



HEALTH & NUTRITION

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.

We are a leader in multi-sectoral, community-based interventions aimed at contributing to the improvement of health and nutrition outcomes both in stable and fragile contexts. Our health and nutrition interventions contribute to combatting child hunger and malnutrition, and preventable diseases. We engage and work alongside the most vulnerable populations, empowering them to prioritise their health needs, resulting in improved child and maternal health and nutrition outcomes. With over 30 years in East Africa, World Vision supports most vulnerable children, their families and communities in hard-to-reach areas, delivering life-saving health and nutrition services with an emphasis on gender equity and inclusion.

Health and Nutrition Interventions

In East Africa, World Vision prioritises maternal, new-born, child, and adolescent health and nutrition through an integrated multi-sectoral approach, focusing on every stage of life, with preventive care, immunisations, and treatment of diseases and malnutrition at the community level. Following are our key interventions:

Improving Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child Health and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH)

World Vision prioritises the health of mothers, newborns, children, and adolescents. This includes promoting good health and nutrition practices, immunisation, improving access to prevention and treatment of illnesses such as diarrhea and acute respiratory infections and combating endemic diseases including AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. World Vision emphasises the crucial 1,000-day period from pregnancy to a child's second birthday. We integrate our RMNCAH efforts with other sectors to ensure healthy physical and mental development for children, particularly during these vital first two years.

Promoting Family Planning and Healthy Timing and Spacing of Pregnancies (HTSP)

World Vision is emphasising the importance of Healthy Timing and Spacing of Pregnancies (HTSP) in collaboration with Ministries of Health (MoHs), community health volunteers (CHVs), women and men. We employ various strategies, including Community Voice and Action (CVA), to encourage governments to allocate funding for HTSP initiatives. Our approach incorporates a Channels of Hope (CoH) project model, which involves training and engaging faith leaders. They play a crucial role in promoting the HTSP principles.

Operational Areas in East Africa



Integrated Community Case Management (iCCM)

World Vision's iCCM programme enhances community involvement by managing, supervising, and supporting Community Health Workers (CHWs). In line with national policies, World Vision coordinates the implementation of iCCM following government guidelines. In the last financial year (2024), almost 249,000 children under the age of five received treatment for common illnesses from CHWs who are trained, supported, and supervised by World Vision in collaboration with the MoHs.

Improved Access to Treatment of Wasting

World Vision provides essential, life-saving treatment for children suffering from acute malnutrition (wasting). This is done through a key project model called community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM). Through our decentralised growth monitoring and promotion, World Vision identifies malnourished children within the community and refers them for appropriate care. The Positive Deviance Hearth plus model, is another key project approach. World Vision works to rehabilitate underweight children and those experiencing moderate wasting. In the last financial year (2024), more than 97,000 children under the age of five were admitted for treatment of acute malnutrition in the East Africa region.

Promoting Good Infant and Young Child Feeding

Caregivers receive skilled support for infant and young child feeding, which includes guidance on breastfeeding, complementary feeding, and overall nutrition. World Vision is dedicated to protecting and supporting infants and young children who are not breastfed to ensure their nutritional needs are met. Through trained, supervised and supported CHWs, World Vision promotes behaviour-change messages and activities that encourage optimal feeding practices for infants and young children. In the last financial year (2024), more than 485,000 women of reproductive age received counselling on maternal, infant, and young child feeding from CHWs trained and supported by World Vision.

Strengthening the Community Health Systems

World Vision collaborates with Ministries of Health and various partners to deliver health services to underserved areas. This includes enhancing the skills and capacity of local staff to better meet the evolving needs of their communities. World Vision empowers local communities by training and supervising CHWs to strengthen local health systems. We partner with community members, faith leaders, and congregations to promote health and well-being. In the last financial year (2024), World Vision trained over 6,600 CHWs in the region, enabling them to deliver health and nutrition services to children under the age of five and women of reproductive age.

Our Health and Nutrition Core Project Models

To improve the health and well-being of vulnerable communities, World Vision uses core project models to build context-specific interventions. These models not only prioritise health and nutrition, but also empower communities by building their resilience to achieve sustainable well-being. The models include:

Positive Deviance Hearth Plus (PDH+)

PDH+ is a Food Based Approach with a goal to ensure that children and their families have greater access to safe and nutritious food. PDH+ may consist of growth monitoring and promotion (GMP), kitchen gardens and micronutrient powders among other interventions. Total admissions into PDH in FY24 was over 10,800 children 6-59 months of age underweight, Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and/or Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) children without medical complications.

Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)

WV provides treatment and support for acutely malnourished children under the age of five while ensuring involvement of communities through CHWs for sustainable improvement of children's nutritional outcomes. The CMAM incorporates innovations such as the inclusion of infant and family measurement of upper arm circumference (Family MUAC).

Community Health Workers (CHWs)

World Vision collaborates with the MoHs to support CHWs in various local health initiatives, including maternal care, nutrition, disease prevention, hygiene education, and sanitation. By integrating these efforts with national health systems, World Vision ensures sustainability and effectiveness through technical support and capacity building. Our strong community network enables World Vision to influence CHW policies and practices, promoting inclusive and scalable health solutions not only in the region but also globally.

Community Health Committees (COMM)

World Vision's COMM model is designed to enhance community health through capacity building and empowering local health committees. This approach fosters better coordination for improved health policies and services, supports CHWs, and strengthens health systems, ultimately benefiting vulnerable and marginalised areas.

Nurturing Care Groups (NCGs)

Nurture Care Groups are effective in tackling issues such as inadequate feeding of infants and young children, caring for sick children, disease prevention, early childhood development, water hygiene, sanitation, and child protection. World Vision's NCGs promote behaviour change through community interactions, which benefit fragile contexts by ensuring inclusive outreach and addressing concerns related to gender and faith.



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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