

Integration

Goal Statement

All World Vision programming stems from our vision statement, 'Life in all its fullness for children...', and is designed within a framework of overall Child Well Being.

Problem Statement at the Community-Level

World Vision recognises that no single technical sector intervention can make a sustainable impact, as the root causes of poverty are multi-sectorally diverse and mutually exacerbating. It has become apparent in partnering with communities that although families value health, they recognise multiple central drivers of livelihood, such as education and economic development, as being prioritised objectives towards improving their overall well-being.

World Vision also recognises that single sector technical interventions are resource inefficient. These interventions, implemented in a parallel fashion with other development initiatives, become duplicative and isolated.

World Vision's Strategic Approach

World Vision achieves intervention integration, and subsequently increased efficiency and effectiveness, through a number of mechanisms:

- **Holistic Baseline Assessment:** World Vision facilitates a baseline community assessment process in a participative manner with local stakeholders. This assessment process is unbiased by specific sector motivations, and recognises the relationships and competing priority between diverse community needs.
- **Strategic Programme Design:** As World Vision country programmes design their development strategy, multi-sector prioritised community needs are considered, and multiple sector experts work together. The result of this process is an integrated country-level strategy, and community-level project designs that pull from multiple sector interventions to address higher level outcomes, such as the well-being of children.
- **Area Development Programmes:** World Vision channels resources into long-term (+/- 15-year) community-initiatives, which allows for strong community participation and assimilation, and focus of multiple interventions on single target groups.
- **Core Project Models:** World Vision develops project models that start with evidence-based best practice interventions, and then are further developed to be mainstreamed by multiple sector experts.
- **Lifecycle Framework:** Application of a Lifecycle Framework allows for identification of age-specific intervention sets not only within health practices, but also across sector spectrums.

World Vision's Principles

For health strategy implementation to be optimal, its core focus needs to be expressed as health 'outcomes'. Health outcomes are not the property of health practitioners alone, but rather all relief and development programming towards the 'well-being' of mothers, children and their communities. For example, education programmers are concerned with children's nutrition because without adequate nutritional status, their cognitive potential to learn is marginalised. Therefore, positive nutritional status of children is a prioritised outcome for health programming, education and other sector areas, such as HIV and AIDS and Water and Sanitation. The responsibility for achieving health outcomes is shared throughout World Vision.

Integration

World Vision's Model of Ministry guides our development design so that all projects are community-based, child focused, empowering and tackle the root causes of poverty. The organisational health strategy further requires that health interventions be defined as evidence-based, best practice and prevention-oriented. The commonality of these frameworks within the organisation provides a template for aligning interventions.

Intervention Example

World Vision's HOPE Initiative, addressing HIV and AIDS and Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), offers an organisational programmatic strategy into which multiple traditional sectors can participate. Rather than define its HIV and AIDS initiative singularly, i.e. targeting only health issues such as testing and treatment, World Vision has targeted the well-being of children and their families in the social context of the pandemic. Following research on determinants of well-being in this context, World Vision developed a set of core models to address them, and dedicated funding and staff initially in all Area Development Programmes in high prevalence countries in Africa (now expanding globally).

The core models include life-skills training, establishment of Community Care Coalitions that bring together community stakeholders to address their localised needs, networks of Household Caregivers who offer a range of services from palliative care to medical supply distribution and Channels of Hope, which trains clergy and other community stakeholders to address issues such as stigma.

Building on this platform and infrastructure, World Vision complemented the core efforts with education initiatives, agriculture and food security, small-business development and micro-finance. Health-specific interventions include addressing nutrition, malaria and TB. Investment is biased towards the prevention of HIV, including PMTCT, and other STDs. World Vision partners with many organisations, local and international, to ensure treatment options are in place. As a result of World Vision's efforts, nearly 850,000 OVC and 70,000 chronically-ill adults received multi-sector care and assistance in 2007.