

Case Study – Bam, Iran

On Christmas Day, 2003, the earthquake struck that flattened Bam, Iran. World Vision had its relief staff on site two days later. Discussions with the GPRN had already begun and a menu of items to be transported had been selected. In our first ten hours in Bam, staff confirmed that tents, blankets, plastic sheeting were the priority items needed. Because of



the scale of the disaster, approximately 80,000 people affected, we decided within one day to fly in two cargo planes. These planes were loaded in Brindisi, Italy in the WV warehouse, and in Dubai where access to more goods and proximity to Iran meant faster delivery.

On the 1st and 2nd of January, only 6 days after the quake, the planes landed with carefully selected high-quality goods, all meeting Sphere quality standards. Distribution started effectively on January 2 in collaboration with the Iranian government. Hundreds of WV staff all over the world were busy raising funds. Others ensured transport contracts, dealt with airport authorities, customs, and insurance making the timely contribution of the GPRN effective. During the Christmas holiday, without an office of WV in Iran, and the earthquake in an isolated area of the country, GPRN pulled off a convincing logistical feat responding to crucial needs and helping 10,000 victims keep warm in the cold Iranian winter.

Do GPRN Supplies Meet International Standards?

All pharmaceuticals, medical supplies and equipment meet WHO standards. Other supplies are field tested to ensure they perform as anticipated, and meet the criteria of the following organizations: AusAID, CIDA, EU, OFDA, Sphere, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, USAID, WFP, and World Vision International.

How do I order supplies or services from the GPRN?

By calling one number, supplies and services can be deployed anywhere in the world. GPRN management will seek the most cost effective location(s) from which to deploy the goods requested, balanced by the speed at which these goods are needed.

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About World Vision

Founded in 1950, World Vision International is a Christian humanitarian organisation serving children, their families and communities in conditions of poverty in nearly 100 countries, primarily through programmes of transformational development, emergency relief and promotion of justice.

Our work is based on three principles of the Christian faith: human dignity (all people are created in the image and likeness of God); equality (all people are equal in God's sight); and commitment to justice (all people have equal rights); which compel us to work for the well-being of all people, especially children.

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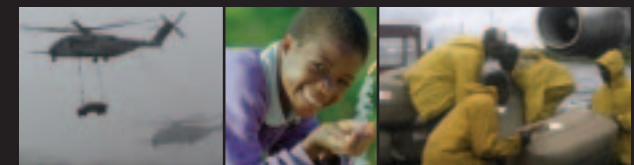
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Global Pre-positioning
and Response Network

gprn



What is World Vision's Global Pre-positioning and Response Network?

Rapid deployment of emergency supplies is essential for World Vision to respond within 72 hours after onset of a disaster. The Global Positioning Relief Network (GPRN) was created in 2000 solely to provide this service.

From warehouses on three continents, the GPRN directs critical supplies and equipment to disaster sites around the world. Any of more than 350 different types of in-stock articles are available for deployment to those WV national offices responding to a disaster. Supplies are in stock, packed, labeled and ready to go.

The GPRN is able to arrange airlift when needed to ensure supplies arrive within 48-72 hours. In slow-onset disasters, the GPRN will work with WV national and regional offices to arrange lower cost transportation to pre-position materials. Materials can all be delivered at the site weeks or months prior to the declaration of an actual emergency, as needed.

This makes quick disaster response possible, thus saving lives and minimizing suffering.

The GPRN is led by a team with a combined 40 years experience in international relief work. By anticipating issues before they become problems, dealing with the challenges of delivering supplies to dangerous and sensitive areas, and handling every aspect of pre-positioning, including set up and initial on-site management, the GPRN has established a track record of successfully moving disaster supplies effectively to where they are most needed.

Where are the GPRN Warehouses?

The three main GPRN warehouses are located in:

- Denver, Colorado USA
- Hannover, Germany
- Brindisi, Italy

World Vision also positions its goods around the world in third-party warehouses to improve speedy delivery to the field and maximize space efficiency and timeliness of response. One phone call to the central office in Denver enables the caller to obtain anything the GPRN has in stock - anywhere in the world from the most convenient warehouse.

Case Study - Darfur, Sudan

Over a year ago, a long-running internal conflict in the vast Darfur region of Western Sudan boiled over into intense violence; thousands of people have been killed; approximately 1.5 million villagers have been displaced. Over 100,000 refugees have fled to Eastern Chad and those that have remained in Darfur have been clustered into camps.



World Vision responded to the crisis in late June; by mid August the North Sudan program had secured a preliminary budget of over nine million US dollars, with the organization's Global Rapid Response Team (GRRT) leading the response. Based on rapid assessments by WV teams and in coordination with other aid organizations, WV is focusing its intervention on four key sectors: Food Aid; Water and Sanitation; Health and Nutrition; and, Education and Protection (with an emphasis on child protection).

The GPRN has played a vital role in the Darfur crisis not only in providing direct support to WV's response but it has also helped to augment the response of the United Nations Joint Logistics Center (UNJLC), which has established a common 'pipeline' of non-food items that can be used by a range of organizations. Due to huge demand, this pipeline had run dry of commodities, such as plastic tarpaulins, by mid July. WV took the decision to use GPRN stocks of tarpaulins and other items to contribute to the collective relief demand – demonstrating an excellent example of inter-agency collaboration. On July 20 the GPRN office in Brindisi, Italy, airlifted 40 tons of cargo directly to Nyala. These items were distributed immediately.

The GPRN has also provided essential technical support and program equipment from its stocks in Denver and procured additional items; these were airlifted to Nyala in early August. GPRN staff will soon be on site to help with program set up and accommodation needs.

Once again, the GPRN has proven the value of holding stocks of WV-branded items: these can be airlifted to disaster sites at very short notice; high quality items not only serve to meet vital humanitarian need but also serve to advertise World Vision's on-the-ground presence, generating additional funding support that can be used to further the effectiveness of the relief program.

What types of supplies and equipment can I purchase from the GPRN?

The GPRN has made shipments valued at nearly US\$5 million around the world. Items shipped include everything from medical kits, emergency response kits, blankets, tents, Rubb Hall

warehouse tents, communications equipment, water containers, cameras, water filters, food, office equipment and plastic sheeting to trucks, four-wheel drive vehicles and motorcycles.

Materials: 350 items are available separately or in a series of 33 modules that have been pre-packaged for quick delivery to disaster sites.

Emergency fly-away modules include a broad range of basic emergency supplies that is adequate for 2,000 people for the first 7 days following a disaster: blankets, cook-sets, plastic sheeting, tools for construction, soap, water purification tablets and water containers.

Additional emergency response modules each include basic relief supplies for 5,000 people for a month.

A number of other modules are available as well, such as food, shelter, blankets, plastic sheeting, medical supplies, equipment and pharmaceuticals, hygiene supplies, electric generators, water filtration systems, water search and rescue equipment, supplies and equipment for staff support (such as LAN equipment, HF/VHF radios, satellite phones), warehouse tents and vehicles.

Customized modules or **individually ordered items** are also available.

For a complete list of modules and individual items contact the GPRN for a catalog.

Does the GPRN Provide Technical Assistance?

To assist and relieve field staff during the initial phase of a relief response, the GPRN can, when requested, also send support staff to provide on-site:

- Programme infrastructure set up, including set up of communications and transportation
- Set up and initial management of logistical systems
- Procurement of relief supplies internationally and locally
- Management of shipment receipt, including customs clearance
- Training of local personnel on set-up and maintenance of complex equipment

Who Can Use the World Vision GPRN?

All World Vision offices at this stage, although steps are underway to link the GPRN to other global humanitarian pre-positioning networks which will thereby provide greater scope and coverage globally for many humanitarian agencies.