

Impacting
~~Reaching~~ the lives of
one in four children
across Ethiopia



WORLD VISION ETHIOPIA
STRATEGY | 2026 – 2030

**HOPE
JOY &
PEACE**

FOR ETHIOPIA'S MOST VULNERABLE CHILDREN

***In five years, we will impact the lives of 15 million children.
In Ethiopia, that means one in four children will experience
real change in their wellbeing.***

From the National Director's Desk

Over the past five decades, World Vision Ethiopia has walked alongside communities through moments of hope, crisis, recovery, and resilience. Inspired by our faith, together with children, families, partners, the government and supporters, we have helped millions of children survive, grow, learn, and be protected in some of the most complex contexts in the country.

Our new five-year strategy builds on that foundation. It is not a departure from who we are, but a deliberate sharpening of how we work, where we focus, and how we measure success. Ethiopia today faces overlapping pressures. At the same time, communities, faith leaders, local organisations, and children themselves are stepping forward with solutions. We are at a significant time in the country's history with prospects for a brighter future for children.

This strategy is our response to such a time as this.

Children's wellbeing is not realised by a single intervention. It is built, piece by piece, over time. Nutrition, protection, learning, relationships, livelihoods, peace, and systems all interlock.

These interlocking pieces aren't built by us alone. They are designed in synergy, to complement the pieces being built by others - our partners, with those of the government, with those of our supporters and those of the families and communities we serve.

When these are all intentionally aligned, children thrive. Our strategy builds collaboratively, on joint efforts, so that, together, we move beyond fragmented delivery towards sustained, holistic change. Success is measured not by activity delivered, but by whether children experience real, lasting improvements in their wellbeing.

Children with Hope, Joy and Peace: this is a future we all seek to build.

Karmen Till
National Director
World Vision Ethiopia



The challenges and opportunities facing children

Children in Ethiopia are growing up inside overlapping pressures.

Challenges do not arrive one at a time. They stack and compound, landing on the same children and shaping their lives simultaneously. When these pressures intersect, vulnerability deepens and progress becomes fragile unless they are addressed together.

The challenges children face are interconnected.

Risks accumulate across the individual, family, community, and system levels, reinforcing harm across what are often treated as separate sectors. Single-sector solutions dilute impact because the drivers of child vulnerability operate together, not in isolation.

Ethiopia presents real prospects for a brighter future for children.

Economic growth is creating new opportunities. Investment in infrastructure is expanding access and connectivity. Financial sector reforms are opening space for inclusion and innovation. Rapid advances in digital technology, and AI are reshaping service delivery. A transition toward renewable energy is strengthening long-term sustainability. These shifts are reinforced by a generally favourable policy environment for social development.

This combination of pressure and possibility defines the moment we are in.

It is a narrow but critical window in which the choices made today can reshape children's futures for generations.

We remain focused on the **most vulnerable children**, their families, and their communities, particularly those experiencing multiple vulnerabilities such as poverty, violence, displacement, disability, and exclusion.

Long-term Area Programmes remain the backbone of our work. Having worked with this approach for over 20 years, we have learned they provide the platform for meaningful community presence, long-term accountability, and sustained change. By layering humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding funding within defined geographies, Area Programmes multiply the impact of each investment. Close collaboration with local authorities, faith leaders, and community structures ensures that progress for children is embedded in local systems and leadership.

We continue to operate at **national scale**, with **deep community-level presence**. Our reach across regions, woredas, and communities allows us to test, adapt, and scale what works, while maintaining proximity to the children and families we serve.

We remain **community-based** and **child-focused**, guided and inspired by our **Christian identity**, putting love into action, with a commitment to serve with humility and respect across Ethiopia's diverse cultural, belief and faith contexts.

What remains foundational for us



Our purpose and principles do not change.

US\$ 855m

Investment Required



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**By 2030, 15 million children
resilient, nourished, safe and educated
the joy of childhood, and p**

Children are well nourished.

Stunting is reduced by 9% and underweight by 40%, reflecting sustained improvements in children's nutrition and healthy growth

Children are protected from violence, exploitation, abuse, neglect, and harmful practices.

Child marriage, FGM, and sexual violence are reduced by 50%, with children safer and better protected from harm.

Households have improved access to sufficient food, strengthened livelihoods, and increased resilience to shocks and stresses

Communities have enhanced climate adaptation and mitigation capacities to restore and protect the environment

Children, pregnant women, and breastfeeding mothers demonstrate improved utilisation of nutritious food across the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus

Maternal and child health is improved through enhanced access to quality healthcare services, health education

Communities and institutions have improved, equitable and sustainable access to safe water

Communities and institutions demonstrate improved sanitation and hygiene practices

Communities based service providers strengthen their capacity to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, survivors receive confidential survivor support

Children we are serving

Children and their communities experiencing extreme deprivation, catastrophes/disasters, abusive and exploitative relationships or serious discrimination

Displaced children, including internally displaced and refugee children

Children under five, especially those at risk of malnutrition and poor early development

School-age children and adolescents affected by poor learning outcomes and fragile contexts

Girls and children at risk of child marriage, FGM, sexual violence, and exploitation

Children living in climate-stressed, underserved rural and urban communities



Children in Ethiopia will be more
resilient, experiencing hope for a better future,
and peace in their communities.



Children have positive relationships
within their families and communities.

Children grow up in safe, nurturing, and peaceful
family and community environments that support
their wellbeing and development.

Children experience improved
learning and development.

Holistic development is improved by 20%
and reading proficiency increased by 35%,
learning foundations and future opportunity
strengthened for vulnerable and hard-to-
reach children.

Community-
based systems
are strengthened
and to
ensure
timely,
effective, and
centred
support

Children are
safer, more
empowered, and
less exposed to
child labour, child
marriage, female
genital mutilation,
and domestic
violence through
strengthened
community-
based prevention,
protection, and
restoration
systems

Children,
communities, and
local partners
are meaningfully
empowered to
participate in and
lead development
outcomes

Children enjoy
peaceful living
with their
caregivers and
communities

Caregivers are
better placed to
enrol children in
primary education

Children achieve
at least minimum
proficiency levels
in literacy and
numeracy

Children's
access to quality
education and
school meals
improved in
formal and non-
formal learning
programmes
across stable,
pastoralist, and
emergency
contexts

Project Models and Interventions

Cash & Voucher Programme (CVP)
Celebrating Families
Channels of Hope
Citizen Voice and Action
Community based Participatory Nutrition promotion
(PD Hearth Plus)
Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)
Community-led Total Sanitation and Hygiene
Early Childhood Development
Empowered World View
Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR)
General Food Distribution (GFD)
Growth Monitoring Promotion
Integrated Peace, Action and Conflict Sensitivity (IPACS)



IMPACT+: Empowering Adolescents as Active Citizens
Inclusive Markets for Communities
Integrated Home-Grown School Meals
Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
Men care
Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)
Microfinance
Nurturing Care Group (NCG)
PROTECT
Refugee Programme
Regreening Communities
Savings for Transformation
Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP)
Ultra Poor Graduation
Unlock Literacy
Youth Ready



How we will deliver Impact Our Strategic Shifts

Integrated, multi-sectoral programming

Nutrition, protection, learning, livelihoods, peace, and systems strengthening are deliberately integrated to reflect children's lived realities and maximise impact and value for partners and donors.

Children at the centre of every decision

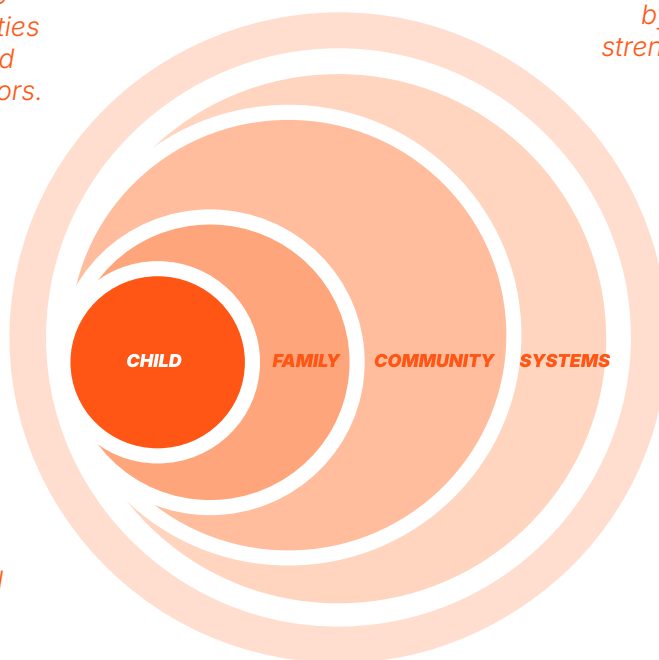
Every decision, investment, and partnership is judged by whether it improves real child wellbeing outcomes.

Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus

The strategy links emergency response, development, and peacebuilding to protect progress from being undone by future shocks and to strengthen resilience in fragile contexts.

Layered and sequenced interventions

We deliver the right combination of interventions for the same children and communities (layering), and we deliver them in the right order and timing (sequencing). This connects immediate response, recovery, and long-term development, so families see quick improvements now and lasting change over time.



Peace as both a focus and a lens

Peace is treated as both a dedicated area of work and a lens across all programming, recognising that child wellbeing cannot be sustained where trust, relationships, and social cohesion are broken.

Partner-centred and localised ways of working

We are intentional about selecting and working with partners who share our vision and priorities, bring complementary expertise, and are committed to co-creating joint solutions for children. We work through a deliberate localisation approach, planning, implementing, and monitoring jointly with government structures, faith institutions, and local organisations. By strengthening local leadership, systems, and accountability, we multiply impact and ensure progress for children is sustained beyond any single project.

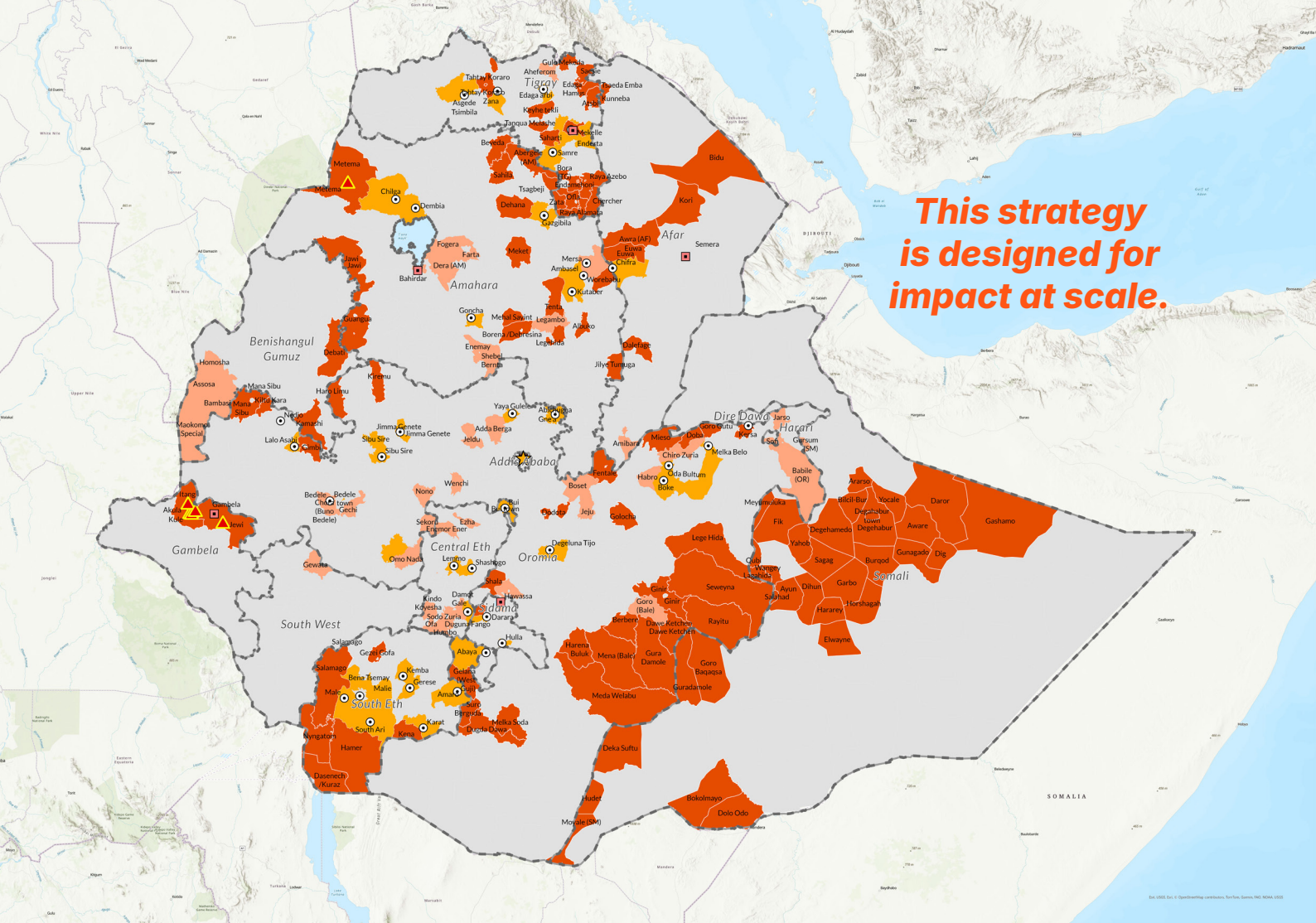
Our Pathway to Impact

Our strategy is built on a simple conviction: when the systems that shape children's lives are strengthened together, real and lasting change follows.

We address the root causes of child vulnerability, malnutrition, violence, and poor learning outcomes through integrated, evidence-based interventions that strengthen families, communities, and the systems that serve them. By combining humanitarian response, long-term development, and peacebuilding, we protect children today while building the conditions for their wellbeing tomorrow.

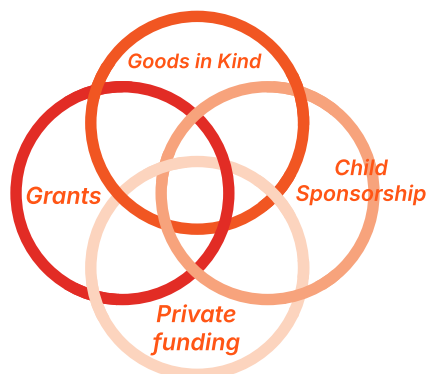
Anchored in our Christian faith and delivered through strong partnerships, community ownership, and adaptive ways of working, this approach layers and sequences interventions across health, nutrition, WASH, education, livelihoods, and child protection. Equity, gender equality, disability inclusion, and climate resilience are embedded throughout.

The result is sustained progress. Children are nourished, protected, and learning. Communities are more resilient. And the foundations for wellbeing are built for this generation of children and those who follow.



***Donors are almost never investing alone.
Children experience added investments
and multiplied returns.***

By layering and sequencing interventions, partnering, aligning funding streams, and working through local systems, we reduce duplication and increase the return on every dollar invested. Integrated delivery lowers costs while improving outcomes across multiple dimensions of a child's life.



Over five years, World Vision is seeking an investment of over USD 855 million through sponsorship, grants, private funding, and innovative financing, to help our partners directly benefit children.

Changing children's lives since 1971.

Imagine facing a crisis so big that your entire community is at risk.

That was Ethiopia in the 1980s, when a devastating drought left millions starving. We stepped in, leading massive relief efforts that saved countless lives. But we didn't stop there.

Since 1971, we've been working in Ethiopia, not just with emergency aid but by helping communities build a better future. Today, we run more than 100 programmes in 9 out of the 11 regions in Ethiopia, tackling issues that affect children and families every day. We help bring clean water and sanitation to communities, improve nutrition so children can grow up healthy, and ensure kids get the education and life skills they need to succeed.

We also protect children from harm and stand up for their rights.

And when disaster strikes, whether it's drought, conflict, or floods we step in fast, responding in around 192 woredas across the country.

With multiple Field Coordination Offices and teams working across the country, we're making a real difference for children and their families.

You can help ensure that one in four children across Ethiopia experiences real, lasting improvements in their wellbeing.



Together, let's invest in multi-year programmes that deliver measurable outcomes while strengthening local systems.



Let's co-create integrated solutions and scale evidence-based approaches.



Let's bring markets, finance, innovation, and platforms that multiply impact beyond traditional aid.



Let's bring faith leaders, local organisations, and community groups together to protect children and sustain change.



Let's build an Ethiopia fit for children.