



WORLD VISION INTERNATIONAL  
ANNUAL  
**REPORT**  
ANNUAL  
Global Annual Report 2020



# President's Foreword

We began 2020 by renewing our clear commitment to support and empower the girls and boys living in the world's toughest places. Our vision is for every child to access education, immunisations and healthcare living a childhood free from violence and abuse. Only then can these children flourish and truly reach their God-given potential.

In March 2020, a defining moment came as COVID-19 was declared a pandemic. We launched our global response the very same day, with our nearly 35,000 staff across 100 countries rising immediately to the challenge of protecting children from the devastating aftershocks of this disease. So far, as you will read on the following pages, we have reached more than 59 million people including 26 million children.

The world around us has, indeed, changed forever. As we enter this next normal, our organisation has adapted too – as it has

throughout our 70-year history. Yet our unwavering promise, motivated by our Christian faith, to reach the most vulnerable remains exactly the same.

Of course, so many crises continue to emerge alongside COVID-19; conflict, devastating hurricanes, floodings and even locust invasions. We have been there throughout, building resilience and supporting the most vulnerable.

Child Sponsorship and its far-reaching transformative power remains central to our work and fundraising efforts. Sponsorship is bringing benefits not only to a generation of girls and boys facing incredible hardship during the pandemic, but to our generous sponsors as well as they learn more about the children and their communities through letters, photos, and videos.

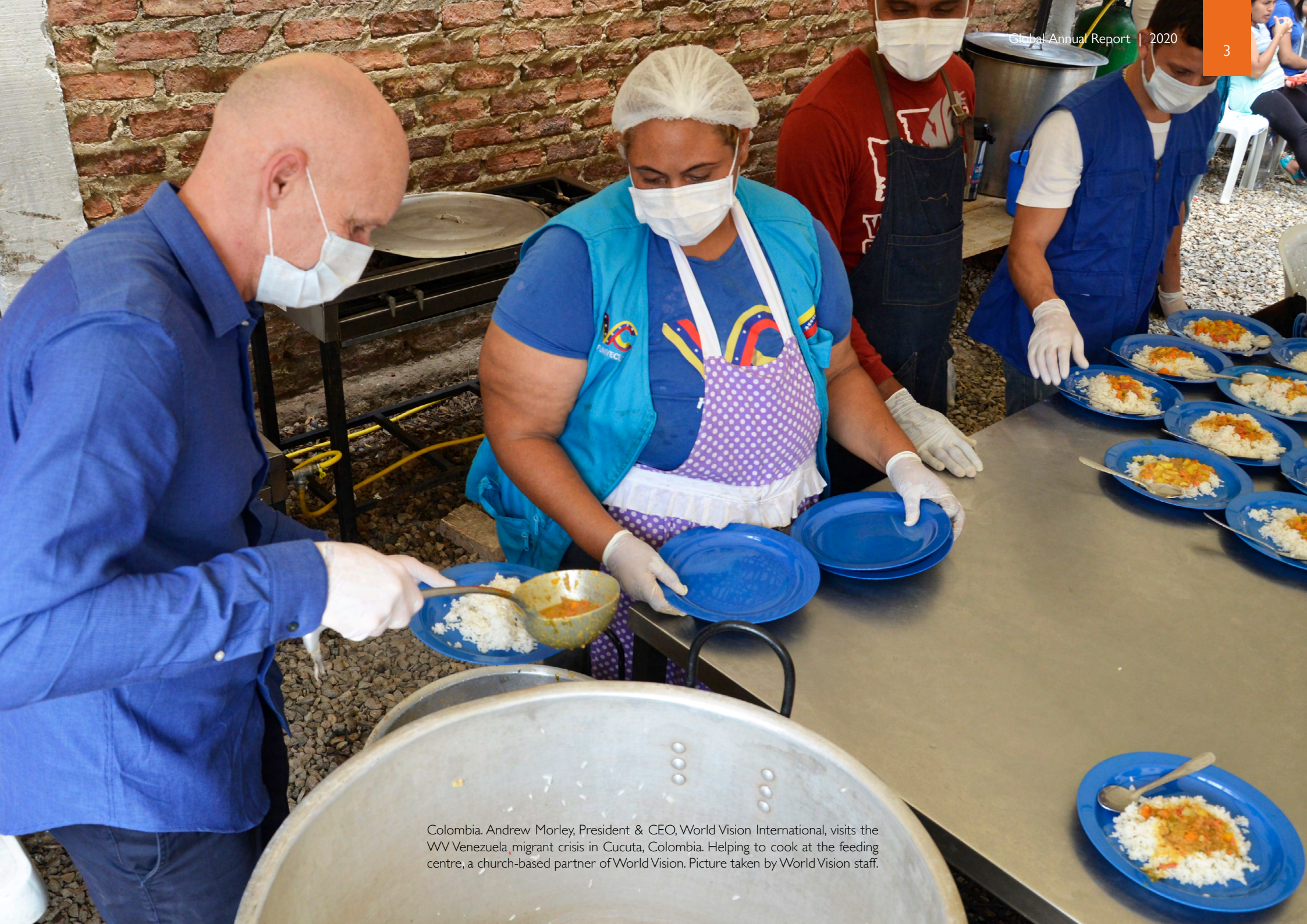
As ever, we have an absolute duty to ensure the impact of all this work is accurately recorded and transparently shared. On the following pages, you will find many details of the breadth and reach of our programmes, and how they are transforming lives. This is only possible through child sponsors, supporters, donors, partners, faith leaders, governments, and the communities themselves whom we walk alongside in this mission. I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart.

Together, following in the footsteps of Jesus, we are united in keeping hope alive for a generation of girls and boys who need us now more than ever.



Andrew Morley  
President & CEO, World Vision International





Colombia. Andrew Morley, President & CEO, World Vision International, visits the WW Venezuela migrant crisis in Cucuta, Colombia. Helping to cook at the feeding centre, a church-based partner of World Vision. Picture taken by World Vision staff.



Our vision for every child  
**is life in all its fullness.**

Our prayer for every heart is  
**the will to make it so.**

Cambodia. Chicken distribution to migrants who return home from Thailand during the COVID-19 pandemic. The project is funded by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) through World Vision. Picture taken by World Vision staff.





# We are World Vision

Our focus is on helping the most vulnerable girls and boys overcome poverty so they can experience fullness of life now and in the future. Inspired by our Christian faith, our work reaches children no matter their background or if they live in the most dangerous of places.

We are driven by our desire to ensure that every girl and boy has what they need to grow in mind, body, and spirit. Every day, our nearly 35,000 staff work hard to empower children to live lives filled with joy, become all that Jesus created them to be, and go further than they could ever have imagined.

Guided by more than 70 years of experience and expertise, our dedicated staff employ proven, effective development and relief practices to empower communities to become self-sufficient and bring real, lasting change.

As a leading global partner, we labour alongside supporters, stakeholders, families, and communities to transform lives and offer hope. As a result, all our lives are enriched. Together, with our partners, we have positively impacted the lives of more than 200 million vulnerable children around the world.

We are privileged to serve and work to see relationships restored and communities transformed, all as a reflection of God's unconditional love. And we humbly acknowledge that without the goodness of God and the generosity of donors, we would not be able to do what we do.

**Our work reaches children no matter their background or if they live in the most dangerous of places.**



Honduras. A sponsored girl, cherishes the Bible World Vision gave her. She is the youth mayor of her community and already a child rights advocate. She was elected by students all over the municipality and now advocates to prevent early marriage and teen pregnancy. Picture taken by World Vision staff.

# Our Promise **Going Further**

**In 2020, our Partnership-wide strategy called *Our Promise* entered its second phase. The strategy is a promise to the world's most vulnerable children that we will relentlessly pursue our vision for them – life in all its fullness. We do this in alignment with the goals of the Sustainable Development Agenda.**



## **Living out our faith and calling with boldness and humility.**

We have built credibility as a strong Christian partner, capable of galvanising a diverse mix of faith leaders and communities in support of collective action for children. This has been particularly evident through our COVID-19 response.



## **Deepening our commitment to the world's most vulnerable girls and boys.**

In 2020, 34% of our international funding was allocated to the most fragile countries where we work. We also began supporting vulnerable children in two new countries, Venezuela and Yemen, and substantially expanded our presence in a number of other fragile places. In addition, we substantially expanded our presence in a number of other most fragile contexts in the world.



## **Focusing our ministry for greater results.**

We have deeper alignment with VisionFund, our microfinance subsidiary, as a key contributor to child well-being, delivering sustainable impact to more than 3.6 million children in 28 countries through small loans to families and communities.



Kenya: Children walk to their primary school. World Vision's water project brought clean water near to their homes. Now that safe water is right at their doorstep, they have more time and energy for schoolwork and play. Picture taken by World Vision staff.



### Collaborating and advocating for broader impact.

Since 2015, 214 million children are better protected through stronger government policies addressing violence against children as a result of our 'It takes a world to end violence against children' advocacy campaign in 70 countries.



### Delivering high quality, sustainable funding to the field.

We are collaborating in new ways to increase child sponsorship revenue, accelerate private funding, and grow grants across all relevant markets to support programming priorities. In many cases, our offices are exceeding targets for our work in fragile contexts.

Our review of progress during 2020, shown in the pages of this update, tells us that we are heading in the right direction. Now we need to go further. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the global inequalities that the most vulnerable children and their families suffer. This is why our focus will and must remain on the greatest threats to children.

Our urgent areas of action from the strategy's first phase remain strong and relevant. But vulnerable children cannot wait for us. We are learning to focus on fewer priorities that make the biggest difference.

To learn more about our global strategy, go to: [www.wvi.org/our-promise](http://www.wvi.org/our-promise)



# Our Priority, **reaching** **the most vulnerable**



**Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)** are critical for the health and well-being of children and their communities. In 2020, we exceeded our WASH targets by reaching 3.4 million people with access to clean water and 2.7 million people with access to household sanitation. With the COVID-19 pandemic threatening communities around the world, handwashing promotion and supplies became a focus. We increased prevention efforts by equipping nearly 48,000 schools and 2,500 health centres with handwashing facilities. We also reached 8.2 million people with hygiene promotion (230% of our target) – which is truly remarkable given the challenging conditions our teams were working under.



**World Vision works with parents in sponsorship communities to increase and diversify their income sources.** Over the years, we have worked with many parents in sponsorship communities so that they are better prepared to recover from a shock like this pandemic. In 2020 alone, over 62,000 parents in sponsorship communities were trained in how to increase their food security and livelihoods resilience.



Our microfinance subsidiary, **VisionFund**, offers financial solutions that enable families and communities to develop a reliable source of income and livelihood to lift families and children out of the poverty cycle. In 2020, VisionFund supported one million borrowers, created 1.35 million sustainable jobs, and distributed loans worth US\$576 million. Through our microfinance programmes, we have impacted the lives of more than 3.6 million children. **Every 60 seconds a family receives the tools to overcome poverty.**



Empowering children and amplifying their voices is at the centre of World Vision's work in communities. In 2020, more than 81,000 children and youth in our sponsorship communities courageously took action to help **end violence against children.**





During the past year, World Vision has taken a number of significant actions to move forward in our commitment to **environmental stewardship and to reducing our negative impact on the environment**. At a strategic and policy level, the organisation has finalised the Environmental Stewardship Management Policy, which sets in place an organisation-wide commitment to:

- Increase programmes that promote positive environmental benefits for children.
- Monitor our carbon footprint and take short-term and long-term actions to offset and reduce it.
- Advocate for climate justice for children through our external engagement with peer organisations.



Bangladesh. A mother teaches her child the right way to wash his hands at home. World Vision supports families with training on how to protect themselves from diseases. Picture taken by World Vision staff.



# Child Sponsorship

In 2020, with the generous support from sponsors across the world, 47 million children and their families benefited from our sponsorship programming.

Our long-term presence in communities through sponsorship programmes enabled us not only to respond to the pandemic quickly, but our years of work with communities, meant families were better able to protect themselves and withstand some of the aftershocks of COVID-19.

Last year, despite the lockdown in many countries, we were able to scale up and reach twice the number of people with handwashing facilities and hygiene programmes than we had the year before:

- In 2020, 7.6 million people in our sponsorship communities learned about the benefits of safe hygiene and handwashing, and this became even more important to keep families safe during the pandemic.
- In 2020, almost one million families received hygiene training and now have handwashing facilities with soap available to them. This simple change plays a critical role in protecting them from diseases.

Independent research<sup>1</sup> shows that children who regularly exchange letters with their sponsors are on average happier, more confident, and more hopeful about their future, compared to children who don't. Because of this, we thank our sponsors and their long-term commitment to their sponsored children, allowing us to accomplish our mission and continue serving the world's most vulnerable.

The Chosen® initiative launched in 2019 recognises that traditional child sponsorship entailed donors choosing which children they will sponsor. Chosen® is about putting the power of choice in children's hands, as they select their sponsors. Shifting how the sponsorship relationship begins can set the tone of the ongoing relationship and change the power dynamics. This new approach to sponsorship is about empowering children to take hold of their future, to initiate change in their own lives, and to transform their communities.

<sup>1</sup> Feeny, S., Westthorp, G., Jennings, M., Clarke, M., Donohue, C., Boxelaar, L., Mackintosh, A., Navez-John, K., Nyanhanda, T., Castro, J., and Wheatley, N. (2017). World Vision's Child Sponsorship: An Evaluation of Five Area Development Programmes, Report for World Vision International, May 2017.





Myanmar. World Vision empowering children to take the first step in changing their future. For the first time ever, putting the power to choose their sponsor in their hands. Children showing photos of their sponsor after being chosen by themselves. Picture taken by World Vision staff.



Our Global Impact,  
reaching the most vulnerable

Humanitarian assistance reached **27.1 million people in response to 66 disasters**



In 2020 we helped, more than **3.4 million children**

in our sponsorship work in **1,250 area programmes around the world**

**We helped**



**3.6 million children**

by providing financial and livelihood services to families that help increase incomes so their children can grow up educated and healthy

We have **34,950 courageous staff** and more than **112,000 volunteers**



**47 million people benefited**



in **54 countries** through our sponsorship programming

**92% of severely malnourished children**

**we treated in our sponsorship communities**

over the last five years made a **full recovery**



**10 million people**

in **31 countries** with food support



**8.2 million people were reached**

with hygiene promotion, and handwashing facilities were installed at nearly 48,000 schools and 2,500 health centres



# 70%

of VisionFund borrowers are women, resulting in 1.1 million empowered women

VisionFund has disbursed more than

 **1 million loans**

with a value of **US\$576 million**

More than

## 62,000

parents in sponsorship communities received training to increase food security and livelihoods resilience

In 2020, more than

## 81,000 children and youth

in our sponsorship communities courageously took action to help end violence against children

nearly 6 million **advocacy actions**

taken by World Vision supporters who **campaign for vulnerable children in 34 countries**

## 3.4 million

**people gained access to clean water,**

including half a million children who received safe drinking water at school



We helped

## 6.4 million

**people in 41 countries, with cash or voucher-based programming**



World Vision's award-winning approach

**Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration**

is being scaled up globally and has been recognised amongst the the UN's top 500 practices that contribute to 12 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals





Every **60 seconds** ...  
a family gets **water** ...  
a family receives the **tools**  
**to overcome poverty.**

**World Vision is reaching  
one new person**

with clean water every 10 seconds and  
reaches three more schools every day  
with clean water.

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**Together we've impacted the  
lives of over**

**200 million  
vulnerable children**

by tackling the root causes of poverty.

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**For every child you help,  
4 other children benefit too.**







Mozambique. Sponsored children play community games after school. World Vision is focusing on keeping girls in school regardless of their circumstances. Picture taken by World Vision staff.





# COVID-19 global response

World Vision is responding  
to the devastating  
impact of COVID-19  
in more than  
**100 countries.**

Our US\$350  
million

response aims to reach  
**72 million people,**  
including 36 million  
children, especially the  
most vulnerable.

On 11 March 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic. Within hours, World Vision launched its largest global emergency response ever in our 70-year history.

Our response to COVID-19 has already had a significant impact. **We have reached more than 59 million people, including over 26 million children.**





World Vision has equipped a network of **450,000 faith leaders** to respond to child well-being challenges in their communities in the past decade. In 2020 we have partnered with more than **124,000 faith leaders** in COVID-19 care and prevention campaigns.

31,451,096  
people reached

through promotion of preventive behaviours



4,803,098  
handwashing

supplies distributed

97,175  
hygiene facilities  
constructed or rehabilitated

2,774,173  
hygiene kits  
distributed



88,654  
community-level public  
handwashing stations

established or  
maintained



 8,441,555

masks distributed,

including to health facilities,  
health workers, and  
communities

1,864,201  
people



provided with  
education support or  
training

3,424,202  
people reached

with information,  
education, communication,  
and psychosocial support  
materials



# Financial summary

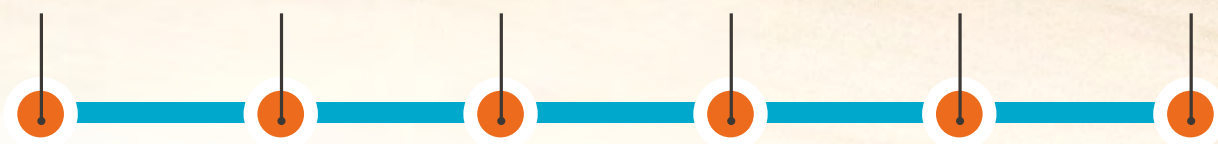
For a detailed financial report, go to: <https://www.wvi.org/accountability>, which includes a link to our most recent financial statements

## Strengthening our commitment to children living in fragile places.

From 2016 to 2020, we increased the amount spent in fragile and conflict-affected areas by 59%.

### Total revenue (in US billion):

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
\$2.73	\$2.72	\$2.76	\$2.76	\$2.90	\$3.01



## 87% Yield to programming

(The proportion of revenue spent on programming work having a direct impact on vulnerable children's lives, including advocacy, campaigning, and technical support)



## Total expenditure by category

(all amounts in US dollars)



Development programmes

**\$1.52 billion**



Relief and rehabilitation programmes

**\$961 million**



Community education and advocacy

**\$28 million**



Fundraising

**\$258 million**



Administration

**\$136 million**

## Programme expenditure by region

Other International Programming  
**\$77 million**

North America  
**\$240 million**

Middle East &  
Eastern Europe  
**\$359 million**

Africa  
**\$1.14 billion**

Asia Pacific  
**\$480 million**

Latin America &  
the Caribbean  
**\$204 million**

Australia &  
New Zealand  
**\$11 million**

- Fiscal Year 2020 data is subject to audit adjustment (World Vision's fiscal year runs from 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020).
- World Vision reduced the amount spent on administration and fundraising, globally, by US \$57 million in FY20 compared to FY19.
- The difference between the Yield to Programming figure and programming expenditures by region is due to the implementation timing of some projects.

Bangladesh. A boy running, laughing and smiling, flying his kite. Picture taken by World Vision staff.





China: Friends walk together - a mix of sponsored children in traditional dress. Picture taken by World Vision staff.

[wvi.org](http://wvi.org)