



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT & LIVELIHOODS



Capacity
Statement

World Vision is a global humanitarian, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice.

In East Africa our focus is on empowering communities by equipping them with the tools necessary to achieve sustainable livelihoods. We strive to provide durable solutions for the world's most vulnerable children and their families, fostering sustained systemic change. We aim to maximise the impact of our livelihood programming which contributes to the achievement of all the child well-being outcomes and the strategic goals of Our Promise. Most critically, resilient livelihoods enable households and communities to continue to provide well for children long after World Vision has phased out from an Area Programme.

As a region, we aim to reduce poverty — one of the most pressing challenges of our time. According to the World Bank's Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020: Reversals of Fortune report, extreme poverty remains widespread in developing countries, with sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia accounting for about 90% of the global population surviving on less than US\$ 1.90 per day.

Operational Areas in East Africa



Efforts to reduce poverty have achieved notable progress over recent decades. In many African countries, the proportion of households living below the US\$ 1.90 daily poverty line dropped from 40% in 2010 to 34% in 2019, with East Africa reporting a rate of 33%. However, poverty remains a harsh reality for millions, with 1.3 billion individuals living in multifaceted poverty as of 2020.

World Vision contributes to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #1, "No Poverty," a global initiative aimed at eradicating extreme poverty and reducing income inequality by 2030. Achieving this goal is critical, as poverty has a profound effect on individuals, communities, and economies. It restricts access to essential services, health, and education, and can perpetuate generational cycles of poverty that hinder children's health, education, and overall well-being.

Our Approach

The livelihoods portfolio is composed of programming that falls into four core project models and two associated project models:

Core project models

Ultra-Poor Graduation Model

This two-year journey provides households with the most vulnerable children, who are chronically food insecure and live well below the poverty line with essential resources, financial education, technical training, life skills coaching, and social support. By the end of the program, participants have improved household capacity and families become empowered to interact with the local economy and community in productive and positive ways for improved child well-being.

Building Secure Livelihoods

This model offers a comprehensive pathway for vulnerable families to transition from surviving to thriving by building resilient livelihoods. It focusses on the Marginally poor households, women, and other socially marginalised groups. With the model, families have increased savings and improved financial inclusion, increased self-efficacy and empowerment, women economic empowerment, adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices, improved disaster risk management and increased access to markets

Savings for Transformation

This approach targets vulnerable and most vulnerable communities, women, People with Disability, Youth and marginalised groups and empowers them through member-managed savings groups that employ simple, transparent methods. These groups enable members to plan, manage household emergencies, and develop their livelihoods, contributing to child well-being by improving household income security and economic resilience.

Microfinance

The approach targets vulnerable communities with income-generating livelihoods, women and socially marginalised. We provide access to financial services such as loans, insurance, and savings, along with the knowledge to use these services effectively. Our Microfinance model enhances increased access to financial services (credit, savings, insurance and financial literacy).

Associated project models

Local Value Chain Development (LVCD)

This model targets agricultural producers especially in vulnerable communities, women and marginalised groups. It uses a market-based approach to create sustainable business solutions. By collaborating with private market actors and poor households, we ensure access to inclusive market systems and technical services for small-scale producers. We also work with government bodies and industry associations to advocate for regulatory reforms that promote inclusive growth. This model helps producers better understand and access local markets, increasing their incomes and improving livelihoods.

Inclusive Market Knowledge and Access

This model empowers households, especially women and vulnerable groups, to enhance their economic resilience for their children's wellbeing. It collaborates with market actors on inclusive-poor business models and activities to drive systemic change. Integrating gender, disability, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability, the model connects producers to all market actors within a sustainable trade system beyond the local community.



Our Impact

2.9 million children
in households where parents/caregivers benefited from livelihood interventions.

860,000 vulnerable individuals gained
health insurance coverage, improving household well-being & enabling them to better care for their children.

293,000 jobs
were created & sustained, providing families with stable incomes to help them manage economic uncertainties.

5,000 FAST savings group members
started/expanded businesses & diversified their livelihoods through improved credit access.

The THRIVE Project
is building stronger partnerships with the private sector & government to expand profitable market access for smallholder farmers.

Scan to read our 2024 Impact Report

Our Partners

World Vision collaborates with partners who significantly contribute to our work. Key partners include:



World Vision is a relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. Inspired by our Christian values, we are dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people. We serve all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

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