

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization working to create lasting change in the lives of children, families and communities living in poverty.

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

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World Vision  
Armenia



# WATER

**a scarce commodity for Armenia's communities**



available yet not supplied

Water - the vital role of it has no doubts. No living being on the planet can ever survive without this precious gift from Nature. It is a prerequisite for human health and overall well-being as well as for the preservation of the environment.

Yet in the 21st century water supply remains one of the most serious issues for Armenia despite the country's rich resources of potable water. Many communities, especially rural ones, still do not have access to piped drinking water and only half of the households have in-home drinking water, and water quality is alarmingly poor.

The existing drinking water systems (pipelines, catchment basins, etc) have not been repaired for decades, resulting in dilapidation, leakage and pollution of drinking water.

Water storing is still a lifestyle for many residents of Armenia. It is a common practice for people to carry water in buckets and tanks from mountainous springs. Moreover, there are communities that are practically waterless having no water springs located nearby.

Due to the state's scarcity of financial resources, the water issues cannot be eradicated, and result in bad social and sanitary conditions. Meanwhile, the efforts of NGOs such as World Vision are targeted at creating opportunities for Armenia's communities to reduce the existing problems.

**Water supply remains a serious issue** in rural communities of Armenia

## how households are getting on



Gathering water is a “daily job” for many people in rural communities. People have to carry water in buckets or tanks from the water sources located faraway from their households.

In rural areas, where, because of migration, the families are commonly female-headed, women and children mainly carry water from a distant. They have to fetch water several times a day to take care of their basic needs.

Regardless of time and weather, there are always large queues near the springs.

women and children  
**carry water**  
from faraway







## water troubles in winter

Winter brings additional problems for impoverished communities, as dilapidated water pipelines and springs get frozen leaving the population without any water for more than six months. Often people have to break the ice on the surface of the stream and fill the buckets with icy water.

in winter dilapidated **water pipelines** and springs **get frozen**



*"We are a big family, with three small children; water is something you need to have every day," says Gayane.*



*"I can't afford to have a number of clothes for my children, especially warm winter clothes, which are much more expensive, but I also do not want my children to wear dirty clothes", says Gayane, who has to carry up to 6 buckets of water from the spring for one load of washing.*



*"Every other day, I go to the spring, sometimes with the donkey, but pretty often without it, I carry the water, be it summer or winter," explains Termine.*



*"And when there is no one in the house to leave the children with, I take them with me, in the cold winter to the centre of the village from faraway," adds Termine.*



how households are getting on

As many communities in rural Armenia do not have in-house water; everything becomes a problem for families: cooking, washing up, bathing, and even simple hand washing.

There are families that use self-made water constructions at home to somehow handle the existing problems.

cooking, washing up, bathing, and simple **hand washing is an issue**



## the way out



Since 2006 **149 pipelines** have been **put in commission** by World Vision in Armenia



Since 2006, World Vision Armenia implemented various projects on drinking and irrigation water pipeline installation and rehabilitation throughout Armenia. As a result, 149 pipelines were put in commission by Aparan, Alaverdi, Stepanavan, Sisian, Kapan, Talin, Vardenis and Tavoush Area Development Programmes of World Vision Armenia. For the first time, after long years of waterless existence and dreadful winters, thousands of households in rural communities gained access to quality and uninterrupted drinking water supply. Although the pipelines do not always reach directly the households, for many locals it is only a couple of minutes walk to get to the water-taps. This made the life of inhabitants substantially easy.



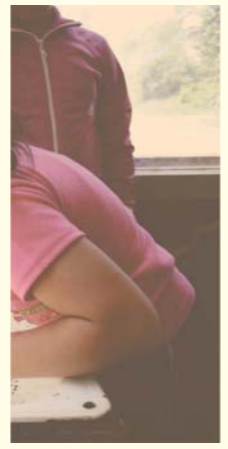
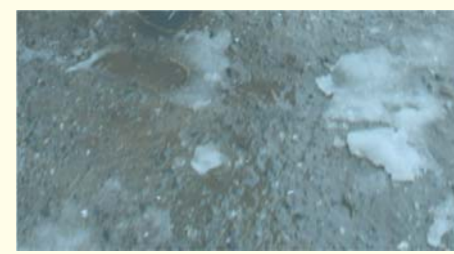


irrigation pipelines

World Vision Armenia financed the construction of irrigation pipelines in rural communities to assist the cultivating activities of villagers. Thousands of meters of pipelines were constructed in hard- to- reach and mountainous areas to provide full irrigation for hundreds of hectares of land where fruit trees and cereals are grown.

World Vision **supports**  
**the installation of**  
**irrigation pipelines**





*"Whoever drinks the water  
I give him will never thirst"  
John 4:14*