

# ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE

## CAPACITY STATEMENT | SOUTH ASIA & PACIFIC



Over 2.6 million people were affected by strong rain-induced floods and landslides in north-eastern Assam, India in 2022. Worsening climate emergencies need a holistic approach that looks at environment and climate action at the local, national, regional, and global level.

Climate change stands as one of the triple planetary crises, identified by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) alongside pollution and biodiversity loss. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), rising extreme weather events have left millions vulnerable to food and water insecurity. Globally, the IPCC attributes existing climate challenges to a 1.1°C increase from the pre-industrial baseline, with projections indicating a significant escalation, impacting human health, agriculture, and food security.

Over its 70-year history, World Vision has worked to alleviate poverty and improve the well-being of vulnerable children. However, climate change threatens to reverse these gains, hindering the realisation of children's rights, including their right to a clean environment and the pursuit of their full potential. Climate change intensifies child vulnerabilities, contributing to extreme poverty, school dropouts, child mortality, malnutrition, and displacement, increasing the risk of violence against children.

Recognising the need for global cooperation and concerted efforts, World Vision collaborates with communities, governments, businesses, and development partners. World Vision promotes innovative, scalable solutions to enhance community resilience, improve adaptive capacity, and foster a sustainable and equitable future. As part of the concerted effort to address environment and climate challenges, we have established more than 1,100 environmental and climate action projects in 47 countries around the world.

Key international instruments underpinning our work on climate action include the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN CRC), Paris Agreement of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030) and UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030.

World Vision has a variety of projects where climate action is integrated in other sectors such as education, health and nutrition, emergency response, social accountability, WASH, economic development, and others. As part of our commitment to mainstreaming social and environmental safeguarding, gender equality, disability, and social inclusion (GEDSI) are integrated across all intervention areas.



# Globally, World Vision's work addresses eight distinct areas of environment and climate action:



## Climate empowerment through environment and climate change education

670 Projects  
3.8 million people in 34 countries



## Climate-smart agriculture

630 Projects  
3.3 million people in 33 countries



## Natural Resource Management

370 Projects  
2.3 million people in 24 countries



## Community-based disaster risk management

210 Projects  
1.1 million people in 15 countries



## Agroforestry and FMNR/Regreening Communities

100 Projects  
0.9 million people in 27 countries



## Integrated water resource management

30 Projects  
0.3 million people in 7 countries



## Waste management

260 Projects  
2.4 million people in 19 countries



## Energy-efficient technologies

6 Projects  
0.5 million people in 3 countries

As part of walking the talk and using the Humanitarian Carbon Calculator, we were able to estimate our carbon footprint as 50,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e for 15 World Vision offices that participated during an initial study in 2019. More data will soon come from a new carbon calculator being developed together with carbon reduction and offset action plans.

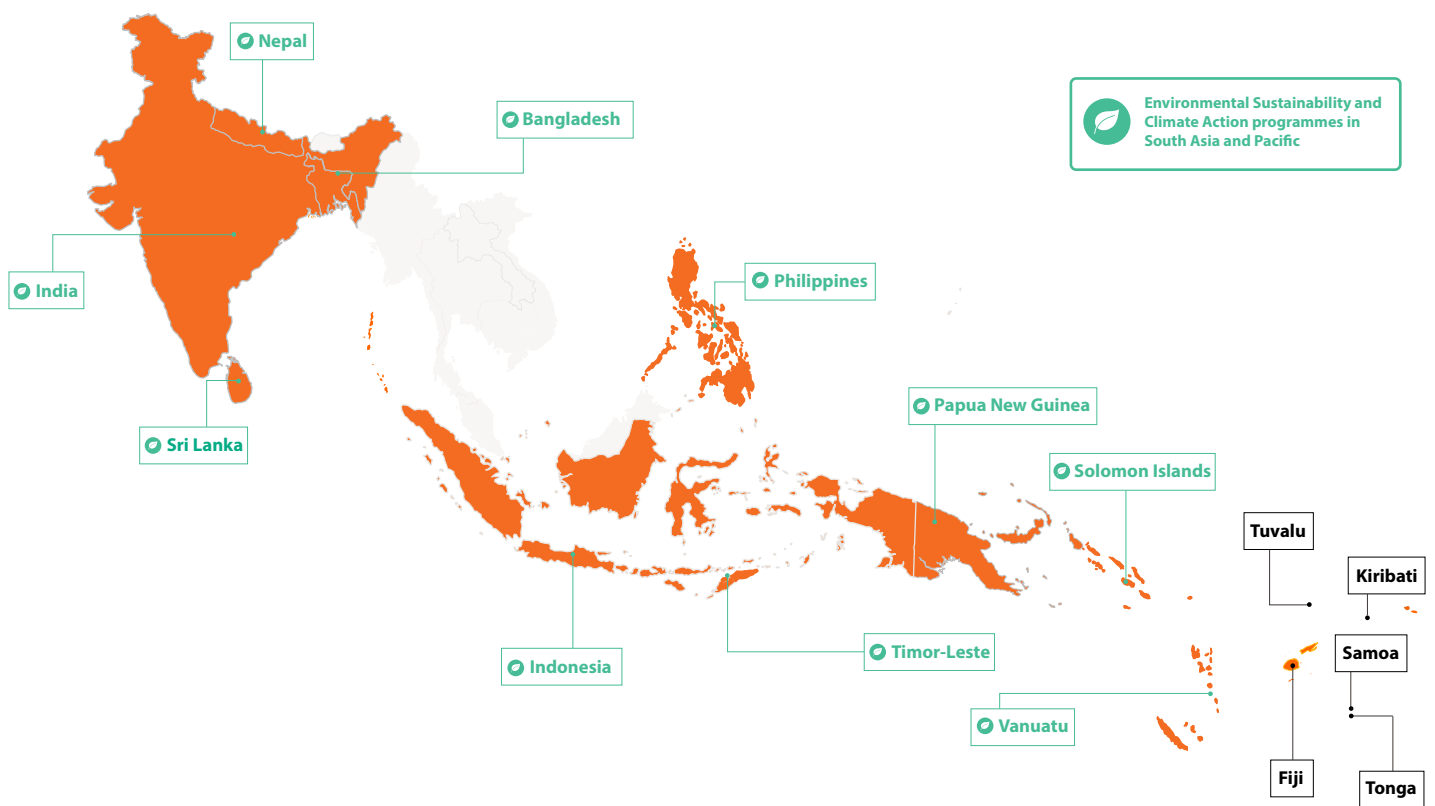
**Catastrophes and natural disasters in the Asia Pacific (APAC) region** in 2022 amounted to a total economic loss of **USD 80 billion**.<sup>1</sup> The extreme weather records broken across the year highlight the continuing need to strengthen resilience by adopting effective adaptation strategies and improving disaster management and warning systems, to better protect the communities in which we live and work across the APAC region.

High population density, rapid urbanisation, heavy industrialisation, and dependence on natural resources have enhanced environmental degradation and climate change, particularly in the South Asia and the Pacific (SAP) region. These challenges have far-reaching and interconnected impacts on both natural ecosystems, human societies and economies. These impacts are often complex and can exacerbate poverty amid COVID-19 aftershocks.

We are present in 10 countries in the SAP region including Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Nepal, Phillippines, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, and Vanuatu. With our localisation approach, we are also expanding our presence in the Pacific with partnerships in Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, and Tuvalu. The SAP region has implemented more than 50 environment and climate action projects and programmes, spanning across the 8 distinct environment and climate action interventions.







## World Vision’s Environment and Climate Action Footprint in South Asia and Pacific



# Trusted partner driving high impact programmes

Throughout the years, World Vision programmes and partnerships have empowered communities to adopt Community-based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) and Environmental Stewardship and Climate Action (ESCA) approaches especially in disaster-prone and climate-vulnerable areas in South Asia and Pacific.

## South Fly Resilience Plan

January 2021 - September 2022

DFAT

**Funding:** USD 2,562,000

As World Vision PNG's first large-scale WASH implementation in South Fly, Western Province, the programme supported the development of governance capacity of the district to design, finance, deliver, and sustain inclusive resilient WASH services. Improving water quality and rehabilitation of WASH facilities and infrastructure, including water desalination, became part of early action and drought response activation. World Vision also helped strengthen community resilience to water-related disasters and socio-economic vulnerability exacerbated by El Niño droughts and La Niña floods.

## Urban Climate Resilience Programme

July 2021-June 2026

DFAT (ANCP)

**Funding:** USD 2,000,000

World Vision Vanuatu works together with decision-makers at the local and national level, to support urban and peri-urban communities, including the most vulnerable, to understand the impacts of climate change and adapt to its pressures through economic resilience and healthy lifestyles. Community members, including women, youth, people with disabilities, and their carers are engaged with programmes that deliver diversified livelihoods, increased income, and access to savings.

## Building Inclusive and Resilient Communities in Solomon Islands Project

July 2022-June 2025

USAID

**Funding:** USD 1,800,000

Under Phase 2 of the project, World Vision Solomon Islands is supporting 3,000 beneficiaries in Guadalcanal (Weather Coast) and Temotu Province. Provincial engagement is being strengthened in ten communities by equipping the Provincial Disaster Management Office (PDMO), provincial board members and partners to support inclusive disaster preparedness approaches and address gender-based violence in disaster context.

## Better Food Better Health Phase 1

2022 - 2027

DFAT (ANCP)

**Funding:** USD 8,500,000

World Vision is working with stakeholders to bring about positive nutritional outcomes by improving access, utilisation, and demand for diverse, nutritious foods and cash crops. The project is doing this through introduction of six climate-resilient superfoods and growing practices, livelihood diversification, nutrition sensitive agriculture, SLGs, and local value chain development.

## PIPER

August 2022- September 2024

World Vision US and Singapore

**Funding:** USD 140,000

World Vision works together with stakeholders. Recycling facilities create jobs, educate communities, and produce eco-friendly polyfloss fibers that are used to build roofing insulation in classrooms and improve children's learning environment.

## ACCESS Sri Lanka

April 2024 - March 2028

Global Affairs of Canada

**Funding:** CAD 5,000,000

World Vision works with communities. Dry zone farmers, including women are empowered to be leaders, equipping communities with climate-smart practices while tackling barriers to build resilient agriculture.

2021

Papua New Guinea



2021

Vanuatu



2021

Philippines



2022

Solomon Islands



2022

Timor-Leste



2022

Nepal



2024

Sri Lanka







In India and other developing countries, women working in climate-vulnerable conditions face disproportionate impacts, including economic insecurity, increased workload, heightened risks of violence and abuse, displacement and migration challenges, limited decision-making power, and inadequate access to resources. These intersecting vulnerabilities experienced by women also affect their children and their community, and need to be addressed with comprehensive strategies to achieve inclusive and gender-responsive climate resilience.

## Highlights: environment and climate action across South Asia and Pacific

### Eco-friendly villages in Bangladesh

World Vision Bangladesh leads climate action through the eco-friendly villages initiative, emphasising intentional design and eco-friendly choices. Residents in these villages opt for sustainable alternatives in electricity, water, transportation, and waste treatment to create socially, economically, and ecologically responsible communities. The programme conducts local environmental risk assessments, developing action plans to mitigate anticipated risks and sensitising communities to the negative effects of environmental degradation.

To enhance climate resilience, World Vision provides training in natural resource management, supports value chain development, and establishes eco-friendly production systems. In Kishoreganj Area Programme, eco-friendly village activities, including vermicomposting, are piloted in four villages, benefiting over 1,000 ultra-poor households since 2011. In 2021, World Vision initiated 177 eco-friendly villages across 48 area programmes. These villages promote socially, culturally, economically, and ecologically sustainable practices, such as tree plantation, biofortified crops, bondhu chula (friendly stoves), compost usage, hygienic latrines, climate-adaptive technologies, floating gardens, hydroponic fodder cultivation, solar power use, and permaculture. World Vision's comprehensive approach integrates eco-friendly solutions to build resilient communities and combat environmental degradation.



### Waste management for livelihoods (PHINLA) in Sri Lanka

Residents participate in waste management and accumulate points redeemable for Sri Lanka Rupees (est USD 3.35) or equivalent rewards. The centre operators enhance value by further segregating, cleaning, and preparing items for resale to recycling companies. World Vision supplements this by providing local authorities with training on policy implementation and regulations for waste management and recycling systems. Capacity-building components include exposure visits on resource recovery processes and managing Material Recovery Facilities. PHINLA's holistic approach aims to empower communities, combat poverty, and promote sustainable waste management practices.



### Sustainable growth and gender equality in Vanuatu

World Vision Vanuatu is working on this EU-funded project that strives to ensure greater food security, economic empowerment, and amplified voices for women and youth in Shefa Province. Anchored in climate-resilient green growth and reinforced civil society organisations, the initiative targets specific objectives. These include boosting the food security and income-generating capabilities of women and youth through resilient agriculture practices, facilitating increased access to digital financial payment systems, and elevating the knowledge and capacities of civil society organisations. By focusing on management, accountability, strategy planning, implementation, and advocacy, the project empowers CSOs to effectively represent the voices and interests of women and youth in the realms of climate-sensitive agriculture and finance.



## A decade of sustainable impact in Indonesia

Wahana Visi's INFOCUS, IRED, SOLVE, and ENCOURAGE projects from 2011-2021 utilised Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) approaches and restored 330,000 hectares of land, planted 1,239 tree seedlings, and raised awareness of farmer groups and individuals. Low-cost, scalable, and community-led solutions helped restore the natural environment, increasing land productivity and strengthening livelihoods.

Using the Green Schools model in 6 primary schools in Sambas, West Kalimantan, and 9 primary schools in West Sumba, East Nusa Tenggara, helped enhance students' environmental awareness, character development, and community engagement for building climate-resilient communities. The initiative was recognised with Indonesia's Millennium Development Goals Award in 2013, and in 2019, a children and youth consultation was organised through the Children in Changing Climate Coalition, providing a platform for young voices to address climate concerns in the Asia Pacific region.



### We take pride in our achievements but this doesn't go without the following challenges:

- Environmental safeguarding and mainstreaming of environment and climate actions have not been systematically applied
- Fragmented data including indicators and expenditures make it hard to showcase the evidence of impact
- Inadequate financing for advocacy and implementation of sustainable practices
- Lack of awareness and education on the benefits of sustainable practices can hinder adoption both within the organisation and at the community level

### Despite these challenges, there are opportunities we can leverage on:

- We have significant staff capacity and footprint in environment and climate action work globally, with a large number of projects encompassing one or more elements of environment and climate action in the design
- We have promising practices, innovative designs and models that present opportunities for scale up. This includes mainstreaming environment and climate actions into new and existing projects and programmes throughout the entire project and programme lifecycle engaging in regional and global events to showcase our unique value
- Engaging in regional and global events to showcase our unique value
- Transparent reporting on our carbon emissions and reduction efforts as these demonstrate accountability and build trust with our partners

### Partners



World Vision Support Offices

Learn more:

[wvi.org/southasiapacific](https://www.wvi.org/southasiapacific) [x.com/wvasia](https://x.com/wvasia) [linkedin.com/company/worldvision-sap](https://www.linkedin.com/company/worldvision-sap)



Partner with us:

<b>Sarah Bearup</b>	sarah_bearup@wvi.org	Chief Operating Officer
<b>Kunal Kumar Shah</b>	kunal_shah@wvi.org	Regional Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs Director
<b>Joan Cheruto Sang</b>	joan_sang@wvi.org	Climate Action Advisor
<b>Aaron Joseph Aspi</b>	aaron_joseph_aspi@wvi.org	Communications Advisor