

What It Means to Prosper

What 1,100+ people in communities facing crisis say stands in their way, and how to move beyond survival.



“

**A good, dignified life
means a full stomach
and peace of mind.**

– Man in Raqqa, Syria



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Across countries and contexts, we asked more than 1,100 people to imagine a good life and a better future.

Their answers were deeply rooted in their own experiences, and remarkably familiar.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), a woman said, “There is security. I farm and harvest without fear.”

In Ukraine, a woman told us, “Peaceful, quiet and healthy, with children, a home, a garden, and happy grandchildren running about, rather than abroad as they are now.”

In Kenya, a woman said, “My family can stand on its own. Cultivating my own garden, producing food, selling and using the income to educate my children to complete schools and later get employment.”

Different places. Different circumstances. But across more than 1,100 voices, a common understanding of prosperity emerged.

Prosperity is shared. People rarely imagined a better future for themselves alone. Their aspirations encompassed their families, their neighbors, and their communities. Their own wellbeing was connected to the wellbeing of others.

Prosperity is the ability to imagine—and plan for—what comes next. It means moving beyond the uncertainty of today. Sending a child to school, growing a business, cultivating a field, finding meaningful work, living safely, and making choices about the future.

Communities already hold many of the ideas, relationships, and capabilities needed to prosper. People told us about mutual aid, savings groups, businesses, markets, and community networks already helping them adapt and move forward.

What communities cannot always do alone is remove the larger barriers standing in their way—from conflict and economic exclusion to the accelerating effects of climate change. That is where the implications of what we heard become clear.

Our role is not to define prosperity for others. It is to listen to what people say they need, recognize and invest in what is already working, and bring together the resources, partnerships, and opportunities that can help communities overcome the barriers they cannot remove on their own.

A parent who wants a better future for their children. A young person who wants the chance to put their skills to work. A farming community who wants to withstand the next drought without losing everything they have built.

The people we listened to may live in places where there are significant roadblocks to prosperity. But the aspirations we heard were universal.

Barely enough is not enough for anyone.

We believe everyone deserves the opportunity not simply to survive, but to keep moving toward something better—to prosper on their own terms. And our collective challenge is to help make that opportunity possible.



Barely enough is not enough for anyone.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

For nearly 50 years, our work has brought us alongside communities confronting their toughest moments. When conflict erupted, drought destroyed crops, or economies collapsed, our team was there with food, water, medicine, cash, and other critical, lifesaving assistance.

Over decades of doing this work, we learned something fundamental: People closest to a challenge often understand best what stands in their way, what is already working, and what a better future could look like. So no matter what we do to help, we must begin with listening.

That idea sparked a survey—the foundation for our **Voices of Prosperity Initiative**, an ongoing effort to listen, learn, and share community perspectives on what it takes to prosper. We listened to people living in profoundly different settings. Cities and villages on the frontlines of active conflict, nomadic settlements, smallholder farms in rural highlands, and communities that have found peace after years of war and violence. With all of them, we began with a simple question: **What does it mean to prosper?**

We spoke with 1,102 people who participate in Prosper Global—formerly Mercy Corps—programs across 396 individual and group conversations in six countries: Colombia, the DRC, Indonesia, Kenya, Syria, and Ukraine. Every conversation was conducted in the local language by local staff. We listened for what was particular to each place—and for what might resonate across borders and circumstances.

Their answers form the heart of this report. They offer a window into what it takes to build a better future in places where prosperity can be hardest to achieve, and what we can do differently to support those futures.

What It Means ➤ to Prosper

1 Prosperity Is Something to Be Shared

At a time of skyrocketing inequality and unimaginable individual wealth globally, most people we surveyed described prosperity as a collective condition that extends beyond individual wealth or material possessions. That view held regardless of age, sex, or occupation.

In Cartagena, Colombia, a woman told us: “It would be ideal to think of it as collective prosperity, because it is no use for one person to prosper if others are left behind; there must be progress for every member of the community.”

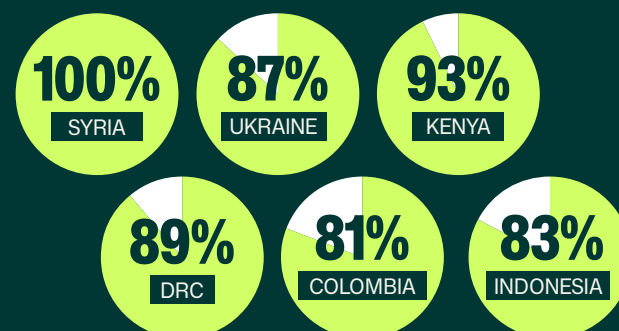
In Poltava, Ukraine, a farmer explained how he used his equipment to help others plow their fields. “Mutual assistance among people is what development is all about.”

In Moyale, Kenya, a woman said: “Prosperity is for the whole community—like when we all have electricity, good roads, good schools. This means that we are experiencing community development.”

In Medan, Indonesia, a woman in a group discussion explained: “Why prosperity for everyone? Because we also want our lives and our families to run comfortably and peacefully.”

In Qamishli, Syria, a woman in a group discussion said: “Prosperity must be based on the entire community. A prosperous individual represents only themselves. The prosperity of a community is a collective responsibility.”

In more than 80% of conversations, participants described prosperity as something shared by the community.



**“If we have labor, we contribute labor.
If we have food, we bring food.
It’s about sharing the burden together.”**

— Woman in Tlogosari, Indonesia

“Even if I have enough and the other person does not, I can’t live in peace.”

– Woman in Goma, DRC

2 Prosperity Is Connected to Local Concerns

While there are different ways of expressing the idea of prosperity around the world, every community’s language is deeply connected to their culture and environment. People living in agricultural communities in Syria, for example, used the Arabic word *izdihar*—to flourish or bloom.

For communities in crisis or facing hardship, people also linked prosperity to another aspect of their local environments: freedom from the threats they face as they go about everyday activities.

In settings where physical violence was present, participants defined prosperity as safety from physical harm, either to themselves or their children. In San Andrés, Colombia for example, a woman described it as, “A child playing in the street who isn’t going to get killed.”

In regions impacted by climate change, participants saw prosperity as a return to better agricultural conditions—more rainfall, larger harvests, or more predictable planting seasons. “After hardship comes relief,” said one man in Raqqa, Syria.

In areas wracked by economic hardship, participants tied prosperity to the availability of jobs or educational opportunities for young people. “I need to make sure my children get an education,” said a man from Mykolaiv Oblast, Ukraine.

3 Prosperity Is Built From Within

When participants described how they navigate hardship, they rarely mentioned outside help first. Instead, they talked about what was already theirs: the savings pooled against a lean month, the labor shared at harvest, the solidarity that holds a community together in crisis.

These were the resources people trusted most, and in every country, they were named more often than any program from outside.

In Mykolaivska Oblast, Ukraine a man spoke about scaling through peer groups: “In light of the current situation in the country, local beekeepers are coming together and trying to help one another, because it’s very difficult to cope alone.”

In Beni, DRC, a woman’s group shared: “We created the Association of Market Mothers which supports women traders by discussing strategies to grow their small businesses.”

In Kabupaten Sigi, Indonesia, one man shared: “We have knowledge, after all—it’s what’s allowed us to survive until today, and it’s what will let us survive in the future because we can put that knowledge to use.”

Outside assistance earns its place when it doesn’t replace what communities have already built. Instead, it amplifies and expands what they can do on their own, extending local know-how and effort, on local terms, to the scale the challenge demands.



A COMMUNITY EFFORT

Prosperity Defined in the Democratic Republic of Congo

The town of Goma, in the DRC, sits on the country's border with Rwanda and under the shadow of Mount Nyiragongo, an active volcano. Goma has long been the site of repeated misfortunes, including volcanic eruptions, outbreaks of Ebola, and cross-border violence. Since January of 2025, the city has been held by the armed group M23. On an overcast night, the clouds above Nyiragongo glow a deep, ominous red, a reflection of the lava that fills the volcano's caldera.

How then might residents of Goma, buffeted by disasters, riven by conflict, subject to some of the toughest conditions on Earth, define their vision of prosperity?

"I can't wish to have a bag of rice and eat while my neighbor goes a day without eating," a woman from Goma told us. "Even if I have enough and the other person does not, I can't live in peace. For me to live my life in peace, he must also find his share. Prosperity is a community effort."

A woman washes her hands to prevent the spread of Ebola amidst the latest outbreak in the DRC. Repeated cycles of violence and natural disasters contribute to the challenges facing communities.



Global Definitions of Prosperity

From movement and growth to balance and completeness. People may use different words to describe prosperity, yet they reveal a shared aspiration: the chance to thrive.



SYRIA

ازدهار

ARABIC (RAQQA)

“To flourish, to bloom.”

Prosperity as the land working again—“just water the plant and it flourishes.” Defined by what is currently missing.

COLOMBIA

Prosperidad

SPANISH

Security against catastrophe where violence is present, freedom where it is not.

People define it against whatever they most fear losing.

**A Conversation
Across Six Countries**

UKRAINE

Рух вперед

UKRAINIAN

Forward movement toward a better future.

Prosperity as a direction, not a destination—the momentum war destroys and grants restore.

KENYA

Barwaaqo

SOMALI (GARISSA)

“Lush pastures after rain.”

Prosperity as an ecological fact shared by everyone who depends on the same pasture—common by definition, not by choice.

INDONESIA

Hamoraon

BATAK (NORTH SUMATRA)

Wealth, descendants, honored position.

Wealth is inseparable from the generational continuity and standing that give it value.

DRC

Kutanta

TSHILUBA (KASAI)

Motion, “moving forward.”

Prosperity that radiates outward across a community rather than accruing inward to a single person.

SYRIA

Pêşketin

KURDISH (AL-HASAKAH)

“Progress, moving forward.”

Prosperity as development—society’s mindset opening, women’s education advancing.

INDONESIA

Nahagena

KULAWI (CENTRAL SULAWESI)

“Nothing is missing.”

A balance to hold, not a level to reach—and inconceivable without the *gotong royong* labor networks that sustain it.

We spoke with 1,102 people spanning 396 individual and group conversations.

228 Ukraine
48 Indonesia

38 DRC
37 Colombia

30 Kenya
15 Syria



Business trainings, savings groups, and financial literacy courses help people in Indonesia—particularly women—improve their ability to withstand hardship due to disaster or the effects of a changing climate.

Overcoming Barriers to Prosperity

A savings group can carry one family through a hard season; it cannot reopen land that conflict has closed, restore a harvest that has failed for everyone at once, or make work appear in a market that offers none. The most pressing barriers to prosperity require larger solutions.

What Stands in the Way of Prosperity?

Communities already have much of what they need to create prosperity on their own. What they need to move forward are partners who can help them remove barriers, create connections, and build toward something better, on their own terms.

When we asked communities what stood in the way of prosperity, three specific barriers to prosperity emerged, each interconnected and with significant implications.

Conflict and insecurity. Participants consistently voiced that peace is a precondition to achieving prosperity, but that step toward prosperity must begin during active conflict.

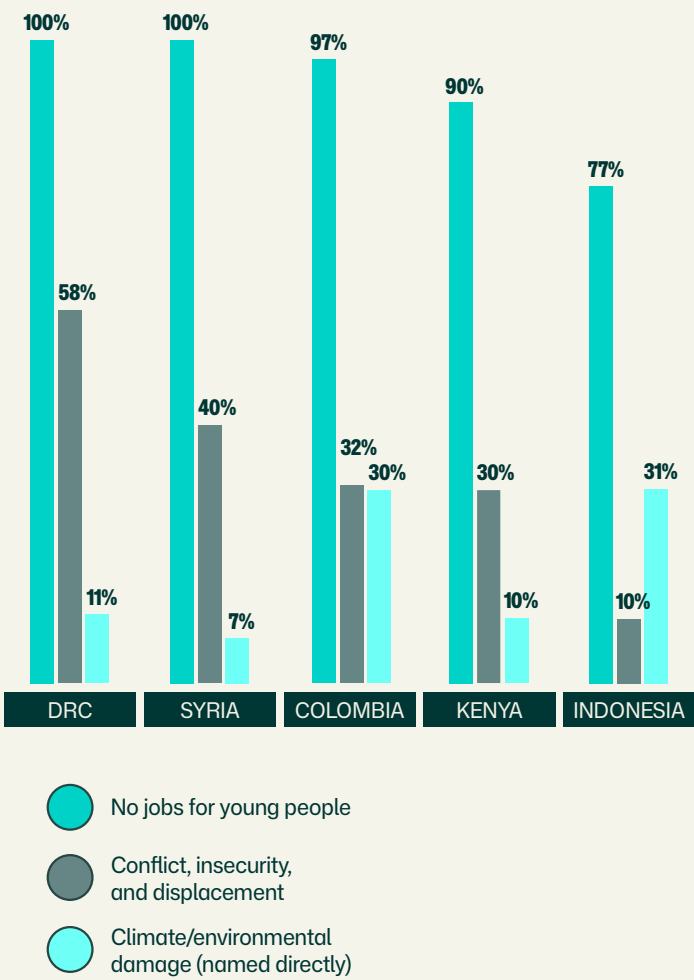
Climate change. While the phrase “climate change” was rarely used, participants spoke about related challenges they have faced for years, including water scarcity, failed harvests, and hunger.

Economic hardship. Participants rarely cited money or lack of material wealth as the barrier to prosperity. Instead, they described a lack of opportunity—specifically jobs for young people.

Each barrier often feeds the next: a failed harvest becomes debt, debt empties a classroom, and a young person left without work becomes an easy recruit for armed groups. What looks like a series of separate problems from the outside showed up in the survey as different parts of the same crisis.

The Biggest Barriers to Living a Good Life

Percentage of conversations per country where a given barrier was mentioned. Ukraine was omitted from this portion of the questionnaire.





In Ukraine, people are rebuilding communities while the war is ongoing. Farmers share heavy equipment and storage facilities to ensure the region is able to rebound. Entrepreneurs hire neighbors and those who have fled to new places as they rebuild communities and connections.

WHEN THE FUTURE BECOMES UNCERTAIN

Conflict and Resilience in Ukraine

Since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, the war has upended daily life for millions of people. Beyond the immediate toll of violence and displacement, people we spoke with described another consequence of prolonged conflict: the loss of the ability to imagine—and plan for—the future.

In Odeska Oblast, a woman told us: “The situation is such that you can only plan for two or three days; it’s impossible to plan any further ahead, as you don’t know what tomorrow will bring.”

Yet even amid that uncertainty, people described the relationships and community support that help them keep moving forward. In Kharkivska Oblast, a mother whose son is serving in the military recalled what happened when he needed an expensive operation: “People helped me; they didn’t turn me down.”

Another woman in Kharkivska Oblast pointed to something that gives her hope for her children: “I have two children, and there’s an underground school that offers in-person classes. That’s wonderful.”

Even when conflict makes the future difficult to see, communities are finding ways to support one another and preserve the possibility of what comes next.



BARRIER 1

Conflict and Insecurity

In 2025, there were 65 armed state conflicts in the world, the highest number recorded since.¹ Survey participants who have experienced conflict describe how insecurity permeates nearly every aspect of daily life—eroding their safety, livelihoods, and education.

Survey respondents across all contexts described the impact of conflict as a process of prosperity in reverse. Physical insecurity closes access to fields or jobs, food becomes scarce, and incomes stagnate. Young people, unable to earn a livelihood or start a family, become susceptible to illicit economies—drug trafficking, prostitution, theft, cattle rustling, gambling, and cycles of debt. In these conditions, the likelihood of recruitment by armed groups increases, stoking further insecurity.

In Kharkivska Oblast, Ukraine, a man told us: “I can’t see a future while the war is still going on. We’re doing everything we can to survive, living one day at a time.”

In Ituri, DRC, women in a group conversation spoke of fears of being killed or raped and living in “constant fear.” One woman in Beni captured how those effects compound: “Insecurity is at the root of everything: we lack food, we cannot send our children to school, and we cannot access our fields.”

In Raqqa, Syria, one man described attempts to rebuild only for war and displacement to once again leave his dreams “shattered.”

Building Peace During Conflict

The path to peace looks different in every community, but it is strongest when it starts with the people, relationships, and local structures already working to hold communities to-gether. Here’s what we heard from participants about how they are already working to strengthen the foundations of peace and create the stability they need to begin building toward prosperity:

¹ <https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/number-of-armed-conflicts>

In Mykolaivska Oblast, Ukraine, one woman spoke of host community members after her family was displaced from another town: “They look out for one another here—lending a hand to water the plants, fetching things. When water was being distributed, they helped carry it. Somehow, during the war, they’ve become a bit closer. The younger ones help the older ones.”

In Garissa, Kenya, one woman shared: “There is peace in the community where people farm, trade, and move freely, and communities cooperate and support each other.”



From Conflict to Peace

How we work with communities to move forward

Peace can and must be built during a crisis—not after.

Communities already have people and organizations working to navigate tensions, strengthen relationships, and prevent violence. Our role at Prosper Global is to help extend their reach and resources, working with secular and religious leaders, women’s groups, and community-based organizations to strengthen the foundations for lasting peace.

We see what becomes possible when those local efforts are strengthened. In northern Nigeria, we have trained community mediators to help reduce conflict between farmers and herders. In coastal Kenya, mentors work with young people at risk of recruitment by armed groups, helping reduce their vulnerability to violence. And in Ukraine, we have supported local organizations to reach marginalized and undocumented residents with critical services. Across very different conflicts, the approach begins in the same place: strengthening the people and relationships already working to hold communities together.

**“To move forward,
you need clear
plans for the future.
And to have
clear plans,
you need peace.”**

– Woman in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, Ukraine



Herders in Kenya must find ways to ensure grazing and water for their livestock, while also not degrading land to a point where farming communities can't plant and harvest. Community rangeland agreements work to help avoid disputes when resources run scarce.

BARRIER 2

Climate Change

It's easy to focus on major climate disruptions—the superstorms, epic droughts, and prolonged heat domes that have become increasingly common in nearly all parts of the world. But while acute, short-term climate catastrophes make headlines, the people we spoke with described lasting consequences that extend far beyond the initial shock.

A decline in harvest yields can ensnare farmers in debt, who purchase seeds and fertilizer with credit. In this way, climate change dangerously undermines a community's prosperity through a cascade of failed harvests, debt traps, and food scarcity.

In parts of East Africa, people name droughts for the kind of pain they inflict. In the 1970s, poets named the drought “Prolonged.” In the 1980s came “Cattle Killer.” In 2010, a quarter-million people died in a drought that locals called “Famine.” Yet even those droughts were not as severe as what began in 2021 and persisted across five failed rainy seasons. A Somali man, fleeing the drought's effects with two young boys in tow called it “white bone.”

“You can't tell—is this the dry season or the rainy season? Now the weather has gone completely off track.”

— Man in Central Java, Indonesia

In Garissa, Kenya, communities are still barely recovering from the aftermath of the 2021–2023 drought, only for a new one to befall them. One man described the vicious cycle these droughts inflict on communities: “Drought, which leads to loss of livestock, reduced production, poor animal condition; conflict, which disrupts livelihoods; environmental challenges such as deforestation.”

In Central Java, Indonesia, individuals described the more lasting effects of climate change. In January 2025, intense rains caused flooding and landslides that led to the deaths of 25 people. Yet, when we visited the following year, the people we spoke to didn't mention the flooding. Instead, they spoke about the havoc climate change was causing on their typical planting cycles. “The weather is unpredictable,” a man told us. “This month we were preparing for the dry season, but it's still raining. You can't tell—is this the dry season or the rainy season? Now the weather has completely gone off track.”



How People Talk About Climate Change

Survey participants rarely used the term “climate change” themselves. Instead, they talked about the impacts of a changing climate.

83%

of conversations mentioned hunger

In the 168 conversations where we asked about barriers, people spoke of famine, hunger, and a lack of available, nutritious food.



67%

of conversations mentioned water scarcity

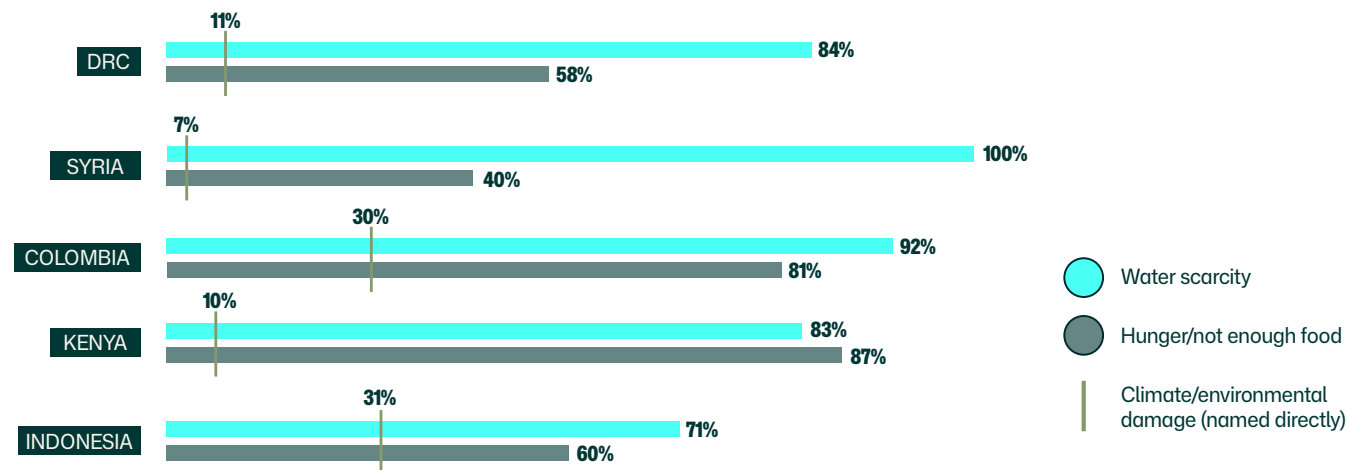
Droughts, depleted aquifers, and inadequate infrastructure was the next most-often-cited impact of climate change.



Climate Change Named as a Barrier vs. Other Climate Outcomes

Percentage of conversations per country where a given barrier was mentioned.

Ukraine was omitted from this portion of the questionnaire.



Thriving Amidst a Changing Climate

It's one thing to survive an acute crisis like a storm or a flood. It's another thing to recover without losing everything you have built. Resilience is about what happens next—the ability not only to withstand a shock, but to adapt, recover, and keep building toward the future.

Survey participants described many of the tools that already help them do exactly that. Just as participants offered a shared vision of prosperity, so too are their remedies for overcoming climate vulnerability.

In Indonesia, participants discussed savings groups and *Serikat Tolong Menolong*, or mutual aid societies, which, for a small fee, allow individuals to pool their savings and then take out interest-free loans.

In Kenya, a group identified several means of homegrown resilience, including a local management committee that helps to ensure equitable access to scarce rangeland, community fund drives for those in need, and “merry-go-round” groups, where members contribute a small sum of money on a regular basis every week, and the full sum is paid out to one of the members on a rotating basis.

In DRC, participants described self-organized farmers' associations, where members take turns cultivating each other's fields to help with harvests and strengthen social ties.



From Climate Change to Resilience

How we work with communities to move forward

Climate shocks may be unavoidable. But losing years of progress does not have to be. That's why Prosper Global works alongside communities to connect people to information, financial tools, markets, and local institutions that can help them mitigate the long tail of climate change.

Across Africa, we have linked millions of farmers with microinsurance and digital services that help them manage weather-related risks. In Kenya, a blockchain-based system automatically releases payments to pastoralist communities when satellite data shows drought conditions have crossed a predetermined threshold. And in Indonesia and Nepal, we have helped integrate disaster preparedness into village government, giving local disaster-management committees a formal role and dedicated resources so communities are better equipped when floods and other disasters strike.

BARRIER 3

Economic Hardship

To some, “prosperity” might signal material wealth, but our survey results demonstrated a different understanding. Wealth, income, money—these ideas rarely surfaced when people described prosperity. In fact, fewer than one conversation in ten tied prosperity to material wealth.

Instead, the main barrier people talked about was economic exclusion or a lack of opportunity, especially for young people.

In Beni, DRC, this sentiment was rampant. “Due to a lack of jobs,” one woman said, “young men will join armed groups, and young women will turn to prostitution to support themselves.”

In Odeska Oblast, Ukraine, people feared that youth would emigrate due to a lack of opportunity. “Who will step up to do the work if there are no young people?” a man asked. “No young people, no future.”

In Pegagan Julu, Indonesia, a man said, “For the younger generation, if nothing changes, human capital will continue to decline and there will be no unity in the village.”

“If today we have to plant, we go and plant. If tomorrow we have to cut, we go and cut. If tomorrow we have to figure out how to deal with the bridge, we go and figure it out.”

– Woman in Norte de Santander, Colombia

Cultivating Shared Prosperity

The surest answer to economic hardship is not assets or skills delivered from outside, but the collective effort communities already invest in one another.

During our conversations, many people mentioned the importance of community support and solidarity, either through informal means or formalized structures. More than two-thirds of all conversations mentioned the existing community support structures critical to people’s livelihoods.

In Kabupaten Sigi, Indonesia, participants referred to the value of *Gotong royong*, a cultural spirit of cooperation and shared work. That spirit drives neighbors to pool effort during fieldwork, rebuild houses of worship, or pay for someone’s healthcare. One man told us: “It’s about us looking out for one another. During the earthquake, things like rice and other supplies were buried under the rubble, so there was only a little rice left. I think that’s why we’ve been able to survive until today.”

In Raqqqa, Syria a man talked about the concept of *al-faza’a*—a surge of support and mutual aid, either to respond to a challenge or to pitch in during a harvest. “No one goes through a hardship without everyone being there for them,” he said. “The tribe is with them. In difficult times—funerals, fires, or demolitions, or when crops are damaged—there is a fund for every neighborhood.”

In Norte de Santander, Colombia, a woman spoke about the importance of community reliance and adaptation. “The community is ready to work for ourselves,” she said. “We are versatile. We adapt to everything. If today we have to plant, we go and plant. If tomorrow we have to go and cut, we go and cut. If tomorrow we have to figure out how to deal with the bridge, we go and figure it out. We don’t know, but we learn.”



THE HIGH COST OF CONFLICT

Economic Hardship in Syria

In 2014, the Islamic State seized the city of Raqqa, in northern Syria, declaring it the capital of a new caliphate. Its residents lived under its rule for three years, suffering forced taxation, recruitment and marriage, as well as public executions. When the Syrian Democratic Forces retook Raqqa from ISIS in 2017, it came at an enormous cost to civilians with months of fighting block by block that left most of the city in ruins.

Economic hardship still lingers in this recovering city. “There’s just no return on investment,” a man said. “It’s exhausting.”

“People are losing their land,” another man said. “I used to have 50 dunams [about five hectares]; now I have 40. If things stay this way, next year, I’ll have to sell 10 dunams.”

And a man in a group conversation told us: “The situation here is tough; families are struggling....Today, honestly, everyone’s stomach is empty.”

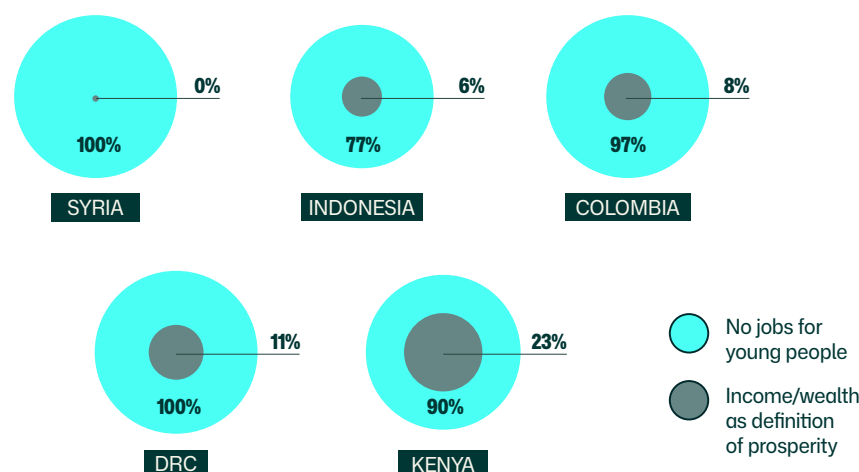
But that same man also shared another perspective about prosperity in the face of hardship: “Money,” he said, “isn’t the foundation of a happy life.”



Farmers returning to their land in Syria often find their soil overrun with weeds and debris, and their machinery destroyed or looted. Rebuilding is an ongoing challenge as financial institutions have collapsed and people are forced to sell off parcels of land.

Economic Hardship as a Barrier to Prosperity

Share of conversations naming money as a barrier to prosperity vs. no jobs for young people, by country. Ukraine was omitted from this portion of the questionnaire.





From Hardship to Prosperity for All

How we work with communities to move forward

Economic opportunity is about more than earning an income. It gives people the ability to make choices, invest in one another, and build a future.

What people often lack is not ambition but access to capital, markets, networks, and opportunities that can help them grow. Our role at Prosper Global is to help make those connections so that individual initiative can become a source of greater opportunity for families and communities.

We see what becomes possible when those connections are made. Across Kenya, Uganda, and Nigeria, young women have joined peer networks and savings groups that help them pursue work, attend school, or start businesses of their own. For refugees in extreme poverty in Uganda, we have combined cash and skills support with connections to local markets, an approach that increased incomes by nearly a quarter in randomized trials. And as the digital economy creates new pathways to work, we help women and young people access jobs that might otherwise remain out of reach, creating tens of thousands of connections to paid opportunities.

Prosper Global invests in coffee farming communities in Indonesia to expand agricultural practices that are more adaptive climate change. These investments help farmers to improve the quality and productivity of harvests while building more resilient agricultural enterprises.





What's ➤ Next

The insights in this report come at an important moment in our own evolution. Mercy Corps is now Prosper Global. Our new name reflects what we have learned over decades of listening and working alongside communities:

Helping people survive crisis can't be the limit of our ambition.

Going forward, the voices of the more than 1,100 people who participated in this survey will inform our priorities and our approach.

We will continue to respond with urgency when a crisis strikes—supplying food, water, shelter, cash, and the care that is essential.

But people displaced by conflict need more than shelter; they need safety, stability, and a path forward. Farmers whose crops have withered need more than food; they need a chance at another harvest. Communities whose markets have collapsed need more than a handout; they need livelihoods.

Today, as conflicts last longer, climate impacts grow more frequent, and global growth slows—all while foreign aid budgets are cut—we need new solutions to these collective challenges. And our belief is that the best solutions come from the people and communities closest to the problem.

Our role is not to define prosperity for others. It is to work alongside communities as they overcome barriers, expand opportunities, and build what comes next. And to stay relentlessly optimistic that people, wherever they are, whatever stands in their way, can overcome hardships, prosper, and pursue a full life—on their own terms.

“My hope is to see a coffee tree and its beautiful branches; I would feel happy to see a tree like that blooming and bearing fruit.”

— Participant in Cauca, Colombia

Interested in Learning More?

To dive deeper into the stories and survey results, visit prosperglobal.org/voices

To read about our global strategy, the Pathway to Prosperity, visit prosperglobal.org/pathway

**Security
Progress
Community
Peace
Movement
Stability
Home
Freedom
Flourishing
➤ Prosper**

Barely enough is not enough for anyone. Prosper Global (formerly Mercy Corps) is a humanitarian organization working alongside communities facing conflict, climate change, and economic hardship to meet urgent needs and create the conditions for lasting progress. Today's challenges demand new solutions, so we pair local knowledge with global resources to help communities build what's needed, test what's possible, and scale what's proven so that people everywhere can pursue a full life on their own terms. In 2025, we reached more than 36 million people.



prosperglobal.org