



NURTURING NATURE: DRIVING CLIMATE ACTION FOR CHILDREN

Background

World Vision has worked towards ending poverty and improving the well-being of the world's most vulnerable children for nearly 75 years, but climate change in the 21st century is changing the world we live in. We are witnessing to the unprecedented impact of climate change and environmental degradation – extreme heatwaves, droughts, flooding and cyclones. The impact of this unfolding crisis disproportionately burdens the world's most vulnerable people – in particular children and those living in urban, fragile and developing contexts – despite being the least responsible for it. This is the injustice of climate change. Environmental sustainability and climate action (ESCA) are therefore at the heart of World Vision's mission to create systemic, lasting change for children. Guided by the Do No Harm principle, it ensures every project, program, and disaster response is an opportunity to protect and restore the planet.

Safeguarding the environment while saving lives

As World Vision grappled with finding a balance between operating lifesaving operations and reducing its carbon footprint, it became clear that guidance to field operations during emergencies was needed. As a result, World Vision undertook a multi-year stocktaking, analysis and piloting exercise in two diverse contexts – Ukraine and Somalia - to identify pragmatic actions to embed environmental standards and climate action across the humanitarian, development and peacebuilding nexus.

The result is a Disaster Management (DM) operational framework for ESCA that lays the foundation for locally led green teams to uphold environmental responsibilities in their own operations, while incorporating climate action activities into response and recovery programmes.

Knowing that a framework would not be enough, World Vision also:

- 1 Took stock of its current environmental sustainability and climate action impact (see [Shoots of hope](#))
- 2 Conducted awareness raising sessions and trainings for more than 618 staff on environmental assessment tools, including NEAT+ and CEDRIG, and environmental safeguarding activities
- 3 Reviewed environmental considerations across its large-scale emergency responses between 2020-2023
- 4 Developed an environmental survey module for World Vision's basic rapid needs assessment tool (BRAT) for use during the first phase of a new emergency
- 5 Developed a self-paced e-learning module of the DM ESCA operational framework for global scalability
- 6 Launched green teams throughout operations in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, South Asia and Pacific regions

Shoots of hope: Evidence of impact from field programmes

World Vision completed the first stocktake of ESCA -related programmes implemented in 2023 and 2024 across 69 countries.



Over **10 million people**, including 4 million children, participated in ESCA-related programmes.



Approximately **2,000 partner organisations** are collaborating for World Vision's Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) scale-up initiative.



World Vision delivered **USD\$369 million worth of programming** in ESCA-related programmes.



Over **92,000 people** were trained as FMNR trainers.



Over **350,000 households** are adopting sustainable agricultural practices thanks to World Vision



More than **1.22 million hectares** of degraded land are now under protection and restoration.



At least **4,800 disaster risk management committees** were formed.

For more information, read the [full report](#).

Driving greater impact

With its local to global roots and scale of humanitarian operations, World Vision is uniquely positioned to take climate action and safeguard the environment. World Vision is exploring opportunities to:



Globally scale awareness raising and capacity building, including the launch of for local teams and partners on the DM ESCA operational framework, e-learning opportunities, the Climate Charter, the updated Core Humanitarian Standard, donor greening priority actions, and the IASC guidance on environmental responsibility.



Optimise global prepositioning and contract selection processes to include environmental criteria.



Tailor environmental assessment training needs to unique, including fragile contexts and supporting local teams and partners to navigate new and evolving requirements.



Build technical capacity to implement environmental mitigation activities and raise sufficient funding for any heightened costs.



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World Vision completed a Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) Independent Verification in 2021. Following this process and to strengthen its adherence to CHS an improvement plan was developed by World Vision and funded by Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH) with pilots completed in Ukraine, Moldova, Sudan and Somalia from 2022 to 2024.