasture for their livestock.
- The situation is seemingly severe in Karamoja and some parts of the North on issues around food security however the expectation is that the onset of the March-April-May season will improve the situation.
- Karamoja is still at a very high risk of food insecurity, malnutrition and drought as the decadal for February still indicates that the region will continue to experience dry spell.

GAPS AND NEEDS

- There is need for food and cash assistance for affected communities.

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

- Implemented Cash for Assets (CFA)* activities in four districts reaching more than 1,000 beneficiaries.
- Conducted early warning and early action sensitisation reaching 480 beneficiaries.



The women of South Sudan are the faces of resilience in the fight against hunger and disasters. In recent months, farmlands have flooded in parts of Warrap state, causing anxiety among farmers as they watched their crops get ruined. The UKAID-funded BRACEII project has reached more than 6,500 (including more than 800 women) households in the state, through farming groups.

*Cash for Assets (CFA) is a conditional cash transfer scheme that reaches food insecure households where recipients work on community assets to build resilience against drought.



Nine-year-old Adam from South Darfur state, Sudan in a locality where World Vision is implementing a peace cohesion project, to bring communities together to co-exist.

We would like to thank our generous child sponsors, donors, partners, and supporters whose contributions make our work possible, including:



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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