

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in West Africa



Our Impact since October 2015 to date



+1.6 million
people reached
with access to clean
drinking water.



+1 million
people reached
through improved
household
sanitation.



+2.9 million
people reached
through hygiene
behaviour change
programming.

World Vision believes that sustainable well-being is impossible without equitable access to clean water, dignified sanitation and appropriate hygiene behaviours. At the same time, WASH is only one piece of the development puzzle. For its full effect and a sustainable impact, World Vision ensures integration with other sectors – including education, maternal and child health, nutrition, livelihoods, and more.

In West Africa, World Vision has been implementing WASH interventions since 1985 focusing on development and fragile contexts. Our goal is to provide clean water and sanitation to everyone in every community where we work – including those in hardest-to-reach places.

Achieving this goal will be a significant contribution to achieving goal 6 of the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Our Goal

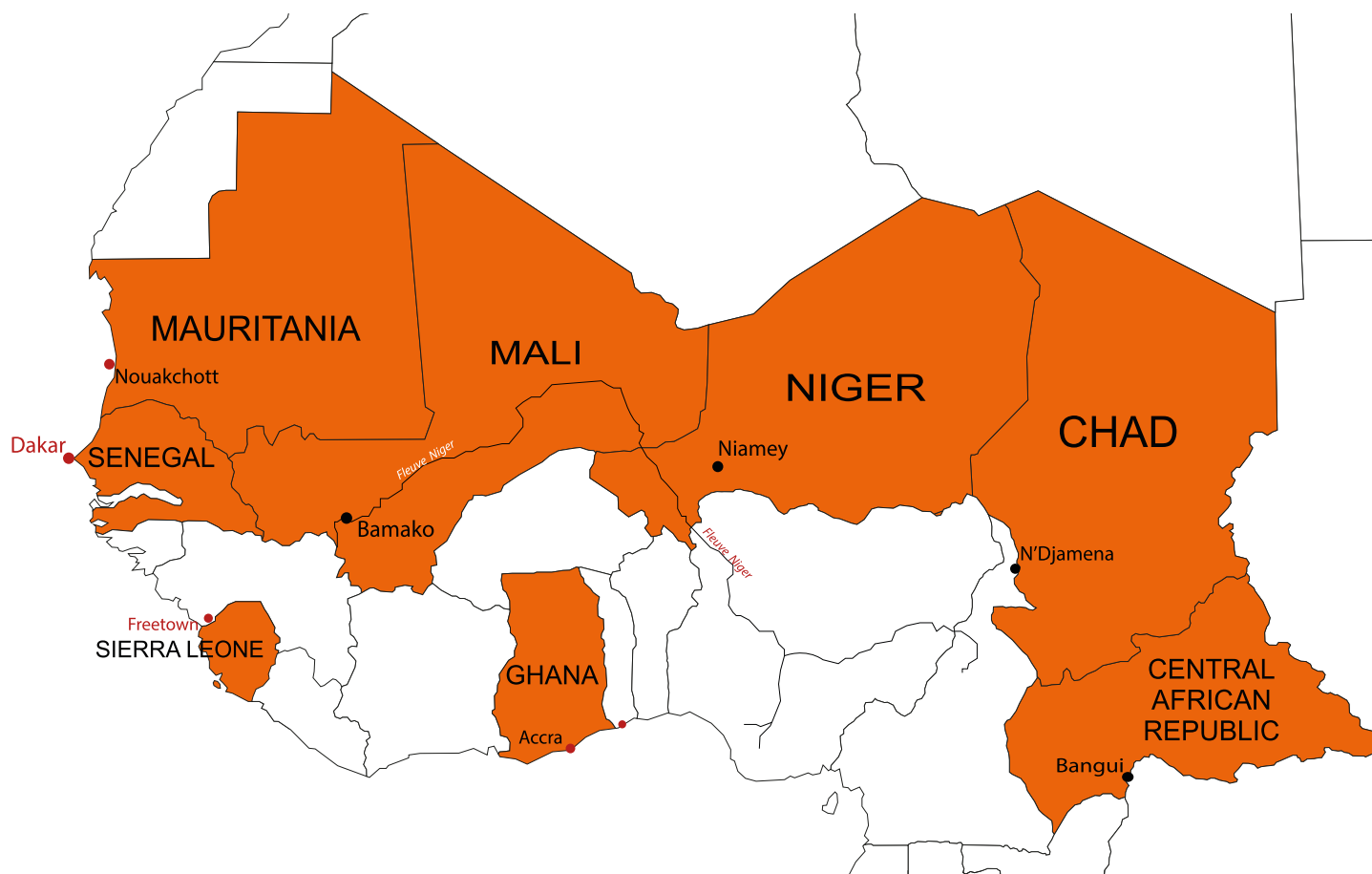
Improved Access to Water, Sanitation Facilities and Good Hygiene Practices

The well-being of children and families is impossible without sustainable, equitable access to clean water, dignified sanitation and appropriate hygiene behaviours. We believe every child deserves and has a right to clean water. We are determined to ensure it!

Our Approach

In West Africa, the WASH programme uses a range of approaches to achieve its overall objectives in development and emergency contexts. Our programming focuses on WASH in communities, health care facilities, schools and emergencies.

Where we Work



Our Strategic Imperatives

The WASH programmatic focus is around four prioritized intervention areas.

Water Supply

In our clean water work, we strive to provide access to clean water as close as possible to households – with a maximum of 30 minutes round trip. We build water points in partnership with communities, and we work to ensure that local communities manage the water points through water committees while providing environmentally sustainable solutions to water access.

Sanitation and Hygiene

As we partner with communities in WASH, we use a variety of approaches to address sanitation needs. This includes construction of latrines to protect water sources against contamination, training communities on the importance of solid waste management, and the installation of hand-washing stations and formation of hygiene clubs in schools to prevent the spread of disease.

Governance and Finance

World Vision seeks to re-engineer community-based management approaches to strengthen regulatory oversight, representing one of the most important enablers for achieving progress under SDG 6 and ensuring long-term sustainability of our work. The approach embraces a “systems-based approach” to build sustainable and resilient WASH solutions linked to the capacities and local stakeholders and national governments as critical components of that system.

Water Security and Resilience

The sustained availability of water both in sufficient quantity and in adequate quality is fundamental to the successful expansion of safe drinking water services under SDG 6. Embracing strategies for the integrated water resources management enables the strengthening of downstream water supply systems while also improving the management of the finite upstream water resources on which those services depend. The approach requires looking “beyond the pipe” to the broader integrity of ecosystems and catchments accompanied by the mitigation of water pollution.

WASH in Fragile Contexts and Emergencies

During emergencies, water, sanitation and hygiene are critical first responses to save lives and help protect people from disease outbreaks and other risks. We listen to the affected people’s needs, then we respond by providing clean water and sanitation in the form of water pumps, toilets, bathing facilities, WASH kits and more – all designed in a culturally and contextually appropriate way. We also design and implement hygiene promotion activities to ensure children and their communities stay healthy.



Faith Engagement in WASH

Our WASH programmes are distinctively successful because we are intentional about effectively engaging with the most trusted community leaders – many of whom are religious leaders (imams, pastors, priests and others) – to discuss and learn about issues affecting child well-being and community health. In doing so, we engage their support and mobilise them as key community advocates and agents of change as we implement our WASH programmes.

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

Our commitment to transformative WASH includes a commitment to gender equality and social inclusion (GESI). World Vision's GESI approach actively strives to examine, question, and change harmful social norms and power imbalances as a means of reaching gender equality and social inclusion objectives in any given context. GESI approach typically tackles barriers to decision-making, formal and informal systems, and participation in addition to those that hinder access and well-being by;

- Fostering critical examination of inequalities and social roles, norms and dynamics;
- Recognizing and strengthening positive norms that support equality, social inclusion and an enabling environment;
- Promoting the relative increase in the position of women, girls, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups;
- Changing underlying social structures, policies and broadly held social/cultural norms that perpetuate inequalities and social inclusion.

WASH & Innovation

We have rolled out the use of SQFlex submersible solar pumps, which are a practical solution for rural areas. They are easy to use and suitable for the exploitation of shallow boreholes.

SQFlex technology in our programming areas has enabled us to harness low productive wells where it was not possible with the regular pumps. The Grundfos SQFlex solar pumping system is competitive in price and durability.

Some of Our Donors



For further information contact:

Godfrey Mawaa : Regional WASH Director West Africa Regional Office
Mobile: +221 78-185-8238 | Email: godfrey_mawaa@wvi.org
Web: www.wvi.org

November 2020