

LeSEA Global

**FEED THE HUNGRY**

A full life feels good

# DISASTER RELIEF

A look at how Feed The Hungry  
are responding to natural and  
man-made disasters  
around the world



# FIELD REPORT

AUTUMN 2021





## BRINGING KINGDOM SOLUTIONS TO A BROKEN WORLD

*“You will hear of wars and rumours of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains.”*

Matthew 24:6-8

It seems like wherever we look in the world today, disaster looms. Some might say that it's Climate Change or poor governance; others might think it's the nature of the fallen world we live in. Jesus certainly talked about the struggles that the world would face in the future; wars, earthquakes and famines. As followers of Jesus, we are called to help - to reach out to our neighbour in their time of need.

In this Field Report, we look at Feed The Hungry's response to some of the challenging circumstances the world faces today.



Gwyn Williams  
National and International  
Operations Director

## IN THIS ISSUE...



4 Afghan Refugees



6 Haiti Earthquake



12 Myanmar Coup

## FEATURE



10 When the climate changes...

By feeding the hungry together, and delivering it in the name of Christ, you are joining with Feed The Hungry to help change people's lives for the better, for the future and for eternity.

**Please consider financially supporting the work of Feed The Hungry. To donate, phone 0303 3000 484 or visit [fth.org.uk/fieldreport](http://fth.org.uk/fieldreport)**

Feed The Hungry UK is a company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (5537293) and a charity registered in England and Wales (1112955). Registered Office: Charnwood House, Harcourt Way, Meridian Business Park, Leicester, LE19 1WP





# AFGHAN REFUGEES

**As Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, fell under the control of the Taliban in August, the future and stability of the country became very uncertain. Many people are fearful of what the new regime looks like. The move has created huge tensions, particularly for those who do not share the Taliban's strict beliefs.**

An estimated 500,000 people have been displaced through fighting and conflicts within Afghanistan. Some have left towns, villages and homes, in search of safety. There are large

numbers of women and children who have been affected. Some have crossed over borders into neighbouring countries; many are sleeping out in the



Most of the half-million refugees displaced by the recent fighting are women and children.

open with no shelter, and little food or water.

Feed The Hungry is working with Afghan and regional partners who are remaining steadfast in the midst of this crisis. Some of the workers have been targeted because of their Christian faith. We are in regular contact with our partners on the ground; in a recent update, it was reported that one feeding project worker had needed to go into hiding from the Taliban because of their role within the local Church. Colleagues are appealing for them to be able to claim asylum in another country, due to fear of persecution. It's an incredibly challenging situation that they face.

As well as working within Afghanistan, Feed The Hungry has partners who are preparing for influxes of refugees into the neighbouring countries. It is expected that 25,000 Afghan refugees will cross into Tajikistan.

Our partner in Tajikistan, an experienced humanitarian aid organisation, has the capability to handle containers of food, clothing, medical and personal hygiene goods. They are already starting to provide food relief to incoming refugees making their way to Vahdat, a town west of the capital, where displaced Afghans have settled in the last few



Feed The Hungry is working with partners in and around Afghanistan to provide aid to refugees.

years. We are in regular communication with them to assess the need that is being faced.

Stefan Radelich, the CEO of Feed The Hungry said, *"The greatest need right now is getting food and water to Afghans who have left everything behind. The situation is dire, but you can deliver hope and the true love of Christ by a simple gift."*

Feed The Hungry are providing partners with resources to create emergency packs containing rice, beans, lentils, wheat, sugar, salt, and cooking oil. We're also looking at ways to secure clean water. A pack containing resources to be able to feed one person for a month costs approximately £30.

If you would like to support the effort to provide resources for Afghan refugees during this difficult time, please consider making a donation by visiting [fth.org.uk/afghanistan](http://fth.org.uk/afghanistan).



# HAITI EARTHQUAKE

**On 14th August 2021, at 8:29am local time, the South-Western peninsula of Haiti was shaken by an earthquake that measured 7.2 on the Richter scale. Earthquakes in this part of the country are not uncommon; there are regularly quakes measuring between 3 and 5, but one of a magnitude of 7.2 caused shaking strong enough to topple buildings.**

The destruction killed at least 2,200 people and injured more than 12,000. In excess of 130,000 buildings were damaged or destroyed, and the incident was categorised as the deadliest earthquake and natural

disaster of 2021 so far. A report from UNICEF estimates that more than half a million people have been affected.

In Haiti, Feed The Hungry works with two Christian Ministries, 'Haiti Children' and 'Mission Baptiste Jerusalem', regularly feeding over 7,000 children and young people between the two organisations. In the aftermath of the earthquake, Feed The Hungry sent \$12,000 to Haiti Children, enabling them to purchase supplies to make family relief packs for some of the families affected. The packs contained rice, beans, cooking oil, UHT milk, pasta, hygiene items and candles

with matches, all of which could be sourced locally.

When supporting areas that have been hit by a disaster, Feed The Hungry's aim is to focus on reaching those who have been greatly impacted, but also, would usually be the last to receive aid, or forgotten about completely. Often aid sent to tackle natural disasters goes to cities and towns with high population density. But sometimes that aid doesn't go any further than the cities and towns; those in rural areas can be neglected. That's where Feed The Hungry's focus lies - supporting the least, the lost and the last.

An advance team from Haiti Children visited the region of Nippes, the locality at the epicentre of the quake. The team met with church leaders and assessed the local population in order to support those constituencies in greatest need. Although Nippes was close to the epicentre, it hadn't received the media attention or resources that the larger city of Les Cayes had.

With the funds sent from Feed The Hungry, Haiti Children were able to distribute resources to affected families. Feed The Hungry USA were able to redirect some food containers



Families who have lost homes and loved ones receive emergency food and resources.

to Haiti, and have been working with partnering organisations in the USA to try to secure two further containers of food to send in the coming weeks and months.

Please hold Haiti in your prayers; particularly pray for our partners working on the ground to bring hope to a fear-filled and uncertain situation.

To find out more, visit  
[fth.org.uk/haiti](https://fth.org.uk/haiti)



# FEED THE HUNGRY EMERGENCY RELIEF

In the past year, Feed The Hungry has supported those affected by both natural and man-made disasters in Central America, Africa, The Middle East and Asia.

## ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

**Population:** 37.5 million approx.

**Life Expectancy:** 52 (men) / 55 (women)

**Challenges:** Control of Afghanistan has recently been taken over by the Taliban, who have started enforcing a form of strict conservative Sharia Islamic law. Some citizens have left homes out of fear. Large numbers of refugees have been internally displaced and some have crossed into neighbouring countries.



AFGHANISTAN

MYANMAR

HAITI

## REPUBLIC OF HAITI

**Population:** 11.2 million approx.

**Life Expectancy:** 63 (men) / 68 (women)

**Challenges:** Haiti experiences frequent earthquakes. There has been extensive deforestation, which has led to soil erosion. Some areas are overpopulated, putting a strain on basic resources.



## UNION OF MYANMAR (BURMA)

**Population:** 57 million approx.

**Life Expectancy:** 68 (men) / 71 (women)

**Challenges:** In February, the military took control of Myanmar, resulting in protests, fighting and the displacement of citizens. People are fearful and some lack basic food and resources.

# WHEN THE CLIMATE CHANGES...



The world is getting hotter. At present, it seems like we're on a path that will mean that in the next two or three decades, we will see significant changes to the weather, world geography and certain parts of the globe's ability to sustain life. So much of the conversation around Climate Change has been focused on developed countries and their excessive CO<sub>2</sub> output, and these are good conversations to have (and all the better, to act on). But what about the less developed world? Where do they fit in all of this and what is the outlook for them?

Five years ago, I visited Zambia to film and photograph a Feed The Hungry feeding programme. One rural village we went to had been built by a stream, which was the main water supply. What I saw there was

a bone-dry riverbed. It hadn't rained for 18 months and the forecast didn't show any signs of improvement. One father in the village had been trying to grow crops to feed his children. It was a sorrowful sight; the crops had failed because there just wasn't the moisture to be able to help them grow. The gentleman didn't know how he was going to feed his family. We spoke to mothers with children who said the same; they were reliant on the land to grow food, to eat or to sell, but what do you do when the land doesn't produce?

The same story could be told for people growing food in Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi; in recent years, their climate has been changing, often with higher temperatures and little rain. Zimbabwe is on course for a nationwide food crisis - it's already biting and is only going to get worse.

By contrast, the following year, I visited a Feed The Hungry feeding programme in Kenya. We went to see a school where the food, provided by Feed The Hungry, was cooked in big metal pots, sat on a fire in a shanty wooden structure, clad with dried mud for walls. The children were happy for the food, even if the kitchen wasn't up to much. Later that year, that area of Kenya experienced huge amounts of rainfall. We received word that the 'kitchen' had been washed away in the torrents. Feed The Hungry did some fundraising and raised enough to build a new kitchen, made out of concrete; now the most solid structure in the whole area.

The reality is that it is becoming harder for some developing countries to grow food, either because of too little or too much rainfall. And even if there is rain, higher temperatures can cause crops to fail. Africa, as a continent, has relatively little CO<sub>2</sub>



Heavy rainfall causes the stream running through Kibera, Nairobi, to burst its banks, carrying sewage into people's homes and damaging property and land.

output, and yet is the most vulnerable continent in the world in terms of climate change and food insecurity.

The issue of climate change is going to affect many of us in the coming years, but the hot summers, warm winters and changing coastlines that we may see in the UK will be minor compared to the impact that it is already causing across Africa. But while the future may look bleak, it might not be too late to soften the outcome; we are called to be stewards of the world God has given us to live in, and changes to our lifestyles can help curb our own individual carbon output.

In 2017, I went to a Ugandan refugee camp, where I met some infants who would have been 2 or 3 years old; the same age as my eldest son at that time. The lives that they had and the life of my son were a stark contrast; literally, worlds apart. The thing that struck me most was that the differences in their circumstances were purely down to geography; they were born in one country and my son was born in another. The future is going to be different, and will affect different areas of the globe in different ways, but we must never forget that we are all in this together, and we ought to start living like we are.

- Rich Smith, Feed The Hungry UK





# MYANMAR COUP

**In the years of independence since 1948, Myanmar (Burma) has been a country of deep political, and sometimes physical, unrest.**

In 1962, the ruling Government was ousted by the military in a coup d'état, which led to almost 50 years of military control. During that time, heavy-handed 'one party' governance led to widespread deprivation, forcing large numbers of Burmese citizens into poverty. Protests against the military were frequent and were often quashed with the use of brutal force. Although the military relinquished control in 2011, allowing free elections and a democratically elected government, tensions remained high. There have

been frequent clashes and civil wars, stemming from differences in political or religious beliefs.

In November 2020, a General Election was held, the results of which were strongly contested by the Union Solidarity and Development Party, a political party affiliated with the military, who had lost significant support in the election. The Myanmar Union Election Commission investigated and dismissed the concerns raised, which then led to the military staging a coup on 1st February 2021, as the Government was scheduled to convene. They detained key members of the ruling party and declared the military in control.

Borders were closed and travel was heavily restricted. Protests broke out across the country, which were met with force from the military. Electronic communication has been limited, with frequent nationwide internet blackouts, as well as social media platforms being blocked at times. Public services, like hospitals, and medical supply chains are now under military control.

The escalating violence has led to people fleeing their homes, fearing for their lives. Some have taken refuge in forests, along the banks of the Thanlyin River bordering with Thailand.

Feed The Hungry has been trying to support people affected by the unrest within Myanmar, providing

food and resources through our partner in Thailand, alongside other organisations.

There has been an overwhelming response to an appeal in support of Myanmar over the summer, which has helped to secure and provide much-needed resources. Thank you to everyone who responded and gave so generously to that appeal.

Feed The Hungry are committed to continue doing what we can to support those in Myanmar who have been displaced and are struggling at this time. Please continue to pray for those affected by this situation, particularly mothers and children.

To find out more, visit  
[fth.org.uk/myanmar](https://fth.org.uk/myanmar)



Food and emergency resources have been brought to people living on the banks of the Thanlyin River.





**We are so excited to share the news that our Hand To Hand food packing events are back!**

Now that the covid-19 restrictions have eased, we cannot wait to get churches, community groups and businesses taking part in our food packing events, so that we can ensure food continues to be sent to children around the world as part of our 'Every Day, Every Child' programme.

Hand To Hand is a fantastic community-focused event to engage your church family with practical social justice, as well as developing fellowship and drawing in your local community to take part.

Food packing is very simple; teams of volunteers work together on a food

production line to bag, weigh, seal and box packets of dried food. A team of 60 volunteers could pack 10,000 meals within the space of a couple of hours.

The food packed will go from the hands of those who pack it, to the hands of those children who will be eating it.

We also now have a dedicated events space at The Halo Centre in Coventry, where our food packing events can take place, or if you're unable to travel to Coventry, we can bring the food and equipment to a venue of your choice.

To find out more about how you can organise a Hand To Hand food packing event for your church family, visit [fth.org.uk/handtohand](http://fth.org.uk/handtohand), email [foodpack@feedthehungry.org.uk](mailto:foodpack@feedthehungry.org.uk) or call 01455 618 455.



**3 IN 5  
ADULTS IN THE UK  
DO NOT HAVE  
A WILL**

HAVE YOUR  
**WILL**  
WRITTEN FOR  
**FREE**



**As a Feed The Hungry supporter, you can have a free, legal Will written and checked by a specialist.**

Feed The Hungry is working with one of the UK's leading Will writing services, **Farewill**, to offer a free Will writing service to anyone who has previously supported, or would like to support, Feed The Hungry.

You can start your Will today by visiting [fth.org.uk/freewill](http://fth.org.uk/freewill), or call Farewill on **020 8050 2686** to book a telephone appointment.

To get a free Will, make sure to tell the Customer Service operator that you're a **Feed The Hungry supporter** at the start of the call.





# NEWS

To keep up to date with all our latest news stories, go to [fth.org.uk/news](http://fth.org.uk/news) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



## LEBANON UPDATE

A year after a silo exploded in Beirut, killing over 200 people, injuring over 7,000 and making more than 300,000 homeless, Lebanon is still in a very fragile state. It is steeped in public debt and is struggling for food and fuel. People are queuing for days to get petrol - the supply is hugely outweighed by the demand. Businesses can not operate and, daily, people are being forced into poverty. Feed The Hungry has been working with The Life Centre Church in Beirut, helping them in their feeding programme as they try to support the huge and growing need across the city. Please keep Lebanon in your prayers at this critical time.



## NEPAL FLOODING

High rainfall in Nepal has caused flooding, displacing families and forcing them out of their homes. Pastor Ruben Rasaili, our partner in Nepal, helped secure temporary accommodation in a local school and has provided food, water and bedding for those affected. His team have also been praying with the families. When the flooding subsides, Pastor Ruben is looking to support them with cooking equipment and clothes, in order to help them rebuild their lives. Please pray for those who have been affected by flooding around the world; for safety and stability, as well as the provision they need to be able to start again.

**Please consider financially supporting the work of Feed The Hungry.  
To donate, phone 0303 3000 484 or visit [fth.org.uk/fieldreport](http://fth.org.uk/fieldreport)**