

World Vision®



WORLD VISION GHANA



**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)
Programme**



1. WASH Program

Background

Access to safe water, improved sanitation and hygiene services are fundamental to poverty reduction and socio-economic development. Unsafe water and poor sanitation and hygiene practices reduce productivity and increase healthcare costs, trapping communities in a perpetual cycle of poverty. When safe water is close to the home, it reduces the time spent searching for water and women and girls are saved the health risk of carrying water over long distances. This improves their health and creates opportunity for them to undertake productive, income generating activities.

Unsafe water and sanitation and poor hygiene practices are linked to malnutrition and diseases such as diarrhoea, trachoma, cholera, fluorosis and helminth infections that kill children or stunt their development.

There is also a strong link between sustainable access to WASH and access to basic education. If children have to travel long distances and spend several hours every day in search of water, they get to school late and already tired for any effective academic activity. Girls, especially those who have reached the age of puberty, do not often find the school environment friendly when toilet facilities lack privacy, are unsafe or are non-existent.

2. World Vision's Contribution to wash in Ghana

Between **1985 and 2010**, World Vision Ghana invested over **US\$60 million** to drill over 3,000 boreholes fitted with hand pumps, rehabilitated over 100 boreholes, and constructed 40 limited mechanized water systems, rain water harvesting and other alternative water supply systems. Over 10,000 household latrines and 19 KVIPs with hand washing facilities were also constructed. These interventions improved the socio-economic lives of more than 1.3 million people in over 1,600 communities and 150 schools and clinics throughout the country.

From **2011 to 2016**, under the '**For Every Child**' (FEC) Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Program, World Vision Ghana is investing an **additional US\$30 million** to provide 800 new boreholes fitted with hand pumps, rehabilitate 250 boreholes, and construct 85 limited mechanized and other alternative water supply systems. We are also promoting improved sanitation through the Community-Led Total Sanitation approach and constructing 75 institutional latrines. These will benefit about 1 million people in 1,050 communities and institutions in over 30 districts in all the 10 regions of Ghana.

For Every Child WASH Program

World Vision aims to support government's effort to reduce child deaths due to water-related diseases through a five-year Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programme known as "For Every Child WASH" Program. Its implementation will help improve the



general health and socio-economic well-being of 1.5 million people in Ghana, Mali and Niger from 2012 to 2016.

In Ghana, World Vision and its partners are implementing this program in 46 districts in Upper East, Northern, Brong Ahafo and Volta Regions with a budget of US\$30m.

The *For Every Child WASH Program* will add to the gains made by WASH program over the past 30 years under the Ghana Rural Water Project.

Ghana Rural Water Project

The Ghana Rural Water Project (GRWP), implemented by World Vision Ghana, was first established to produce clean water during a severe drought in Ghana between 1982 and 1983. That drought highlighted a crucial need for clean water for people in most rural communities in Ghana. From 1985-2013 GRWP drilled 2,800 boreholes, rehabilitated 80 boreholes and provided 34 alternative water supply systems, (limited mechanized systems, rooftop rain harvesting and dug-out ponds) to communities. GRWP also trained 4,500 community pump maintenance volunteers to maintain and repair the hand-pumps to ensure continuous provision of water. In addition, 8,800 household latrines and 19 Kumasi Ventilated Improved Pit (KVIP) latrines were constructed for institutions such as clinics and schools. These improved the socio-economic well-being of more than 1.3 million in 1,630 communities throughout the country.

These interventions are complemented by

Government's efforts at reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) targets for WASH and have contributed significantly to efforts to eradicate guinea-worm in the country.

West Africa Water Initiative (WAWI)

GRWP's success of increased access to clean water, improved sanitation, livelihoods and health, prompted its major donor, the Hilton Foundation, to extend the initiative to Niger and Mali to form the West Africa Water Initiative (WAWI).

Water Quality

Before wells drilled by GRWP are fitted with hand pumps for use, water samples are tested at the World Vision Regional Water Quality Laboratory at Savelugu, near Tamale in the Northern Region of Ghana. In conjunction with laboratories of the Water Research Institute in Ghana and the Desert Research Institute (DRI) in the USA, field analysis and routine testing are carried out to ensure that the quality of water meets WHO and Ghana standards.

Over the next five years, the 'For Every Child WASH' programme will partner with government and peer institutions to increase access to safe water for multiple uses, promote sanitation and support sustainable hygiene practices.

WATER IS LIFE!
SANITATION IS DIGNITY!!
HYGIENE IS HEALTH!!!

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