



World Vision International **2008 Review**

Hope for the Most Vulnerable

2008 at a glance

World Vision served more than 100 million people and worked in 98 countries. Over 3.6 million children benefited from sponsorship and 998,000 orphans and vulnerable children received care and support. World Vision raised US\$2.6 billion in cash and goods and employed 40,000* staff members to serve people in need around the globe.

* Includes full-time, part-time and temporary staff and microfinance institution employees.



Letter from the President and Board Chair



Dean Hirsch



Denis St-Amour

“Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord.”

Psalm 1:24

As 2008 ended, World Vision and many others throughout the humanitarian sector reflected on the extraordinary and unprecedented challenges we are facing in helping address the needs of vulnerable children, the poor and marginalised and victims of injustice. The global financial crisis, the spectre of food shortages, natural disasters and environmental degradation are daunting challenges and could be a setting for despair.

We at World Vision have a simple yet profound response to the threat of despair: God’s first words in Genesis, “Let there be light.”

Every staff member, every donor, every volunteer engaged in World Vision’s work, individually and collectively, represents a beacon of light to the approximately 100 million people our organisation served in 2008. With each micro-loan made, with each well dug, with each bottle of antibiotics delivered, our staff also provided light – and hope – to children and communities in need. Our Christian faith is the foundation of our work, the motivation for our actions and the guiding principle of our organisation’s nearly 60 years of service to those whom Jesus called “the least of these.”

We are indebted to our faithful donors; they enable World Vision to work steadfastly among the marginalised, often in many of the most difficult and dangerous places in the world. Those donors – individuals, foundations, governments and corporations – gave generously in 2008, despite the strain of this year’s financial chaos. We ended our fiscal year on September 30 with a record US\$2.6 billion in contributions. We are grateful to have earned their trust. In return, we offer our donors an uncompromising commitment to stewardship, accountability and transparency.

All of us at World Vision fundamentally believe that working together with communities to foster hope and build a brighter future for children is the essence of our cause and our calling. As we face – and meet – the daunting challenges ahead, we take heart in knowing our work is focused on children. They *are* the future. Within every child is an irrepressible belief in a better tomorrow. That’s why, in every aspect of our work, we strive to encourage, empower and connect children and their communities to the knowledge, resources and relationships they need to create that “better tomorrow”.

Together with the children and communities with whom we work, World Vision has found courage and hope in a time of global crises.

We hope these qualities, and our commitment to serve, shine through in this review of our year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean Hirsch".

Dean Hirsch
President, World Vision International

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denis St-Amour".

Denis St. Amour
Chair, World Vision International Board

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Child sponsorship

Promoting the well-being of children

More than 50 years ago, World Vision's child sponsorship approach was defined by the promise of one man, founder Bob Pierce, to help one child in an orphanage. Today, World Vision is the world's largest child sponsorship organisation, working in some of our planet's most challenging contexts, to serve 3.6 million sponsored children and millions of other children in their communities, regardless of their religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

Sponsorship remains the foundation of World Vision's child-focused approach to development. Our vision is for every child to experience life in all its fullness: to be cared for and protected, to enjoy good health, to be educated in life skills, and to be connected to God and community.

Sponsorship is a long-term relationship

Sponsorship creates a relationship between people who want to overcome poverty and injustice: sponsors and other donors, the child, her family and community, and World Vision. The sponsor commits to support the programme on a monthly basis. By combining the funds of many sponsors and other donors in a project area, World Vision works with a community for an extended period of time – typically 15 years – to achieve development objectives chosen by the community. The objectives are chosen because they will benefit sponsored children, their peers, their families and the wider community.





Sponsorship is empowering and transforming

Development work is challenging and complex, affected by continually changing cultural, geopolitical, economic and social forces. That is why the heart of World Vision's approach to sponsorship includes community empowerment as all parties work to identify and overcome the effects and deeper causes of poverty in individual communities. Community leaders are active participants in deciding which children are sponsored and which development initiatives are pursued. Together with World Vision, they negotiate with government ministries to access resources and collaborate with local authorities, as well as contribute their own time, labour and resources to their chosen initiatives. At the end of World Vision's formal participation, community members are able to plan, implement and sustain future development efforts on their own. Our hope is that everyone participating in this process – from the donor to the child and the government representative – is transformed by the collaboration, the sharing of resources, and the experience of hope and success in overcoming poverty and injustice.

Sponsorship supports sustainable development

Sponsorship is the foundation of the community's development initiatives. World Vision's decades of experience have proven that the best way to improve things for a child is to improve their world. Sponsors' contributions help provide access to necessities such as health, nutrition, clean water, improved learning outcomes and life-skills in education, agricultural improvements, and livelihood skills and opportunities. While World Vision's goals and philosophy stay constant, no two community-led programmes will look alike: the combination of development initiatives in each community varies according to the priorities defined by the community itself. Community members' participation in the programme, from design through completion and evaluation, ensure that sponsored children, as well as other children in need, benefit from the initiatives. World Vision believes that all children share the same basic rights and our programmes seek to meet those needs equally for all.

Sponsored children and communities benefit from many funding sources

To enhance the power of each sponsorship dollar, World Vision works with foundations, corporations and government and multilateral agencies to fund and implement specific projects as chosen by the community, such as drilling wells or providing donated products, like clothing, textbooks or medicines. This collaborative approach helps ensure the community benefits from the combination of funding streams, expertise and proven development programmes that make the most sense for the needs they have identified.

Sponsorship programmes are monitored, evaluated and adjusted

Sponsored children's progress within the community's overall development is monitored by World Vision staff and local volunteers, and sponsors receive regular updates. This monitoring allows World Vision to evaluate its programmes and make adjustments as the conditions we operate in fluctuate. In the midst of challenging and complex environments, World Vision continuously strives to improve the effectiveness of its programmes.

World Vision's approach to some typical development initiatives implemented in sponsorship communities are described in more detail on the following pages of this review.



Education

Expanding horizons through technology

Pre-School Literacy for Girls

World Vision's education programmes in the **Solomon Islands** cultivate the great potential of young minds. Designed to address low female literacy rates in the nation, the project emphasises early childhood education to prepare girls for a formal learning environment. Teachers focus on the physical, social, cognitive, linguistic, emotional and moral aspects of early childhood development.

GLOBAL GLIMPSE

Education transforms minds in a way that no person, war, famine or natural disaster can take away. For children who live in parentless homes, impoverished communities or countries affected by conflict, and a day in the classroom provides a safe haven; years offer resources to face the future with courage, hope and optimism. World Vision is committed to ensuring that each child we serve, regardless of ethnicity, gender or disability, reaches his or her full potential by developing confidence, leadership and critical reasoning through formal and informal learning environments. These life skills empower the minds and hearts of future teachers, engineers, physicians and others who will go on to influence their communities, nations, and ultimately, the world.

Programme Profile

Democratization of Information for Boys' and Girls' Networks Santivañez Area Development Programme, Bolivia

This programme helps children across Bolivia to develop technological skills and equips them to share knowledge, develop leadership skills and creativity and promote local development.

Approximately 40 children ages 8-17 attended a technology-focused educational camp; plans are under way to benefit an additional 3,600 students. At the camp, students learn computer skills and use them to exchange knowledge with other students around the country via an electronic network. The programme begins with information

sessions on self-esteem, sexuality, rights and nutrition. Next, the students develop

a theatrical presentation that demonstrates their new understanding of these issues. After filming their final performance, the students upload the video onto an electronic portal and share it with youth in other World

Vision programmes across the country. This experience

motivates children to learn life skills and to exchange ideas and opinions with their peers. The interaction fosters a greater appreciation for collaboration and, ultimately, helps develop life-long learners.



Rights, Inclusion and Protection

Keeping children safe



ROMANIA

In addition to combating famine, drought and other natural disasters, World Vision staff work tirelessly to help protect children and adults from violence and exploitation. More than 300 million children worldwide are subjected to some form of abuse each year, from rolling cigarettes 16-plus hours a day in sweatshops to providing sexual services 16-plus hours a day in brothels. Poverty and lack of education enable predators to lure the vulnerable with false promises of opportunity and financial security. World Vision empowers children through programmes educating them about their rights, and offers youth and adults vocational training and other supporting services. Those at risk are taught to know, understand and assert their rights and to use these skills to reject those seeking to exploit them.

Programme Profile

Protecting Youth from Human Trafficking Iasi County, Romania

A WorldVision survey shows that Romanian children and youth with at least one parent working abroad are at risk of human trafficking, due in part to neglect and weakened family relationships. This programme educates children about the risks and dangers of trafficking and equips them to pursue healthy vocations.

Young people in Iasi County, like others in rural areas of Romania and other Eastern European nations, have few vocational opportunities. As a result, they are vulnerable to traffickers' false promises of prosperity. Through this World Vision programme, nearly 200 seventh- and eighth-grade students from schools in three villages have participated in information sessions that aim to reduce their vulnerability to trafficking. The sessions warn about the dangers of human trafficking, including sexual exploitation and child labour, and offer safe alternatives through life-skills training. In addition, local officials who work with children, including priests, nurses and police officers, have been trained to identify youth who may be vulnerable to trafficking, as well as to recognize prospective traffickers. Plans are under way to expand the program in five additional rural communities.

Protection in Phnom Penh

World Vision offers protection to children and families already in dangerous and threatening situations. In **Cambodia**, street children's centres give homeless youth a new sense of hope, safety and security. We seek to reintegrate children with their families whenever possible, as well as help them access educational and vocational training opportunities.

GLOBAL GLIMPSE





HIV and AIDS

Providing care, prevention and advocacy

Magazine with a Mission

In Romania, teenagers participate in journalism and photography training to improve the quality of their World Vision-sponsored magazine, *Together for the Future*. Published quarterly, the magazine is produced by a group of 20 teens living with HIV. It provides their community with educational information about HIV and AIDS and strives to strengthen relationships between the youth and their peers, family members and community.

GLOBAL GLIMPSE

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is one of the greatest humanitarian challenges of our time. Where prevalence is high, the virus that leads to AIDS threatens to undermine decades of development work. In 2000, World Vision launched the Hope Initiative, an unprecedented commitment to address this unprecedented crisis. Today, we continue to invest significant resources in providing compassionate AIDS care, effective HIV-prevention education and advocacy on behalf of those affected. We pay particular attention to the needs of children orphaned and made vulnerable by the disease. World Vision is inspiring courage and hope in affected communities, influencing government policies and ensuring children's voices are heard. Our goal is simple: demonstrating God's unconditional love and affirming individual dignity and worth.

Programme Profile

Machinga HIV and AIDS Prevention and Care Project Nayuchi Area Development Programme, Malawi

This programme strives to reduce the spread of HIV by encouraging a change in sexual behaviour while improving access to counselling, medication and support services. In a devout but religiously diverse community, the project uses inter-faith dialogue to engage and educate community members.

With an HIV infection rate of more than 16 per cent plaguing their community, Christian and Muslim leaders put aside religious differences and came together to address the problem. In consultation with World Vision, they created a manual explaining sexually transmitted diseases and developed a comprehensive campaign that includes community education, participation and advocacy. Despite previously held prejudices, Christian pastors and Muslim imams now speak openly about HIV and AIDS and ways to prevent infection. They encourage positive behaviour changes and are helping to reduce the stigma against those infected. As a result, HIV prevalence in the community decreased from 16.4 per cent in 2003, before World Vision's programme began, to 12 per cent today, a 25 per cent decline. In addition, HIV testing in the community has increased more than six-fold over the past five years – from 5 per cent to 33 per cent. Higher rates of testing demonstrate increased awareness of the disease and reduced stigma; and awareness of HIV status is more likely to result in positive behaviour change.



Health and Nutrition

Improving childhood health



PERU

It is not surprising that the majority of maternal and child deaths occur among the poor. Diarrhea and pneumonia account for more than one-third of deaths of children under age 5, yet nearly two-thirds of those deaths could be prevented. With a recently refocused health initiative, World Vision is embarking on community-based efforts to prevent disease and promote health. Incorporating knowledge from field staff and global health and child care experts, we are working with other organisations to assure integration of nutrition, public health care, child protection and, where necessary, targeted feeding programs. Our goals are to help parents develop skills that support their children's health, and to encourage the implementation of cost-effective community health programmes, including services for the elderly and disabled.

Programme Profile

"Corazón en Familia" Hearth Programme
Huaraz, Ayacucho and Cusco Regions, Peru

The Hearth Programme aims to improve the health and nutrition of Peruvian children using local practises and foods as part of a participation-based approach involving both mothers and fathers.

Thanks to training and role-modeling from World Vision and community members, traditional gender roles are being transformed by a desire to raise healthy children. The "Corazón en Familia" programme encourages and enables both parents to take responsibility for their children's well-being. More than 1,500 children in 35 communities are benefiting from improved nutrition and care since their parents attended a series of educational "hearth sessions" facilitated by World Vision staff. Led by both local "guide mothers" and "guide fathers," these classes are conducted daily for two weeks. The sessions promote healthy eating, good hygiene and health care practises that support children's well-being. Children are not the only beneficiaries. In this male-dominated society, mothers are gaining confidence and empowerment to improve their children's health using local foods and health resources. The results in World Vision's Salca area programme are encouraging: within just two years, the rate of child malnutrition decreased nearly 15 per cent.



Preventing Female Genital Mutilation

World Vision's health programmes go beyond nutrition and disease prevention to address other health issues, including cultural practises that can harm girls and women. In **Mali**, World Vision is working to reduce the incidence of female genital mutilation (also known as "female circumcision") by educating parents and cultural leaders about the devastating long-term health effects that this traditional practise inflicts. In addition, those who perform the procedure are offered vocational services to help them find other sources of income.

GLOBAL GLIMPSE



Health and Nutrition

Humanitarian Relief

Rights, Inclusion and Protection

Water and Sanitation

Advocacy



Agriculture

Building the capacity of small farms

Sustaining Soil

In Ecuador, World Vision has initiated environmentally friendly agriculture programmes to help communities achieve greater sustainability. In places where traditional farming practises have damaged soil and left plants vulnerable to strong winds, World Vision has implemented terracing and the use of native plants to reduce erosion. Farming families are enjoying improved farm land, higher yields and better quality vegetables.

GLOBAL GLIMPSE

The combination in 2008 of skyrocketing food and fuel prices, flooding, drought and insufficient harvests in many countries created unprecedented challenges for many of the 2.5 billion people who live on less than US\$2 a day. Beyond the immediate suffering they cause for young children, hunger and malnutrition have devastating consequences – such as stunting and learning disabilities – that perpetuate the cycle of poverty. World Vision is working to break this vicious cycle by equipping farmers with tools, training and strategies to produce more food more efficiently. In addition, World Vision is working to develop life-skills and economic opportunities that will enable farming families to earn a living wage rather than moving to urban areas in search of work. Through this work, in concert with our other efforts, such as our support of micro-enterprises and the promotion of education and good health, we are helping children and communities to flourish.

Programme Profile

Economic Recovery for Smallholder Farmers
in a Post-Conflict Context
Ekunha Area Development Programme, Angola

This programme aims to build the skills of smallholder farmers, increase their crop yields and enable them to access expanded markets.

World Vision has worked alongside more than 10,000 smallholder farmers in the Huambo Province, establishing farmer associations to increase business profits and help raise crop yields. In partnership with the Institute for Agronomic Investigation, World Vision conducted educational research on crop varieties, soil fertility and market conditions. In addition to providing the research results to help guide the farmers' practises, the programme offers loans enabling them to break out of subsistence farming and engage local markets. Farmers implemented recommendations and saw their potato crops jump more than three-fold in net revenue, from US\$174 to US\$550 per tonne. With the additional income, they are no longer dependent on food aid and are able to invest in their families' well-being, including health and education.



Water and Sanitation

Connecting communities with safe water



SRI LANKA

More than a billion people do not have access to safe, drinkable water, and 2.6 billion – a third of the world's population – lack basic sanitation. What's more, the forces of population growth, climate change and urbanisation are combining to make water ever more precious. Anyone who has seen (or smelled) a stagnant and disease-ridden lake or pond can identify with the community celebration that erupts when a well-drilling rig sends water gushing 10 metres in the air. World Vision recognises that clean water and sanitation are foundational to effective community development. Combined with our education, health care, agriculture and micro-enterprise efforts, our water programs are giving people in poor communities another invaluable commodity: hope for the future.

Programme Profile

Rural Integrated Water Sanitation and Hygiene (RIWASH) Ampara and Batticaloa Districts, Sri Lanka

This water programme equips local residents to address the critical issue of water and sanitation in their communities and throughout the country.

Approximately 90,000 people are benefiting, including more than 3,000 students in six schools that now have new wells and latrines. Through the programme, local residents negotiate their water and sanitation needs directly with government officials. World Vision's collaboration with the Sri Lankan government has helped to decentralize the distribution of government services and funding, placing increased responsibility for local water initiatives in the hands of local governments. To further enhance community engagement, World Vision trains women as community leaders who assess local water problems, design plans to address them and propose solutions to government officials. The women's involvement not only helps ensure delivery of government-mandated water and sanitation services, but also increases their ability to participate in other aspects of local decision-making, ultimately building a stronger community.

A Teachable Moment

Potable water is a key component in any aspect of sustainable development. In a remote village in **Ghana**, teachers refused to work at the school unless their housing included a source of clean water. World Vision worked with the community to build housing for the teachers, which included access to safe drinking water. Everyone benefited: clean water for the teachers; assured education for the next generation.

GLOBAL GLIMPSE





Community Resilience

Mentoring children for brighter futures

Storm Warning

In addition to building a community's resilience in the wake of a catastrophe, World Vision equips its members to prepare for disasters long before they strike. Community members in World Vision programmes in **Bangladesh** are well-prepared for life-threatening storms and floods thanks to our efforts constructing storm shelters, creating awareness campaigns, and conducting disaster drills, evacuation exercises and leadership sessions.

GLOBAL GLIMPSE

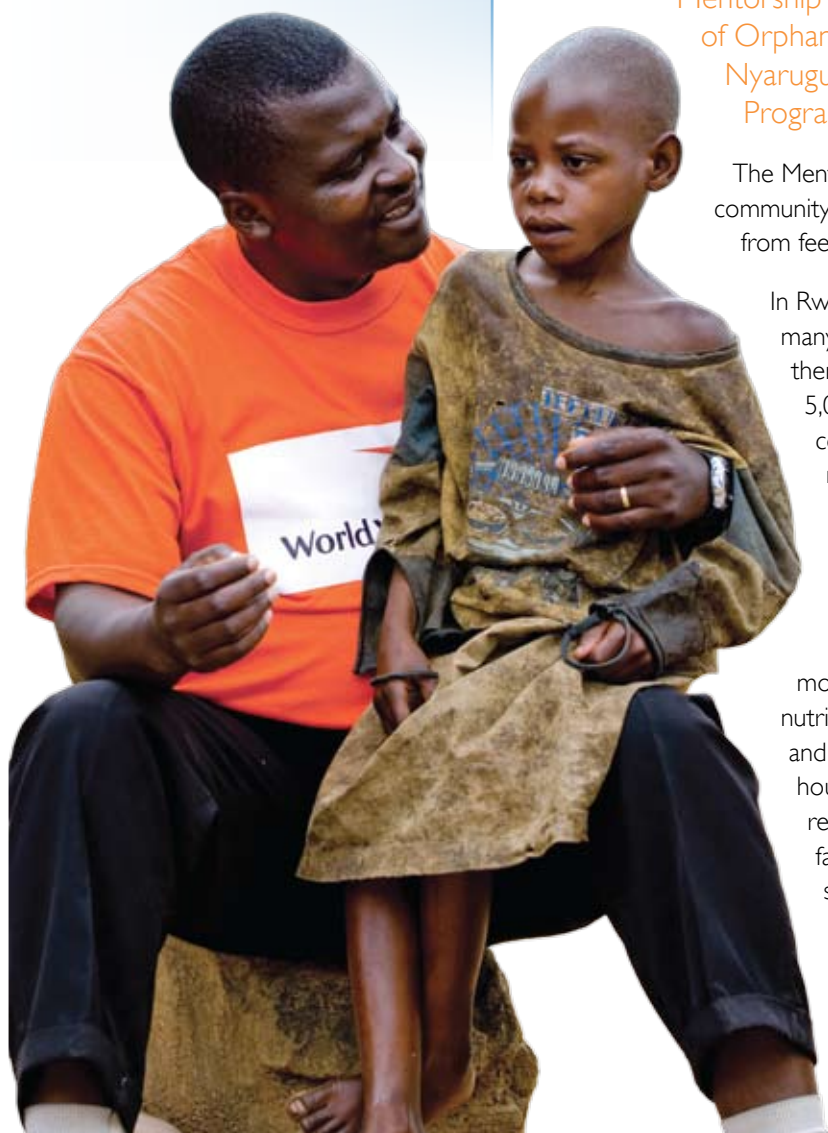
Few communities escape crises – whether natural or man-made. In order to withstand such crises, communities need leaders who demonstrate courage and hope. Recognising that such resilience is essential to effective community development, World Vision incorporates training on the prevention of risks and hazards into our work. We also mentor current and future leaders in disaster preparation and response. No government or humanitarian agency can eliminate the threats posed by conflict, famine, earthquakes and tsunamis. But significant advancements are possible with strong collaboration alongside other forward-thinking non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and cooperative local and national public officials. Also essential are dedicated citizens committed to protecting themselves and their families and preserving their homes, villages and livelihoods.

Programme Profile

Mentorship Programme to Improve Well-being of Orphans and Vulnerable Children Nyaruguru Area Development Programme, Rwanda

The Mentorship Programme in Nyaruguru engages community members in supporting children who suffer from feelings of helplessness and isolation.

In Rwanda's post-conflict and HIV-affected society, many children serve as the primary caretakers for themselves and their siblings. Now, however, nearly 5,000 orphans and vulnerable children are gaining confidence for their future thanks to new adult mentors in their lives. Adult volunteers in the orphans' communities are trained by World Vision and assigned to two or three children whom they visit regularly, providing support and encouragement to cope with their overwhelming responsibilities. The mentors monitor the well-being of each child, noting health, nutrition and other needs and providing guidance and life-skills training to the young heads of households. The results are life-changing: children report renewed interest in education, improved family relations and greater connection with their society. These improvements in the children's lives inspire those around them to overcome their community's past and invest in its future.



Humanitarian Relief

Responding to major disasters



CHINA

The World Vision global team for natural and man-made disasters is recognised by industry leaders for its rapid response and the comprehensiveness of its services. During the first days and weeks following a crisis, World Vision delivers life-saving aid, paying special attention to the needs of vulnerable children; in the months following, we move into housing reconstruction, public health and other supporting programs, continuing to focus on the rights and safety of children. By focusing on the unique needs of affected communities, World Vision is able to direct its resources most effectively to support and enhance the work of local partners. The team's constancy and conviction comprise an unparalleled commitment to instill courage and hope in the wake of disaster.

Programme Profile

Response to Cyclone Nargis and earthquakes in China
Ayeyewaddy Delta and Yangon Division, Myanmar; Sichuan
Province, China

May of 2008 will long be remembered for back-to-back disasters in Asia. On May 2, Cyclone Nargis devastated the lives of more than 2.4 million people in Myanmar. With 600 staff in country, World Vision was one of the first aid agencies to respond with food, tarpaulins, blankets, clothing, cooking sets and drinkable water. We began sanitation and hygiene programmes to prevent outbreaks of waterborne disease, a constant threat after emergencies, and set up Child-Friendly Spaces and other child protection programmes to help children regain a sense of normalcy. Only 10 days later, a massive 8.0-magnitude earthquake rocked south-western China, leaving more than 70,000 dead and many more homeless and injured. World Vision's office, close to the epicentre in Sichuan, deployed assessment teams and began distributing food, medicines, quilts and tents. In all, our generous donors contributed more than US\$80 million for the response to both disasters. As a result, more than half a million people already have received aid from World Vision. By the time the rehabilitation phase concludes in two years, that number will climb to about 1.5 million.

Supporting Mothers

Many Georgians lost their homes after the Russian military incursion in August 2008. World Vision provided temporary homes and support to displaced pregnant women and newborn children. The shelters provided a home environment, along with employment counselling, training and pediatric care to help mothers nurture their children in a time of crisis and uncertainty.

GLOBAL GLIMPSE





Economic Development

Breaking the cycle of poverty

Bikes for Africa

In Zambia, bicycles are not just highly prized forms of transportation – they are life-changing microfinance tools. These bikes not only provide greater access to health care and education, but they also help enable economic growth. With the 500 per cent higher carrying capacity of a bike, local entrepreneurs can get their goats, vegetables and other products to market faster and more efficiently.

GLOBAL GLIMPSE

Micro-entrepreneurs pursue a wide range of professions – a lemon juice stand in a Mumbai slum, a bicycle repair shop in Lusaka or a crafts stall at a market in Cusco. But they all begin with a common theme: potential. World Vision recognised that potential in each of this year's 604,000 loan recipients, 68 per cent of whom were women. That potential – along with hard work – is now being transformed into income for food, health care and children's school fees. In 2008, we loaned nearly US\$400 million to entrepreneurs in 47 countries through VisionFund International, the microfinance subsidiary of World Vision. With a global repayment rate of nearly 99 per cent, our clients demonstrate trustworthiness and courage that inspires others to follow in their footsteps.

Programme Profile

AgroInvest Microfinance Institution Serbia and Montenegro

The objective of microfinance programmes is to provide local entrepreneurs with access to the capital they need to start or expand their businesses, break the cycle of poverty and strengthen community resilience to fluctuations in the national and regional economies.

In the last decade, AgroInvest has distributed more than 115,000 loans, helping improve the lives of more than 210,000 children and creating 29,000 jobs. In 2008 alone, AgroInvest's client portfolio grew by more than 18 per cent, and average loans of US\$1,300 enabled entrepreneurs to purchase a diverse range of supplies, from 30 piglets to greenhouse construction materials. AgroInvest's unique development model addresses poverty by combining economic and social development: As families repay their loans, the money is used to fund community-based development programmes in addition to generating new loans. The project was honoured by Forbes magazine, which ranked it 22nd among 641 micro-finance institutions worldwide in 2007. It also received the Award for Innovation from the Microfinance Centre for Central and Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States in June 2008.





Some of World Vision's most important work does not involve planting and nurturing crops; it involves planting and nurturing ideas. Advocacy seeks to address the structural and systemic causes of poverty by changing policies, systems, practises and attitudes that perpetuate inequality by denying justice and human rights. Speaking out on these issues is integral to all aspects of both community development and emergency response. Effective advocacy work, including good governance, also is critical to effective development work. Our advocacy extends beyond policy analysis and government relations. It involves working in multiple arenas to educate and empower others, with the goal of ending prejudice and poverty and bringing courage and hope to a desperately hurting world.

Programme Profile

Children's Parliament
The Jagriti Area Development Programme
in Lucknow, Uttaranchal State, India

The objective of the Children's Parliament is to educate, empower and protect young people and develop their leadership capabilities. Children learn a wide range of age-appropriate personal and social skills, including conflict resolution, decision-making, debate and public communication.

Children ages 8-18 from more than 60 villages are "elected" as members to an area-wide Children's Parliament that is modeled after the Indian parliamentary system. A "prime minister", "cabinet ministers" and other "members of parliament" totaling 36 young people convene every two years to express their views on community development activities such as water and sanitation, health and education. They also hold sessions to promote awareness and understanding of social issues such as early marriage, child labour and child abuse. In addition, the children contribute essays to a quarterly periodical, *Bachhon Ka Manch* ("Children's Platform"), as well as research and record audio commentaries for broadcast in local communities.

Children On Air

Believing every child's voice deserves to be heard, World Vision has established a local radio programme called La Conchita for **Nicaraguan** youth. Hosted by a group of 10 teens, it features discussions about the rights and duties of boys, girls and adolescents.

By enabling children to speak out about their most important concerns in a public forum, World Vision helps them develop the leadership and communication skills necessary to become active participants in creating their own "better tomorrow".

GLOBAL GLIMPSE



Stewardship

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have in recent years begun to claim significant influence on the world stage. This “seat at the table” with such bodies as the United Nations and World Economic Forum, among others, raises important questions for NGOs to answer regarding their performance, their accountability and their stewardship of resources.

World Vision recognises this emerging role and the accompanying responsibility we have to our stakeholders, including our nearly 3 million donors, 40,000 staff members, employees of governments of nations in which we work, and the millions of beneficiaries of our services. Effective stewardship is one of the six core values that define our organisation; our commitment to it is motivated fundamentally by our mission to follow God in working with the poor and oppressed to promote human transformation and seek justice.

Ultimately, we are accountable to God to manage resources efficiently.

Operationally, we adhere to internationally recognised business and accounting standards, as well as to humanitarian codes of conduct that set standards and benchmarks for governance, management and partnership. Internally, our federated structure mandates our staff collaborate closely to help ensure donated funds and products are directed toward the greatest impact.

The overwhelming majority of our staff are nationals from the countries in which they work. This contributes significantly to the integrity of our programming. World Vision employees know the local cultures, as well as the residents, who place in us an overwhelming trust by inviting us into their communities. That trust is founded on accountability and transparency.

We monitor and evaluate our work in a continual effort to improve programmes, and therefore seek to demonstrate the difference our donors' investments are making. We owe to those who invest in our work a commitment to honour their investments. As we carry out this commitment, we honour the Lord to whom this ministry belongs.



Financial Summary

World Vision Partnership Income by Country, FY2008*

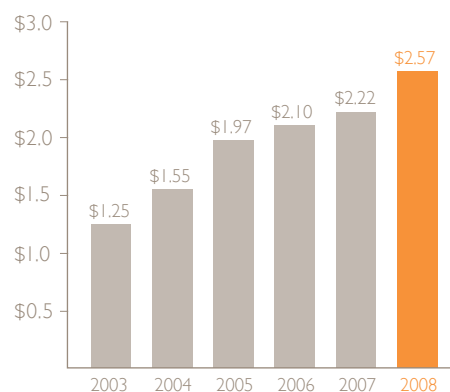
(US\$ thousands)

Office	Contributions/Grants	Gifts-in-kind	Total
Armenia	1,644	0	1,644
Australia	229,480	61,337	290,817
Austria	7,536	249	7,785
Brazil	2,788	3	2,791
Canada	293,913	100,805	394,718
Chile	2,506	330	2,836
Colombia	3,938	0	3,938
Congo (DRC)	2,806	0	2,806
Ethiopia	2,185	0	2,185
Finland	10,802	0	10,802
France	3,714	0	3,714
Germany	92,625	3,424	96,049
Guatemala	10,511	0	10,511
Hong Kong	110,029	5,784	115,813
India	4,212	0	4,212
Indonesia	1,452	0	1,452
Ireland	13,781	450	14,231
Japan	29,341	1,210	30,551
Kenya	1,290	0	1,290
Korea	93,709	6,496	100,205
Malawi	2,385	100	2,485
Malaysia	5,196	0	5,196
Mexico	2,890	457	3,347
Mozambique	3,270	0	3,270
Myanmar	1,123	0	1,123
Netherlands	9,325	0	9,325
New Zealand	39,986	2,263	42,249
Philippines	4,338	47	4,385
Singapore	6,996	241	7,237
Somalia	4,002	354	4,356
South Africa	2,131	0	2,131
Spain	4,651	0	4,651
Switzerland	38,774	1,548	40,322
Taiwan	78,856	4,902	83,758
Tanzania	2,964	0	2,964
Thailand	15,292	0	15,292
United Kingdom	107,264	6,296	113,560
United States	588,057	521,151	1,109,208
Zimbabwe	1,893	0	1,893
Other National Offices	19,100	602	19,702
Total	1,856,755	718,049	2,574,804

* Offices listed raised more than US\$ 1,000,000. Amounts are in approximate US dollars. Exact amounts depend on the time currency exchange is calculated. External audits in some countries are not yet complete. No material changes are expected in the final audited amounts.

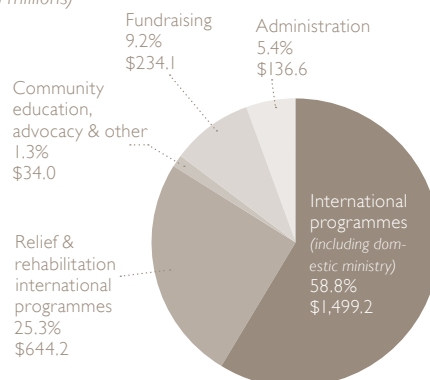
World Vision Partnership Income Trend

(US\$ billions)



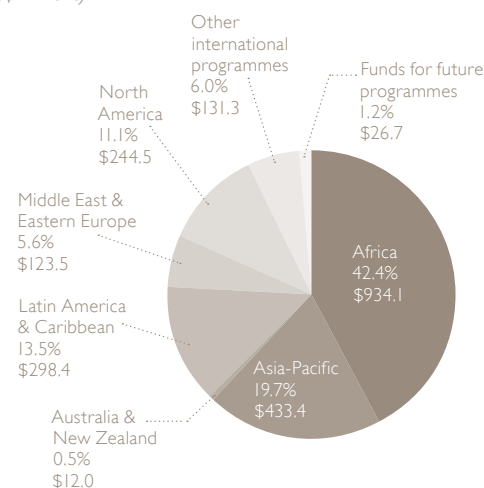
Expenditure by Activity

(US\$ millions)



Expenditure on International Programmes by Region

(US\$ millions)





Where we work

Africa

Angola
Burundi
Chad
Congo (DRC)
Ethiopia
Ghana
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Malawi
Mali
Mauritania
Mozambique
Niger
Rwanda
Senegal
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa
Sudan
Swaziland
Tanzania
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe

Asia

Afghanistan
Bangladesh
Cambodia
China (People's Republic of; includes Hong Kong)
India
Indonesia
Japan
Laos
Malaysia
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nepal
North Korea
Pakistan
Philippines
Singapore
South Korea
Sri Lanka

Taiwan

(Republic of China)
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Uzbekistan
Vietnam

Europe

Albania
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Cyprus
Denmark
Finland
France
Georgia

Germany

Ireland
Italy
Kosovo
Montenegro
Netherlands
Romania
Russian Federation
Serbia
Spain
Switzerland
United Kingdom

Latin America

Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador

El Salvador
Guatemala
Haiti
Honduras
Mexico
Nicaragua
Peru

Middle East

Iran
Jordan
Lebanon
Palestine/Israel
Syria
United Arab Emirates

North America

United States
Canada

Oceania

Australia
New Zealand
Papua New Guinea
Solomon Islands
Vanuatu

World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice.

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