

ENDING EXTREME POVERTY WHATEVER IT TAKES

Concern
Worldwide US
Annual Report
2019



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worldwide US

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Ethiopia

Cover Photo: Mestawat Sorsa, farmer and mother, SNNPR region, Ethiopia.
Photo: Kieran McConville, Concern Worldwide



Émanise, Haiti

Émanise is 16 years old and lives with her sister Alphonse, a brother-in-law, a nephew, and a niece in a small tin house at the end of a narrow alleyway in the heart of Cité Soleil. She lost her mother in 2016 and since then Alphonse and her husband have supported the family. Émanise is repeating 4th grade in school, having failed the tests to progress further. Alphonse says the family does not have enough money to buy books and this was the reason why Émanise did not do so well in school. She has however successfully completed a tailoring course run by Concern. “I attended the course every day after school and on Saturdays and Sundays, and really enjoyed it,” she says “I was always interested in sewing and tailoring,” she adds, adding that she would love to take that interest further when she completes school. “I would love to design and make jumpsuits.” As part of the course, the students each made an item of clothing — Émanise created a beautiful classic pleated dress in lime green, which she proudly models and wears on special occasions. **Photo:** Kieran McConville/ Concern Worldwide

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Mwanisha, Malawi

Mwanisha Mbera, mother of 3, tends a cooking fire at the family home in Mangochi, Malawi. The family is taking part in Concern's graduation program. **Photo:** Kieran McConville / Concern Worldwide

A Message from the Chief Executive Officer and the Chair, Board of Directors

In 2019, the year we report on here, we are proud to share that with the help of our global community of supporters and partners, our teams across 24 countries of operation, and our offices in Ireland, the UK, South Korea, and the US worked together to increase the number of people reached to 28.6 million. And we reached new heights in funds raised – more than \$200 million worldwide, including nearly \$50 million in the US.

As always, we were laser-focused on efficiency and impact. In the US we increased the portion of funds supporting our programs on the ground from 90% to 93%. We are committed to returning the faith and trust our donors place in us with the highest levels of stewardship and accountability.

Concern Worldwide is an organization born of humanitarian response, and 2019 was a year of unprecedented, urgent need. Some 70 million people remained displaced in 2019. One out of every 57 people in the world was in need of humanitarian assistance. The combined forces of conflict, climate, and cyclical hunger called us to respond from our vast experience and in new, innovative ways.

In all, the 82 emergencies we responded to last year were up from 66 in 2018, a reflection of a world in increasing turmoil. We'll share just a couple of examples here

In March, Cyclone Idai hit Southern Africa with devastating force. In Malawi, nearly one million people were affected. Fortunately, our team there is extremely agile and experienced, and quickly mounted a comprehensive response that included food distributions to 2,500 households, seeds and tools to 7,500 households and cash transfers to 8,120 families. Our vital recovery efforts over the months that followed helped thousands get back on their feet, as you'll see later in this report.

More than 700,000 Rohingya refugees continue to struggle for survival – in silence, to most of the world – in the camps around Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. When we visited last summer, we found a team there working around the clock on multiple fronts and leading the way in the treatment of malnutrition. This included screening and treating children and vulnerable older people, achieving cure rates of above 80%. They also taught over 5,000 pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and caregivers about nutrition and personal hygiene, running more than 400 cooking demonstrations for approximately 12,700 caregivers, and distributing seeds and fertilizer to over 2,100 households for home gardening.

The trust of our supporters empowers our teams to do this work. We will continue to partner with remote and vulnerable communities in places like Malawi for as long as we are needed. We will stand with people like the Rohingya until they are able to find safety and stability.

Of course, our efforts don't stop there. Ending extreme poverty requires a long-term commitment to sustainable change. We're doing that work in the areas of health,

nutrition, education, livelihoods, and climate resilience. One example of that commitment is our work in Climate-Smart Agriculture. We have reached 569,000 smallholder farmers across 19 countries, tripling crop yields in some places, and significantly reducing labor time, especially for women.

We couldn't do any of it without partners. Our donors are of course our primary partners, but we also work with hundreds of local civil society organizations and other international NGOs, several academic institutions, foundations, and US Government agencies, such as the Bureaus of Humanitarian Affairs and Population, Refugees, and Migration. We are also actively strengthening our corporate partnerships. In 2019, we launched a new initiative with Archer Daniels Midland Company's ADM Cares division. The Lifesaving Education and Assistance to Farmers (LEAF) Project will provide immediate and longer-term responses to chronic malnutrition and hunger for people living in extreme poverty in Kenya and Ethiopia.

As we write, in Summer 2020, we are witnessing a historic grassroots push for racial equity and justice. As an American organization, the inspiration we take is sustained by the knowledge that our Irish founders' herculean effort to work with Biafrans to reach famine-stricken Biafra was very much rooted in a spirit of defiance against those who did not equally value Black lives.

Additionally, our nation, and the world, are in the grips of the COVID-19 pandemic. While it seems infection and mortality rates in our countries of operation are not as high as they have been in the world's wealthier countries, a great threat remains, not only of deadly outbreaks but also of ripple effects, such as hunger caused by interrupted supply chains, depleted markets, failed crops, and reduced aid. With the support of our donors, our teams will not take a single step back in our support to the people who most need our help.

In these pages you will find both inspiration and reassurance that your support matters. Thank you for continuing to stand with us. Thank you for standing with the people you will meet in this report: Mwanisha and Patrick in Malawi, Emanise in Haiti, Faduma in South Sudan, Attir in Kenya, and Joana in Mozambique.

Thank you for your investing in people like them – and millions more – in 2020 and beyond.



Colleen A. Kelly
Colleen Kelly
Chief Executive Officer



Joanna Geraghty
Joanna Geraghty
Chair, Board of Directors.

Concern Worldwide

Who We Are and What We Do

Concern Worldwide is a non-governmental, international, humanitarian organization dedicated to the reduction of suffering and the ultimate elimination of extreme poverty in the world's poorest countries.

Our Vision for Change

We believe in a world where no one lives in poverty, fear or oppression; where all have access to a decent standard of living and the opportunities and choices essential to a long, healthy and creative life; a world where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

Our Mission – What We Do

Our mission is to help people living in extreme poverty achieve major improvements in their lives which last and spread without ongoing support from Concern.

To achieve this mission, we engage in long-term development work, build resilience, respond to emergency situations, and seek to address the root causes of poverty through our development education and advocacy work.

Our Core Values

These are built on our history and the voluntary, compassionate commitment of Concern's founders:

We focus on extreme poverty: We are driven by a clear focus on eliminating poverty in the most vulnerable places and responding to humanitarian crises.

We believe in equality: People are equal in rights and must be treated with respect and dignity.

We listen: Listening and partnership are key to empowering the poorest and most vulnerable to transform their own lives.

We respond rapidly: People affected by disasters are entitled to have their most basic needs met through rapid, effective and principled responses.

We are courageous: Taking necessary risks, balanced with sound judgement, allows us to work in the most challenging contexts.

We are committed: We go the extra mile to support communities in times of need and in the face of very difficult operating environments.

We are innovative: Finding effective solutions requires innovative thinking combined with a pragmatic approach.

We are accountable: Accountability and transparency are central to all of our actions and use of resources.

Faduma, South Sudan

Faduma* is a member of The Majok Mother Care Group in Aweil, South Sudan. They meet twice a month, making home visits to women who have just given birth to share best practice about breastfeeding, good hygiene and nutrition. **Photo:** Abbie Trayler-Smith / Concern Worldwide

**Name changed to protect the identity of the individual*

Where We Work

In 2019, Concern worked in 24 of the world's poorest and most vulnerable countries to alleviate poverty and hunger.

Haiti



Afghanistan
Bangladesh
Burundi
Central African Republic
Chad
Democratic People's
Republic of Korea
Democratic Republic
of Congo

Ethiopia
Haiti
Iraq
Kenya
Lebanon
Liberia
Malawi
Mozambique
Niger

Pakistan
Republic of Sudan
Rwanda
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Sudan
Syria
Turkey

28.6m

People Reached

24

Countries

82

Emergency Responses

\$212.2m

Total Global Income

\$49.9m

Total US Income

Focus On: Cyclone Idai



2019

March 2019 was a very difficult time for Malawian farmer, Patrick Ghembo.

Concern first visited Patrick just after Cyclone Idai wreaked havoc on Monyo village, close to the Malawi/Mozambique border. He was newly married at the time.

Patrick and his new wife spent three months away from their home after the destructive storm and had to rely solely on fishing following the devastation.

After Cyclone Idai, Patrick received a cash transfer from Concern of 23,000 kwacha (around \$32) to help him rebuild. He also received maize seeds which he was able to plant straight away, which led to a decent harvest.

Through Concern's cash transfers, Patrick also bought two goats and

some chickens, which have been a good source of income. He plans to sell some of his chickens to help provide food and basic necessities for his family, which now includes a baby girl.

Patrick still lives in fear of another storm, as his area is vulnerable to floodwaters. But he does get some peace of mind from the fact that, now, he gets weather and early warning alerts from local Village Civil Protection Community groups, telling him to move to higher ground when needed.

Patrick hopes to be able to send his daughter to school one day and has aspirations to open a grocery shop, as well as maintaining his farm.

Patrick, Malawi

Left: Patrick Ghembo standing in a field where his crops were destroyed by Cyclone Idai in 2019. *Below:* Patrick received seeds from Concern following Cyclone Idai and is standing in the same field with a healthy crop in early 2020. **Photos:** Gavin Douglas / Concern Worldwide



2020

2,825,000

Cyclone Idai affected 975,000 people in Malawi and 1,850,000 million people in Mozambique.

226,437ac

The floods destroyed approximately 226,437 acres of crops (maize, pulse, rice, sorghum, millet) in 15 districts in Malawi.

95%

In Nhamatanda, Mozambique, 95% of the maize, beans and ground nuts were destroyed by floods, just weeks before they were due to be harvested.

8,150

Cash transfers helped 6,500 families in Malawi and 1,650 families in Mozambique to buy food and to start rebuilding their homes.

82,800

We distributed seeds and tools to 57,200 people in Malawi and 25,600 people in Mozambique to plant winter crops.

2,500

2,500 families in Malawi received food baskets to help them during the first weeks after the flooding.

Our Programs

Concern Worldwide reached approximately 28.6 million people in 24 of the poorest and most vulnerable countries in the world during 2019. Our work spans five main program areas: emergencies, livelihoods, health and nutrition, education and integrated.

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- **EDUCATION**
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28.6m

People Reached

24

Countries

82

Emergency Responses

Yimam, Ethiopia

Yimam is a participant in the graduation program, which is designed to enable pathways out of poverty for the extreme poor by providing them with a comprehensive package of support (social assistance, livelihood development and access to financial services). **Photo:** Nick Spollin / Concern Worldwide

Emergency Programs

In 2019, we responded to 82 emergencies in 21 countries, reaching 3.9 million people directly and over 7.5 million people indirectly.

When an emergency strikes, we seek out the poorest and hardest-to-reach communities to meet their immediate needs, and work with them to design innovative, fast and effective responses. We stay with them to help rebuild their lives and to ensure that they are more able to cope with future crises.

Objectives and activities

The goal of our emergency program is to fulfil our humanitarian mandate by effectively responding to and mitigating against natural and human-influenced disasters.

Our main objectives are to:

- Respond rapidly in order to save lives and reduce suffering
- Improve access to food, healthcare and water
- Prevent and reduce the impact of emergencies

Examples of our achievements in 2019

We engage in a wide variety of projects to advance the above objectives. The following examples illustrate the range of activities and outputs of our emergency projects:

In March 2019, Cyclone Idai hit Southern Africa with a devastating impact on the vulnerable communities living there. Fields were flooded, crops were destroyed, and infrastructure including homes, latrines, wells and roads were levelled, placing an enormous strain on already impoverished populations. In **Malawi** an estimated 975,000 people were affected. We supported more than 10% of the affected population in three districts through a multi-sectoral response which included food distributions to 2,500 households, seeds and tools to 7,500 households and cash transfers to 8,120 families. We reached approximately 26,400 people with hygiene messaging, which is especially important when clean water supplies have been destroyed.

Aweil Area, South Sudan

Women collecting food rations from a Concern Worldwide and World Vision food distribution in the Aweil area, South Sudan. The general food distribution occurs every two weeks, running from April to August. People travel up to 16 mi to get there (some staying with friends or family along the way to break up the journey). They receive these items: Sorghum 83 lbs, Cooking oil 27.5l, Beans or lentils 8.25 lb, soy blend (amount depends on who you are, e.g. pregnant and breastfeeding, under five, elderly etc.). **Photo:** Abbie Traylor-Smith / Concern Worldwide



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Emergency Responses

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Countries

In **Mozambique** we worked alongside our Alliance2015 partners, Welthungerhilfe and Cesvi in Nhamatanda, a town 62 miles northwest of Beira, which was directly in the path of the cyclone. We distributed emergency kits plus seeds, tools and food rations to approximately 25,000 people so farmers could plant winter crops and have sufficient food while waiting for the harvest.

Over 19,062 households (approximately 95,310 people) in Northern Bahr el Ghazal in **South Sudan** received food aid rations between April and September to ensure they had enough to eat during the lean period. This is the time when most households run out of food stocks, because of flooding, drought and/or crops suffering from pests and diseases. During this crucial six-month period, over 4,000 metric tons of food including cereals, pulses, vegetable oils, and salt were distributed to targeted vulnerable households.

A chaotic and deteriorating security situation in **Afghanistan** combined with recurring natural disasters and a severe drought resulting in a surge in the numbers of internally displaced people in the northeast of the country. Concern supported almost 19,000 conflict and disaster-affected people throughout Badakhshan and Takhar with cash payments, household items and emergency shelter.

The Rohingya crisis in Cox's Bazar in **Bangladesh** remained a focus for Concern in 2019. We continued to screen and treat children and vulnerable older people for malnutrition, achieving cure rates of above 80%. We also increased preventative measures including teaching over 5,000 pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and caregivers about nutrition and personal hygiene, running more than 400 cooking demonstrations for approximately 12,700 caregivers and distributing seeds and fertilizer to over 2,100 households for home gardening.

In the **Democratic Republic of Congo** our teams organized a market in Kowe, North Kivu Province, enabling some 3,000 internally displaced people and host families to buy food and household essentials, as well as rehabilitating water points, latrines and local health centers - all in a context where there are no cars and the closest town is 93.2 miles away by boat. In Lomami Province, the team was able to reach over 43,860 people with food, seeds and tools despite severe logistical challenges, including having to cross a river without a bridge.

\$107.2m

In 2019, we spent \$107.2 million meeting emergency needs and improving access to food, water and healthcare.

Livelihoods Programs

In 2019, we improved the food security and livelihoods of 600,000 people directly and over 2 million people indirectly.

Our livelihoods programs address some of the underlying problems experienced by people living in extreme poverty when trying to earn a living. We provide small-scale credit to invest in business development, and train people in vocational skills that create employment opportunities. We also work with communities to improve the productivity and nutritional value of crops using practices that help mitigate against the impact of climate change.

Objectives and activities

The goal of our livelihoods program is to enable extremely poor people to have secure livelihoods.

Our main objectives are to:

- Reduce hunger
- Strengthen our social protection programming, work skills and support systems

- Promote graduation to economic productivity
- Strengthen our climate-smart agriculture program

Examples of our work and achievements in 2019

We engage in a wide variety of activities in order to deliver the above objectives. The five examples here illustrate the range of activities and outputs of our livelihood projects:

In Marsabit County in northern **Kenya**, our livelihoods program directly impacts over 47,500 people. Livestock is the main source of food and income for 81% of the population, so the program has a focus on improving animal health and productivity, including quantity of milk, or quality of meat, or value at market. This in turn directly helps to reduce acute

malnutrition rates. In our target areas, we supported extension workers to give advice on selective breeding, as well as working with the Marsabit County government to treat and vaccinate over 37,000 livestock against disease, and, by repairing boreholes, ensuring that more than 87,500 animals were able to access water at the height of a drought.

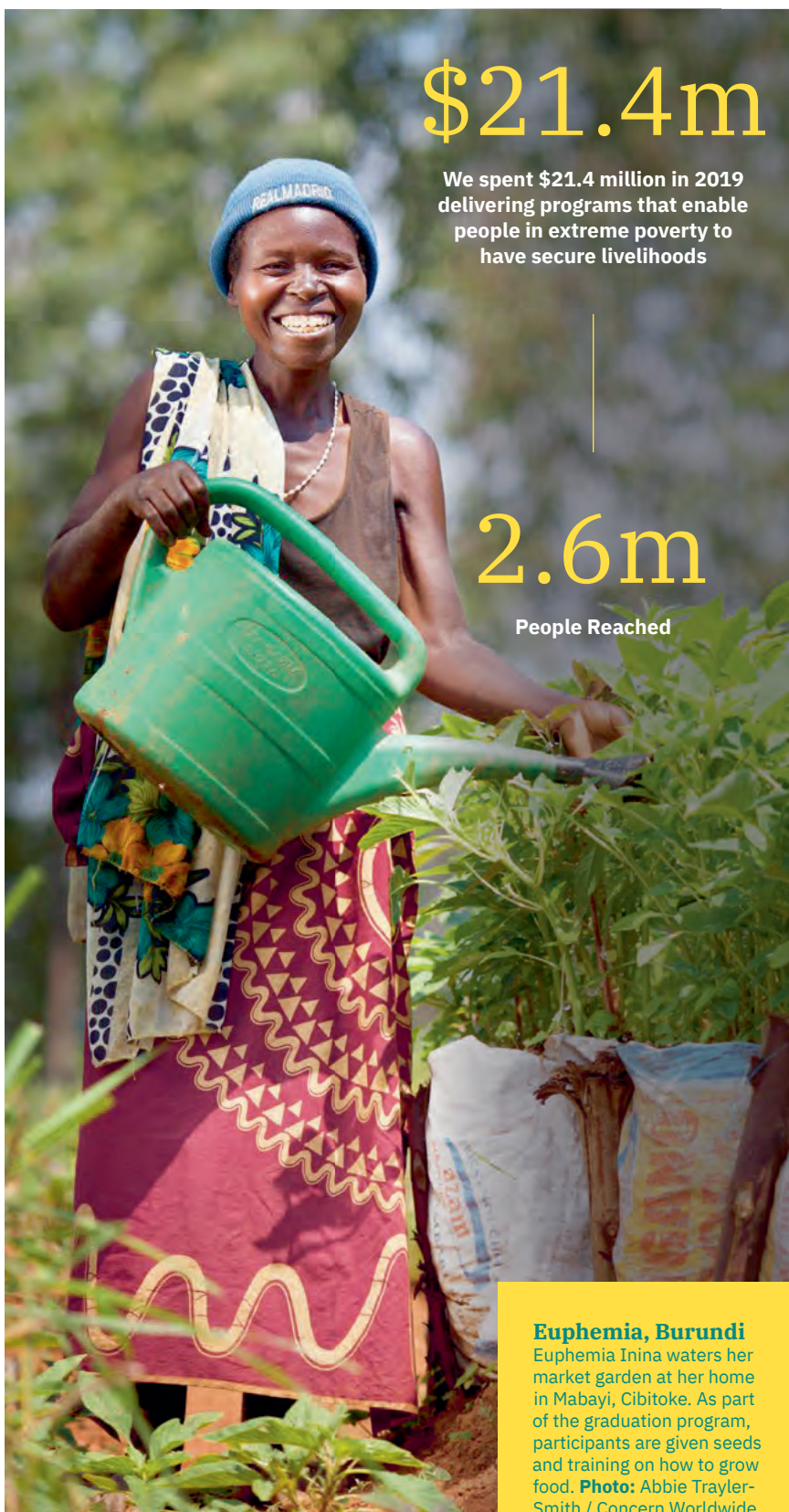
In northern **Syria**, displaced communities face high levels of food insecurity, with limited opportunities to earn a living or grow their own food. We launched cash-for-work initiatives, which benefited over 1,385 households who earned an income working on the restoration of essential public/municipal services, such as water supplies and schools. In rural areas, we assisted more than 1,478 farming households with agricultural vouchers to enable them to buy necessary inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and irrigation

mechanisms to increase their harvest. Data collected during post-harvest monitoring showed that productivity had increased for 81% of the targeted households.

Our integrated urban program in **Bangladesh** works with just under 41,000 extremely poor people living in slums, squatter settlements and on the pavement to improve their health and opportunities to earn a living. In 2019, over 1,470 households were supported in running small businesses, including business skills training and cash grants. A further 480 people were supported with vocational training, of whom 265 quickly succeeded in securing jobs.

In **Ethiopia**, our integrated livelihoods program reached over 51,000 people in South Wollo and Wolayita. The program uses a graduation approach to build livelihood security and improve the nutrition of participants through a number of activities. A survey conducted in 2019 shows that participants are now in a much more secure position since the start of the program in 2017. The amount of livestock households now own has grown from an average of 1.7 animals to 11.5 animals, and 97% of households are now able to save cash regularly. In addition, 89% of households report that they are now able to have at least two meals a day and that their diet is more varied and balanced.

In **Liberia**, the rural poor are particularly vulnerable to the impact of climate change. We are working to improve the food security and the resilience of over 3,000 people in Grand Bassa County. We provided training on crop production and Climate-Smart Agriculture to over 1,683 smallholder farmers. This included 60 farmer field assistants who then go on to support smallholder farmers in their district. Other elements of the program include supporting Community Savings and Loans Associations, which give over 3,328 members access to loans from their pooled savings.



\$21.4m

We spent \$21.4 million in 2019 delivering programs that enable people in extreme poverty to have secure livelihoods

2.6m

People Reached

Euphemia, Burundi
Euphemia Inina waters her market garden at her home in Mabayi, Cibitoke. As part of the graduation program, participants are given seeds and training on how to grow food. **Photo:** Abbie Trayler-Smith / Concern Worldwide

Health and Nutrition Programs

In 2019, our health and nutrition programs reached over 2.9 people directly and over 7 million people indirectly.

The health systems are extremely weak in many of the countries where we work and communities are often unable to get the help they need to prevent suffering from under-nutrition and preventable diseases. To help overcome this, we work with local and national governments to strengthen healthcare systems and improve access to good maternal and child healthcare, as well as water and sanitation services.

Objectives and activities

The goal of our health programs is to contribute to the achievement of health and nutrition security for the people we work with.

Our main objectives are to:

- Prevent under-nutrition and extreme hunger
- Strengthen maternal and child health
- Strengthen health facilities
- Improve access to clean water and sanitation

Examples of our work and achievements in 2019

We engage in a wide variety of activities in order to deliver on our objectives. The following five examples illustrate the range of activities and outputs in the area of health and nutrition:

Our nutrition programs in **Burundi** reached over 89,260 people and produced impressive results, with the number of children in our program more likely to have a minimal acceptable diet for a healthy life. The families of these children are far less likely to have to resort to negative coping strategies like selling their household assets or eating seeds meant for planting.

In **Sierra Leone**, malaria poses a significant health risk in the communities in which we work and can lead to death if not treated early. In Tonkolili district, where malaria is prevalent and a leading cause of death in children under five, we are taking a unique approach to tackling the

disease by working with and training over 100 traditional healers and other influential women to promote health facility treatment and preventative measures as opposed to traditional ones. The women visit the communities to share their knowledge and make referrals to the health clinics where necessary. Earlier and more consistent treatment of malaria symptoms is reported in the communities taking part in project reaching just over 14,000 people in 2019.

In West Darfur, **Republic of Sudan**, we continued to support and strengthen the health systems in two areas to provide improved health and nutrition services to almost 66,000 conflict-affected people. We repaired and expanded two nutrition centers and rehabilitated a further 11 health centers. In conjunction with the Ministry of Health, we procured and provided essential supplies and equipment to ensure communities had access to basic health services throughout the year. Over 32,649 patients were treated at the health centers in 2019, and a further 5,812

women received pre-natal services. We also continued to build the capacity of the state and local health authorities, paying monthly incentives and providing technical assistance and training to staff from the ministry and local health authorities.

Syrian refugees living in informal settlements in **Lebanon** often face health-related risks caused by unsafe or non-existent water supplies and sanitation. We ensured and maintained standards of health and wellbeing for approximately 10,300 of the most vulnerable people in 2019, supplying safe drinking water to over 9,800 people, and connecting 27 informal settlements to the public water supply network. Sanitation and hygiene was improved for over 7,000

people through the rehabilitation of 80 latrines and the construction of 173 new latrines. 43 new septic tanks were installed and 126 water tanks were distributed. In addition, 9,500 people benefited from hygiene-related awareness sessions.

In the Sila region of **Chad**, we have been working to supply clean water to communities by installing boreholes and pumps. To ensure their upkeep, volunteers from the villages form committees and are trained on maintenance, hygiene around the pump and administration. Sixty committees were supervised in 2019, and a household survey showed that 65% of households had access to clean water, a significant increase from 48% in 2018.

9.9m

People Reached

\$14.5m

We spent \$14.5 million in 2019 delivering programs that contribute to the achievement of health and nutrition security for poor people

Rahana, Niger

Rahana Chaibou (30) with her daughter Apsatou (9 months) who is severely malnourished and has been receiving treatment at a Concern-supported health center.

Photo: Apsatou Bagaya / Concern Worldwide.



Education Programs

In 2019, our education programs benefited over 200,000 people directly and over 800,000 people indirectly.

We believe that all children have the right to an education and that it provides one of the surest routes out of poverty. We integrate our education programs into both our development and emergency work to give extremely poor children more opportunities in life, supporting their overall wellbeing.

Objectives and activities

The goal of our education program is to improve the lives of extremely poor children in a sustainable way, by increasing their access to quality primary education.

Our main objectives are to:

- Increase school access
- Improve school facilities
- Improve learning outcomes
- Provide access to education for children in emergencies

Examples of our work and achievements in 2019

Our program in Takhar province in **Afghanistan** aims to provide a quality primary school education for children in vulnerable communities. It also supports illiterate adults to learn basic reading and writing skills, which improves their own opportunities and also contributes to an enabling environment for children over the long term. Almost 4,800 people benefited from the program in 2019. We established and/or supported 20 community-based education (CBE) classes, six government-run schools and 27 adult literacy courses, including hiring teachers. Learning materials were distributed to over 2,860 students. Seventy-six learning kits were provided to enhance the capacity of CBE and government school teachers.

In **Malawi**, we completed our “Right to Learn” program which supported girls in

Afghanistan

Schoolgirls in a community-based school in Afghanistan.

Photo: Concern Worldwide



\$5.6m

We spent \$5.6 million in 2019 delivering programs that help extremely poor children access a quality primary education.

Phalombe District to achieve their right to an education in a safe environment free from discrimination and violence. We worked in 30 schools in the district and also with the wider community, reaching almost 62,000 people to address the root causes of school-related gender-based violence and encourage behaviour change. Across the 30 schools, the reading ability of the target girls improved significantly - at the beginning of the program, 39% of girls were able to read 45 correct words per minute, rising to 82% by the end. The girls' confidence also increased significantly, with 83% feeling able to say no to sexual advances and abuse, and demand the support they need at school from teachers and parents, up from 38%.

Past conflict and poverty, together with a lack of school buildings, unpaid teachers and harmful and discriminatory gender roles and attitudes, all contribute to a situation where a child's right to education does not always materialize. In Tonkolili

District in **Sierra Leone**, we reached approximately 37,000 people, through our "Safe Learning Model" program, facilitating community mobilization sessions around the value of education. This contributed to the enrollment of more than 20,900 pupils in 80 schools. All 80 schools were supported with teaching and learning materials, and 55 were provided with social and emotional learning or school club materials, which helped to keep the average attendance rate high at 94%.

Many Syrian refugee children living in **Turkey** have now missed over four years of school. In Sanliurfa district, where Concern works, over half of the school-aged children do not attend for a variety of reasons, including the need to help earn money for the family and low literacy rates. Additionally, many are suffering from trauma, anxiety and stress. Our emergency education program enabled 1,703 vulnerable children to access school by providing cash assistance to parents and materials, such as school

uniforms, glasses and hearing aids, so children could succeed in the classroom. 456 teachers and school counselors were trained to spot and communicate effectively with children suffering from trauma.

In the Benadir region of **Somalia**, we provided access to safe, quality primary education to just under 9,900 children from the poorest, most vulnerable and marginalized communities. We rehabilitated and furnished 11 school buildings. Over 80 Community Education Committee members (responsible for school management and encouraging the community to send their children to school) received training, and a further 364 teachers received training on positive classroom management techniques, lesson plan development and execution.

Integrated Programs

In 2019 we reached over 1 million people directly through our integrated programs and approximately 2.2 million people indirectly.

The challenges faced by the extreme poor are multi-dimensional. We believe that more effective and lasting solutions can be found in interventions that deliver a range of integrated programs with the same target group, in the same area, in a coordinated way.

Objectives and activities

The goal of our integrated programs is to improve the lives of the extremely poor by addressing their needs in a holistic way, tackling the inter-related barriers that impede development.

The objective of the program is to deliver sustained improvements in the overall living conditions of the targeted communities.

Examples of our work in 2019

Acute malnutrition in children under five years of age continues to be a significant problem in **Ethiopia**. In the Amhara Region, Concern reached over

135,300 vulnerable people with its integrated program to reduce spikes in child malnutrition. We supported improved food production for more than 5,500 households, distributed carrot, cabbage and tomato seeds, and provided training on land preparation and vegetable gardening techniques. Over 10,000 people were supported with nutrition education, focusing on maternal and child feeding. Sixty-six mother-to-mother support groups with just above 1,050 members, were established. More than 21,000 people benefited from newly constructed latrines, together with hygiene education to help reduce incidents of diarrheal disease, especially among children.

Our program to reduce under-five mortality and disease rates in Grand Bassa and Rivercess counties in **Liberia** benefited over 16,000 people with livelihoods, nutrition, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) and gender equality activities. To improve the nutrition and health of mothers and children under five, 2,625 mothers were supported with seeds and tools to establish

kitchen gardens. We also set up 51 mother groups, adding to the 91 previously established, with a total membership over 3,525 mothers/caregivers. Members learned about the importance of good nutrition and were encouraged to bring their husbands to the training sessions so they learned together and shared their understanding of recommended changes.

In **Pakistan**, where 70% of the population are acutely exposed to natural disasters, our resilience building program reached almost 170,000 of the most vulnerable people in three districts. Activities included setting up 231 disaster management committees, training 350 masons to build disaster-resilient shelters, constructing 63 resilient hand pumps and 585 underground household water tanks, running 536 hygiene promotion sessions.

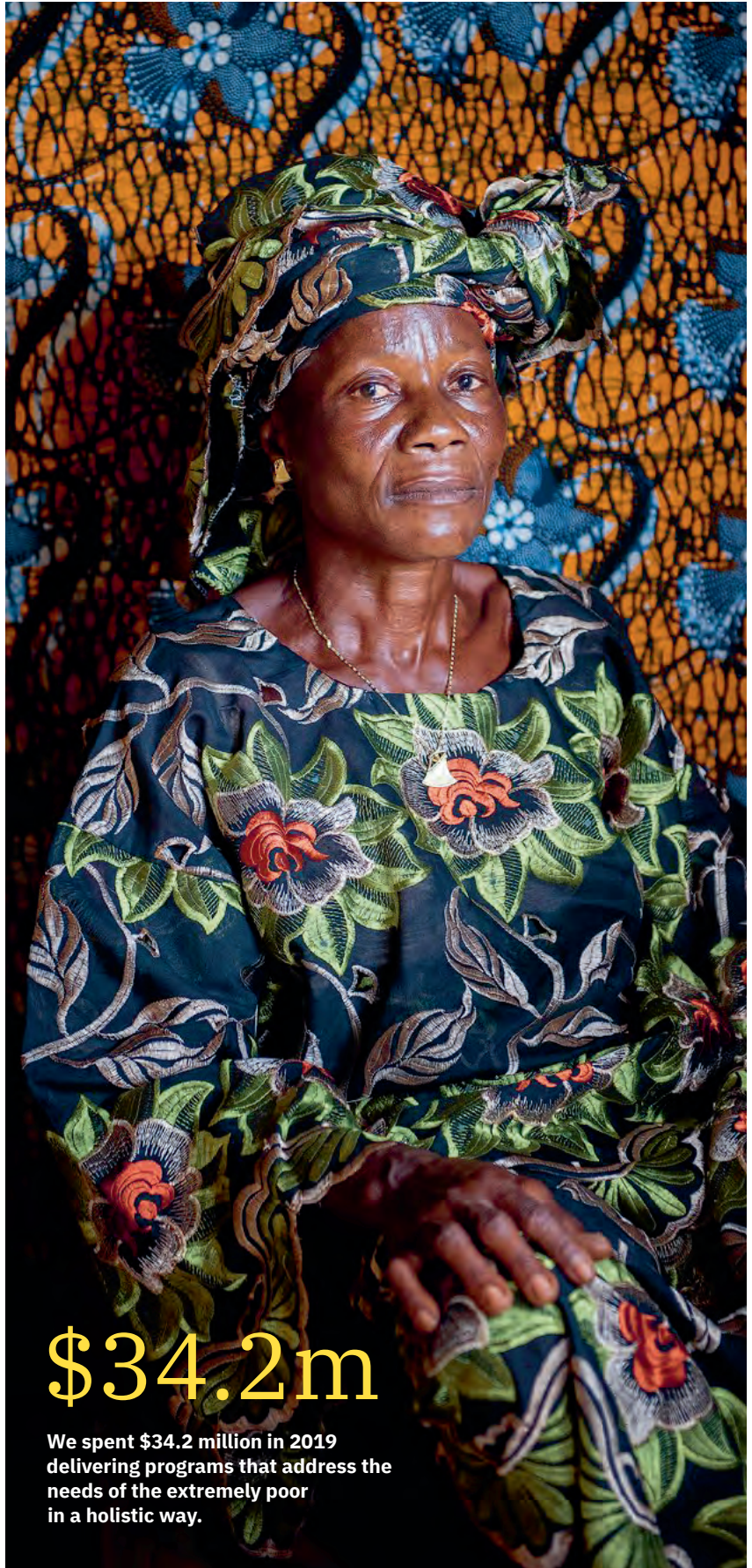
Our “Building Resilience for Poverty Reduction” program in West Darfur, **Republic of Sudan** supports just over 38,000 people to better

withstand weather-related shocks and stresses, through a combination of livelihood and health-related activities. To help participants build more secure livelihoods, the focus has been on training and providing agricultural inputs such as seeds and livestock, strengthening access to markets, and helping people, especially women, join village saving and loans associations. Since the start of the program in 2017, there has been a reduction in the hunger gap (the length of time when food supplies have been used up) from 3.65 months to 1.95 months in 2019. Targeted households have reported a better and more diversified diet.

Our emergency response program brought lifesaving assistance to over 270,000 internally displaced people and other marginalized groups in **Somalia** and **Somaliland**. We provided over 125,000 consultations for adults and children at health facilities, immunized more than 21,600 children, and treated over 18,000 children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women for acute malnutrition. Water, sanitation and hygiene work reached almost 193,000 people. This included water trucking, the construction of boreholes, wells, underground water storage and water pipelines, the rehabilitation of water points, distribution of hygiene kits, as well as carrying out hygiene promotion activities. Over 80,000 extremely vulnerable people benefited from cash payments to enable them to buy food and other essentials.

Esther, Liberia

Grandmother, Esther Glah, is Chairwoman of the Mothers' Group in the village of Pay Chea. She is a Trained Traditional Midwife who has been retrained by Concern to refer pregnant women to the local health facility. Esther said: "I enjoy being part of the Mothers' Group. It gives power to women and helps us feel good about ourselves. We have been educated about gender issues. Before, we were never exposed to these things. Now we know how to stand up for ourselves. No one can take advantage of us anymore. Concern has helped us a lot." **Photo:** Nora Lorek / Panos Pictures for Concern Worldwide



\$34.2m

We spent \$34.2 million in 2019 delivering programs that address the needs of the extremely poor in a holistic way.

Focus On: Climate-Smart Agriculture



Esime & Esnart, Malawi

Esime Jenaia, a Lead Farmer for conservation agriculture, at her plot in Chituke village, Mangochi, Malawi, with neighbor, Esnart Kasimu. Concern has been carrying out Conservation Agriculture programming in Malawi since 2012. **Photo:** Kieran McConville / Concern Worldwide

Climate change is one of the biggest threats in the fight to end global poverty. According to the World Bank, the effects of climate change have the power to push an additional 100 million people into poverty over the course of the next decade. Those least responsible for climate change – the poor and vulnerable – are those who feel its effects the most.

In many areas where we work, communities rely on agriculture both for food and income. Faced with degraded land and extreme weather, farmers often contend with food insecurity and unreliable income. Concern is helping communities deal with climate change through Climate-Smart Agriculture.

To protect and improve livelihoods in **Pakistan**, over 200 Climate-Smart Agriculture sessions were conducted, 43,450 forest tree plants were distributed to encourage agro-forestry and raise awareness of environmental conservation, and 140 communal gardens with underground water tanks were established. For those households that depend on livestock for their livelihoods, we ran 129 training sessions on livestock management and trained 240 community livestock extension workers to ensure the provision of affordable livestock services.

Cecelia & Teneh, Liberia

Cecelia, right, and Teneh, left, in Teneh’s vegetable garden. They are both members of the Wrobone Town Mother’s Group. They have received training and support from Concern to grow their own vegetables. Teneh said, “I joined the Mothers’ Group and learned how to plant a vegetable garden. I grow peppers, bitter bulb and okra. I sell some of what I produce. I also have 10 chickens.” **Photo:** Nora Lorek / Panos Pictures for Concern Worldwide



Building the livelihoods and resilience of over 6,000 extremely vulnerable people in Niger.

In the Diffa region of **Niger**, a new program was launched in 2019 to build the livelihoods and resilience of over 6,000 extremely vulnerable people. Although the program is still at an early stage, we are already seeing good results from a project promoting growing vegetables through kitchen “sack” gardening. Project participants were given perforated sacks, seeds and other items, such as watering cans and fertilizer, and by the end of the year had harvested close to 10,600 lbs of vegetables, helping to add variety to their diets.

In Mangochi District in **Malawi**, more than 51,400 people took part in

a program to reduce soil and land degradation and increase sustainable food production. In exchange for labor, participants were provided with cash and insurance for three months. Key achievements included the construction of a 16 acres solar-powered irrigation scheme; 159 miles of swales (channels to manage water runoff) were stabilized; 358 cubic yards of dams were maintained; 247,409 trees were planted on hillsides, river banks, and around public buildings.

In **Chad**, we reached over 45,500 people in 91 villages. We have been training farmers to use a conservation agriculture method of farming which minimizes soil disturbance, improves soil condition and increases production. In 2019, farmers using this method had higher yields than those using traditional methods, producing 41% more peanuts and 35% more sesame from their fields.

91
In Chad, we reached over 45,500 people in 91 villages.

How We Work

Working with partners

Concern cannot achieve its mission to eliminate extreme poverty in isolation. We believe we can achieve greater impact working in collaboration with other organizations and institutions.

Our partners include other international and local non-governmental organizations, government bodies, research institutions and private sector companies. In 2019, in 21 of the countries we work in, programs were partially or fully implemented through partners. Partnerships were evident across all the sectors in which we work, and grants to partners represented over 8% of total charitable expenditure.

Concern remains committed to working strategically in partnership with other international actors, such as the United Nations, international NGOs and global platforms, where we can have a greater impact. We are active members of the Scaling Up Nutrition movement and are a member of the Global Nutrition Cluster Standard Advisory Group, which works to safeguard and improve the nutritional status of emergency-affected populations.

We also work together with a number of organizations to amplify our voice around global justice, human rights, humanitarian aid, and strengthening citizen participation. These include InterAction in the USA, Dóchas in Ireland,

VOICE (Voluntary Organizations in Cooperation in Emergencies) in the EU, and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies in Geneva.

In the academic arena, we collaborate closely with Sonke Gender Justice, the Conflict Unit of Dublin City University, Tufts University, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Kenyatta National Hospital the University of Nairobi, Imperial College London, Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex, and Trinity College in Dublin.

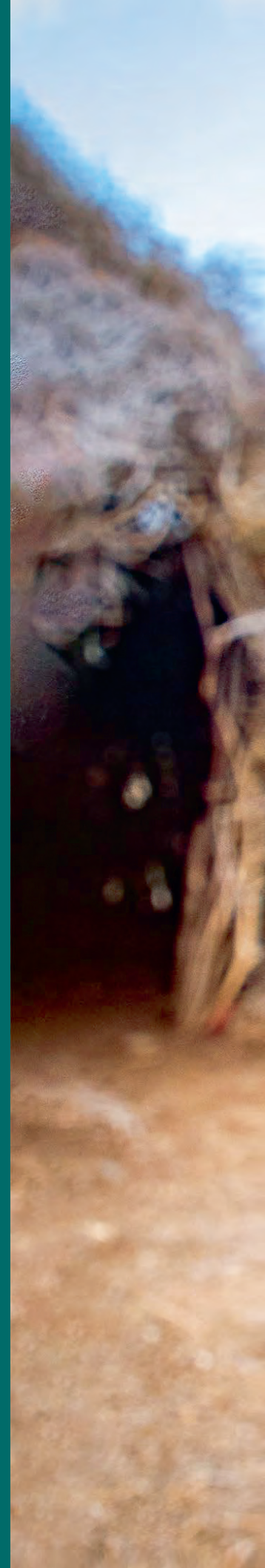
In 2019, Concern provided \$15.7 million to 116 partners.

116

Partners

\$15.7m

We provided \$15.7 million to our partners



Atiir, Kenya

Atiir (8) lives in Turkana, North Kenya. **Photo:** Gavin Douglas / Concern Worldwide



Joana, Mozambique

Joana Luis received supplies, including rice, beans, seeds and tools from Concern and Alliance2015 partners, Welthungerhilfe and Cesvi, at a distribution in Ndeja, Mozambique, following Cyclone Idai.

Photo: Tommy Trenchard / Concern Worldwide



US Government Partnership



At Concern, we spend a lot of time talking about the generous donors who make our work possible, and the many partners who help ensure our work achieves our mission to end extreme poverty, whatever it takes. The teams down in Washington, DC at the US Agency for International Development and US Department of State are not just financial supporters. We consider them vital partners in our work.

Concern received more than \$41 million from the US Government in 2019 to support 26 programs in more than a dozen countries. That's impressive. But what we're most proud of are the individual stories of the people who participate in those programs.

The farmer in Kenya who learns through a first-of-its-kind Livestock Health Early Warning System how to keep her animals healthy. The young Syrian boy who

attends homework help and Turkish language tutoring in the evenings so he can catch up to his peers and learn important vocational skills. The mother whose children no longer get sick from drinking water from the Congo River, because there is a newly rehabilitated clean water point in the community.

These are just three people – among nearly 10 million across the globe – reached by our US Government funded programs in 2019. And don't forget the power that a positive change in one person's life can have on the lives of his or her family and entire community.

In short, our collaboration with the US Government – rooted in the generosity of the American people – enables Concern to achieve impact on a staggering scale. And each person, face, and story of transformation inspires and humbles us as humanitarians, and as Americans.

Kersa Dula, Somali Region Ethiopia

Saynaba Kasim (27) with her baby daughter Shukria (16 months old). Shukria is being treated for malnutrition at a USAID-supported Concern Stabilization Center. **Photo:** Jennifer Nolan/ Concern Worldwide



CMAM at 20

The evolution of a revolution

Twenty years ago, Concern played a key role in developing a system that would revolutionize nutrition and help save millions of young lives around the world.

The story of Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) is quintessentially Concern: a listen-first approach, developed in partnership with communities, balancing innovation with simplicity to great impact.

The challenge

For years, centralized in-patient treatment centers were the accepted approach for treating acute malnutrition in children under 5. Logical in theory, it was failing in practice. The costs of running these centers were high, as they required 24/7 staffing. The treatments were also perishable, meaning that refrigeration was a must.



The costs also ran high for families seeking care. Mothers would often have to journey —by foot — for days to reach a treatment center. They would also have to leave their work and other children behind. As one mother in Ethiopia, Hekuat Kahsay Fanta, told us: “If I leave my other children at home, I close the door on them. To save one life, I can lose the rest of my children.”

As Concern’s International Program Director Anne O’Mahony explained: “More and more, it became clear that center-based care wasn’t the solution.”

A world-changing partnership

Concern partnered with Dr. Steve Collins and his humanitarian research organization Valid to find a solution. We soon found that the limiting factor to treating malnutrition wasn’t the medical care itself, but how to access it. We needed to de-centralize treatment centers.

One solution to this came in the form of a simple plastic strip. Traditionally, healthcare workers screened for malnutrition using the standard of weight against height. This is difficult to do on a community level as the equipment is not cheap or portable.

Collins pointed to research that supported mid-upper-arm circumference (MUAC) as a strong predictor of nutrition-based childhood mortality. Using a strip of plastic called MUAC Tape, healthcare workers could screen and diagnose children virtually anywhere with relative ease.

Hala

Families who are forced to become refugees often have to contend with hunger and child malnutrition. When Layru and her family reached the safety of Bangladesh, having fled violence and persecution in Myanmar, her daughter Hala was in crisis. The 15-day trek had taken a terrible toll, leaving the little girl weak and severely acutely malnourished. Concern had established nutrition clinics within the refugee camps and deployed community volunteers to seek out cases like this. Utilizing the CMAM approach, Hala was put on a course of Plumpy’Nut’, administered by her mom, and returned to the clinic weekly for screenings and a new supply. Within two months she was back to an acceptable weight and well on the road to recovery.

Photo: Kieran McConville, Concern Worldwide

The essential ingredients

Another solution came from peanuts when French pediatrician André Briend developed Plumpy'Nut, a high-calorie peanut-based paste. It was easier to store, had a longer shelf-life, and packed a lot of calories and nutrients in a small amount of food.

There was one other vital ingredient: Creating a treatment approach to bring these two innovations together.: “The idea was to send these children home with the correct food and the care that went with it, so that the mothers could actually take care of them themselves,” says Anne O’Mahony. “This was a mind-blowing idea in some ways.”

Putting it all together

This idea became known as Community Therapeutic Care (CTC). With the CTC model, mothers could have their children screened close to home easily and accurately with a community healthcare worker and MUAC Tape. If diagnosed with acute malnutrition, they would be given the first round of therapeutic food that day and return with their child for weekly checkups.

Concern and Valid piloted CTC during a famine in Ethiopia in 2000. While previous famines had resulted in child mortality rates between 10% to 30%, our pilot community saw just 4.5%. We then tested CTC one year later in Darfur, Sudan to similar results.

Gaining momentum

CTC was initially met with resistance in the humanitarian aid community as it challenged the traditional aid model.

Concern and Valid worked with Malawi’s Ministry of Health to pilot CTC at scale in Dowa district. As more mothers bought into this new model of treatment, they told other mothers about how to spot malnutrition and where to get help. The program gained a valuable component: prioritizing individual agency and sharing knowledge.

Setting the standard

By 2007, we had treated over 23,000 cases through 21 CTC programs in 4 different countries. More importantly, we reached over 70% of those who needed the care, surpassing the old system’s reach of (at most) 10%.

Simon

CMAM didn’t exist when Simon Piol was a child. In 1998, a humanitarian crisis resulted from Southern Sudan’s ongoing conflict with Khartoum. Hunger was rampant. Simon remembers when Concern staff began visiting his village to cook porridge for malnourished children like himself. The methodology was basic, but effective. “I used to come here to eat... Concern saved my life,” he says. Two decades later, life has come full circle. Simon lives in a newly free nation and now works for Concern. He’s a Nutrition Assistant, screening malnourished children at a clinic in Aweil and referring them for treatment. Often, that treatment involves CMAM. The next step for Simon involves going back to school to become a qualified nutritionist, and evolving the treatment of severe acute malnutrition even further.

Photo: Kieran McConville, Concern Worldwide

Core to the CMAM approach are Plumpy’Nut and other Ready To Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTFs).
Photo: Kieran McConville, Concern Worldwide



That same year, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the World Food Programme issued a joint statement recognizing what we now call CMAM (Community Management of Acute Malnutrition) as a best practice, setting into motion a transformative approach that over the last two decades has saved millions of children’s lives in dozens of countries.

This revolution would not have been possible without funding from IrishAid and USAID, operational partnerships with UNICEF and other colleagues, - and most importantly national ministries of health, community leaders, and mothers where we worked.

The work doesn’t stop there

But the real goal is 0%. We’ve continued to work with partners and communities to find more tailored approaches to community-based treatment. CMAM has now grown into CMAM Surge, a way of proactively responding to malnutrition during seasonal “surge” periods throughout the year.

Two CMAM Surge pilot tests in Kenya in 2012 saw that the model managed peaks, without undermining other health and nutrition efforts. Since then, we’ve been rolling out CMAM Surge around the world, while also keeping an eye out for ways it can evolve in the future.



Our Supporters

Our sincere thanks for the most generous support of the United States Government.

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Our deepest thanks to our individual, corporate, and foundation donors who are leading the way in supporting Concern's mission.

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Concern would like to thank those individuals who have chosen to make recurring gifts. Monthly gifts are an essential source of sustainable and dependable funds for Concern, allowing us to expand our programs without risk and respond faster when an emergency strikes. Join this group of dedicated supporters by making your first tax-deductible, monthly gift today: concernusa.org/monthly

Join Our Legacy Society

Planned gifts – bequests, gifts of life insurance, and qualified charitable distributions from retirement plans – make a powerful statement against extreme poverty and are crucial in making sure our lifesaving work continues for future generations. Friends who include Concern in their estate plans are invited to join our Legacy Society. Learn how to become a member: concernusa.org/legacy

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A Game Changing Year

Over the course of 2019, we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of those who take part in our galas, luncheons, golf outings, community fundraising initiatives, and who support through leadership and regular giving. It was an especially exciting year as we expanded our presence to the West Coast, based in Los Angeles, giving us a new platform to drive support for Concern's mission.



Inaugural Florida Event

On March 5, 2019, Concern US held its inaugural event in West Palm Beach, hosted by Concern Ambassador and Florida-based Founder and President of Satin Fine Foods, Kevin O'Reilly. The evening was a great success, welcoming over 70 guests, that included both longtime supporters and new friends eager to learn more about Concern.



2019 NYC Marathon

On a chilly Sunday in November, 17 dedicated supporters ran in the annual TCS New York City Marathon as part of Team Concern. Staff, friends, and family came out to cheer the runners along this iconic course, in recognition of their dedication to long months of training and fundraising. **Photo:** Dara Burke



Winter Ball

World-famous fashion photographer and Concern Ambassador Alexi Lubomirski addresses over 470 supporters at our Winter Ball event in NYC in early December. **Photo:** Jimmy Higgins



Celebrity Chef and Concern Ambassador Donal Skehan with Concern US CEO Colleen Kelly at our welcome event in Los Angeles.



Women Of Concern New York

Samantha Barry, Editor-in-Chief of Glamour (middle right), and Eileen Lynch, Chief Marketing Officer of Refinitiv (middle left), our 2019 Women of Concern Honorees, were celebrated for their ongoing commitment to creating a better, more inclusive future through the empowerment of women. They are joined by Concern Worldwide US CEO, Colleen Kelly (left) and Concern US Chairperson and President and CEO of JetBlue Airways, Joanna Geraghty (right). **Photo:** Ben Asen



Concern Spring Run for Haiti

Over 650 runners, walkers, and supporters came together in Central Park in April for the annual 4-mile Concern Spring Run. The 2019 event mobilized members of the Concern community to raise awareness of our work and fully fund a resilience-building project in Cite Soleil, Haiti. **Photo:** Ben Asen

The vital humanitarian and human development work carried out by our teams abroad would simply not be possible without that support. We cannot thank you enough!



Chicago Golf

Honorary Co-Chairs Jim and Kelly McShane, accepting their award at the 17th Annual Chicago Golf Outing on July 15, 2019 at Chicago Highlands. Jim McShane is the CEO of the McShane Companies, Vice-Chair of Concern Worldwide U.S., and Board Member of the Concern Worldwide Council in Ireland.



Thanks-For-Giving Gala

On November 15, 2019, our Thanks-for-Giving Gala attracted 200 enthusiastic guests, including Jennifer Werneke, who won the evening's Last Hero Auction. The fun, exciting new fundraising method helped the event exceed its fundraising goal. **Photo:** Mike Fan



Welcome Event in Los Angeles

More than 80 guests were treated to a convivial evening, as we celebrated our expansion to L.A. with a kick-off event in October 2019. It was co-hosted by Concern donors Julie and Dan Murphy, and new board member Jeff Assaf along with his wife Cecelia. The event included welcome remarks by Southern California's Irish Consul General, Orla Keane, and Celebrity Chef and Concern Ambassador, Donal Skehan, who spoke of experiencing Concern's impact firsthand during a trip to Malawi.



Women of Concern Chicago

Over 400 of our Chicago community gathered at the 20th Women of Concern Awards Luncheon, to support Concern's programs empowering women and girls around the world. The event, (originally known as The Brigid Awards, after one of the most celebrated women humanitarians in Irish history), still inspires the Women of Concern today. Our 2019 honorees were Aedhmar Hynes, former Text 100 CEO, and Allison Robinson, CEO of The Mom Project, seen here with Co-Chairs Jennifer Riordan and Sheila Golden, and Concern Worldwide US CEO, Colleen Kelly. **Photo:** Mike Fan



International Women's Day in L.A.

More than 60 women joined us for an impactful event focusing on women's empowerment, hosted at the beautiful Blackbird House in West Los Angeles. Blackbird founder Bridgid Coulter (left) talked movingly of her founding a private co-working collective for productivity, wellness and community for women of color and their allies. Katie Waller (right) discussed how Concern's programming is always conducted through a gender lens. "Women and girls are at the center of Concern's work -- because we know that's where real change begins."



Seeds of Hope Annual Awards Dinner

Singer Judy Collins gave a powerful speech and a beautiful rendition of Amazing Grace to a crowd of almost 600 guests at the Annual Seeds of Hope Dinner at Cipriani South Street. We celebrated the achievements of our 2019 honoree, Microsoft, and focused on the importance of climate-smart agriculture as a way to reduce hunger and poverty. **Photo:** Melanie Einzig.

COVID-19 Pandemic



**Khadiza & Sumaiya,
Bangladesh**

Khadiza is struggling to feed her family as she cannot go out to earn a living due to COVID-19. **Photo:** Mohammad Rakibul Hasan / Concern Worldwide

“We are now facing a crisis unlike anything we have seen before. It is the first time all of our program countries face the same emergency. Not only are the poorest countries facing COVID-19, but they are also dealing with the very real possibility of financial destruction and widespread hunger as a result.”

Dominic MacSorley
Concern Worldwide Global CEO
Summer 2020

Across Concern, our unshakeable commitment is to stay where we are needed and deliver. From the sprawling refugee camps of Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, the overcrowded urban communities in Port-au-Prince in Haiti or the war zones of Syria, Concern teams are responding—providing soap and water, increasing public awareness about COVID-19 prevention, distributing food and cash, and training health staff.



Iraq
Distribution of COVID-19 prevention hygiene kits, at a camp for internally displaced people in Iraq. **Photo:** Concern Worldwide



Marriam, Malawi
Marriam Jamali receives soap as part of hygiene distribution to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. On receiving the soap Marriam says, "This could not have come at a better time." **Photo:** Concern Worldwide



Republic of Sudan
Nutrition staff at a Concern clinic have been trained in measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, including hand washing and social distancing. **Photo:** Concern Worldwide



Cherica, Haiti
Cherica, two years and six months old washes her hands in front of her grandmother's home in Cite Soléil, a district of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, where, in partnership with ECHO, Concern distributed hygiene kits to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. **Photo:** Dieu Nalio Chery / Concern Worldwide

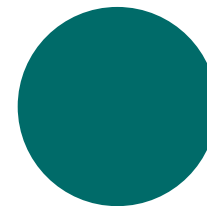
Concern by the Numbers

Concern Worldwide US financial summary statement of activities for year ending December 31, 2019 (with summarized amounts for 2018)

2019 Financial Performance

	2019 Total	2018 Total
Support and Revenue		
Contributions and non-government grants	5,021,659	3,134,987
Support from Concern Worldwide	1,608,327	1,390,757
Government Grants	41,177,262	32,649,443
Special Events - net	1,970,934	2,753,906
Other Income	102,068	56,725
Total Revenue and Support	49,880,250	39,985,818
Expenses		
Program Activities	44,530,904	34,880,021
<i>Overseas Relief</i>	<i>43,600,889</i>	<i>33,989,761</i>
<i>Development Education</i>	<i>930,015</i>	<i>890,260</i>
Management and General Administrative	1,606,869	1,694,877
Fundraising	1,966,454	2,412,220
Total Expenses	48,104,227	38,987,118
Change in Net Assets	1,776,023	998,700
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	8,886,232	7,887,532
Net Assets at End of Year	10,662,255	8,886,232

Analysis of Expenditure (Gross)



93%
Program Activities



3%
General and Administrative



4%
Fundraising

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