



WORLD VISION GHANA

WHO we are

World Vision (WV) started working in Ghana in 1979 pursuing integrated community development interventions to alleviate the needs of the poor with a focus on children through Community Development (CD) that targets small communities. In 1992, World Vision Ghana (WVG) shifted its approach from CD to Area Development Programme (ADP) covering a cluster of communities and corresponding to district boundaries. The goal of WVG is that by 2021, we would have contributed to the sustained well-being of 4.5 million vulnerable children, their families and the communities in which they live.

our VISION

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

World Vision Ghana uses Area Development Programmes (ADPs) approach that allows a programming model focused on children, especially the most vulnerable. The ADP works in close collaboration with churches, District Assemblies decentralized government agencies, NGOs, Faith-based Organizations (FBOs) and the target communities. We work with the communities to contribute a measurable sustainable improvement in the well-being of children. Currently, WVG is implementing in 29 Area programmes in all the 10 administrative regions of Ghana.

HOW we work

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)



It is World Vision Ghana's strategic objective to ensure that "All children, especially the most vulnerable, and their families have improved sanitation, hygiene and safe water for consumption, production and processing". For us in World Vision, access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is essential for improved health, education, livelihoods and child well-being. We understand that nothing is more important to child well-being than access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene. Research indicates that if children and families have access to safe water facilities in the community, the incidence of diarrhoea reduces by up to 14%, while an improved sanitation facility can reduce the prevalence of diarrhoea by up to 37%. However, combined with safe water and improved sanitation, good hygiene practices can reduce the incidence of diarrhoea by up to 80%. That is why we continue to make strategic investments to scale up our water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions in very remote and difficult to reach communities.

In pursuance of our strategic objective, World Vision Ghana works with stakeholders and players in the WASH sector to deliver WASH solutions that last. Our interventions employ tested models such as Hygiene Promotion and Behavior Change, Integrated Community-Based WASH, WASH in Schools, and WASH in Rapid Onset Emergencies. Key approaches adopted in our WASH interventions include Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) and Citizen Voice and Action (CVA). Our key WASH interventions are described below:

Access to safe water

After 35 years of development experience, World Vision is now the largest non-governmental provider of safe water in Ghana. We believe that every child deserves clean water and that no strategy for poverty reduction can ignore people's vital requirement for water. Apart from the health risks, if children have to travel long distances and spend several hours every day in search of water, the quality of which cannot be guaranteed, they get to school late and already tired for any effective academic activity. We provide underserved communities with limited mechanized water systems, boreholes and manually-drilled wells fitted with hand pumps and other alternative water supply systems (rainwater harvesting systems, small dams, ponds and dug-outs).

We are committed to ensuring that the quality of the water we deliver is of the highest quality and meets the acceptable threshold set by World Health Organization and Ghana Standards Authority. We also promote safe water handling to ensure that water does not get contaminated during its transportation and storage.



Improved Sanitation

In response to Ghana's sanitation challenge, World Vision Ghana has launched the "Improved Sanitation NOW" campaign to address the underlying causes of poor sanitation. Our sanitation intervention aims at ending open defecation through the implementation of the Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) approach, increasing access to gender and disability friendly household and institutional latrines and the effective management of solid waste to ensure clean communities and schools. We undertake sanitation marketing and link households to micro-finance institutions to facilitate sanitation financing.

Appropriate hygiene practices

Our approach to hygiene promotion and behaviour change is by getting caregivers and children to practice appropriate hand washing (with soap and under running water) especially at critical times (e.g. before meals and after defecation). We have commenced the process of supporting female students in basic schools in menstrual hygiene management. While supporting households to build and use simple tippy-taps, we also support schools and health facilities with appropriate hand washing facilities, and we also work with the Ghana Education Service (GES) to implement the School Health Education Program (SHEP) in schools.

Capacity building and advocacy

To ensure community ownership, effective operation and maintenance and sustainability of WASH interventions, World Vision engages community members at the inception and project design stage, supporting them to identify development challenges and design their own home-grown solutions. In line with the National Community Water and Sanitation Programme, we train and equip Water and Sanitation Management Teams (WSMTs), Pump Maintenance Volunteers, Area Mechanics and other community structures and local partners to promote sustainability of WASH interventions.

We employ our 5 drivers of sustainability to deepen local ownership, partnering, transformed relationships, social accountability as well as household and community resilience. These drivers address the components of institutional, financial and environmental sustainability.

Apart from service delivery, we build capacity to generate evidence to influence policy and advocate for increased prioritization and investment for delivery of water, sanitation and hygiene services at all levels.

To achieve long-term sustainability, we empower communities, through the CVA approach, to work with and hold duty bearers accountable and be able to demand improved WASH services that meet the needs of children, women, people with disability and other vulnerable groups.

EDUCATION



The objective of World Vision Ghana's education project is to contribute towards ensuring "All children especially the most vulnerable have improved quality of primary education leading to improved learning outcomes". In achieving this objective, World Vision Ghana has repurposed significant investment to education targeted at improving early grade reading. World Vision works in partnership with organizations such as UNICEF, USAID, DFID, MoE/GES and other local organization such as Open Learning Exchange, Ghana Library Authority, J-Initiative, and Ghana Institute of Languages, Literacy and Bible Translators

World Vision delivers its interventions in education through overarching model of Basic Education Improvement Plan (BEIP) to improve learning outcomes for school age children.

1. World Vision implements the Reading Improvement in Primary Education (RiPE) targeted at upper primary grades. The RiPE combines mentoring and coaching, use of scripted lesson plans and after school life skills programme using the Peaceroad Curriculum to improve reading and life skills among children.
2. In response to growing evidence of gaps in early grade reading, World Vision is implementing Literacy Boost for early grade children. Literacy Boost is evidence based mother tongue literacy approach that combines teacher capacity, community action and assessment. The design of Literacy Boost supports government curriculum and strengthen the learning experience of children through fun-filled literacy learning activities in child friendly school environment.
3. The implementation of the ICT4E project "Ghana Reads" aims to provide low-cost, hand-held (tablets) technologies to school children in Ghana, to increase access to high quality interactive reading resources in the classroom. The project makes available over 2500 levelled reading resources through the cloud based Learning Management Resources (LMS) therefore pushing the frontiers of technology based literacy education among Ghanaian children.
4. Ghana's mother tongue instructional policy for early grade is strengthened by World Vision's Material Creation project which leverages the rich artistry of age old community story telling traditions to enable community members develop reading resource in their mother tongue. The project yields about 50 new titles yearly in Akuapem and Asante Twi, Fante, Ewe, Ga, and Guruni.

Underpinning these four education interventions is a structured advocacy and behavioural change campaign dubbed "I can read", targeted at influencing stakeholder commitment to improve quality and access to basic education for school age children.

FOOD SECURITY



In Ghana, livelihood options are basically dependent on climate-sensitive factors. Volatile weather patterns such as spells of drought, floods and rainfall variability as a result of climate change are increasingly affecting food security and increasing vulnerability among a large proportion of households as lower crop yields are obtained from rain-fed agriculture in recent years. Decline in farmers' income and increase in poverty levels, contribute to a high risk of malnutrition in their families. As at 2010, Ghana had lost more than 33.7 per cent of its forests, equivalent to 2,500,000 hectares since the 1990s, while the rate of deforestation between 2005 and 2010 was estimated at 2.19% per annum, the sixth highest deforestation rate globally for that period.

To contribute towards addressing these and other issues affecting food security of households, World Vision Ghana partners with Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), VisionFund Ghana (VF Ghana), National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) and Business Advisory Centre (BAC) to implement targeted interventions to address the different dimensions of food insecurity in its operational areas and also contribute towards the realization of SDGs 1, 2 & 8 and SDGs 6, 11 and 13. Project models used under food security are: Savings Groups; Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR); Youth in Economic Development, Disaster Risk Reduction.

Together with VF Ghana, World Vision Ghana works to enhance economic status of community members through a Savings and Loans scheme. The model allows members to mobilise their own savings on a sustainable basis from which they borrow at low cost to invest in their businesses or to provide for their children's educational and health needs. The groups also serve as platforms for effective engagement with the communities to disseminate health and educational messages.



Health, Nutrition, HIV & AIDS



WVG health & nutrition programme seeks 'All children especially the most vulnerable children within families and communities have improved health and nutritional status'. This strategic objective contributes to its Child Well-being Target (CWBT) 2 and 3 on 'Increase in children protected from infection and disease' and 'Increase in children who are well-nourished'.

Ghana has experienced improvement in many of its maternal and child health indicators over the last two and half decades as a result of diverse government and non-governmental investments: 2014 Ghana Demographic Health Survey (GDHS) documents a pattern of decreasing under-5 mortality decrease in under-nutrition in children under five years, decrease in stunting, with variations in the regions. However, landscape assessment indicates a decline in percentage of children who are exclusively breastfed before age 6 months from 63% in 2008 to 52% in 2014.

World Vision Ghana (WVG) partners with Ghana Health Service (GHS) to conduct trainings in Community-based Infant and Young Child Feeding (C-IYCF) and Community Based Growth Monitoring (CBGM), to enhance the skills of health staff at the facility level, and involvement of Community Health Volunteers/Workers (CHV/W) in growth monitoring promotion. Mother to Mother Support Groups (MTMSGs) are formed and sensitized on micronutrient-rich foods with food demonstrations sessions organised for mothers with the emphases on using local and affordable nutritious foodstuffs as well as promoting good exclusive breast feeding and complimentary feeding for children. WVG supports community health management teams to provide monitoring and supportive supervision to the interventions and to organise community hearing sessions on the underlying causes of poor nutritional and health practices.

WVG's programme areas show an increase in the coverage of essential vaccines from 79.3% in 2013 to 81% in 2014 and this is due to the community sensitisation on immunisation by WVG and GHS, provision of essential logistics such as cold boxes, vaccine storage equipment, fuel and vehicular support to ensure access to hard to reach communities

Malaria remains the topmost disease of public health concern for all stakeholders. The prevalence of malaria in children age 6-59 months is 36 % and WVG has supported GHS in the roll out of diverse strategies and interventions such as Integrated Maternal and Childhood Illness (IMNCI) and universal distribution of Insecticide Treated bed Nets (ITNs) to reduce the incidence of malaria with support from UNICEF and the Global Fund to pregnant and nursing mothers in the ADPs. WVG would continue to work with all stakeholders to sustain gains made and improve upon prevention and case management especially among children 0-59 months and pregnant women.

HIV&AIDS still remains one of the world's most significant public health concerns. Although the National HIV prevalence is 1.3 % and 224,488 persons are living with HIV, with 15% being children and youth (HIV Sentinel survey 2013). However, there are high levels of teenage pregnancies in ADPs and low comprehensive knowledge of HIV and AIDS among the youth.

The Final Evaluation report of the WVG USAID Strengthening Community Care and Support for Orphans and vulnerable children (SCASO) project reveals that 86% of youth aged 10-24 from the 100 project communities reported increased comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS (SCASO final report 2015) and 34,724 youth (13-18 years) had been reached by 602 trained peer educators on HIV prevention and stigma reduction. The project reached over 3,400 orphans and most vulnerable children (<18years) affected or infected by HIV and AIDS on psychosocial care and educational support and livelihood support for their caregivers.

WVG using its' project models will increase collaboration with GHS , Ghana AIDS Commission and Ghana Education Service to intensify education on HIV&AIDS, impact of teenage pregnancy and further escalate efforts to train young mothers on the importance of accessing Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) at health facilities. WVG will continue partnerships with all stakeholders at the national, regional and district levels and communities members to ensure sustainable quality health and nutrition outcomes.

WVG HEALTH PROJECT MODELS & APPROACHES

- Essential Nutrition Actions (ENA), Community Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM), Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF), Mother-to-Mother-Support-Group (MTMSG) & Dietary Diversification
- CHW, COMMS & Integrated Management of New born and Childhood Illness (IMNCI).
- HIV & AIDS control and prevention, using: Channels of Hope (CoH), Peer Educators, Community Care Coalitions for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (CCC), & Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission, (c-PMTCT)



CHILD PROTECTION (CP) AND ADVOCACY



Child protection in World Vision (WV) means "all measures taken to prevent and respond to exploitation, neglect, abuse, and all other forms of violence affecting children". In addition, advocacy in WV means giving voice to the world's most vulnerable children: making their needs visible to those who can and should be meeting them, and urging those decision makers to take action

World Vision Ghana (WVG) is a child safe organization and therefore intervenes to strengthen the child protection elements using the child protection advocacy and local level approaches. The strategic objective for child protection is for all children; especially the most vulnerable, to have improved protection and participation through advocacy, programming and partnership.

Currently Ghana is saddled with CP issues such as low birth registration of 63%, 21% of child marriage, 34% of child labor; 4% of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), child online protection, child pornography and exploitation. These issues can be traced from both the formal and informal child protection structures. In the formal structure the lack of coordination among ministries and agencies, too many CP legislations, inadequate human and material resources, lack of enforcement of laws and policies are some of the root causes. In the informal structure the issue of lack of awareness of laws and policies, poor parenting, weak family systems, lack of social support, weak community CP structures, child delinquency, harmful traditional practices, poverty, lack of livelihood alternatives as well as household food insufficiency are contributing factors to the CP issues.

WVG in partnership with government agencies, ministries and departments, UNICEF, Plan International, INGOs, CSOs, CBOs and Faith based organizations have intervened in different ways to ensure over 6 million children enjoy the fullness of life. The following are headways made at the national level;

- The development of child and family welfare policy which has been approved by cabinet and launched by the ministry of gender children and social protection
- The development of the national social protection policy which has also been approved by cabinet
- The passage of the anti-human trafficking bill into law by parliament
- For the first time government recognizes and includes child online protection in the national budget
- Review of national ICT strategy to include an objective on child online protection.

At the local level WV in collaboration with the department of children ,social welfare, CHRAJ , just to mention a few has been strengthening the community structures through formation and training of community child protection teams, building the resilience of children through the children clubs, child parliaments and young ambassadors.

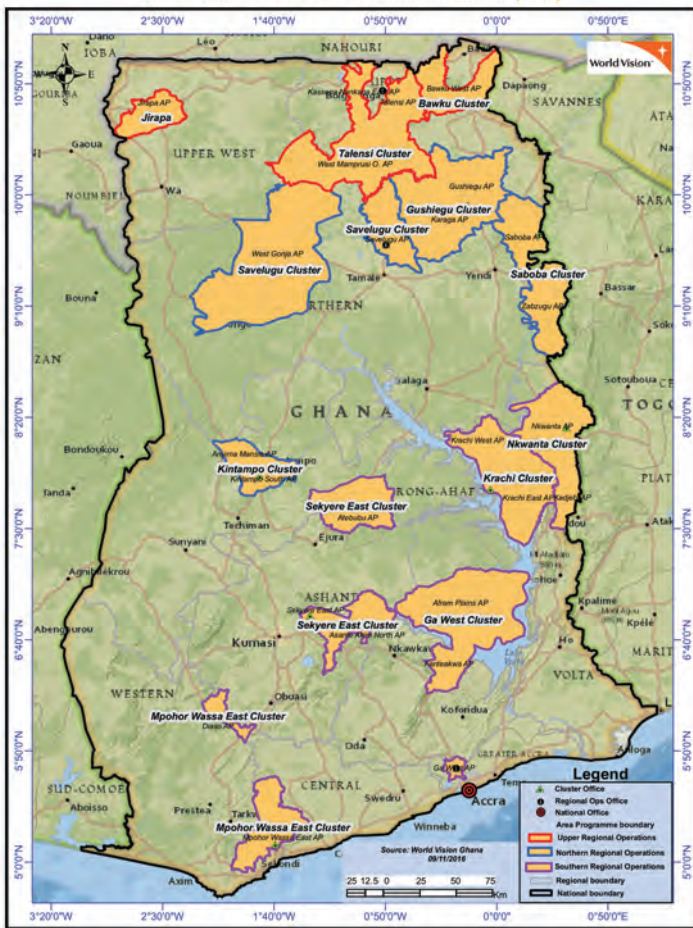
Child led advocacy is one key area where children from all over the country with support from WV, engage with high profile government and UN officials on violence against children and the wellbeing of children. Ensuring that every child is accounted for; WVG has collaborated with the district assemblies and the Birth and Death Registry to ensure that children are registered.

WV's focus on CP for FY 16 - 21

For FY16-21 strategy period, the focus of child protection will include ensuring 100% birth registration for all children, 0% child marriage, and zero violence against children; improve life skills and resilience of children as well as policy advocacy. In addition to the continual local level advocacy approaches like savings groups, the Channel of Hope (COH)-CP, C-change, assessment of reporting and referral mechanism, kids clubs, Peace Road Curriculum (PRC), celebrating families, and positive discipline models shall be employed



WORLD VISION GHANA AREA PROGRAMMES MAP (FY17)



Our Partners

In addition to our collaboration with the Government of Ghana, World Vision joins hands with like-minded individuals and organizations to achieve the well-being of children. This includes, but is not limited to, the following partners.

1. Christian Council of Ghana (CCG)
2. Ghana Pentecostal and Charismatic Council (GPCC)
3. Ghana Evangelism Committee
4. Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF)
5. UNICEF
6. Plan International
7. Ghana Education Service
8. Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS)
9. Ghana WASH Journalists Network (GWJN)
10. Right to Play Ghana (RTPG)
11. United Nations (UNICEF & WHO)
12. Ghana Journalist Association
13. Mondelez Int Cocoa Life Program Coordinating Unit
14. CARE International
15. Child Rights International
16. USAID
17. MOGCSP
18. NADMO-National Disaster Management Organization.
19. Water Resources Commission
20. DiscoveryTel,
21. Global Cargo Co. Ltd,
22. Vodafone GH,

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