



World Vision

— 2016 —
**ANNUAL
REVIEW**

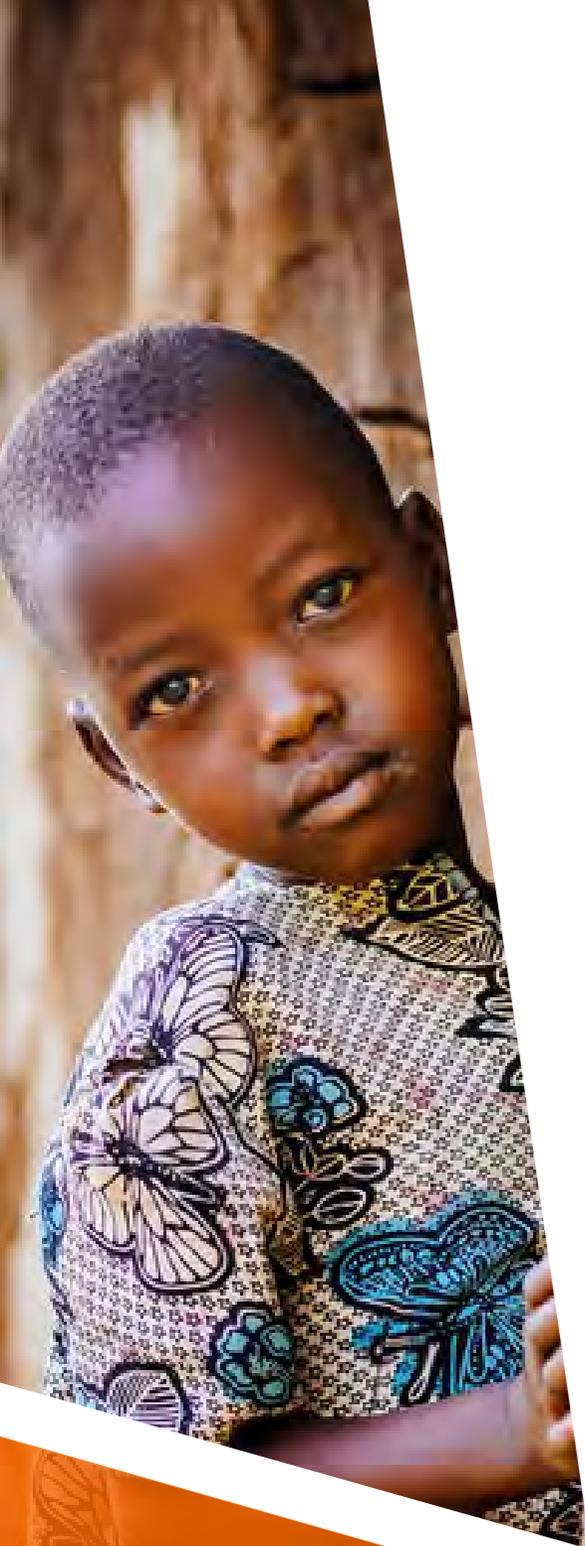


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Front Cover:

Four year-old Mani is a sponsored child who is benefitting from our early learning programmes in India. Mani's mum is a member of a women's group in the village and advocates the benefits of education to other families in the village

all currency figures shown are expressed in US Dollars, unless stated otherwise

President's Foreword



Kevin Jenkins supports boys with their project in our successful carpentry programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo

were launched in 2016 with the intention of extending these gains to the most inaccessible and volatile places in the world: those where governance is poor, conflict prevalent and development stalled.

The desire to deepen our commitment to the world's most vulnerable children inspired us in 2016 to consult widely and lay out a comprehensive global strategy. We call it Our Promise 2030 – building brighter futures for the world's vulnerable children. The Sustainable Development Goals are the world's promise to its poorest people, and our new strategy defines our part of that promise. You can read more about it on page 10.

As a global Christian organisation that works at the grass roots, World Vision welcomes this once-in-a-generation opportunity to champion the cause of the world's vulnerable people, especially children. We will concentrate our work on the things we do best, in the situations which need it the most, while partnering with others to ensure we provide a comprehensive suite of services.

It took a year of prayerful reflection and discussion before we launched our strategy at the end of 2016. We present our Annual Review in a way which reflects the strategic imperatives we agreed on. This will lay the groundwork for our reporting in years to come.

Our loyal staff and volunteers work in some of the hardest places on earth, waking up every day with a passion to change the world for children. I am grateful to millions of sponsors, supporters and partners who entrust their resources to us because they share that passion.

Our vision for every child is life in all its fullness; and our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so. Please join us in building brighter futures for the world's vulnerable children.

Sincerely,
Kevin Jenkins

In 2016 I travelled to Goma and eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and while there, I was reminded of how far aid and development have come in the last 15 years – and how much further there is to go.

I visited communities where food, water, sanitation and healthcare are accessible by all children. Juxtaposed with this were displacement camps where thousands of children have been trapped for years, reliant on food relief and vulnerable to abuse and threats. In a World Vision child-friendly space, 16-year-old Gloria sobbed as she told me how her parents were tortured and murdered in front of her; yet added that she now felt safe for the first time in her life. In Beni town, courageous 24-year-old Esperance listed the women and girls she knows who have been raped and abused. She explained how World Vision has helped fulfil her dream of setting up a group, One Girl One Leader, to mobilise all her peers to call for protection, gender equality and child rights from anyone who threatens them.

The Millennium Development Goals contributed to tremendous progress in many parts of the world since 2000. Many indicators of poverty were halved. But people in the most fragile communities – like the DRC – were left behind. The Sustainable Development Goals

The World Vision Way

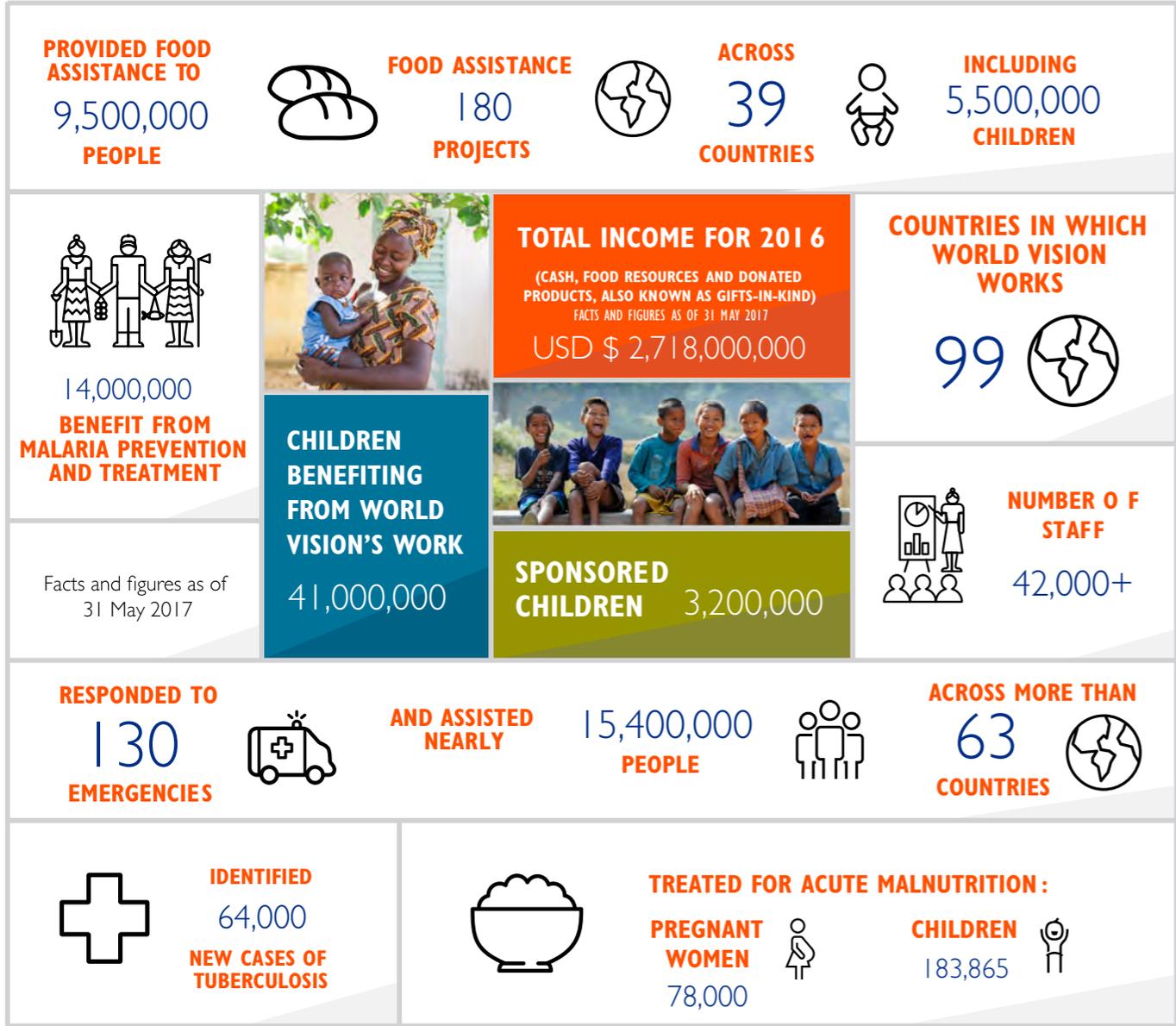
World Vision was founded in 1950 in the United States by the Rev Bob Pierce. Nearly 30 years later, in 1977, World Vision International was established as the coordinating body. World Vision International provides direction to this global Partnership, assuring appropriate technical capabilities are in place to deliver our mission, and ensuring that standards and policies are established and followed. World Vision's international executive office is located near London, UK, with its officers and staff working in many locations around the world.

World Vision is a global organisation with an unparalleled grassroots presence. We operate in 99 countries, and the vast majority of our approximately 42,000 staff live and work in the communities we serve. This enables

us to be both a local and global organisation, working in some of the world's hardest places and bringing the issues faced by these and their communities to the global stage.

Our global footprint means we are quick to respond to emergencies like conflict and natural disasters, often with staff on the ground before the disaster or conflict even takes place. We use our influence and global reach to ensure that children are represented at every level of decision-making.

We are able to accomplish this work thanks to the generosity of supporters and donors around the world, including 3.2 million people who sponsor a child.



The World Vision Way

ABOUT WORLD VISION

WorldVision is a global Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. WorldVision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

OUR VALUES

WE ARE CHRISTIAN
WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE POOR
WE VALUE PEOPLE
WE ARE STEWARDS
WE ARE PARTNERS
WE ARE RESPONSIVE

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Accountability

Publishing this Annual Review is just one part of World Vision's commitment to being accountable to our supporters, partners and those affected by our work, in particular the most vulnerable children and communities that we exist to serve.

How we live out that commitment to accountability is detailed in our annual Global Accountability report which outlines our governance and systems and our 2016 report focuses on how we fulfil our core organisational values of serving the poor, stewardship of the resources we are entrusted with, valuing people, partnering and being responsive to feedback and complaints, all of which are rooted in our Christian faith.

The impacts shared in this report are made possible by continued investment and innovation in our evidence and learning functions. This allows us to demonstrate our impact to our donors and partners and to account for how we have used the resources they have entrusted to us.

We also take our responsibility to be accountable to the children and communities we serve seriously and have been working hard to find the best ways to do this.

In 2016 we concluded studies on the most effective feedback channels for children and communities to let us know their opinion of the programmes in which they are involved and benefitting from. This included working with the UK government to develop feedback mechanisms for the programmes they fund (feedbackmechanisms.org). Throughout 2015 and 2016, more than 1,500 children assessed World Vision's progress regarding child participation as part of our preparations for a meeting of our highest governing body. In addition, a member of World Vision International's humanitarian accountability team supported a United Nations learning mission to Iraq as a subject matter expert for accountability in a study exploring the role of humanitarian leadership in promoting collective accountability.

Accountability activities have been integrated into several humanitarian emergency responses in fragile contexts, including in Haiti, Iraq, Niger and Somalia. This again underlines the importance of this work and recognises the important role these activities play to the future direction of the humanitarian system.





The World Humanitarian Summit was a major milestone for the humanitarian community in 2016. Convened by the United Nations, the Summit introduced new thinking to address increasing levels of human suffering – the highest seen globally since World War II with an estimated 89.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. With a focus on cooperation and efficiency, the Summit brought together approximately 9,000 government, aid agency and civil society representatives from 173 countries who worked together to revamp and revitalise the humanitarian system to meet this urgent need.

World Vision played an active role in both the pre-summit negotiations and at the Summit and welcomes the outcomes achieved, particularly the Grand Bargain. The Grand Bargain is an agreement between more than 30 of the biggest donors and aid providers that aims to get more means into the hands of people in need.

It was first proposed by the former United Nations Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Aid as one of the solutions to address the humanitarian financing gap. The agreement includes a series of changes in the working practices of donors and aid organisations that will deliver an extra billion dollars over five years for people in need of humanitarian aid. These changes include gearing up cash programming, greater funding for national and local responders, and cutting bureaucracy through harmonised reporting requirements. World Vision is aligning itself with The Grand Bargain through cash-programming, the inclusion of affected communities in decision-making and through increased multi-year funding models suitable to each context to address the complex and protracted crises.

We are also pleased with the commitments made to education and innovation at the Summit. We welcome the commitment of funding to the Education Cannot Wait Fund, which seeks to provide access to quality education for 75 million children and youth by 2030. We will be actively supporting this commitment through our pledge to reach 20% of children affected by disasters through our responses. We also welcome the commitment to innovation we made by playing a key role in the launch of the Global Alliance for Humanitarian Innovation. This initiative commits to addressing challenges that no single actor can address on its own. The initiative has received investments from the Australian and Danish governments of \$620,000 so far.

World Vision is committed to holding itself accountable, to provide transparent reporting on the promises it made to the world's children at the World Humanitarian Summit, and to continue to challenge others to do the same.



Strategy

At WorldVision, we are dedicated to enabling children to experience life in all its fullness. This commitment means that children can thrive and live a life full of hope and promise.

In 2010 we embarked on a mission to improve the well-being of 150 million of the world's most vulnerable children over the course of five years. During this time, our development efforts responded to the needs of children in every corner of the world, as we worked with communities helping them address real needs around health, education, access to clean water, food security and economic development.

In addition to our development work, we have served children through our emergency responses. The ongoing war in Syria has made countless children vulnerable. Half of the millions of refugees fleeing the country are children, and we have responded in practical ways to provide urgent assistance to these girls and boys.

Through our microfinance work around the world (VisionFund), we have seen millions of children impacted

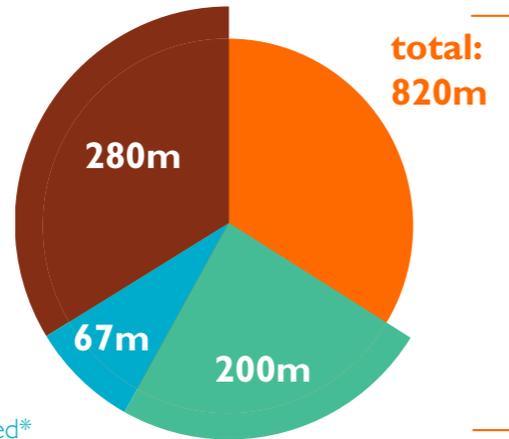
when parents are able to use small loans to build their businesses and increase family incomes.

Speaking on behalf of children, our advocacy work, based on partnerships with local organisations and churches, has given a voice to many children left in the shadows. In 2015 and 2016, the Global Week of Action for the Child Health Now campaign mobilised supporters and take action across the globe, while at grassroots level, the percentage of World Vision programmes supporting communities to advocate on behalf of their own children went from less than 50% to around 80% in just four years.

Now at the end of this five-year strategy, these joint efforts mean that World Vision has contributed to the well-being of more than 160 million vulnerable children, either through our development and emergency relief programming or through contributions to policy change. This represents an impact greater than what we had set out to achieve.

WV Children — Final Totals For FY 11-16 Over-Arching Goal

Policy changes have started to be implemented for at least 280m vulnerable children (up 8% from FY15) (18m overlap)



**total:
820m**

At least **820m** vulnerable children have causes of vulnerability addressed by at least one policy change to which WV contributed (up 26% from FY15) (**37m overlap**)

Total that could be counted towards our overarching goal: at least **335m** vulnerable children (relief/development + one policy starting to be implemented)

Total relief/development + multiple policies with evidence of implementation at least one: at least **2000m** vulnerable children

~67m children benefitted* through relief and development programming (up to 2% from FY 15)

WV contributed to policy changes addressing multiple causes of vulnerability for at least 200m vulnerable children (up 25% from FY15) (47m overlap)

*Includes direct and indirect beneficiaries



In 2016, we launched a bold new global strategy called Our Promise 2030 as a way to fulfil our organisation's mission and deliver on the commitments made to the Sustainable Development Goals. If trends continue, by 2030 the world's poorest children – suffering extreme poverty, high mortality and malnutrition – will be increasingly concentrated in fragile contexts and other hard-to-reach areas. Exposure to violence, exploitation and other serious human rights violations will be worldwide. As an organisation dedicated to reaching the most vulnerable children in the world, we must respond to the needs found in these difficult areas.

Trends are also emerging around a new generation of donors who are increasingly interested in organisations clearly providing evidence of the effectiveness in their work. These expectations require us to review our fundraising options and articulate our impact more clearly.

To be effective, World Vision must adapt how we

work. Our new strategy sets out five imperatives to guide us over the coming years:

- Deepening our commitment to the most vulnerable children
- Focusing our ministry for greater results
- Collaborating and advocating for broader impact
- Delivering high quality, sustainable funding
- Living out our Christian faith and calling with boldness and humility

As we engage in this new strategy, World Vision will continue existing initiatives, re-scope programmes or stop projects that are no longer essential, and we will also launch new efforts.

We will engage in these strategic imperatives in concert with challenging our own mindsets and behaviours as an organisation. This will both embolden and direct us as we seek God's will.

OUR PROMISE 2030

Building Brighter Futures for Vulnerable Children



Collaborating and advocating for broader impact



Deepening our commitment to the **most vulnerable children**



Delivering high **quality, sustainable funding**



Focusing our ministry for greater results



Living out our **Christian faith** and calling with **boldness and humility**

CHILD WELL-BEING

The information on our activities and results included in this Annual Review is presented under our new strategic imperatives as detailed in the new global strategy *Our Promise 2030*. This lays the groundwork for future reporting on progress to achieve the vision set out in our new strategy. Over the next few years we will intentionally focus on those parts of the world where the most vulnerable children are found. This will take us into unstable, fragile and challenging locations but will allow us to keep our promise to these children.



Increasing World Vision's impact on the most vulnerable children

In 2016 the world reached consensus on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – a set of 17 global goals that aspire to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change by 2030. World Vision will be working to contribute to the achievement of these goals through our new strategy and through our child well-being targets. These targets are highly relevant to the current global development agenda. More than half of the SDGs seek to improve the situation for children and young people. World Vision's child well-being outcome indicators link naturally and directly to the SDGs, meaning that our experiences and evidence have a wider significance for the humanitarian and development sector as a whole.

We have created a very specific definition of what child well-being means for World Vision and have developed four measures which we use to assess and evaluate all our programming against. By doing this we can ensure that the needs of children are right at the heart of our decision making and efforts to deliver the best programming in the communities we serve.

1. Children report an increased level of well-being (12–18 years)

Adolescents are the next generation of decision makers and must be equipped with the skills and capacities to address global challenges. Consequently, World Vision has increased its focus and programming to nurture and empower adolescents to engage in their own development and that of their communities.

2. Increase in children protected from infection and disease (0–5 years)

This target is measured by tracking improvements in five critical areas of child health - vaccination

coverage, diarrhoea management, care-seeking for acute respiratory infection, use of long-lasting, insecticide-treated nets, and HIV counselling and testing services for pregnant women. Together, these interventions could prevent one-third of deaths of children under five.

3. Increase in children who are well nourished (0–5 years)

Under-nutrition remains a fundamental obstacle to children's survival and well-being. It increases a child's risk of dying in the first few years of life and is estimated to contribute to 45% of all deaths of children under five. World Vision's reach into communities bearing the burden of under-nutrition is helping with treatment and prevention of associated conditions.

4. Increase in children who can read (by age 11 or end of primary schooling)

Four years ago, World Vision made the decision to shift programmes from school infrastructure and supplies towards supporting quality education and literacy outcomes. Increasingly, country offices are adopting and implementing evidence-based literacy interventions with the potential to yield major learning outcomes in the near future.

THE GLOBAL GOALS For Sustainable Development



Source: un.org

2015 marked the end of a major milestone in the fight to end extreme poverty; the expiry of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon, declared that the MDGs produced the most successful anti-poverty movement in history which led to millions of children's lives being saved and billions of lives being improved thanks to the world's collaborative efforts. Since 1990:

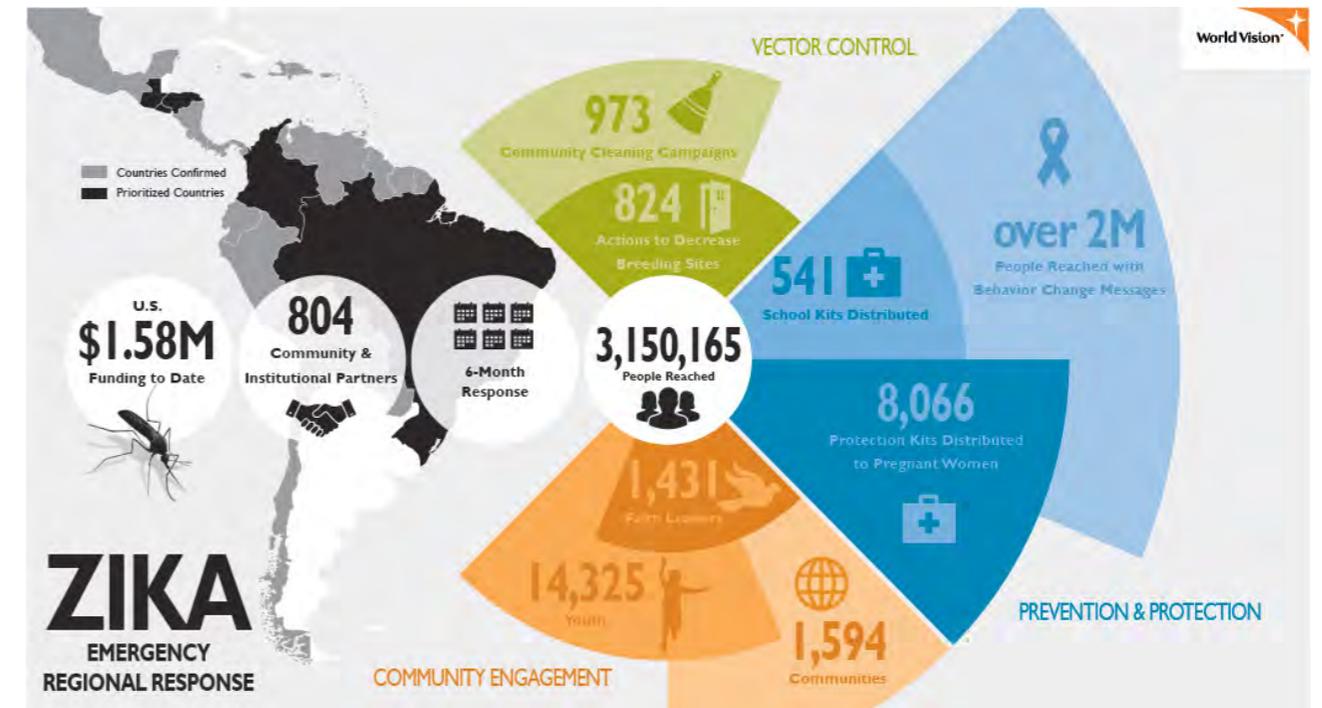
- Extreme poverty has been cut in half, from 1.9 billion to 836 million.
- Under-five child mortality has declined by more than half, from 12.7 million to 6 million.
- The number of children out of school has halved to 57 million.
- Maternal mortality has declined by 45%.
- 37 million tuberculosis, 7.6 million AIDS, and 6.2 million malaria sufferers have been saved due to improved vaccine coverage and antiretroviral therapy.

To keep the momentum going of this successful global movement, the international community came together to agree on a new set of targets – the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs were formally adopted in September 2015 and came in to play on 1st January 2016. These goals have many similarities with the MDGs but also differ in important ways in order

to reflect the changed circumstances that exist in the world today. The divide between the 'developed' and 'developing' countries is no longer as clear cut as it once was. Nowadays some of the worst poverty can be found in countries such as India and Brazil, but these countries are also generating wealth. Inequality within countries is just as glaring as inequality between countries.

Importantly the new goals are universal. This means all countries as well as aid agencies, businesses and the public, working in collaborative partnership, will implement this bold agenda for a transformed world. They are also 'zero goals'. While the MDGs targets sought to get us half way to the goal of ending poverty and hunger; the new goals are designed to finish the job; to get to zero. This means a deliberate effort will be required by policy makers to reach those living on the extreme margins of society.

For World Vision, this means reaching the most vulnerable children in the world's hardest places to live. They are the children in remote areas, in the worst urban slums, in the midst of intractable conflicts and buffeted by droughts or flooding. We believe sustainable development starts and ends with healthy, nourished and well-educated children free from all forms of violence – and the SDGs represent an unprecedented opportunity to get us there within a generation.



Rapid community-focused response to protect millions of women and children from the Zika virus

The rapid spread of the Zika virus in Latin America made headlines globally as the devastating effects of the virus including microcephaly and other complications on unborn babies captured the world's attention and caused widespread fear. In less than nine months the virus spread to 41 countries and territories in Latin America and the Caribbean, infecting more than 1.3 million people. By February 2016, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the Zika virus "a public health emergency of international concern" and had called on the international community to provide help to the region.

World Vision stood ready to scale up its response from our existing base in the region. Our focus was on protecting pregnant women and children. We worked with local health authorities and other agencies to set up diagnostic facilities to ensure women and children infected with the virus could be referred to appropriate healthcare services. In addition, we distributed mosquito nets to help prevent infection and worked

with communities to remove contaminated water and mosquito breeding grounds.

We provided basic public health information about the virus so that people were educated about its symptoms and how it is spread. Additionally, with financial support from the Pan American Health Organization and the WHO, World Vision conducted a Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices study in the six Latin American countries. The data collected and analysed from the study informed national programming in each of these countries and also was shared with the international community via peer-reviewed journals, international conferences, and webinars.

By embedding our response in community-focused programming and engaging local leaders and faith leaders, World Vision reached more than 3 million people in the region. We will continue to work with these communities through our ongoing programming and will continue to support public health efforts in relation to containing the Zika virus.

Empowering children and communities to restore peace in Central African Republic

Working in fragile contexts – empowering children and communities to restore peace

Children in the Central African Republic (CAR) have been living through cycles of conflict, instability and chronic poverty for decades. They live in a 'forgotten crisis' that has largely slipped off the international agenda and rarely makes it into the headlines. Yet half the population, some 2.3 million people, remain in need of humanitarian aid, including 385,000 internally displaced people and 12,700 who have fled the country.

Children are particularly at risk. According to UNICEF, one-third of school-age children do not attend school, and more than 40% of children under age 5 are suffering from chronic malnutrition. Sexual abuse and violence are ever present threats, especially for girls. As is the recruitment of children into armed groups – United Nations figures estimate that some 13,000 children and adolescents are being exploited by armed groups in CAR.

To help put children and young people in control of their lives following conflict, World Vision took an innovative approach by establishing a number of Peace Clubs. These clubs, which are part of a wider empowerment and peacebuilding programme, are run by a local committee made up of representatives of youth groups, women's groups, religious leaders and village chiefs who collectively agree on the activities needed to help these children and young people. World Vision then helps the Peace Club organisers to design and implement the activities using a customised approach that effectively addresses individual and community needs. All activities are based on the

principles of forgiveness, tolerance and reconciliation and include supporting these young people to return to school or to acquire vocational skills.

A key focus of the Peace Clubs is to restore trust across the community. Conflict erodes social structures and community relationships, which results in a lack of trust among those who had once coexisted peacefully, including children. By working together to develop community activities, both sides were able to understand each other's perspective and to find practical solutions to rebuild trust between them. This has also helped to ease relations between different ethnic and religious groups and to support wider efforts to bring peace to the area.

World Vision supplied the Peace Clubs with swings, slides and other recreational equipment. This provides the children with a safe place to play and be children again. It also gives them and their families opportunities to interact with people from various backgrounds, promoting cross-community understanding.

Approximately 4,900 boys and girls have benefitted from the programme. All these children were from disadvantaged families and from different faith backgrounds. Despite their personal histories and the violence they have experienced, these children continue to demonstrate an incredible capacity for peace and tolerance.

My name is Sofia. I'm 8 years old. I'm an orphan, and I live with my aunt. My aunt is not involved in the club, but she told me that this is a place I can go when I don't have school. When I'm at the club with the facilitators and the other children, I feel happy, and I don't want to go back home because we have a lot of fun together. The Peace Club is full of girls like me, so I enjoy being part of a big group of girls, and the games we play become more interesting and more challenging. You have to do your best to make your team win. On the way back home

after the Peace Club I like to share with my peers new strategies to be sure that the next day we will improve our game and win over the other group. Those girls are becoming my sisters at some point because we all come from different backgrounds and we have our own complicated stories. But during our activities we forget our complicated life and just enjoy the moment.



IMPACT

Our work going forward will be focussed on programmes and interventions that have the greatest impact in the lives of children, families and communities so our generous supporters can see their gifts work harder. Here are a number of examples of projects that have seen great results in 2016, and are changing the lives of children around the world.



Smart thinking on hunger

In 2016, as part of its commitment to ending extreme hunger, World Vision conducted 180 food assistance projects in 39 countries that helped 9.5 million people, including 5.5 million children and 5.1 million women and girls. Empowering women is one of the most important steps in ensuring children are nourished and households are resilient.

We achieved these figures through an innovative cash transfer scheme. Evidence shows that cash transfers can substantially improve the lives of extremely poor families as it gives them the flexibility to buy what they need most. World Vision has committed to delivering 50% of its humanitarian aid through a cash-first approach by 2020. World Vision uses the latest digital technology

to ensure fair distribution of cash, even in the most fragile contexts.

In 2016, World Vision continued to speak up on behalf of the hungry at the highest levels. This included World Vision staff using the provocative report *Where There Is No Food Assistance* to ensure European Parliament members understood the devastating consequences of breaks in humanitarian funding.

In meetings with the United Nations World Food Program in New York and Rome, World Vision International President and CEO Kevin Jenkins stressed the importance of the world's faith communities as crucial partners in achieving a hunger-free world.



While clutching her 12-month-old baby, Sunday Santino is guided by a pay clerk to put her thumbprint against her name on a list for the cash transfer she is about to receive. Santino was among 42,000 vulnerable people in Juba, South Sudan, who benefitted from a World Vision cash transfer programme. Each received a monthly allowance of about US\$45 dollars so they could buy basic necessities such as food. Hunger in South Sudan is compounded by an economic crisis, which has seen a steep rise in prices and a massive devaluation of the local currency. The result is that food has become unaffordable for many families.

Major investment in global health

In FY16, World Vision pledged to invest \$3 billion over five years as World Vision's contribution to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 3 (ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all) as part of our wider commitment to the global Every Woman, Every Child initiative. This initiative is a global movement that mobilises international and national action by governments, multilaterals, the private sector and civil society to address the major health challenges facing women, children and adolescents around the world. Already, millions of mothers and children have received health services, and thousands of communities have been empowered to take greater control of their own health and nutrition outcomes.

“In FY16, World Vision pledged to invest \$3 billion over five years to ensure healthy lives for all.”

World Vision's priority is to strengthen community health systems, especially in fragile contexts. In 2016 we made an investment to train and support 220,000 community health workers in 48 countries. The workers help communities address maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health and nutrition needs. World Vision also invested in research projects to evaluate and improve the impact of its work.

Superhero Grans saving lives in Sierra Leone

In many communities around the world, grandmothers provide women with support and advice during pregnancy and childbirth. They can influence how pregnant and breastfeeding mothers care for themselves and their infants.

Maternal and infant mortality rates in Sierra Leone are consistently ranked among the highest in the world. The country lacks proper health facilities and trained health personnel, as well as poor maternal, infant and young child feeding practices. Rural communities are often at risk because they lack the know-how to encourage good health for pregnant mothers and for their children.

The Mamanieva Project (or Grandmother Project) was implemented by World Vision and the Sierra Leone Ministry of Health, in partnership with Emory and Njala Universities, from 2013 to 2016. The project focussed on educating grandmothers about good nutrition practices for pregnant mothers and young children in 15 communities.

Results from a recent evaluation showed the positive effect this project had on local communities. The communities reported that there was better knowledge of nutrition among grandmothers in intervention

communities, and more positive attitudes towards recommended practices, especially those related to maternal nutrition, than in comparison communities. Mothers who received assistance had more diverse diets, and significantly more children were exclusively breastfed during the first weeks of life and had better diets in their first two years.

The project also had a positive impact beyond these great outcomes with the evaluation showing that women in these communities were more likely to seek antenatal care and, deliver their babies at a health centre, and the babies also had a higher mean birth weight than in comparison communities.

These overwhelmingly positive results confirm that engaging and educating grandmothers can translate to sustainable improvements in maternal child nutrition and health.

“The Mamanieva project is a blessing to us in this community,” says 22-year-old mother, Katta Gboya. “My son is growing very well, and I am so happy about that. I have been heeding every [piece of] advice I get from the grandmothers. That is the reason my baby is growing so well.”



Boosting literacy

Helping children to love reading

When it comes to helping the world's poorest children climb out of poverty, most people agree that literacy is the key that unlocks the door to further education and opportunities. Without the basic skills of reading and writing, research shows that children are more likely to drop out of school early.

World Vision and Save the Children have been working together to improve children's learning outcomes by providing young children with quality literacy programmes that significantly improve reading skills acquisition and reading comprehension. Since 2012, World Vision has been implementing the innovative Literacy Boost programme in countries across Africa and South Asia.

Literacy Boost is different from other reading programmes because it not only focuses on each student learning to read, it also gives entire communities the tools they need to encourage their children to get excited about reading. The literacy programme strengthens national education curricula so that ministries of education and teachers can use the tools they already have, complemented by additional training, to help students in early grades learn to read with increased comprehension.

The programme creates space in the community for children who might not have access to books at home to continue learning with their friends. After-school reading camps are led by local volunteers who teach children songs, games and stories that reinforce what they are learning in school. Book banks act as portable libraries full of colourful storybooks – some written by parents and community members – that reflect children's values, traditions, language and culture. Parents are also taught how to support their children's learning needs by creating reading corners or by using materials to practise reading and writing skills.

As of December 2016, World Vision significantly scaled up its use of the Literacy Boost programme and was able to impact over 1.7 million children in 17 countries by training over 83,000 teachers, engaging with more than 101,000 parents, and publishing 4.4 million books and teaching materials. World Vision has also introduced several innovations, including using technology, such as World Vision's award-winning teacher training videos, to further support educators with quality teaching and learning materials.



Local Language Books

Literacy unlocks human potential and is the cornerstone of development; it is essential to social and human growth and is one of the first steps in empowering individuals to improve their lives. Yet, for children who live in regions where large numbers of languages are spoken, they are often unable to learn in their mother tongue at school. Being able to read in one's mother tongue helps children accelerate their language and cognitive development as well as foster their curiosity and motivation for further learning. It also facilitates other educational outcomes such as acquiring additional languages used in society.

World Vision's literacy improvement projects are helping to tackle the literacy challenge of mother-tongue instruction by working with communities to create reading materials and reading programmes in native languages. We have produced 4.4 million books and teaching materials to support these projects. Many of these books have been written by local writers who were trained by World Vision to gather stories from everyday life through conversations with community members. These same community members then help edit the stories once they have been written. The books

are published at a local printer and copies are added to the community book banks.

The positive impact of these projects has been significant. For example, in one project in Ghana, reading comprehension in local languages dramatically increased from 6% to 60%, and reading comprehension in English increased from 7% to 27%. The children have embraced reading stories that include references to local plants, animals and folklore characters.

World Vision's literacy programme is also having a positive effect on parents' involvement in their children's education. This is significant because parental engagement is essential for children's intellectual and social development. In addition, research has shown it helps children stay in school longer and helps them better remember what they have learned.

"When I was studying in my mother tongue, I remember my illiterate parents taking a more active role in my learning than they were able to do later on, when all of my lessons were in English," commented Andrew Ofose-Dankyi, Education Technical Programme Manager at World Vision Ghana.

Addressing hunger is a moral imperative for major faith traditions. World Vision is deeply committed to the most vulnerable as an expression of our belief that all are made in the image of God. With more than 80% of people in the world ascribing to a faith, faith communities, leaders and organisations have a fundamental role in helping to deliver a hunger-free world."

World Vision International President and CEO Kevin Jenkins

Advocating on behalf of vulnerable children and their communities

World Vision presses governments to honour pledges on poverty

World Vision began 2016 energised by the fact that 193 countries had just agreed to Agenda 2030 and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). World Vision joined others in mobilising 500 million people in 152 countries to call on governments to uphold their commitments to the new SDGs. Meanwhile, many World Vision national offices and their partners continued working to ensure their governments developed plans to meet the ambitious objectives of the agenda, especially for children.

World Vision global advocacy campaigns

Last year, we reached a major milestone in our efforts to advocate for a better future for children around the world. We concluded a seven-year campaign focussed on child and maternal health (Child Health Now) and began preparations for a new campaign calling for an end of violence against children to be launched as part of the new Our Promise 2030 strategy.

During the life of the Child Health Now (CHN) campaign, we contributed to more than 300 changes in policy and implementation in more than 30 countries. Before its conclusion, we made one final push around the World Health Assembly – the highest decision-making body for the World Health Organisation. Twenty-two World Vision offices lobbied their respective governments for the adoption of several key resolutions. As a result, a representative from World Vision Zambia was invited to join that country's official government delegation. Further, World Vision successfully advocated for a global health plan to end violence against women, girls and children.

World Vision spent much of 2016 pre-positioning itself publically, ahead of the new campaign to end violence against children. Examples included:

- A humanitarian reporting fellowship for emerging, talented journalists to cover the Syrian refugee crisis.
- A publicity stunt using art to demand greater protection of Syrian children during the United Nations

Refugees and Migrants Summit in September 2016.

- Engaging celebrity supporter and Game of Thrones actor Liam Cunningham to advocate on behalf of Syrian children who have suffered or are at risk of violence.



As the UN Refugees and Migrants Summit began in New York, a fleet of trucks, hired by World Vision, wrapped with artwork representing the plight of refugee and migrant children around the world hit the streets of Auckland, Seoul, Dublin (pictured), London and New York.

Each year, a billion children experience violence. World Vision believes this is a violation of the life God desires for every child. The new campaign, entitled 'It takes a world to end violence against children', aims to catalyse a global movement of people committed to keeping children safe from harm, recognising that no one person, group or organisation can solve this problem alone.

World Vision joins global movement on violence

In addition to preparing our own campaign, World Vision joined the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children (GPEVAC). The partnership brings together stakeholders from government, academia, the private sector and civil society. Senior World Vision leader Trihadi Saptoadi was appointed as co-chair of the GPEVAC executive committee.

VIOLENCE AFFECTS MORE THAN
ONE BILLION
CHILDREN EVERY YEAR WORLDWIDE



OVER HALF
of the world's 21.3 million refugees
are under the age of 18



EACH YEAR, **15 MILLION GIRLS** are married before they turn age 18



120 MILLION
GIRLS* UNDER THE AGE OF 20 HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO
sexual violence and exploitation

Partnering to support Syrian children

As we mark another year of the Syria conflict, the resolve to help those affected only increases. The war has now been raging for six long years. Every day our staff see the unbearable reality facing those fleeing Aleppo and other centres of conflict, as they pour into areas which are already troubled and insecure. Nearly 5 million people – half of them children – have now managed to escape into neighbouring countries, putting incredible strain on infrastructure and community relations.

World Vision began responding to the needs of displaced children and families in and around Syria in 2011 through its existing presence in Lebanon. Since then, World Vision's Syria Crisis Response has expanded to include providing support to children and their families in Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon and Turkey. In FY16 we assisted 2.3 million people, including Syrians and Iraqis displaced in their own nations, and the families and communities who host them. Just over 1 million of the people we helped were children. Our work in the region included the following support:

World Vision's Syria Crisis Response in-country helped to maintain or restore basic needs and services for 216,321 people, including 114,579 children, trapped at the heart of the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

In Turkey, World Vision helped 14,965 recently arrived refugees with access to legal services, protection, translation and non-formal education to enhance coping mechanisms.

In Jordan, we helped 75,270 people, including 35,964 children, to settle into their changed lives, with a strong emphasis on child protection, schools, household financial support and education opportunities.

In Lebanon, we helped 240,886 people, including 144,351 children, towards dignity, normality and mental well-being, and to improve financial and educational opportunities.

In Iraq, we helped 1,722,371 people, including 885,515 children, living in camps and communities to access healthcare, safe water, improved hygiene, and learning opportunities, with an emphasis on safe and food-secure living conditions.

Our efforts across these diverse contexts are coordinated through a regional approach that allows locally planned projects and activities to be supported by a central team of technical advisors. This team ensures there is coordination across borders and is currently working to deliver a three-year plan that is funded by our generous supporters and donors.

Effective partnerships for lasting change

Working with local partners, including non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community organisations and governments, is crucial to World Vision's success. These partners bring contextual and cultural expertise to reach families affected by the Syria crisis with sensitivity, compassion and locally generated solutions. In many locations, local, trusted partners conduct health, water and relief initiatives directly, with World Vision providing technical advice and support to ensure that projects deliver on their goals.

Government: World Vision works closely with government planners in all five countries of the response, aligning with strategies and current regulations for registering and supporting refugees and displaced families. From the national level (for example, programming that supports the government of Jordan's National Resilience Plan) through to the local level (for example, identifying and filling gaps in water and sanitation with municipal authorities in Lebanon), these partnerships improve living conditions and social stability for all residents, not just the refugee community.

Local organisations: These are key to community outcomes in areas such as child protection, gender-based violence reduction, disability inclusion and school

retention. Across the Syria programme, many of the best examples of child-friendly spaces and learning spaces are managed by local organisations in partnership with World Vision.

International organisations: Through the United Nations cluster system and directly in joint programmes or advocacy initiatives, World Vision has strong and effective partnerships with a wide range of international humanitarian actors. This includes other child-focused agencies, in particular UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) as a collaborative partner on Makani centres, which are similar to World Vision's own child-friendly spaces.

Churches and faith-based organisations: Faith leaders and communities, including Christians, Muslims and other faiths, are highly committed to responding to the need in their midst. World Vision's partnerships with faith-based organisations, sometimes linked to churches in other countries, allow for personal and practical assistance to vulnerable families, especially those who may not be connected to the humanitarian aid system.



The No Lost Generation Partnership

With more than 5 million children and young people already impacted by the ongoing conflicts in Syria and Iraq, there is a serious risk that an entire generation will lose out on their childhood. With the pressing need to get children and young people back to school and to protect them from the many risks they face daily, there is an urgency to find innovative solutions before it is too late.

The 'No Lost Generation' partnership is doing just that through an ambitious multi-agency approach that puts the needs of this vulnerable group at the top of the agenda. The approach, embedded in national response plans, sets out practical ways for partner organisations to work together to expand access to education and psychosocial support. This ensures that children can interact safely with teachers and other children and assimilate without fear into their new communities. The initiative also supports child protection and youth engagement whilst promoting efforts to build social cohesion and peace.

World Vision is taking a leading role in the initiative and is a co-lead with UNICEF of the regional working group. The two agencies work together to ensure coordination, consistency and the sharing of good practice across all the actors involved in the initiative.

"We are proud to be a leading member of this coalition and can see the difference this coordination of programming is making to the lives of these children. Getting children back to school so they can continue their education in a safe and supportive environment is crucial to helping them recover from the devastation of war whilst ensuring they have hope for a brighter future," said Mark Chapple who heads up the No Lost Generation initiative for World Vision.



FUNDING

We aim to deliver high-quality programmes to those that need them, by using reliable and sustainable resources. We want to continue to promote our excellent child sponsorship programme while also developing new ways in which valued supporters can become involved. We will also continue to expand our microfinancing programming that supports our critical livelihoods work.



Child Sponsorship

Everything we do in our child sponsorship programme has just one aim – the sustained well-being of children. Our vision of life in all its fullness for children means much more than them surviving. It means children are loved and valued, and they are growing strong in body, mind and spirit. More than 3.2 million sponsors globally contributed to changing the world in which their sponsored child lives in 2016. And for every one child sponsored, another four children participated in and benefitted from World Vision's programmes.

To deliver these programmes, we partner with people and organisations locally, nationally and globally so that we can change children's worlds from the outside in and empower them to change their own world from the inside out. In 2016, child sponsorship supported the following programmes:

CLEAN WATER & SANITATION



Access to clean water, improved toilets and sanitation practices, and hygiene education provide girls and boys with better health, along with more time and energy to learn.

FOOD & AGRICULTURE



Skills training for families to grow more crops and better protect the environment give children the food they need to lead a healthy, active life.

EDUCATION & CHILD RIGHTS



Quality education, including awareness of child rights, equips children with the knowledge, skills and confidence to find their voices and build a brighter future for themselves and for their communities.

HEALTH & NUTRITION



Good local health services together with health and nutrition education for families, help ensure children grow up strong and protected from preventable illnesses.

INCOME GENERATION



By supporting communities and families to improve their incomes, children are able to reach their full potential as they gain access to life's essentials.



Grant funding is bringing hope to communities

Thanks to the generous support from institutions, governments, multilaterals, foundations, and corporations, World Vision secured \$460.49 million in grant cash donations during 2016. This funding allowed us to deepen our impact in rural communities while expanding our presence in fragile contexts. Over the last four years, grant funding has enabled us to impact the lives of more than 20 million people through projects in 62 countries across seven regions. All these projects have worked to improve the well-being of children.

Grant funding helps World Vision deliver projects to communities across the globe. Here are some highlights from the Asia Pacific region in 2016.

New technology saves time and improves child monitoring

Over the course of 2016, World Vision piloted a mobile app that promises to significantly change the way we work for frontline child sponsorship staff and volunteers. The Horizon mobile app essentially puts the office in their pockets. It allows staff and volunteers to easily monitor children and programme activities, capture pictures and videos, digitally map community boundaries and assets, and plan their day to align with their programme's implementation plan.

The Horizon mobile app was part of a larger effort to radically simplify the way we do child sponsorship. The aim is to reduce workload, improve quality and effectively integrate our sponsorship approach with other programming activities.

This change and the technology were enthusiastically received by staff in the seven pilot countries – one in each region where World Vision works. Based on the pilots, it is expected that this technology will significantly decrease the amount of time staff spend on administrative tasks and increase the amount of time spent with children improving their well-being.

Catherine in Uganda says, "Mobile phones have come to save us from the bulk of the work we have been doing. We had a lot of papers and stationery in the office, but now, just with a phone in your pocket, you are able to monitor children and activities in sponsorship at a go."

According to Romeo in El Salvador, "Here's the thing, in the phone, I can immediately see if there is a mistake. Before, the process involved revising data back in the office, and if there was a mistake, I had to go back to the community again."

Mongolia

Residents of the city of Ulaanbaatar are learning disaster preparedness with support from the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance. This project is updating government and household disaster management guidelines, conducting disaster trainings and simulations, and procuring necessary equipment.

Laos

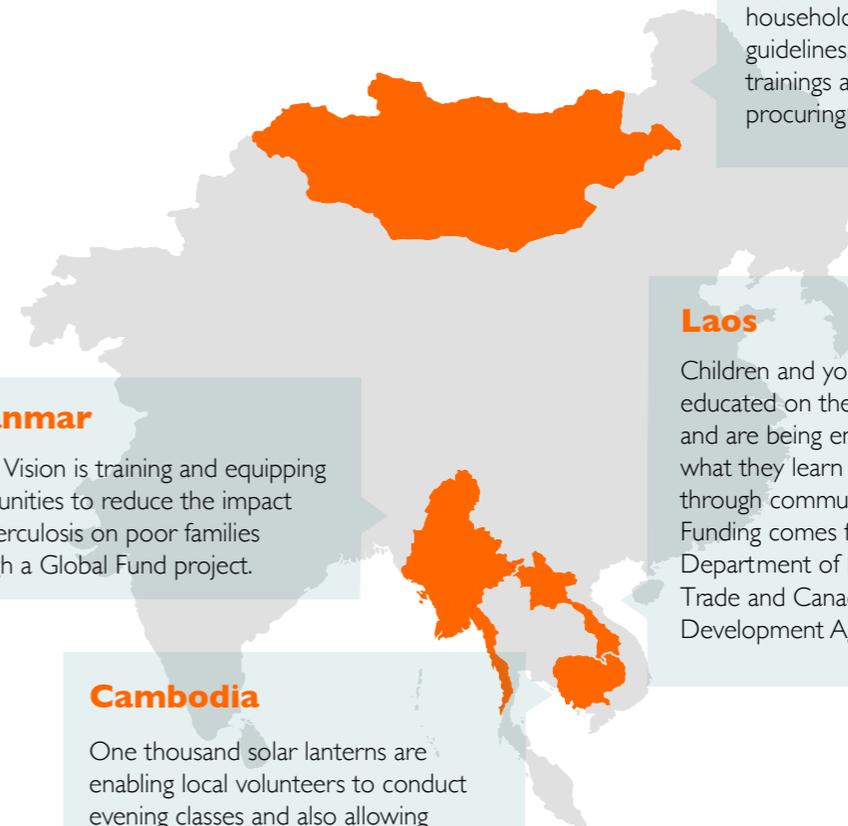
Children and young people are being educated on the risks of trafficking and are being empowered to share what they learn with their friends through community youth clubs. Funding comes from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Canadian International Development Agency.

Myanmar

World Vision is training and equipping communities to reduce the impact of tuberculosis on poor families through a Global Fund project.

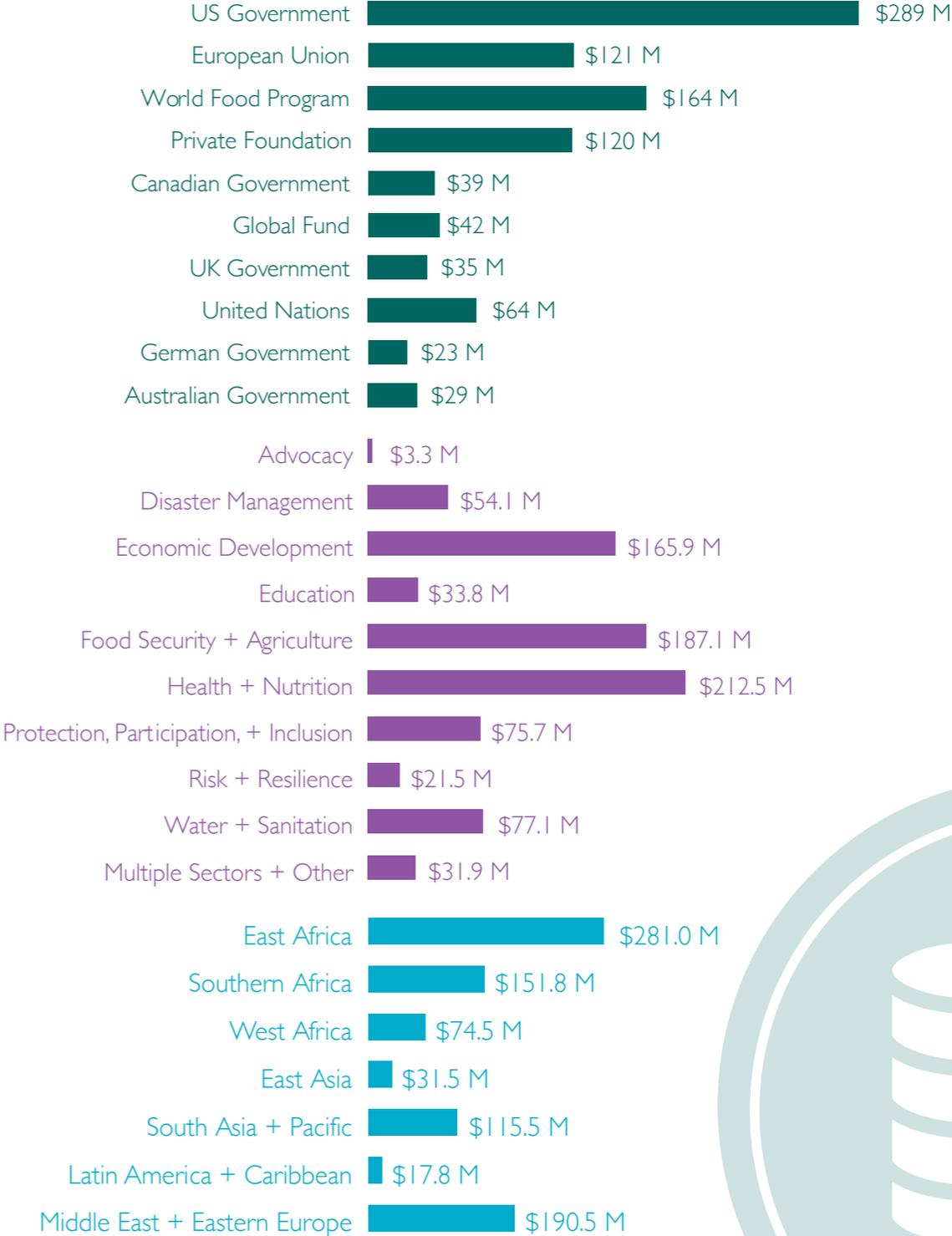
Cambodia

One thousand solar lanterns are enabling local volunteers to conduct evening classes and also allowing more than 12,000 children and youth to safely do their homework. The lanterns were donated by the Panasonic Corporation.





Grant funding is bringing hope to communities around the world



Family incomes supported through microfinance and saving schemes

Every child deserves life free from poverty. One way we help children thrive is by supporting their parents and caregivers so that they can provide food and cover the cost of schooling. World Vision equips families to improve their source of income and helps them plan for the future through savings schemes. This type of programming is a core part of child sponsorship and is the main focus of our microfinance arm, VisionFund International.

Our livelihoods work involves:

- Graduating the ultra-poor out of poverty

World Vision leverages immediate food assistance (food and cash safety net) with proven long-term methods (for example, skills training and provision of productive assets such as better seeds and livestock) that enable families and communities to become self-sufficient and more capable of withstanding unexpected disasters. In addition, we promote savings groups to enable community members to plan ahead, cope with household emergencies, develop their livelihoods, and invest in the health and education of their children.

- Building secure livelihoods and market access

World Vision predominantly works with rural communities and subsistence farming households to promote sustainable agriculture. We provide these families with access to finance and new markets and training on sustainable agricultural practices. VisionFund provides small loans to individuals and groups to build and develop small businesses, helping them to achieve a reliable and sustainable income for their children, families and communities.

- Promoting sustainable employment opportunities

World Vision works through schools and community groups to develop livelihood skills and knowledge and to support the profitable growth of small businesses for employment opportunities. Our unique global integration with VisionFund enables the most excluded families to grow businesses and create employment opportunities in hard-to-reach, impoverished locations by delivering microloans, saving schemes, insurance and financial training.

Growing Success

A VisionFund loan of just US\$70 transforms a family's fortunes

Recurring droughts and crop failures brought Alice Mkumbadzala and her family close to a breaking point – along with thousands of others in her community of Mposa, Malawi, who depend on growing maize for a living. "It was so heart-breaking, and we didn't know what would become of ourselves and the children," said Alice, who is married with two daughters.

To help the community cope with the drought, VisionFund made recovery loans available, and Alice applied for a loan of \$70. She used the money to buy fertiliser and fuel to power a communal pump that brings water from a nearby stream to irrigate the family garden. At first, Alice anticipated her family would only be able to grow enough vegetables to feed themselves, but production soared. In 2016, she was able to sell surplus vegetables at the market despite worsening drought conditions. Alice expects to repay her loan in full by July.

Interest on Alice's loan was just 7%, substantially less than local money-lenders who can charge in excess of 60%. "If it wasn't for the loan and these vegetables, I am sure that we would have sold our goats or split up the family in order to search for employment in the city," said Alice's husband Sydney.

More than 150 people in Mposa have taken VisionFund loans to diversify agricultural production. The income earned from vegetables has enabled families to provide for their children, paying school fees and healthcare charges, and acquire further assets such as goats and irrigation equipment to grow their businesses.



supported
9,500,000



people in
hunger across
39 countries
in Africa

trained
106,500



farmers from
35 countries

25,765
savings groups

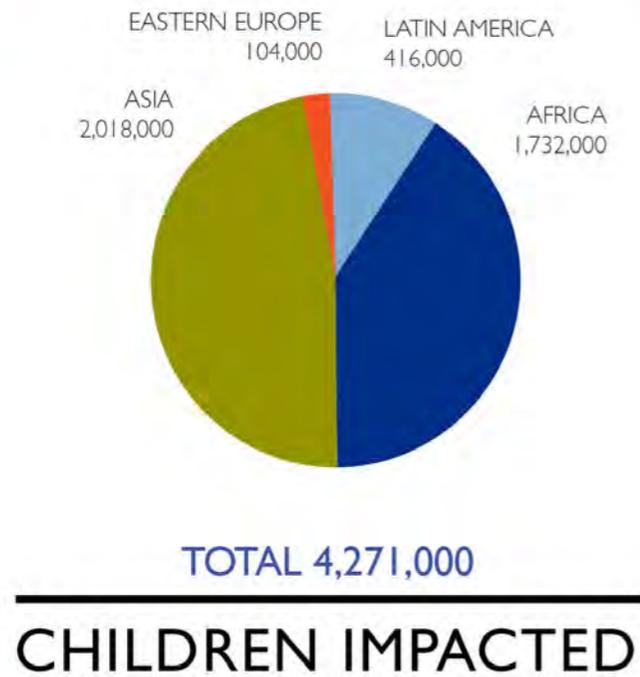


463,800
active members with
total savings of
\$10,970,436

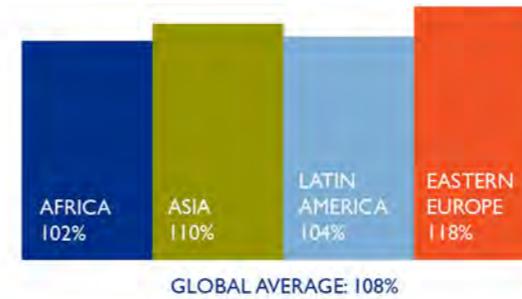
VisionFund International—

Key Highlights for 2016

At VisionFund we are striving to impact millions of children when their parents receive small loans and other financial services. These key highlights show the effect we're making around the world, in the four regions where we work.



NUMBER OF LOANS DISBURSED



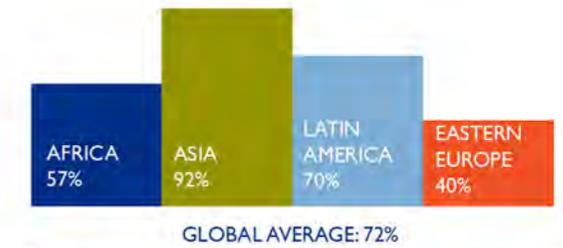
OPERATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY (%)



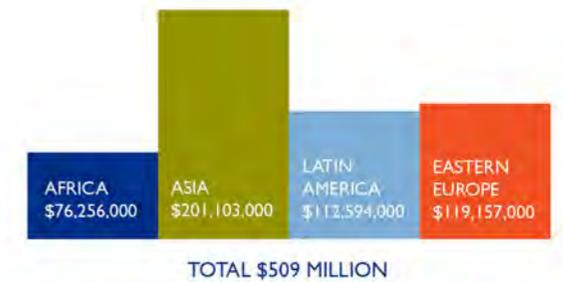
REPAYMENT RATE



GLOBAL NETWORK STAFF



FEMALE CLIENTS (%)



GLOBAL LOAN PORTFOLIO

*Facts and figures as of 30 September 2016 and reference fiscal year 2016 data in US dollars.

CHRISTIAN

Our Christian identity means that we believe every child, regardless of gender, faith or race, is a precious gift to the entire world - and that their wellbeing concerns us all. We won't rest while children suffer and want to work with faith and community leaders to make a positive change for the world's most vulnerable communities. The following examples show how we have worked in 2016 to achieve this.



Faith leaders changing their communities

Faith leaders are uniquely placed to protect the rights and know the needs of the most vulnerable in their communities. They have profoundly deep, trusted relationships and links with their communities and often determine which behaviours are prescribed or prohibited.

With their widespread influence, they can motivate changes in thinking, foster dialogue, set priorities for their communities, ensure increasing competency in their congregations to meet community needs, and mobilise their congregations to do so. For these reasons, World Vision developed a targeted programme called Channels of Hope as a way to engage faith leaders on difficult and controversial topics.

The Channels of Hope programme focusses on celebrating positive values that support children living full lives while addressing underlying values and norms that serve as a barrier to this. The programme operates in a number of countries and focusses specifically on issues of HIV and AIDS, maternal and child health,

gender equality, and child protection.

By inviting faith leaders to attend workshops on these topics and allowing them to explore the issues from the perspective of their faith, the programme helps them understand the impact of their views and the opportunities they have to help their communities. World Vision also offers them support in making changes in their ministry and community.

Channels of Hope does not seek to proselytise or change people's religious doctrine, but rather to equip faith leaders to understand and apply their sacred texts to social issues for the benefit of the most vulnerable people in their communities.

14,259 faith leaders participated in 735 Channels of Hope workshops in 43 countries in 2016.



Stories of Hope

As the sun sets, Olivia and George rest beneath the avocado tree shading their mud-walled home. They laugh and hold hands as they discuss the day's work on their two-acre farm tucked in the hills near Lake Victoria in western Kenya. Life wasn't always this harmonious for the couple, and for years they hid a secret: George beat his wife.

They fought over family size – George wanted 10 children but Olivia wanted a smaller family following multiple miscarriages that had left her weak and unable to look after their three children. Olivia also worried about how they would feed more children as George wasn't working.

The region has the highest rate of domestic violence. Olivia believes this is linked to unemployment, financial stress and decision-making rights about how many children a couple should have and when. The region also has the country's highest maternal mortality rates, resulting from high rates of early pregnancy and the risks resulting from having children too close together.

Local health workers had been talking to community members about family spacing and delaying pregnancy until age 18; however, the community had not listened. World Vision took a different approach and applied the Channels of Hope practise of engaging faith leaders on the topic.

With the support of the Ministry of Health and funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, World Vision set up workshops for 200 local faith leaders on healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies and family planning. The three-day workshop gives faith leaders a safe environment to examine their own attitudes and beliefs about the issue in light of their sacred texts and sound scientific information. They have time and to unpack important ethical and theological issues.

The programme has worked and attitudes on pregnancy and women have changed in the community.

"We have seen a great change since the programme began," says Treza, a local health nurse. "Because of World Vision, the community knows about healthy birth spacing. People walk in and they know what they want and how they will benefit from it because they have been informed." The programme has also helped the community address domestic violence as the number of women seeking counselling doubled following the programme.

Olivia attended the workshop in her capacity as a local church leader and says the training changed her ministry and her marriage. The violent quarrels with George are long over.

"When I turned 35, George told me to stop having children and rest," says Olivia. "If it were not for the Channels of Hope course, we would not have reached this consensus. Now we can share and plan for our family together."

Our faith in action

How faith communities can play a central role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

By Jayakumar Christian, Partnership Leader - Faith and Development

Worldwide, more than 80% of people identify with a particular religious group. That includes approximately 2.2 billion Christians, 1.6 billion Muslims and 1 billion Hindus. When faith is part of people's identity, they respect and listen to the leaders of their faith. Often these faith leaders are also community leaders. As such, they have the power and the responsibility to effect far-reaching changes in people's attitudes and behaviours. And those changes can bring extraordinary improvements in health, well-being and mindsets. With a significant number of the poor and the oppressed coming from cultures that are driven by a person's religious beliefs, faith-based actors are uniquely placed to draw from the deep spiritualities of communities where World Vision works to promote behaviour changes and transformation of relationships.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) recognise that faith-based communities, organisations and faith leaders play a key role in finding ways to achieve the ambitious targets set out under the SDGs. By its very nature, poverty is systemic and structural, and it requires a response that addresses the whole situation, including a look at beliefs, values and spiritual practices. Any claim to sustainability without addressing these root causes of poverty is shallow (and likely unsuccessful/unattainable).

Faith actors are in a unique position to address these root causes as they hold their communities' trust and have huge influence over the very systems and structures that need to change. Faith actors are also well placed to mobilise other faith actors to address common issues like violence against children and women, injustice and other socio-political issues.

Pursuing the first of the new SDG goals to end poverty in all its forms will require reaching the 1.5

billion people living in fragile and conflict-affected areas – places where faith leaders often have the furthest reach. Working in partnership with these communities and faith leaders, World Vision and its supporters have helped millions of the world's poorest children living in the toughest places over the past 66 years.

Ensuring a healthy life for all is the focus of the third SDG goal. This is another area where organisations like World Vision can have a significant impact. In Zambia and Uganda, our Channels of Hope programme mobilises faith leaders to address the stigma around HIV and promote maternal child health. During the Ebola crisis in West Africa, for example, World Vision worked with pastors and imams who encouraged communities to amend traditional burial practices. This proved to be a crucial factor in containing the outbreak.

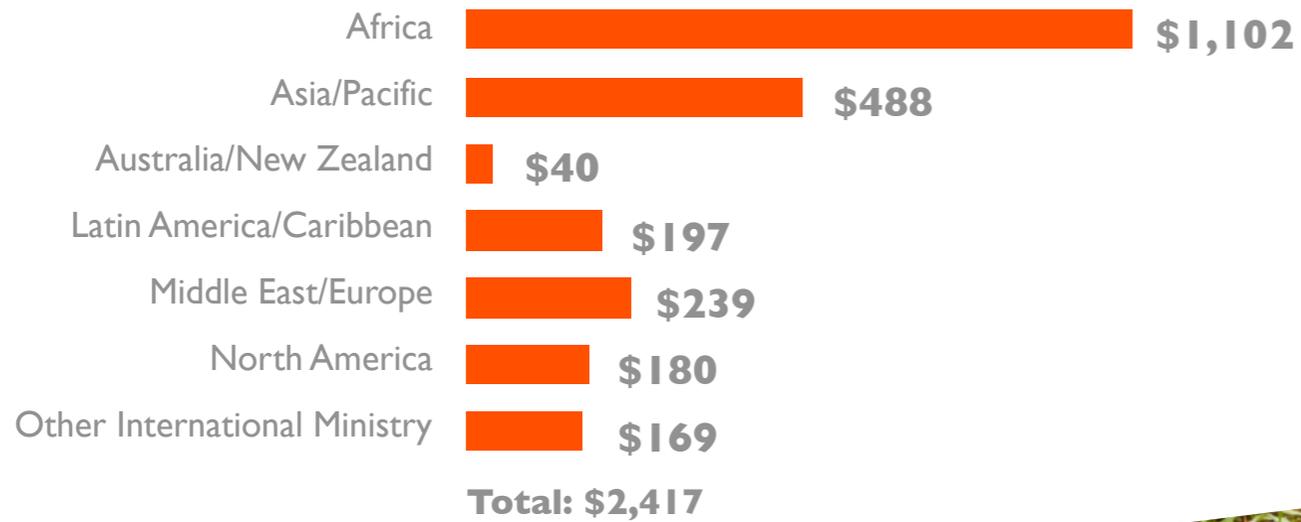
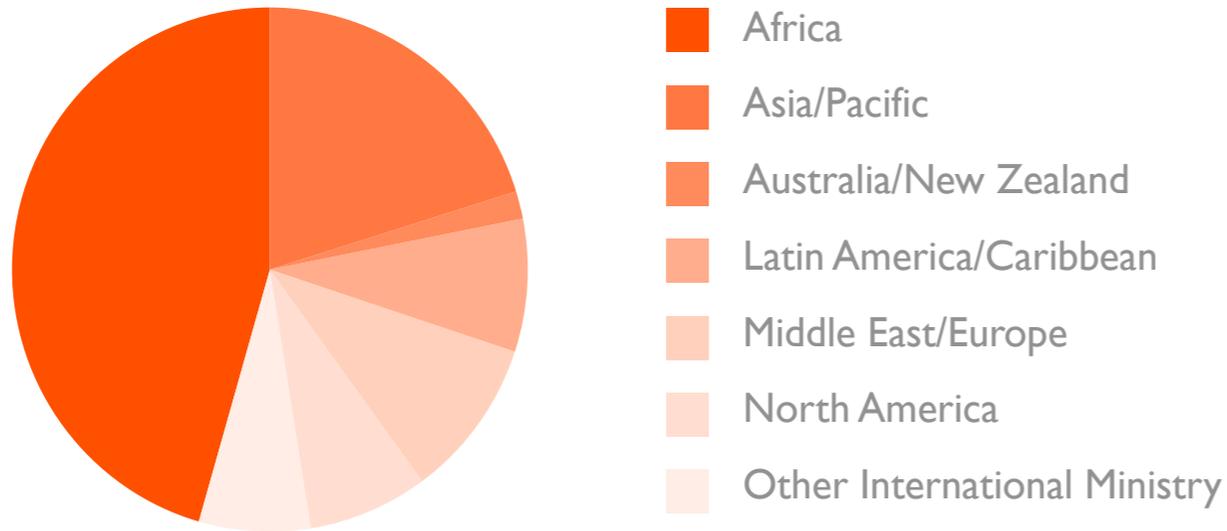
The fifth SDG goal calls for achieving gender equality. In countries where female genital mutilation is practiced, World Vision is working with many faith actors to encourage communities to develop less harmful rituals to celebrate the transition into womanhood. This issue is addressed through our ongoing development work as well as through specialist initiatives carried out under the Channels of Hope and Celebrating Families programmes.

World Vision collaborates actively with the World Bank, Islamic Relief Worldwide, Global Network of Religions for Children, UN, and World Council of Churches to draw on the diverse religious assets support the achievement of the SDGs.

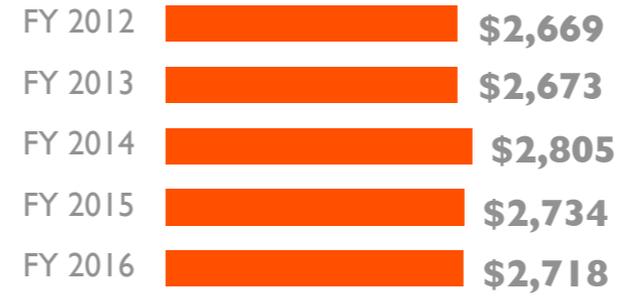
For World Vision, our faith in Christ is core to who we are. It enables us to consider the entirety of a community's values and beliefs so that we can lift all people, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity or gender, out of poverty. We believe this perspective will play a vital role in achieving the SDGs, and as an organisation and individuals, we seek God's guidance in our pursuit of fullness of life for every child.

Financial Summary

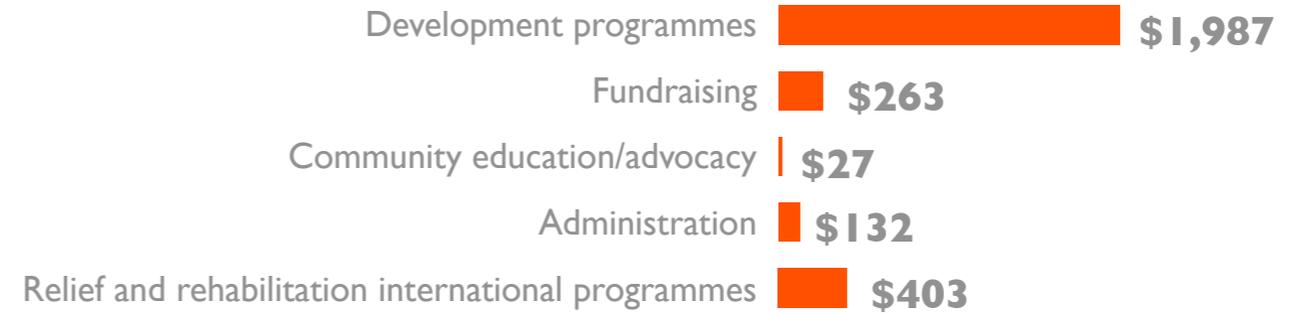
Expenditures on international programmes by region (in millions of USD)



Revenue



Revenue by category





World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

wvi.org

