

Overview of East Darfur State Programme

Where We Work

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Background

World Vision Sudan started operations in East Darfur state in 2017. We implement a combination of short-term emergency lifesaving projects (six months to one-year) and multi-year projects of between two to three years in areas of relative stability.

World Vision Sudan delivers its programmes through a multisectoral consortium approach. We are currently part of two consortia for peace and livelihoods programmes.

By 2025, World Vision Sudan will have contributed to the well-being of nearly 450,000 vulnerable children in the state, as direct beneficiaries through both humanitarian and resilience programmes.

Estimated Population

Total: 2,172,158



1,741,686



430,472

children



OVERVIEW OF IMPACT IN 2022*



243,500 people supported



124,600 children supported



60,000
people reached with food assistance



18,000 children vaccinated



13,000
people accessed clean
water following
handpump renovations

Sector overview



Health

Our interventions mainly focus on:

- Management of health facilities providing minimum primary healthcare services
- Rehabilitation of healthcare facilities
- Supporting the staffing of health facilities with essential medical and non-medical staff
- Provision of nutrition supplies and essential medications
- Active case finding of malnutrition and referrals to health facilities
- Health facility therapeutic care and management of malnutrition cases



Food Security and Livelihoods

Our interventions mainly focus on:

- Provision of cash and food assistance to IDPs, refugees and vulnerable host populations
- Restoring livelihoods and enhancing community assets through the Food for Assets and productive safety nets programmes
- Providing agricultural support including certified seeds for smallholder farmers and construction of water infrastructure
- Natural resource management and disaster risk reduction



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Our interventions mainly focus on:

- Rehabilitation and upgrading of water supply systems and water pipelines, to bring water supply closer to households
- Promoting the use of latrines, including construction of latrines in health facilities and supporting households to construct latrines
- Establishment of WASH facilities in schools and health facilities
- Hygiene education and campaigns
- Facilitating the establishment and training of WASH committees on water and sanitation facilities use, and management



Protection

Our interventions mainly focus on:

- Capacity strengthening of community-based child protection systems to address the root causes of abuse, exploitation and others forms of violence against children
- Working with faith leaders as agents of change for child protection and to disseminate messages to prevent abuse and other forms violence against children



CASE STUDY

World Vision Engages Local Protection Networks to Prevent Harmful Practices against Children in East Darfur

According to the UN, approximately 87% of Sudanese women have undergone some form of female genital mutilation (FGM) with girls usually cut between the ages of five and 14.

In East Darfur, World Vision Sudan, with support from the Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SHF), engages local protection networks to address child protection issues including FGM and child marriage targeting the most vulnerable and at-risk girls and boys in Abu Jabra and Bahr al Arab localities.

The local protection networks, led by community and faith leaders from the target communities, provide counselling sessions, Gender-based Violence (GBV) response and prevention, and awareness raising campaigns.

World Vision trains the protection network members on child protection including the impact of harmful practices, such as FGM and child marriage, on young girls' well-being. In addition to the capacity building, the protection networks also receive financial support from World Vision to host tea gatherings, important socialisation events in Sudan, to address issues in their communities.

The Abu Jabra protection network is composed of 24 members responsible for screening and reporting cases of violence taking place in surrounding villages to local authorities. The protection networks also use their platforms as agents of change spreading awareness on the risks involved in these harmful practices and the benefits of abandoning them.

According to Batul, a member of the Abu Jabra protection network, one of the main obstacles the network is facing is how deeply engrained the practice of FGM and child marriage is in the community and the topics being taboo.

"To gain the trust of the community and ensure they feel safe to share any new cases, we maintain the confidentiality of all those who come to report and ensure their full cooperation in every step of reporting. Through our awareness creation sessions, we are normalizing talking about FGM," says Batul.

For Harna the weekly training sessions conducted by the Abu Jabra protection network in her village have provided opportunities for women to openly discuss issues of FGM and early marriage.

"I'm more aware of the negative effects of FGM on girls' health as well as the harmful physical and psychological associations of early marriage. I play my part in reducing these practices by sharing information with my children, friends and neighbours who don't attend the sessions," says Harna.

Twenty-two-year-old Al-Nor Hamdan, feels that the participation of faith leaders as members of the network has ensured access to the local community. He says:

People tend to listen to and believe Imams when they talk about the risks involved in harmful practices like FGM. As long as faith leaders continue to participate in the network, our work will have more impact.

Challenges remain, including resistance from some sections of the community, but the protection networks are committed to getting as many advocates as possible to help reduce these harmful practices and protect children. According to World Vision Protection Officer, Abdullah Sabil, no cases of FGM have been recorded since the launch of the protection networks in August 2022. The network carries out quarterly surveys to register cases of FGM and as Abdullah mentions:

The networks have helped reduce cases of FGM by reaching out to midwives conducting the practice. After dialogue, some of the midwives have pledged to give it up.

World Vision Sudan has so far trained 44 members of protection networks in Abu Jabra and Bahr al Arab.

COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

We have well established relationships with the communities we work in. We engage closely with community leaders, including religious leaders to ensure smooth implementation of projects, and achieve greater impact for children, their families and communities.

World Vision Sudan closely coordinates with the state government through its various line ministries and agencies, including Water Environment and Sanitation Corporation (WES) and Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC).

We work in close collaboration and coordination with national NGO partners, on implementation of day-to-day activities, including planning of activities, facilitating community mobilisation and sensitisation, conducting training and monitoring of field activities. Our goal is to ensure that we are building the capacity of local partners to ensure project activities run smoothly even after project phase out.

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