



Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action

Strategic Roadmap 2024-2027 for a Thriving Environment for Children

Executive Summary

Climate crisis: Children's crisis

'We (children) are the least responsible for climate change, but we are the most affected by its impacts. This is not fair. Governments of all countries need to take bolder decisions and act quickly and decisively, and they need to do it NOW.'

–Shania, 15, Tanzania

Across the globe, children are experiencing the effects of climate change – extreme weather events like droughts and floods, greater risk of infectious disease, hunger and malnutrition, air and water pollution, and more. All of these threats to children's well-being are projected to increase as global temperatures continue to rise.

A thriving environment for children: Our focus areas

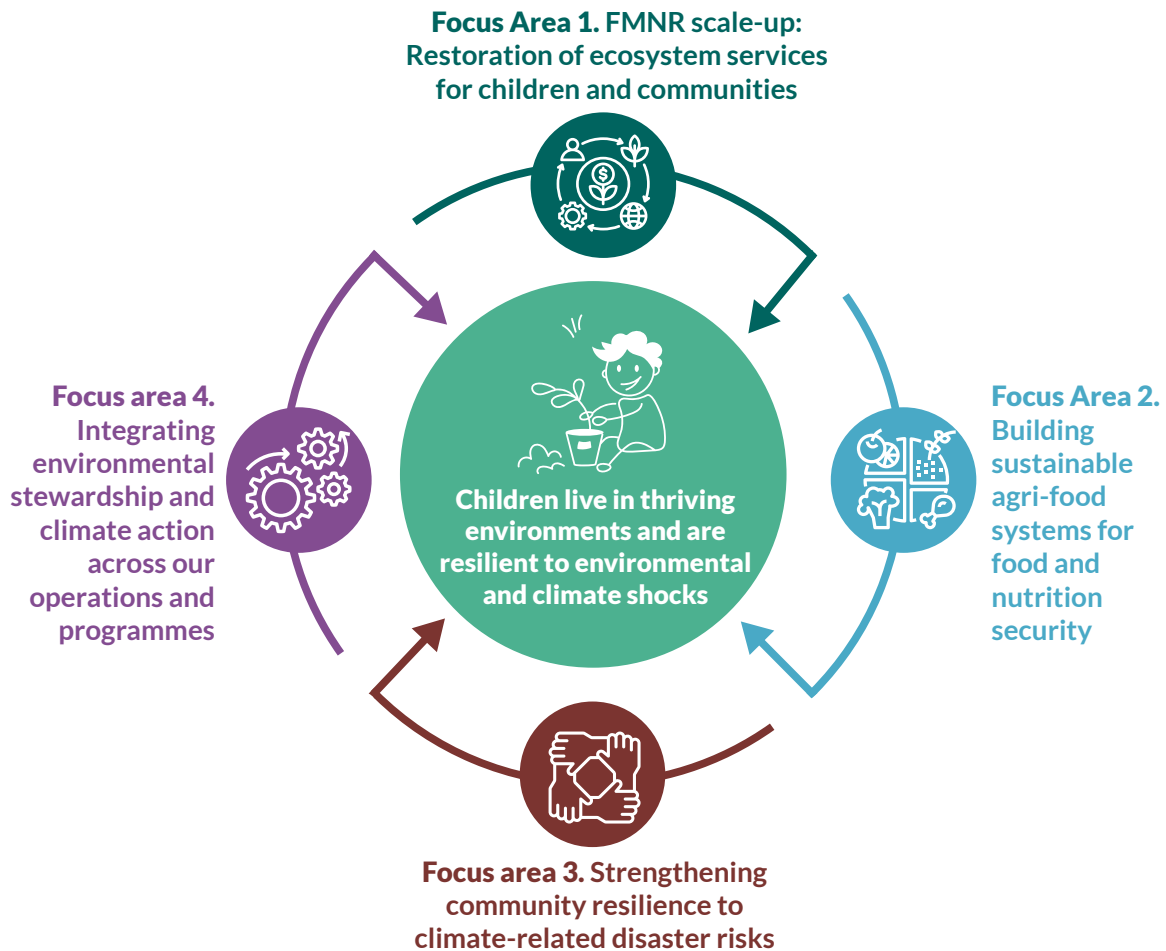
Responding to [children's urgent call](#) for climate justice, World Vision has developed the first organisation-wide Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action (ESCA) Strategic Roadmap, with an initial three-year commitment (FY2025–2027) that aligns with our long-term goals to be achieved by 2030. Through the ESCA Strategic Roadmap, **our aim is to reach 20 million people (10 million children)** so that children and their caregivers can live in a thriving environment with improved resilience against environmental and climate shocks.

At its heart, the ESCA Strategic Roadmap is about placing children and their rights at the centre of the climate crisis and creating solutions that are

good for people and for the planet. In order to effectively address the climate crisis, we must take concurrent actions to end extreme poverty and inequality, support at-risk communities to build resilience, and reduce global climate and environmental impact to create a climate-safe future.

Our response to the climate crisis focuses on these four main areas:

- **farmer managed natural regeneration (FMNR) scale-up and ecosystem restoration for children and communities**
- **building sustainable agri-food systems for food and nutrition security**
- **strengthening community resilience to climate-related disaster risks**
- **integrating environmental stewardship and climate action across our operations and programmes.**



Local to global advocacy by empowering children in climate action



Focus area 1: Farmer managed natural regeneration (FMNR) scale-up and ecosystem restoration for children and communities

Degraded land will be protected, enhanced and/or restored through **nature-based solutions** like **FMNR** and **agroforestry** to enhance community resilience to climate change and other environmental threats.

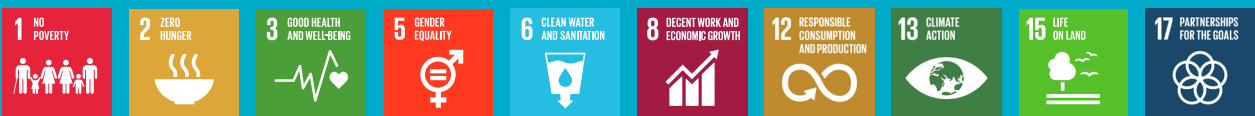


Our ambitious goal is to restore 27 million hectares of degraded land by 2033 through FMNR scale-up and the **Regreening Communities** project model.



Focus area 2: Building sustainable agri-food systems for food and nutrition security

Sustainable agricultural practices such as **nutrition-sensitive** and **climate-smart agriculture** will be used to reduce the impacts of climate change on agri-food systems and the growing hunger crisis, in alignment with the **ENOUGH** campaign to end child hunger and malnutrition.



Focus area 3: Strengthening community resilience to climate-related disaster risks

To enhance community resilience to climate-related risks, **disaster risk management** will be integrated as a foundational component in all field programmes.



Focus area 4: Integrating environmental stewardship and climate action across our operations and programmes

Climate change affects all aspects of World Vision’s work. Therefore, integrating **environmental stewardship** and **climate action** across all World Vision’s operations, facilities and programmes is critical to ensure we are creating systemic change throughout the organisation.



As an organisation committed to ‘walking the talk’, our aim is to reduce organisational greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2030 and achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

Advocating for climate justice for children

Promoting **climate justice for child rights** and **Action for Climate Empowerment** initiative the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will sit at the core of our climate action. We seek to protect the rights of the most vulnerable children and ensure that climate change decision-making processes are participatory, transparent and accountable, including for children and youth. A key approach to driving change at the local level is our **Citizen Voice and Action** project model, which equips local communities to enter the climate change decision-making process. **Partnerships** are also a critical aspect of our advocacy approach, which we will continue to strengthen, particularly with local faith-based organisations and through global climate change coalitions such as the **UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration** and the **UNEP Faith for Earth Coalition**.



Our approach

Care for creation: As stewards of God’s creation, World Vision has a responsibility to care for and protect the environment. We work with local faith leaders, connecting with people’s spiritual beliefs, which accelerates communities’ engagement and drive to contribute to creation care.

Children as agents of change: Children are key stakeholders for climate action and should be part of strategies to make a change in their communities. World Vision is committed to **Action for Climate Empowerment** for children, which aims to empower all members of society to engage in climate action through education, training, awareness-raising and participation.

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI): Climate change has disparate effects on women and girls, as well as persons with disabilities and other marginalised groups. These groups face unique threats to their livelihoods, health and safety because they are marginalised due to gender, disability or other social factors. Through our **GESI approach and framework**, World Vision and partners challenge and shift discriminating gender and social norms, unequal power relations and gender roles, and inequitable systems.

Delivering the ESCA Strategic Roadmap

The ESCA Strategic Roadmap will be implemented by the whole World Vision Partnership and with external partners. In order to reach our goals and deliver on our promises to children, we will:



prioritise innovative approaches to improve our programme impact for the well-being of children



focus on scaling successful restoration approaches like **FMNR** to massively scale up new **landscape restoration** initiatives such as the Amazon Basin and Regreening Dry Corridor initiatives



develop new ways to measure and report our impact through innovative remote sensing technologies and data visualisation platforms.

Taking a whole-of-organisation approach that incorporates operational, programmatic and advocacy responses, the ESCA Strategic Roadmap will go beyond business-as-usual. It will be bold in its ambition because children are asking us to act now on the climate crisis.