



## Africa Regional Situation Report

Situation Report #14 | 16 November 2020

### Situation Overview

**COVID-19 Cases: 1,116,647**

**COVID-19 Deaths: 27,156**

Increasing vulnerabilities and worsening humanitarian needs due to lockdowns have devastated livelihoods. UNOCHA's humanitarian response plans are showing a higher number of people in need (10% higher than this time last year, which equates to 48.9 million in East Africa, 45 million in Southern Africa, and 44.7 million in West Africa).

Prolonged school closures have negatively affected children's learning and led to higher teenage pregnancy rates. According to a recent [World Vision study](#), as many as 1 million girls may be blocked from returning to school across sub-Saharan Africa.

Reduced funding commitments and COVID-19 lockdowns have increased vulnerabilities amongst forced migration populations (i.e. internally displaced persons and refugees) and migrant workers across east, west, and southern regions. In East Africa, for example, the World Food Programme has reduced food rations for refugees.<sup>1</sup>

Reports indicate that gender-based violence and mental health challenges are also increasing due to lockdowns and lost livelihoods.

Countries across sub-Saharan Africa are facing a triple threat of issues from health, climate change, and loss of livelihoods with the COVID-19 pandemic; Africa migratory locust, and conflict in Democratic Republic of Congo and Mozambique in Southern Africa; desert locust infestations in East Africa devastating vegetation; and flooding in parts of West and East Africa resulting in loss of life, displacement, infrastructure damage, inaccessibility to basic services, and crop disruptions.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.wfp.org/news/food-rations-cut-refugees-eastern-africa-coronavirus-stretches-resources>

(COVID-19 case and death figures for 26 countries. Source: WHO, as of 12 Nov 2020)



**World Vision is responding to the impact of COVID-19 in 26 countries in Africa, especially in places where children and families are most vulnerable.**



### People Reached

 **27,930,965**

 **Men 7,291,069**  **Women 8,083,319**

 **Children 12,556,577**

 **Boys 6,000,824**  **Girls 6,555,753**

(Based on figures as of 11 November 2020)

### Key Concerns

**We urge governments, donors, and the global humanitarian community to:**



Increase funding interventions addressing the most vulnerable populations, such as internally displaced persons and refugees, especially children



Scale up efforts to strengthen prevention and reporting of gender-based violence



Document and estimate the cost of the long-term impact of school closures and propose mitigation methods to overcome the long-term impacts for advocacy and funding purposes



Support national governments to safely open schools and put in place systems curtailing COVID-19 transmission so that children can return to school



Advocate for accelerated vaccine access for the poorest and most vulnerable, as rich governments rush to pre-order stockpiles of promising vaccines, and address financial and logistical challenges faced by governments to stock up on antiretroviral drugs, which are limiting service provision and may result in people living with HIV and AIDS or TB failing to adhere to treatment



Amplify the voices of children whose well-being has been affected by conflict and lockdowns, and advocate for regional economic blocs to facilitate civilian protections and expedite conflict resolution



Maintain focus on water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions – the Africa Development Bank estimates that more than 40% of the population across sub-Saharan Africa still lacks access to clean water, a prerequisite in hygiene and containment of COVID-19.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/african-water-and-sanitation-projects-critical-preparedness-covid-19-pandemics-37745>



**RESPONSE GOAL**

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

**Strategic Objectives**



1. Scale up preventative measures to limit the spread of disease



3. Support children affected by COVID-19 with education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



2. Strengthen health systems and workers



4. Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected

**OBJECTIVE 1: Scale up preventative measures to limit the spread of disease**



**16,585,878**

People reached through promotion of preventative behaviours



**1,899,311**

Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed



**7,489,469**

Community members provided with preventative materials



**1,469,675**

Handwashing supplies distributed



**236,253**

Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed



**102,367**

Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities



**70,946**

Community-level public handwashing stations established or maintained



**63,802**

Water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities constructed or rehabilitated



**161,100**

Faith leaders disseminating preventative measures

*(Based on figures as of 11 November 2020)*

**OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen health systems and workers**



**113,510**

Community health workers trained and supported



**247,742**

Medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment (PPE)



**2,817,915**

Masks distributed, including to health facilities, health workers, and communities



**2,191,726**

Glove sets distributed, including to health facilities, health workers, and communities



**12,630**

Medical facilities assisted



**131,511**

Disinfectant kits distributed to health-care facilities



**144,211**

People supported with the securing of safe quarantine and/or isolation spaces



**667**

Quarantine and isolation spaces supported, rehabilitated, or set up



**5,025**

People provided with transportation support

*(Based on figures as of 11 November 2020) 2*

## OBJECTIVE 3: Support children affected by COVID-19 with education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



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



*\*Note: Amounts of external actions have been amended to address errors recorded on the previous situation report. ^Examples of Tier 1 and Tier 2 stakeholders include: WFP, WHO, Global Fund, UNICEF, UNHRC, UNOCHA, and national governments. (Based on figures as of 11 November 2020) 3*

\*During the month of October 2020, National Offices were focused on FY21 budgeting and planning for the COVID-19 response.

## BURUNDI

- Continued to raise awareness through community health workers and disseminate preventative messaging through World Vision-trained faith-based organisations.

## ETHIOPIA

- Oriented 35 faith-based leaders in the Ethiopia Gospel Believers Church Council on COVID-19 response and how to support affected families.
- Trained 300 religious leaders on digital communication skills in collaboration with Great Commission Ethiopia.**

## KENYA

- Continued to work with religious leaders and community volunteers to sensitise communities on the prevention of COVID-19.**

## SOMALIA

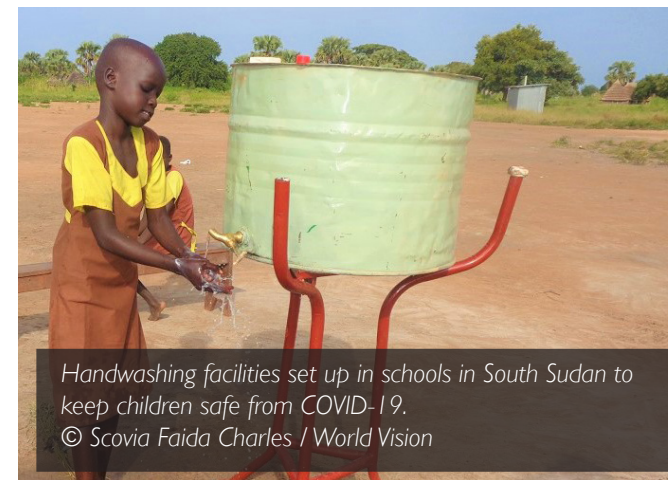
- Shared risk communications messaging via motorised campaigns and door-to-door hygiene promotion.
- Continued to work with faith leaders to raise awareness on the prevention of COVID-19, address myths and rumours, and dispel fear and stigma.**
- Engaged community health workers in 10 internally displaced person camps in Baidoa, in partnership with the government, to conduct hygiene promotion and disseminate COVID-19 messaging.

## SUDAN

- Continued to collaborate with the ministry of health to reach communities in remote areas with COVID-19 preventative messaging using community radio.

## TANZANIA

- Trained 152 faith leaders in Shinyanga and Singida regions on how to raise awareness on COVID-19.



Handwashing facilities set up in schools in South Sudan to keep children safe from COVID-19.  
© Scovia Faida Charles / World Vision

# Southern Africa Region

The latest outlook produced by the 24th Southern African Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF 24) forecasts that there will be normal to-above-normal rainfall across most of the Southern Africa region between October 2020 and March 2021. This will result in improved food and livelihood security albeit with some flash floods in the lower lying areas of the region, which may lead to crop and infrastructure damage.

## ANGOLA

- Conducted awareness campaigns in schools, focused on children's rights and prevention of COVID-19 to ensure effective implementation of the new child protection and integral development law and to assure that students and teachers stay safe and are aware of children's rights.
- Trained 610 faith leaders on mental health issues equipping them to support children and families.**
- Hosted 22 orientation sessions in churches for women by women leaders to encourage them to engage in small businesses to reduce poverty levels during COVID-19.

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- Facilitated the visit of the First Lady, Nyakeru Tshisekedi, to the Kongo Central programme area where she addressed the secondary impact of COVID-19 on communities, declared her commitment to fight against rape, and expressed her support for the rehabilitation of Madimba Child Care and Supervision establishment to help to care for children's urgent needs.
- Distributed PPE kits, including 145 waterproof jackets, 60 pairs of boots, and 24 thermoflash thermometers, to health workers in Kongo Central.
- Conducted media outreach activities to complement and strengthen social behaviour change and community participation by involving faith leaders, health officials and the Risk Community Engagement Sub-Commission for national coordination of the COVID-19 response.**

## ESWATINI

- Integrated World Vision's 'It takes Eswatini to end violence against children' campaign into the national *Umgcini weSive* (Protector of the Nation) strategy to eradicate COVID-19 in the country, creating an enabling environment for advocating for child protection issues during COVID-19.
- **Continued to work with faith leaders to disseminate COVID-19 preventative messaging.**

## LESOTHO

- Ten Citizen Voice and Action groups, which were trained by World Vision, continued to mobilise local businesses to support vulnerable households struggling to recover economically post-lockdown with food parcels.
- **Continued to work with 100 faith leaders and faith-based organisations to disseminate COVID-19 preventative messaging.**
- Distributed 300 five-litre bottles to communities and demonstrated how to construct 'tippy taps'.

## MALAWI

- Continued to disseminate preventative messaging on COVID-19.
- Launched an advocacy project to mobilise communities against child abuse, teenage pregnancy, and early marriage, all of which have been on the rise during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Maintained borehole drilling as part of an ongoing programme contributing to COVID-19 prevention through better hygiene practices.

## MOZAMBIQUE

- Continued to develop a manual, in collaboration with state and non-state actors, on gender-based violence prevention during COVID-19 in response to rising cases of violence reported in households and communities.
- **Enhanced engagement with local government, community, and faith leaders on safeguarding and child protection issues in response to challenges raised by communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.**
- **Trained 2,000+ faith leaders on facilitation of small group Bible studies in compliance with COVID-19 restrictions.**

## SOUTH AFRICA

- Conducted an awareness campaign for students in Eastern Cape, in conjunction with the South African Police Service and support from Nedbank, to educate them on drug abuse and gender-based violence. Reached 77 children, including 40 World Vision-sponsored children.
- **Provided children with psychosocial support offered by World Vision-trained faith leaders, reaching more than 200 children in eight area programmes, with help to cope with the effects of COVID-19.**

## ZAMBIA

- Reached 23,000+ refugees in Maheba and Mayukwayukwa refugee settlements with hygiene promotion and COVID-19 preventative messaging.
- Continued facilitating reading clubs in communities to help children catch up on lost learning time during lockdown.

## ZIMBABWE

- Participated in the national child rights sector meeting; helped to prioritise fundamental issues, facilitated a session on child-friendly budgeting and advocacy areas to emphasise when engaging with the finance ministry, and highlighted the need for resource allocation to child protection services when drafting the 2021 national budget.
- **Continued to work with faith leaders from 4,000+ congregations to disseminate COVID-19 preventative messaging through WhatsApp and church services.**



Senamile, an 11-year-old from Eswatini, speaks to World Vision about how the pandemic has affected her life.  
© Sanele Lushaba / World Vision

\*During the month of October 2020, national offices were focused on budgeting and planning for the COVID-19 response.

## CHAD

- Supported more than 2,000 households with handwashing facilities through the distribution of more than 43,000 soaps to slow the spread of COVID-19.

## GHANA

- Reached more than 100 savings groups members in Bwaku West cluster and 90 people in Gushegu cluster with COVID-19 preventative messaging.
- Distributed more than 1,000 age-appropriate educational materials on COVID-19 to more than 1,300 children across 10 communities.
- Engaged in the process of revising the National Water Policy and planning of the Global Handwashing Day 2020.
- Participated in the commemoration of the International Day of the Girl Child in Savelugu cluster, and sensitised community members on the importance of upholding children's rights, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Reached more than 1,900 children through reading camps, while 17 early grade teachers were supported to engage children in reading and arithmetic lessons.

## MALI

- Trained 50 faith leaders on World Vision Channels of Hope (CoH) approach for COVID-19.**
- Trained 28 religious leaders (12 Muslims, nine Protestants, and seven Catholics) on CoH in Diago area programme.**
- Distributed more than 400 handwashing kits to 19 water, sanitation, and hygiene committees and another 276 handwashing kits to children's clubs in Baoule area programme.
- Reached more than 3,000 beneficiaries through cash and soap distribution.
- Trained more than 100 people on COVID-19 and child protection in Koudiakane and Lozena area programmes as part of the commemoration of the Africa Child Day.

## MAURITANIA

- Conducted awareness creation on COVID-19 in Assaba region, and produced seven videos on the impact of the actions taken by the Hidden Heroes.
- Reached more than 200 people in Assaba region through advocacy on child protection in relation to COVID-19.

## NIGER

- Reached 7,000 people through COVID-19 preventative messaging.
- Collaborated with 50 faith leaders on dissemination of preventative messages.**
- Reached more than 5,000 children with educational materials to support remote learning.
- Trained 40 health staff on COVID-19 symptom recognition and appropriate first aid.
- Distributed more than 14,000 handwashing supplies to schools, health centres, and households for World Vision sponsored children.

## SIERRA LEONE

- Trained 25 volunteers on child protection.
- Distributed more than 3,000 masks to vulnerable populations living in the slum areas in the East End of Freetown.
- Distributed PPE to 18 health-care workers from three health facilities in Freetown.
- Distributed handwashing kits to three schools, a church, and a mosque.**
- Engaged 45 faith leaders (Muslim and Christian) to disseminate COVID-19 messages and provide counselling to those that are affected by the pandemic.**
- Reached more than 2,000 most vulnerable people, including persons with disabilities, with COVID-19 preventative materials and messages.

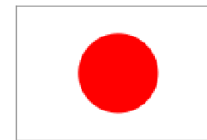


World Vision continues to support health centres in Sierra Leone with COVID-19 prevention materials. © Edward Renner / World Vision

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