

GLOBAL HUNGER RESPONSE - PHASE II

Situation report #3 | July 2024

The world is in a massive hunger crisis. **Tens of millions of children and their families are currently confronted with the real-life impacts of acute hunger, including starvation and other long-term health and development issues.** This is why, in 2021, World Vision launched a global hunger initiative combining regionally led responses addressing hunger, which led to the declaration of a Global Hunger Response (GHR) in May 2022 to respond to the staggering needs of 30 million of the most vulnerable people facing unprecedented hunger in 28 countries. **World Vision**

responded to this global emergency by raising US\$2.27 billion and reaching more than 25.4 million people, including over 14 million children, in collaboration with our donors and partners.

Considering the persistent and growing need, despite global efforts by governments, United Nations (UN) and agencies like World Vision, GHR announced Phase II of the Response alongside the organisation's global hunger and malnutrition campaign, ENOUGH, in October 2023. **World Vision aims to reach 30 million of the most vulnerable people experiencing hunger and the threat of famine in 28 countries of highest alert*** with a focus on providing integrated solutions across the humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) nexus to sustainably address the drivers of food insecurity and acute malnutrition.

* Elsewhere World Vision continues to monitor the situation and is working to adapt programming and responses where cost-of-living price shocks are hurting the vulnerable.

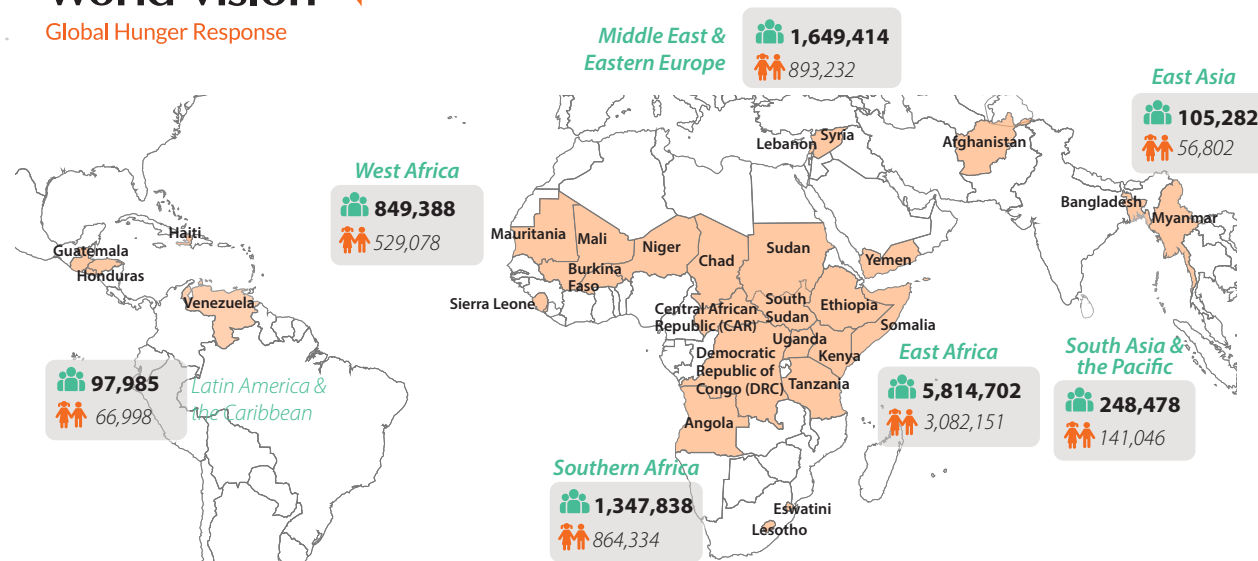
Situation overview

Despite humanitarian efforts to meet the needs of the most vulnerable and some improvements in certain regions, global hunger levels continue to worsen considering emerging and protracted crises worldwide. Acute food insecurity levels have remained high since the COVID-19 pandemic, with an increase by 24 million people in the last year alone.¹ Looking at the global picture, 165.5 million people in 41 countries/territories were facing crisis levels of food insecurity in 2023 (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 3 or above).² As a direct consequence, food insecurity has led to a remarkable rise in malnutrition, specifically among children and women respectively. Thirty-six million children under five years suffered from acute malnutrition, out of which 10 million children are severely malnourished.³

¹ International Food Security Network (FSIN) and Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC) (2024) [Global Report on Food Crises 2024](#), p.viii

² [Ibid](#), p.viii

³ [Ibid](#), p.viii



US\$385.5 million raised out of US\$2.5 billion

People reached

10,113,087



Men 1,954,912

Women 2,524,534



Children 5,633,641

Boys 2,768,836

Girls 2,864,805

*Based on figures as of July 2024

As for pregnant and breastfeeding women, 2.5 million in six countries were acutely malnourished, with 88% of them singlehandedly in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.⁴

In December 2023, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) set its targets and intended to assist 184.1 million people, appealing for \$46.1 billion.⁵ To address the growing needs, specifically for the Syria Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), the floods in Libya and Burundi, and droughts in Zambia and Zimbabwe, OCHA later adjusted their appeal to \$48.65 billion to assist a revised total of 187.8 million people.⁶

⁴ [Ibid](#), p.32

⁵ OCHA (2024) [Global Humanitarian Overview 2024, February Update](#)

⁶ OCHA (2024) [Global Humanitarian Overview 2024, May Update \(Snapshot as of 31 May 2024\)](#)

Despite the rising needs, global funding for humanitarian assistance is declining and is less than the funding recorded from the same time last year. As of May 2024, appeals are 16% funded with a remaining gap of \$40.8 billion.⁷

Decreased humanitarian funding along with rising delivery costs are pushing humanitarian actors to reduce targeted numbers and/or food assistance rations in many food-insecure areas to focus only on the most vulnerable. World Vision's latest GHR-led study, "Ration Cuts: Taking from the hungry to feed the starving," explored the detrimental impacts that such cuts had on children living in Afghanistan, Lebanon, Uganda, DRC, Bangladesh, and Somalia. Following these cuts, two out of three children (68%) in six countries received an inadequate diet at home⁸ and consumed fewer meals on average (one or zero) compared to before the cuts (two meals).⁹

Additionally, the interconnected drivers of food insecurity are exacerbated by structural vulnerabilities, which stand to further impede recovery efforts. Conflict remains one of the primary causes of acute food insecurity, particularly in the Gaza Strip, Sudan, and Haiti.¹⁰ Conflict not only leads to displacement, destruction of infrastructure and food systems, and limited humanitarian access.¹¹ It also reduces a community's endurance to weather and economic shocks. Extreme weather conditions, including heavy rainfall, tropical storms, cyclones, flooding, drought, and increased climate variability, persist as key factors driving acute food insecurity around the globe. For instance, the impact of El Niño, combined with climate change-related weather phenomena, made 2023 the hottest year ever recorded.¹² Forecasts suggest that La Niña will influence global weather from August 2024 to February 2025, reportedly affecting rainfall and temperatures for regions already struggling with climate-related food security issues like the Sahel.¹³

In terms of the cost of food, declining global food prices have not helped low-income, import-dependent countries due to high public debt and weakening currencies. These regions will likely continue struggling with expensive domestic food and reduced purchasing power.¹⁴

⁷ [Ibid](#)

⁸ World Vision (2024) [Ration Cuts: Taking from the hungry to feed the starving](#), p.8

⁹ [Ibid](#), p.5

¹⁰ International Food Security Network (FSIN) and Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC) (2024) [Global Report on Food Crises 2024](#), p.viii

¹¹ WFP and FAO (2024) [Hunger Hotspots. FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity: June to October 2024](#), p.vii

¹² International Food Security Network (FSIN) and Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC) (2024) [Global Report on Food Crises 2024](#), p.viii

¹³ WFP and FAO (2024) [Hunger Hotspots. FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity: June to October 2024](#), p.3

¹⁴ [Ibid](#), p.4

Key concerns

The GHR team continuously monitors the hunger situation in countries facing high levels of acute food insecurity to inform our prioritisation. Conditions continue to deteriorate for most of GHR's Tier 1¹⁵ and Tier 2¹⁶ countries, which includes those noted below.

Countries at risk of famine

In 2023, around 700,000 people in five countries were projected to face catastrophe levels of food insecurity (IPC 5). Notably, over half a million (600,000) of these individuals were in the Gaza Strip, where more than a quarter of the population was expected to be in this severe phase from December 2023 to March 2024.¹⁷ Famine is imminent in the Gaza Strip with half of the population (over one million people) estimated to be facing death and starvation.¹⁸ Without humanitarian intervention and coordinated international efforts to address severe access constraints, further starvation is likely in Mali, South Sudan, Sudan, and Haiti.¹⁹

Central African Republic (CAR)

Armed conflict is one of the main drivers of acute food insecurity in the Central African Republic where clashes between security forces and non-state armed groups are intensifying.²⁰ As a result, 522,000 people are internally displaced, an increase of two percent since December 2023.²¹ Weather extremes such as below-average rainfalls, flooding in the southeast and drought in the north are severely affecting agricultural livelihoods, further exacerbating food insecurity.²² In addition, the elevated cost of imported fertilizers led to decreased crop production.²³ Despite a decrease in inflation of nine percent, the prices of essential goods continue to be extremely high, especially in the most insecure areas where armed groups disrupt market operations.²⁴ The aforementioned factors have pushed 2.5 million people (41% of the population) into severe acute food insecurity, including 508,000 people in IPC Phase 4 (emergency).²⁵ Additionally, more than 177,000 children and 162,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women are expected to suffer from acute malnutrition by August of this year.²⁶

¹⁵ Tier 1 countries or countries of highest alert: Prioritised funding, specialised support for food assistance programs, and enhanced assistance for communication and advocacy work.

¹⁶ Tier 2 countries or countries of highest concern: Technical support, best practices, and resources to integrate emergency programs, and engage in communication and advocacy efforts.

¹⁷ International Food Security Network (FSIN) and Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC) (2024) [Global Report on Food Crises 2024](#), p.viii

¹⁸ [Ibid](#), p.viii

¹⁹ [Ibid](#), p.viii

²⁰ WFP and FAO (2024) [Hunger Hotspots. FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity: June to October 2024](#), p.25

²¹ [Ibid](#), p.25

²² [Ibid](#), p.25

²³ International Food Security Network (FSIN) and Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC) (2024) [Global Report on Food Crises 2024](#), p.34

²⁴ [Ibid](#), p.35

²⁵ IPC Central African Republic (June 2024) - [Acute Food Security Situation Projection Update for April - August 2024](#)

²⁶ WFP and FAO (2024) [Hunger Hotspots. FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity: June to October 2024](#), p.25

[Ibid](#), p.25



A group of Sudanese refugee children wait for their next meal in east Chad's Farchana Refugee Camp. In Chad, World Vision runs a school feeding programme for 69 schools in 6 provinces, including those in Farchana. The programme feeds approximately 65,000 children, which helps them attend and stay in school. © World Vision / Jon Warren

Sudan

Sudan is currently facing East Africa's largest food-related crisis. By May 2024, the country's displacement crisis became the largest and fastest-growing crisis globally with 6.8 million people internally displaced and 1.8 million seeking refuge in neighboring countries (Chad, Egypt, and South Sudan).²⁷ In the absence of a political solution, armed conflict in the country is expected to escalate. It risks spreading into new areas, with a chance of increasing displacement, worsening agricultural production, and limiting access to humanitarian assistance even further.²⁸ Since the December 2023 update, the number of people in crisis conditions (IPC Phase 3 or above) has increased by 45% (from 17.7 million to 25.6 million), while the number of people in emergency conditions (IPC Phase 4) has risen by 74% (from 4.9 million to 8.5 million).²⁹ Plus, the number of malnourished children remain at a critical level, with about 3.7 million children anticipated to be acutely malnourished, a 22% increase from 2023 levels.³⁰

²⁷ WFP and FAO (2024) [Hunger Hotspots. FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity: June to October 2024](#), p.5

²⁸ *Ibid.*, p.5

²⁹ IPC Sudan (2024) - [Acute Food Insecurity Situation for April - May 2024 and Projections for June - September 2024 and October 2024 - February 2025](#)

³⁰ WFP and FAO (2024) [Hunger Hotspots. FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity: June to October 2024](#), p.19

Syrian Arab Republic

The protracted crisis in Syria entered its fourteenth year, with 55% of the population facing high levels of acute food insecurity and 2.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) living in camps. Since the start of the crisis, 7.8 million people have been forcibly displaced.³¹ Amidst recent hostilities and regional tensions, the economic situation, already weakened by the internal conflict and the impact of the 2023 earthquake, is expected to further deteriorate. The rapid depreciation of currency, combined with fuel shortages, rising fuel prices, and increased transportation and freight costs, led to higher prices for both imported and domestically produced food, doubling the cost of living for a family of five.³² Agricultural production in Syria, particularly wheat, is being hampered by weather anomalies, inadequate services, and high input costs, resulting in lower productivity.³³



Makhula, a mother of four, shares her wisdom with children in the village as they work on her homestead garden in Sekokong, Lesotho. As part of a nutrition club to combat growing malnutrition in Makhula's village, she received training on hygiene, balanced diets for children, food preparation, child growth monitoring, and climate-smart agriculture. Additionally, she and other participants now own homestead gardens, which serve as sustainable food sources and income generators. © World Vision / Lerato Brown

³¹ International Food Security Network (FSIN) and Global Network Against Food Crises (GNAFC) (2024) [Global Report on Food Crises 2024](#), p.135

³² *Ibid.*, p.135

³³ WFP and FAO (2024) [Hunger Hotspots. FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity: June to October 2024](#), p.20

RESPONSE GOAL: To reduce acute food insecurity and improve the resilience of 30 million of the most vulnerable people in countries experiencing growing hunger and the threat of famine

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS



Improve access to food for better nutrition of the affected households



2,604,673
People reached with cash and voucher assistance



US\$71,660,165
Cash and voucher assistance distributed



533,809
Children receiving hot meals and/or dry rations through school feeding



5,224,444
People reached with (in-kind) food assistance



286,536
In-kind food assistance distributed (mt)



52%
Proportion of households reporting that they have been informed about expected behaviour of World Vision's staff, partners, and affiliates



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



551,720
People reached through primary health-care support



187,984
Children reached through severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) management



30,379
Children recovered from SAM



190,723
Primary caregivers benefited from infant and young child feeding (IYCF) promotion and action oriented sessions and counselling

Enhance household resilience to food insecurity and livelihoods related shocks



33,998
Households provided with (in-kind) livelihood physical agricultural assets



800
Households provided with conditional cash or vouchers to procure agricultural physical assets



72,378
People trained in sustainable, nutrition-sensitive, climate-smart, resilient farming practices



49%
Proportion of households with alternative and diversified sources of income



22,922
Households growing crops that are resilient to climate hazards/stresses



Improve access to clean water, sanitation support, and hygiene promotion services to mitigate waterborne diseases



1,190,213
People provided with access to clean, potable water



244,186
People who have participated in emergency hygiene promotion activities



771

Including faith leaders engaged on hygiene promotion activities



Reduce protection risks and vulnerabilities of affected children, women, and other vulnerable groups



56,935
Caregivers/children affected by food insecurity accessing PSS sessions



208,522
People receiving messages on positive coping strategies and preventing negative coping mechanisms



1,016

Including faith leaders engaged in promoting positive coping strategies



Reduce/mitigate predictable humanitarian impacts from negatively affecting at-risk populations through anticipatory action



8,750
People supported through forecast-based actions



5,149
People provided direct access to information on climate and weather risks and crop management advisories



4,262

Including existing community structures used as platforms to engage on anticipatory actions

Advocacy highlights

GHR and the larger World Vision team engaged on hunger issues in a number of forums over the past few months. During one of the largest humanitarian gatherings annually, Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week in Geneva, Senior Director Amanda Rives took part in a panel titled “Combating Food Insecurity: The Power of Collaborative Partnerships.” She took the opportunity to highlight GHR countries and food insecurity issues in these contexts.

GHR Director Mary Njeri took an important trip to the United States at a major donor conference and interacted with a number of key stakeholders on the issues of food insecurity. Her work further elevated World Vision and GHR’s role in raising the profile of hunger-affected countries and bringing additional support to the world’s most vulnerable contexts.

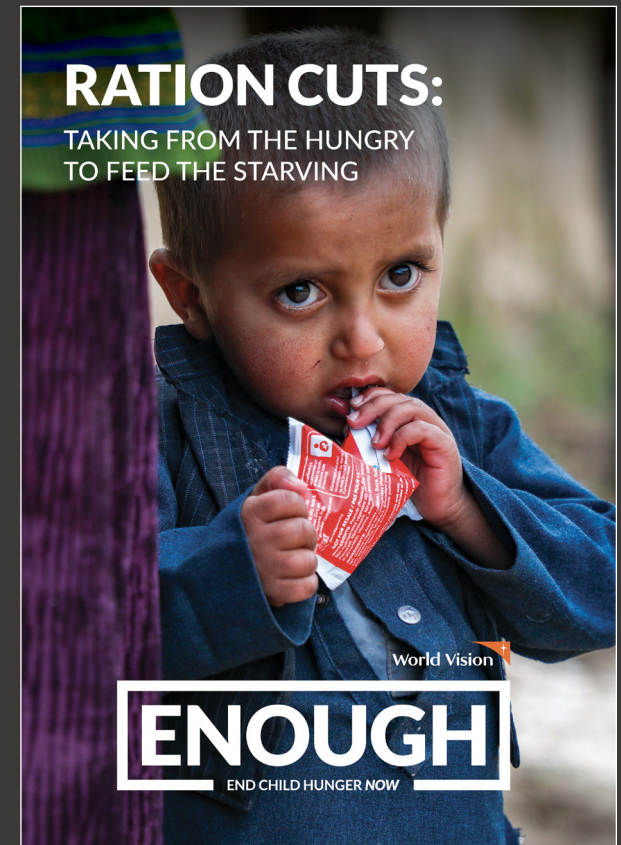
Following the publication of “[Ration Cuts: Taking from the hungry to feed the starving](#),” World Vision and GHR has engaged widely to promote it. It has been shared with a number of stakeholders, including member states, UN agencies, and NGOs, co-focal points on conflict and hunger in the UN Security Council (Switzerland and Guyana), the Group of Friends co-chaired by Ireland and Ecuador, as well as the Coalition Against Conflict and Hunger.

In addition, the report was presented during side meetings of the WFP Executive Board gathering in Rome with positive feedback and request for continuity and expansion. It was also highlighted at recent C7 and G7 meetings, including the G7 Food Systems Initiative with an accompanying statement. In Geneva specifically, an NGO Forward meeting featured the publication during its discussions with member states.

In New York, the report was promoted at UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS) side events with Mark Smith on “The Urgent Need to Address Famine Risks and Acute Food Insecurity” and “Underfunding and the Cost of Inaction.” It also was supported by the OCHA ACT “Raising the Alarm” strategy, and the NGO Coalition Against Conflict and Hunger. Finally, it was referenced at a World Vision co-sponsored event, “Addressing Conflict-Induced Hunger - UNSC Res 2417,” during Protection of Civilians week.

There were also a number of publications over the last few months, including [a piece by GHR Director Mary Njeri](#) shedding light on the profound impact of food ration cuts on vulnerable communities around the world. [Chief Field Operations Officer JBK](#) also wrote [a piece](#) on the challenges of fatherhood as a result of hunger-related challenges. Like Mary’s piece, it included citations of the Ration Cuts report.

Externally, the Ration Cuts report was highlighted in two radio interviews completed by Mary Njeri – one with Transworld Radio and another with United Christian Broadcasters (UCB) Radio in the UK. Additionally, Hannah Chargin, senior policy advisor on food security, [interviewed with John Tanza of Voice of America \(VOA\) Africa](#) on the impacts of ration cuts for refugees. Moreover, there were several pickups in print, including [The Church Times](#). Our aim, to create awareness on the impact of ration cuts within the general public and the need for funding to support the most vulnerable was surely achieved through our combined efforts.



Resource highlights

Articles

[Father to father: Empathising with the challenges of fatherhood](#)
[Finding a place for peace in the HDP nexus](#)
[How extreme weather is aggravating humanitarian crises in the Middle East](#)
[Schooling for Sudan's 19 million children could only be five steps away](#)
[Your 101 guide to disasters + development](#)
[Your 101 guide to diarrhoea + development](#)
[Your 101 guide to global food production + development](#)
[A relentless struggle in Southern Angola: The south west Angola Emergency Response Project relief amid food insecurity](#)
[Chad : 'Behind every statistic are the faces of starving children'](#)
[DR Congo: Children involved in reforestation activities in their communities on World Environment Day](#)
[Springboks savings group affords its 13 members financial independence \(Eswatini\)](#)
[World Vision Ethiopia participates in the 2024 Safaricom Great Arba Minch Run](#)

[A mother's hope restored \(Ethiopia\)](#)
[How biogas transforms lives and empowers women in rural Kenya to combat climate change](#)
[Lesotho declares national disaster: Food insecurity due to El Niño-induced drought](#)
[A good shepherd \(Myanmar\)](#)
[Market garden site transforms lives of IDPs in Niger](#)
[Home is where our heart is: Standing in solidarity with the displaced people – refugees, returnees, and internally displaced \(South Sudan\)](#)
[How can we do ENOUGH: Displaced people from Sudan speak about their needs \(South Sudan\)](#)
[13 years of the Syria crisis and still underfunded](#)
[Restoring ecosystems and building community resilience in West Africa](#)
[World Vision's Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action \(ESCA\) programmes focus on restoring ecosystems and building community resilience \(West Africa\)](#)
[Child-friendly spaces as pivotal platforms for education and emotional healing \(Yemen\)](#)

Videos

[World Vision Afghanistan, in partnership with the World Food Programme, provides emergency food assistance](#)
[World Vision helps to cope the trauma from Herat Earthquake \(Afghanistan\)](#)
[Long-term assistance is needed to restart the life after the floods \(Afghanistan\)](#)
[World Vision's impact on the lives of children in Niger](#)
[A new entry into Sanad's diary \(Syria\)](#)

Reports and publications

[Feeding hope: A retrospective on World Vision's Global Hunger Response Phase I](#)
[Global Hunger Response phase II strategic plan](#)
[One year on: Global Hunger Response](#)
[Global Hunger Response: Capacity statement](#)
[Rising Storms: Climate impacts on conflict, community tensions, and hunger](#)
[Price Shocks: Economic gains masking a growing hunger and malnutrition crisis](#)
[Ration Cuts: Taking from the hungry to feed the starving](#)

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World Vision

World Vision is focussed on helping the most vulnerable children to overcome poverty and experience fullness of life. We help children of all backgrounds, even in the most dangerous places. Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness. Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.

wvi.org/emergencies/hunger-crisis

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Mary Njeri
Response Director
Global Hunger Response
mary_njeri@wvi.org

Michael Clark
Communications Director
Global Hunger Response
michael_clark@consultant.wvi.org

OR THE REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN AND EMERGENCY DIRECTOR:

Kunal Shah
South Asia and Pacific
kunal_shah@wvi.org

Jose Nelson Chavez Rosales
Latin America and Caribbean
jose_chavez@wvi.org

Tata Mikeladze
Middle East and Eastern Europe
tata_mikeladze@wvi.org

Joseph Kamara
East Africa
joseph_kamara@wvi.org

Eddie Palula
Southern Africa
eddie_Palula@wvi.org

Khalil Sleiman
West Africa
khalil_sleiman@wvi.org

Margarettha Siregar
East Asia
margarettha_siregar@wvi.org