



# COVID-19 Emergency Response

World Vision

Africa Situation Report #5 | 18 May, 2020

World Vision is responding to the impact of COVID-19 in **26 countries in Africa.**

Our **US\$ 350 million global response** aims to reach **72 million people, 36 million children,** especially the **most vulnerable.**



Latest Africa COVID-19 statistics as at 18 May, 2020\*

**84,872**  
Cases of COVID-19 confirmed in Africa

**2,771**  
Cases of COVID-19 deaths in Africa

**32,646**  
Cases of COVID-19 recoveries in Africa

\*Sources: WHO, Africa CDC



**RESPONSE GOAL**  
To limit the spread of COVID-19 and reduce its impact on vulnerable children and families

## Strategic Objectives



**1: Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of COVID-19**



**2: Strengthen health systems and workers**



**3: Support for children impacted by COVID-19 through child protection, education, food security, and livelihoods**



**4: Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected**

## Key Messages



- World Vision is concerned about the impact that the COVID-19 health crisis will have on the poorest and most vulnerable, and the risk it poses to already stretched basic social services and pre-existing high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition. This is especially the case amongst refugee and internally displaced populations.
- We are active on the ground and scaling up our prevention and response work across Africa, including in fragile contexts. The coronavirus response comes on top of climate change effects such as recurrent drought, torrential floods and locust invasions – all destroying crops and livelihoods. Response work includes preventing loss of progress made towards the global Sustainable Development Goals.
- World Vision urges the world to focus on the most vulnerable children, especially those living in communities with low access or weak health systems, and those already battling conditions such as tuberculosis, HIV and AIDS and malaria. They must not be left behind and funding for COVID-19 resources must not be diverted from their treatment, care and support.
- World Vision is concerned with the increased incidences of violence against children in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, and warns of the long-term risk of increased child marriage and child labour. We urge Governments to ensure continued functioning of child-friendly reporting mechanisms such as SOS hotlines to enable children's protection.

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# COVID-19 Emergency Response Highlights



## PEOPLE REACHED

(as at 13 May, 2020)

People

**18,245,475**



Men

5,475,433



Women

5,851,006



Children

**6,937,036**

Boys

3,354,737

Girls

3,582,299

## OBJECTIVE 1: Scale up preventive measures to limit the spread of COVID-19



**7,722,171**

People reached through promotion of preventive behaviours



**1,026,522**

Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed



**1,181,928**

Community members provided preventive materials



**327,837**

Handwashing supplies distributed



**73,130**

Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed



**39,493**

Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities



**53,054**

Community-level public handwashing stations established or maintained



**13,054**

Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities constructed or rehabilitated

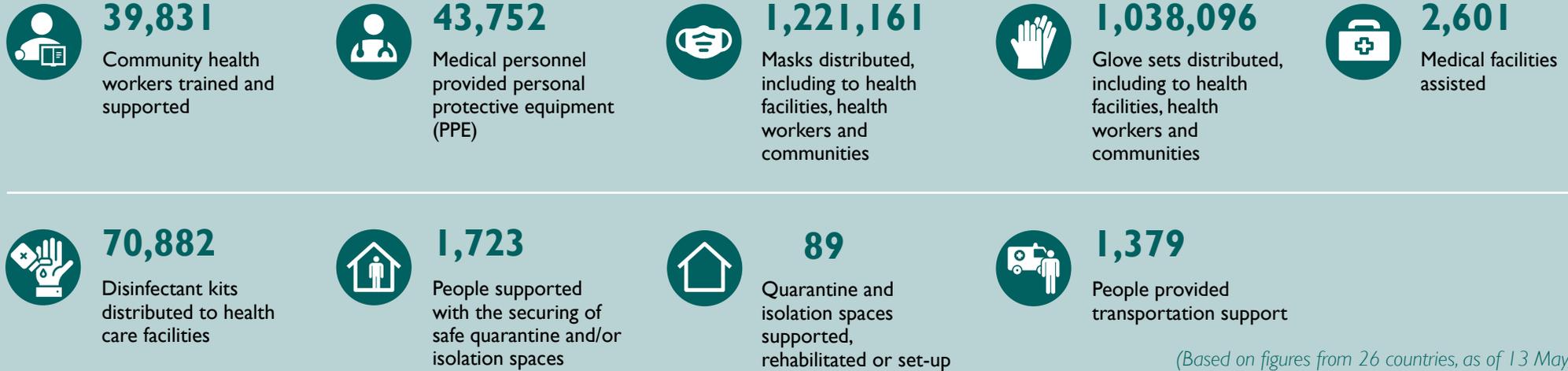


**35,285**

Faith leaders disseminating preventive measures

(Based on figures from 26 countries, as of 13 May, 2020)

## OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen health systems and workers



*(Based on figures from 26 countries, as of 13 May, 2020)*

## OBJECTIVE 3: Support for children impacted by COVID-19 through child protection, education, food security, and livelihoods



*(Based on figures from 26 countries, as of 13 May, 2020)*

## OBJECTIVE 4: Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected



141

External engagements with Tier 1 and Tier 2 stakeholders where World Vision is chairing, presenting or leading



197

External engagements with faith actors where World Vision is chairing, presenting or leading



48

New or amended policies & products adopted or operational challenges addressed at national and local level



45

External engagements where World Vision is advocating on priorities, including ending violence against children in the context of COVID-19



35

External actions



14-year-old Loyce from Uganda displaying some of the objects she has moulded during the lockdown. She says that she has so far moulded letters of the alphabet and numbers that her young siblings use to read during study time.



World Vision Sierra Leone is supporting communities to install tippy taps, as a measure to curb the spread of COVID-19.



In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic Carlington from Zimbabwe has not lost hope. He dreams of becoming a teacher.



## BURUNDI

- Held a taskforce strategic meeting with church partners on COVID-19 response and management. Faith leaders are committed to partner with World Vision to implement the response plan.\*
- Disseminated COVID-19 health messages in all churches across the country, in partnership with faith leaders.
- Registered more than 5,000 vulnerable households who will receive hygiene kits.

focusing on prevention through behavior change, child protection and safeguarding as well as sensitisation against gender-based violence.

- Recruited 800 faith leaders who will go through an online Personal First Aid training which will run for the next three weeks.

Broadcasting Corporation TV and radio, Dalmar media service, Horn cable TV and Radio Garowe.

## SOUTH SUDAN

## ETHIOPIA

- Deployed health professionals to strengthen risk communication in Afar region, in collaboration with Ethiopian Public Health Institute and the Ministry of Health. This region is a hotspot of COVID-19 cases.
- Established a network of local stakeholders and district taskforce, to undertake joint actions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, through dissemination of messages on protection measures.
- Disseminated COVID-19 messaging translated into local languages through the Evangelical Churches Council, which they will distribute through their networks.
- Pursuing a partnership with the Great Ministry Ethiopia, to make use of their online platform to disseminate COVID-19 messaging. This platform has a reach of more than five million followers and more than 240,000 hits per week. The first webinar is scheduled to take place on Sunday, 17 May, 2020.
- Virtually trained more than 3,000 church leaders on 'guidance for faith communities and places of worship'.

## RWANDA

- Disseminated messages on positive parenting and child protection through radio and television shows, in collaboration with faith leaders.
- Engaged with faith partners through Scripture Union of Rwanda, Church Umbrella Technical Committee, and Rwanda Religious Leaders Initiative, to identify solutions to address children's spiritual nurture needs and develop plans to mobilise faith leaders and parents.

- Increased visibility of World Vision's humanitarian work due to proactive social media and online information campaign on COVID-19. This has generated positive feedback from donors including the World Food Programme (WFP), Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and local broadcast and print media.
- World Vision's COVID-19 campaign has reached more than 800,000 people in South Sudan and has been highlighted in the UN-OCHA global press.
- Trained more than 1,000 faith leaders and volunteers through the South Sudan Council of Churches and Inter Church Committee. These faith leaders and volunteers are now supporting World Vision in its COVID-19 prevention campaign in remote parts of the country.
- Training and engagement of more than 500 faith leaders through Scripture Union of South Sudan is ongoing. This has enabled World Vision to reach a large number of people across the country through church and faith-based activities.
- Distributed more than 400 COVID-19 prevention messaging banners through church groups.

## SOMALIA

- Through the Global Fund-supported tuberculosis programme, began a nationwide sensitisation and capacity building for health workers on tuberculosis management units. The first training conducted in Puntland State included COVID-19 case detection, risk communication, specimen collection, referral of suspected patients and contact tracing.
- Some faith leaders including a senior religious leader (Ulama) have formulated safe burial procedures and are sensitising the communities to conduct their prayers at home instead of congregating at Mosques to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- During this Ramadhan period, faith leaders at the village level continued encouraging people to embrace physical distancing and sanitation guidelines provided by the government in an effort to combat COVID-19.
- Supported the Ministry of Health to disseminate information on key prevention measures of COVID-19, gender-based violence and female genital mutilation through mass media, reaching more than 1,700 people. The messages were aired on Puntland TV, Somali

## SUDAN

- Disseminated COVID-19 prevention messages in local languages through community radio stations.
- Working with faith leaders (Imams) to disseminate COVID-19 preventive behavior messaging and to foster hope among affected communities.
- World Vision is part of the COVID-19 response committee and has used this platform to engage with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and other stakeholders, to showcase our work and its impact in the four states.

## KENYA

- Contributed in the development of the Ministry of Health's continuity of health services guideline for community health volunteers in the fight against COVID-19.
- Mobilised more than 600 faith leaders who are spreading COVID-19 messaging across all 37 Area Programmes,

\*The country highlights in bold feature our work with faith leaders.

## TANZANIA

- Conducted visits to the regions and districts to monitor how COVID-19 messages are being delivered to communities. This was done as part of the National Risk Communication and Community Engagement team.
- **Supported the engagement and training of more than 300 faith leaders, on COVID-19 prevention behaviour messages. The faith leaders are expected to disseminate this information to their congregants.**
- **Established Christian based forums for 18 organisations, through which they will explore areas of collaboration to support the Government in its initiatives to curb the spread of COVID-19.**

## UGANDA

- Worked with the Government district taskforce to prioritise food distribution to children in most vulnerable families.
- Conducted community sensitization on the new education guidelines for online learning and home delivery of learning materials to support continuity of learning during lockdown.
- **Engaged faith leaders to develop a road map on documenting gender-based violence cases and provision of counselling to children and parents, using the home-to-home approach.**
- Influenced local government to prioritise rehabilitation of safe water sources and streamlining of transportation of expectant mothers to health facilities to ensure they access care.



*A World Vision staff in Bidibidi refugee settlement in Uganda checking the temperature of one of the beneficiaries before accessing the food distribution site.*



## Southern Africa Region | Country Updates

### ANGOLA

- World Vision is advocating the Ministry of Health to ensure continuity of public health services such as nutrition and malaria testing and treatment.
- Advocating for the continuation and expansion of livelihood activities to ensure that households meet their food security needs.
- Resumed key lifesaving activities such as nutrition and WASH (began drilling boreholes), as well as empowering women's groups to produce face masks.
- Conducted radio programmes to share information on COVID-19 and child protection.

### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- Advocated for the inclusion of ending violence against children in the response plan for Haut Katanga province COVID-19 response team. Members adopted the

proposal.

- Participated in the virtual town hall meeting with the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, Special Rapporteur on Children and Armed Conflict, Prof. Benyam Dawit Mezmur. World Vision presented on COVID-19 and disruption of essential services for children, prevention measures against COVID-19 and open humanitarian access for children. As well as specific challenges of refugee, internally displaced, migrant and stateless children.
- **One of the pastors trained by World Vision, Jonathan Mongelo, is working among the pygmy communities who were displaced from their homes in the forest, and are now living on the outskirts of Goma town in Eastern DRC – teaching them how to avoid contracting COVID-19 and other diseases like Ebola.\***
- **Virtually trained more than 200 faith leaders drawn from 25 Area Programmes on World Vision's Channels of Hope (CoH) in relation to COVID-19.**

### ESWATINI

- Supported more than 5,500 people with access to clean water for handwashing.
- **Trained more than 100 faith leaders who participated in an integration of COVID-19 sensitisation workshop.**
- **More than 150 pastors are active members of COVID-19 WhatsApp groups.**
- **Conducted radio programmes with church leaders on COVID-19 prevention measures.**
- Capturing children's voices on COVID-19 to compile a booklet which will be used as an advocacy tool to share with Government, the UN and other key partners.

\*The country highlights in bold feature our work with faith leaders.

## LESOTHO

- Engaged Her Majesty Queen Masenate Mohato Seeiso – a World Vision Education Champion to support advocacy efforts to enhance child protection during the COVID-19 pandemic. The message was broadcast on Lesotho Television as well as other media platforms reaching more than 5,800 people with key advocacy and awareness raising messages.
- World Vision continues to provide logistical support to district emergency operation centres which are conducting intensive screening of COVID-19.
- Disseminated COVID-19 prevention messages in seven districts in collaboration with the District Disaster Management Teams.
- Donated 1,000 face masks to Maseru district command centre to support efforts to combat COVID-19.

## MALAWI

- Issued a press statement urging the Government and other stakeholders to ensure creation of safe spaces for children during the fight against COVID-19. The press release was issued in partnership with Save the Children, Plan International and SOS.
- Conducted 68 awareness campaigns on COVID-19 prevention and control.
- Trained 98 health workers on COVID-19.
- **Trained faith leaders on World Vision's CoH for COVID-19, following which, churches have now adopted hand washing behaviors.**

## MOZAMBIQUE

- Successfully lobbied Parliament on the inclusion of COVID-19 orientation for community awareness raising and policy monitoring into the formal induction programme.
- **The Islamic Council approved World Vision's proposal to disseminate COVID-19 prevention messages during the local Mosques' call to prayer time.**

- Trained police on working with vulnerable communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Following the training the police committed to ensure their agents do not take actions that are counter-productive to protecting vulnerable communities.

## SOUTH AFRICA

- Facilitated 36 children to participate in the Government's National Planning Commission (NPC) research. The research was focused on getting children's views on COVID-19 and the lockdown. The children answered five questions through their voice-notes which were sent via WhatsApp. NPC is in the process of compiling a report which will be shared.
- **World Vision continues to partner with Transworld Radio Station which has 10 affiliated radio stations with an audience of more than 50,000 people across South Africa. The most recent messaging focused primarily on child protection, gender-based violence and good parenting skills during lockdown.**
- Conducted household campaigns through Area Programmes. The campaign was focused on COVID-19 awareness and demonstrating how to effectively practice good hygiene.

## ZAMBIA

- **In December World Vision trained 30 faith leaders who are now supporting efforts to curb COVID-19 and share messages of hope.**
- Supported community radio programmes in Mwinilunga, Luwingu and Choma where pastors encouraged listeners to observe the COVID preventive measures. The pastors also shared messages of hope with the listeners. In Mwinilunga 89 faith leaders participated, while in Luwingu more than 12,000 boys and girls, and more than 14,000 men and women were reached.
- Documenting voices of community members who are speaking out to end violence against children even as people grapple with COVID-19. These messages will be used to create a powerful online movement that leads to policy changes benefitting millions of children.

- Disseminated COVID-19 messaging campaign through social media and online platforms, resulting in increased visibility and engagement for World Vision.

## ZIMBABWE

- Participated in a discussion aired on Zimbabwe Broadcasting Cooperation, focused on the need to include child protection in the national COVID-19 response.
- Participated in a panel discussion which was aired on television, focused on governance and accountability in the COVID-19 emergency response. More than 30,000 people viewed the programme. World Vision's discussion was focused on inclusivity of the response in terms of disability and sensitivity to children's needs.
- World Vision developed a policy brief to guide its advocacy interventions as it engages government and other key stakeholders, to ensure children are protected during the response.
- Shared its advocacy messages on the emerging child protection issues during an inter-cluster meeting with partners, which was attended by various government departments and UN agency representatives.
- **Engaged with the Zimbabwe Heads of Christian Denominations – an umbrella body for all churches in Zimbabwe, on issues of child protection, gender-based violence and family stability. The church leaders will record statements on these issues in three local languages for national radio broadcasting and distribution by more than 15,000 church leaders in the country.**
- Trained a team of eight church leaders on WASH during COVID-19 response. The church leaders will train other leaders in disseminating accurate WASH information and in drafting appropriate messages for dissemination.
- Reached more than 1,400 pastors with COVID-19 prevention messages and encouraged them to share the information with their communities.



## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

- **Thirty faith leaders who were trained on CoH for COVID-19, trained more than 100 religious leaders at community level. The cascading of this training continues and so far, more than 500 religious leaders have been reached.\***

## CHAD

- Advocating with other members of the NGO forum and humanitarian community to influence the Government to lift some restrictive measures to allow humanitarian actors to provide COVID-19 related assistance.
- Disseminated COVID-19 messages through local media in partnership with faith leaders.

## GHANA

- Issued a press statement appealing to the Government to analyse the impact of COVID-19 and put in place measures to address poverty gaps that will be created as a result of the pandemic.
- **Partnered with 15 faith leaders from the Local Council of Churches to sensitise their congregants on COVID-19 prevention. More than 1,800 people were reached including (502 women, 416 men, 482 girls and 412 boys).**
- **Engaged key church partners to develop appropriate messages on the spiritual nurture of children during COVID-19 pandemic. The church partners include, the Ghana Christian Council, the Christian Broadcasting Network, Child Evangelism Fellowship, Theovision International, and Challenge Enterprise.**

## MALI

- **Developed four religious messages (Biblical and Koranic) on COVID-19. This was done by four faith leaders including two pastors and two Imams. The messages will be translated into seven languages (Fulani, Sonhrai, Bomu, Mamara, Soninke and Dogon) recorded and broadcast.**

- **Conducted orientation of five faith and development staff on mobilization and involvement of faith leaders and churches in the fight against COVID-19.**
- **Updating the national COVID-19 advocacy plan as well as the school secure plan.**

## MAURITANIA

- Participated in two International Non-Government Organisation coordination meetings on COVID-19.
- As part of the coordination team visited COVID-19 referral hospitals to assess compliance and make recommendations.
- Plans to conduct a survey to assess community understanding of COVID-19 and identify barriers.
- **Identified 60 out of 80 faith leaders who will undergo a training on COVID-19.**

## NIGER

- **Trained 46 faith leaders (mainly Muslim) on communication approach in relation to COVID-19 prevention measures. The training focused on how to carry out successful mass media sensitization using radio and television.**

## SENEGAL

- Developed a joint policy paper with Joining Forces Coalition and the National Group for Child protection, to urge the Government, UN Agencies and Civil Society Organisations to include concrete actions to ensure the wellbeing of children during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Participated in a television interview focused on child protection and children's rights. The interview was done in partnership with members of the Joining Forces Coalition.
- **Trained 21 faith leaders and provided them with awareness materials which they are using to sensitise people on COVID-19 through radio.**

## SIERRA LEONE

- Submitted a position paper urging the Government to maintain essential health service delivery for children and women; and to equip frontline health workers with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and training. The position paper was drafted in partnership with Child Rights Coalition.
- **In partnership with 45 faith leaders, disseminated COVID-19 preventive messages and shared messages of hope with affected communities.**
- **Engaged with the Inter Religious Council on provision of support to communities and families with patients in quarantine, isolation and treatment centres.**



*World Vision Ghana donating Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the Christian Health Association of Ghana.*

\*The country highlights in bold feature our work with faith leaders.



World Vision Zambia has partnered with faith leaders to create awareness on COVID-19 in communities where we work.

## SOME OF OUR RESPONSE DONORS AND PARTNERS



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