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# COVENANTKIDS *Congo*

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**World Vision** 

- » Democratic Republic of the Congo
- » Ledia Area Program in Gemena

Sponsorship and WASH reporting: October 2017 through September 2018

Prepared May 2019

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# LEDIA AREA PROGRAM

It is our joy to be part of God's work together in the Ledia Area Program (AP) in Gemena, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The following pages describe progress in Ledia during fiscal year 2018 (October 2017 to September 2018). Where it is feasible, cumulative reporting is included.



## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

World Vision carries out development activities by supporting, facilitating, and working alongside community members, local and national agencies, local churches, community based organizations, and other non-government organizations. Such a collaborative approach is a means of fostering national, local, and community ownership in the work being accomplished, which further ensures the work's long-term impact and sustainability.

# SPONSORSHIP CHILD AND MOTHER SURVIVAL

Fiscal 2018 reporting period: October 2017 through September 2018

ACTIVITY / OUTPUT	First Three Years Oct 2012 to Sept 2015	Fiscal 2016 (Oct 2015 to Sept 2016)	Fiscal 2017 (Oct 2016 to Sept 2017)	Fiscal 2018 Q1, Q2, and Q3 (Oct 2017 to June 2018)	Fiscal 2018 Q4 (July to Sept. 2018)	TOTAL Since Project Start
Number of malnourished children who were supported with care and food in nutrition centers	1,282	855	192	610	817	3,756
Number of households with malnourished children who were supported with farming tools to be used for home gardens or other income generating activities	100	825	30	90	0	1,045
Number of pregnant and lactating women who received training in nutrition and a well-balanced diet for their children *	237	225	2,158	650	2,158	5,428
Number of home visits, conducted by trained volunteers, to women who were pregnant or had recently given birth	0	0	0	2,182	1,148	3,330
Number of mothers/caregivers educated in nutrition and best cooking practices for infants and young children	150	1,361	2,1728	0	21,728	44,967
Number of people educated in the benefits of family planning and birth spacing.	500	0	5,400	0	5,400	11,300

\* The number of pregnant and lactating women in fiscal year 2017 who received training in nutrition and a well-balanced diet for their children was inaccurately reported to be zero in a previous report. The correct number for fiscal year 2017 is 2,158 women.

### *Medical Care Made All the Difference for Baby and Mother*

Widia and her baby girl, Gloire à Dieu (Glory to God), are doing well in Gemena.

The child's name gives a clue to how grateful Widia and her husband are for the healthy birth of their daughter.

After having four children, followed by two miscarriages, Widia was anxious about her pregnancy with Gloire à Dieu. She knew she should visit the health center to receive prenatal care, but could not afford the consultation fees.

When Widia met a community volunteer with the Covenant Kids Congo powered by World Vision project, she realized she could find a way to receive the education, attention, and medical care she and her baby needed.

Widia said, "One day, as I was sitting on the veranda of my house, I saw the community volunteer walking towards the house yard and when he entered, he said to me, 'I am identifying all pregnant women in our community to provide them with health counseling all along their pregnancy.' This was big news to me and I thought the volunteer was just a messenger that God had sent to me."

The community volunteer educated Widia and her husband on the critical importance of visiting the health center, so they found the means to go. Widia was seen by a nurse who told her that the baby was in an abnormal position. She was referred to a doctor, who confirmed she would need to have a caesarian delivery.

"Now, I am wild with joy to have this pretty baby after my two previous miscarriages. I would not have had this baby if I had not accepted the community volunteer's technical assistance and counseling about attending antenatal care."



*Widia and her husband are joyful and grateful for their baby, Gloire à Dieu.*

# SPONSORSHIP ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Fiscal 2018 reporting period: October 2017 through September 2018

ACTIVITY / OUTPUT	First Three Years Oct 2012 to Sept 2015	Fiscal 2016 (Oct 2015 to Sept 2016)	Fiscal 2017 (Oct 2016 to Sept 2017)	Fiscal 2018 Q1, Q2, and Q3 (Oct 2017 to June 2018)	Fiscal 2018 Q4 (July to Sept 2018)	TOTAL Since Project Start
Households trained in income generating activities and provided with support to start a small business	250	140	146	0	675	1,211
Number of women supported with inputs to start a small business	250	140	897	0	550	1,837
Number of people who gained awareness of changes in climate and its impact on livelihoods	0	0	0	675	175	850
Number of farmers trained in sustainable agricultural practices that emphasize conservation and preserving the environment	0	0	0	675	175	850
Number of farmers trained in animal husbandry techniques	0	0	0	300	375	675
Number of people trained in the savings group project model	0	0	0	200	230	430
Number of community based organizations/partners trained in organizational capacity building	0	0	0	23	52	75
Number of community based organizations/partners trained in business processes	0	0	0	0	300	300
Number of farmers provided with seeds and tools (hoes, machetes and rakes)	105	150	100	0	1,708	2,063

### *Savings Group Approach Expands Income, Renews Hope*

At 35, when La Vie became a member of the BOMOKO savings group in Gemena, she and her family—her husband and six children—began to experience a renewed hope.

“The savings group completely changed me and my family ... I benefited from the training on financial management and weekly savings...this knowledge allowed me to position myself well.”

With the savings group approach, she found she eventually could expand her income generating activities and increase her earnings. “I bought a plot. I paid the school fees for my husband that allowed him to get his state diploma.”

La Vie goes on to say, “Thanks to the savings group, I have just opened a restaurant that will help me provide for my children. I also initiated the project to build a new sheet metal house, which is now at foundation level. Since I was part of the savings group, my children are healthy and they go to school. I do not worry about their education and health anymore because I can use our savings group to borrow money.”



*Photo left: La Vie and other savings group members hold a meeting.*

*Photo right: La Vie earns household income through her restaurant, selling a variety of items. One of her sons accompanies her.*

# SPONSORSHIP COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Fiscal 2018 reporting period: October 2017 through September 2018

ACTIVITY / OUTPUT	First Three Years Oct 2012 to Sept 2015	Fiscal 2016 (Oct 2015 to Sept 2016)	Fiscal 2017 (Oct 2016 to Sept 2017)	Fiscal 2018 Q1, Q2, and Q3 (Oct 2017 to June 2018)	Fiscal 2018 Q4 (July to Sept. 2018)	TOTAL Since Project Start
Number of desks procured for Gemena schools	700	0	0	80	0	780
Number of child parliament members who received training in children's civil rights	0	0	100	100	0	200
Number of registered children who were monitored for selected areas of child-well-being	0	0	0	12,417	0	12,417
Number of people (partners and community volunteers) who received training to recognize the signs of child abuse and neglect	0	0	0	51	0	51
Number of faith leaders trained in the Channels of Hope for Child Protection* approach	0	0	0	0	50	50
Number of community development volunteers who attended a retreat to be learn about Sponsorship processes, participation, and activities	76	100	0	0	91	267
Number of local officials trained in child protection	0	50	110	0	25	185
Number of children participating in Bible studies and Bible camp	3,437	202	210	0	1,306**	5,155

**Channels of Hope** has been used successfully by World Vision in Africa since 2003. Faith leaders study Scripture, are reminded of their important role as followers of Christ, and learn to advocate against deeply held cultural beliefs that harm their communities.

\***Channels of Hope for Child Protection** focuses specifically on child protection issues. In Ledia, this includes protecting children from early marriage.

\*\***The number of children participating in Bible studies and Bible camps** in fiscal 2018 was far greater than the anticipated 250 children. This is a result of local churches successfully guiding parents to understand the value of their children participating in these enriching activities.



# SPONSORSHIP

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### INNOVATION / LESSONS LEARNED

As government officials continue to learn more about the program's accomplishments, approaches, and operations, a stronger sense of local ownership has taken root, which fuels the program's sustainability. The recommendation is to: Share an outline of the annual plan with local authorities and to organize and conduct regular meetings to review the program with government officials.

### HOW DO YOU SEE GOD WORKING IN THIS PROGRAM?

DRC field staff report the following: "We thank God...We have seen how God is working in this program by improving the work system, especially in the tracking and processing of children's records."

Community volunteers are being trained to use smart phones to record important monitoring and tracking information about each child. Previously, the work of entering and processing this information required a great deal of time and effort. The new system has eliminated mounds of paperwork and reduced the working time.



*Volunteers practice new data collection system with a smart phone.*

### QUOTE FROM COMMUNITY MEMBER

"My name is Constantine. I am a disabled person, mother of two children, girl and boy (Stéphane, 12 years old, and Angel, 7 years old) .Thanks to this program, I have experienced the love of God in my life. [Covenant Kids Congo powered by World Vision] gave me the hope of propelling my children into their studies through their goat support from which I benefited. It is for me a miracle of God to be selected from the multitude. A goat for me, is a treasure sent by God to save my children. Of my existence, I have never had money with the value of this goat. May God bless all the sponsors who care about our community."

### BRIEFLY DESCRIBE A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE OR IMPROVEMENT THAT HAS OCCURRED IN THE COMMUNITY BECAUSE OF THIS PROGRAM.

Community members have been trained in child protection issues, including neglect, economic exploitation, violence, abuse, and early marriage. At the conclusion of the training, participants created a Gemena child protection committee, which they named NGUBA (meaning "shield" in the local language).

NGUBA committee members are becoming leaders in advocating for children in their community.

The civil rights of eight children were protected after NGUBA committee members advocated on their behalf. The children had been arrested illegally, and committee members were successful in getting the children released from the authorities.

In addition, the committee advocated to the Provincial Government of South Ubangi to ensure 18 secondary schoolchildren were admitted in the state exams. These children were candidates for the 2018 baccalaureate, yet had been marginalized and excluded from the exam at the end of secondary school exams. NGUBA committee members ensured these students had their fair and just opportunity to take the exams.

# SPONSORSHIP

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### DESCRIBE HOW COMMUNITY MEMBERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS PROGRAM. HOW HAVE THEY WORKED TOGETHER TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS OF THIS PROGRAM?

More than 100 mothers of malnourished children and 40 community members from four neighborhoods in Gemena have joined together to achieve the program's goal of rehabilitating underweight children, keeping them in good health, and preventing malnutrition, by incorporating the Positive Deviance Hearth approach.

**Positive Deviance Hearth (PD/Hearth)** is an internationally recognized program model to rehabilitate and prevent malnutrition in young children.

*Positive Deviance: In almost every poverty-stricken area, one can usually still find impoverished families that have well-nourished children. These are known as positive deviants.*

*Community health volunteers identify these families and observe their practices using the Positive Deviance Inquiry survey, and share these effective practices with the rest of the community through Hearth sessions. It is proven that it is easier to change behaviors and attitudes in a community if promoted practices are culturally sensitive and accepted (rather than introducing foreign practices).*

In association with the Gemena Health Zone, the program conducted PD/Hearth sessions, focusing on the needs of children ages 6 to 36 months. As a result of the 12-day PD/Hearth sessions, 568 children (out of 685 who participated) increased their weight by 14 or more ounces and recovered their health within 30 days.

# WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

## WASH FY18 ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

### WATER

#### ***In communities:***

In FY18, with the support of Covenant Kids Congo powered by World Vision, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) team reached 16,000 people with clean water. These children and adults can now access at least 20 liters of clean water per person per day in less than a 30-minute round-trip walk. This was made possible through the following interventions:

- Completed six kiosks in Salongo district, each with three taps. These kiosks are connected to three miles of pipe, which is gravity-fed from a reinforced concrete water tower with a 50-cubic-meter storage tank. This effort was completed in partnership with 51 Community of Churches in Ubangi and Mongala (CEUM).
- Installed three spring catchment systems, each with four taps, resulting in a total of 12 taps. This was made possible through the partnership with 17 Community of Churches of Christ in Ubangi and the Catholic church of Molegbe.
- Provided training and support, which enabled the Suzia water management committee to mobilize its community to make financial contributions to maintain and improve water access. These financial contributions reconstructed a tap stand to transform it from one tap to two taps, providing access to clean water for an additional 500 people.

Lastly, the final mechanized piped-water system—located in Saza at the 51 CEUM site—is nearly complete. When it is finished, it will serve 12,000 Congolese children and adults with clean drinking water. This year, the WASH team:

- Installed the water distribution piping that will supply eight kiosks (each with three taps) with clean water. Also, a 103-cubic-meter storage tank was installed. The water from the tank is fed by gravity into pipes that lead to the kiosk.
- Constructed the 9.4 kilowatt solar-power plant, which will serve as the power source to the submersible pump that is to be located inside the borehole to draw water from the source to the water tank. Due to challenges with securing quality suppliers and limited transportation to Ledia, the submersible pump has yet to be purchased. However, the WASH team will continue its search for a quality supplier who can ensure transport of the pump to Ledia.

#### ***In schools and health facilities:***

- Helped schoolchildren in six primary schools and patients in two health facilities gain access to clean water. The DRC WASH team extended the pipeline from existing water networks to provide each school and health facility with one tap, for a total of eight taps. In doing so, 3,770 students (1,790 of them girls) and approximately 1,000 patients are less likely to contract waterborne diseases while at school or visiting the health facility.



# WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

## SANITATION AND HYGIENE

### ***In communities:***

- Helped 20 communities in Saza and Salongo districts progress toward achieving “Clean Village” certification. The nationwide Clean Village program aims to help communities prevent diarrhea and other illnesses related to poor-quality water, sanitation, and hygiene.

Community activities, mass awareness campaigns, and door-to-door outreach were organized in partnership with local churches and the zonal health office. A total of 28,653 people (including 11,316 children) learned about proper handwashing, ways to maintain clean living environments at home and in their communities (including proper latrine maintenance), how to construct their own household latrine and hand-washing facility, solid-waste management, and water conservation.

Eight of the 20 communities achieved the sanitation requirements as determined by the Clean Village criteria. Now, 2,478 families have household latrines that benefit 14,868 people (58 percent of them children), and 2,540 households installed hand-washing facilities, helping to reduce the risk of water contamination and diarrhea and other illnesses.

- Trained 50 local artisans (six women and 44 men) in masonry, plumbing, and carpentry. These artisans will help build improved and sustainable WASH infrastructure in their communities.

### ***In schools and health facilities:***

- Built 11 gender-separated latrine blocks in 11 primary schools. Each latrine block consists of six stalls, all fitted with doors for privacy and a ramp for access by children with limited mobility. There are three stalls for girls, including a stall suitable for menstrual hygiene management; and three stalls for boys. Today, 1,980 students (880 of them girls) can relieve themselves in private while feeling safe.
- Constructed 21 hand-washing facilities for 21 schools, providing 12,238 students with the opportunity to practice good hygiene, including washing their hands with soap before eating and after using the latrine. Ten of the 21 schools gaining access to hand-washing facilities also received latrine blocks. These 10 schools are now government-certified as “Clean Schools,” having adequate access to water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure.
- Built four latrine blocks in four health centers. Each block features six stalls, including three stalls for women (one stall for menstrual hygiene management), two stalls for men, and one for people with limited mobility. On average, 720 patients use these latrines.
- Constructed three placenta pits and two incinerators. Both the placenta pits and incinerators help ensure a hygienic environment in health facilities, reducing the risk of illness.
- Educated 2,418 patients (68 percent of them female) at four health facilities, teaching handwashing at critical times to prevent diarrhea and other illnesses and infections, including respiratory infections. As a result, the four health centers have installed hand-washing facilities and are committed to continuing patient awareness.

**As of September 30, 2018, the total number of people in Ledia with access to safe drinking water had grown to 57,234.**

	TOTAL THROUGH MARCH 2017	FISCAL 2017 Quarters 3 & 4	FISCAL 2018	TOTAL THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2018
Number of people with access to safe drinking water	28,234	13,000	16,000	<b>57,234</b>
Number of water taps (faucets)	66	26	31	<b>123</b>

OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS	FY18 Annual Achieved	FY18 Annual Target	Life-of-Program Target (FY18-FY20)
<b>OUTCOME: Access to Safe Water</b>			
People who gained access to a safe drinking water source in communities	16,000	17,500	52,500
Taps installed from successful water supply systems in communities	31	35	105
Nonfunctioning water points rehabilitated	1	5	10
Schools and health centers with a safe drinking water source installed	8	9	23
<b>OUTCOME: Access to Sanitation</b>			
Number of people gaining access to household sanitation	14,868	24,000	72,000
Number of household sanitation facilities constructed	2,478	4,000	12,000
Improved, sex-separated sanitation facilities built at schools and health centers	90	72	216
<b>OUTCOME: Improved Hygiene Practices</b>			
People who benefited from hygiene behavior-change promotion in communities	28,653	24,000	72,000
Households that gained access to hand-washing facilities	2,540	4,000	12,000
Schools and health centers that gained access to hand-washing facilities	25	14	38
<b>OUTCOME: Improved Community Capacity for Sustainability</b>			
WASH committees formed or reactivated with a financing system for maintenance and repair	-	5	15
People trained in repair, maintenance, and construction of WASH facilities	50	50	150
Faith leaders who participated in hygiene, sanitation, or behavior-change programming	46	40	120

## CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

**Challenges.** The program experienced several challenges during this fiscal year, including:

- Delays in procurement due to the inability to find quality suppliers of hydraulic and construction materials such as submersible pumps, solar panels, and pipes. We continue to search for a high-quality vendor for submersible pumps.
- High costs to transport construction supplies by air from Kinshasa to Gemena.
- Delays in implementing activities resulted in fewer communities than planned achieving Clean Village certifications. Unfortunately, the training of master trainers was delayed because the facilitator was required to attend an out-of-country mandatory WASH meeting. Master trainers are responsible for training local participants, who then perform WASH education in communities.

**Lessons Learned.** A key lesson learned this fiscal year is to directly engage and involve government stakeholders in WASH activities. The DRC WASH Program complies with the government model for Clean Villages and Schools. As such, workers from the Ministry of Health and Education monitor the DRC WASH team's activities in communities and schools. Engaging these key stakeholders allows for improved communications and WASH services to families, students, and patients. This fiscal year, the DRC WASH team joined with these stakeholders to celebrate World Water Day.

## LOOKING AHEAD

In fiscal year 2019, the DRC WASH team plans to locate and secure a high-quality supplier to provide the submersible pump and controller needed to complete the final mechanized piped-water system, which will help provide clean water access within 30 minutes for 12,000 people.

# WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### HOW DO YOU SEE GOD WORKING IN THIS PROGRAM?

Thanks to God, World Vision has amazing staff, who daily see God working in miraculous ways.

“Since I began working at World Vision in 2018, I’ve completely changed,” said Paterne Aksanti, the DRC WASH technical specialist. “I witnessed how my colleagues were completely committed to helping children and communities experience the love of God through WASH. As people experience God through WASH, they realize He cares about them and their necessities such as water, sanitation, and hygiene, and they have powerful testimonies. Seeing this completely changed my way of seeing my work. Daily, my prayer to God is to strengthen us to follow His will, to stay faithful to fulfill World Vision’s mission, keep its core values, and pursue the vision.”

### HOW HAVE COMMUNITY MEMBERS EXPERIENCED THE LOVE OF GOD THROUGH THIS PROGRAM?

In FY18, the DRC WASH team engaged 46 faith leaders, like Pastor Mathieu of the Baptist Evangelical Community of Congo, in hygiene, sanitation, or behavior-change programming, sharing resources such as World Vision’s “Jesus: The Source of Living Water” devotional handbook.

“When we [introduced] children to the WASH contextualized Bible teachings ... taken from ‘Jesus: The Source of Living Water,’ we saw 2,978 children who [were not] used to going to Sunday school actively participating,” shared Pastor Mathieu. “[They had] the opportunity to experience the joy of fellowship and to know the love of God. We will continue with this activity in other parishes.”

### HOW HAVE COMMUNITY MEMBERS WORKED TOGETHER TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS OF THIS PROGRAM?

Community members contribute labor, and construction materials such as sand and rock, to help build WASH infrastructure. They also participate and lead WASH committees in communities and schools, and teach their neighbors about good hygiene and sanitation practices.

“After the training [by World Vision], I began to educate my colleagues about proper handwashing, to wash hands at critical times, to throw papers in the garbage cans, to drink only [clean] water, and to pick up papers every day [in] our schoolyard,” said Dialo, brigadier general at the EP 04 October school in Gemena. “I also do maintenance around the latrines. Today, this practice has become a habit. Even at home, I participate in latrine and [yard] maintenance.”



*Children who participate in learning Bible teachings from the “Jesus: The Source of Living Water” devotional handbook experience the joy of fellowship and the love of God. This training is made possible through your support of Covenant Kids Congo powered by World Vision.*

# WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**BRIEFLY DESCRIBE A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE OR IMPROVEMENT THAT HAS OCCURRED IN THE COMMUNITY BECAUSE OF THIS PROGRAM.**

### *From Boreholes to Piped-Water Systems*

Samuel, 12, is pictured at right drawing water from a spring recently developed by World Vision in Gemena. In many areas of the DRC, including Gemena in the Ledia Area Program, World Vision is shifting toward piped-water systems rather than individual borehole wells with hand pumps. This shift aligns with the Sustainable Development Goal standards of bringing a sustainable source of water closer to households. Instead of having one hand pump in the center of a village for all community members to share, one mechanized system pipes water to multiple stands in different locations around the community, many of them with multiple taps. This allows more people to simultaneously fill their buckets.



### *Supporting WASH in Schools*

In FY18, the program supported 10 schools in the National School Sanitation Program, which aims to improve access to WASH infrastructure at the school level, as well as to improve the learning environment. Through this activity, students were formed into school brigades to take charge of water, sanitation, and hygiene in classrooms and the school as a whole. In these schools, students participate and contribute effectively in the WASH decision-making process, which is not the case in other schools where management committees make decisions without consulting students.

### *One Child's Experience*

"I am in fourth grade," 10-year-old Zutana proudly proclaimed (pictured at right installing a tippy tap for handwashing). She attends school in Gemena. "Before the subdivision could align our school with the National School Sanitation program, I had a lot of stomach pains and that prevented me from [attending] school regularly.

"With the support of World Vision, I was elected as brigadier of our school. I benefited from training on the function of school brigades. I learned [about the] transmission of fecal-oral diseases, five [critical] moments to wash hands, and the 10 hygiene commands. At school, I also sensitize my friends on these [topics].

"At the end of this training, I sensitized the members of my family as well as my church on all that I had learned at the training. As our church did not have any hand-washing devices, I took the opportunity to collect money for the purchase of a new hand-washing device, [and] the goal was achieved. Today, our church has a washing device installed right at the entrance to allow all the faithful to wash their hands before being in the church. To ensure this hand-washing practice, I make sure this device does not run out of water, which has become one of my activities as a Christian within the church.

"Now, I am very happy. I no longer have stomach pains, and I know how to put into practice everything I have learned. I thank World Vision and its partners for accompanying us in the National School Sanitation Program so that me, my friends', and our school's, health are assured."



# THANK YOU

Thank you for your faithfulness.

Mrs. Epiya, a 37-year-old mother of 8, represented countless parents and caregivers in Gemena when she said:

*"I'm so happy. My twins who were suffering from malnutrition have been rehabilitated. The community has seen several children dying from malnutrition. When World Vision trained the team of community health workers, we were really happy, as the latter have been teaching us how to use locally available foods (Matembele or sweet potato leaves, peanuts, corn flour, and more) to cure our children. We were then given goods that we could sell to provide our children with proper feeding. Today, my family is protected from malnutrition. My sincere thanks to God and the community health workers' team for a commendable job. These nutrition interventions and increased awareness have helped these mothers improve the nutrition status of their children."*



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## COVENANT KIDS *Congo* powered by World Vision



The Evangelical Covenant Church



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World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.