



World Vision

Annual Report 2013

HEALTH

World Vision believes that every child deserves a good start in life. Child malnutrition levels continue to be among the highest in Asia and, as a result, children continue to die from preventable illnesses such as diarrhea and malaria. World Vision is working to improve child health and nutrition by promoting breastfeeding, good hygiene practices and increasing access to clean water and sanitation. The following summarizes our main activities in this area in 2013.

Addressed child malnutrition by piloting PD Hearth, an intervention that engages and mobilizes communities to utilize locally available food that is easy to prepare. In addition, parents and care givers are taught about the variety of foods to ensure their child is getting enough nutrition at different stages of development. In 2013, 1,575 children were routinely monitored on their growth and development.





Supported local health authorities to meet their obligations in protecting mothers and children from diseases and infections by funding the implementation of the national immunization program. World Vision also supported mobile clinics for immunization and health promotion, reaching 16,264 children and 7,197 women. Children under five were fully immunized from polio, hepatitis B, tuberculosis, diphtheria, and measles, as well as receiving de-worming and vitamin A treatments. Moreover, pregnant women received tetanus shots and had access to pre and post-natal care and other health services. World Vision also supported local partners to build two health centers and renovate six existing ones so that communities have access to health services when needed.



Improved sanitation and access to clean water to reduce the spread of communicable and seasonal diseases. Support included promotion of good hygiene practices including hand washing with soap, and educating the broader community on how to prevent the spread of diseases. To improve access to and use of clean water, support also provided for construction of 13 gravity fed water system and 200 boreholes. In addition, World Vision trained villagers to repair water tanks. World Vision supported communities to build 2,034 household latrines. To contribute to elimination of open defecation, initiated Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) in selected villages. Effort was made to mobilize community members towards collective action so that the villages become open defecation free and, as such, a clean environment is provided, breaking the cycle of disease.

Trained 565 local health staff and village health workers on child care, maternal health, and community mobilization techniques. Supported activities were aimed at creating demand for services at health centres and district hospitals that are currently underutilized. Through the trainings, health workers are helping villages to manage childhood and communicable illnesses. Information is provided to communities on health matters including prevention of seasonal diseases. In addition, World Vision also supported the establishment of drug revolving fund schemes, thus helping communities in remote areas to access basic medicine.

