Join us to help fight the extreme hunger faced by conflict-affected communities

Your gift today will be multiplied 67 times, giving even more people essential food aid.

Harvest is a special time to celebrate the food grown on the land and the abundance of gifts with which we have been provided. It is also a time to remember Jesus’ words and share those gifts with our global neighbours, as part of our commitment to love and care for one another.

This autumn, we want to take a moment to reflect on families around the world who are facing the devastating impact of extreme hunger. Worldwide, 800 million people face chronic food insecurity, and more than half of them are in conflict-affected countries. It is a sad fact that food insecurity and conflict are inextricably linked. Conflict causes large numbers of people to flee from their homes, their land and their jobs, leaving behind all means of meeting their basic needs. Their resulting desperation can then be exploited by armed groups.

One of the largest food crises in the world is in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), where decades of civil war have left 13 million people severely food insecure, including 5 million children. In rural communities, households depend on subsistence farming for food and income, but insecurity and displacement have resulted in the loss of their harvests and high prices for basic foods. An already desperate situation has been further exacerbated by a recent Ebola epidemic, combined with the outbreak of coronavirus 2019.

In the north-east of Nigeria, conflict has raged for more than a decade, leading to one of the most severe humanitarian crises in the world. Conflict caused by armed groups and counter-insurgents has forced millions from their homes and livelihoods. It is estimated that at least 2.7 million people require food assistance.

A representative from the World Food Programme said: ‘We are concerned by conflict-affected communities in northeast Nigeria who already face extreme hunger and who are especially vulnerable. They are on life support and need assistance to survive.’

Across the world, neighbourly love is helping vulnerable communities overcome crisis. Urgent action is needed to help hungry families who have been displaced by conflict. Will you help them today?

Nigeria
Increasing insecurity and violence in Nigeria has led to millions of people becoming displaced and losing their livelihoods. Christian Aid’s strategic partnerships enable us to respond to the needs of those affected. We have provided relief to more than 400,000 displaced people since this work began in 2016.

DRC
Ebola outbreaks and a vicious cycle of violence means many require timely and effective humanitarian interventions. Our assistance continues beyond emergency food aid. We ask communities about their most pressing needs, and support and empower them to cope with future threats.

*WFP statistic.
†FSS Dashboard statistic.
Christian Aid and the World Food Programme are working together to tackle food insecurity

Christian Aid has always believed in the power of partnerships to achieve the greatest impact. That’s why we are partnering with the World Food Programme (WFP), the world’s leading humanitarian agency addressing hunger and food security, to tackle the needs of displaced people, particularly in DRC and Nigeria.

By working together, we can achieve so much more. WFP has the operational capability, scale and resources to deliver assistance to those in greatest need. With our deep connections with local communities, Christian Aid is able to direct that aid where it is most needed, developing and implementing distribution plans. Our approach involves beneficiaries, so they can tell us what is most needed in their communities. We train local humanitarian committees, organise distribution and measure the impact of this vital aid. Together, we can provide a lifeline for millions of families who need this support so urgently.

The support provided through this partnership will be adapted to local contexts. We will be flexible and responsive to evolving needs, but our programme includes the following.

Food aid
In-kind food aid provides an immediate solution to address urgent needs. Such support is particularly useful when new families arrive in humanitarian camps.

Supplementary feeding programmes are also useful to meet the needs of the most vulnerable, including pregnant and breastfeeding women, children under the age of two and children suffering acute malnutrition. A lack of adequate food for children during their early years can have devastating, lifelong consequences.

Unconditional cash transfers and electronic vouchers
Research demonstrates that this is one of the best ways to increase long-term food security. These schemes put people at the centre, empowering them and allowing them to prioritise and address their own needs. They also improve dietary diversity and quality, and stimulate local markets and the economies of local communities.

Community-based engagement to improve food security
We recruit community-based nutrition workers. They identify the people who are most in need. Our community workers also lead local meetings and educational sessions to improve knowledge, attitude and behaviour about hygiene and nutrition.

Longer term agricultural and livelihoods support
When the situation allows it, we also introduce solutions that focus on building local capacity and resilience, in order to enable and empower communities to produce their own food for the

Cash transfer scheme in Shani, Borno State, Nigeria
future. We invest in people's livelihoods and provide support in areas such as natural resource management, crop production, livestock production, water harvesting and small-scale irrigation, and support to start small businesses. These long-term recovery and resilience activities provide lasting solutions to address food insecurity and malnutrition and are a means for families to move from humanitarian support to self-sufficiency.

**We’re making a lifesaving difference**

Through this lifesaving partnership, we aim to improve food security for 300,000 people in conflict-affected communities in DRC and Nigeria over the course of this year.

Your support will make a world of difference to people like Uzayisaba Nikbobah (pictured at right), a mother of five from North Kivu Province in DRC. She and her children fled their village when it was overtaken by armed groups, and the family lost access to their farm. Now, Uzayisaba does whatever work is available to meet the basic needs of her family, but she has struggled to make ends meet. Through our partnership, she is now receiving food support, enabling her family to eat three times a day, as they did in more peaceful times.

Uzayisaba said: ‘We give thanks to the Lord and say thank you to the WFP who assists us in food through its distribution partners, in the case of Christian Aid who has assisted us for this month.’

She added: ‘We ask our government to do everything to restore peace to our village so that we can go home and live as before.’

**A gift with exponential impact**

The nature of this crucial partnership means that for every £1 invested by Christian Aid, the WFP contributes aid worth £67, amplifying the impact of the initial investment many times over. However, we need the help of supporters like you to enable us to continue to carry out this vital work.

Please pledge your support for your global neighbours this autumn. Your gift will enable us to reach out to conflict-affected communities and help vulnerable families overcome crisis.

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**Project name:** Fighting extreme hunger in conflict-affected communities.

**Project partner:** World Food Programme (WFP).

**Project location:** Across Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and north-eastern Nigeria.

**Target:** People who have been affected by conflict and face extreme hunger.

**Beneficiary numbers:** Aim to reach 331,397 individuals in 60,734 households.

**Cost per beneficiary:** £51 ($67) per person.
About Christian Aid

Christian Aid exists to create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive. But together we have the power to transform lives.

We are a global movement of people, churches and local organisations who passionately champion dignity, equality, justice and love worldwide. We are the changemakers, the peacemakers, the mighty of heart.

Everyone is equal in the sight of God. For over 70 years, this truth has inspired us to stand together in solidarity with our most marginalised global neighbours, of all faiths and none.

We push for good nutrition and healthcare for all. We fight the climate crisis and provide urgent help when disasters strike.

We work in places of conflict to stand against violence and build lasting peace. And we help people living in poverty to earn a fair wage so they can protect themselves in times of crisis.

Above all, we seek to eradicate extreme poverty by tackling its root causes. Together with people living in poverty, we amplify our voices to speak truth to power and create lasting change.

Loving God.
Come now and make us into a global neighbourhood looking out for each other through struggle and crisis reaching out to strangers who become sisters and brothers, shape us into a caring community strengthening each other through every challenge standing together until justice comes for all.
In your name we pray, Amen

Cash grants are vital support for these women in Nigeria