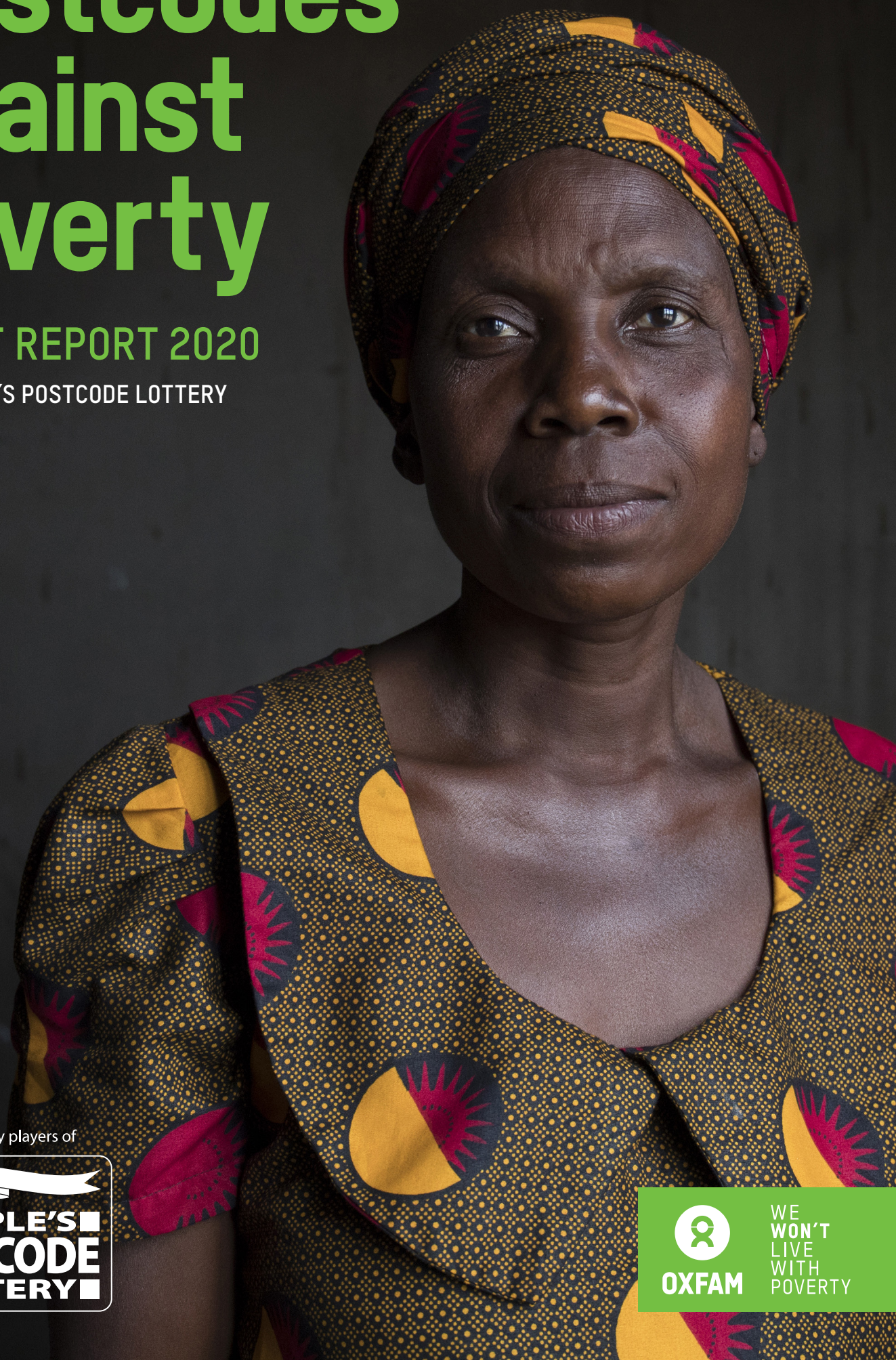


# Postcodes against poverty

IMPACT REPORT 2020

FOR PEOPLE'S POSTCODE LOTTERY



Supported by players of





# Foreword

*“Our vision is of a kinder, fairer world – a world less divided by borders, money, race or gender.”*



The players of People’s Postcode Lottery are helping change the world. And that support is needed today more than ever. It’s predicted 80% of people facing extreme poverty will live in the most fragile places on earth by 2030. These tough living conditions – often the result of political decisions – make people highly vulnerable to threats such as extreme weather, disease, hunger and displacement. And women and girls face specific challenges that are often overlooked or ignored.

But thanks to players, change is happening. There has been progress on debt relief for developing countries to free up funds for health and social care. Alongside allies, we are demanding guarantees that any successful Covid-19 vaccine will be equitably distributed at cost price, so that the poorest nations don’t miss out. We have been calling for a People’s Vaccine and Cancelling the Debts of developing countries struggling to contain outbreaks without proper healthcare infrastructure.

As this report shows, the link between climate change and humanitarian disaster is becoming more real. How quickly we can meet this challenge and rebuild will depend on how successful we are in tackling global inequalities laid bare by the Covid-19 pandemic. In the UK and globally, we’re calling for carers – who are predominantly women – to be fairly rewarded.

Since Oxfam first started in 1942 we have challenged the underlying causes of poverty, while supporting people to cope when disaster strikes. These principles are just as relevant today, but global challenges like the Covid-19 pandemic and the climate emergency need us to keep evolving to reflect the threats and opportunities of today’s world. We’d like to thank all players of People’s Postcode Lottery for being there at a time when our work is needed more than ever.

Danny Sriskandarajah, Chief Executive

## A year of unprecedented challenges:

### Organisational restructuring:

The logistical challenges of Covid-19 came on top of a necessary restructure at Oxfam that had already been planned before the pandemic. In Autumn 2020, we reduced around 200 roles and began a phased exit from direct program delivery in 18 countries. Today we are working increasingly through local partners and shifting power to the Global South.

### Covid-19 pandemic

The pandemic has had a substantial adverse effect on Oxfam GB’s work. Where possible staff and partners in all parts of the world have worked from home, with office working minimised and subject to rigorous distancing and cleansing regimes. For more than three months beginning in March 2020, all Oxfam shops were closed, missing out on vital income other than from our online shop. Thankfully shops began reopening in July, with most shops open again by mid-August.

Against all the odds, you’ve stayed with us through these challenges, and helped keep up the fight against poverty. Thank you.

### Cover image:



*In Zimbabwe, Sifiso receives text messages from an Oxfam-installed weather station, with weather warnings and advice. Read her story on page 10.*

*Photo: Cynthia Matonhodze/Oxfam*

# Global Impact Map



## Funding breakdown

Activity	Location	Commitment
Locust invasion start-up response	Kenya	£120,000
Tackling climate change	Zimbabwe	£60,000
Handwashing station rollout	Global	£16,500
Giving farmers a future: REE CALL Climate Adaption	Bangladesh	£481,333
Climate campaigning and advocacy	Global	£48,000
Global Humanitarian Response including Covid-19 catastrophe fund	Global	£1,458,167
Support and Strategy Costs	Global	£216,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£2,400,000</b>

# Coronavirus response

Being ready for a pandemic means moving quickly. Thanks to People's Postcode Lottery players we were ready to ship equipment and warn people in country before the World Health Organisation's declaration of a global emergency in March. Six months after Oxfam launched an emergency response to coronavirus, we reported back on what your support has helped us achieve. You helped kickstart early responses across 14 countries, with over £5million funding from the EU, SIDA and ECHO, and £2.5million of philanthropic funds. You can see highlights here.

## Thanks to you, Oxfam has:



Supplied clean, safe water to over **1.8 million people**, and given over **900,000 people** access to a handwashing station, helping to stop the spread of the virus.



Constructed over **5,000 toilets**, specifically designed to support social distancing and ensure maximum possible hygiene.



Distributed over **200,000 hygiene kits**, containing items such as laundry detergent, soap, female hygiene products, and a bucket and a jug for washing hands where no tap is available.



Provided essential public health information to over **4 million people**, regarding coronavirus and how to protect yourself from it.

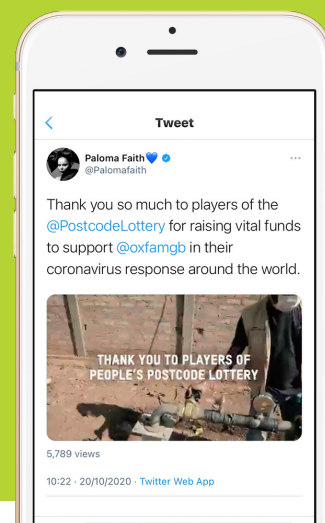


## Somaliland: A helpline that's also a lifeline

Somaliland confirmed its first case of coronavirus in April 2020. While the country has taken precautions to curb the spread of the virus by closing schools and banning flights, misinformation led many people to take the crisis less seriously, and in big cities life continued largely as normal.

Shaqadoon, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health in Somaliland and Oxfam, established a Covid-19 call centre in Hargeisa to share information and advice for communities to protect themselves. "Every day we receive different calls throughout the country," said Mawlid Khadar, from Shaqadoon. The centre has received more than 658,000 calls

In October Paloma Faith thanked players for the life-saving money they've raised for Oxfam





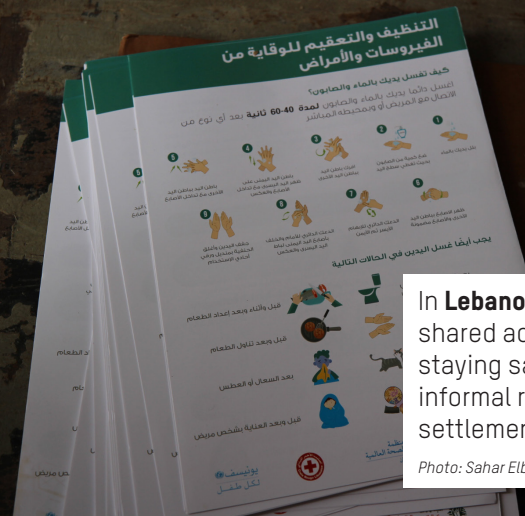
In Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh - the largest refugee settlement in the world - humanitarian staff distributed soap and essentials to 70,000 people.

Photo: Fabeha Monir/Oxfam



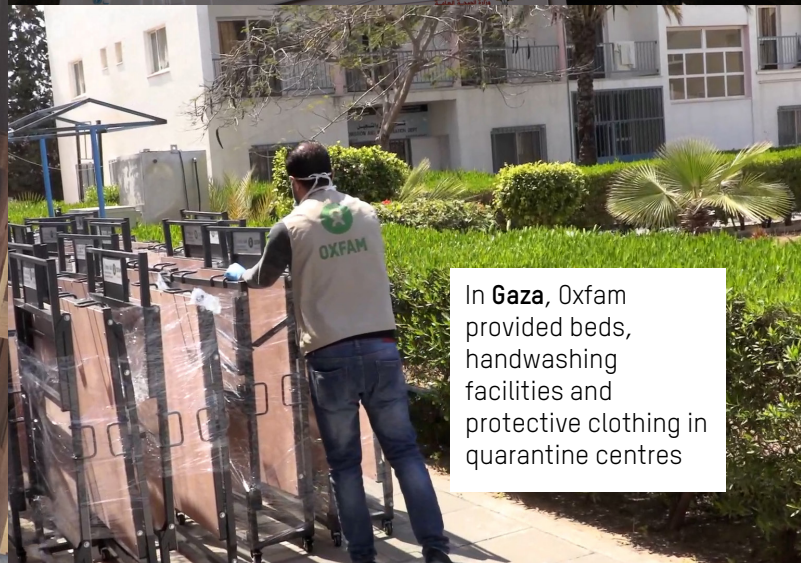
Oxfam's Administration and Logistics Co-ordinator hands over Covid-19 relief supplies at the National Disaster Management Authority warehouse in Pakistan

Photo: Khalid Gil/Oxfam



In Lebanon, Oxfam shared advice on staying safe in 100 informal refugee settlements

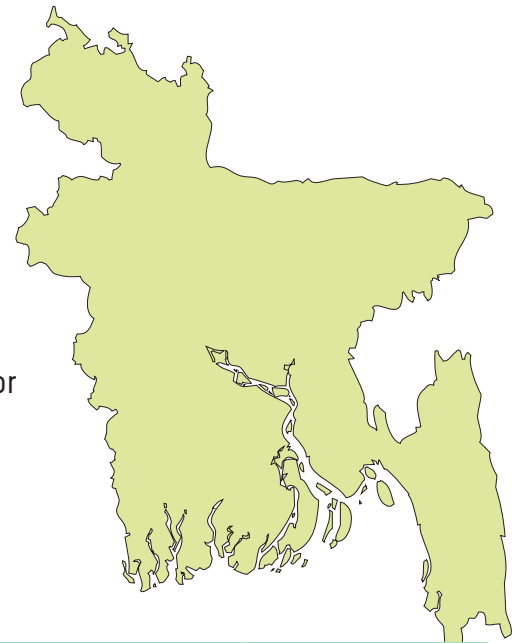
Photo: Sahar Elbachir/Oxfam



In Gaza, Oxfam provided beds, handwashing facilities and protective clothing in quarantine centres

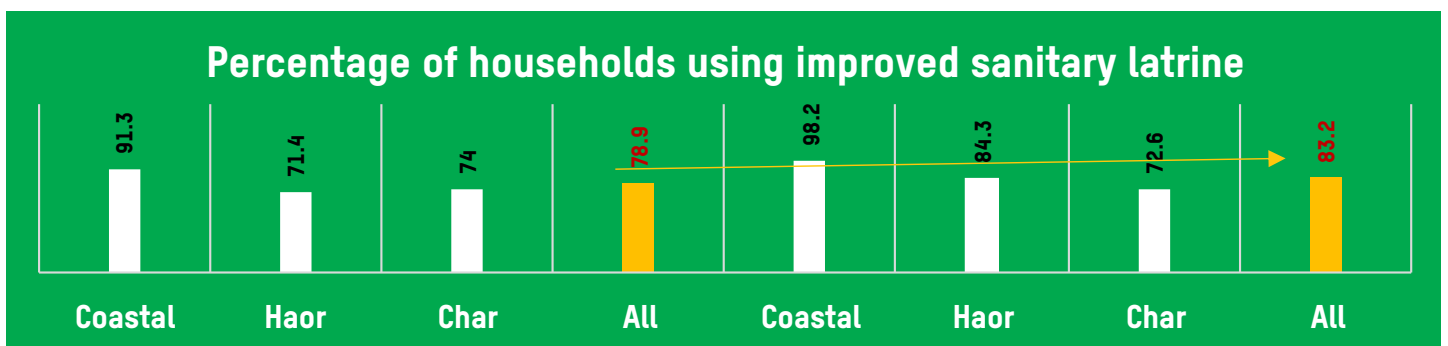
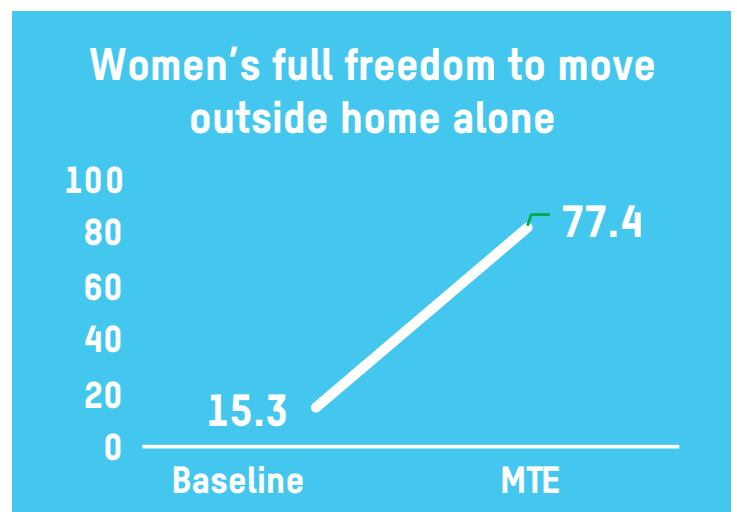
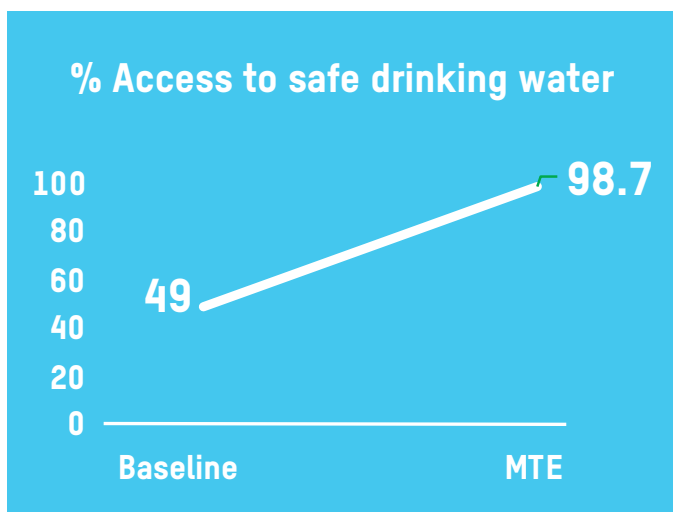


# Giving farmers a future



Bangladesh is one of the three countries that have the most weather disasters in the world. REECALL 2021 is Oxfam’s flagship programme for communities vulnerable to climate change, in Char, Haor and coastal areas. The focus is on economic justice, women’s empowerment, climate action and disaster risk reduction in flood-prone areas. Our goal is for rural women and men to have a better quality of life and make more money from farming. So far the results are promising:

BASELINE 2019 →	MIDTERM 2021 →	END GOAL 2023 →	PROGRESS
Targeted households are living under the extreme poverty line (Monthly income 7734 BDT or £65 GBP)	Average monthly income of the targeted households has increased 35.77%	Empowering women by increasing job provision, promoting integrated farming, and improving access to financial services	TARGET SURPASSED
100% of households face the threat of natural disaster, and a high proportion have no sustainable disaster management practices	87.8% of people have disaster preparedness and risk reduction practice	All households have disaster risk reduction plans. Local areas have climate insurance protection schemes	ON TARGET
13% of households have access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene services	98.7% of people have access to safe drinking water sources. 83.2% have improved latrines	100% access to integrated water, sanitation and hygiene services and greater independence for the local population	TARGET SURPASSED
Communities have no active role in influencing the local government and government officials	Local charitable organisations have established links with local government and government officials	Government adopts climate-friendly solutions and is held accountable in annual budgets	ON TARGET







“This is going to be our third night under an open sky with my small children.”

Cyclone Bulbul destroyed Champa’s parents’ house overnight. Oxfam provided life-saving clean water in the days following the cyclone

*Photo: Fabeha Monir/Oxfam*



Cyclone Amphan, the strongest ever cyclone recorded over the Bay of Bengal, threatened millions of Bangladeshi people in vulnerable communities already affected by Covid-19 outbreaks and lockdown

*Photo: Fabeha Monir/Oxfam*



# Learning through innovation

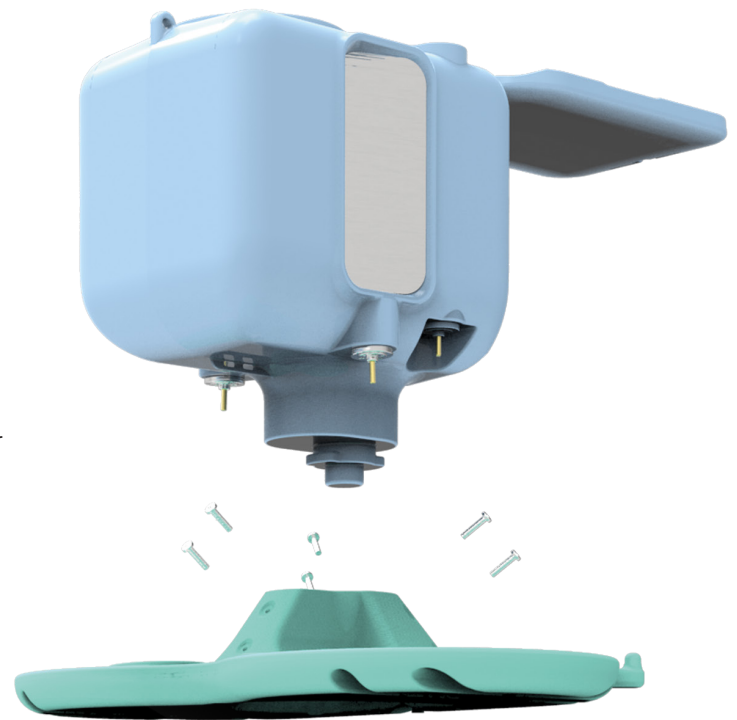
**Creating effective handwashing facilities in the Rohingya refugee settlements of Bangladesh camps means listening to community input.**

The bad news came on 15 May: the first case of Covid-19 was detected. “40,000 people per square kilometer,” says **Enamul Hoque**, Oxfam’s co-ordinator for water, sanitation, and hygiene in the Rohingya camps. “You can’t imagine how crowded the camps are.” When a wave of refugees arrived from Myanmar in 2017, fleeing unspeakable violence, Oxfam was there to help install water tanks, taps, handwashing stations and latrines. But while these handwashing facilities help fight disease, they can also act as a place where germs spread. So with the community’s help, we set out to create a safer design.

***“We installed a prototype of the handwashing station and then interviewed 43 people after they used it,” says Hoque. “Based on what they told us, we altered the design.”***

Oxfam was especially keen to hear from women and girls, because often responsibility for collecting and using water, and keeping families clean, falls to them. Girls weighed in on everything from the number of legs it should stand on to the installation of mirrors, and hooks for hanging clothes. “This process helped girls take charge of a piece of their lives,” says Enamul Hoque. The new station is their design.

***“Innovation takes time and resources that can be very hard to come by in emergencies like this,” he says, “but the results can be far-reaching.”***



## Handwashing station key features:

- Holds enough water for 200 handwashes
- Brass taps prevent bacteria from growing
- Mirrors encourage longer washing times
- Adjustable height for children and people with reduced mobility
- Minimises wastage in areas where water is scarce



# Fighting crop infestation

Kenya's northern pastoralist districts suffer some of the nation's highest levels of food insecurity and poverty. In some areas, 95% of people fall below the poverty line. Intermittent droughts and flash floods have forced over 116,000 people from their homes, and an ongoing desert locust infestation is on track to be the worst in the century. Climate experts cite unusually heavy rains as a major factor in creating the crisis. Extra rainfall between October and December 2019 resulted in high soil moisture content, creating ideal conditions for locusts to invade lush spring vegetation and destroying huge amounts of food. This is the human cost of the climate emergency.

Coronavirus restrictions are also hampering efforts to stop the spread of locusts. Stocks of pesticides are dwindling as border closures have strangled the supply chain, and overnight curfews restrict pilots' ability to spray insecticide in key breeding areas. Oxfam Kenya has worked with over 30 local NGOs to support people in affected communities. The desert locust is among the most dangerous migratory pests in the world: a 1km<sup>2</sup> swarm can consume the equivalent of food for 35,000 people in one day.



Kenya's ongoing desert locust infestation is on track to be the worst in the century



Thanks to a £120,000 start-up fund from People's Postcode Lottery players, our field teams:



Set up a community surveillance and information system, and distributed cash to 2,000 households via mobile phone transfer



Developed a mobile GPS app to allow community volunteers to record data on local infestations, which are then shared with government response teams



Established a complaints and feedback mechanism to improve the service and build confidence in the tools



To overcome some of the lockdown challenges, we also worked with mobile phone operators to supply e-vouchers for soap and water through "water ATMs" – pre-paid machines that dispense water to the most vulnerable communities



# Tackling climate change

## Sifiso's story

Parts of southern Africa are still recovering from 2019's Cyclone Idai, which caused over 1,000 deaths, the long-term displacement of whole communities and extensive economic damage. Rainfall across the region is predicted to decrease by about 20% by 2080, further threatening food and water security.

Oxfam in Zimbabwe is working with Save the Children and International Rescue Committee (IRC) to establish a new automated weather station in Matobo District, to assist farmers in forecasting and harvesting.

***"In the past four years, our harvest has reduced – we've experienced a lot of drought. We've had dry spells for up to two months. It has affected me a lot.***

***The Oxfam weather station helps us to know when to plant. We get messages on our phone with weather alerts, for example, 'Take note of rains to come. Watch children don't roam too far. Move to higher ground.' It greatly assists us – we can react immediately."*** – Sifiso, Zimbabwe



Sifiso receives messages with weather warnings and advice from Oxfam's automated weather station, Matobo District.

Photos: Cynthia Matonhodze/Oxfam





# Campaigning for justice



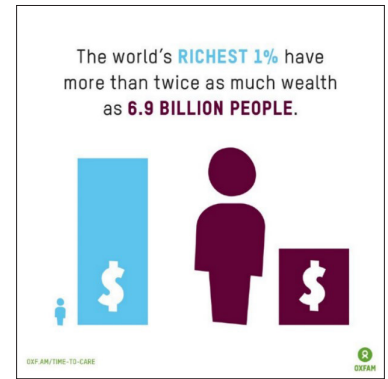
## The People's Vaccine Alliance

In November 2020, Oxfam revealed that rich countries have hoarded enough doses to vaccinate their entire populations nearly three times over. Meanwhile, nearly 70 poor countries will only be able to vaccinate one in ten people against Covid-19 in 2021, unless urgent action is taken by governments and the pharmaceutical industry. Rich nations representing just 14% of the world's population have bought up 53% of the most promising vaccines so far.

Oxfam is part of the People's Vaccine alliance, a group campaigning for vaccines to be produced rapidly at scale and made available for all people, in all countries, free of charge.

***"No one should be blocked from getting a life-saving vaccine because of the country they live in or the amount of money in their pocket,"*** said Anna Marriott, Oxfam's Health Policy Manager.

***"Unless something changes dramatically, billions of people around the world will not receive a safe and effective vaccine for Covid-19 for years to come."***



On and offline, Oxfam continues to raise awareness of the huge and growing gulf between the world's richest and poorest people – a gap that is trapping people in poverty.



## Turning the tables: climate finance

In 2020 Oxfam published findings that wealthy countries had overreported the true value of their climate change aid to developing countries by billions of dollars.

In 2009, developed countries committed to mobilise \$100 billion per year in climate finance by 2020, to support developing countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change and reduce their emissions. But Oxfam made headlines in 37 major news outlets with the discovery that the true value of support for climate action may be as little as \$19-22.5 billion per year.



# Improving ways of working



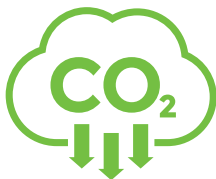
## Diversity and inclusion

We've made a commitment to focus on increasing diversity at all levels in the organisation in 2020. Our new strategy is designed to tackle systemic discrimination which often goes unchallenged, including within Oxfam. And we have been working towards Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) guidance to be a more disability inclusive organisation.



## Safe programming

We have continued to strengthen our approach to safeguarding by increasing the number of safeguarding specialist staff. We now have dedicated safeguarding focal points in every country where Oxfam is present, who work with staff and communities. We have been adapting to Covid-19 too – creating online safeguarding training tools to ensure that staff, volunteers, and partners are provided with effective support and training during this period. Oxfam GB's Safeguarding Team investigated 73 cases (compared with 49 cases in the previous year). This reflects the work we have done to encourage people to report concerns.



## Reducing our carbon footprint

We've committed to at least a 66% reduction by 2030 (from a 2011/12 baseline, without offsetting), and to being zero carbon by 2045 at the latest.



## Looking ahead

In the toughest and most fragile places on Earth, we'll tackle the life-threatening vulnerability caused by conflict and the climate crisis. This means supporting communities to prepare for and survive the immediate threat of disaster. But it also means helping people stand up for their rights, and rebuild with strength and security – so they can ultimately thrive in the future.

Right now, the impact of Covid-19 on lives and livelihoods around the world is worsening inequalities and pushing people further into poverty. Women are disproportionately affected by disasters but often have little say in the solutions. The climate emergency is also hitting the world's poorest communities the hardest, and discrimination stops women's work from being safe, secure and fairly valued. With your support, we'll focus on the global threats to people facing poverty, where we can make the biggest difference. We can only do this with your support. Thank you.