



World Vision
ASIA PACIFIC



**Asia Pacific
Impact Report**

April 2021



Acknowledgements

This report was compiled by World Vision Asia Pacific.

World Vision International is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. World Vision International is dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people. World Vision International serves all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

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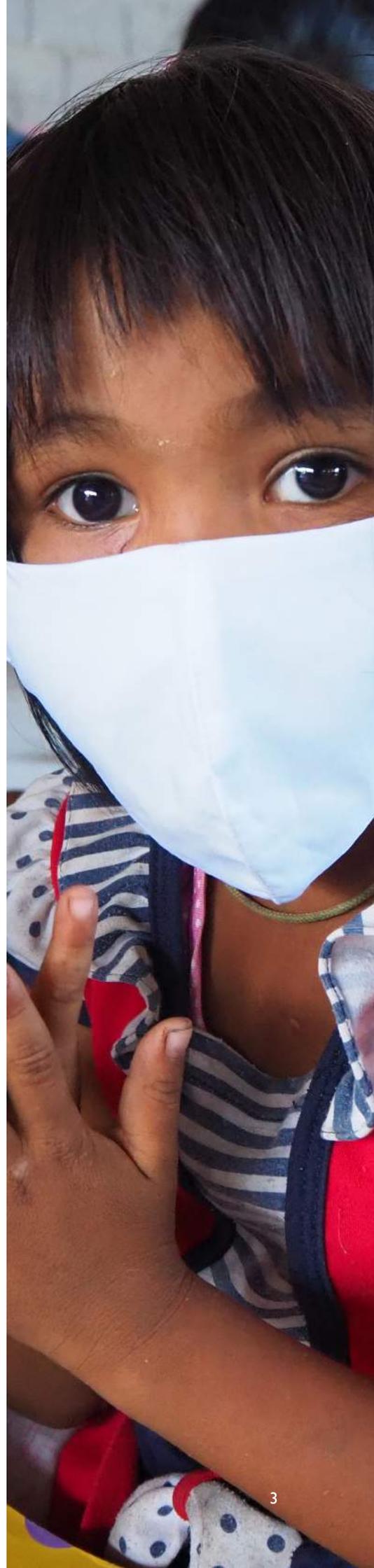
Child and Adult Safeguarding Considerations

We ensured safe and ethical participation of children when they shared their stories and surveys were conducted remotely to adhere to COVID-19 preventive measures, in line with World Vision's safeguarding protocols. Some names have been anonymised and changed to ensure confidentiality.

All photos were taken and used with informed consent.

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Foreword



WE WORK IN

18 COUNTRIES
IN ASIA PACIFIC

THROUGH

577 AREA
PROGRAMMES

IN SOME OF THE MOST
DANGEROUS AND
DIFFICULT PLACES.

We are pleased to share with you the **2020 Annual Impact Report for the Asia Pacific region**.

The past year has been one of the most challenging in World Vision's 70-year history. Never in our history has there been one event which has had such devastating consequences for both the millions of vulnerable families we serve in some of the world's least developed countries and equally for our staff, supporters and partners in more privileged contexts. As a Christian organisation dedicated to the well-being of children, we help vulnerable boys and girls of all backgrounds overcome poverty and experience life in all its fullness. Currently, World Vision works in 18 countries in Asia Pacific, reaching out to thousands of communities, through 577 programmes, in some of the most dangerous and difficult places.

2020 has been a year full of both hope and myriad challenges. The challenges are clear: surveys that World Vision conducted in 402 communities in mid-2020 reveal that almost 70% of the rural and urban families, in World Vision's operational areas, experienced a moderate or severe loss of income due to the COVID-19 restrictions and economic aftershocks (Unmasking, World Vision's Rapid Assessment Report, August 2020¹). Through interviews with over 100 boys and girls in 13 countries we learnt that 87% of children cited an increase in violence in their homes, 47% had to stop schooling to help their family earn an income and 49% reported an increase in child marriage (Act Now, World Vision Report, Nov 2020).²

¹ https://www.wvi.org/sites/default/files/2020-08/WV%20AP%20Unmasking%20Report%20240820_final.pdf

² https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ACT%20NOW_Global_txt.pdf



Asia Pacific is the most disaster-prone region in the world (UNFPA 2018). In addition to responding to the adverse health, economic and education effects of COVID-19, World Vision also responded to 41 humanitarian events caused by climate change in the region. Over 94 million³ people were affected by cyclones, heavy rains, floods, mudslides, a volcanic eruption and earthquakes in Philippines, Indonesia, China, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam Thailand, India, Bangladesh, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. Our responses benefited, in aggregate, a total of 16.1 million people, including 6.9 million children.

Despite all of these challenges, our supporters, our partners and, most importantly, our faith, have given us and the communities we serve, hope in the midst of the pandemic.

Together, we have responded to 16.7 million people, including 10.3 million boys and girls across Asia Pacific.

And finally, World Vision's advocacy efforts reached 138 million children, who are now better protected by 500 local and national government policies aimed at ending violence against children.

We thank you for your partnership with us in all our efforts and hope that, as you read this report you would be enthused and challenged to continue your journey with us.

Terry Ferrari
Regional Leader, East Asia

Cherian Thomas
Regional Leader, South Asia & Pacific

³ <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/12/16/record-climate-disasters-in-asia-pacific-push-millions-to-breaking-point.html>

“ Growing up in a poor community, I want to make an impact and serve people who are in most need.”

Angel, 17



Philippines. Angel, 17, walks to and from school every day. Seeing other children in her neighbourhood get involved in work such as scavenging scraps and sidewalk vending fuels her to study hard.

World Vision Global Impact Framework

Our Global Impact Framework was developed based on decades of experience as a humanitarian, development and advocacy organisation working globally with vulnerable children, families and communities.

World Vision collaborates and advocates with governments, civil society, faith partners, peer organisations, and the private sector to promote the sustained well-being of children, especially the most vulnerable.

The WV Impact Framework focuses on 4 areas of child wellbeing, which contribute to the achievements of the SDGs:



Girls and boys enjoy good health

- Increase in children who are well-nourished (ages 0-5)
- Increase in children protected from infection and disease (ages 0-5)



Girls and boys are educated for life

- Increase in primary school children that can read
- Increase in adolescents' education and life skills



Girls and boys are cared for, protected and participating

- Increase in children who are protected from violence
- Children ages 12-18 report an increased level of well-being



Children experience the love of God and their neighbours

- Children report an increased awareness of God's love
- Increase in children who have positive and peaceful relationships in their families and communities

To enable contribution towards these areas of child wellbeing, WV also works to strengthen the resilience of families and communities through building secure livelihoods, humanitarian action and disaster risk reduction.

WV Programmes in Asia Pacific: Overview

In 2020 in the Asia Pacific region, WV directly reached **16.7 million people**, including **10.3 million children**.

2 million people, including 994,135 children supported with **health and nutrition**.

2.8 million people supported with **water, sanitation and hygiene**.

1.8 million children engaged in **child protection**.

613,000 children supported with **education**.

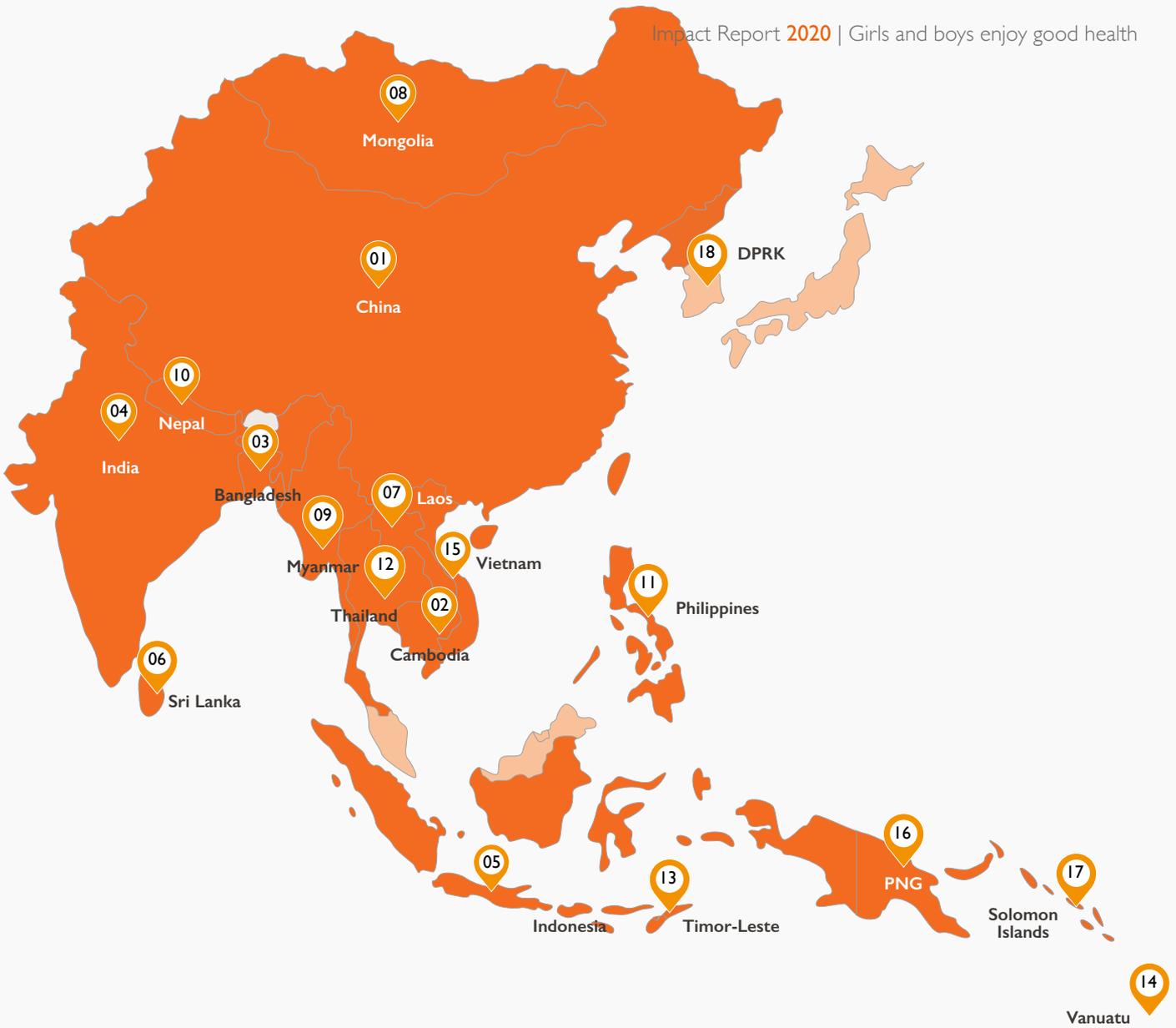
1 million people reported positive **peaceful relationships** in the awareness of God's love.

1.2 million people supported with **livelihood improvements**.

16.1 million people supported with **humanitarian assistance** in 42 emergencies.

138 million people reached with advocacy efforts, protected by 500 local and national government policies aimed at ending violence against children.





01. China

● 284,820 ● 228,749 ● 513,569 ● 166

02. Cambodia

● 357,719 ● 655,346 ● 1,013,065 ● 170

03. Bangladesh

● 1,581,541 ● 2,831,024 ● 4,412,565 ● 167

04. India

● 2,091,024 ● 4,239,107 ● 6,330,131 ● 489

05. Indonesia

● 199,705 ● 251,793 ● 451,498 ● 127

06. Sri Lanka

● 161,385 ● 181,959 ● 343,344 ● 188

07. Laos

● 33,584 ● 47,349 ● 80,933 ● 50

08. Mongolia

● 208,553 ● 285,817 ● 494,370 ● 83

09. Myanmar

● 316,568 ● 628,898 ● 945,466 ● 82

10. Nepal

● 224,221 ● 139,532 ● 363,753 ● 96

11. Philippines

● 590,908 ● 413,119 ● 1,004,027 ● 116

12. Thailand

● 90,596 ● 73,366 ● 163,962 ● 22

13. Timor-Leste

● 7,014 ● 95,985 ● 102,999 ● 9

14. Vanuatu

● 10,812 ● 17,510 ● 28,322 ● 13

15. Vietnam

● 227,456 ● 232,458 ● 459,914 ● 148

16. PNG

● 41,657

17. Solomon Islands (data unavailable)

18. DPRK (data unavailable)

TOTAL REACH

● 6,427,563 ● 10,322,012 ● Total people reached
 ● 16,749,575 ● 1,945 ● Adults
 ● Projects ● Children



OBJECTIVE 1:

Girls and boys
enjoy good
health

Context

Malnutrition is one of the most critical challenges for children in the region. A recent UNICEF-WHO - World Bank joint report¹ shows the prevalence of stunting and wasting in the region remains high. Stunting rates exceed 20% in a majority of the regions' countries. According to the latest data available, stunting affects 78.2 million children and 32.6 million children suffer from wasting. Nearly 1 in 10 children in Asia suffer from wasting.

Two out of 5 stunted children in the world live in Southern Asia. Stunting brings permanent consequences, including increased risk of chronic diseases, poor learning abilities, poor health, and low productivity as an adult. It triggers the cycle of inter-generational malnutrition and poverty.

In addition, Asia Pacific has the world's highest prevalence and number of wasted children, with nearly 1 in 11 children at an increased risk of death due to wasting. Wasted children have a 12 times higher risk of dying. Of the nearly 38 million children suffering from wasting in Asia and the Pacific, more than one third have severe acute malnutrition (SAM). More than half of all wasted children in the world live in Southern Asia. Children who experience frequent acute malnutrition episodes, even though they survive, will likely be a stunted child.

The high numbers of malnourished children in the region are a result of poor feeding practices; frequent infections such as diarrhoea; pneumonia and malaria; lack of access to food, water, and health services; as well as malnutrition among pregnant mothers. Poverty is the universal underlying cause of stunting.

The COVID-19 pandemic is also worsening the situation due to

⁴ <https://data.unicef.org/resources/jme-report-2020/>

disrupted systems of food, health, and economy.

In addition, the Asia Pacific region faces the challenge of having 369 million people without access to basic sanitation services and 165 million people lacking access to basic drinking water⁵, which has an important negative impact on nutrition.

Health and Nutrition Programme Results

To maximise the impact on the lives of the most vulnerable children, WV implemented evidence-based health and nutrition interventions at scale, which are achieving outstanding results in the lives of children.

In 2020, WV health and nutrition programmes reached **over 2 million people**, including **994,135 children** across 18 countries in Asia Pacific.

WV directly supported **21,967 Community Health Workers (CHW)**. These CHWs trained 1,069,233 individuals on child care, health and nutrition.

Rehabilitating underweight and wasted children through Positive Deviance/Hearth (PDH)

Positive Deviance/Hearth (PDH) is a behaviour change program used to rehabilitate underweight and wasted children without medical complications, to sustain their rehabilitation and to prevent future malnutrition.

In 2020, WV implemented PDH across 9 countries and reached 690,952 children (age 0-59 months) through regular growth monitoring and promotion. An additional 9,500 children age 0-59 months also participated in PDH sessions.



41% of children age 0-59 months who were underweight were successfully rehabilitated through PDH sessions, while the remaining children are still on the road to recovery.

↑
20%

increase in the proportion of children having the Minimum Dietary Diversity at baseline versus evaluation. (average includes 3 projects over 3 years.)

Changing family behaviours to promote live-saving health practices through Time and Targeted Counselling (TTC)

Time and Targeted Counselling (TTC) is a family-inclusive behaviour change communication approach that targets families of young children, especially the most vulnerable. TTC encompasses a wide range of life-saving health practices through appropriately timed messages delivered using interactive storytelling.

In 2020, WV implemented TTC across 6 countries. It reached **433,104** pregnant women and mothers of children (age 0-23 months) with nutrition and infectious disease counselling, and reached 213,315 children (age 0-23 months) with assistance from trained community health workers.

⁵ <https://www.unicef.org/eap/reports/water-sanitation-and-hygiene-wash#:~:text=The%20Asia%2DPacific%20region%20faces,access%20to%20basic%20drinking%20water>

 **9%**

increase in the proportion of children exclusively breastfed until 6 months of age, (average includes 75 projects over 3 years)

5%



decrease in the prevalence of underweight in children under 5 years of age, (average includes 26 projects over 3 years)

2.3% 

decrease in the prevalence of wasting in children under 5 years of age, (average includes 30 projects over 3 years)

30% 

increase in the proportion of women who took iron/folate during pregnancy, (average includes 2 projects over 3 years)



Improving overall community health and strengthening civil society through Community Health Committee (COMM)

COMM is a generic name to a health-focused community group empowered to coordinate and manage activities leading to improved overall community health, and strengthened civil society.

In 2020, WV implemented COMM across 4 countries in Asia Pacific, where 5,868 Community Health Committees were organised for the prevention of malnutrition and infectious diseases.



22% 

increase in the proportion of children under 5 years with diarrhoea who received the correct management, (average includes 2 projects over 3 years)

All evaluation results in this report represent a percentage point change (an average of project baseline values, compared with an average of project evaluation values), over an average of 3 years.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Programme Results

To maximise the impact on the lives of the most vulnerable children, WV implements WASH evidence based interventions at scale, which are achieving outstanding results in the lives of children, families and communities.

In 2020, WV WASH programmes reached over 2.8 million people, including 1.6 million children across 18 countries in Asia Pacific.

There are a variety of approaches and interventions that WV implements to help communities have safe, convenient, reliable and sustainable WASH facilities and services, including:

- Community-led total sanitation (CLTS): an approach that engages the community in recognising areas where open defecation occurs and taking their own actions to become totally free of open defecation.
- Household Water Quality: Every water point is sampled, tested for physico-chemical and bacteriological compliance with country standards or WHO guidelines.
- Integrated water resources management (IWRM) is a sustainable approach seeking to address the socio-economic needs of all stakeholders in a watershed, preserving the environment and considering the needs of future generations.

Some highlights of WASH programmes in Asia Pacific include:

2,874,569 people trained on basic hygiene and sanitation

243,000 households gained access to improved sanitation facilities

112,414 households received safe drinking water through installation

80 health facilities gained access to improved drinking water facility on the premise



9% ↑

increase in the proportion of households using a basic drinking water facility, from 62% to 71%, (average includes 27 projects over 3 years.)



47%

increase in the proportion of education facilities with basic sanitation, from 22% to 47%, (average includes 8 projects over 3 years.)

Stories



Bangladesh. Raiyan, 21 months old from Tongi, Bangladesh lives with his parents in a small room in the slums. His father, Liton, works at a workshop as a daily laborer and earns a small amount.

“We were not aware before on the causes of malnutrition and how to improve the health status of babies. My son was suffering in malnutrition from the beginning of his birth and we have suffered for a long time. He usually suffered for fever and cold. It was very tough to manage those days,” said Runa, mother of Raiyan.

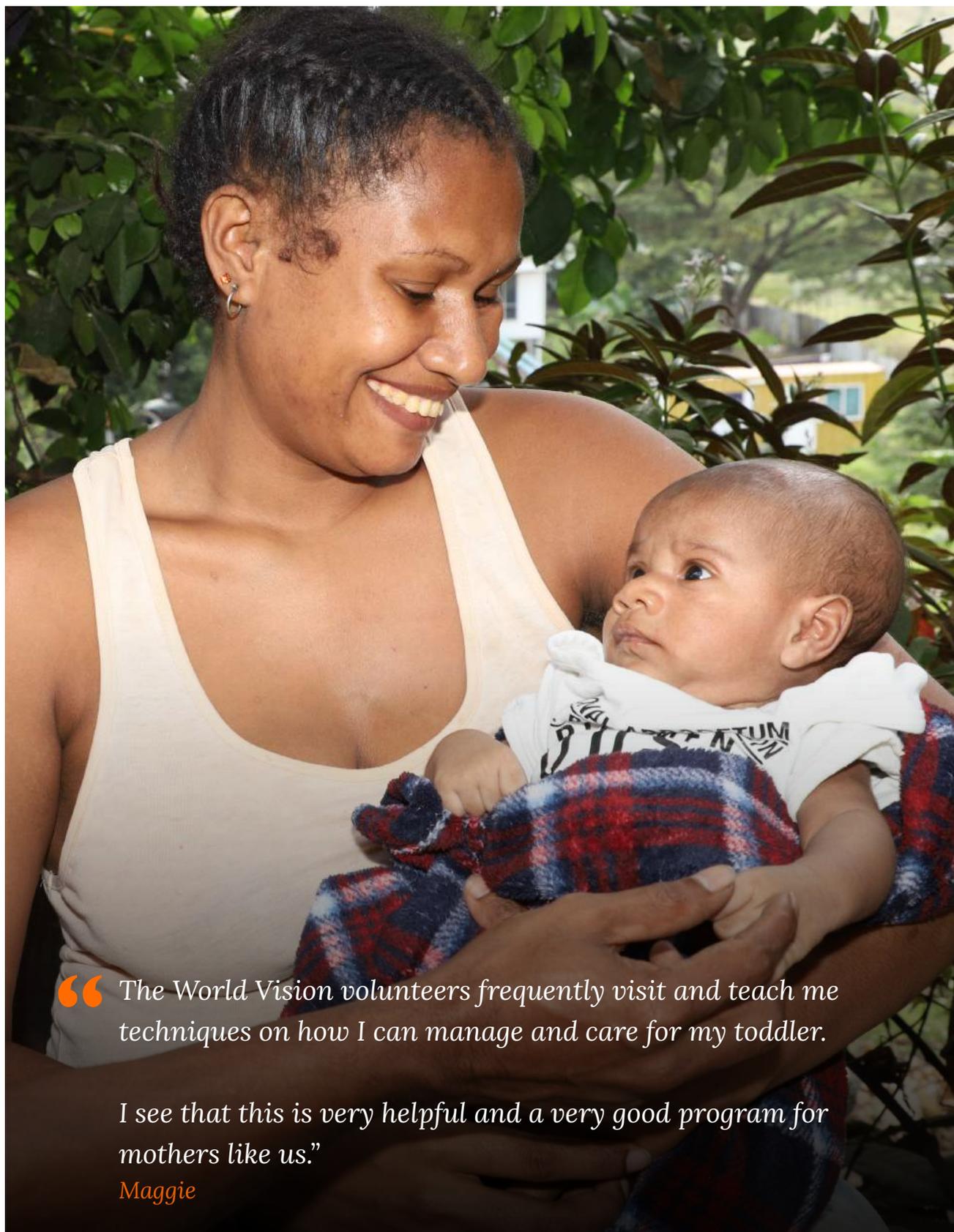
Raiyan and his mother participated in the 12-day practical session run by WV, aimed at improving the nutritional status of children and their caregivers. His mother learnt how to prepare low-cost nutritious food. She learnt important hygiene and health tips, and applied and practiced the new knowledge. Community facilitators monitored the Raiyan, through Growth Monitoring and Promotion.

Runa said, “World Vision’s health facilitators demonstrated cooking hotchpotch with cheap food items like rice, vegetables, egg, oil and we have provided all necessary ingredients and materials that we have. It was very much helpful for my baby to gain weight. Raiyan gained over 400 grams following Hearth session’s learnings and enjoying normal life. We are very happy to see Raiyan smile.”

Seeing the change in Raiyan encouraged other mothers, who started practicing at home and saw the benefits for their children.



Cambodia. WV, in collaboration with several Provincial Departments of Rural Development and District Education Offices, has set up mobile stations in schools, organised water hygiene training, and provided water purification packets by Procter & Gamble (P&G). As a result, communities in Chol Kiri, Boreal Chol Sa, Kors Krala and Kampng Svay districts in Cambodia, now have regular access to safe drinking water.



“ The World Vision volunteers frequently visit and teach me techniques on how I can manage and care for my toddler.

I see that this is very helpful and a very good program for mothers like us.”

Maggie

Papua New Guinea. Maggie, 25, holds her baby in her arms. World Vision’s Caring for Nutrition project in Port Moresby that Maggie is part of aims to reduce the prevalence of chronic malnutrition in children under the age of two (CU2) in 2 program areas, Hanuabada in Port Moresby and Buin in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (AROB).



OBJECTIVE 2:

Girls and boys
are educated
for life

Context

In the Asia Pacific region, despite impressive gains in enrolment, 150 million children⁶ (15% of all children across the countries where World Vision has programmes) are still unable to access school. In addition, with the current COVID-19 crisis unfolding, many of the 430 million children affected by school closures in the region are now in danger of dropping out of the education system. Vulnerable and hard to reach children, may never return to school if they fall further behind, due to not being reached with alternative ways of learning during school closures.⁷

Increasing enrollment rates, however, is not enough. The need to improve the quality of education remains challenging in the region. Millions of children complete primary education without mastering the foundational skills of basic numeracy and literacy. For example, 31% of children and adolescents have not achieved minimum proficiency in reading, and 28% have not achieved minimum proficiency in mathematics.⁸

In addition, access to early childhood care and education, which is the foundation of a high-quality basic education, is limited in the Asia Pacific region. Only 39% of children in the region have attended Early Childhood Centres.⁹ At home, some of the most simple but meaningful practices in caregiving are not present, with only an average 66% of children across WV programmes receiving early stimulation and responsive care, only 50% of children having playthings and only 5% having books.

⁶ UNICEF's State of the World's Children Report 2019

⁷ <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/urgent-need-secure-learning-children-across-south-asia>

⁸ <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2019/goal-04/>

⁹ UNICEF's State of the World's Children Report (2019)

Education Programme Results

To maximise the impact on the lives of the most vulnerable children, WV implements evidence-based education interventions focused on early grade literacy and early childhood development, achieving notable successes in 2020.

In 2020, WV Education programmes reached 613,503 children across 15 countries in Asia Pacific.

Increasing reading skills for children in the early grades of primary school through Unlock Literacy

Unlock Literacy aims to increase reading skills for children in the early grades of primary school through improving teaching methods for classroom reading, and engaging students, families and communities in reading activities outside of school. It includes training teachers to incorporate the five core reading skills into their curricula. This strengthens teaching instruction ensuring children are learning to read and helps them remain motivated to learn while in the classroom.

Some highlights of Unlock Literacy programmes across 9 countries in Asia Pacific include:

575,005	children participated in education enhancement and support programmes	3,218	schools assisted
285,626	children participated in literacy activities	8,739	teachers supported and trained



4%

increase in the proportion of children who report more frequent participation in literacy activities with household members, (average includes 11 projects over 3 years.)

With school closures in the past year due to COVID-19, WV used alternative ways to ensure that learning continued for children including development of distance learning modules, caregiver support, and distribution of learning materials.

Increasing access and quality of care and education in children 0 - 6 years old through Learning Roots

The Learning Roots model focuses on the developmental needs of children from age 3-6, so they can successfully transition to primary school. It engages parents and caregivers to support early reading and numeracy skills, strengthens systems by working with national policies, fosters community links with the formal sector, and works to strengthen local ECD centers by training teachers and creating safe, stimulating learning environments.

Some highlights of Learning Roots programmes across 8 countries in Asia Pacific include:

38,498 children enrolled in early learning education

1,231 of ECD Centers assisted in various improvements including infrastructure

2,319 teachers supported and trained on Early Learning Child Development, early grade reading and creating learning materials.



4%



increase in the proportion of children (age 3-5 years) who attend early childhood education, (average includes 6 projects over 3 years).

From a total of 242 ECD centers in **Bangladesh**, the proportion of those who met quality standards increased from 21% in 2018 to 41% in 2019.

In **Nepal**, the number of print-rich classrooms increased from 14% of 189 classrooms in 2018 to 56% in 2020.

In the 2020, much of the support for the schools and ECD centers focused on responding to the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring that schools were prepared to safely open. In all the education programmes, working with the Ministry of Education is essential.

Stories

Indonesia. Keti is an 8-year old girl who is currently in second grade of elementary school in Indonesia. At the time of a reading assessment, Keti, like 61% of children in her school could not read with comprehension. Multiple factors, including, parents not having time and teachers not having adequate support were explored as reasons. Through the Unlock Literacy program, WVV conducted teacher training and parental awareness workshops.

Keti's parents were among the attendees and applied one of the learning of having a reading corner at home to improve Keti's interest in reading. Keti's mother, Ernawati, shares, "Previously, we had no reading corner, but her father suggested creating a reading corner for Keti where we could also make use of pictures to support her in developing her reading skills." Keti's father also designed the reading corner. He gave ideas and drew almost all of the displays. Occasionally, he also read books with Keti. Ernawati adds, "Keti is easier to teach and she spells more easily".

Cambodia. "Before, the library in my school was not open regularly and it took a long time for my classmates and I to find our favorite books. There were not a lot of storybooks. My classmates did not want to go to the library," says 8-year-old Raen. Through the cooperation between WVV and the District Office of Education (DoE), the librarians and school directors received capacity building on library minimum standards as well as additional storybooks. The library is now opened regularly with a librarian to help students.

"The library now looks much more attractive. We love going to the library during break time to read and borrow our favorite books."



“ I always get the pairs that talk about washing my hands or observing physical distancing but Rensie is really good at this game.”

Princess, 11

Philippines. After sponsored child Princess received a learning pack from World Vision, she and her younger sister Rensie won't end the day without playing the memory card game included in the pack. The cards include health and child protection messages so children will not only have fun but will also continue to learn how to protect themselves amid the pandemic.



OBJECTIVE 3:

Girls and boys are cared for, protected and participating

Context

Violence against children remains a major concern in the Asia Pacific region.

According to UNICEF, 42% of all children in Asia Pacific (in the countries where WV has programmes) suffer from physical abuse, 29% suffer from sexual abuse and violence, and 18% of them are victims of child marriage. Children who experience violence suffer from long-lasting negative social, emotional, mental, physical and spiritual consequences.¹⁰

The most vulnerable children are critically at an increased risk of violence in the home, school or community, and may be subject to trafficking, slavery or child labor, sexual abuse or exploitation, gang violence, drug addiction, adolescent pregnancy, and forced marriage.

Child Protection Programme Results

WV uses a systems approach to address root causes of violence against children, by empowering key actors to work together to create a protective environment that cares for and supports all children.

In 2020, WV Child Protection programmes reached 1,241,789 people, including 744,000 children and 497,789 parents across 17 countries in Asia Pacific.



Increasing the level of wellbeing and protection against violence for all children through Child Protection and Advocacy

Child Protection and Advocacy comprises a set of specific interventions that strengthen the child protection system (both formal and informal elements) at the community level, thus empowering communities and local partners to strengthen the protection of children from abuse, neglect, exploitation and other forms of violence. The model strengthens both the protective environment for children, as well as children themselves, in order to improve their well-being and fulfill their right to protection.

Some highlights of Child Protection Advocacy programmes across 11 countries in Asia Pacific include:

223,492 children aged 12-18 reported increased level of well-being. Through WV programmes, they feel empowered with life skills, resilience, psychological wellbeing and meaningful participation in decisions that affect their lives.

66,430 children took actions to help end violence against children

36,500 girls and boys completed a life skills training which equips them to protect and advocate for themselves and others

24,515 local Child Protection Groups worked with service providers to strengthen existing services and support mechanisms in the community

15% 

increase in the proportion of adolescents aged 12-18 who report that their

views are sought and incorporated into the decision-making of local government, (average includes 7 projects over 3 years)



15% increase in the proportion of

adolescents aged 12-18 who know of the presence of services and mechanisms, to respond to reports of abuse, neglect, exploitation or violence against children, (average includes 16 projects, over 3 years)

   **19%**

increase in the proportion of adolescents (age 12-18) who are satisfied with child protection services. (Average includes 34 projects over 3 years.)

497,789 parents/caregivers were equipped with positive parenting skills.

252,003 community members attended attitude and behavior change sessions on child protection issues, contributing to transformation of harmful attitudes, norms and behaviors.

122,000 faith leaders were provided with the knowledge and tools to help transform communities, and keep children safe from harmful practices.

 **9%** decrease in the proportion of adolescents who experienced sexual abuse, (average includes 34 projects over 3 years).

 **17%** increase in the proportion of adults who report a case of child abuse increase, (average includes 33 projects over 3 years).

 **10%** decrease in the proportion of adolescents who report having experienced any physical violence or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past 12 months, (average across 34 projects).

 **Strengthening relationships of direct accountability among citizens, policymakers and service providers for child protection through Citizen Voice in Action**

Citizen Voice in Action is an evidence-based, social accountability model that operationalises and strengthens relationships of direct accountability among citizens, policymakers and service providers. It tackles the root causes of poverty, vulnerability, marginalisation, exclusion, inequality and poor governance.

383,250 community members learned how to access information and services to keep children safe.

41,586,883 reached through It Takes a World Campaign. The focus has been on mobilizing people to end sexual violence against children and end child marriage.

15% 

Increase in proportion of adolescents (12-18 yrs) reached, who have advocated to local government officials on child protection issues, (average includes 3 projects over 3 years)

65%

of reported child protection cases were followed up



1,882

child protection services improved, based on performance measures defined by the community as a way of holding local governments accountable.

Child Protection During COVID-19

- In **Mongolia**, we used social media and celebrities, such as actor-ambassador Amarsaikhan, to reach 35,679 caregivers and teachers with positive parenting stories and practical tips to protect children during COVID-19.
- In **Vietnam**, local government set up psychosocial services at the community level, in response to a WV assessment on the impact of COVID-19, which recommended improvements in psychosocial support for children and their families.
- In **Bangladesh**, community hope action team (CHAT) leaders from different religious groups have been providing health and child protection messages to their communities. We engaged 279 faith leaders to work with WV and who are now essential in sharing prevention messages.

Stories

Bangladesh. Akhi, 17, was withdrawn from child labour by the Jiboner Jannya Project of World Vision and is recognised by UNOCHA as a Real Life Hero, on the occasion of World Humanitarian Day.

Akhi lives in Rupsha near the divisional city Khulna. She used to work in the Shrimp Processing Industry. It was a very hazardous job. WV attempted to support Akhi to return to school. However, the school was unable to re-admit her due to her age. Following this decision and in agreement with Akhi, WV supported her with vocational training, where she learnt tailoring. WV also provided a sewing machine and some clothes for Akhi.

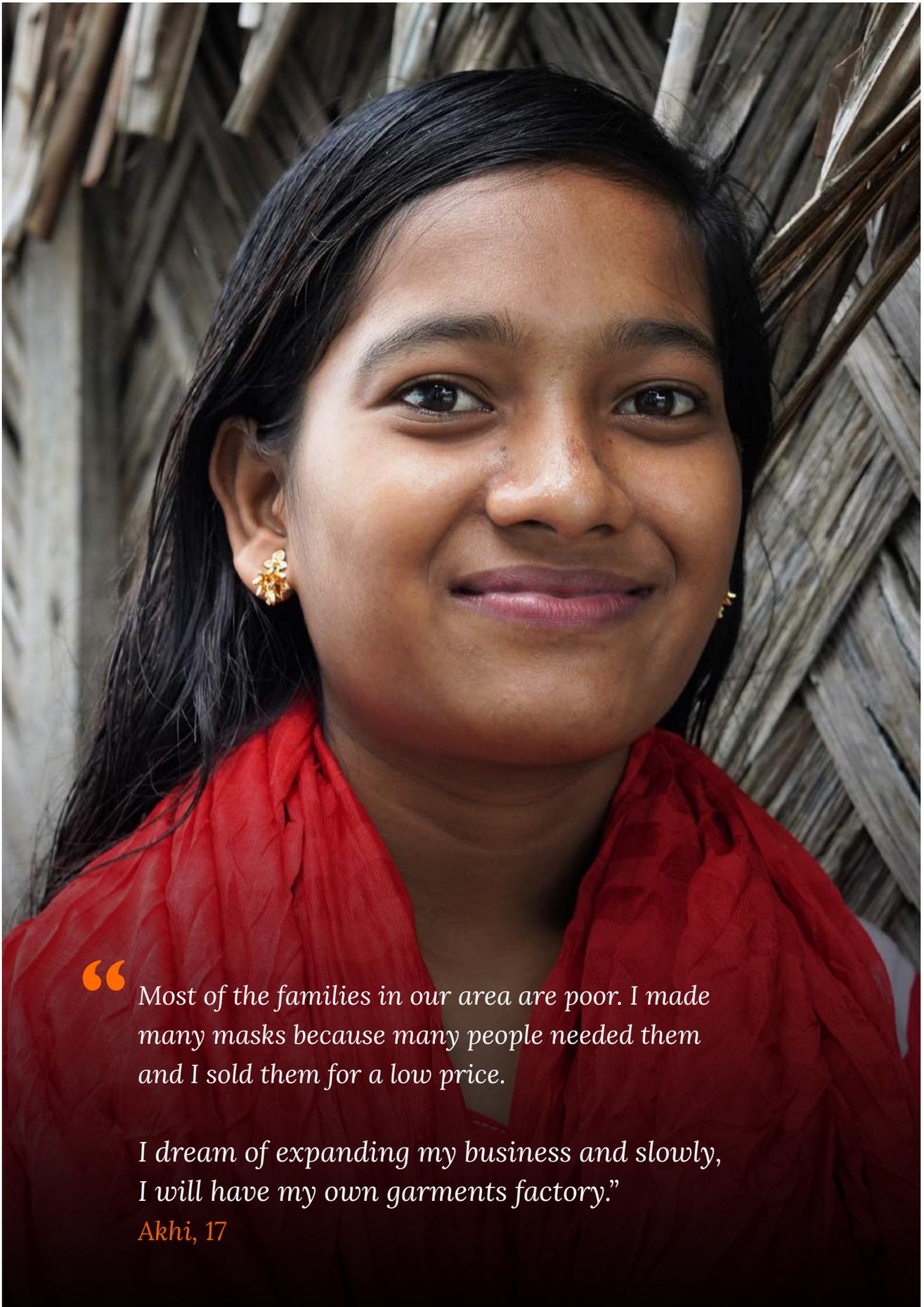
Today, she is running her own business and makes different types of clothes, such as 3-piece dresses, shirts and trousers.

When the coronavirus started to spread in the country, WV called Akhi and shared prevention messages, such as hand washing with soap and wearing masks. Sadly, there were no masks on the market and the most vulnerable people in her community couldn't afford to buy.

She then decided to start making masks to sell at a low cost on the market. She also gave away free masks to the extremely poor, who cannot afford to buy. Her dream is to start a garments business for the girls who do not have jobs.

Campaign: It Takes a World to End Violence Against Children

- In **Cambodia**, WV's Social Accountability for Child Protection model was implemented in 26 communes to support dialogues between children, citizens and local authorities to end violence against children. As a result of this project, more than 110,000 children directly benefitted from the improved accountability of the Commune Committees for Women and Children.
- In **Vanuatu**, WV's Engaging Men to End Violence Against Women and Girls Program adopts a faith-based approach to tackle the root causes of gender inequality and harmful gender norms, which perpetuate violence. Faith and community leaders become champions for change, reinterpreting biblical passages used to justify violence and applying a shared theological language. The project works directly with men and boys to challenge unhealthy norms and practices, and equips them with tools to express their emotions using non-violent techniques.
- WV worked with **Sri Lanka** Railways to spread messages around ending violence against children through stickers on trains in three languages (English, Sinhala and Tamil), such as 'Choose love over violence' and 'Bring love when you come home', highlighting ways to break the cycle of violence.
- In **Bangladesh**, WV has been collaborating with the Ministry of Education to make educational institutions free of physical and gender-based violence. WV conducted a series of lobbying meetings and policy dialogues with local education departments, calling for the effective implementation of a 2009 high court ruling and 2010 legislation on sexual harassment. As a result, the local administration issued a letter to over 5,700 schools directing their staff on how to become violence-free. This action benefited approximately 1.4 million children. We also helped strengthen reporting and response mechanisms in community schools to break the traditional taboo of reporting cases of violence. So far, 1,466 schools and 656 union parishads have established reporting and response mechanisms, benefiting over 500,000 children.



“ Most of the families in our area are poor. I made many masks because many people needed them and I sold them for a low price.

I dream of expanding my business and slowly, I will have my own garments factory.”

Akhi, 17



OBJECTIVE 4:

Children experience the love of God and their neighbours

Context

Faith perspectives often have a significant influence on perpetuating poverty and child vulnerability due to underlying attitudinal, behavioural and cultural norms and practices. Conclusions from the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on the Role of Faith, state that "faith groups exercise authority, strengthen social capital, provide services, advocate for change and mobilise communities" and that there is strong "agreement that religion is now a significant factor to be considered in any study or policy concerning social development."¹¹

Belief systems influence peoples' worldview and may hamper their ability to break free from poverty, transform their circumstances and contribute to social change. Engaging with spiritual or religious root causes can help address harmful perspectives and strengthen and leverage positive beliefs and actions towards sustainable change.

Bearing in mind the strategic role of faith and recognising that the Asia Pacific region has the highest level of religious diversity,¹² WV seeks to engage with faith perspectives and faith leaders from different faith traditions in the community to address poverty and child vulnerability.

¹¹ World Economic Forum. (2010, June 1). Global Agenda Council on the Role of Faith 2012-2014. Retrieved January 15, 2021, from <https://www.weforum.org/reports/global-agenda-council-role-faith-2012-2014>

¹² Pew Research Center. (2014, April 4). Global Religious Diversity. Retrieved January 15, 2021, from <https://www.pewforum.org/2014/04/04/global-religious-diversity/>

Faith and Development Programme Results

To maximise the impact on the lives of the most vulnerable children, WV implements evidence-based faith and development interventions focused on the sustained well-being of children, achieving notable successes in 2020.

In 2020, WV implemented faith and development programs through 364 projects across 16 countries, impacting over 1 million people.

Addressing harmful practices via faith leaders through Channels of Hope (CoH)

Channels of Hope (CoH) is an interactive process that creates a safe space for faith leaders, their spouses and faith communities to become active participants in the well-being of children through science-based information and insight from religious texts. It reaches the root causes and deepest convictions that impact attitudes, norms, values and practices towards the most vulnerable and achieves sustainable solutions for community needs, including Child Protection, Gender, HIV and AIDS and Maternal Newborn Child Health.

Some highlights of CoH programmes across 9 countries in Asia Pacific include:

497,789 parents and caregivers were equipped by WV trained faith partners to understand the harm of physical punishment and learn the practice of positive parenting.

14,261 faith leaders collaborated with WV to use their faith texts and perspectives to provide insight to parents and caregivers to improve the well-being of children and to reinforce positive social norms that enable children to thrive.

36,500 faith institutions and faith-based organisations at the national and local levels participated in programmes that are focused on improving the well-being of children.

Supporting positive relationships through Celebrating Families (CF)

Celebrating Families (CF) seeks to ensure that families, especially the most vulnerable ones, enjoy positive and loving relationships and have hope and vision for the future. The programme equips parents and caregivers, church and faith leaders, faith-based organisations, local agencies, communities, congregations and WV staff with the knowledge and skills to create a safe and nurturing environment for children's spiritual nurturing in the family context.

Some highlights of CF in 294 projects across 9 Asia Pacific countries include:

528,961 children between ages 6 and 18 years old participated in activities that helped them pursue their spiritual development.

24% increase, from 57% to 81%, in the proportion of adolescents who have a strong connection with their parent or caregiver, (average includes 3 projects over 3 years).



12% decrease, from 45% to 33%, in the proportion of adolescents who report any physical and/or psychosocial violence by parents or caregivers over the last 12 months, (average includes 74 projects over 3 years).



8%

increase, from 28% to 20%, in the proportion of parents or caregivers who believe that physical punishment is necessary to bring up a child properly, (average includes 43 projects over 3 years).

Highlights

- In **Indonesia**, 1,603 faith leaders were trained in providing psychosocial support to their faith communities affected by COVID-19. This resulted in increased community resilience as evidenced by involvement of faith leaders in helping communities cope with the impact of COVID-19 and increased levels of community members supporting one another, especially the most vulnerable.
- In **Bangladesh**, 330 faith leaders from 10 refugee camps in Cox's Bazar were engaged to speak out against child abuse and exploitation, which resulted in 60% of faith leaders revising their support of early child marriage, after re-examining their cultural and religious beliefs.
- In **Myanmar, Philippines, India and Indonesia** online trainings were conducted to help faith leaders support the vulnerable in their community during the COVID-19 pandemic and to ensure the safety and protection of children. This resulted in faith leaders acting to identify vulnerable families and ensure that they are supported in helping children cope with psychosocial distress.
- Across the Asia Pacific region, WV engaged with 4,678 faith leaders of different faith traditions to actively disseminate messages to the community about COVID-19 prevention and the protection of children against violence. Faith leaders also equipped their faith communities with good hygiene practices, such as hand washing and social distancing and teamed up with local authorities to provide food and rations for severely affected members of the community.



“My wife and I are now better able to practice self-control in raising our children. We are more patient. We try to implement good parenting practices, starting with our own families first.”

Pak Ham

Indonesia. Pak Ham, an Imam at the Al-Taqwa Mosque was among the religious leaders trained by Wahana Visi Indonesia as part of their training programme on Parenting with Love in the context of COVID-19. The training programme was aimed at addressing parenting issues against the unique backdrop of a pandemic and spreading awareness on COVID-19 among local faith leaders.



Building secure livelihoods

Context

Asia has achieved remarkable economic progress in recent decades. Despite this, it is home to nearly half of the world's poorest people, rendering poverty a key issue to be addressed. According to a World Bank report in 2018, out of the 783 million extremely poor who live below the poverty line of US\$1.9 a day, about 33% live in South Asia and 9% live in East Asia and the Pacific.¹³

A total of 191 million children are supported by households living below the poverty line, representing 19% of all children in Asia Pacific. In the region, climate change acts as a hunger risk multiplier, exacerbating drivers of food insecurity. Climate change disproportionately affects the poorest and most food insecure through a combination of decreasing crop production and changes in the frequency and intensity of climate-related hazards, all of which can result in more humanitarian and food security crises. Due to COVID-19, the economic repercussions of lockdowns and food and economic systems disruptions have been far-reaching and persistent.

WV implements innovative interventions as guided by evidenced based core projects models to address these critical challenges.

¹³ <https://www.worldvision.org.hk/en/learn/poverty-in-asia#:~:text=According%20to%20World%20Bank's%20report,East%20Asia%20and%20the%20Pacific>

Livelihood Programme Results

To maximise the impact on the lives of the most vulnerable children, WV implements evidence-based livelihood interventions, focused on building sustainable livelihoods for households, achieving notable successes in 2020.

In 2020, WV implemented livelihoods programs through 456 projects, across 13 countries, and reached 794,602 people, including 234,126 children.

Building resilience of families through Savings for Transformation (S4T)

Savings for Transformation (S4T) is an approach that provides a sustainable platform for families to access savings and small loans to cope with household emergencies.

In 2020, WV is implemented S4T in 248 projects, across 9 countries.

6%  increase, from 39% to 45% over 3 years, in the proportion of households with means to save money with a bank or credit unions.

35,135 active members
(7,027 male and 28,108 females) are involved in Savings Groups in Myanmar.

6%  increase, from 76% to 82% over 3 years, in the proportion of parents or caregivers able to provide well for their children.

19,499 women  supported to access to micro-loans in micro-finance institutions by WV India

Increasing Productivity and profitability through Building Secure Livelihoods (BSL)

Building Secure Livelihoods (BSL) uses a series of approaches that ensure households have economic and financial knowledge and support, and an understanding of risk and planning for the future. Families learn how to increase productivity and profitability, alongside sustainable management of all their resources (natural, social and economic).

In 2020, WV is implemented BSL in 219 projects across 7 countries.

71%  increase in the proportion of youth who report improved skills needed to engage in the employment market. (Average includes 2 projects over 3 years.)

3%  Increase in the proportion of households with an adequate food frequency of more than 2 meals per day. (Average includes 22 projects over 3 years.)

1,044,458 individuals

(493,112 males and 551,346 females) supported by WVI Bangladesh with livelihood improvement interventions.

26,523



parents / caregivers

have completed training that increases food security and household resilience.



Providing a pathway out of poverty through Ultra Poor Graduation (UPG)

UPG helps families engage in a productive and resilient livelihoods, gradually building household capacity and empowering families to become involved with the local economy and community in productive and positive ways.



6% increase, from 21% to 24%, in the proportion of households with

alternative and diversified sources of income. (Average includes 14 projects over 3 years.)

17% 

increase in household income over the past 3 years in

Bhopal Urban, Project, India, as a result of the targeted project activities.

Stories

Bangladesh. Moyna Begum (28), is a program participant with 2 daughters living under the poverty threshold (below \$1.90 per day in Bangladesh). Before participating in the program, the family could hardly meet basic needs resulting in poor health. Moyna participated in a number of trainings on business development and entrepreneurship organised by WVI. A heifer was transferred to her in addition to her establishing other enterprises such as homestead vegetable garden and rearing chicken-duck, so that her children could consume eggs, and fresh vegetables regularly. Her total monthly family income increased to \$82.35. She is now able to provide adequate food for the family and sends her children to school.

Myanmar. Three years ago, Daw Ei had to take a loan of 250,000 MMK (US\$188) from others because of a long illness. Daw Ei and her husband were unable repay the debt and since then, the amount she owed increased significantly. One day, Daw Ei was summoned to their Community Based Organization in her village and asked several questions. That was when she was introduced to World Vision's Ultra Poor Graduation project (UPG). After being part of the UPG project, they received a six-month food ration for basic food and during those six months, World Vision rented a fishing boat for them to generate household income. As soon as they started making regular income, Daw Ei participated in a village savings group and in her first year of participating in saving group, she managed to save 220,000 MMK (US\$190) at the end of the saving cycle. She is now in her second year of savings in the village savings group. Now, Daw Ei and her husband are grateful they can better provide for the needs of their two daughters.



“ I am pleased to see my children and grandchildren eating more and more of the crops that we produced, and they are happy to go to school as they have sufficient basic needs.”

Francisca

Timor-Leste. Francisca, aged 45, lives with her husband Fernando, aged 49, and their nine children and two grandchildren in Baucau Municipality. The couple joined a farmers group, where they learned about agricultural techniques to grow nutritious local foods. The group is supported by the TOMAK (To'os ba Moris Di'ak) Farming for Prosperity project, implemented by World Vision. Now Francisca and Fernando plant various nutritious foods including orange sweet potato.

Humanitarian Response



While meeting the dire needs of communities severely affected by the global COVID-19 pandemic, World Vision continues to meet the needs of the most vulnerable children within the Asia Pacific Region. WV has responded to 41 national and provincial level disasters reaching nearly **16,112,000** people, including over **6,906,000** boys and girls.

Embracing all the new challenges, WV works with stakeholders and partners at all levels to implement innovative, multi-sectoral and evidence-based programmes.

2020 IN REVIEW

OCT

INDONESIA | Papua Education in Emergency Response

41,851 indigenous Papuans were internally displaced by conflict in the regencies of Mimika, Intan Jaya, Puncak, Lanny Jaya, and Nduga between December 2018–March 2020; the conflict was a result of increased militarisation of the region, including higher numbers of deployed troops.

NOV

PHILIPPINES | North Catabato Earthquake Response

A series of earthquakes with magnitude 6.5-6.6 of tectonic origin hit the province of North Cotabato, triggering destruction and risk.

The series of earthquakes affected about 188,583 people. WVV provided WASH, NFI, Child Protection, Education and shelter, reaching **24,182 people** including 15,586 children.

**SRI LANKA** | Northeast monsoon floods

Following the North East Monsoon, Sri Lanka experienced floods in the Northern and Eastern parts of the island, affecting 48,000 people.

WVV responded with WASH, Education and Food Security, reaching **7,200 people**, including 2,400 children.

**PHILIPPINES** | Typhoon Kammuri Response

Typhoon Kammuri affected 154,410 families, 139,199 of whom stayed at evacuation centres. In addition, 14 million learners were affected due to class suspensions across more than 26,000 schools in 12 regions. Two WVV response teams were in Sorsogon and Northern Samar provinces to assess the impact of Typhoon Kammuri in the communities.

WVV provided emergency shelter, WASH, early recovery shelter and livelihood support, reaching **12,451 people**, including 5,530 children.

JAN

INDONESIA | REKA FER (Greater Jakarta Flood Emergence Response)

Due to the monsoon season and heavy rainfall, the Greater Jakarta area was affected by massive floods and landslides, affecting 495,000 people and displacing 100,000 people.

WV provided emergency relief, including WASH, nutrition, early recovery shelter, NFIs and Child Protection, reaching **8,686 people**, including 2,821 children.



PHILIPPINES | Taal Eruption Response

Close to 100,000 people were affected by the volcano eruptions in Taal. WV responded by supporting **68,996 people**, including 43,905 children, with food, protection and WASH activities.

MAR

CAMBODIA | Flood Response

Seasonal rains were made worse by flash floods in several provinces, forcing hundreds of families to evacuate their homes. WV responded by providing food and shelter for **514 families**, including 151 children.



APR

SOLOMON ISLANDS & VANUATU | Tropical Cyclone - Harold Response

Tropical Cyclone (TC) Harold was the 3rd most powerful storm in recorded history to make landfall in the Pacific.

In Vanuatu, at least 60% of croplands were severely damaged by the cyclone, according to early estimates by FAO. WV supported 5,845 people, including 498 children, with food, WASH, Child Protection and health activities in the Solomon Islands, reaching **14,506 people** including 7,694 children in Vanuatu.

MAY

INDIA | Amphan Cyclone Response

The Bay of Bengal's fiercest storm this century, super-cyclone Amphan, slammed into the coast of eastern India and Bangladesh in May. WV responded by providing food, shelter, and WASH to **195,161 people** in India.

SRI LANKA | Anticipatory Monsoon during COVID-19

In anticipation of the monsoon season in Sri Lanka, WV reached over **1 million people**, including 232,475 children, with WASH and shelter.

JUNE

SOUTHERN CHINA | Flood Response

Floods caused damage to 37.9 million people in 27 provinces, including Jiangxi, Anhui, Hubei and Hunan. 2.2 million people were evacuated from their homes. WV responded by providing food and non-food items to **52,800 people**, including 13,200 children.



JULY

NEPAL | Flood Response

Incessant heavy rainfall, since July 11, battered Eastern and Central Nepal. 117 people died. WV Nepal responded with strategic child protection; health and nutrition; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) initiatives for the relief phase and livelihood initiatives for the early recovery phase.

AUG

MYANMAR | Sustained Humanitarian Response

More than 336,000 people in Myanmar are internally displaced, the majority of whom are in situations of protracted displacement. Overall levels of need have increased, due to an expansion of armed conflict in Rakhine and southern China. This has caused civilian casualties and significant additional internal displacement since early 2019. WV's response focuses on food security and livelihood, WASH, gender and child protection.

SEPT

LAOS | Flood Response

Floods caused by Tropical Cyclone Podul severely affected areas in the southern provinces of Attapeu, Champasack, Khammouane, Saravan, Savannakhet and Sekong. WV provided life-saving assistance to people in Southern Laos, assisting 29,038 affected people (5,079 households) through sectorial interventions of food and WASH.



WV also continues to lead a range of emergency responses including: Lombok Earthquake Response, Cyclone Fani Response India, South China Floods, and Central Sulawesi Earthquake & Tsunami Emergency Response, as well as the Rohingya Refugee response in Bangladesh.

World Vision is caring for up to **265,000 Rohingya people** in 23 sub-camps and in neighbouring host communities.

World Vision is caring for up to 265,000 Rohingya people in 23 sub-camps and in neighbouring host communities. On the ground since the beginning of the crisis, WV is focused on providing life-sustaining support for refugees that includes food distribution, nutrition programmes, WASH services, child protection and more. We are also advocating for the protection and rights of all refugees, including their safe, voluntary and dignified repatriation to Myanmar.

COVID-19

All 17 offices in the Asia Pacific are responding to COVID-19 through integrated programmes focused on achieving sustained well-being for the most vulnerable children. Specific programme activities and the number of people and children reached are shown in the infographic

Inclusion and Gender Mainstreaming

WV tailored interventions to ensure that those who are most vulnerable can access information and assistance, including ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, communities without internet, migrants and marginalised groups (e.g. sex workers). WV worked to address specific risks and needs faced by vulnerable groups, especially women, children and people with disabilities. WV invested in Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence interventions to address gender-specific challenges and needs.

Cash and Voucher Programming (CVP)

WV sought to maximise the cash and voucher approaches whenever possible, so that families have the power to choose which sectorial needs they would like to address and provide for children as needed. Apart from immediate needs, WV also supported the early recovery of vulnerable families through cash and voucher programming. In 2020, WV had CVP response interventions amounting to over \$27 million, and under its COVID-19 programmes, WV has supported 1,338,299 people through over \$8 million CVP interventions.

Inter-Faith Engagement

WV engaged with faith leaders from different religions to sensitise and disseminate COVID-19 prevention and promote positive behavioural change. WV worked with faith leaders to design and roll out interventions that create positive messaging and support early recovery. In other non-COVID-19 responses, WV also partnered with faith leaders to train them on providing psychosocial support.

Technology

COVID-19 propelled WV's mandate to scale up its [technology](#) and innovation initiative, which seeks to engage communities in delivering education interventions; promoting information on health, hygiene and child protection; and reaching out to children and families through both traditional and unconventional approaches.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Resilience building is key to reducing casualties and loss in disasters, and ensuring the quick bounce-back and recovery of communities. By equipping families with the ability to adapt to climate change, strengthening school



safety, and building the capacity of communities to reduce exposures to hazards, WVV supports caretakers and stakeholders in providing for children sustainably and creating a safer environment for children to thrive.

Apart from working with schools and teachers to equip children and youth with the knowledge and skills needed to protect themselves during disasters, WVV also provides structural platforms for children and youth to raise their opinions, ranging from child and youth representatives having input in community Disaster Preparedness Plans to participating in dialogues with the government on disaster and climate policies.

In 2020, **245,600 children** benefited directly from WVV's resilience building program, along 573,400 adults; while an additional 10,000 children and youth from across the region participated in structural [consultations](#) on Climate Crisis and DRR, consolidating their voices and recommendations for stakeholders to act on.

Summary of Findings



Girls and boys enjoy good health

Objective

- Increase in children who are well-nourished (ages 0-5)
- Increase in children protected from infection and disease (ages 0-5)
- WASH contribution

Reach

In 2020, WV health and nutrition programmes reached over 2 million people, including 994,135 children across 18 countries

Outcome

- 3% decrease in the prevalence of stunting in children under five year of age, (average includes 3 projects over 3 years)
- 7% increase in the proportion of children under 5 years with diarrhoea who received the correct management, (average includes 2 projects over 3 years)
- 8% increase in the percentage of households having year round access to sufficient clean and safe drinking water with required quality, from 66% to 74% (average includes 7 projects over 3 years)
- 47% increase in the proportion proportion of education facilities with basic sanitation, from 4% to 51% (average includes 1 project over 3 years)



Girls and boys are educated for life

Objective

- Increase in primary school children who can read
- Increase in children 0-6 years old who experience quality care and education

Reach

- In 2020, WV Education programmes reached 613,503 children across 15 countries
- 38,498 children enrolled in early learning education

Outcome

- 14% increase in the proportion of children reporting an increased frequency of participation in literacy activities with household members (average includes 11 projects over 3 years)
- 3% increase in the proportion of children aged 3-5 years, who attend early childhood education (average includes 6 projects, over 3 years)



Girls and boys are cared for, protected and participating

Objective

- Increase in children protected from violence
- Children ages 12-18 who report an increased level of well-being including improved developmental assets and life skills

Reach

- In 2020, WV Child Protection programmes reached 1,241,789 people, including 744,000 children and 497,789 parents across 17 countries
- 36,500 Girls and boys completed a life skills training; 24,515 local Child Protection Groups worked with service providers to strengthen existing services and support mechanisms; 66,430 children took actions to help end violence against children

Outcome

- 16% increase in the proportion of adolescents aged 12-18 who know of the presence of services and mechanisms, to respond to reports of abuse, neglect, exploitation or violence against children, (average includes 16 projects, over 3 years)
- 223,492 children aged 12-18 reported increased level of well-being. 6 percentage point decrease in the proportion of adolescents who report having experienced any physical violence or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past 12 months, (average across 10 projects)



Children experience the love of God and their neighbour

Objective

- Children with increased awareness of God's love
- Children experience peaceful and positive relationships in their families and communities

Reach

In 2020, WV implemented Faith & Development programs through 364 projects, across 16 countries impacting over 1 million people.

Outcome

- 528,961 children between ages 6 and 18 years old participated in activities that helped them pursue their spiritual development
- 4 percentage point increase in the proportion of adolescents who have a strong connection with their parent or caregiver, from 82% to 86% (average includes 13 projects, over 3 years).



Building secure livelihoods

Reach

In 2020, WV implemented livelihoods programs through 456 projects, across 13 countries, and reached 794,602 people, including 234,126 children.

Outcome

6% Increase in the proportion of households with means to save money with the bank or credit unions, from 50% to 56% (average includes 9 projects, over 3 years)

Conclusions

WV's rather unique structure, sectors of focus and programme models contribute quite diversely to various aspects of child well-being.

In many ways, this report is a collage or tapestry of the various contributions made in the areas of health and nutrition; water, sanitation and hygiene; education; child protection; prevention of abuse and exploitation; and general sense of comfort and security experienced by children in their communities. The above impact summary, and the impact results set out for the Asia Pacific region in this annual impact report, clearly shows that WV is making a positive impact in the lives of people and children at a reasonable scale through its' presence in communities.

Our data shows that through both humanitarian and development programming, we have touched the lives of over 16 million people. Even more encouraging are the longer-term changes observed through evaluation data, which show remarkable gains in child nutrition parameters, child protection, education and livelihood.

The hard work of both communities and our staff, as well as the focus on implementing evidence-based approaches, appears to be working even though there have been frequent set-backs from time to time due to natural disasters, such as heavy rains, floods, cyclones, a volcanic eruption, disease outbreaks and now the global pandemic. It is heartening to see how the condition of children in some of the most vulnerable communities in the region is improving as a result of our focused programme activities.

Whilst we see many positive signs of progress, there are also challenges. The full impact of the pandemic on the livelihoods and well-being of children and families is just beginning to emerge.

As an organisation some of the key learnings for us from this review include the following:

- The need to continue improving our ability to collect disaggregated data and better understand and adapt our programmes, in order to ensure that issues of gender and other forms of social exclusion (for reasons such as disability, caste and ethnicity) are also adequately addressed.
- In order to achieve significant changes in the communities where we work, it is clear that we need to forge strong, strategic partnerships with a variety of stakeholders, invest time in regular thoughtful reflection, adapt well to local contexts for relevance and focus our programme activities more intensely.
- Preparing our own teams and communities to speedily respond to disasters would need to improve, in order to prevent families being pushed back into poverty.
- Focus needs to be given to girls, particularly their education, to give them the equity they deserve as countries begin to recover and rebuild from the pandemic.
- As the world changes, we as people, families, communities and organisations need to keep learning, sharing our successes and failures, listening to each other and finding new ways of ensuring that the voices of the most vulnerable children are heard.



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