



# ***OUR IMPACT Report 2023***

**CAMBODIA**







is a Christian, relief, development and advocacy organisation working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. Inspired by our Christian values, World Vision is dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people regardless of their religion, caste, gender or ethnicity.

## Our Vision

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

## Our Core Values

- We are Christian
- We are committed to the poor
- We value people
- We are stewards
- We are partners
- We are responsive

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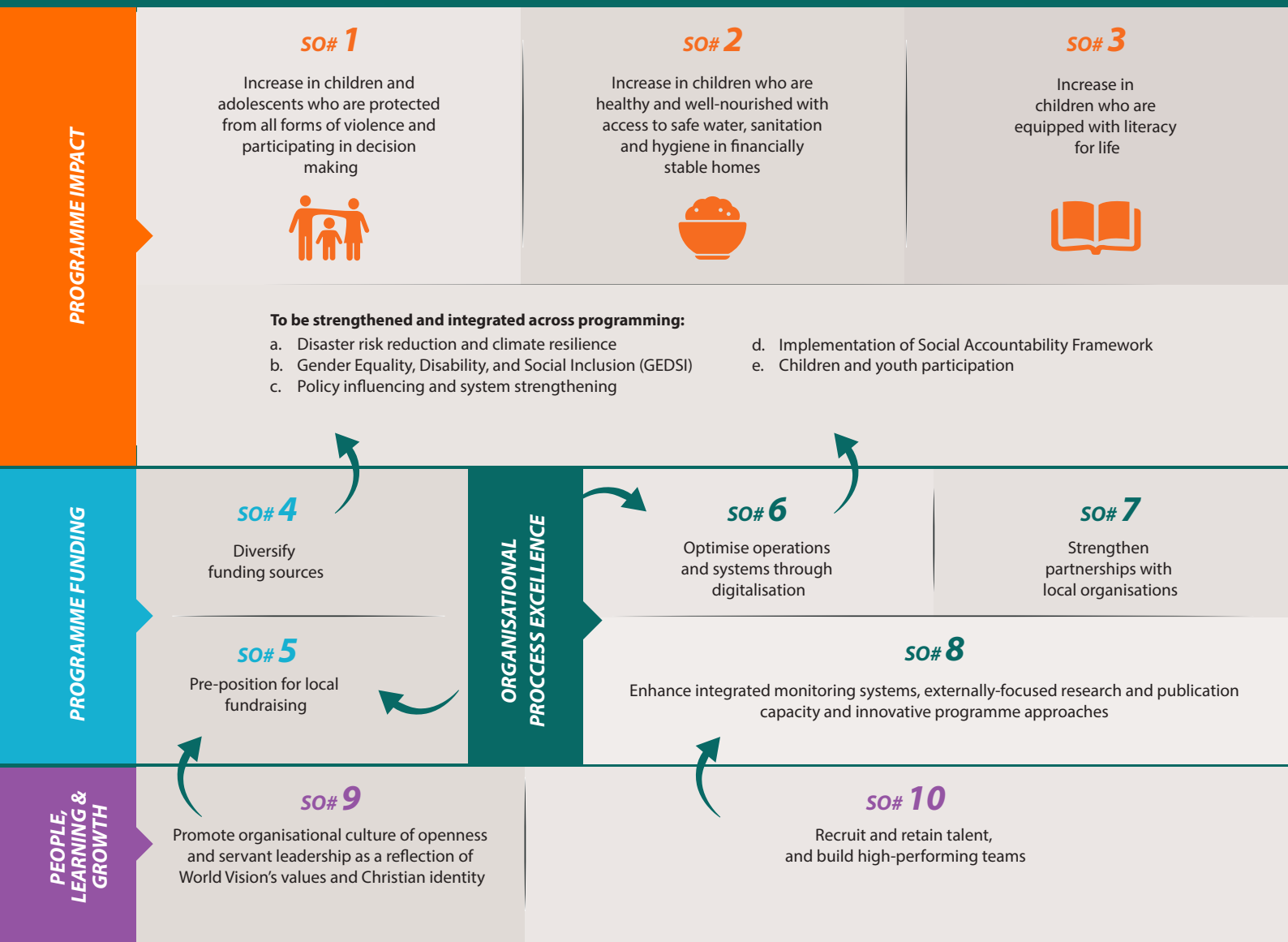
# WORLD VISION INTERNATIONAL IN CAMBODIA'S STRATEGY

MAP 2023-2027



**Strategic Goal:** Achieve sustainable well-being for 5 million girls and boys, particularly the most vulnerable ones

\* Strategic Objectives (SO)



▶ **Technical  
Sectors**



**Health and  
Nutrition**



**Water,  
Sanitation  
and Hygiene**



**Sustainable Livelihood and  
Enterprise Development**



**Child Protection  
and Participation**



**Inclusive  
Education**

▶ **Cross-Cutting  
Approaches**



**Social  
Accountability**



**Disaster Risk  
Reduction and  
Emergency  
Response**



**Gender Equality,  
Disability and  
Social Inclusion  
(GEDSI)**



**Climate  
Change  
Adaptation**



# Foreword

I am pleased to present to you World Vision International in Cambodia's 2023 Impact Report reflecting our steadfast commitment to bringing about transformative change to the lives of the most vulnerable children and communities across the country. World Vision's mission to serve all people, regardless of their background or location, especially in the most challenging environments, remains at the core of our work.



Over the past year, World Vision has made significant strides in advancing child well-being, with a focus on enriching children's lives and instilling positive values through all of our interventions. In the fiscal year of 2022-2023, more than 1.5 million children in Cambodia have benefitted directly and indirectly from World Vision's multi sectorial initiatives. We have worked with children, youth, community-based organisations, government authorities at national and sub-national levels, local NGOs, faith leaders and development partners, reinforcing our dedication to promoting child well-being through strategic partnerships and collaboration.

World Vision's approach revolves around empowering communities to address the root causes of poverty and our Child Well-being Strategy aims to positively impact over 5 million girls and boys in Cambodia by 2027. Key objectives include fostering positive and peaceful relationships within families and communities, enhancing protection from violence, improving nutritional status, increasing literacy rates among primary school children, promoting adaption and mitigation of impacts of climate changes, as well as improving education, health and commune administration services through facilitating dialogue and collaboration with service providers and citizens.



This report displays many stories of changes and highlights impacts happening on the ground, thanks to strong collaboration and partnership with stakeholders, and the generous funding from World Vision's supporters and development partners. As a result of World Vision's work with partners, stakeholders and communities in 2023, 1,263 malnourished children were identified and supported at home or referred to the nearby health centres, 78,395 people gained access to clean water, 47 Communes achieved Open Defecation Free status; 28 Agricultural Cooperatives with 4,040 members were strengthened and now manage a capital fund of US\$ 1,274,377 and invested US\$ 6,500 back into their communities through a social fund; 187 Small to Medium term Enterprises have been supported to access loans amounting to US\$ 5,258,084 to grow their businesses; 87% of Communes where World Vision works allocated their own budget to strengthen the child protection mechanisms in their areas; 78 schools changed their practice to include regular meetings with parents of low performing children to make a joint support plan and 2,150 disaster affected families, including 4,345 children were positively impacted by World Vision's flood response. In addition, as a result of implementation of social accountability systems, 470 commune administrations, 379 health centres and 2,088 primary schools used by over 3.7 million citizens strengthened their service provision.

I also want to express my gratitude to our dedicated staff, partners, donors, sponsors and the Royal Government of Cambodia, who make all this work possible. Together, let us be a force for positive change, ensuring a brighter and more inclusive future for all children and communities in Cambodia.

Thank you very much, Orkun Jreun

**Janes Imanuel Ginting**

National Director



# Message from the CEO

## ▶ during his visits to Cambodia

### CEO Perceptions: A Journey of Hope and Transformation

During my recent visit to Kulen District in northern Cambodia, I was confronted with heart-wrenching challenges and inspiring stories of resilience and hope. The experiences shared, and the impressions formed during this visit have left an indelible mark on me, shaping my perceptions of our work and reaffirming the importance of our mission.

One poignant encounter is my conversation with Monich, a 16-year-old girl from the village. Monich's testimony vividly illustrates the transformative power of World Vision's interventions. She recounted the laborious walk she made twice a day to gather water, which cost her time and endangered her health and education.

Through the collaborative efforts of World Vision and the local community, a water infiltration project was implemented, bringing about a profound change in Monich's life. No longer burdened by the daily struggle for clean water, she could focus on her studies without fear of illness. Monich's story embodies the enduring legacy we leave behind – one of empowerment, dignity, and opportunity.



As I traversed through Kulen Village, I had the privilege of engaging with our dedicated team, led by Janes Ginting, our National Director for Cambodia. Janes' insights into our work underscored the multifaceted nature of our interventions, from addressing malnutrition to combating violence against children. The staggering statistics of the 22% prevalence of stunting among children serve as a sobering reminder of the challenges we confront. Yet, amidst these challenges, I witnessed firsthand the impact of our programs, such as the Positive Deviance Hearth Initiative, which empowers young mothers to provide nutritious meals for their children.

However, our journey in Kulen District also revealed the stark realities of poverty and deprivation. From the cramped living conditions of grandmothers caring for numerous grandchildren to the sight of lethargic, underweight children, the need for urgent action is undeniable. As we embark on the design phase of our new area program in Kulen 2, we are acutely aware of the immense existing gap. Clean water, adequate nutrition, and basic sanitation are not luxuries but fundamental rights denied to many in these communities.

Despite the enormity of the task ahead, I am filled with hope and determination. The knowledge that our interventions have the power to transform lives fuels our resolve to press onward. As we lay the groundwork for our new program, we do so with a sense of urgency and purpose. Every child deserves a chance to thrive; our collective responsibility is to ensure this vision becomes a reality.

### **Andrew Morely**

President and Chief Executive Officer  
World Vision International



# Where We Work



**39** Area Programmes



**470** communes



**55** Districts



**20** Provinces and Phnom Penh Capital



**US\$ 27,133,612**  
Total Budget in 2023



**514** Staff

# Our Reach



**Total People Reached**  
**3,273,972**



**752,296**  
girls



**766,813**  
boys



**1,519,109**  
children



**918,255**  
women



**836,608**  
men



**1,754,863**  
adults



# Sustainable Development Goals

## ▶ World Vision International in Cambodia's Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals

Every day, **7 families** were trained in improved, sustainable, climate-smart agricultural techniques to increase income and ensure better food security for their families

1 NO POVERTY



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Every hour, **3 children** were provided with support to improve literacy

Every hour, **10 children** received a nutritious meal at school

2 ZERO HUNGER



5 GENDER EQUALITY



Women were actively engaged in decision making in **82%** of households in World Vision Area Programmes

**34 children** (0-23 months) a day were assessed and supported by a Community Health Care Worker

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Every day, **57 people** received access to clean drinking water and 61 people accessed basic sanitation services

16 PEACE AND JUSTICE  
STRONG INSTITUTIONS



**84%** of service providers covered by WVI-C's Social Accountability Project are meeting key national standards



## Health and Nutrition

Improved access to health and nutrition services and promote healthy behaviours among pregnant women and children under five years.



Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Behaviour Change with Mothers and Grandmothers



A collaborative School Feeding Project with the Ministry of Education and the World Food Programme



Improved identification and referral of malnourished children



Direct medical treatment for children

## ▶ Significant Achievements



**154** Mother group (ECCD) supervisors, and 73 grandmother group (GMIA) facilitators were selected from the Village Health Support Groups (VHSGs), trained and engaged in facilitating the monthly sessions.



**15,555** women and 10,206 grandmothers attended the ECCD community behaviour change sessions.



**28,580** children under 5 years were screened for malnourishment.



**1,263** children were identified as suffering from malnutrition and were either supported at home or referred to the nearby health centres depending on the extent.



**43** eating shelters, 30 boreholes, 57 group-handwashing stations, and 17 stoves were built and supported at schools delivering the School Feeding Programme.



## ▶ Impact



**79,466** children received breakfast meals in equity, improved nutrients, which increased school attendance, raised attentiveness, reduced grade repetition and dropped-out rate.



Monthly incentives for **415** school cooks (332 women) were integrated into the Commune Investment Plan (costs absorbed by the Government).



**7,160** women of a reproductive age (15-49) and 10,609 children (0-59 months) were reached by a Community Health Worker.











# Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Improved WASH behaviours through behaviour change programmes and appropriate WASH infrastructure.



Construction of WASH Infrastructure



Promotion of latrines for defecation



Promotion of WASH in primary schools and health centres

## ▶ Significant Achievements



**9,846** households  
built sanitation facilities



**17,782** households  
built hand washing stations



**15,679** participant  
households use water  
treatment technologies



**43** New Water collection  
points were established in  
health facilities.



**21** improved sex-separate  
sanitation facilities were  
built in health facilities.



## ▶ Impact



**47,762** people accessed basic sanitation facilities.



**87,702** people gained access to hand-washing facilities with soap and water available.



**78,395** people gained access to clean water.



**47** Communes achieved Open Defecation Free status.









# Sustainable Livelihood and Enterprise Development

Improved household income of most vulnerable households (women, people with disabilities and youth) through Agriculture Co-operatives to achieve child well-being objectives.

## ► Agriculture



Provision of livelihood assistance to small-holder farmers on agriculture input, supporting materials, seeds, and techniques



Empowering small-scale farmers in collective business, connecting them to agriculture input suppliers and linking the collective group to the market actors.



Strengthening the capacity of smallholder farmers to improve the availability of food, affordability and dietary diversity through Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture and Climate Smart Agriculture.



## ► Commercialisation of Aquaculture for Sustainable Trade (CAST)



Improved technical and management capacity of aquaculture producers, input suppliers, and customers, as well as the academic institutions that support the aquaculture industry.



Strengthened aquaculture value chain and market actors.



Improved access to finance at all stages of the value chain.



Increased access to and confidence in high-quality fish that is produced and handled with proper phytosanitary standards.



## ▶ Significant Achievements



**593** households gained knowledge and skills related to nutrition-sensitive and climate-adaptive agriculture practices.



**410** households received agricultural inputs with **24** items including **8** kinds of vegetable seeds and **16** agriculture materials (water tank, pipe, net...) to promote nutritious *food*.



**82** households received fruit trees to promote livelihood and nutrition situation.



**7** greenhouses are being installed by constructors for **7** outstanding farmers.



**48** households received livestock packages.



**6** risk mapping and **6** disaster preparedness awareness events were conducted in **6** communes of 4 districts.



**600** people participated in Basic Capacity Building Training (Financial literacy, Digital literacy, Gender equality, Disaster Risk Reduction/ Disaster Management).



**376** participants (female 91) participated in 6 provincial business dialogues, including **13** post-harvest actors actively joined in the provincial dialogues and exchange visits were made to link buyers and sellers.



**7** Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) received support in branding, promotion and online marketing to improve SMEs' capacity to access markets and differentiate the end products.



**433** aquaculture SMEs received marketing technical assistance, including 93 SMEs that received business plan technical assistance to strengthen buyer-seller linkages.



## ▶ Impact



**407** SMEs received technical assistance on financial services access and proper loan use, including market information sharing and face-to-face facilitation. As a result, **187** SMEs have received loans amounting to **US\$ 5,258,084.**



**28** Agricultural Cooperatives with **4,040** members were strengthened and now manage a capital fund of **US\$ 1,274,377** and invested US\$ 6,500 back into their communities through a social fund.



## Child Protection and Participation

Ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, and are participating in decision-making.



Life skills training, youth-led community projects, capacity development of local partners, and adolescent-directed content are used to improve the protection skills and developmental assets of children and adolescents and their relationships with adults and peers.



Training for parents/caregivers and the community to foster positive relationships and prevent harmful interaction with children and adolescents.



Enhancing multi-collaboration and coordination with stakeholders such as government, faith leaders, and other groups in the community to protect children from all forms of abuse.



Engagement with, and building capacity of, community stakeholders to address the root causes of violence against children.

## ► Significant Achievements



**13,170** children and adolescents completed life skills training.



**18,979** children and adolescents engaged in youth clubs.



**360** community service-learning projects were implemented by adolescents.



**138** children and youth actively participated in national level networks.



**29,502** community members participated in attitude/behaviour change sessions on child protection issues.



## ► Impact



**9,180** parents demonstrated increased knowledge in positive parenting and other child protection related issues.



**98%** trained community members know how to respond to child protection incidents.



**3,135** children and youth engaged in a social accountability mechanism on child protection issues.



By the end of 2023, around **99%** of Sangkat/Communes had been integrated into the Commune Investment Programme and 87% of those were allocated its own social services budget to support improving the performance of local child protection systems and benefiting more than 340,000 children in which 170,000 are girls, 3,402 are children with disabilities, and among them 230,000 are most vulnerable children.



Children and youths in **106** communes engaged with local authorities to urge for improved performance of the local child protection system.





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# Inclusive Education

Increase in children who are equipped with literacy for life.



Strengthened teachers' capacity to incorporate the five core reading skills into their curricula.



Implemented a collaborative School Feeding Programme with the Ministry of Education and World Food Programme.



Provision of training for librarians, school directors and teachers, and distribute books and learning materials to meet the minimum standards established by the Ministry of Education Youth and Sport.





Provision of child-friendly reading materials and encourage parents/caregivers to set up reading corners at home and literacy-supporting activities to improve their children's learning.



Establishment of reading camps led by World Vision-trained Community Reading Facilitators to help children improve their reading through weekly literacy sessions.



Fostering relationships between the formal sector and the community so that the national policies of quality primary education are realised.



Participation in the Cambodia Consortium for Out of School Children Project, Phase II, promoting (1) equitable access, (2) quality and relevance, and (3) ownership and accountability for out of school and most vulnerable children.

## ▶ Significant Achievements



**19** new school library buildings were built and equipped with reading materials through the mobilisation of community resources to support students' academic performance and reading habits.



**30** school library buildings were renovated and equipped with reading materials through the mobilisation of community resources, with support from World Vision.



## ▶ Significant Achievements



**99,616** books (2,853 titles) distributed to **590** schools. to ensure the availability of reading resources to support teaching and learning.



**7,444** reading corners (at home) were prepared by parents or caregivers benefitting **11,720** children.



**970** reading camps were established, providing the opportunity for children to enjoy their literacy time in their village on the weekend.



**1,652** Community Reading Facilitators (CRF) (1,466 females) were trained to lead reading camp sessions and Reading Promotion Workshops with parents.



**2,485** teachers (1,512 females) grade 1-3 were successfully trained on Unlock Literacy Teacher training.



**2,474** teachers (1392 females) completed Positive Discipline and Effective Classroom Management training.



**740** (244 females) school committee members and local authorities were trained to directly support the implementation of education programmes in their schools.



**11,399** children received material support (bicycles/ backpacks/stationary/ supplementary support books) to attend school.

## ▶ Impact



**78** Schools conducted quarterly meetings with parents/caregivers of low-performance children to find ways to support them both at school and at home.



**21,920** children attended remedial classes.





# Social Accountability

## ► Implementation of Social Accountability Framework (ISAF)

Citizens are informed about the services they are entitled to receive, dialogue with sub-national authorities is fostered and joint actions to address issues are identified and implemented.



**People Reached: 3,746,845 people (1,674,437 females), 1,378,839 children (669,059 girls) including 925,475 Most Vulnerable Children (444,803 girls).**



# ▶ ANNUAL CYCLE OF ISAF PHASE II

## JOINT ACCOUNTABILITY ACTION PLANS (JAAPs)

The JAAPs are disseminated and integrated into the Commune and Sangkat Investment Programs. They are presented at the Municipality/District/Khan Integration Workshops and during the consultation on the 3-year rolling program at province and national levels.

## MONITORING & EVALUATION

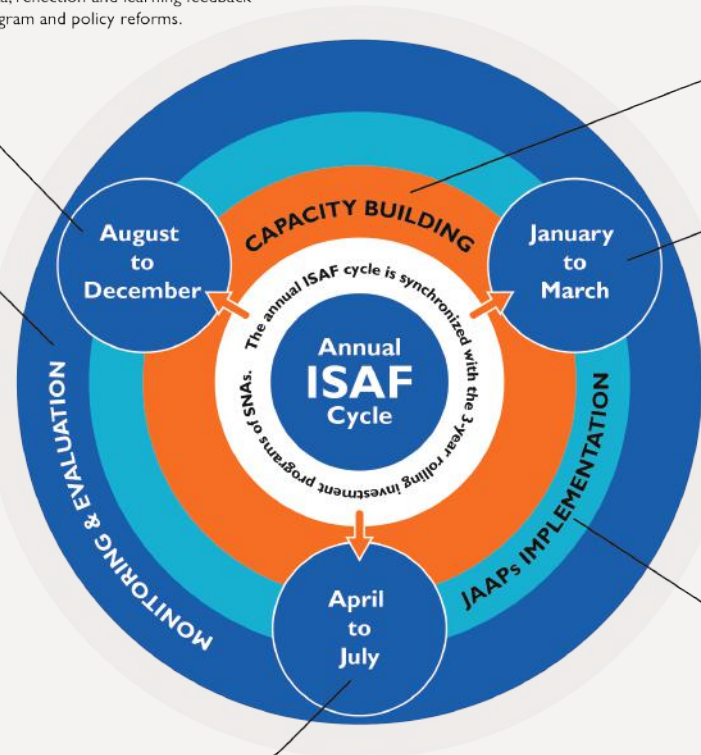
M&E data, reflection and learning feedback into program and policy reforms.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

ISAF activities are supported by on-going training and technical coaching.

## TRANSPARENCY AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND BUDGET

Preparation and dissemination to the ISAF posters. Conduct public awareness-raising on quality standards and budget.



## CITIZEN MONITORING

Prepare and conduct the community scorecard and interface meetings. Develop the JAAPs and establish the JAAP Committees.

## JAAPs IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the JAAPs is supported, monitored and reported on an on-going basis through the year.



## ▶ Significant Achievements



More than **1 million** citizens (70% women) and officials took part in workshops to identify issues affecting the quality of services in their communities and developed action plans to address them. Including:

- **48%** Poor Households
- **5,399** People with Disabilities (2,819 females)
- **8,489** Ethnic People (6,607 females)



**1,964** (69% women) Community Accountability Facilitators (CAFs), including people from marginalised groups were trained and are active.



**60%** of 400 Communes/Sangkats that developed a Joint Accountability Action Plan (JAAP) conducted at least one monitoring meeting.





The implementation of JAAPs led to the improvement of services provided by **470** commune administrations, **379** health centres and **2,088** primary schools used by over 3.7M citizens (1.67M women) including 1.3M children.



Citizens' understanding of their rights and public service standards increased from **69%** in 2020 to **75%** in 2023.



In 2022, **75%** of the citizens who took part in the citizen monitoring process reported an increased confidence that citizen voices and actions can have an impact on public service quality.





# Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Response

Disaster Management ensures that individuals, families, and communities, especially the most vulnerable children become more resilient to the adverse impacts of disasters and climate change to sustain the well-being of children.



## ▶ Significant Achievements



**236** members (61 females) of Disaster Management Committees (DMC) and 2,720 community people (907 women) received training on disaster risk management.



**6,713** students- (3,126 females) were trained on how to prepare for disasters and how to protect themselves.



**48,205** community people (2,743 females) developed plans to implement Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change (DRR/CC) activities.



**189** School Disaster Management Committees (SDMC), including 75 female members received capacity building on DM concept, SSF components, and how to develop disaster preparedness plans.





## ▶ Impact



**31** communes integrated DRR and CC activities into commune investment plans.



**1,579** members (970 women) of 52 community groups in 32 villages, 23 communes, and 7 districts developed risk management and preparedness plans for potential future disasters.



**2,150** disaster affected families, including 4,345 children (2,406 girls) were positively impacted by WVI Cambodia's flood response.



Basic needs support, food items, and materials to rebuild shelters and roofs were provided to **405** households and **2** primary schools in **6** communes during flood response benefitting **2,345** people, including **1,264** women, **798** children (498 girls), and **3** (1 female) people with disabilities.



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## Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI)

Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) is integral to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals fulfilling World Vision's "Our Promise" strategy and reaching child well-being objectives.



In 2023, World Vision International in Cambodia conducted a full organisational and programmatic analysis of GEDSI. Results of which will be incorporated in, and highlighted, in 2024. Some significant outputs in 2023 include:



**48%** of the  
**1,519,109** children  
reached in 2023 were girls.



**779** women were  
engaged in income  
generating activities.



**64%** of female and  
male adolescents reported  
improved self-efficacy.



Women were actively  
engaged in decision  
making in  
**82%** of households  
in World Vision Area  
Programmes.







## Climate Change Adaptation

World Vision International in Cambodia has adopted Climate Smart Agriculture approaches to cope with the changing climate and its impacts on food production. It enables the farmers to mitigate the impact of climate change on the environment and increase productivity in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders such as the Provincial Department of Agriculture (PDA), local market facilitators, and local NGOs. The programme participants were trained in understanding the impact of climate change on food production, and components in climate-smart agriculture, such as productivity, adaptation and mitigation. In addition, the farmers were trained on climate-smart agriculture interventions such as crop diversification, agroforestry, conservation agriculture, improved water management, integrated pest management, livestock management, crop varieties selection and calendar, and soil management.

Up to September 2023, a total of 2,849 individual farmers have undergone training, marking a significant step towards empowerment in farming and cultivation. Among them, 1,614 are women, and 82 are farmers with disabilities (5 women), who have participated and expressed dedication to fostering accessibility and diversity within the farming community. On completion of the training, these members received support in terms of agricultural inputs and access to credits and loans. Some of the farmers were also supported with greenhouses, emphasising a participatory approach where farmers contributed to the procurement of farming materials and other materials for greenhouse. This not only fosters a sense of ownership and involvement but also encourages sustainable practices within the community. On completion of a series of training, the participants were required to develop the plans for crop cultivation. Continued follow-up and coaching provided by WVI-C, enables them to adhere to climate-smart practices in a sustainable manner.





## Advocacy and Campaigns

- Through social accountability mechanisms, **US\$ 1,632,216** was allocated by local government bodies to improve the quality of student learning in primary schools
- Local Authorities allocated an additional budget of **US\$ 381,430** to improve the quality of health care service delivery
- More than **US\$ 248,000** was allocated from commune budgets to strengthen child protection mechanisms at the commune level as a result of citizen-led advocacy
- **As a result of dialogue and advocacy on National Reading Day**, schools strengthened their library standards and services to improve access to quality reading materials for **14,972** children



## ► World Vision worked with the Royal Government of Cambodia to develop:

- **Prakas No214 on Code of Conduct of the Social Workforce 2023:** strengthens the ethics, dignity, effectiveness and quality of the social workforce and any social service workers in Cambodia.
- **Prakas No233 on Code of Conduct for Child Protection 2023:** establishes a code of conduct to prevent, eliminate and respond to all types of child abuse and protects the rights, safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children.





# Our Partners

We wish to acknowledge and express our appreciation toward our partners for their continued commitment to improving the lives of Cambodia's most vulnerable children.

## ▶ Royal Government of Cambodia

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport
- Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation
- Ministry of Rural Development
- Ministry of Cult and Religion
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
- Ministry of Economy and Finance
- The Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC)
- Sub-National Governments in Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Speu, Kampong Thom, Kampot, Kandal, Kep, Kratie, Kampong Cham, Oddar Meanchey, Pailin, Preah Sihanouk, Preah Vihear, Prey Veng, Pursat, Siem Reap, Svay Rieng, Takeo, and Tboung Khmom provinces, as well as Phnom Penh capital.

## **Civil Society Organisations/Local Implementing Partners**

- Action For Development (AFD)
- Aide et Action (AeA)
- Buddhism for Social Development Action (BSDA)
- Cambodia Civil Society Partner (CCSP)
- Clear Cambodia
- Nak Akphivath Sahakum (NAS)
- Ponleur Kumar
- Rural Economic and Agriculture Development Agency (READA)
- Sovann Phoum
- STAR Kampuchea
- Wathnakpheap Organization (WP)

## **Private Sectors/ Foundation**

- Agro-Food New Marketing Institute (NEWMA)
- American Soybean Association
- CamEd Business School
- Eco-Soap
- JCI Chaktomuk
- MJQ foundation
- Procter and Gamble (P&G)
- Sanitation Action Group (SAG)
- Trailblazer Foundation
- Water Foundation Research and Innovation Center
- Westline Education Group

# Development Partners



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development



MOFA  
Japan



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC



WORLD BANK GROUP

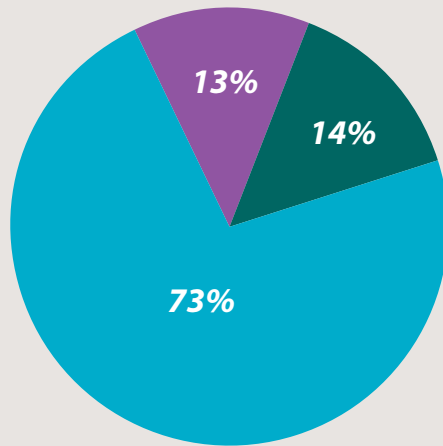


World Food  
Programme



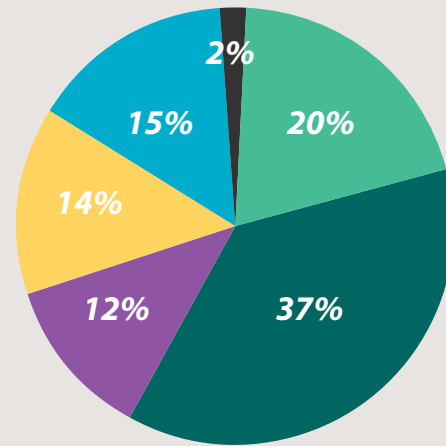
# Financial Summary

## Sources of funding by types



- Grant
- Private funding (major donors/non-sponsorship)
- Private Funding (Sponsorship)

## Financial and Indicators by sector expenditures



- Child Protection and Youth Life Skills Investment
- Education and Life Skills Development
- Community Engagement for Strengthening Ownership
- Nutrition and Health (Including Infectious Diseases)
- Economic Resilience and Livelihood
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



# Annex



# Stories of Change

## ► Chat's journey to end open defecation and raise sanitation awareness

As a 14 year old, Chat, who had tragically lost her mother, seized the opportunity to volunteer for children's well-being as World Vision began its operations in her village in Samrong district. Today, at 28, Chat has evolved into a stalwart community advocate, a youth club member, and the only community partner for WASH, participating in the Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) group with World Vision.



The village has achieved Open Defecation Free (ODF) status after 14 years of continuous efforts by local authorities, partners, and Chat herself, becoming the first in Samrong district to receive this recognition in 2011.

Being a young girl without proper hygiene supervision, Chat recalled "It is very risky for children, especially young girls, to defecate alone in the forest. It is a concern for their safety and dignity; I have been there and know how it feels," Chat recalled.

Sorn, 67, a resident of the village, improved her family's living conditions by installing a toilet, providing them with access to safe and dignified sanitation facilities. Sorn pointed out, "As soon as the focal person raised awareness in my village in 2011, I gathered my savings and sold my chickens to build the toilet."

**"As long as the villagers are willing to build the toilet, we try to help them any way we can within our capacity. Sometimes, our members even help build the toilets and provide materials where we can"** said Khin Khim a village chief and a leader of the Community-led Total Sanitation group in the village since 2009. "I want to see people in my community continue practising great hygiene and sanitation and bring about awareness of building toilets at home" Khim continued.





## ► Yaru: Empowering Change as a Youth Leader and Advocate Against Child Violence

“Some households in my community have a lack of understanding of child abuse and believe that teaching their children using violence is normal, similar to how our society makes us believe that it’s fine when it’s not, and they usually overlook this particular aspect. That is why young people like me must continue to advocate for children who don’t have a voice and can’t speak up for themselves,” stated 16-year-old Yaru, a community young advocate and youth leader in her community.

Yaru’s dedication extends beyond her community, as she was invited to speak at the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in New York in May 2023. Working diligently hands-on with World Vision International in Cambodia, Yaru is serving as a Youth Club leader, focusing on ending violence against children, and works tirelessly to foster and encourage youth participation within her community.



“I have always been selfish about my knowledge, but since joining community work, I have learned that sharing knowledge and helping people is the best course of action, and it makes me even happier,” she said.

Yaru collaborates with community partners and authorities to promote positive parenting and raise community awareness about the impact of violence on children’s physical and emotional well-being.

She insisted that violence against children is not only a personal issue impacting the children's well-being but also a communal and global issue that must be addressed. "Another issue I see in my community is the impact of COVID-19. Young people in my neighbourhood had to stay home during lockdowns and use their phones as friends, but they continued this behaviour when we returned to school. As for that, I'll be working with my team to develop a study on this topic that focuses on the consequences of excessive use of social media," said Yaru.

Inspired by the quote, **"Don't be someone who never loses; be someone who never gives up,"** she explained it helps her grow comfortable sharing her knowledge and activities and showcasing her abilities. Yaru attributes her growth to World Vision International in Cambodia, expressing gratitude for the exposure and opportunities provided.



## ▶ A Village's Journey Through Community Reading Camps

As a component of the Unlock Literacy educational strategy, World Vision has been implementing Reading Camps in Cambodia since 2019. More than 28,000 children have participated in the initiative by September 2023, thanks to 970 reading camps in chosen regions.

Sreynit (11), a fourth-grade student, frequently attends the local reading camp located in the Samrong district of Takeo province, one of the targeted areas of World Vision International in Cambodia. The Reading Camp programme trains community leaders to facilitate reading camps, focusing on vocabulary, letter knowledge, phonemic awareness, and comprehension games.

Sreynit mentions that the reading camp has an extensive number of entertaining storybooks, that keep her returning to borrow more books. She also gets to play with her friends during the session on Sunday, which makes it even more exciting.



“I used to always play hide-and-peek on the roads around the village, but now I spend more time sitting and reading books. The different picture books I can borrow from the reading camp are more enjoyable to read than my textbooks” Sreynit explained, “We also have enjoyable activity sessions on Sunday” she continued.



Sreynit's grandma Sorn (75) explained that Sreynit's habits have changed as a result of the reading camp approach. "I was always worried about her (Sreynit) because she used to always play outside and run around even if under the scorching hot sunlight, I have to keep calling her back home," said Sorn.

"I can't read for my granddaughter because I don't know the alphabet, but she can, and that makes me very happy" Sorn stated.

**"I've seen that more parents are focusing on their kids' education and making more of an effort to encourage reading with their children at home. I recently paid a visit to the reading camp, and they do a great job,"** Korng Morn (57) the village chief shared that he noticed a great mindset and behavioural change in the community towards education and reading after the involvement of the reading camp project.





## ▶ A Life-changing Story of Manai Through Child Sponsorship Programme

17-year-old Manai has transformed her life and her community's future at Kampong Svay, Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia. Her story has a lasting impact and demonstrates the courage, self-assurance, and resilience she has developed while assisting World Vision with community development projects.

Manai enlisted as a sponsored child in 2012 with World Vision. Her passion and commitment led her to become a Youth Leader for Change, Community Led Child Monitoring (CLCM), and a Reading Camp facilitator. Her goals are to help the children in her community develop their literary skills and a love of reading.



“I decided to continue volunteering with the World Vision’s projects, using my resources to help my community grow. And I’ll stick with them to the end as long as the organisation is still active in my village,” she reaffirmed

Manai spends her weekends teaching young children at the reading camp and she gradually inspired her to choose teaching as her dream job “I used to observe my teachers teach young students, and it made me frustrated on their behalf. However, after experiencing teaching firsthand, my perspective changed completely. I now recognize its significant value and wish to be a teacher when I grow up,” said Manai.

“I think so much is getting better in my community regarding violence against children. Usually, when parents get in a fight, they abuse their child, or sometimes when they drink alcohol, they abuse each other, but now that so much has changed in our village, they are far more mindful of the damaging effects of violence,” she continued.

The sponsor’s unrelenting faith in her potential fills her with hope and reassures her that she isn’t alone in her journey. Acknowledging these acts of kindness, Manai wishes to thank her sponsors for their persistent support and motivation.

“I don’t remember my sponsor much because they haven’t written to me in a while. The one thing I remember the most is their word of encouragement. **One time they wrote to me, ‘Study hard for your future’—that’s what I remember most. I feel incredibly loved; it makes me smile for some reason. I need to keep working hard to help myself and live up to their expectations.”**



## ► The Flow of Hope: A Lifeline of Clean Water in Bangkorn Village

Bangkorn is a village in Rieb Roy commune, Rovieng district, Preah Vihear province. It is about 140km from the capital of Preah Vihear province. The people there mainly lack safe water for daily use. The population must trek between 500 m and 5 km to get water from small ponds and streams. The people of Bangkorn and children in particular were prone to respiratory diseases, diarrhoea, and other waterborne and excreta-related disorders due to inadequate hygiene and sanitation practices.

**“Sometimes I couldn’t get to school on time since I needed to go bring water for my family; now I don’t have to worry because the pipe is connected to my water jar,”** said Vireak, a 14-year-old boy and the oldest son of a family of six. Before having a pipe water system, Vireak’s family had been using water that was brought from the village well and small ponds, along with other families.



After the assessment, a Community Sponsorship fund was contributed to construct a medium-pipe water system for 2 communes (Rieb Roy and Rohas) in Rovieng to support the community in access to clean water and protect children from infection and disease. The water system was built using durable and high-quality materials, ensuring its longevity and reliability.

In August 2023, the medium water pipe systems were opened to serve children and people inside the 2 communes, which benefit 3 villages, including Bangkorn, by allowing them to easily access clean and safe water for their daily usage. The medium water pipe system not only contributes to the daily needs of the villagers and Vireak's family but also generates income for the household as they are using the water for their family's farm to grow vegetables and raise farm animals. With the pipe connected to the village's households, families can save time and improve their health and hygiene, especially children like Vireak, who can go to school at ease without worrying about any risks that they may face from collecting water far from their houses.

Under the management of the Water Management Committee, the water system provides safe and clean water to 291 of Bangkorn's total population, including 123 of the most vulnerable children (78 girls) inside Bangkorn village.







World Vision is an international partnership of Christians whose mission is to follow our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in working with the poor and oppressed to promote human transformation, seek justice, and bear witness to the good news of the Kingdom of God.

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