

WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA NEWSLETTER

Empowering & Transforming Lives

World Vision

ADDRESSING THE FORGOTTEN CRISES

Leader Reflection

An opening note from a leader in our region

Dear friends,

It is a great honour to present this issue of our World Vision West & Central Africa Regional newsletter. Themed 'Addressing the Forgotten Crises', we turn our focus to the pressing needs confronting our region, which range from disease outbreaks and climate-related challenges to conflict and an underfunded displacement crisis – all in the backdrop of shrinking humanitarian funding.

World Vision remains steadfast in our commitment to children and vulnerable communities affected by these urgent needs as we confront these harsh realities and respond with agility, faith and dedication. From our on-the-ground presence to global platforms, we raise awareness, mobilise, and collaborate to ensure that vulnerable children and adults across the region benefit from sustainable relief, advocacy and development initiatives. Our faith serving as an anchor amidst the waves of uncertainty, we draw motivation from witnessing the fruits of sustainable initiatives that not only address current hardship in the communities we serve, but also provide lasting impact and resilience against future shocks.

Children and young people's views and experiences are central to all the approaches that our devoted teams deliver as they go above and beyond to reach the most vulnerable across the region. Needs are still great, but we remain hopeful because of the progress that we

continue to realise in collaboration with our partners and supporters, driving us to achieve broader impact.

I believe that you will be just as inspired as I am by the updates in this newsletter, and I pray that you will join us in our ongoing journey to make a lasting impact for children and their communities.

**Donatien Bigiraneza – National (Response) Director,
Burkina Faso**



Milestones

Key celebrations and flagship events from the past quarter



Hunger Crisis Deepdive: In line with ambitions set for our ENOUGH Campaign to end child hunger and malnutrition, World Vision is taking significant steps to foster global dialogue on improving food security for children in marginalised communities in the region and beyond.

[Learn More>>](#)



Ending Child Marriage: Sierra Leone has achieved a significant milestone by passing a groundbreaking bill to ban child marriage. This marks a momentous victory for the children of Sierra Leone in a process which World Vision has actively supported.

[Learn More>>](#)



30 Years of Impact: This year marks three decades of World Vision's impact in Niger. Since 1994, World Vision has reached more than 3 million people in 5 regions across the country and is determined to go even further.

[Learn More>>](#)



A National Agenda for Children: Relive highlights from Central African Republic where World Vision hosted key government and non-government stakeholders in renewing national commitments to collective action in favour of child well-being.

[Discover How>>](#)

Responding to Emergencies

Supporting children, families and communities at severe risk



Mpox: How we are scaling up response efforts in the region and beyond

Following the World Health Organisation declaring mpox an international health emergency of international concern, World Vision has scaled up efforts in eight of the most impacted countries, including Central African Republic and Chad. With decades of experience responding to health emergencies including COVID-19 and Ebola, World Vision will initially focus its response on hygiene promotion, early detection, raising awareness and immunisation. World Vision is deeply concerned for children who are at severe risk as the disease spreads across the continent and beyond.

[Learn More>>](#)



Displacement Crisis: Has the world forgotten the children?

As the humanitarian disaster in Sudan continues to grow almost entirely outside the media spotlight and new emergencies understandably draw global attention, the children paying the price are forgotten. Edgar Sandoval, President & CEO of World Vision USA, recently visited Adré, an area in Chad on the border with Sudan. A long drive along sand and clay roads led to spontaneous settlements where hundreds of thousands of Sudanese refugees are living. Edgar shares deep reflections from his experience in these difficult conditions, urging the world to turn attention to children who are disproportionately affected.

[Read Article>>](#)

Raising Hope in the face of Uncertainty

Collaborating and advocating to leave no one behind



From West Africa & Beyond: First-hand accounts from children on the move

An increase in conflict, climate change and natural disasters has led to people fleeing their homes for safety or to find food. In fact, more than 1 in 73 people globally are now displaced. In the build-up to World Refugee Day and World Refugee Week in June, World Vision UK compiled four real stories from refugee and displaced children including 14-year-old Rachidatou from Niger. Rachidatou's and other stories detail what life is like on the move and how World Vision is helping.

[Read More>>](#)



Emergency school feeding in Chad helps children stay in school

As a key partner in the fight against child hunger, World Vision believes that healthy and balanced school meals provide students with the necessary nutrients to fuel their bodies and minds, ultimately enhancing their ability to focus, engage, and succeed academically. With funding from the UN World Food Programme, World Vision's emergency school feeding programme is helping children affected by the conflict in Sudan to stay healthy and in school. Follow Carla Denizard, World Vision West Africa's Regional Leader, as she visits children in Farchana where World Vision is reaching 65,000 children in 69 schools. For some of these children, the food they receive at school is their only meal of the day.



Resilience for displaced families in Burkina Faso

World Vision believes that productive and resilient livelihoods are essential to breaking the cycle of poverty. However, in areas such as Burkina Faso's Boucle du Mouhoun region which hosts displaced persons, communities often face a multitude of challenges as many families are forced to abandon their livelihoods to escape violence. Through a new integrated project that combines access to clean water with community empowerment activities, we are working with these families to build up their skills and improve opportunities to raise income.

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A pathway to economic empowerment and food security in Niger

Implemented by World Vision through funding from the UN World Food Programme, the Maradi Integrated Resilience Project in Niger aims to improve the living conditions of vulnerable households through community resilience activities. Here is the story of Souley Bakoye, a father of eight, as he and his family recounts life before the project and describe why its arrival represents a brighter future with boundless possibilities.

Impact Horizons

Exploring innovative approaches to achieve broader impact



Adapting our approach to reach further in Mali

The complexity of working in fragile contexts requires long-term consistency, agility and flexibility to ensure effective programming throughout design, implementation and impact measurement. It is with this at heart that World Vision developed its Fragile Context Programming Approach (FCPA) to deliver safe, coherent and sustained child well-being impact in fragile contexts. Through FCPA, World Vision has tailored its interventions to ensure that community association members in Mali are equipped to overcome adversity and achieve sustainable income.

[How It Works>>](#)



Working with mothers to fight child hunger and malnutrition in Ghana

The largest global hunger crisis in modern history is unfolding before our eyes, with over 25 million children at risk of starvation, and 149 million stunted due to the lack of nutritious food (WHO). Determined to end child hunger and malnutrition, World Vision is working with mothers like Rose in Ghana. Rose is part of a Mother-to-Mother support group in her Monkra community, where she and her fellow mothers are equipped to fight child malnutrition through adoption of best feeding practices to ensure that children are well nourished and healthy.

Partnership Spotlight

Working together to end child vulnerability for good

No organisation or government working alone can solve child vulnerability. World Vision's partners include governments, civil society organisations, faith communities, faith-based organisations, businesses, academia, and more. In this edition, discover some of the impact that World Vision is making through our collaboration with Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH) and The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in communities across West and Central Africa.



Niger

Once a small, anonymous village in the Gotheye department of the tri-border zone of Niger, Garbey Kourou is now an area of humanitarian concern. With the scale of the crisis in surrounding areas growing by the day, several families have been displaced due to insecurity. Although Garbey Kourou is relatively safer, displaced families face challenges including lack of access to decent shelter, adequate food, and water and sanitation infrastructure. To support displaced families, World Vision is partnering with Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH) to implement integrated emergency food security and nutrition interventions including resilience and early recovery activities.

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Sierra Leone

After being selected as Principal Recipient 2 for The Global Fund Grant Cycle 7 programme, World Vision was awarded US \$26 million in a significant opportunity that will see continued collaboration with The Global Fund in the fight against malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis in Sierra Leone. Through our joint commitment, we will promote resilient and sustainable health systems that serve those who need our help the most in all 16 districts of Sierra Leone over the next three years.

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Young Perspectives

Contributions from children and youth in our region



Behind every statistic [about hunger and malnutrition], there are the faces of starving children - empty stares that express hunger and vulnerability. By ensuring that children and adolescents -especially girls - receive the care and nutrition they need, we are not only saving lives, we are also investing in the future of an entire nation.

Anita (17), President of the Children's Parliament in Chad, during her remarks at the launch of World Vision's ENOUGH Campaign in the country.

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I thank World Vision for the child protection [training] as I can continue my studies. I am also raising awareness among the girls in my community - now when they have a problem, they know to whom and how to report it.

Karima (15) on the vital role of child protection committees in fighting child marriage in Niger after she was nearly married off herself.

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Vision Voices

Insights on life at World Vision from our dedicated teams



I'm very proud to be World Vision's first female driver in Niger. There aren't many women in this profession, but I feel like part of a family, and everyone supports me. When I go out and someone asks me what I do at World Vision, I say I'm a driver and I'm proud to say it, because I love what I do, and it also motivates me to encourage other women to apply for such roles. [Work-life balance] is not easy to attain, but what motivates me at work is that I love my job, and it gives me the courage every morning to drive to a new level. I'm grateful to work for an organisation that provides opportunities to women and puts in place initiatives that support women in the workplace, such as the childcare room which gives mothers the peace of mind they need to do their job.

Myriam Dejean Lucien - Driver, Niger

Join us to serve children!



Visit our [careers page](#) for the latest vacancies and discover how you can play a part in making a lasting impact for children and their communities.

Latest Publications

Click on each publication to learn more

- [West Africa Impact Report 2023](#) (English)
- [Niger Annual Report](#) (English)
- [ENOUGH Campaign: Ghana Policy Brief](#) (English)
- [The Journey of Sirba Programme in Niger](#) (English)
- Regreening Communities Overview ([English](#), [French](#))
- Environmental Sustainability & Climate Action Strategic Roadmap 2024-2027 ([English](#), [French](#))



Did You Know?

The conflict in Sudan is now the world's largest child displacement crisis, with a recorded 3.5 million children fleeing widespread violence in search of safety, food, shelter, and health care. Each day, hundreds to thousands of these children and their families cross the border into Chad.

Upcoming Events



Counting down to a historic opportunity for children:

World leaders are on a countdown to deliver a breakthrough for the billion girls and boys affected by all kinds of violence, which not only shatters their childhoods but also devastates the societies of today and tomorrow. In fewer than 100 days, the Global Ministerial Conference on Ending Violence Against Children will be held in Bogotá, Colombia. This is a historic event where governments are due to commit to actions and investment to end violence against the world's most innocent and vulnerable people. The first of its kind, this conference could and should be a pivotal moment for humanity.

Learn more [here](#).

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