WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE

2019 ANNUAL REVIEW

Prepared May 2020
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GLOBAL SUMMARY

Ray Norman, Global Sector Lead for WASH, World Vision International

This was a year of continued progress, impact and learning for World Vision’s Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Programme, and we are pleased to share our 2019 annual report. We have continued to advance our goal of reaching children, women, and men in households, schools and healthcare facilities, with safe water, dignified sanitation and appropriate hygiene. We have also continued to learn and improve in providing sustained, quality WASH services for the most vulnerable.

World Vision is also deeply committed to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6. In this effort, during 2019, we reached 3.4 million people with safe water, 2.6 million people with household sanitation and 4.3 million people with hygiene behaviour change promotion efforts. In our emergency contexts, we also reached an additional 900,000 people with safe water.

During 2019 we also began to reflect more deeply on how to shift our programming to improve WASH services through sustained, quality and evidence-based programming. While maintaining our commitment to water access through technical innovation and the scale up of proven approaches to quality water access, we are exploring new approaches to sanitation and sustained hygiene behaviour change, as well as strengthening the way we measure impact. We also maintain our commitment to achieving SDG6 through strategic partnerships with key foundations, institutions and government entities, which not only complement our strengths but also serve to assure maximum, sustained impact in the areas we serve. Going forward, we are developing our new 5-year plan (2021-2025) which will reflect these significant programmatic shifts and more clearly illustrate our ongoing commitment to learn, improve and augment our contribution to the achievement of SDG6.

We invite you to peruse this annual report which highlights our achievements and provides selected insights to our approaches and learnings, as well as a note on our commitment to quality from our new Senior Director for WASH Operations, Pauline Okumu.
2019 ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

39,775 water points built
2019 annual target: 36,148
110%

469,983 sanitation facilities built
2019 annual target: 381,807
123%

490,087 hand-washing facilities built
2019 annual target: 411,821
119%

5,582 WASH committees formed
2019 annual target: 5,795
96%

2019 ANNUAL SPENDING

$141.3 MILLION spent on global WASH programmes during fiscal year 2019.

- World Vision U.S. – Private Funding and Sponsorship ($68.7 million)
- Other World Vision Offices – Private Funding and Sponsorship ($37.4 million)

* This includes rural community water beneficiaries (2,909,010) and municipal water beneficiaries (493,666). The 1.2 million people with access to water represents many of the same beneficiaries who received access to sanitation facilities and behaviour-change programming. A total of 16.1 million people have accessed clean drinking water since FY16.
GLOBAL MAP

WORLD VISION’S GLOBAL WASH PROGRAMME REGIONS & COUNTRIES* IN 2019:

**GLOBAL MAP**

*This map includes all globally funded WASH programmes.

**Formerly Swaziland**
World Vision’s annual achievements were possible due to support from many committed partners.

charity: water: The Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, and Niger WASH teams completed charity: water grants in FY19, providing WASH to more than 216,450 children and adults in all four countries. The WASH programmes are now implementing $5.35 million in charity: water grants that started in FY19, including a new grant in Malawi, and three continuing grants in Mali, Mozambique, and Niger. The WASH teams also proposed multiyear plans including a 5% to 20% funding increase year-over-year for quality improvements to WASH implementation, increased piped-water systems to bring water closer to homes, and to achieve WASH for all in districts served by World Vision.

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation: The Ethiopia WASH Programme began its Hilton-funded WASH project in the Amhara region. The team led a start-up planning workshop with district stakeholders, selected communities to receive WASH services, hired staff for the project, and trained water-user associations in the use of business models to sustain operation of WASH facilities.

In Ghana, the WASH team started its universal WASH project in Asutifi North district. Memorandums of understanding were signed between the district assembly and communities; 24 boreholes were drilled—some await hand pumps and others will be used to source piped-water systems; and 10 communities completed Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS).

A project extension was approved for the Mali WASH in health facilities project. Initially, the three-year; $3 million project was scheduled to end in September 2019. The extension will allow time to complete the project and a final evaluation.

The Niger $2 million proposal for WASH in health centres in Torodi and Makalondi communes was approved.

Grundfos: Nine country WASH programmes (Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mexico, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe) purchased more than 150 Grundfos pumps for mechanised piped-water systems, with some built in FY19 and the remainder planned for FY20. Additionally, 24 staff members from 12 countries in the East and Southern Africa regions joined Grundfos for a week-long training in Zambia.

Procter & Gamble (P&G): World Vision continues to provide P&G household water purification (Purifier of Water) packets and filtration materials to ensure families have clean drinking water in humanitarian emergencies and as a bridge solution while communities wait for a permanent source of clean water. In FY19, P&G provided $2.8 million for water treatment packets; materials for water storage and handling; and training on safe drinking water treatment, household hygiene, and water safety.

During FY19, World Vision completed bridge solution projects in Cambodia, Mauritania, Mexico, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, and Zimbabwe. We also began a new project in Iraq to help internally displaced people who are returning to their homelands gain access to clean water. Funding for new projects to begin in FY20 will further deepen our impact and community engagement in Cambodia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Niger, the Philippines, and Somalia. We obtained emergency funding for projects in Malawi, Myanmar, and Zimbabwe in response to Cyclone Idai and monsoon floods.

Sesame Workshop: The WASH UP! programme launched in India with full support from the District Magistrate, the highest government position in the district. In FY20, the WASH UP! curriculum will be piloted in 200 schools. The Rwanda WASH team and Sesame Workshop developed a WASH UP! storybook for children in early childhood development centres. It is being piloted with the expectation of scale-up to more centres in FY20.

In FY19, the WASH UP! programme was awarded funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development for messages around neglected tropical diseases in West Africa, Dubai Cares for creation of menstrual hygiene curriculum in Zimbabwe, and the Stewardship Foundation for work in India and Kenya.

In FY20, the Mozambique WASH team will provide WASH UP! in 150 schools, thanks to a new Food for Education Grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture requiring sanitation and hygiene education for schoolchildren.

The Water Institute at the University of North Carolina: The Water Institute at UNC completed the 14-country evaluation final report and several publishable manuscripts (such as peer-reviewed articles published in professional journals) using the evaluation data analysis. In FY20, the Water Institute will conduct a more detailed analysis of WASH data collected in health facilities and collaborate with World Vision for new funding opportunities from foundations and the U.S. government.
ENSURING OUR COMMITMENT TO QUALITY

Pauline Okumu, WASH Senior Director, World Vision International

As the new senior director of Global WASH operations, I look forward to steering our national office WASH programmes through new opportunities and new challenges in the years ahead. I am new to this role, but not to the organisation. I have been with World Vision for more than 17 years, and most recently, I was the national director of World Vision Lesotho. I have seen the growth in our WASH programming and am proud we are considered the largest nongovernmental provider of water. However, our work and our responsibility does not stop there.

World Vision has committed to aligning with the U.N.’s Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, which aims to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. We take this commitment seriously. Currently, we are in development of a five-year global WASH business plan that has senior leadership support across the World Vision Partnership. This business plan is strategically aligned with the SDGs, which push us to strengthen and deepen our focus on quality.

Over the next five years, we aim to help improve household water quality, facilitate the opportunity for communities to have an insurance policy on their water systems, and ensure we make agreements with credible suppliers that offer certified, quality materials. Our work to create sustainable water services will incorporate plans for water security and resiliency, looking “beyond the pipe” to the broader integrity of ecosystems.

Over the next five years, we will continue to press for increased emphasis and quality improvement in our sanitation and hygiene behaviour-change programming. Our efforts will incorporate a dedicated approach toward behaviour change, guided by locally contextualised programming and ensuring that affordable and acceptable technology is available to facilitate these behaviours.

World Vision also is committed to continuous learning and improvement. We partner with many organisations and skilled professionals that challenge our staff to strive for excellence. We recently completed a 14-country WASH evaluation with our partners at the Water Institute at UNC. This evaluation is of value not only to World Vision, but to the entire WASH sector. We are using this database to make decisions about future programmes. World Vision will build on these experiences and pay more rigorous attention to evidence-based programming and measuring impact of WASH services.

It is an honor for me to be a part of an organisation with such a strong commitment to quality. I am excited for the years ahead, for all the people who will have better WASH services, opportunities for new collaborations and new partnerships, as well as all the advancements the WASH sector will make.
EAST AFRICA

1,362,219 PEOPLE
provided with access to clean drinking water

1,001,499 PEOPLE
gained access to improved household sanitation

1,535,749 PEOPLE
reached with hygiene behaviour-change programming

PROGRAMME SUMMARY: EAST AFRICA

Regionwide, we achieved 105% of our target for bringing water to communities, while work to construct sanitation facilities topped out at 111% of target. Our hygiene education and awareness programmes reached 104% of the target set for the year.

One reason we enjoyed these successes is because WASH teams were good stewards of the resources provided them, and strong advances were made in mobilising more funding for this crucial work. For every $1 invested by World Vision U.S. private funding, approximately $3 more came in to support WASH efforts.

There is a continuing and strong need for WASH in emergency settings throughout the region. Drought and civil unrest have displaced millions, and we are working to bring WASH services to camps and host communities where displaced children and families have settled. Our work brought clean water to more than 91,000 people and sanitation to more than 60,000 people in emergency settings in Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, and South Sudan.

Innovations and Partnerships

• In Ethiopia, the WASH Business Centre Initiative was launched to address sustainability challenges. These are one-stop centres for production and sale of WASH products (sanitary pads, latrine slabs, etc.) and services. The government is fully engaged in these business centres, providing workspace and helping to create demand. Future plans include expanding into latrine construction and installing hand-washing facilities in institutions.

• In Kenya’s Kirindon AP, staff members developed a campaign—Mbuzi moja, choo bora (one goat, a better toilet)—to encourage pastoralist families to invest in building latrines. The educational campaign emphasises that the cost of a latrine can be covered by the sale of just one goat. Staff members reported they are seeing an increase in basic-level latrines, with many families confirming they financed their new latrines through the sale of chickens and/or goats.

• In Uganda, the Household Accountability Approach allows for door-to-door advocacy for hygiene and sanitation improvement. Uganda is overachieving on its community handwashing and latrine targets thanks to this approach, and 75 villages are registered as free from open defecation.

Much credit for success goes to well-trained and talented staff members

World Vision is making great progress in East Africa, due largely to the experience and dedication of our field staff. We sent 13 staff members to the Desert Research Institute/Drexel WASH capacity-building programme last year, and in FY20, we are sending 26, seven of whom are women.

Other training for staff in FY19 included solar power installation and troubleshooting and inspection of water systems. In Zambia, a detailed, hands-on training focused on how to properly size pumps had staff representation from Burundi, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, and Tanzania.
HYGIENE CLUBS IMPROVE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Some of the simplest measures can make the greatest differences.

According to the Rwandan Ministry of Health data, clean water can reduce diarrhoea—a common killer of young children—by 15%. But handwashing with soap can reduce diarrhoea by more than 65%. Granted, in rural, isolated communities with poor access to water and soap, this is easier said than done.

To address this, the Rwanda WASH Programme has established hygiene clubs in communities where it works to educate village residents on the best practices to protect health. These include building and using latrines and washing hands at critical times, such as after using the latrine and before handling or eating food.

Members of these clubs learn good hygiene practices and share them at home and with their neighbors. This positive peer pressure has been proven effective in community development settings. In some communities, clubs make and sell soap—a practice that provides a much-needed commodity and generates income for club members.

Members are thrilled with the results they’ve experienced by a change of habits. Not only are families experiencing better health, they are saving precious income by reducing medical costs.

“Before the creation of hygiene clubs, our community was suffering from the consequences of poor hygiene,” said Theophile Ntawuhishimana, a club member. “Many of us practiced open defecation. We nearly never washed our hands after using the restroom. Our kids barely showered before going to school, and they would miss a lot of lessons because they would get sent home by their teachers. All these poor practices led to illness, and because we were already struggling to makes ends meet, seeking medical care was not an option.”

Janet Mukamuhinda has seen similar results in her home, and she is impressed by the health and economic opportunities that are associated with the clubs and improved lifestyles. Her children suffered from malnutrition due to chronic diarrhoea, and she was underweight as well.

“Our testimonies are very visible. Today, my children are clean, healthy, and happy. Having access to clean water and proper hygiene and sanitation knowledge has given us a chance to give our children the childhood they deserve,” she added.

“We produce soaps and lotion, and we have now established a market where we sell our products. Business has been going well,” she said, adding that with the proceeds from selling soap, members have started a savings group. Savings groups use initial investments to create a loan fund from which members can borrow to invest in other economic pursuits.

Theophile predicts these changes will change habits and lifestyles for the long term. “These good hygiene practices will be passed down generations and will, in turn, prevent diseases and improve productivity amongst our communities.”

We’re grateful to World Vision and their development partners for introducing community hygiene … Not only have our lives completely changed, they have given us a chance to educate those in our communities … especially our children.”

—Theophile Ntawuhishimana, a hygiene club member
SOUTHERN AFRICA

598,611 PEOPLE
provided with access to clean drinking water

905,453 PEOPLE
gained access to improved household sanitation

1,135,000 PEOPLE
reached with hygiene behaviour-change programming

PROGRAMME SUMMARY: SOUTHERN AFRICA

In FY19, the Southern Africa region installed 7,117 water points, representing a 60% growth from FY18. With an aim to ensure children and families have access to clean water closer to home, WASH teams accelerated their focus on piped-water systems, installing more than double the number of systems compared to FY18.

The eight country WASH teams in Southern Africa installed 5,393 taps from piped-water supply systems, constructed 899 boreholes with hand pumps, and rehabilitated 825 nonfunctioning water points.

In FY19 alone, more than 1,920 communities were certified as free from open defecation, a 43% increase from FY18. This achievement is a result of greater collaboration with governments, as seen with the Malawi WASH team.

WASH teams were called to respond to major emergencies, including Cyclone Idai in Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, and an Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo. A total of 378,513 children and adults gained access to emergency drinking water supplies and 205,751 people gained access to emergency sanitation systems.

Innovations and Partnerships

- Nearly 20,000 students in Angola were reached with hygiene messaging through our partnership with The Mentor Initiative.

- In Malawi, 179 (74 males and 105 females) faith leaders participated in hygiene, sanitation, and behaviour-change programming. The trained faith leaders took the lead role engaging community members and students in the biblical understanding of WASH.

- In Mozambique and Zambia, water committees were actively involved in community saving groups, where they contributed resources to help ensure the ongoing functionality of WASH infrastructure.

- In Zimbabwe, local health workers trained families how to use P&G Purifier of Water packets. These packets enable households and schools to have clean water.

Encouraging healthy practices in communities

Country WASH teams sought creative approaches to encourage sustained healthy hygiene behaviours within communities and schools. Pictured at right is an example from Eswatini. Some teams used “nudges,” such as brightly painted pathways from the latrine to the hand-washing station at schools, or messages painted on WASH infrastructure such as community water reservoirs and tap stands in local languages as well as in English.
WASH UP! A PARTNERSHIP THAT’S GROWING UP WITH ITS AUDIENCE

Abigail Bucuvalas, Senior Director, Education Programmes, International Social Impact, Sesame Workshop

Five years ago, Sesame Workshop and World Vision launched their partnership with the vision of establishing a school-based educational programme about water, sanitation, and hygiene in at least 100 schools in 15 countries by 2020. At the end of 2019, we’re quite close to achieving our goal, with WASH UP!, currently reaching children in schools in Afghanistan, Ghana, Honduras, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. India just began its pilot in 25 schools, and conversations are underway for implementation in Kenya and Mozambique.

Sesame and World Vision partner together and complement each other in a unique way. We both believe young children are benefiting from the combination of our commitment to meaningful programme outcomes, as well as our respective organizational strengths. WASH UP! is expanding geographically, capturing lessons learned and using these lessons to inform the development of new content for each new context.

The programme also has been adapted to incorporate related topic areas, such as disability-inclusive WASH and neglected tropical diseases in West Africa, and social-emotional learning in the Syrian response region.

The original programme and these expansions have reached children ages 5 to 9 years old and their educators, most often through public primary schools.

Over the past two years, with generous support from Dubai Cares, Sesame and World Vision have leveraged the WASH UP! partnership to create Girl Talk, a menstrual hygiene management (MHM) and puberty education programme for girls and boys ages 10 to 14 years old in rural Zimbabwe. This programme enables WASH UP! graduates to continue their Sesame Muppet-hosted learning experiences as they grow and encounter new challenges, helping to address the enormous impact of the onset of menstruation on adolescent girls’ ability to continue participating fully in school. The programme is implemented in World Vision-supported public schools and aims to improve participating children’s knowledge about puberty and menstruation, attitudes about menstruation, and self-reported behaviours related to MHM.

The Sesame Workshop and World Vision relationship is undoubtedly a key factor in the success of the new Girl Talk programme.
391,147 PEOPLE
provided with access to clean drinking water

346,077 PEOPLE
gained access to improved household sanitation

666,370 PEOPLE
reached with hygiene behaviour-change programming

PROGRAMME SUMMARY: WEST AFRICA

In FY19, all seven country WASH teams in the West Africa Region (WAR) WASH Programme helped provide 391,147 vulnerable children and adults with access to clean water. WASH teams did so despite the myriad of challenges faced throughout the region—including ongoing civil unrest in Mali and Niger; and hyperinflation in Sierra Leone. Teams also focused on WASH accessibility, quality, and sustainability.

During the reporting period, the WAR WASH Programme installed 1,313 taps from successful water supply systems in communities, schools, and health centres—exceeding the annual target of 911 taps. Today, girls and women living in these communities can now access clean water closer to home, avoid traveling long distances to collect water, and have reduced risks of attacks or harassment.

WASH teams also trained 94,262 families to use water treatment techniques to disinfect water before drinking or using it. In FY20, to further ensure water quality, all WAR WASH teams will submit water samples to the World Vision laboratory in Ghana for microbiological, chemical, and physical tests on water and environmental samples.

Innovations and Partnerships

- In Ghana, the WASH team joined with local and international partners to launch a groundbreaking universal WASH project in Asutifi North district. By 2022, the project aims to provide all families living in the district with access to WASH services. See next page for the full story.

- The Mali WASH team, in partnership with World Health Organisation, Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Mali Ministry of Health, helped promote WASH in healthcare facilities using a tool called WASH Fit. This model requires functional WASH facilities (which World Vision provides), and biomedical waste management, among other things. The number of healthcare centres meeting the standard increased from two to 18 after just six months.

- The Niger WASH Programme prioritised water quality efforts. Area programme WASH facilitators were trained and equipped with portable kits to conduct on-site water quality analysis, and household water quality analysis.

- In Sierra Leone, the WASH team worked with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation to organise a one-day “Break the Silence” event. The event welcomed 250 students and community members, inviting them to learn about and openly discuss menstruation. Following the event, 13 school health clubs were formed to teach hygiene and sanitation practices with a focus on menstrual hygiene.

Empowering women through integrated WASH programming

In FY19, World Vision Senegal’s WASH and Economic Empowerment programmes joined together to train Senegalese women on soap making and hygiene promotion. Equipped with lessons learned, the new entrepreneurs began to make and sell soap in their communities, resulting in increased household incomes, greater access to soap, and more communities practicing healthy hygiene behaviours. This also helped drive demand for latrine construction, as the women also participated in savings groups to save money for home latrines. Demand for latrines in the community is now on the rise.
UNIVERSAL WASH FOR FAMILIES IN GHANA

World Vision has joined with local and international partners to implement a four-year universal access to WASH project in the Asutifi North district in Ghana. The project is to provide sustainable clean water access to 32,000 children and adults, as well as sanitation and hygiene services to 56 communities, 15 schools, and seven healthcare facilities by 2022.

The universal WASH project is being implemented with key partners, including Aquaya Institute, the Asutifi North District Assembly, IRC WASH in Ghana, Netcentric Campaigns, and Safe Water Network. Funding is provided by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation.

“[We are targeting] communities with no water service at all and those with limited water service,” explained Robel Lambisso, WASH programme manager for World Vision in Ghana. “[Our] total estimated budget is $3.5 million, of which $3 million is for water interventions and a half million is for sanitation and hygiene in the district.”

This first year, the project focused on improving sustainable management and governance of water facilities by promoting community-level capacity through forming Water and Sanitation Management Teams (WSMTs) in 30 communities, schools, and healthcare facilities. Agreements with communities, the district assembly, and World Vision will help ensure sustainable management of water facilities. Training of WSMTs is in progress.

Additionally, the project set out to provide 30 improved water sources (25 wells and five piped-water systems). So far, 24 productive wells have been drilled. Also, construction work on one limited, mechanised system has begun, and preparations are being made to begin construction on the other two limited, mechanised systems for large communities. Plans are underway to drill two wells for mechanisation at two healthcare facilities.

Another key focus of the project is to promote improved sanitation and hygiene behaviours and practices in households, communities, and institutions. Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) is one approach used to influence behaviour change and increase demand for sanitation services at the household level. To date, CLTS has been conducted in 10 communities. Also, two institutions (one healthcare facility and one school) will receive institutional latrines based on the CDC recommendations for sanitation in healthcare facilities and schools.

Community-level campaigns are planned to increase awareness of the need to pay for WASH services and advocate for improved WASH systems. These will take place in 30 communities in the Asutifi North district and will be carried out in collaboration with Netcentric Campaigns.

“[This is] historic,” said the Ahafo regional minister at the project launch ceremony in early 2019. “[We are launching the first investment phase in line with the master plan to achieve full coverage of water and sanitation by 2030 in Asutifi North district. I commend Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and grantees on behalf of the government of Ghana, and entreat all to work hard, partner strongly, and collaborate to ensure this investment gets to the most vulnerable in the district.”
ASIA-PACIFIC

337,888 PEOPLE
provided with access to clean drinking water

243,236 PEOPLE
gained access to improved household sanitation

724,334 PEOPLE
reached with hygiene behaviour-change programming

PROGRAMME SUMMARY: ASIA-PACIFIC

This past fiscal year, the Asia-Pacific WASH Programme made especially great progress on WASH in schools, filling in the gaps in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

A total of 54,470 students at 138 schools were provided with a source of clean drinking water. In addition, 89,330 children gained access to 679 improved, sex-separated latrines at their schools, more than double the annual target. At 125 schools, children with limited mobility also gained access to latrines, and at 105 schools, girls gained access to facilities to manage menstrual hygiene.

In terms of hygiene, 630 schools, almost triple the annual target, gained access to hand-washing facilities for close to 100,000 students. And 537 school WASH clubs were established to effect long-term WASH behaviour change both with students and at home with their families and communities.

Innovations and Partnerships

• In Bangladesh, people with disabilities were given priority for water management committee membership to ensure their involvement in decision-making and resource allocation.

• In partnership with World Food Programme and Department of Education, the Cambodia WASH Programme installed new handwashing and latrine technology in which water is pumped to an elevated tank in 14 schools without electricity.

• In India, World Vision partnered with UNICEF to strengthen WASH services in healthcare facilities and schools to improve women’s and children’s health outcomes.

• In Papua New Guinea, sanitation for homes built on stilts over the sea has required innovative solutions. World Vision is testing different waterless toilet technologies to find an acceptable solution.

• In Sri Lanka, the WASH Programme is using a rights-based approach to ensure communities receive WASH services and facilities from the government, with a focus on governance and advocacy to address WASH gaps.

Students learn personal hygiene through games

Children love to play games, which can be used as a learning tool at schools to teach them important and practical lessons on personal hygiene. In India, World Vision uses WASH games as a creative way to teach children about the importance of drinking only clean water, how to store water and keep it safe from contamination, proper sanitation practices, and good hygiene habits. Student WASH club members take an active part in leading the games and reinforcing lessons with other students.
A GRANDMOTHER TRANSFORMS HER FAMILY

With just a $60 loan from a microfinance institution, a grandmother is able to greatly improve her family’s health and well-being by building a latrine and practicing proper sanitation and hygiene.

Sreb Oeun, 64, lives with her 3-year-old grandson in Thma Puok district, Cambodia. Her children have migrated to Thailand for work, but come back to visit a few times a year.

Although Sreb and her grandson live in the middle of a village with many neighbors who have latrines, her family never had one until July 2019. Instead, they would walk about 328 yards from their home to defecate in the open, which caused them not only embarrassment, but also created safety concerns.

“When my daughter and I walked to defecate away from home at night, we were really afraid of snake bites, sexual abuse, and violence,” Sreb said. In addition to embarrassment and danger, they also faced health issues. Her grandson got severe diarrhoea early last year and went to the hospital for treatment, which cost 20,000 riels ($50).

When World Vision started using the CLTS approach in her village, Sreb says her situation changed. She participated in hygiene promotion sessions and decided to take out a microloan of $60 from a private microfinance institution to pay for latrine construction.

Sreb also saved money sent from her children working in Thailand to purchase improved water from a piped-water system.

“We are now healthy and feel safe.”

— Sreb Oeun, 64
LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

113,941 PEOPLE
provided with access to clean drinking water

56,158 PEOPLE
gained access to improved household sanitation

133,850 PEOPLE
reached with hygiene behaviour-change programming

PROGRAMME SUMMARY: LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

The need for clean water continues to increase in Latin America and Caribbean area programmes. In each country, the WASH programme is working with governments to integrate hygiene behaviour-change practices and other health modules into school curriculums as well as meeting with community leaders to fill in the gaps to reach children and families.

More than 42,000 students gained access to hand-washing facilities at 187 schools, reaching 196% of the annual target. More than 36,008 schoolchildren were provided with clean drinking water at 268 schools, achieving 171% of the annual target.

Through the construction of 749 improved, sex-separated latrines, 43,188 students gained access to improved sanitation. In addition, 86 schools benefited from improved sanitation for girls to manage menstrual hygiene while at school, and 83 schools gained access to improved sanitation for students with limited mobility.

Innovations and Partnerships

- During healthcare facility visits in Bolivia, 7,513 patients were taught about waterborne diseases and hygiene practices to prevent transmission, which resulted in fewer visits for treatment.

- With UNICEF, the Haiti WASH programme reached 8,520 children with access to clean water and sanitation facilities, achieving 176% of the target.

- In Honduras, 66 WASH committees were trained on how to efficiently manage and operate water systems and protect watersheds to maintain functional systems and good water quality for their communities.

- In Mexico, 12,009 households received P&G Purifier of Water packets, and 38,070 people participated in hygiene and sanitation behaviour-change programmes. The project concluded its activities far exceeding its goals.

New latrines and hygiene practices transform families

For more than 20 years, Polès Mompremier (pictured right) and his family have lived in La Renos, Haiti. In his community, homes are far apart, vegetation is scarce and dry, and essential infrastructure is nonexistent. Unfortunately, seven of his children died, one from cholera, which ravaged the community. Through a meeting at his church, Polès learned about the importance of practicing hygiene as well as why a latrine is necessary for the health of his family. After construction of the latrine, he and his family, as well as the community, are now aware that practicing good hygiene is key to staying healthy.
JOY IN CLEAN WATER

Xiomara (pictured left) is a 36-year-old single mother of two daughters in Nicaragua. Before having access to clean water, she and her eldest daughter would travel at least five hours to collect unclean water to use in their home.

Xiomara’s day frequently began at midnight, when she would leave her home to collect water. The moonlight, a handheld lamp, and a bucket were her early morning companions during her first trip of the day to the only water source in her community.

The road to La Chorrera was a narrow, muddy slope that took more than an hour to access. Although the area seemed to have ample water, more than 180 people used this water source for drinking, bathing, and other household chores, as well as watering animals.

“There we bathed, washed our clothes, and then brought a water can to the house,” said Xiomara. “When I was taking a bath, I would tell my daughter to keep watch to make sure no one else would come. Then she would bathe, and I would do the same for her.”

Xiomara and Darling, her daughter, preferred to run the risk of being seen when bathing in La Chorrera in order to preserve more water in their home. Darling made one trip per day, while Xiomara spent five hours carrying water back and forth.

“At some point, my head would hurt because of where I carried the water canister,” said Xiomara. “I carried between four to five gallons each trip.” Many other women in her community also made this sacrifice for their families. The water from La Chorrera was not clean and caused many to get sick.

“World Vision has helped this community a lot, has cared enough for us, has donated barrels and filters for our water,” said Xiomara. The most significant change in her life was not having to carry a bucket of water on her head and bring wet clothes home over her shoulder.

Now, instead of spending hours collecting water, Xiomara is able to spend those hours doing something more important—spending time with her daughters.
PROGRAMME SUMMARY: MIDDLE EAST

In FY19, World Vision partnered with donors, governments, community groups, and faith leaders to advance quality WASH services in Middle East states. Emergency WASH was provided to families affected by armed conflicts in Afghanistan, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria. WASH teams also worked to strengthen WASH infrastructure in urban settings, helping nearly 500,000 people gain access to municipal water supply systems.

School WASH UP! clubs equipped thousands of students with the knowledge and skills to promote healthy hygiene and sanitation practices, and to be change agents in their families and among their peers. Additionally, WASH teams throughout the region successfully advocated for women’s greater participation in WASH activities and decision-making on latrine design, site selection for water systems, and other WASH infrastructure.

While the region faces many challenges, WASH teams are helping communities become more resilient and providing vulnerable families with hope.

Innovations and Partnerships

- To increase water conservation, 350 Afghan households constructed rainwater and snow-melt reservoirs (called “dabbas”), benefiting 2,450 people. World Vision also developed Afghanistan’s first solar-powered reverse osmosis units to reduce chemical pollutants in drinking water.
- WASH in Islam curriculum was finalised in Afghanistan and 159 mullahs were trained to educate their communities on good hygiene practices from the viewpoint of Islam.
- In Iraq, the WASH team helped train 21 district government staff members in water systems management, while the team in Syria held a water safety workshop for partner nonprofit organisations.
- World Vision worked with the Ninewa Directorate of Health in Iraq to improve access to WASH services at three healthcare facilities, benefiting 33,000 people living with disabilities.
- Awareness-raising campaigns helped more than 280,000 people in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Lebanon communities and emergency settings develop good habits related to hygiene and water conservation.
- In Jordan, solid waste recycling in the Azraq refugee camp provided cash for work to 160 new Syrian refugees.

Hygiene training positions girls to be intergenerational influencers

In Afghan families, it often is the mother’s responsibility to train children in personal hygiene. However, after years of war, economic insecurity, and geographic displacement, many mothers lack hygiene education or capacity for normalising good hygiene behaviour in the home. Given these challenges, World Vision launched a hygiene education programme that equips schoolgirls to influence their family’s hygiene habits while providing skills that will be important should they eventually become mothers themselves.

After practicing better hygiene, Homaira, 12 (pictured)—a student at Ismail High School in Badghis province—was pleased to notice the changes to her body. “I was not interested to practice hygiene at home before because I did not know the benefits,” she says. “My hands were rough and so dirty. When I observed hygiene … [they became] very clean and soft. My brothers and sisters have been very surprised to see the changes in my appearance, and they are eager to do the same. I’m going to teach my family what I’ve learned.”

*This includes rural community water beneficiaries (105,204) and municipal water beneficiaries (493,666).
**This includes rural household sanitation (1,658) and municipal sewage system beneficiaries (56,152).
HOPE AMONG THE RUINS

In northern Iraq, access to clean water is helping villages devastated by armed conflict begin to recover and rebuild.

“Once [the terrorist militant group ISIS] took over the area, our life became a hell,” says Masoud Hashim Ismael (pictured top left). As residents of Sefdinan, a small village located on the Khazir River in northern Iraq, Masoud and his relatives were displaced for more than two years when the area became a front line between ISIS and Kurdish military forces. “Every nice thing in our village [was] damaged,” Masoud says. “It was really very dramatic seeing all your history burned before your eyes.”

During the conflict, Sefdinan’s water infrastructure—the boreholes, pipe networks, and water treatment plant along the river—also were destroyed. After the fighting subsided, villagers, including Masoud and his six nieces and nephews (pictured), returned from displacement camps to find they had no access to clean water and would have to collect untreated water directly from the river. Masoud remembers the river as filthy, polluted by “remnants of war and [human remains].”

Using untreated water increased incidents of sickness in Sefdinan, with villagers suffering from diarrhoea, skin conditions, and inflammation of the kidneys. The community asked local and international organizations for help, at first receiving little response. Then World Vision began working with the people of Sefdinan, training them on water treatment methods and installing water filters in 31 households.

“World Vision visited our village and asked about people’s needs and requirements,” says Masoud. After a period of learning about water filtration, and using treated water on a daily basis, villagers saw the frequency of waterborne illnesses in their community significantly reduced.

Meanwhile, access to clean water has affected not only people’s physical well-being; it is promoting the economic well-being of the whole community. “The families living in Sefdinan village who benefited from this project [will not] need more money for medicine anymore,” Masoud says, “but they can use the money on health, schooling, and food. Finally, we can drink pure water.”