



WorldYWCA

How Your Support Shaped #YWCA CovidResponse

(Summarised Interactive Impact Report)



Impact Stories from the Heart of Communities

September - December 2020

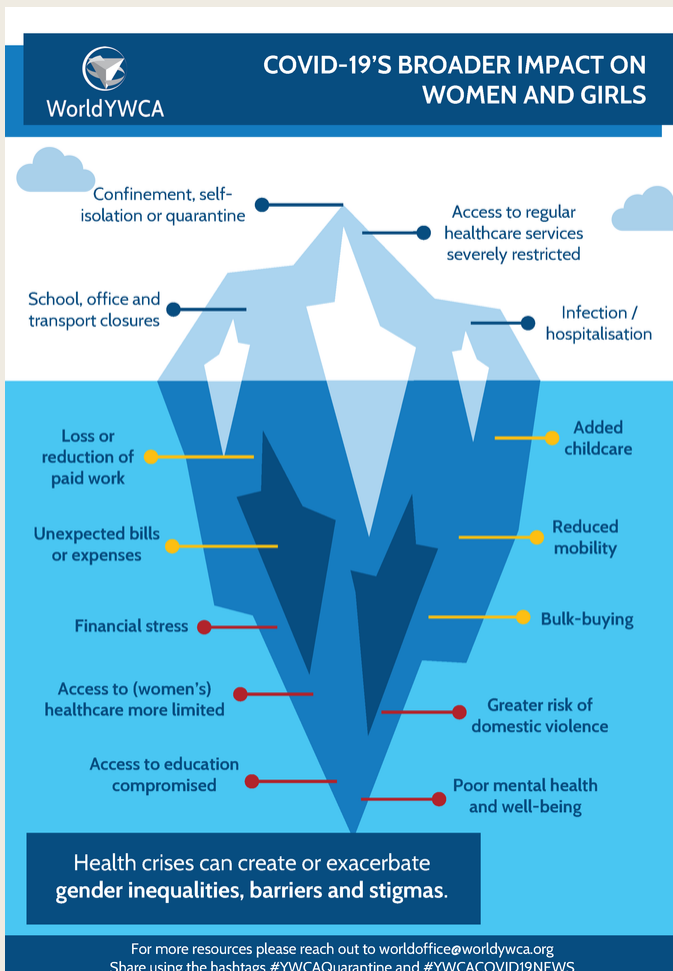
Overview

The prevailing global COVID-19 pandemic became a prolonged threat to life as we know it, affecting every person indiscriminately while amplifying and heightening all existing inequalities. Across every sphere, from health to the economy, security to social protection, the impact of COVID-19 is exacerbated for women, young women and girls worldwide by virtue of their sex. [1]

For many women, young women and girls, navigating the COVID-19 pandemic became more frightening, dangerous, and uncertain because of multiple and intersecting challenges that they face. Many face the realities of child care, looking after family members, discrimination, domestic violence, additional financial strains resulting from a reduction in income and unexpected bills, limited access to healthcare, among other challenges.

The YWCA movement is practiced at the art of being agile and creative in response to the unique needs of every community that it serves and the challenges of every era. When the COVID-19 outbreak was announced in early 2020, YWCA immediately became part of the global response. YWCA leaders continue resolutely in their role as problem solvers, caretakers, agents of change, and supporters in their communities and families.

Relevant and community-based actions manifested YWCA's purpose and vision towards justice, gender equality, and a world without violence and war. Some of these included providing necessary care, support, resources, and safe spaces needed for girls, young women, and women to become more resilient in times of crisis.



In April 2020, the World YWCA launched a fundraising campaign called the [COVID Crisis Response Fund](#) to ensure a wider reach and response to the pandemic. The campaign's primary purpose was to assist YWCA member associations (MAs) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in the heart of communities and in the most vulnerable parts of the world. The fundraising campaign focused on addressing the issues in the [World YWCA iceberg illustration](#) that highlighted the impact of COVID-19 on women, young women, and girls – some effects being apparent, while others going unseen.

[1] UN Secretary-General's policy brief: The impact of COVID-19 on women

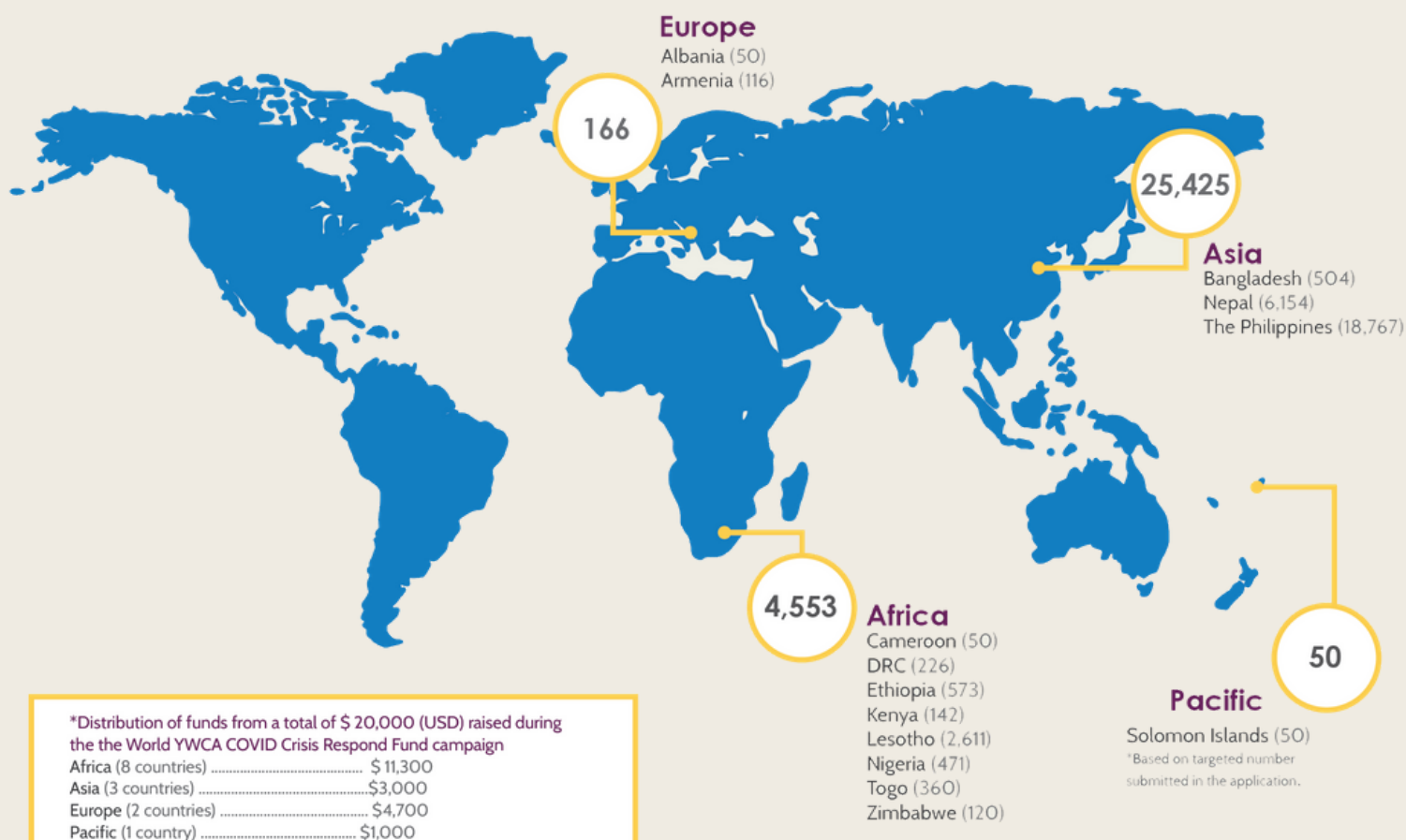
The World YWCA received considerable support for this campaign, and these efforts enabled the first round of funding for YWCA projects in community responding to the emergency of the COVID-19 pandemic. The projects targeted women, young women, and girls in 14 different countries facing multiple challenges and threats to their livelihoods in times of crisis. The interventions impacted more than 30,000 people and serve as a support system for women, young women, and girls navigating issues such as low income in their households, armed conflict, lack of accurate and timely information on COVID-19, no access to protective equipment and healthcare services, special care conditions, gender-based violence and constraints to their physical and mental health.

This report summarizes each of the different projects implemented through this funding, led by YWCA member associations in Albania, Armenia, Bangladesh, Cameroon, DRC, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Lesotho, Nepal, Nigeria, The Philippines, Solomon Islands, Togo, and Zimbabwe.

*Photos and quotes featured in this report were provided by YWCA member associations with prior consent and approval.

People reached per region

The number of people reached varied based on the different approaches used in each intervention, the prioritisation of certain target groups, the context of COVID-19 in each country, and the specific project goals in each response to the pandemic.



Interventions in communities

Click in each of the interventions in communities to learn more how each YWCA addressed the COVID-19 crisis in country



Tending to the needs of women with breast cancer during COVID-19
Project implemented by YWCA Albania

[Read more](#)



Pushing for a gender response to COVID-19

Project implemented by YWCA Ethiopia

[Read more](#)



Hope and transformation during conflict
Project implemented by YWCA Armenia

[Read more](#)



Building resilience in slum communities in Nairobi

Project implemented by YWCA Kenya

[Read more](#)



Leading the fight against gender-based violence and COVID-19

Project implemented by YWCA Bangladesh

[Read more](#)



Bringing a community together for women and girls in Lesotho

Project implemented by YWCA Lesotho

[Read more](#)



Transforming power structures in the village of Sakbayemé

Project implemented by YWCA Cameroon

[Read more](#)



Enabling coping mechanisms for young women in Kathmandu

Project implemented by YWCA Nepal

[Read more](#)



Addressing structural barriers to fight COVID-19 in Nigeria

Project implemented by YWCA Nigeria

[Read more](#)



YWCA Home: Secured, Attainable, Faith-Based, and Educational (S.A.F.E.)

Project implemented by YWCA The Philippines

[Read more](#)



Leaving no one behind in rural communities in Togo

Project implemented by YWCA Togo

[Read more](#)



Communicating life-saving information in the village of Kinzono

Project implemented by YWCA DRC

[Read more](#)



Promoting gender equality and sustainable development in Mbare

Project implemented by YWCA Zimbabwe

[Read more](#)

Acknowledgements

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Your donations have supported and equipped YWCAs to better respond to the pressing needs in communities and help transform the lives of hundreds of women, young women, and girls affected by the pandemic.

We also take this opportunity to acknowledge YWCA member associations working in the heart of communities worldwide. Their leadership and unwavering commitment have provided an agile response to support women, young women, and girls in need during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.



WorldYWCA



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Content by World YWCA based on the compilation
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