# West and Central Africa Newsletter

Empowering and Transforming Lives

West Africa Senior Director of Operations Message

We are a partner of choice for community transformation



#### **COUNTRY PROGRAMME UPDATES** Sierra Leone: Healthy facts and figures about Timed and Targeted Counselling

Timed and Targeted Counselling (ttC), a Community Health Workers approach that extends primary health care counselling to household level has proven to advance living conditions and to save the lives of mothers and infants in Sierra Leone. Designed to address poor health-seeking behaviour, low demand for health services and poor health and nutrition practices in the home, ttC has strengthened linkages between health facilities and community health workers through the use of the Commcare application. The implementation of the approach in Imperi Area Programme enabled 92% of mothers who delivered in health facilities to be assisted by skilled birth attendants in 2017 whereas the 2019 evaluation accounts for 99.17% as against the national average of 83.0%.



# Ghana: Children's voices and participation integral to programme planning

All World Vision interventions are implemented in the ultimate goal to improve child wellbeing. Children and their communities are therefore among WV's priorities partners. In Ghana, like in other countries, the programmes involve children from the planning stage to ensure that their voice counts and their recommendations are integrated into the design and implementation processes. This approach ensures that WV addresses the population including children' needs by tackling the root causes and proposing contextualized programmes which respond to the exact needs of the children we serve. Children club in Adjeikrom influenced WV Ghana programme.



## Chad: Empowering women through moringa transformation and sales

Audible from a distance, women from Ba Ili, Chad, are singing joyfully as they convene for their monthly association meeting. What brings them together is a miracle plant, the moringa! Among them, is Rosalie, a real leader who understood that strength and progress come from unity. From the trainings and knowledge, she acquired through World Vision programmes, she founded a women's group with the vision to empower more women and contribute to the effective development of their communities. What started at her individual level a year ago, is now a project across 20 villages benefiting hundreds of women, children and even men. A real example of an effective, successful, well adapted and sustained programme.

# Senegal: A community tour to discover the impact of COVID-19 on schools

In most of the communities where we serve across Senegal, sentiments are mixed because children have yet to return back to school as had been scheduled for June 2nd – a plan that failed to materialize at the last minute. World Vision's National Director for Senegal recently took a trip to the field with education workers to learn how sponsored children are coping during the pandemic, as well as seek to establish methods of providing support.

## Mali: Hand-washing kits to curb the spread of COVID-19

The most vulnerable children and their families cannot always afford clean water and soap to wash their hands as a key prevention measure against COVID-19. In Mali, Salimata, a thirteen-year-old girl is happy with the hand-washing kit her family received. Every day, it is with a smile that she takes care of the kit, cleaning it and filling it with water. She understands that the hand-washing kit plays a key role in ensuring that her family stays away from the pandemic

#### Protecting children from child labour during COVID-19 school closures in CAR

A feeling of safety and security is integral to a child's own sense of well-being. One of World Vision's key child protection and participation programme goals is therefore to ensure that children are safe from abuse, exploitation, neglect, and all forms of violence whether in chronically poor rural communities, chaotic urban slums, or communities engulfed in conflict. With the temporary closure of schools by governments to prevent the spread of COVID-19, several children out of school are unfortunately used as additional workforce. In Central African Republic, World Vision is mobilizing communities to fight against child labour and promote children's education while schools are closed.

#### **Community Development Centers :** An effective approach in Mauritania

The establishment of Community Development Centers (CDCs) is one of the most trustworthy approaches for community-based programming implemented by World Vision in Mauritania. CDCs were born out of the initial idea of facilitating the monitoring of children in 1999 and have over the years become a real channel for development and integration within communities. They have also become a tool that reinforces social cohesion between families and contributes to the integrated development of young children. By partnering closely with local community groups, religious leaders, families, mothers and children themselves, root causes of poverty are directly addressed.









the Central African Republic (CAR), meas rking in the forge during the COVID-19 out



### HIDDEN HERO: CELEBRATING ORDINARY PEOPLE WHO PUT OTHERS FIRST



World Vision has over 70 years of experience working with communities, donors, partners, and governments to create opportunities for better futures for vulnerable children – even in the toughest places. Behind all the work that World Vision has been part of for those years, ordinary people - hidden heroes- have risen to meet the most relevant challenges of every era. They are ordinary people coming together for extraordinary impact. We are proud to be associated with such, partners, donors, communities... and we celebrate them.

#### Unleash your hidden hero today, sign the petition NOW

Help us call on governments and institutions to urgently increase funding for health, education and other social services that protect children from all forms of violence and abuse, especially for girls and boys at greater risk due to the impacts of COVID-19. Sign the global petition by clicking on the link and remember to share the link with others.



#### THE ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES & WORLD VISION PARTNER FOR A STRONGER ADVOCACY ACROSS THE CONTINENT

The signing of a partnership in May 2020 between World Vision (WV) and the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) confirmed a new significant agreement to jointly engage on Children and Youth Policy influencing & SDGs. Among several partnership activities and in the spirit of "going further than we imagined", WV and the AACC will jointly engage with the African Union to enhance advocacy and partnerships that build on solutions for a brighter future for children and youth across the continent.

The covenant also ensures that both entities will mobilise faith leaders to advocate for government action to address Gender-Based Violence and Violence Against Children issues in 10 countries. World Vision is concerned with the increased incidences of violence against children in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and is therefore extending and adapting its global campaign to end violence against children. Learn more



### **COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE**

The President of the Republic lauds World Vision Sierra Leone for strengthening and supporting the healthcare system

#### **COVID-19 response focus areas**

World Vision is hard at work addressing the effects of the pandemic on the most vulnerable children across the region. In this video, the West Africa Senior Director of Operations, Jean Claude Mukadi, speaks about our response focus areas.

# Building a brighter future for vulnerable children in Africa

The impact of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis is exacerbating the complex issues that vulnerable children and communities across Africa had already been facing before the disease hit the continent. While drawing on experience responding to disease outbreaks such as Ebola, World Vision is active on the ground and scaling up its prevention and response work across 26 countries in Africa.

### Youth voices in times of COVID-19

Children from across Africa share how COVID-19 has affected their lives and take actions to promote prevention measures.









#### From the field

World Vision is responding to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis through a multi-sectoral approach; working in collaboration with local authorities, frontline health workers, academic institutions, faith leaders, communities, and local NGOs. Access and read Countries' Response stories available on country webpages:

#### **Latest Situation Report**

In our latest Africa Regional COVID-19 Situation Report, find out how we've reached over 23.3 million people so far (including 9.5 million children) through our response interventions covering 26 countries on the continent. Access the report from the link below.

### AMIDST THE CRISIS, CHILDREN'S DREAMS ARE COMING TRUE

World Vision Ghana through its Child Sponsorship programmes and personalised supports, create opportunities for children to shape their dreams. Samed, a young artist is painting his dreams.





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Click on Job vacancies in Africa and Join us to serve the most vulnerable children

Edition July 2020