



World Vision

Jerusalem-WestBank-Gaza

Vision for a Generation Transformed



Annual Review

2007

**Our vision for every child
Life in all its fullness;**

**Our prayer for every heart,
The will to make it so**



MISSION STATEMENT

**World Vision is an international partnership of
Christians whose mission is:**

To follow our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
In working with the poor and oppressed
To promote human transformation,
Seek justice, and bear witness
To the good news of the kingdom of God

We pursue this mission through integrated, holistic commitment to:

Transformational Development that is community-based and sustainable, focused especially on the needs of children;

Emergency Relief that assists people afflicted by conflict or natural disaster;

Promotion of Justice that seeks to change unjust structures affecting the poor among whom we work;

Partnerships with Churches to contribute to spiritual and social transformation;

Public Awareness that leads to informed understanding, giving involvement and prayer;

Witness to Jesus Christ by life, deed, word and sign that encourages people to respond to the Gospel.

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Greetings from the National Director

Dear Friends,

This has been a year of solid achievement in working with some of the poorest people of this land, as our plans for long term development combined with global advocacy gradually become a reality.

This year, for example, five new Area Development Programmes (ADPs) successfully began work in three geographical areas (Salfit, Jenin and North Gaza), and we obtained World Vision's first global agreement on our communications, which will enable us to speak with one voice worldwide.

Standards of living in the occupied Palestinian territory have deteriorated sharply, mainly as a result of closures and movement restrictions. This was compounded in the Gaza Strip because of interecine fighting, which left the area isolated from the rest of the Palestinian population and from most of the outside world.

We were able to circumvent many of these obstacles by locally appropriate development, made possible by the dedication of our national staff who not only know the areas where we work extremely well, but more importantly have a deep commitment to the sustainability of their own communities.

Despite worsening economic conditions, the people whom World Vision serves have been the ones to give us hope amidst a seemingly impossible situation. Their eagerness to cooperate with our projects, their obvious pride at the

completion of a

cistern, as you will see from Ali Yousef's story (p. 11), or the squeals of laughter among the children in a new playground, keep us believing and seeing that our efforts are indeed making a difference in people's lives. We see the effects of our work in the faces of healthy children benefiting from an after school psycho-social programme, the eyes of mothers attending clinics that we have established, and in heads held high by the people involved in many small income-generating projects.

Our vision is "a generation transformed", which means a dramatically better future for at least 100,000 children by the year 2020. To achieve this, we need to continue our investment in their wellbeing and ensure it is maintained in the community. In the last 24 months we have redesigned all our ADPs in order to employ the best possible methods known to our international Partnership, and committed time and effort to the training of staff and volunteers. We intend to keep up this process of continuous improvement year by year.

We are grateful for the generous support of our donors, who share our commitment to paving the long road ahead in the service of a people who seek solutions to poverty and try to build peace with justice even when the odds seem against them. We thank them for their trust in us and hope our teamwork across the world will be richly rewarding on both sides.

Most of all we realise that our aims cannot be fulfilled without the blessing of God, and so we continue to pray for His continued guidance and providence in the years ahead as we carry out our most precious mandate.

Sincerely,
Charles Clayton



World Vision in the Holy Land

World Vision began working in the Holy Land in 1975, serving the poor and marginalized, especially children.

World Vision initially assisted Palestinian groups supporting education and rehabilitation projects. The goals were to empower communities for independence from relief and structural aid while building a better understanding of sustainable development.

An important funding source for World Vision's programmes is child sponsorship. World Vision donors from around the world are sponsoring 22,000 children. Other funds are from private donations, foundations, companies, and government grants, such as AusAid and USAID.

In addition to its development work, World Vision advocates for a just and comprehensive peace between Palestinians and Israelis so that all can live in security and prosperity.

Number of permanent staff 65

Total FY07 Budget: US \$7,670,736





Sponsorship for a better future

Sponsorship is the backbone of World Vision's development work in Palestine. Individual donors sponsor a child or more in one of our ten ADPs or in schools that we support by sending a monthly contribution through the World Vision Support Office in the donors' home country.

This year, 22,000 children were registered in the World Vision Jerusalem-West Bank-Gaza sponsorship programme, with an expected 24,000 registered children next year.

The generous contributions from child sponsorship alone amounted to US \$3,692,901 in FY07. These funds were used to improve the villages where sponsored children live, in the belief that developing a child's overall environment so develops the child's prospects for the future. No actual cash is exchanged between a donor and a sponsored child.

This year, sponsorship contributions have enabled World Vision to rehabilitate schools, cisterns and agricultural roads; maintain health clinics and community centres; and build public parks and playgrounds; among other development activities.

Sponsored children are usually between the ages 1-14. Girls and boys who participate in the programme exchange letters with the donor to help personalise the relationship between donor and the recipient communities.

ADP/Support Office	No. of Children
East Hebron/Canada	4000
West Bethlehem/Australia	3500
South Salfit/US	1030
Old City of Jerusalem/US	750
West Ramallah/US	2450
North East Jenin/Korea	2000
South Jenin/Korea	2000
West Jenin/Canada	1500 for next year
North Gaza/Australia	1100
South Gaza/US	2740

Celebrating childhood

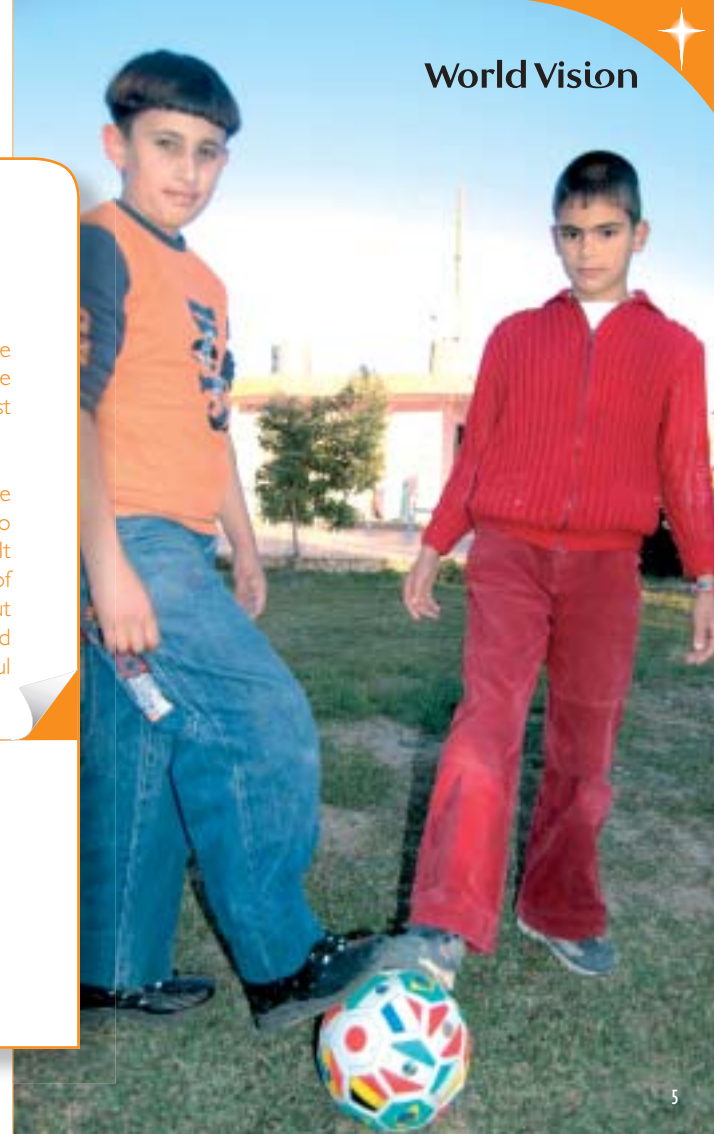
For children whose parents can barely afford to put food on the table, even the simplest gift makes them feel special.

Thanks to extra contributions from donors, sponsored children in Aboud in the West Ramallah ADP enjoyed a collective birthday party. Toys were carefully selected in order to help get these children off the streets, encourage good sportsmanship and promote better fitness. Footballs (soccer balls), tennis and badminton rackets, and chess sets were happily received by over 450 girls and boys in the village. The boys were thrilled to receive the footballs, while the girls tended to choose the rackets and chess sets.

Collective birthday parties are popular among children, who would otherwise miss celebrating their special day because their families often have more pressing priorities. The parties usually incorporate an educational element: this year children learned about the importance of caring for the environment from a comedy puppet show.

Ten-year-old Jivara was one of the children who received a ball. He was happy because it was the first one he ever owned.

"My father cannot afford to buy me a football, so my friends and I go to the priest to borrow his ball. It is true that his ball is made out of leather while this one is made out of rubber, but this one is new and more beautiful. I like the colourful flags drawn on it," he said.



Eat, Study and Play

An after school project paints smiles on girls' faces

A pilot psychosocial project was launched in the village of Beit Rima earlier in FY07 with funding from the Middle East Children's Institute (MECI). The project is a comprehensive after school programme that offers all 205 Bani Zeid elementary schoolgirls a hot and wholesome meal, help with their homework, and fun activities designed to alleviate psychological trauma suffered from the conflict.

As a result of the project, the girls' school performance improved, as did their overall well-being, health and self-esteem.

Families have been able to reduce costs and the community has also benefited; the project employed 11 counselors to oversee activities and seven women to prepare and serve the meals. Green grocers, butchers, bakers and grocery store owners in the village are also enjoying the added business that this activity has brought them.

Six year old Miral wants to be a physician when she grows up. Her mom, Huda, says that since Miral began participating in the project, she has become more outgoing and is comfortable asking for what she needs. Miral said that she enjoys the food and shyly admitted she likes some dishes better than her mother's cooking. Apart from the direct health, educational and social benefits of the project, Huda says that as a working mother she appreciates the fact that Miral comes home having finished all her homework, which allows them to spend quality time together.



Transformational Development

Transformational Development is a community-based and sustainable form of development, focusing especially on the well-being of all girls and boys. It is a process through which children, families, and communities move towards wholeness of life with dignity, justice, peace and hope.

In 2007, World Vision began a process of purposefully integrating its work in various sectors (education, food security/agriculture, health, and income generation projects) to align with the goal of TD. This means that all projects, whether agricultural, educational or other will be designed specifically targeting the development of the whole community, so that any development reflects on all aspects of life, rather than on a specific sector alone.

World Vision's role in this process is to facilitate the communities as they pursue transformational development in partnership with sponsors, donors, governments, churches, and other NGOs.



A farmer in Al Makhrou, Beit Jala

Transformational Development is a process through which children, families and communities move toward wholeness of life with dignity, justice, peace and hope.

Responding to needs

To achieve TD, World Vision implements long-term (10-15 years) holistic programmes in clusters of villages driven by the needs of that specific community. These programmes are called Area Development Programmes (ADPs). World Vision partners with local organizations and cooperates with communities to improve standards of living in all sectors.

ADPs are based on levels of need and marginalisation within a geographical area. Such areas are easy to define as basic services and infrastructure are severely lacking in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. There is a critical need for development in education, agriculture, and health services.

In 2007, World Vision started five new ADPs in response to the deteriorating economic situation; three in the Jenin District, one in Salfit and one in North Gaza. The other five ADPs (Hebron, Bethlehem, Old City of Jerusalem, Ramallah and South Gaza) went through an assessment and redesign phase to determine what worked and what needed to be revised to meet the needs of the community.

Ever since the Palestinian Legislative Council elections in 2006, poverty in the occupied Palestinian territory has worsened. Movement restrictions have hindered many people from seeking jobs, thereby rendering 58% of people under the poverty line - nearly 2.18 million*.

* Source: UNDP



Expanding into new areas

Jenin is in the northernmost part of the West Bank. It is famous for the richness of its soil and the abundance of quality produce. Due to deteriorating political circumstances, which have had an effect on Jenin's economy, agricultural land is out of reach for most farmers, while those with access do not have adequate water supplies.

The previously bustling farmers market, which was open late into the night seven days a week exporting produce to Israel and other parts of the West Bank, is now non-existent, devastating the local economy. With very few people allowed access to the job market in Israel, many households suffered the loss of a major source of livelihood and unemployment rates are rising. Jenin is believed to have the second highest rate of unemployment in the West Bank.

As a consequence of deteriorating political and economic conditions, many families are completely reliant on aid from social services, which frequently does not cover basic needs. After a thorough assessment process, World Vision with support from donors in Canada and Korea decided to expand into the Jenin area.

Three new ADPs were established this year in the Jenin district: West Jenin, South Jenin and Northeast Jenin, which will impact a total population of 67,961. More than 12,000 children and their families will directly benefit from our programmes.

Jenin in Numbers:

Jenin has 68 villages in six clusters
Jenin district area covers 583 Km²

Source: World Vision internal assessment

- 62% Poverty Rate in Jenin
- 26% of households are in extreme poverty
- 31% of households are below the poverty line
- 56% Food insecurity - highest in the West Bank.

Source: Poverty in the occupied Palestinian territory, Development Times, Issue no.1, July 2007, UNDP.



Health Clinic in Deir Abu Mashal

New Clinic in Palestinian Village to Benefit Hundreds of Patients

Deir Abu Mashal, one of six villages in the West Ramallah ADP funded by World Vision U.S., finally has a health clinic befitting this village of approximately 3,500 inhabitants.

Patients were previously treated in a crowded facility, where there was little privacy and the hygienic standards were of concern. The old clinic has since been transformed into a much-needed kindergarten. Since opening in late 2006, the new clinic has expanded into other necessary specialties such as dentistry and gynaecology, and has a staff of three physicians and three nurses. It also hosts a laboratory and the only pharmacy in town.

Families used to have to travel 30Km from the village to Ramallah in order to receive simple care or in case of emergencies. Though the distance may not seem very far, many patients were unable to access treatment facilities since transportation is expensive and over 75% of the village lives below the poverty line. Checkpoints along the way pose additional challenges.

One of the women in the village brought her seven-month-old baby girl to the clinic to treat her for high fever. "A trip to the city and a visit to the doctor could cost 75 Shekels (about US \$20). My husband owns a small shop and we cannot afford such expenses," she said, grateful for the new clinic.



Water Cisterns in Qibya and playground in Rantis

Ali Yousef is one of the beneficiaries of an agricultural project in the ancient village of Qibya, with a population of 4,929. He welcomes guests warmly with a cup of mint tea and proudly shows off his recently completed cistern that he will use to water his home garden, already resplendent with a few fruit trees filled with cherries and figs.

Ali smiles and recalls the time when his young family lived in a flat with only a few plants on the windowsills, "My wife and I always dreamed of a garden that we could nurture, and now with the cistern, we can create paradise at our doorstep."

Five-year-old Sabreen, a sponsored child, is eager to help her father plant beans, potatoes and spinach. The plants will offset the meager family income, especially since Ali cannot work fulltime because of a disability. The village has a total of 605 children in the sponsorship programme.

Rantis village is home to 537 sponsored children. After school, girls and boys play tag and other games in the narrow streets of the village, putting them at danger. Parents decided that it was time to do something about this in order to protect their children and donated a piece of land at the edge of the village. With support from World Vision, the land has been transformed into a playground, keeping children from the dangers of playing on the streets or in a nearby cemetery.

One boy, Abdel Raouf (10) smiled and said, "I used to play near the cemetery and on the street, but the playground is beautiful and I'm happy it's here now. The swings are my favourite."



Development in action

Bani Naim, one of nine villages in the East Hebron ADP funded by World Vision Canada, is an excellent example of holistic development. The village relied on labour in Israel for its income, but is now cut off from the job markets as a result of movement restrictions. World Vision began engaging the people of Bani Naim since they have been left unable to sustain themselves.

World Vision helped renovate a school for the village's students with disabilities. Under the auspices of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society, the school not only helped empower some of the brightest children in Bani Naim and neighbouring villages, it also helped support their caretakers and dispel the cultural taboos associated with having a child with physical or mental impairment.

Majida is the mother of 13-year-old Namat and 9-year-old Ala'a, both with special needs. She reports that both her daughters have progressed immensely from going to the school, "Namat has better use of her motor skills now, and Ala'a can speak a lot better, even using words and terms that other kids her own age do not use," she beams proudly.



Agricultural projects run by women have been established. Some plots of land grow thyme, which has multiple usages in food and as a tea. Whole leaves are mixed into dough to make a type of bread and ground leaves are mixed with some spices and sesame seeds to make a dip eaten with bread dunked in olive oil. The women sell thyme for a good sum of money in order to improve household income.



A greenhouse was also built where seasonal vegetables are planted. For now it houses cucumbers that are a staple in the Palestinian diet and are in high demand, fetching a good profit for the families involved in the project.



A community centre that World Vision has supported since its establishment in 2005 provides approximately 700 people each year with computer literacy training courses, lectures and workshops on various issues of interest to the community, and particularly for women.

The village also established an agricultural nursery with the help of World Vision, which sells saplings to local farmers.

Walks in history

The Old City ADP in Jerusalem is one of two urban ADPs among World Vision's programmes in the oPt, which began operation in 2001.

In addition to awareness raising campaigns for women and children, and remedial help with homework and health check-ups for children, the Old City ADP organizes 50 tours annually that attract approximately 3,000 individuals locally and from overseas, including school children.

The tours are a walk into the past of the Old City of Jerusalem and can be tailored to each group's interests to include archaeological and religious sites. The purpose of these tours is to educate Palestinian youth about their city and encourage their civic sense of belonging. The international groups are given tours in the interest of promoting the understanding of the communities living in the Old City.

A trained ADP staff member conducts these tours. Some of the most popular tours requested include walks around the Old City walls, the Via Delarosa, the markets and bazaars, and religious sites.



To teach a child is to teach a nation

A new school in Walajeh village in the West Bethlehem ADP now provides 312 school children with a safe, warm environment thanks to the determination of the community and support from World Vision.

The community, who place high emphasis on their children's education, were determined to play their part in developing their village and managed to come up with more than 50 per cent of the necessary sum in order to build the new school.

The village's emphasis on education goes back a long way; in the 1940s the school pioneered an English language programme and gained a reputation for being one of the best schools in the area. It is now proud to be called that once again.

- Al Walajeh lies 5Km west of Bethlehem city, in the southern West Bank, on a series of mountains and hills. Its climate is cool and rainy in the winter and hot and dry in the summer
- The name Al Walaja means entrance and denotes the main route to the village, which is in a zigzag between the mountains

Nine-year-old Halimah is very happy now in the new school. She says, "The classrooms are more spacious. I can concentrate better now because there is [only] one more student next to me. In the old school, we used to share each desk with two other students."



Southern Gaza community overcome a year of struggles

The situation in the Gaza Strip as a whole has been difficult this year, due to external pressures and in-fighting. Movement and access restrictions throughout the year continued, inhibiting basic humanitarian goods from getting to the 1.6 million people living there.



The Gaza Strip has been isolated from the remainder of the occupied Palestinian Territory and the world for much of the past two years. Staff in our two Gaza offices have taken on a great deal of responsibility and faced many challenges. Nevertheless, the South Gaza ADP funded by World Vision U.S. has been able to respond to both the emergency and the development needs of the community it serves.

Rafah Emergency Rehabilitation of Agricultural Infrastructure

Farmers in Al Shouka area suffered great losses subsequent to an Israeli military operation conducted in the vicinity last summer, which adversely impacted this impoverished community. In order to ensure that the families affected will have a source of food and income, World Vision responded by rehabilitating 225 dunums of land (56.25 acres). Almond, citrus and olive trees thrive in the Holy Land's soil and climate, so participating beneficiaries received seedlings to plant in their newly rehabilitated land.

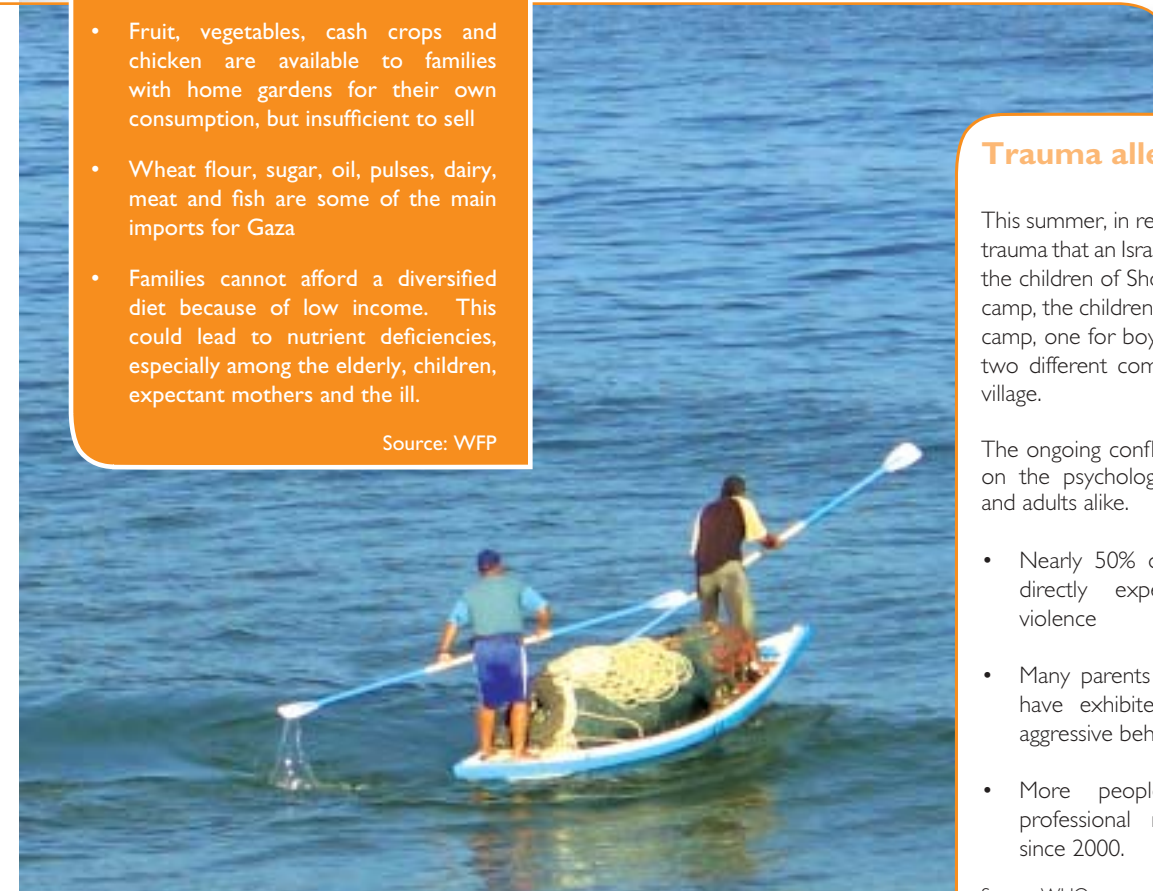
Citrus fruit, olives and olive oil are main staples in the Palestinian diet. The prevalence of these trees tends to yield enough fruit for home use, but also to sell, thereby giving families that own olive and citrus groves a constant, sustainable source of income.

Tomatoes grown in the Palestinian area are a flavourful component of most Palestinian meals. Therefore, the greenhouses that were rehabilitated on 107 dunums (26.75 acres), were supplied with tomato plants. Water networks were also installed.

Food security in Gaza:

- Fruit, vegetables, cash crops and chicken are available to families with home gardens for their own consumption, but insufficient to sell
- Wheat flour, sugar, oil, pulses, dairy, meat and fish are some of the main imports for Gaza
- Families cannot afford a diversified diet because of low income. This could lead to nutrient deficiencies, especially among the elderly, children, expectant mothers and the ill.

Source: WFP



Trauma alleviation activities

This summer, in response to the psychosocial trauma that an Israeli military operation left on the children of Shouka village and Shabourah camp, the children were treated to a summer camp, one for boys and one for girls, held at two different community centres in Shouka village.

The ongoing conflict has had adverse effects on the psychological wellbeing of children and adults alike.

- Nearly 50% of children have reported directly experiencing or witnessing violence
- Many parents report that their children have exhibited a marked increase in aggressive behaviour
- More people have been seeking professional mental health treatment since 2000.

Source: WHO

Speaking globally with one voice for the sake of children



Plaque from the Annapolis harbour in Maryland, USA.

World Vision in the oPt and Israel must emphasise advocacy perhaps more than any other place in the world where we are working. The hardship, fear and poverty that children endure are entirely resulting from the conflict. The political turmoil, which has continued for nearly 60 years, has far reaching regional and global impact. For this reason in 2007 we completed a global advocacy strategy for all of World Vision on this issue.

There are five key messaging categories, in which we seek to improve the lives of children on both sides:

- Human rights;*
- Peace, justice and reconciliation;*
- Access to humanitarian aid and development;*
- Strengthening the church; and*
- Occupation.*

These five themes are intended to provide focus and content for World Vision positions and, ultimately, to fulfill our vision for a generation transformed. It is our belief that adults can alleviate the suffering in the Holy Land by placing the interest of children as a top priority.

Staff activities in FY2007



PLANNING



DAY OF PRAYER



TRAININGS



RETREATS



MEETINGS



Protecting Al Makhroun Mountain



The Christian community in Beit Jala is as affected by the conflict as the rest of the Palestinian community. Nowhere is this more pronounced than on Al Makhroun Mountain.

The land is the “lung” of Beit Jala, as one farmer explained. Beit Jala, with its growing population, needs Al Makhroun in order to expand. Many parents fear that their children will eventually emigrate if the land is lost, which will restrict the natural growth of the town, making it hard for young couples to find housing.

The idyllic landscape is dotted with apricot, olive, fig, and almond trees, a source of livelihood for families. Many of the farmers believe it is also a place of spiritual refuge and reflection; an oasis of quiet amidst the noise and troubles of modern life in Palestine.

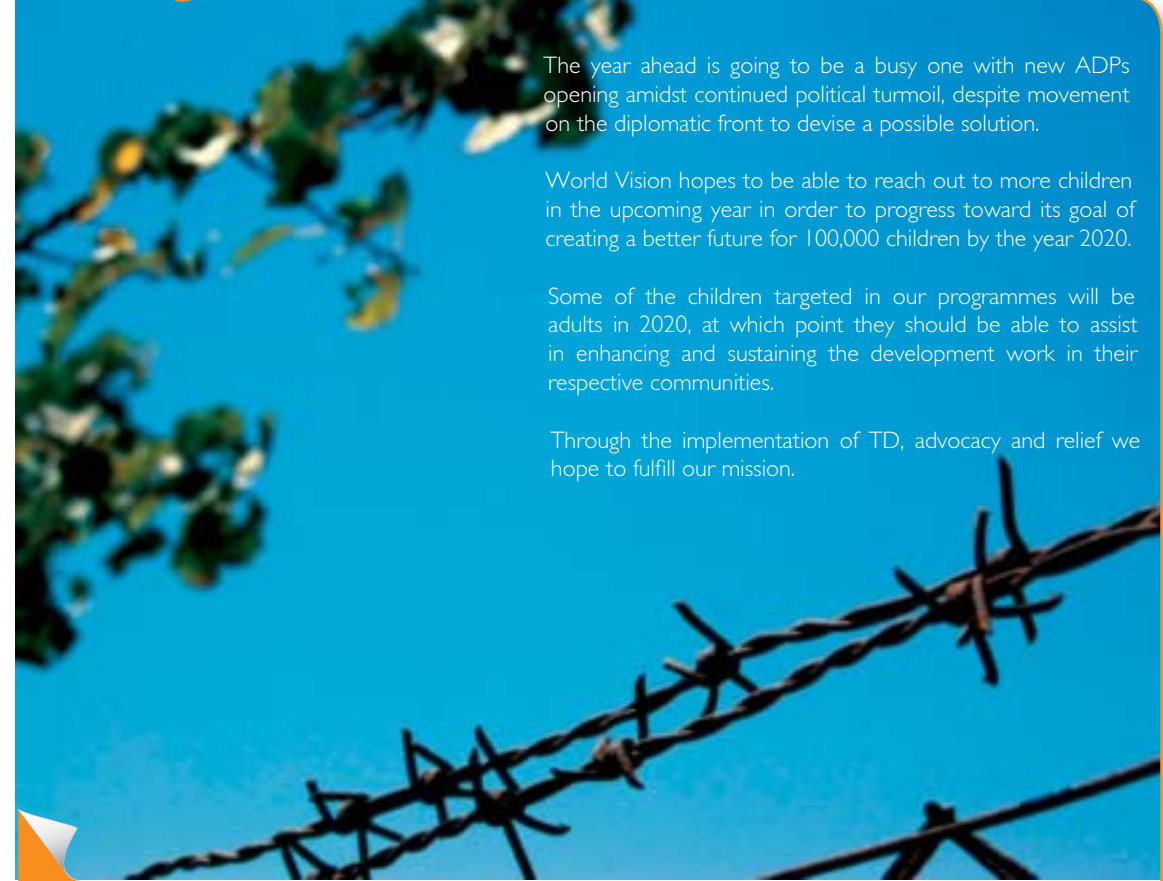


The Separation Wall is an all too real spectre, breathing insecurity and uncertainty among the families, who are worried about holding onto their ancestral land. Throughout this year, World Vision supported farmers in the area to build agricultural roads and renovate 14 huts, commonly referred to as “castles”, to encourage the farmers to remain in their land in order to support the indigenous Christian community’s presence and continuity.

Palestinian Christians constitute 1.4 % of the total Palestinian population, which stands at 3.7 million.

Only one-third of Palestinian Christians remain in the Holy Land since 1948 – approximately 47,000 Palestinian Christians are found in the West Bank and 3,000 live in the Gaza Strip.

Looking forward



The year ahead is going to be a busy one with new ADPs opening amidst continued political turmoil, despite movement on the diplomatic front to devise a possible solution.

World Vision hopes to be able to reach out to more children in the upcoming year in order to progress toward its goal of creating a better future for 100,000 children by the year 2020.

Some of the children targeted in our programmes will be adults in 2020, at which point they should be able to assist in enhancing and sustaining the development work in their respective communities.

Through the implementation of TD, advocacy and relief we hope to fulfill our mission.



Toward reconciliation: dialogue meetings and messengers of reconciliation group

As part of World Vision's intent to promote peace and justice, we began nurturing a new relationship this year with the Parents Circle Families Forum (PCFF) to encourage Palestinians and Israelis to realise that both sides suffer through the continuation of violence and that to end it each side needs to acknowledge and understand the other's pain.



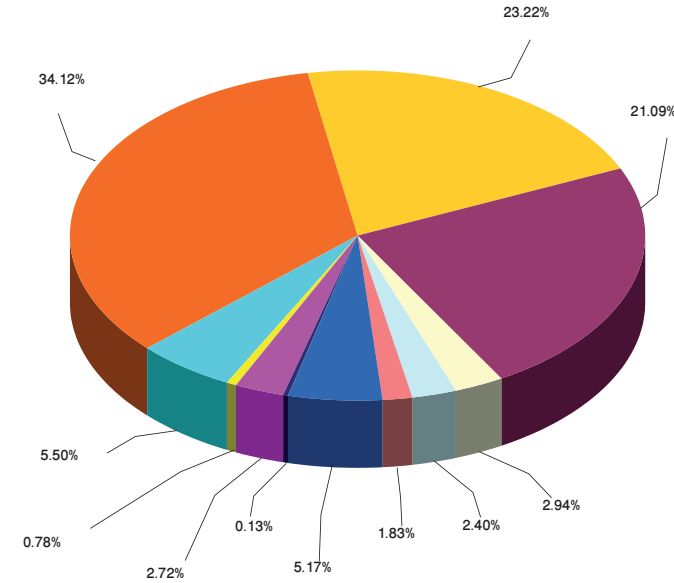
A Palestinian and an Israeli facilitator, who have each lost close relatives in the conflict, together hold dialogue meetings that target high school and university students, and community centers in the West Bank and Israel. Through sharing their personal story and providing space for dialogue, they testify that pain can be transformed into empathy. They believe that these meetings are essential in promoting sincere dialogue and lay sound foundations for public support for future political agreements.



Photos courtesy of PCFF

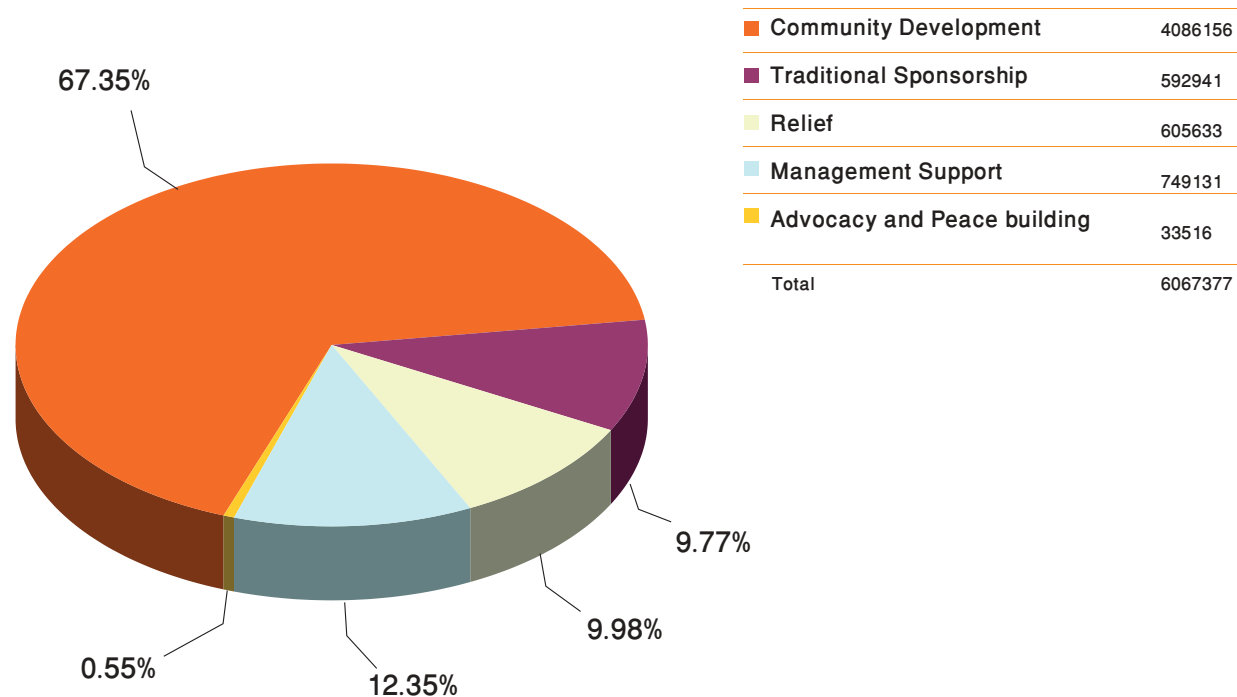
It is hoped these dialogue meetings will encourage 35 Palestinian and Israeli youth to become members of messengers of reconciliation groups. As ambassadors to their respective communities, members will attend regular meetings, both separately and jointly in order to share ideas and experiences.

Financial Reports income



Support Office	Income FY07
Australia	1617607
Canada	1781482
Germany	225380
Hong kong	183960
International other	3500
Jerusalem West Bank Gaza	140598
Korea	396504
Malaysia	3826
New Zealand	10000
Partnership office	208621
Taiwan	60200
United Kingdom	421741
United States	2617317
Total	7670736

Expenditures FY07



Israel

Human Development Index (HDI) Rank	23
Population without sustainable access to an improved water source	0%
Adult Literacy Rate	97.1%
Population	7 Million
GDP (US \$ billions)	116.9
GDP per capita (US\$)	17,194
ODA received total (US\$ millions)	478.94
ODA received per capita (US\$)	72.64

Occupied Palestinian Territory Profile

Human Development Index (HDI) Rank	100
Population without sustainable access to an improved water sources	8%
Adult Literacy Rate	92.4%
Population	3.7 Million
18 years and under	53.1 %
GDP (US\$ billions)	3.55
GDP per capita (US\$)	1,026
ODA received total (US \$ millions)	1,136.4
ODA received per capita (US\$)	316.8

Glossary of Acronyms & Terms

ADP	Area Development Programme
FY	Fiscal Year
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HDI	Human Development Index
NGO	Non-governmental organization
ODA	Official Development Assistance
oPt	occupied Palestinian territory
PCBS	Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
TD	Transformational Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WHO	World Health Organisation
WFP	World Food Programme

Sources:

Child Statistics Series (No.4), 2005, PCBS
 Human Development Report 2006/2007, UNDP
 World Development Indicators Database, April 2007



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