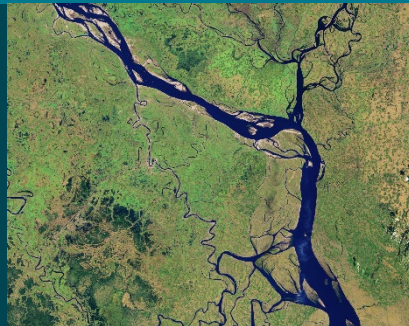
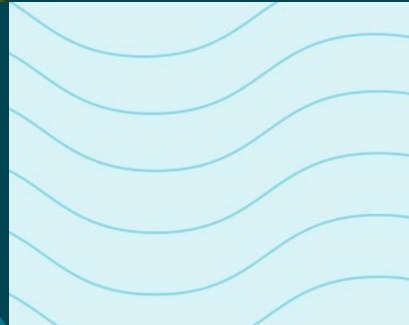




MAPPING  
**THE BLUE  
THREAD**



2026–2030



**Zambia**

World Vision 

# Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Business Plan

## GLOBAL GOALS

**Accelerate** universal and equitable access to water, sanitation, and hygiene services to improve health, well-being, and livelihoods

**Deepen** focus on the most vulnerable people, especially in fragile contexts

**Demonstrate** sustainable impact for increased transparency and accountability

**Leverage** \$1.5 billion global business plan to mobilize financing for WASH services

# \$48M

**Total Planned  
Investments In-Country**

# 32

**WASH Program  
Locations**

## Geographic Area

World Vision's WASH program in Zambia works in 32 operational areas. The map at right provides an overview of our WASH geographic footprint.

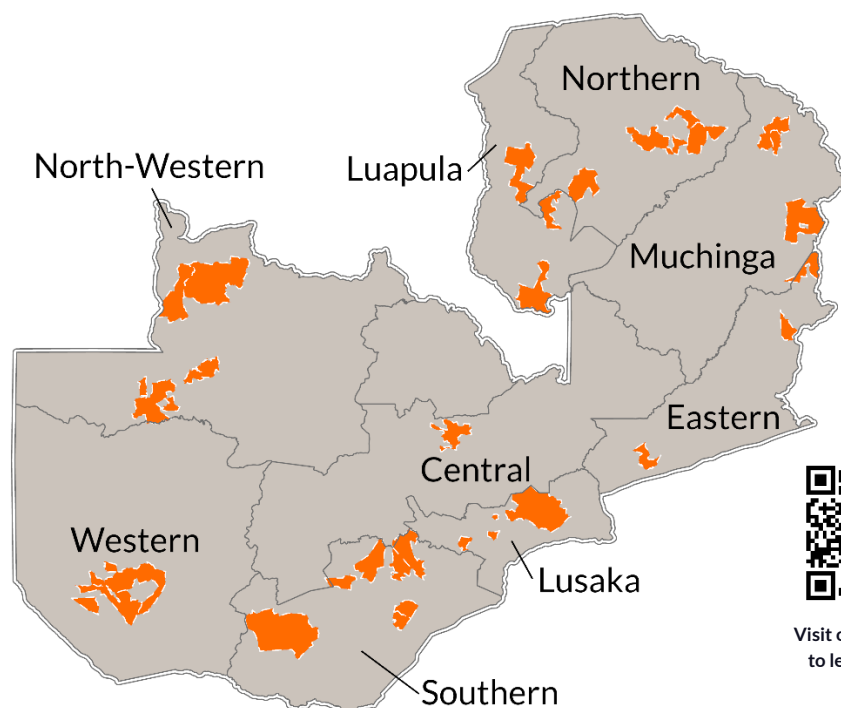
## Mapping the Blue Thread

Water is the blue thread of integration connecting people, places, and progress. It is essential to the well-being of children and their communities and creates pathways out of poverty. Water transforms lives by driving economic growth, food security, environmental resilience, safe healthcare, and educational success.

*Mapping the Blue Thread* is World Vision's 2026 to 2030 global business plan to deliver adaptive water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) solutions for a better, healthier world across 42 countries. Our data-driven approach enables country WASH teams to deliver targeted, location-specific strategies that maximize impact, effectiveness, and sustainability.

## Vision for Transformative WASH Impact in Zambia

In 2021, World Vision set a bold vision to reach universal service coverage in 29 operational areas by 2026. The WASH program scaled significantly and built the technical expertise to deliver high-quality, sustainable WASH services. Through the 2026–2030 Business Plan, we will leverage strong partnerships with the government, utilities, and the private sector to deliver high-quality WASH services in new areas, while monitoring and sustaining the investments made to achieve universal service coverage. To ensure long-term service reliability, we will scale remote monitoring and use private insurance to protect piped-water systems. Our programs will strengthen sanitation marketing, menstrual health services in schools, and hygiene behavior change. These efforts will reinforce health and education outcomes that will uplift Zambian communities for years to come.



Visit our website  
to learn more

## 2026–2030 Business Plan

## Technical Focus Areas

## INTRODUCTION

Technical focus areas ensure WASH programs are technically sound, contextually responsive, and equipped to deliver adaptable solutions across diverse challenges.

**Water Supply and Quality** brings water closer and safer to people. **Sanitation and Hygiene** strengthens market-based solutions for area-wide coverage. **Governance and Finance** improves policies, planning, and funding. **Water Security** safeguards resources through watershed management and environmental stewardship. **Disaster Management** delivers WASH services in emergencies and programs to build long-term resilience.



World Vision in Zambia is strategically prioritizing the following technical areas during this business plan period:

## WATER SUPPLY AND WATER QUALITY

**Delivering safe, accessible, functional, equitable, and resilient (SAFER) infrastructure ensures sustainable water services.** World Vision protects water quality. We train our staff and partners in the best ways to design, run, and maintain water systems. From 2026 to 2030, we will advocate to embed quality into national WASH infrastructure standards and education. A quality assurance

specialist will uphold strict quality standards for system design, processes, and supply chains.

## SANITATION AND HYGIENE



*Area-wide planning, market-based approaches, and financing strategies drive progress toward universal sanitation and hygiene coverage.* World Vision

boosts public demand for sanitation and hygiene improvements through awareness campaigns while training local artisans and businesses to provide affordable solutions. Through the business plan, innovations in quality and accessibility will help to put latrines and handwashing stations within reach for low-income households.

## GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE



*Improving systems transforms how WASH services are planned, funded, maintained, monitored, and regulated.* World Vision works closely with

government and local partners in Zambia to help make WASH services last. In the next five years, we will advocate for government funding to routinely monitor WASH systems. We will strengthen local advocacy networks that protect community WASH investments, and we will support the creation and roll-out of district-wide universal service coverage plans.

## WASH NEEDS

## Water

51% of the rural population has access to a safe water source within 30 minutes of their home, while 12% still use unsafe sources, like streams and shallow wells, making them vulnerable to waterborne diseases.

## Sanitation

32% of the rural population has access to a basic or safely managed sanitation service, while 11% still practice open defecation, endangering public health and putting women and girls at risk.

## Hygiene

32% of rural households have basic or limited handwashing service, while 68% have none, making it harder to stop the spread of infections.

—[washdata.org](https://washdata.org)



## 2026–2030 Business Plan

## Program Fundamentals


## INTRODUCTION

World Vision WASH programs are built on 10 fundamentals that promote accountability, guide decision-making, and ensure high-quality interventions. **Community and Government Engagement**, **Multisector Integration** and **Local Partnerships** strengthen local collaboration and program delivery. Investing in **Staff Growth and Engagement** builds capacity, while **Faith Integration** ensures our values guide our work. **Quality Control and Assurance** upholds rigorous WASH standards, while **Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion** improve equitable access for the most vulnerable. **Monitoring** and **Applied Learning** use data to drive continuous improvement, which supports **Reporting and Communication** to ensure transparency.


	Community and Government Engagement		Local Partnerships
	Staff Growth and Engagement		Faith Integration
	Quality Control and Assurance		Monitoring
	Applied Learning		Multisector Integration
	Reporting and Communication		Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion

World Vision in Zambia is committed to excelling in the following program fundamentals:


## COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

 *Collaborating with communities and governments aligns WASH initiatives with local needs, priorities, and plans.* World Vision works alongside government ministries, local authorities, and communities to identify service gaps and create plans to bridge them. In 2026 to 2030, our emphasis on community participation, capacity-building, local leadership, and cost-sharing will keep new WASH systems working long-term.

## QUALITY ASSURANCE AND CONTROL

 *Strengthening a Culture of Quality supports the delivery of consistent, sustainable, and equitable outcomes.* World Vision tests the quality of water and materials to make sure they meet international standards. To improve service delivery from 2026 to 2030, we will establish supply chains with high-quality materials and adapt our work to evolving best practices. Training will foster a mindset of quality, responsibility, and learning.

## MULTISECTOR INTEGRATION

 *Connecting WASH with health, education, and livelihood initiatives addresses broader community needs and enhances impact.* World Vision designs WASH projects that also advance education, health, and livelihood goals. We will help households use gains in access to water and electricity to improve their livelihoods. Training in water resource management and sustainable farming practices will build up resilience to climate extremes.

## KEY INITIATIVE SPOTLIGHT

## Women-Centered Design in North-Western Province

Women and girls are often most affected by lack of access to WASH services, which hinders their ability to be educated and earn money. Through the Beyond Access Program, we prioritize their needs, intentionally linking WASH with economic empowerment so they can thrive. This innovative, holistic program will begin in 2027 in two program areas in North-Western Province, reaching more than 3,500 women and girls and their families.



# Program Dashboard

## Budget

**\$47,883,078**



### People Gaining Access to

Water **694,458**

Sanitation **721,019**

Hygiene **720,000**



### Schools Gaining Access to

Water **40**

Sanitation **20**

Hygiene **40**



### Healthcare Facilities Gaining Access to

Water **42**

Sanitation **20**

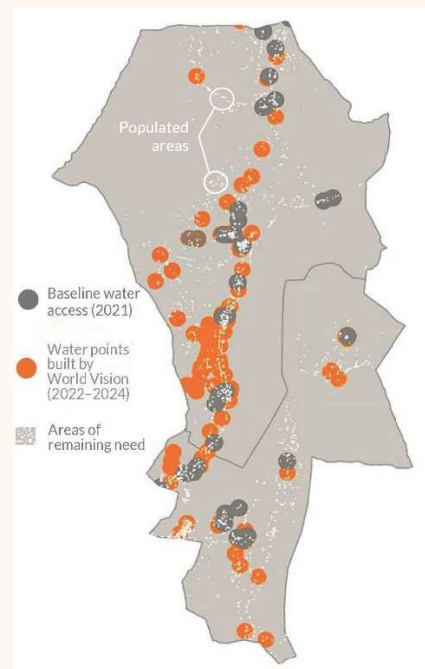
Hygiene **42**



## KEY INITIATIVE SPOTLIGHT

### Universal Service Coverage in Suwila

When World Vision launched its campaign to achieve universal service coverage in Suwila, part of Isoka District, in 2021, fewer than 30% of people had access to a safe water source within 30 minutes of home. Through ambitious World Vision projects during 2022–2024, 60% of households now have basic water service. By partnering with the government and local providers to build 23 more piped-water systems with 40 hand pumps, we will reach 90% of people in Suwila with a basic drinking water service, covering communities and institutions.



*Universal access to clean water in Suwila will improve health and well-being.*





## Global WASH Program

For more than 40 years, World Vision has been working together with communities around the world with the vision of reaching everyone, everywhere we work with transformational WASH services. Since 2011, we've reached 37.5 million people with safer, more accessible clean water, equipped 30.2 million people with household sanitation, and empowered 45.6 million people to improve their hygiene. World Vision's 2026 to 2030 Global WASH Business Plan builds on this progress, in pursuit of Sustainable Development Goal 6, to support quality WASH services across 42 countries by 2030.

## Zambia WASH Program Background

World Vision began working in Zambia in 1981. Since our first WASH team formed in 2008, we have become a trusted sector leader. We partner with the national government, communities, and local leaders across 32 operational areas. Through these efforts, more than 2.3 million people enjoy greater health and well-being with systems that provide reliable clean water. More than 2.6 million people have built improved household latrines with local materials. Paired with education campaigns on healthy hygiene habits like handwashing, sanitation is helping to protect children and families from waterborne illness. Through these changes, nearly 1,500 communities have become Open Defecation Free. The growth of high-quality WASH services is strengthening Zambian institutions, too. With clean water and accessible toilets at school, students can focus on learning. With access to clean water and hygiene facilities at points of care, staff at healthcare centers can help protect patients from infection. And in modern maternity annexes, new mothers can deliver their babies in dignity and safety.



**LEARN MORE**  
[mappingthebluethread.global](https://mappingthebluethread.global)

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