GiveDirectly donors sent more cash to Africa than ever
Donations reached **319K people** in 9 countries across the continent

**2022 Year-End Update**

We launched in two new countries

**Nigeria**
One-time cash relief for flood victims

**Yemen**
Monthly payments to displaced families fleeing conflict

Nigeria suffered historic flooding and is home to the largest population in extreme poverty (65M) in all of Africa

Yemen’s war is the world’s largest humanitarian crisis, with 22M people living in extreme poverty
Cash for refugees

Research shows refugees in Uganda built independence with cash aid

Since 2019, we’ve given $14.5M in aid to >14K households in and around Uganda’s Kiryandongo refugee settlement. Recent findings from a randomized controlled trial of this program show strong positive impacts two years after households received $1,000 in unconditional cash aid. Learn more →

Refugee households who received funds:

Spend $32/mo (11%) more than those who did not
This is roughly the amount that the average family spends monthly on education.

Own assets worth $1,386 (61%) more than to those who did not
Many families invested in land, home construction, and home improvements — building additional rooms or installing a metal roof.

Earn $14/mo (64%) more from businesses than those who did not
The most common businesses were small shops in the market or run from the family’s home.

Note: Refugee households not receiving funds were paid after the study completed

We delivered cash to over 2,200 dispersed urban refugees in Kenya & Uganda

Refugees in urban areas receive far less support than those who remain in formal rural settlements. Dispersed, they are harder for aid groups to reach, yet struggle to integrate into the local economy. That’s why we launched programs in Kampala, Uganda and Nairobi, Kenya to give refugee households $750-925 in cash aid.

Byamungu, 25, fled alone to Nairobi from violence in Goma, DRC as a teenager. He worked for years as a laborer and construction worker but was unable to pay rent, so he and his wife moved in with a friend.

He used his first transfer to rent his own space and spent his second transfer on a used mototaxi, now earning ~$3/day. He says, “My wife is expecting and I needed a stable source of income. GiveDirectly has given me that. Every morning when I wake up and switch on my bike, I give thanks.”
Government partnerships

With the DRC government, we sent 50K people COVID-19 relief fully remotely

The Social Fund of the DRC, with the assistance of GiveDirectly and the World Bank, sent $150 in COVID-19 relief to ~50k people in Kinshasa. Using MobileAid technology, eligible residents could enroll independently through their mobile phone and receive their funds just minutes later.

“Before this, I had no work, I was always at home. When I received the text message for the first payment – and second one also – it gave me emotion: the money was given to me for free! I started selling cassava and corn flour at the corner of the road. I raise the orphan grandsons of two parents, and this money also helped me pay their transport to attend school.”

Zala, 62

With Uganda’s government, we’re helping 4,000 families threatened by landslides

Together with Uganda’s Office of the Prime Minister, GiveDirectly is giving $1,800 to 4,000 families in the Mt. Elgon region, where landslides have worsened due to climate change. These transfers are specifically sized to help families relocate, but can be spent as they see fit.

“In December 2019], with the unending rains, water caused a lump of soil to break away and washed out an entire section of the village, including our house. Only 5 of the 11 of us survived, myself and four of my son’s children.”

After this tragedy, Namasoope, 74, started a small garden growing coffee and bananas she sells to pay her grandchildren’s school fees, about $20/year. “I plan to [use GiveDirectly funds to] get a safer place away from the disasters, construct a better structure, and purchase two goats for $84.”
Cash for climate change

GiveDirectly helped families across 5 countries adapt to climate change

The world’s poorest communities are the least responsible for climate change, but are hit the hardest by the effects. 250M people in sub-Saharan Africa rely on consistent weather patterns for survival, as subsistence and smallholder farmers make up more than 60% of the labor force. Cash can help. This fall, we delivered funds to survivors of floods in Nigeria, landslides in Uganda, droughts in Kenya, and multiple climate shocks in Mozambique and Malawi. Learn more →

In Malawi, we supported climate-smart agriculture

Malawi loses $22M in GDP each year due to drought and floods. Struggling to adapt, many farmers are unable to feed their families, let alone afford new farming methods.

We paired climate-smart agricultural training with unconditional cash aid to farmers. Our partner United Purpose trained farmers in diversified crop production, rainwater harvesting, and improved seeds. GiveDirectly then sent them funds — $400 each in April (when they buy tools to prep their land) and $400 in October (when they buy seeds and fertilizers).

Surveying found:

- **today, more are using better seeds** — there was a 48% increase in farmers buying certified seeds (these are more drought- and flood-resistant than reusing seeds from old crops)

- **more are intercropping** — nearly everyone still grows maize, but there was a 16% increase in farmers growing pigeon nuts, +19% in groundnuts, and +57% in leafy vegetables (mixing groups improves soil health and yields)

- **fewer go hungry** — there was a 60% decrease in the proportion of families reporting going a whole day without eating

Salim, 40, invested his funds in a piece of land and a treadle pump. “With this, we will be able to grow crops all year round,” he said. “We also rent out the pump to other farmers who in turn give us a small amount of money.”
We’re running three of the ten largest guaranteed income programs in the U.S.

**Cook Co., IL**
3,250 receiving $500/mo for 2 yrs. Focus on formerly incarcerated folks and suburban communities

**Chicago, IL**
5,005 receiving $500/mo for 1 yr. Focus on housing insecure and undocumented residents

**Georgia**
654 receiving ~$850/mo for 2 yrs. Focus on Black women in rural, suburban, and urban areas

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We paid over 4,700 families days after hurricanes hit Florida & Puerto Rico

1. **Monitored**
We track storms to see if they’ll have major impact in high-poverty communities

2. **Analyzed**
Using Google.org’s AI, we compare before and after satellite images to ID the most damaged areas

3. **Enrolled**
Eligible users of Propel’s food stamps app are notified and can enroll in ~3 min. $700 hits their account ~24 hrs later

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More at **Bloomberg**

The walls of **Nora** W’s Atlanta apartment were lined with asbestos and mold, irritating her skin and making it nearly impossible to breathe. At the advice of her doctors, she left. She lived in hotel rooms and with various family members before ultimately moving in with her oldest daughter in College Park.

Since she’s started receiving payments, Nora says she now can buy better quality food and has begun saving for her own home. “It’s just a stepping stone,” she said. “You start here, and you build and build and build.”

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More at **WIRED**

**Carmen** R. has lived in Ponce, Puerto Rico for 30+ years. She spent her GiveDirectly cash transfer on gas for a generator, food, water, and bills. Her aid application to FEMA was denied.

“Water came in through the windows and damaged the furniture, including my daughter’s bed. You have to throw away all the food when there are power outages. And the generators use so much gasoline. We spend $25-30 a day on gas for the generator,” said Carmen.
In 2023, we have ambitious goals to launch some of our largest projects ever

**Goal 1:** Create ambitious new projects to spark change across the aid sector

Launch projects with governments to prove how cash aid can work on bigger and bigger scales to help eradicate extreme poverty

**Goal 2:** Reach new types of donors

Reach new audiences of donors, especially ones whose giving is less affected by economic downturns

**Goal 3:** Center our team more in Global South

Staff more of our team in the places we work, hire more people from those places, and invest in internal development

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**A peek at three new programs**

**In Mozambique, we’ll start payments ahead of floods.**

Climate disasters are difficult to forecast, but we often know right before they’re about to strike. Sofala, Mozambique, has suffered destructive flooding for the past few years. That’s why we’re launching a pilot with the government to make “anticipatory” payments, sending 6,500 people ~$225 just before the next flood strikes. [Learn more →](#)

**In Liberia, we’ll scale the world's largest basic income project.**

We’ve already started payments for 7,800 people in 65 villages for our 3-year basic income program in one of the poorest, most remote regions in the world: Maryland, Liberia. We’ve just erected 10 new cell towers to bring mobile money to unreached communities, with ambitions to reach all ~65k adults. [Learn more →](#)

**In Malawi and the DRC, we’ll help mothers improve their family’s nutrition.**

Together with the Power of Nutrition, we’ll send 11K women in southern Malawi and eastern DRC 2+ years of monthly transfers. Research finds cash aid not only increases how much families eat, but also the health and diversity of their diet.