ANNUAL REPORT
FINANCIAL YEAR 2017
Dear Friend,

It is my pleasure to present to you World Vision Rwanda’s 2017 annual report, which highlights some of the amazing achievements from the past year.

World Vision Rwanda’s goal is to contribute towards measurable improvement in the wellbeing of millions of children within their families and communities. We continuously strive towards that goal each year with projects to reach the most vulnerable children and their families all across the country.

Globally, World Vision’s aspirations are for children to enjoy good health and education, experience the love of God and their neighbours, and ensure that they are cared for, protected and participating. To this end, we are happy to have contributed positively to changes in the wellbeing of an estimated 1.5 million children in Rwanda over the course of the year, through our interventions in the areas of education, health and nutrition, livelihoods improvement, and water, sanitation and hygiene.

World Vision Rwanda works closely with different partners both in the private and public sector to bring development to communities and push for the realisation of the objectives in Rwanda’s second and current Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS 2).

We strongly believe in community empowerment and development models such as village savings and lending associations, and Empowered World View to enable households and community members to graduate from extreme poverty, and avoid or abandon mind-sets that limit their individual freedom.

We have seen the lives of more and more children change for the better this year as parents and caregivers are economically empowered, encouraged in their understanding of their self-worth, and inspired to live in dignity instead of dependence.

With the wonderful support and collaboration of our donors, partners, and the government of Rwanda, our dedicated staff were able to provide libraries and reading materials to more than 84,000 students; ensure that more than 24,000 children can access basic health services from within their cells; and provide access to clean water to more than 70,000 people. On behalf of World Vision Rwanda, thank you all so much for making this possible.

May God richly bless you all!

Sean Kerrigan
National Director
World Vision Rwanda
about us

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization, dedicated to working with children, their families and communities worldwide to see them reach their full potential by tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice.

We have been working in Rwanda since 1994, and for the first six years, the key focus of our interventions was relief and rehabilitation for the close to 3 million people that were displaced because of the genocide. In the year 2000, we began long-term, child-focused area development programmes in different parts of the country, targeting vulnerable children and their families with interventions in the areas of education and child sponsorship; health and nutrition; water, sanitation and hygiene; and economic empowerment of households.

Our more than 300 staff in Rwanda currently work in 24 out of 30 Districts, supporting more than 1.2 million people—especially children—through 27 area development programmes.

OUR VISION

Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness. Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to follow our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in working with the poor and oppressed to promote human transformation, seek justice, and bear witness to the good news of the Kingdom of God.
Throughout the last year, World Vision Rwanda has worked to improve equitable access to education in targeted communities. We strengthened strategic alliances with key local and international stakeholders to ensure effective and efficient education interventions, in terms of increasing enrolment of school-age children and retention through reduction of school drop-out rates. This was achieved through contributing to the construction of classrooms, training of teachers and facilitating school with teaching and learning materials, and supporting vulnerable families with school fees and tuition.

In addition to distributing materials for children’s education, we provided over 10,000 teaching materials to targeted schools, ensuring that more than 800 educators (including teachers and teaching assistants) use new and quality teaching techniques.

We facilitated the establishment of an additional 168 reading clubs, from which 24,164 children are benefiting in various ways.

On top of providing support towards education through books and learning materials, we supported the training of an additional 520 parents part of parent-teacher associations, and approximately 8,000 teachers on the literacy boost model, as we’ve observed this kind of training to be effective in contributing towards our child wellbeing outcomes.

Impact:
Over this past year through our interventions in this sector, we observed among other successes a percentage increase in literacy levels among primary school children across most of our reporting area programmes.

- This past year, a total of 84,413 students within World Vision Rwanda operation areas received learning materials (including books and starter kits). We distributed more than 10,000 books to over 100 newly-opened community libraries in the catchment area of more than 50 schools.

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World Vision Rwanda’s Rutsiro Health and Nutrition Project (funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency – KOICA) directly targets more than 6,500 children under the age of three, and more than 3,000 pregnant and lactating women. It also supports more than 4,500 farmer households that have pregnant and lactating women and children under the age of five with agricultural and livestock caring training and inputs so that the heads of each of these households can, in turn, be able to feed children and sell products to generate income. This past year, we handed over an upgraded Rutsiro Health Centre to Rutsiro District after leading construction works, and more than 10,000 people can now access quality health services from there.

Over the last year, we increased access to basic health facilities for more than 24,000 children among 45,000 community members, ensuring that they can all access these services from within their cells; equipped close to 500 more community health workers with materials needed to conduct their jobs well, and trained a total of 2,337 on Positive Deviance/Hearth, which is a community-based rehabilitation and behaviour change intervention for families with underweight preschool children.

Impact:
Among other successes, our findings showed that our interventions contributed towards a good rise in the proportion of women offered and taking timely testing during pregnancy, as well as improvement in the management of diarrhoea and pneumonia for children under five years of age in many of our reporting area programmes. This means more young children’s lives saved.

45,000
is the number of community members for whom we helped increase access to basic health services within their cells.

55.1%
is the percentage of children among the 45,000 community members who can now access basic health services from within their cells.

2,300+
community health workers were trained on effective community-based rehabilitation and behavior change interventions regarding nutrition practices.
2017 Highlights

The primary target group for our WASH interventions are children from vulnerable communities in rural areas and fragile settings like refugee camps, where our WASH program strives to provide sustainable access to safe and clean water, improved sanitation facilities and ensure good hygiene practices are adopted.

World Vision Rwanda works to ensure that there are piped water systems in place and rainwater harvesting in communities where there are children and their families, as well as latrines and menstrual hygiene management facilities at schools.

In 2017, World Vision Rwanda facilitated access to clean water for an additional 38,063 children across our operation areas. They were part of a group of more than 73,000 community members who now have access to a basic (improved) drinking water source. A total of 53,173 children now have access to clean and safe water at their schools. In addition to that, access to household sanitation facilities has increased for more than 72,000 people, including more than 30,000 children.

Also over the past year, we carried out behaviour change activities in several communities within our operation areas: creating a total of 109 school water, sanitation and hygiene clubs, and getting more than 130,000 people to participate in community hygiene behaviour change programme activities. In total, 11,399 more households have had hand-washing facilities installed within their premises.

Impact:
As a result of our interventions this past year, our findings revealed an increase in the proportion of parents and caregivers adopting appropriate hand-washing behaviours in more than 65% of our reporting area programmes. These area programmes scored between 78% and 90% on this indicator, significantly surpassing the international threshold of 70%. A percentage decrease in reported cases of illnesses caused by use of unsafe water has already started to show across our operation areas.

Community members now have access to safe and clean drinking water from an improved source

More children have access to a basic (improved) source of drinking water at their schools

More households have hand-washing facilities available within their premises
Resilience & Livelihoods

2017 Highlights

Our interventions in this sector intentionally target those who have low incomes and limited means of production and consumption. These are mainly small-scale producers of agricultural products, handcrafts, food, and service providers. However, conventional agro-dealers, small and medium entrepreneurs, cooperatives, church-based and faith-based organizations, youth and women groups, and children cohorts are also targeted as direct or indirect beneficiaries with specific interventions. Smallholder and small-scale commercial farmers are both partners and beneficiaries in as far as livelihoods, resilience and nutrition of households is concerned.

From US$928,000 as the cumulative value of savings in World Vision Rwanda-supported savings groups last year, we saw a huge rise to up to more than double that amount this past year. This figure now stands at an enormous US$3,262,180 (close to 3 billion in Rwandan Francs) largely thanks to awareness-raising activities that attracted more than 170,000 community members within our operation areas this past year.

We supported the creation of more than 2,000 new small and medium enterprises, and these new enterprises were able to acquire close to quarter of a million US Dollars from microfinance institutions. More than 550 commercial producer groups with a total of 17,280 members were linked to new markets for their produce.

Impact:
With the training of 10,971 more heads of households on our Empowered World View model to equip them with a renewed mind-set this past year, we contributed towards a rise in the proportion of adolescents who ranked themselves as thriving on the ladder of life, and children with access to food within our reporting area programmes.

2,805,474,800
is the cumulative value (in Rwandan Francs) of savings in World Vision Rwanda-supported savings groups, up more than double from last year.

203.9
is the size of land (in hectares) that was developed for agriculture.
Advocacy

99,000

is the estimated number of children who participated in spiritual nurture activities across our operation areas.

77%

is the percentage of children now registered in Rwanda (with birth certificates).

2017 Highlights

World Vision Rwanda engaged the services of the Institute of Policy Analysis and Research of Rwanda this past year to conduct an extensive child birth registration technical analysis study to analyze the underlying causes of low birth registration in Rwanda. The study was conducted based on the evidence on poor birth registration rates in our area programmes. The child birth registration technical analysis study was used as evidence of the status during the Policy Dialogue and Advocacy (policy influence) for policy changes considerations.

Major changes in Birth Registration from Conducted Assessments and Impact Achieved:

1. A National Coordination steering committee on Child Registration & Vital Statistics was established and two sessions of meetings have been conducted.

2. The process of birth registration system is moving from the sector level to the Health facilities

3. Government institutions met to discuss about integration of the systems (Data collection) into one national strategic plan was officially approved and NIS waiting to have launching at National level where all partners will be invited

4. The number of children registered has increased up 77%

5. Size of civil registries was decreased in order to save time in filling in

6. New law simplified the process in extending the registration period 15 up to 30 days and omitting the existing fines for delay as well as other courts procedures.

7. Birth registration has been integrated into Districts’ performance contract

8. Reduction of registries: we have now only act de naissance with its extrait d’acte de naissance that is given to child as certificate and registry on recognition (reconnaissance).
World Vision Rwanda contributed to community-led actions and a systems strengthening approach using CPA model.

We partnered with the National Commission for Children’s in equipping and raising the capacities of community-based para-professionals (Inshuti z’Umuryango, or ‘Friends of the Family’) across all World Vision Rwanda Area Programmes, this structure has been instrumental in creating safe environments for children in our areas of operations. This structure (established in 2015) is tasked with the provision of child and family protection services at the village level.

A total of 3,737 boys and 4,015 girls were newly registered during birth registration campaigns, and 222 of these boys and girls were ‘recognized’ by their fathers thanks to these.

2,319 men and 3,164 women from local community structures like Inshuti z’Umuryango (friends of family), faith leaders, and local authorities were briefed on child protection issues and measures aimed at preventing child abuse, drug abuse, and early pregnancies among children.

Partnering with Churches for Children’s Spiritual Development

This past year, we had just over 99,000 children participate in spiritual nurture activities across all our field offices.

About 76,516 children participated at the ‘Sunday of the Rwandan Child’, which is an event that we have organized and held in partnership with local church umbrellas since 2004 to allow children to demonstrate their gifts in spiritual activities. Over 1,243 local churches took part in the ‘Sunday of the Rwandan Child’ and the “Children for Christ Camps’, which also have children participate in spiritual nurture activities. At least 2,350 children participated at the camps this past year.

More than 300 senior church leaders participated in awareness campaigns on child protection issues in their communities.
9,000+ refugees received access to safe and clean water, and improved sanitation and hygiene through our water programmes.

5,000 households that received relief items after landslides in late 2017.

60% percent of the 9,000+ refugees who received access to safe and clean water and improved sanitation and hygiene were aged below 18.

The number of protracted refugees from the DRC, supported by World Vision Rwanda stood at about 55,525 in 2017. The continued political and security instability in the DRC is hampering the prospect of repatriating refugees back to their countries of origin, which entrenches their condition as refugees and necessitates their protracted stay in camps within Rwanda.

Mugombwa Refugee Camp has been home to 17-year-old Congolese refugee Mariza (pictured), her parents and four siblings for five years now. As refugees, they face several challenges daily, but she is hopeful that things will change one day: “It helps a lot that we have clean water, because we need it for cooking”, she says, “I’m very keen in school and would like to become a doctor when I’m done with school so I can move my family up out of our current situation”.

Currently, Rwanda hosts approximately 171,929 refugees as of 30th October 2017. Of these, 53.9% are from Burundi while 45.8% are from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and 0.3% of other nationalities.

We are currently implementing WASH project in Mugombwa refugee camp in partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), reaching more than 9,000 refugees and 3,615 host community members with safe water, improved sanitation. In addition to providing clean water to the refugee community, we as World Vision Rwanda work to ensure that refugee communities are living in satisfactory hygiene and sanitation conditions by conducting repair and maintenance of sanitation infrastructures in refugee camps, and hygiene sensitisation household by household.

WASH in Refugee Camps
With clean water and sanitation facilities available in refugee camps, the likelihood of especially the youngest catching diseases related to the use of unsafe/unclean water has reduced. These diseases were previously one of the greatest issues that refugees in the country would face. We are currently running interventions in Mugombwa and Kigeme refugee camps.

2017 Highlights

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2017 Highlights

World Vision Rwanda is part of an international World Vision Partnership that transcends legal, structural and cultural boundaries. We accept the obligations of joint participation, shared goals and mutual accountability that true partnership requires. We affirm our inter-dependence and our willingness to yield autonomy as necessary for the common good. We commit ourselves to know, understand and love each other.

We are partners with the poor and with donors in a shared ministry; affirm and promote unity in the Body of Christ; pursue relationship with all churches, and desire mutual participation in ministry.

As an organization, we seek to contribute to the holistic mission of the church, and maintain a cooperative stance and a spirit of openness towards other humanitarian organizations.

In 2017, World Vision Rwanda received a grant of US$50,000 from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to respond an emergency that occurred in some parts of the country. World Vision Rwanda handed over relief items to the Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugee Affairs (MIDIMAR), and 5,000 households from the affected areas benefited.

An additional 2,495 jobs were created for women and youth across different domains (including but not limited to carpentry, masonry, tailoring, bakery, pottery, and hairdressing) in Rusizi and Nyamasheke Districts where World Vision Rwanda has its Creating Off-farm Rwandan Enterprises (CORE) Project running. Funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), this project primarily targets youth aged between 16 and 35, and seeks to significantly increase the incomes of these youth and women of all ages by supporting women- and youth-run cooperatives and entrepreneurial ventures in these Districts.

Through our Food for Education (FFE) Project, World Vision Rwanda distributed more than 30,000 copies of community-generated published stories to 312 community reading clubs around 104 schools. The project supported the publication and approval by the Rwanda Education Board (REB) of these story books. This has helped to increase access to interesting and grade-level appropriate story books to children. Accessibility has increased the number of children borrowing books for reading at home.

We greatly appreciate the support and collaboration of our donors and implementation partners throughout the year. They include:

- Ministry of Youth & ICT (MYICT)
- Ministry of Health (MINISANTE)
- Ministry of Education (MINEDUC)
- Ministry of Gender & Family Promotion (MIGEPROF)
- Ministry of Disaster Management & Refugee Affairs (MIDIMAR)
- Ministry of Agriculture & Animal Resources (MINAGRI)
- Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC)
- Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA)
- Ministry of Natural Resources (MINIRENA)
World Vision Rwanda’s budget for the fiscal year starting October 2016 and ending September 2017 was US$29,686,600.03.

$12.7M of that amount was sponsorship funding; $9.4M private non-sponsorship; $5.7M multilateral, and the remaining $1.9M government grants.

The table on page 23 gives a breakdown of our Fiscal Year 2017 budget by programming sector.