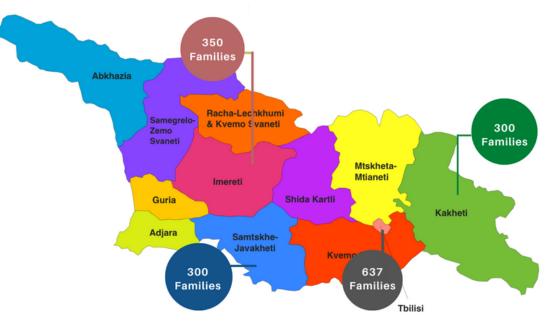


WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE ACTIONS AGAINST COVID-19 IN GEORGIA

World Vision Georgia

March-April, 2020



Preparation Process

World Vision Georgia

In a growing effort to protect the most vulnerable people against the rapid spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), World Vision Georgia (WVG) has immediately started mobilizing human and financial resources to develop effective rapid response actions. The organization has redesigned its technical programs, planned activities and rescheduled few activities that were yet considered to be conducted in the field.

WORLD VISION HAS BEEN PRESENT IN GEORGIA SINCE 1996 PURSUING THE **GOAL OF OVERCOMING POVERTY AND PROMOTING** THE WELL-BEING OF **CHILDREN AND THEIR COMMUNITIES THOUGH EDUCATION, HEALTHCARE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** AND ADVOCACY. **CURRENTLY, WORLD VISION AREA DEVELOPMENT CENTERS IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS IN 4 TARGET REGIONS: TBILISI, KAKHETI, IMERETI AND SAMTSKHE-JAVAKHETI FURTHER PROMOTING THE MAIN** STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF THE ORGANIZATION WHICH ARE: CHILD PROTECTION, WELFARE AND ADVOCACY. **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT, YOUTH**

EMPOWERMENT.

In line with the organization's strategic priorities, WVG team developed a Response Action Plan against COVID 19 outbreak involving recommendations for and activities directed at children, youth and adults in home confinement while maintaining the primary focus on WVG target vulnerable communities as well as public in general The Response Action Plan was developed by the WVG Kakheti, Imereti, Samtskhe-Javakheti Area Development Centers (ADC) and Tbilisi Area Program (AP). The Action Plan comprises three main components: (1) awareness raising on COVID 19 prevention and mitigation; (2) food and hygiene package distribution and (3) age-appropriate educational and developmental initiatives for children and their caretakers.

WVG IMMEDIATE ACTIONS FOR MOBILIZING THE TEAM DURING COVID 19 OUTBREAK

In March, WVG activated a **Contingency Plan** to mitigate implications on program progress and design response activities for the upcoming months.

The security protocols related to personnel behavior, including mobile groups working in the field and quarantine areas, and the protocols on distribution processes were shared within the organization and are being exercised/followed. The protocols are being revised and immediately communicated as per Georgian Government regulations.

WVG maintains ongoing communication with all relevant state institutions, non-governmental and international organizations to ensure that WVG response efforts are being well coordinated with the central, regional and local municipalities in bringing different resources together and reaching out more families together. Safety measures are monitored to be in-place for ensuring personnel and beneficiary safety.







Within the framework of the sponsorship monitoring process, community workers are advised to reach out families via phone calls to obtain important data on the status of registered children (RC) and their families living in the WVG target communities.

This is crucial for both, application of monitoring data to identify and analyze how COVID19 crisis has affected families and RCs, as well as informing our sponsors about the children's status during the crisis.

The developed routine monitoring questionnaire additionally explores the socioeconomic changes that took place in the RC children households following the introduction of emergency state.

WVG FOOD/HYGIENE RESPONSE TO COVID 19 OUTBREAK IN GEORGIA

Actions developed by WVG National Office in coordination with local ADCs

In response to the emergency situation and with the limited financial resources, the program team developed criteria for selecting the most vulnerable families and relevant food/hygiene packages for each group separately.

At this stage, WVG has prioritized the following vulnerable groups to provide support first:

Children living in extreme poverty

Children with disabilities in target communities

Street connected children identified through mobile groups including day care beneficiaries

Vulnerable individuals (Refugees, Humanitarian Status Holders, Asylum Seekers and Stateless Persons)



The relevant data is being obtained and processed from multiple sources such as Vulnerability Mapping Tool Database, Incident Management Database of Area Programs, Social Service Agency, Regional Governor's Office, Local Municipalities, Public Schools and Centers managed by various Grants funded Programs.

637	VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN TBILISI	TBILISI (Gldani-Nadzaladevi Municipality)
300	VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN SAMTSKHE- JAVAKHETI	SAMTSKHE-JAVAKHETI Akhatsikhe and Adigeni Municipalities
300	VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN KAKHETI	KAKHETI Telavi, Kvareli and Gurjaani Municipalities
350	VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN IMERETI	IMERETI Kutaisi, Baghdati and Samtredia Municipalities
150	STREET CONNECTED CHILDREN AND DAY CARE CENTRE	TBILISI and KUTAISI
59	VULNERABLE REFUGEES, HUMANITARIAN STATUS HOLDERS, ASYLUM SEEKERS AND STATELESS PERSONS	Martkopi Shelter(near TBILISI) The packages are distributed weekly within joint project of WVG and UNHCR

Following the COVID 19 WVG outbreak, has been supporting the most vulnerable children and their families in the target communities in accordance with the above mentioned criteria already since the beginning March. The of process of distribution is highly coordinated between National Office and ADCs to ensure an accurate information flow and efficient decisionmaking.

Continuous communication with the relevant state actors is maintained to ensure coordination of joint efforts at all times.

WVG PROVIDING SUPPORT TO DAY CENTERS AND CRISIS INTERVENTION CENTERS CHILDREN

Actions developed by Child Protection, Welfare and Advocacy program

Following the announcement of the emergency situation, the day centers for street-connected children have been closed since March 10, 2020. More than 70 beneficiaries receive food and hygiene packages regularly (every 2 weeks) with the support of mobile groups involved in WVG programs. The three 24-hour shelters for homeless children continues functioning in Tbilisi and Kutaisi. The hygiene/security materials along with relevant guidance is provided to the staff and caregivers. According to the recommendations of World Health Organization (WHO) and National Center for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC), shelter premises were immediately disinfected, safety materials and guidance were provided to the staff and caregivers.





In close collaboration with the Agency of State Care and Assistance to Victims of Trafficking and other service providers, WVG is actively involved in the management and coordination process of quarantine areas allocated by state for street connected children, as health and safety of homeless children is the top priority for all service providers. Moreover, the trained mobile groups are working on an agreed schedule in separate quarantine areas to take care of children. The safety protocol has been elaborated together with the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia and the relevant guidance has been provided to all individuals working in the quarantine areas. The safety equipment (sanitizer, facemasks, gloves, foot covers, caps) were provided by WVG to protect staff from the infection.



WVG EDUCATION AND PROTECTION RESPONSE TO COVID 19 OUTBREAK IN GEORGIA

Actions developed within Early Childhood Development and Child Protection technical programs in close cooperation with all 3 ADCs and Tbilisi Urban AP.

An Education Response Pan was elaborated to mitigate negative effects of the COVID 19 breakout through tailored initiatives promoting hygiene, security, education and development actions. Educational resources are developed and delivered by WVG inhouse human resources.

WVG team redesigned the ongoing Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Child Protection (CP) technical program initiatives. Online platforms are being used by programs to deliver the planned trainings and weekly meetings to: children under foster care, school based adolescent and kid's clubs, parents, preschool education workers, youth capacity building under grants and youth clubs in target communities (where possible);

Educational resources/videos and recommendations are developed with a focus on psycho-emotional and physical well-being of children and their parents/caregivers to mitigate stress and anxiety while preschools and schools are being closed.

Interactive and joyful initiatives developed on "Practicing safe hand washing among children during the pandemic" are shared through webpage and social media.



In cooperation with a Singapore-based organization - **CreateCATT**, WVG introduced daily activities for early age children and their caretakers in home confinement. The 30-day-activity deck developed by the CreateCATT is translated into Georgian by WVG.





The key principle for ideas and resources available to children is that they should promote screen-free engagement and offer offline activity/exercises to the highest extent possible.

In line with the above principal, "Kids' Clubs" and "Art therapy groups" tailored their curricula and delivery to continue children's education, but more



importantly, the activities have been redesigned with a focus on stress mitigation strategies in mind. Namely, "Kids' Clubs" offer "Challenge Badges" that help children to improve their skills, work independently, use screen-free activities and effectively decrease stress.







Moreover, as children's self-isolation is challenging for most parents, "Art Therapy" teachers in addition to regular online classes, started to develop video recordings with the instructions how to creatively develop art pieces, that are shared through WVG platforms and is openly available for children and parents with the access to the internet. In order to increase he accessibility to these materials, instructions are developed in written format to be distributed along with the food packages to the most vulnerable families.

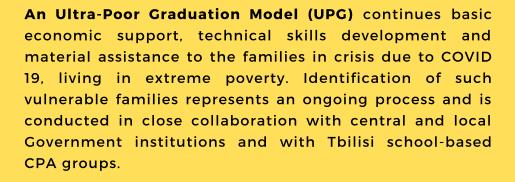




Core project models are incorporated in WVG Response Action Plan.







Go Baby Go Model (GBG) - parent clubs in the target communities are supported by ADCs to commence informative meet-ups for beneficiary parents through online platforms.



Learning Roots Model (LR) - introduction of LR Materials Creation and Toy Guide is adapted to be tailored as a part of parents' assistance program for preschoolers in home confinement.

Public webinars inviting relevant professionals are planned to kick-off in April with the following topics planned to be discussed: smart use of gadgets among children, mitigate risks of cyber safety, stress and anxiety among children and their care takers during the uncertain times of COVID 19.

Due to the limited internet accessibility by the vulnerable groups, which yields significant challenges while working over the distance, the team makes additional efforts to expand the channels of information delivery.







WVG COMMUNICATION AND FUNDRAISING RESPONSE TO COVID 19 OUTBREAK

Actions developed by WVG Leadership and Communication department

TWVG's communications unit is actively working with the programs staff to develop and distribute relevant materials in response against the COVID 19. Online platforms are used to share child-oriented informative/educational materials elaborated and designed on the go, aiming to raise awareness about safe hand washing, social distancing, art-therapy, stress management.

Printed materials on promoting hygiene, safety, and stress management are elaborated and will be distributed alongside the food and hygiene packages within WVG target communities increasing awareness of children and parents on COVID 19.



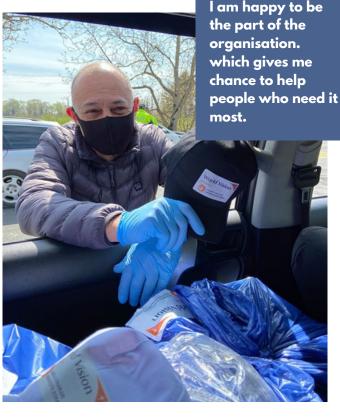


Collaboration with media outlets at local and central levels, including the social media, is prioritized to highlight the response process, disseminate information among beneficiaries and raise awareness about the organization's work.











Various branding materials are designed and printed to ensure the visibility of the WVG response actions. The communication process is constantly coordinated with Samtskhe-Javaketi, Imereti and Kakheti ADCs and Tbilisi Urban AP, who are encouraged to regularly share the materials on their own Facebook pages.



www.facebook.com/TbilisiUAP/



www.facebook.com/ imeretidevelopmentcenter/



www.facebook.com/sjadp/



www.facebook.com/KakhetiADC/

WVG plans to start local fundraising actions through activating an online donation platform and involving corporate sector in response to COVID 19 outbreak in Georgia.



WHAT WE DO

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WVG is involved in the Worldwide Campaign #stayhome and promotes various initiatives as well as provides relevant recommendations to parents, caregivers and other family members to make "staying home" bearable, interesting and joyful for their children.

WVG has developed Facebook frame incorporating the message #stayhome..

www.facebook.com/WorldVisionGeorgia/.

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