1 People Survive Crises

Why this Goal?

Conflict, instability, poor governance and climate change have resulted in unprecedented levels of humanitarian need in recent years. As crises become more complex and protracted, affected communities require support for more sustained durations and across multiple domains. In terms of global humanitarian resources, the increase in humanitarian need has been paralleled by an increase in financial provision. However, a significant funding gap still exists. In 2017, the UN appealed for $22.7 billion, its highest request in history and almost five times that requested in 2007. As an organisation founded and committed to humanitarian ideals, GOAL's mandate is to respond. As such, GOAL is committed to expanding its emergency response infrastructure and partner network to respond to existing and future humanitarian crises.

GOAL's emergency response function focuses, at first instance, on saving lives and alleviating human suffering. The response may involve prioritising needs such as food, water, shelter, cash and other non-food items. Part of this response will also see GOAL focus on reducing mortality and morbidity through targeted health responses, such as outbreak response, surveillance, immunisation campaigns, provision of primary health care, curative nutrition responses, hygiene promotion and emergency sanitation. Such responses may then ultimately transition to more sustained and longer-term programming, where the focus can eventually shift to the rehabilitation of health, water, sanitation, food or other market systems, as outlined in Goals 2-4.

How will GOAL achieve this?

In our countries of operation, GOAL will strengthen our existing response capabilities and work alongside a range of partners to ensure more effective responses to slow-onset and acute emergencies. GOAL will achieve this by:

- strengthening our emergency capacity framework, locally and internationally, to deliver flexible life-saving assistance;

- strengthening existing response systems in-country, such as national emergency response agencies, local civic institutions and businesses, that can rapidly provide lifesaving goods and services;

- working in tandem with local, national and regional actors, avoiding duplicative international mechanisms wherever possible;

- identifying new partners that will complement our emergency response capability and will help implement more timely responses; and

- utilising technology to improve data quality, cash based programming and by absorbing feedback and learnings from emergency response events in order to foster a culture of continuous improvement and adaptation.

What will GOAL achieve by 2021?

GOAL increases its capacity to deliver effective humanitarian responses at country and global level with key partners to deliver more locally tailored responses in emergency contexts.

- Recalibrate our dedicated Emergency Response Unit at Head Office.
- Emergency preparedness and response plans are particular and deployment-ready for each country of operation, to support rapid response to future crises.
- Systematically track countries at high risk of humanitarian crises for potential, targeted emergency response.
- Invest time in developing relationships with partners, so as to ensure the functionality of coordination mechanisms with national governments and key international agencies.
- Identify and form new alliances that enable GOAL to respond quickly and amplify the voices of those affected by crises.

Communities are better able to prepare for and survive shocks.

- Incorporate resilience into all programming.
- Through capacity building, ensure national disaster management actors are fully engaged in all programming related to community resilience.
- Contribute to government systems (national, regional and local) to stimulate coordinated and high-quality emergency response, including the increase of a government's own surge capacity.

Local partners can deliver effective emergency responses.

- Enhance GOAL's global capacity to work with local partners during crisis via early planning and the development of tools, systems and capacity building.
- Identify the potential to pre-partner with key national actors in high risk countries.
- Enter a capacity building partnership with at least one local civil society organisation with interest and capacity in emergency response in every high-risk GOAL country.