
Faith Partnerships for Environmental Stewardship and Climate Action: Uniting Church, Government, and Communities in Lesotho

Remarks by: Mr. James Nkamba Chifwelu | National Director

Protocol:

The Right Honorable Prime Minister
Honorable Minister of Environment & Forestry
Development Partners
Heads of churches - CCL
Church Partners
Members of the media
Ladies and Gentlemen

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I am James Chifwelu, the National Director of World Vision. Today, we gather to launch the Faith Partnerships for Environmental Stewardship and Climate Action Project, emphasizing the joint commitment of World Vision and the Christian Council of Lesotho to tackle climate change.

Our current initiatives in Lesotho aim to enhance the well-being of 580,000 children and 250,000 households by 2025, focusing on climate action, health, livelihoods, water sanitation and hygiene, child protection, and faith and development.

Lesotho's government has recognized the urgency of addressing climate change, acknowledging its impact on socio-economic development. As a child-focused, Christian humanitarian organization, World Vision is dedicated to supporting Lesotho in meeting its climate goals and obligations under international treaties.

Our collaboration with the Christian Council of Lesotho is crucial in harnessing the influential role of the church in promoting environmental care within faith communities. This partnership aligns with the predominantly Christian identity of Lesotho and provides impetus for faith-based development.

Recognizing the divine mandate Christians have to care for the environment, this project aims to catalyze positive culture change. We seek to foster mindsets, behaviours, and practices that enable communities to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Children are integral stakeholders in our climate action efforts. They are not only engaged but also encouraged to challenge and lead interventions for climate action. In affirming their participation, the project's outcomes will reflect the meaningful contributions of children to environmental care.

World Vision is a global Christian, relief, development and advocacy organization dedicated to working with the most vulnerable children, families and communities to overcome poverty and experience the fullness of life. We help children of all backgrounds, even in the most dangerous places, inspired by our Christian faith.

Covering Leribe and Mokhotlong districts, the project aims to reach at least 15,000 Basotho with climate change adaptation and mitigation measures. Through collaboration with the church, development partners, and the government, we hope to mobilize Basotho towards active participation in climate care, fostering a collective mindset change.

Ke ea Leboha
Khotso.Pula.Nala