



COVID-19 Response

Asia Pacific region

Situation report #24 | 5 May 2021



World Vision is responding to the impact of COVID-19 in **17 countries** and territories in Asia Pacific, especially in places where children and families are most vulnerable.

COVID-19 CASES: 25,045,411 DEATHS: 314,533

(COVID-19 case and death figures. Source: [WHO](#), 4 May 2021)

People reached

16,444,666



Men 4,608,277

Women 4,884,017



Children 6,952,372

Boys 3,510,176

Girls 3,442,196

(Based on figures as of 5 May 2021)

It has been more than a year since Asia Pacific began responding to the impacts and aftershocks of the pandemic's initial spread throughout the region. But a second wave surge of COVID-19 across the Indian subcontinent and the Pacific is a pressing concern. With over 400,000 new cases a day in India alone, public health systems across India and neighbouring countries, like Nepal and Sri Lanka, are under immense pressure while the vulnerabilities of children and the poor are being further exacerbated. Nepal is now recording 57 times as many cases as a month ago, while Lanka reports its largest number of new infections since the start of the pandemic. Overflowing hospitals and crematoria are in direct contrast with the short supply of oxygen and life-saving drugs in many parts of these countries. The governments of India, Nepal, and Lanka have called for international support and to our local World Vision offices for assistance.

also providing preventative and response support to children, families, and government. In the Pacific, the challenges of a lack of health-care infrastructure, community awareness, and low vaccination acceptance are compounded by recent cyclones. WV Papua New Guinea (PNG) and WV Timor Leste are expanding response efforts and supporting governments' vaccination rollouts.

People's needs will understandably vary and vulnerability will shift over time. Thus, World Vision has undertaken a follow-up regional assessment to see what has changed, for who, since the release of the [Unmasking the impact of COVID-19 on Asia's most vulnerable children](#) report in May 2020. It will focus on COVID-19's impact on livelihoods, health and nutrition, and child protection (specifically child marriage, child labour, and teenage pregnancy), as well as the effects of school closures. This study will enable World Vision and other stakeholders to:

- better support programmes that address the disparate impacts

WV India is providing life-saving support to communities and health-care workers; whereas in Nepal and Sri Lanka, we are



Key concerns



The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed a sharp digital divide along gender lines in Asia, with girls facing more hurdles than boys in accessing the Internet while also suffering the brunt of rising online abuse. We call on governments and all stakeholders to update, reform, and enact legal frameworks on online harassment and violence against all girls and young women in consideration of specific intersectional characteristics, such as race, age, disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, identity, and expression.



In light of the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out, national vaccination plans need to have specific mapping of vulnerable populations apart from health workers, the elderly and people with underlying conditions. Plans need to be specific in including refugees and populations living in the urban hotspots.



National vaccination plans need to ensure community engagement and representation in coordination structures created for vaccine roll-out and count with long-term and sufficient funding for community participation, including faith leaders.

of the COVID-19 crisis and minimise risks posed by the pandemic, supporting the resilience of children and their families as they recover and heal

- enable programmes to better meet the needs of the most vulnerable children and amplify their voices, along with those of their parent/ caregivers, in the broader regional and global arena.

As of April 2020, the study's research tools had been finalised and national offices in Asia Pacific are now working with communities to collect data.



RESPONSE GOAL

To limit the spread of COVID-19 and reduce its impact on vulnerable children and families

Strategic objectives



1. Scale up preventative measures to limit the spread of disease



3. Support children affected by COVID-19 with education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



2. Strengthen health systems and workers



4. Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected

OBJECTIVE 1: Scale up preventative measures to limit the spread of disease



6,178,283

People reached through promotion of preventative behaviours



2,269,112

Information, education, and communication materials printed and distributed



4,720,765

Community members provided with preventative materials



1,536,122

Handwashing supplies distributed



1,865,563

Comprehensive hygiene kits distributed



11,402

Cleaning kits distributed to vulnerable communities



18,345

Community-level public handwashing stations established or maintained



21,535

Water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities constructed or rehabilitated



5,319

Faith leaders disseminating preventative measures

(Based on figures as of 5 May 2021)

OBJECTIVE 2: Strengthen health systems and workers



19,239

Community health workers trained and supported



86,960

Medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment (PPE)



4,215,198

Masks distributed, including to health facilities, health workers, and communities



772,992

Glove sets distributed, including to health facilities, health workers, and communities



2,714

Medical facilities assisted



116,219

Disinfectant kits distributed to health-care facilities



26,209

People supported with the securing of safe quarantine and/or isolation spaces



295

Quarantine and isolation spaces supported, rehabilitated or set up



1,373

People provided transportation support

(Based on figures as of 5 May 2021)

OBJECTIVE 3: Support children affected by COVID-19 with education, child protection, food security, and livelihoods



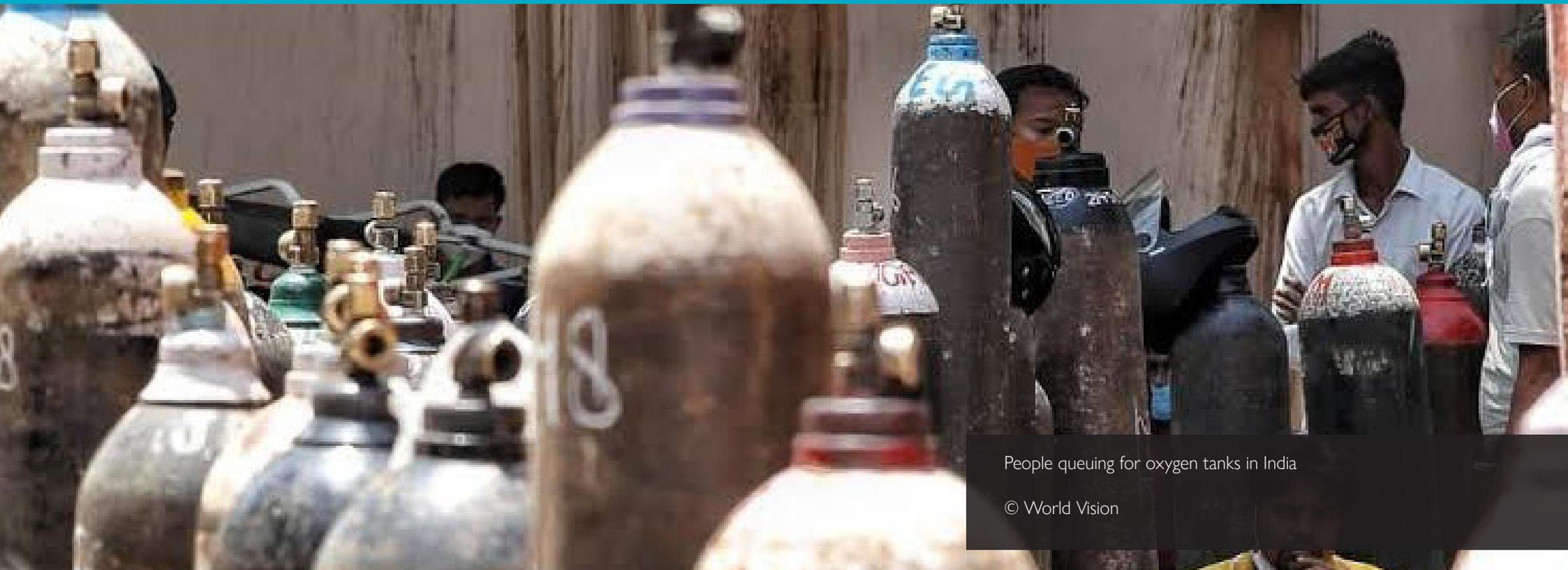
(Based on figures as of 5 May 2021)

OBJECTIVE 4: Collaborate and advocate to ensure vulnerable children are protected



^Examples of Tier 1 and Tier 2 stakeholders include: WFP, WHO, Global Fund, UNICEF, UNHRC, UNOCHA, and national governments.

(Based on figures as of 5 May 2021) 3



People queuing for oxygen tanks in India

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