GLOBAL WASH

Year in Review 2016

Every child deserves clean water
Every child deserves clean water.

World Vision’s water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) team is committed to reaching everyone, everywhere we work with clean water, appropriate sanitation and dignified hygiene before 2030. In doing so, we will help to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

We have made significant progress toward this goal by providing clean water to more than 4.6 million people in 2016. We were able to achieve our goal of reaching one person every ten seconds four years earlier than we projected. We are now pushing to continue at that pace to reach everyone, everywhere we work by 2030.

This Year in Review spotlights not only our remarkable progress this fiscal year but also what we have learned. We hope you enjoy reading and invite you to learn more at wvi.org/cleanwater.

REACH

1.6 MILLION PEOPLE reached with sanitation interventions during FY16

4.67 MILLION people provided with access to clean drinking water during FY16

2030 STRATEGIC GOAL to reach everyone, everywhere we work with WASH by 2030.

3.2 MILLION PEOPLE received hygiene interventions in FY16

12.5 MILLION PEOPLE reached with clean water since 2010

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

ALIGNMENT TO SDG 6: “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.”

BECOMING A MIGHTY RIVER

JEAN-BAPTISTE KAMATÉ, PARTNERSHIP LEADER, GLOBAL FIELD OPERATIONS

WORLD VISION’S history in water, sanitation and hygiene can be likened to a small stream that becomes a mighty river. We started our work in WASH more than 30 years ago, with disparate WASH projects in scattered countries around the world, but with little global coordination. We learned a great deal and grew slowly for a while. Over time, however, we joined up with other sources and tributaries – other WASH experts, key partners, motivated communities, and more – and we continued to grow into a mighty river.

In 2016, we reached more people than ever with life-giving, life-enhancing water, sanitation and hygiene. It is God who enables this river to flow, and with his continued help, we will sustain this pace until everyone, everywhere we work, has access to safely managed water and sanitation.
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THREE DECADES of providing water, sanitation and hygiene has taught us that achieving quality and excellence requires a commitment to consistently reflect, learn and improve. This is why, in our Year in Review, we have gone beyond simply reporting on financials and outcomes to celebrate, give thanks and reflect on what we have learned in 2016.

We celebrate that we have accelerated our work to provide access to clean water to such a degree that, in many areas, we have already reached our 2020 targets. We celebrate that we were able to start programmes in several new countries, allowing us to reach more children and their communities. We give thanks for the resources God provided in 2016 to enable us to bring water, sanitation and hygiene to more children and families than ever before. We give thanks for our valuable partners, without whom this would not have been possible.

We also reflect on what we have learned: what went well, areas for improvement, and our future direction. In this review, our leading experts share their thoughts on making water, sanitation and hygiene programming more sustainable; how approaches to WASH can be more inclusive; how we can better reach the most vulnerable; integrating our work with that of other sectors; and more. Such thinking ensures we constantly improve all we do as we strive to attain the Sustainable Development Goals and life in all its fullness for every child.
The essential ingredient for scale and sustainability

By Dr. Greg Allgood, Vice President, Water, WVUS

We partner with communities to reach communities. We scale access to water through right-sized equipment and use of appropriate water sources, manual drilling to reduce cost, and mechanized wells with solar pumps. Installation of latrines and hand-washing stations, along with training efforts, are initiated and led by each community. We have more than 500 water, sanitation, and hygiene professionals who live and work in communities to co-create solutions that last. We work to ensure access for those who need it the most, focusing on the extremely poor in rural areas with the greatest disease burden. We provide disability-adapted sanitation facilities and water points, as well as tools that aid in water access.

We have the honour of working with a wide range of partners — including corporate, fundraising, academic, government and foundations — committed to help providing clean water to everyone everywhere we work by 2030. By leveraging the diversity of these partnerships we are able to bring innovation, monitoring and evaluation, sustainability, new technology, and expanded scope to our efforts.

No shortcut to cross-sector partnering

By Christy Davis, Executive Director, Asia P3 Hub

Over the year World Vision has hosted the Asia P3 Hub*, we have increasingly engaged with the private sector, government and regional inter-governmental organisations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, academia and other non-governmental organisations (NGOs). I have been continually struck how complex this has been and how there is no shortcut for building trust, mutually beneficial, successful partnerships.

Collaboration is not a linear process. Social, economic, and ecological systems are complex. It takes courage to embrace complexity. But we continue to press forward. We know it is imperative that we work together to create a shared vision of change and co-create a plan to get there. We must be ready to learn, adjust and adapt.

Also, it’s essential to be humble enough to recognise relationships, collaborations, innovations and ideas existed before the hub began. No one has all the answers, and everyone has something to offer and share. The core values of the partnership must include mutual benefit, transparency and equity.

Despite the complex, challenging nature of partnering, I am convinced it is the way to solve intractable problems, expand peace, and succeed at the things that matter most to us both individually and collectively.

*The Asia Public-Private Partnerships Hub (Asia P3 Hub), an incubator that works with companies, startups and non-profit organisations to build strategic, mutually beneficial partnerships and bring about transformational change within communities across Asia Pacific. The first focus area for the Hub is WASH in the Asia-Pacific region, bringing experts together to collaborate and create shared vision to reach more people with WASH.

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AN ESTIMATED 2.5 BILLION people globally have no access to safe and hygienic sanitation. This profoundly affects their health, economic, and social well-being. Small-scale, innovative approaches have increased, but governments and the global community have not been able to scale-up and sustain these efforts. Large-scale efforts are urgently needed to meet the sanitation needs of the urban and rural poor – especially those in the lowest wealth quintile.

The global economic return on sanitation spending is US$5.5 for every one dollar invested, yet water still receives the lion’s share of WASH investment. One way World Vision and other organisations are addressing this is through designing behaviour change interventions based on data.

World Vision chose to adopt the Designing for Behaviour Change (DBC) Framework back in 2013 (developed by USAID, TOPS and the CORE Group). Used by some 30 organisations in 50 countries, World Vision has trained 150 staff in DBC, and the approach is being implemented in 12 countries. Why are we investing in this? Because we know that ultimately changed behaviour and habits are the secret to sustainable development.

EAST AFRICA

World Vision currently works in nine countries in the East Africa Region – Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. World Vision has reached 5.3 million people in the region with clean water since October 2010. All nine countries are implementing emergency water, sanitation and hygiene interventions, along with development interventions, as the region has a high number of displaced people and drought-affected families. The region also focuses on working in mixed faith contexts. In 2016, five countries engaged with both Muslim and Christian faith leaders to help share WASH messages and encourage community involvement.

1,793,942 PEOPLE GAINED ACCESS TO SAFE WATER

880,831 PEOPLE GAINED ACCESS TO IMPROVED SANITATION

1,047,249 PEOPLE GAINED ACCESS TO IMPROVED HYGIENE PRACTICES

Then let’s get serious on sanitation

BY JOHN COLLETT, SENIOR ADVISOR, HYGIENE PROMOTION AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE
World Vision currently works in nine countries in the Southern Africa Region – Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In Southern Africa, World Vision has reached 3.7 million people with clean water since October 2010. In 2016, water, sanitation and hygiene programmes in this region focused on establishing Open Defecation-Free communities, engaging with faith leaders and behaviour change activities. Country programmes in the region responded to emergency WASH needs from El Niño, and worked with universities on focused research projects and capacity building.

What it takes to train and keep the best

DR EMMANUEL OPONG, SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL WASH ADVISOR

In most developing countries, water, sanitation and hygiene field staff of experienced international NGOs often lack the technical skills and knowledge needed to effectively design, implement, monitor and evaluate WASH interventions. It is also very difficult to retain and maintain the few qualified WASH staff NGOs do have.

Faced with the need to hire 300 new staff for its expanded water, sanitation and hygiene interventions in Africa, World Vision teamed up with the Desert Research Institute (DRI) and Drexel University to create leadership and technical capacity training delivered through a series of competency-based training modules for WASH and WASH-related field staff.

Each course comprises online teaching and a 7-10 day class taught in person in Africa. The two tracks include a postgraduate certificate in International WASH from DRI/University of Nevada and a postgraduate certificate in Global Health (WASH track) from Drexel University.

Credits earned from the Drexel and DRI certificate programmes, with a grade of “B” or higher, can be applied toward undergraduate or graduate degree programme requirements. The first 35 students from 14 African countries graduated in 2016.

The plan is to ultimately offer this capacity building programme to other NGOs as a practical solution to what is a significant industry challenge.
Every child deserves clean water

World Vision works in seven countries in the West Africa Region — Chad, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Sierra Leone. World Vision has reached 1.9 million people in the region with clean water since October 2010. In 2016, water, sanitation and hygiene programmes in this region focused on scale up and capacity building around solar-powered water systems. They also focused on engagement with Christian and Muslim faith leaders to encourage positive behaviour change and strong community engagement in WASH activities.

ONE OF THE REASONS our water, sanitation and hygiene programmes are distinctively successful is because World Vision — a faith-based organisation — is intentional about genuinely engaging local religious leaders (imams, pastors, priests, etc.) as partners. In our interfaith workshops our staff and the faith leaders listen and learn from one another about issues of child well-being and community health. World Vision then shares how WASH impacts both child well-being and community health, mobilising them as key community advocates for our WASH programmes.

As a participant and facilitator in past workshops, two things have struck me most. First, the skillfulness and sensitivity with which our local World Vision staff traverse this unique landscape. They create a sacred space in which faith leaders, who may have never collaborated before, openly share and learn. Our staff also deliver our WASH messages in a manner that speaks persuasively to a diverse group.

Second are the unique results of these engagements: pastors and imams finding common ground around the needs of their communities; the building of long-lasting relationships; and faith leaders working together on common action plans to promote WASH in their communities.

Building bonds of trust and unity, and articulating God’s love for the communities we serve, are exciting, if hard to quantify, outcomes of our work to deliver WASH.

Trust is at the heart of a faith-based approach to WASH.

BY RAY NORMAN, DIRECTOR OF FAITH LEADERSHIP

465,344
PEOPLE GAINED ACCESS TO SAFE WATER

75,895
PEOPLE GAINED ACCESS TO IMPROVED SANITATION

620,925
PEOPLE GAINED ACCESS TO IMPROVED HYGIENE PRACTICES
ASIA

World Vision has water, sanitation and hygiene projects in several countries in the Asia Pacific Region, though annual data is only reported for India in this annual review. Among the projects in the region, World Vision, through partnership with the P&G (Procter & Gamble) Children’s Safe Drinking Water Capitalise Initiative, provided P&G Purifier of Water packets in four countries in the region. Through this programme, families treated more than 154 million litres of water, serving 211,745 people. World Vision’s Asia-Pacific Private-Public Partnerships Incubation Hub was launched in July 2016 in Singapore. The Hub is a cross-sector incubator of collaboration and innovations to find new WASH solutions in the Asia-Pacific region.

LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

World Vision engages in water, sanitation and hygiene projects in nine countries in Latin America, though 2016 data is only available for five countries in this region: Bolivia, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua. In 2016, this region focused on achieving higher water and sanitation service levels, such as household water access and installing flush toilets. The regional WASH approach involves close collaboration with municipalities, local governments, and community members.

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World Vision currently works in five countries in the Middle East/Eastern Europe Region (MEER) — Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. In 2016, the MEER WASH programme provided hygiene behaviour change programming to nearly 300,000 community members, including 95,718 students. A total of 83,439 people gained access to sanitation facilities. In addition, nearly 395,000 individuals benefited from emergency WASH services. These interventions are especially important in MEER where many people are displaced due to violence in their homeland.

**WASH away from home? Please pool your knowledge**

**BY DR. MARIELLE SNEL, MIDDLE EAST/EASTERN EUROPEAN WASH ADVISOR**

**UNIVERSAL WATER**, sanitation and hygiene coverage is a pipe dream until our sector starts sharing its experiences of non-household WASH programming. The industry currently knows too little about best practice in such non-domestic settings as healthcare facilities, transportation hubs, places of worship, refugee camps and prisons. This is because we tend to keep our learnings to ourselves.

Pooled knowledge about non-domestic WASH successes and failures will inevitably form the bedrock of advocacy and consensus building around this work. This is vital because, to achieve success in WASH away from home programming, our sector needs additional political support, stakeholder participation, project funding and institutional support.

To this end World Vision has committed itself to collating and sharing, particularly through our external webinars, evidence of the importance of WASH in non-domestic settings. By the end of 2017, we aim to have a substantial library of learning on this issue hosted on our website wvi.org/cleanwater for everyone associated with delivering WASH to use.

We hope more people will be willing to join us as we seek to leverage our combined knowledge to all do a better job in ensuring WASH in non-domestic settings and to ultimately achieve SDG 6 – ensuring access to water and sanitation for all.
Learning is the bridge that connects evidence and action.

BY ASHLEY LABAT, WASH MONITORING & EVALUATION SPECIALIST

BEING A LEARNING ORGANISATION means much more than undertaking monitoring, evaluation or research. To truly learn is to transform evidence into practice. Achieving this requires a deep understanding of the contexts in which we work.

As a community-based organisation, World Vision staff traditionally remain with communities for well over a decade. This long-term community engagement allows World Vision and community members to work together in a cycle of sharing and understanding, forming a solid foundation by which to leverage learnings into practice.

To develop an integrated system of methods and tools to promote this cycle of evidence and improvement, and to more quickly operationalise key findings, we have joined with a leading institute for WASH monitoring, evaluation, and learning: the Water Institute at the University of North Carolina (UNC).

Certainly the translation of evidence into practice has been a challenge for the whole development sector. Nevertheless we have taken up this challenge to use data to drive decisions, learn as we go and share our success and failures with the water, sanitation and hygiene sector.

Want sustainability? Welcome constructive criticism.

BY SAMUEL DIARRA, OPERATIONS TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

IT IS NOT ENOUGH to deliver the most water, sanitation and hygiene if what is provided is unsustainable. An estimated 25 per cent to 40 per cent of water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in Africa have been found to be unsustainable. This jeopardises the continent’s chances of achieving SDG 6. Despite our community management systems, engagement and training, and intentional participation and ownership, we have recognised more is needed to ensure the sustainability of World Vision’s work.

Our success to date and our sustainability has depended on, among other things, our ability to comply and align with national and international standards, our practice of assessing our programmes, and learning from best practices, challenges and risks. This helps us minimise errors and maximise sustainability and effectiveness.

Nevertheless, in 2016 we went a step further. World Vision began a programme review process asking our peers to look at our field operations, support systems and the health of our partnerships. We were grateful that the programme review affirmed our strengths, including the depth of our partnerships, the construction quality of our mechanised systems, and our rehabilitation of existing water points. We were more pleased to hear about areas for growth, including the need for a reliable supply chain, improved gender balance on the team, and a need for us to focus on cultural barriers to key behaviours – such as latrine use and menstrual hygiene.
For refugees, do more than the minimum.

BY GODFREY MAWAA, EMERGENCY WASH ADVISOR

DELIVERING WATER, sanitation and hygiene services in emergencies and fragile contexts is World Vision’s commitment to saving lives and alleviating suffering. Most of these affected people live in very hard to reach areas, and children and women in these circumstances have suffered the greatest consequences as they are exposed to harm and vulnerability. With 65 million people displaced by war and persecution worldwide, we find ourselves working with more refugee and displaced populations than ever before.

In serving refugees, we must shift our perspective from programmes that meet minimum standards to programmes that contribute to the greater goal of ensuring access to water and sanitation for all. This includes the intentional inclusion of refugee populations in the economic activities of their host countries to increase productivity and income opportunities, enabling refugees to contribute toward sustaining their own WASH. The organisations working to meet the basic needs of refugees must think of alternatives to integrate refugees into host communities. These shared services can bolster social cohesion, and refugees can contribute revenue to the host government and in manage their own infrastructure.

It is our commitment to God’s call and humanity to ensure universal access of water, sanitation and hygiene services to all, making sure they are not just having sufficient access to WASH but also promoting recovery and resilience to survive in such difficult environment.

WASH alone is not enough.

BY PETER HYNES, BABYWASH COALITION COORDINATOR

2015 MARKED A CHANGE in global development. The world moved from Millennium Development Goals to Sustainable Development Goals – in which each of the 17 goals was dependent on the others for success. This should have prompted a scramble for collaborative, multi-sectoral approaches to address the major threats to child well-being and survival. However, traditional ways of working in the aid and development industry hampered progress. As we tried to undertake multi-sector, multi-stakeholder work, World Vision repeatedly ran into problems around organisational set-up and funding: specialists in one sector were reticent to collaborate with specialists in another; funders were too afraid to ‘dilute’ their impact by considering multi-sector projects.

In response we launched the BabyWASH Coalition – a platform in which member organisations can advocate together for more sectoral integration, and can share and create best practices. We are excited that so many partners have joined us to help forge a new future of multi-sector, multi-stakeholder programming.

The Coalition has proved to be a catalyst prompting visionary donors to fund multi-sectoral programmes, and encouraging organisations to share evidence of the health benefits gained from collaboration. With multi-sector projects planned in Kenya, Uganda and Cambodia, we are sure 2016 will prove a tipping point moment for a new, more collaborative way of working in the development sector. Learn more about www.babywashcoalition.org.
Disability inclusion helps restore hope.

WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG, Rana, a young woman from Iraq, had to escape her home with her family when violence broke out in her community. While living in a refugee camp, Rana was severely injured in a fire, leaving her paralyzed in the left arm and in both legs.

Now in her 20s and living alone with her mother in a borrowed home, Rana said she has lost all hope. After her injuries, she was unable to attend school, so she does not have the level of education that most women her age have. She cannot work and has little hope of finding a husband to support her. Her mother is her primary caregiver, and, because of her feelings of guilt for her daughter’s injury, has made the common mistake of not allowing Rana the independence to do much for herself.

Rana said, “I gave up hope a long time ago. What I would give just to be normal. I have felt for years that my life is over.”

The household had a tap close the ground in the open courtyard that Rana could use to wash and clean herself, but it was difficult to access, the splashing would soil her clothes and it was not conducive for private bathing. Bathing was usually done by her mother, but not regularly. With the help of her mother, she used a small plastic bowl on the floor of the household latrine for defecation, and again, relying on her mother to clean her. She has a wheelchair, but because the doors and thresholds in her home were narrow and encumbering, she usually shuffled around on the floor and courtyard with the use of her functioning right arm.

World Vision’s WASH team was able to build her a low, accessible sink with taps to assist with her personal cleaning, as well as widen the doorway to her latrine — now equipped with a raised toilet she that she can get to and from, with her wheelchair. This is a small step in helping her feel more independent, and regain a little more personal dignity. World Vision is also recommending help to Rana’s mother, so she can learn better ways to support and empower her daughter, which will lead her further down the road to restoring hope.

WORLD VISION IRAQ

Disability inclusion helps restore hope.

WORLD VISION & THE WATER INSTITUTE AT UNC: MONITORING, EVALUATION & LEARNING

WORLD VISION and the Water Institute at the University of North Carolina (UNC) have established a six-year partnership focused on using evidence to drive widespread programme improvement. World Vision and UNC aim to bridge the gap between research and implementation to share learnings that will move the sector forward in achieving SDG 6.
World Vision is a global Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice.