



World Vision
GHANA

ANNUAL
REPORT
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Our National Annual Report 2023

This Annual Report provides an overview of the work of World Vision Ghana, from October 2022 to September 2023.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ANC	Ante Natal Care	MHPSS/ PFA	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/ Psychosocial First Aid
ADB	Africa Development Bank	MMDAs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
AP	Area Programme	MSWR	Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources
APR	Annual Progress Report	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
AMIC	Annual Monitoring of Indicators on Child Well-being	MTMSG	Mother-To-Mother Support Groups
BFASR	Burkina Faso Asylum Seekers Response	MVC	Most Vulnerable Children
BOST	Bulk Oil Storage and Transportation	NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
CBO	Community-Based Organizations	NHIS	National Health Insurance Scheme
CCPC	Community Child Protection Committees	NO	National Office
CFC	Celebrating Families Curriculum	NTD	Neglected Tropical Diseases
CHPS	Community Health Planning and Services	OFSP	Orange-Fleshed Sweet Potato
CLTS	Community-Led Total Sanitation	OPD	Outpatient Department
COMM	Community Health Committees	OVS	Our Voice Survey
CODI	Centre for Community Development Initiatives	PD/H	Positive Deviance/Hearth
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease	PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
CSO	Civil Society Organization	RC	Registered Children
CVA	Citizen Voice and Action	RISE	Reading Improvement and Skills Enhancement

CYDF	Community Youth Development Foundation	S4T	Saving for Transformation
DCE	District Chief Executive	SNC	Spiritual Nurture of Children
DTST	District Teacher Support Team	SHEP	School Health Education Programme
DSGBV	Domestic, Sexual, and Gender-Based Violence	SOI	Sponsorship Operation Indicators
ECD	Early Child Development	TP	Technical Programmes
EWV	Empowered World View	UL	Unlock Literacy
FAST	Finance Acceleration for Savings Groups Transformation	UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
FMNR	Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration	UMaT	University of Mines and Technology
GHS	Ghana Health Service	VFG	Vision Fund Ghana
GIK	Gift-In-Kind	WVG	World Vision Ghana
GI-WASH	Ghana Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
HEA	Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs	WFP	World Food Programme
HEAL	Healthy Environment and Wellness	WHO	World Health Organization
HCF	Health Care Facilities	YIP	Community Introduction Photo
LIFE	Livelihood Improvement and Family Empowerment	YIV	Community Introduction Video
M-CODE	Media Coalition against Open Defecation		

ABOUT US

World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organization dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. Inspired by our Christian values, we are dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people. We serve all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender. Our integrated focus is that We are Christian, Child-Focused and Community Empowering.



VISION

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



MISSION

World Vision is an international partnership of Christians whose mission is to follow our Lord and Savior 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.



OUR CORE VALUES

- We are Christian
- We are committed to the Poor
- We value People
- We are Stewards
- We are Partners

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



BOARD MEMBERS



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THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S FOREWORD



Laura Cristina Del Valle
National Director, World Vision Ghana

Dear Friends and Partners,

As the National Director of World Vision Ghana, it is with great privilege that I present our Annual Report for the 2023 Fiscal Year. This report encapsulates our collective efforts, achievements, and unwavering commitment to improving the lives of the most vulnerable children, their families, and the communities in which they live across Ghana.

The 2023 Fiscal Year has been marked by significant milestones and challenges. Our dedicated team, along with our invaluable partners and supporters, has worked tirelessly to ensure that World Vision Ghana, as a Christian organization, integrates its mission and vision - *"Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness, our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so;"* into all our programs and partnerships. This aims to make a meaningful

and sustainable impact in the lives of those most in need. From enhancing Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services, and educational opportunities to improving healthcare access and promoting sustainable livelihoods, our initiatives have touched countless lives.

We have also focused on strengthening our community resilience programmes, ensuring that the most vulnerable are better equipped to face adversities. Our child protection and advocacy efforts have been intensified, safeguarding their rights and well-being of children in every community we serve.

As we reflect on our achievements, we are reminded that our journey is far from over and as followers of Jesus

Christ, we remain committed to serving and addressing the substantial needs that persist. Our resolve matches the magnitude of the challenges. Together, with you as our partners, supporters, donors, and collaborators, we are steadfast in our pursuit of a more promising and equitable future for all, especially girls and boys.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Your trust and collaboration are the pillars that uphold our mission and vision.

Warm regards,

Laura Cristina DelValle

National Director
World Vision Ghana



WORLD VISION GHANA STRATEGY

World Vision Ghana attained the third year of its 2021 -2025 Strategy implementation during the 2023 Fiscal Year (FY23). The 5-year Strategy, named "Accelerating our Commitment to the Most Vulnerable Children" has the goal of ensuring that "By 2025, World Vision Ghana would have reached 3.3 million vulnerable children through Empowered and Resilient communities with a special focus on most vulnerable children."

To this end, World Vision Ghana successfully reached a total of 2.2 million most vulnerable children through the implementation of project models and approaches under three Technical Programmes (TP):



HEAL

Health Environment And Wellness (HEAL): The HEAL TP seeks to ensure "increase protection of 1 million most vulnerable girls and boys from infection and diseases through improved access to WASH and Health care services by 2025."



LIFE

Livelihood Improvement and Family Empowerment (LIFE): The LIFE TP has the goal "to build and maintain peaceful, inclusive and cohesive families and communities that seek to promote love and justice for 1 million vulnerable children, particularly the most vulnerable."



RISE

Reading Improvement and Skills Enhancement (RISE): The RISE TP seeks to reach "1.3 million most vulnerable children with improved learning outcomes through increased literacy for basic school children."

COLLABORATIONS AND EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS

In a bid to collaborate and advocate for a broader impact, World Vision Ghana (WVG) pursued strategic partnership engagements with various entities, including Vivo Energy, Volta River Authority, Bulk Oil Storage and Transportation (BOST), Zoomlion Ghana Limited, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, Insel Ghana, Operation Smile Ghana, and Media General (TV3). Additionally, discussions were held with donor organizations and development partners including Africa Development Bank (AfDB), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), World Food Programme (WFP), World Bank, SOS Village Ghana and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), to explore potential areas of partnership in improving the wellbeing of the most vulnerable children.

Partnership agreements with state institutions and departments were pursued through the development and signing of new and revised Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to support Child Well-Being (CWB) interventions at the local, regional and national levels. In this regard, WVG collaborated with the Northern Regional Child Protection Committee to establish a One-Stop-Centre at Tamale Teaching Hospital for addressing child abuse. Efforts were

made to reinvigorate collaboration with the Coalition of NGOs in Child Protection and the University of Mines and Technology (UMaT) to facilitate interventions related to child protection and the Ghana Water Quality Study project respectively.

Partnerships were solidified through the signing of MoUs with organizations including the Community Water and Sanitation Agency, the National Association of Local Authorities of Ghana, Ghana Education Service's School Health Education Programme (SHEP), and the Ghana Registered Midwives Association. Meanwhile, existing partnerships were renewed with entities like Visionary Bulug Organization, Upper Denkyira West District Assembly, Local Council of Churches at Diaso, and various rural banks.

In ensuring compliance, due diligence was conducted on Operation Smile Ghana and UMaT, affirming their low risk and creditworthiness. Blocked parties screening was diligently maintained at a GREEN (100%) rating, with 75 individuals and organizations screened in compliance with policy requirements. Staff sensitizations and training sessions were also conducted to ensure adherence to the World Vision Partnership Policy on Working with Partners



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **315 new Savings for Transformation (S4T) Groups** were formed and trained comprising of **3,921 members**.
- **955 S4T groups comprising 21,762 members** were linked to VisionFund Ghana's Finance Acceleration for Savings Groups Transformation (FAST) and Legacy products.
- **2,522 community members** were supported to acquire health insurance policies covering 13,385 household members (including 3,314 children).
- **1,560 Individuals** participated in livelihood training including the production of soaps and detergents, honey production, and processing of shea nuts.
- **3,547 farmers (1,225 females, 2322 males)** were trained in the Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) concept.
- **60,000 seedlings** made up of Rosewoods, Cassia, Shea, Cashew, Mahogany and Mango were distributed to 694 farmers (361 males, 333 females) in 30 communities and 9 schools in the Garu, Bawku West and Binduri Districts for enrichment planting, tree plantations and communal land afforestation.
- **Over 10,000 trees** were planted by staff and partners as part of activities to mark the 2023 Green Ghana Day.
- **361 District and Community Child Protection Committee (CPCC) members** were trained on their roles and responsibilities.
- **1,607 Individuals, including children,** were trained in Disaster Risk Reduction strategies.



LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT AND FAMILY EMPOWERMENT (LIFE)

World Vision Ghana's Livelihood Improvement and Family Empowerment (LIFE) Technical Programme (TP) seeks to "build and maintain peaceful, inclusive and cohesive families and communities to promote love and justice for 1 million vulnerable children by 2025." In the year under review, WVG continued to collaborate with the Vision Fund Ghana (VFG), government decentralized departments, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), and community members to implement interventions aimed at addressing the underlying drivers of child poverty, food insecurity and vulnerability to climate and disaster risk.

Improved safe environment, resilience and life skills for vulnerable girls and boys and their families.

WVG collaborated with the Department of Social Welfare and Community Development (DSWCD), and the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) to strengthen the capacities of 361 District and Community Child Protection Committee (CPCC) members on their roles and responsibilities which is to effectively handle child protection issues while engaging parents to adopt positive parenting techniques. Additionally, 4,012 parents received training in interventions such as the Celebrating Families model, Child rights, Child Protection, and alternative forms of discipline thus empowering them with positive parenting skills, and contributing to a more supportive and nurturing environment for children.

Improved accountability, advocacy, and good governance for child protection

To enhance community structures and capacity to advocate for the protection of girls and boys, the WVG in collaboration with key partners including the DSWCD trained 2,210 adults in local-level advocacy activities across Area Programmes (APs). The capacity building training aimed at empowering community members to actively engage and hold duty-bearers and service providers accountable for improved delivery of services.

Improved relationship and connection with God and neighbours

World Vision Ghana reached 6,970 parents and caregivers through participation in various family enhancement learning

opportunities aimed at supporting their children's spiritual nurture. As a result, community members have gained knowledge and skills to better support their children's spiritual growth, while contributing positively to family cohesion and community well-being. An excerpt from engagements with Evelyn Addae in the Krachi West AP indicates that *"I have learned to discipline my children with love after participating in Celebrating Families. Previously, I would insult and beat the children at the slightest provocation. Now, I have learned to praise them for their good behaviour instead of focusing solely on their misbehaviour."*

Improved household livelihood and resilience for sustained child wellbeing

In collaboration with VFG, WVG facilitated the linkage of 955 Saving for Transformation (S4T) groups comprising 21,762 members (16,723 females and 5,039 males) to the VGF's Finance Acceleration for Savings Groups Transformation (FAST) product and Legacy products. These initiatives enabled the S4T group members to access loans for various economic activities aimed at boosting household incomes to ensure the well-being of 81,507 children.

Furthermore, WVG collaborated with VFG to provide 2,522 health insurance policies for household members covering 13,385 S4T Group members and their dependents, out of which 8,274 are children.

To enhance community preparedness for and resilience to disaster, 3,547 farmers (1,225 females and 2,322 males) received training in Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) practices, including conservative farming methods and sustainable natural resource management. The

beneficiary farmers included the Farmer Managed National Regeneration for Positive Land Utilisation Systems (FMNRPLUS) Project in the Binduri District and the FMNR for Sustainable Economic Empowerment and Development (*FMNR4SEED*) Project in the Kassena-Nankana West District.

Also, 60,000 seedlings made up of Rosewoods, Cassia, Shea, Cashew, Mahogany and Mango were distributed to 694 smallholder farmers (361 males, 333 females) in 30 communities and pupils in nine (9) schools in the Garu, Bawku West and Binduri Districts for enrichment planting, tree plantations and communal land afforestation.

World Vision Ghana collaborated with partners including the Forestry Commission, Centre for Community Development Initiatives (CODI), and the Haven of Love Children Foundation to celebrate World Environmental and Green Ghana Day under the theme "Our Forest, Our Health" in various locations in the Northern parts of Ghana including Kassena-Nankana West, Binduri and Bawku West Districts. As part of events to mark this year's Green Ghana Day, the Landscape and Environmental Agility across the Nation (LEAN) Project, collaborated with the Forest Services Division of the Forestry Commission at Navrongo, to provide 10,000 assorted seedlings for transplanting by farmers in beneficiary project communities.





Dadaa, in white polo shirt and standing (1st from left), being taught by her master trainer in dressmaking.

SUCCESS STORY

From Hopelessness to Hope: Dadaa's Inspiring Journey

Dadaa, a 16-year-old orphan from Kpembɔ in the East Gonja AP, is one of the beneficiaries of WVG's interventions. At the age of seven (7) years, she lost her father, who was the primary sponsor of her education. This led to significant difficulties in the provision of the necessary educational materials. Her mother, a petty trader, also struggled to provide adequate meals a day for her five children and could not afford decent shelter. The family lived with low self-esteem and dignity.

When Dadaa was in the second year of Senior High School (SHS), her mother passed away, a loss Dadaa attributes

to the hardships her mother had to endure. Despite these challenges, Dadaa managed to complete her secondary education but lacked the resources to continue further. She worked with a local food vendor to earn money for her basic needs. With both parents gone and her formal education halted, Dadaa felt hopeless about her future. As part of measures to ensure that the poor and extremely poor households have diversified income sources, the LIFE TP rolled out various livelihood training opportunities in the East Gonja AP. The opportunity of being trained in dressmaking gave Dadaa renewed hope and a positive outlook in life.

Upon completing the vocational training programme, Dadaa plans to be self-employed, earning an income by making dresses for her community. She also intends to train other young girls interested in dressmaking, thereby creating a ripple effect of empowerment and economic independence.

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT AND WELLNESS

World Vision Ghana collaborated with partners such as government institutions, NGOs, CBOs and the Media to contribute towards the achievement of its Healthy Environment and Wellness (HEAL) TP goal of ensuring "Increase protection of 1,000,000 most vulnerable girls and boys from infection and diseases through improved access to WASH and Health care services/interventions by 2025." To this end, the organization leveraged project models and approaches such as Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (I-WASH), Community Health Committees (COMM), Nurturing Care Groups, Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS), Channels of Hope for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (COH-MNCH) and Positive Deviance/Hearth (PD/Hearth) as implementation strategies for the interventions carried out during the reporting period.





KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **97,800 people (24,450 men, 27,675 women, 22,688 boys and 22,987 girls)** gained access to basic water sources.
- **43 schools** were provided with access to water facilities on their premises.
- **22 healthcare facilities (HCF)** provided with access to basic water facilities on-site.
- **77 communities** achieved Open Defecation Free status.
- **51,123 people (11,526 men, 12,666 women, 13,301 boys and 13,630 girls)** gained access to basic household sanitation facilities.
- **6,644 basic household sanitation facilities** were constructed in communities.
- **15 schools and 14 HCF** were provided with sex-separated and disability-friendly toilet facilities.
- **97,724 people (26,521 men, 23,431 women, 23,742 boys and 24,030 girls)** gained access to handwashing facilities in their households.
- **62 HCF** provided with basic handwashing facilities.
- **487 schools** are provided with basic handwashing facilities.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Sustained access to safe water for multiple uses in communities and institutions

The Ghana Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (GI-WASH) programme is focused on improving access to clean water for communities and institutions. In working towards this priority, WVG in collaboration with various stakeholders including District Assemblies and communities successfully installed 331 taps from 21 new solar-powered mechanized water systems comprising 272 communal taps and 59 household-level connections, ensuring households could access clean water within a 30-minute round trip.

Additionally, 14 boreholes fitted with hand pumps were installed in small communities with populations of up to 300 people. A total of 40 non-functional water facilities were rehabilitated to ensure continuous access to safe water. Overall, 97,800 people (24,450 men, 27,675 women, 22,688 boys, and 22,987 girls) were provided with safe drinking water sources, thus contributing towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 – "clean water and sanitation for all" in Ghana.

Moreover, WVG enhanced access to safe water sources in schools to enhance a conducive environment for teaching and learning. To this end, 12,645 school children (6,136 boys and 6,509 girls) in 43 schools were reached with safe water through the provision of 42 taps from mechanized systems, six (6) boreholes fitted with hand pumps, and 14 rehabilitated water facilities.

Furthermore, the Office supported 22 healthcare facilities with basic water facilities on-premise comprising 15 HCF provided with 30 taps from mechanized water systems and seven (7) HCF benefitting from the rehabilitation of non-functional water facilities.

Access to improved sanitation at household and institutional levels

In ensuring that households and institutions have improved toilet facilities and appropriately designated places for refuse disposal, WVG collaborated with stakeholders including District Assemblies to increase access to basic sanitation services for 51,123 household members (11,526 men, 12,666 women, 13,301 boys, and 13,630 girls). This was achieved by scaling up the implementation of key models and approaches such as CLTS, sanitation marketing, and microfinance for WASH services delivery, particularly to facilitate the construction of household latrines.

As a result, 6,644 household sanitation facilities were constructed in various communities in addition to the certification of 77 communities by the Regional Inter-Agency Working Group on Sanitation (RICCS) as Open Defecation Free.

Additionally, 15 schools and 14 HCF were provided with sex-separate and disability-friendly toilet facilities with menstrual hygiene management rooms attached to the girls' block. A total of 4,143 children (1,986 boys and 2,157 girls) were reached with access to basic institutional latrines during the 2023 fiscal year.





Improved hygiene practices in households and institutions

A total of 13,073 households gained access to handwashing facilities with soap including 581 permanent handwashing facilities, 1,135 portable handwashing devices and 11,357 tippy taps constructed by household members themselves with technical support from WCG and partners including the District Environmental Health Unit. Consequently, a total of 97,724 community members (26,521 men, 23,431 women, 23,742 boys, and 24,030 girls) now have access to handwashing facilities in their households, promoting regular handwashing with soap and water. Additionally, 487 schools were provided with basic handwashing facilities. The beneficiary institutions included 28 schools with access to piped water faucets, while the remaining 459 schools had permanent handwashing stations. In total, 103,986 school children and teachers and non-teaching staff (50,672 males and 53,314 females) gained access to basic institutional handwashing facilities. Sixty-two (62) HCF were also provided with basic handwashing facilities to promote regular handwashing behaviour and enhance infection, prevention and control practices.

Improved Capacity and Advocacy for Sustainable Delivery of WASH Services

World Vision Ghana formed/reactivated and trained 281 Water and Sanitation Management Teams (WSMT) in two critical areas - resource mobilization skills and management of water facilities. Furthermore, 561 community volunteers (364 men and 197 women) received training in the production, maintenance, construction and sale of WASH products and services. Also, a total of 615 Faith leaders (488 males and 127 females) were trained in WASH promotion and advocacy to effectively integrate these principles into their sermons.

Under the En-WASH Project, key staff from 16 Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) were trained on Sustainable Resource Mobilization, WASH Investment Plans development, and WASH Sector Data Management. The training also focused on the application of the mWater tool for WASH asset mapping and data collection to strengthen the capacity of MMDAs to improve governance and management in their respective districts to ensure sustainable access to WASH services.

World Vision engaged 24 Media editors and Morning Show hosts on the role of the Media in influencing policies, removing barriers, and advocating improved WASH service delivery in Northern Ghana. In partnership with the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources, WVG hosted the 2nd Executive Breakfast Conversation on the theme "Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies and Sustainable WASH Services Delivery to allow participants

facilitate the construction of household latrines. As a result, 6,644 household sanitation facilities were constructed in various communities in addition to the certification of 77 communities by the Regional Inter-Agency Working Group on Sanitation (RICCS) as Open Defecation Free.

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to propose practical recommendations for the numerous challenges confronting WASH services delivery in Ghana.”

In collaboration with Global Communities, WVG with funding from the USAID through the Enhanced WASH Project, organized the maiden Baobab District WASH Awards to facilitate the access to and use of sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene services and products in target districts of northern Ghana by employing a systems-strengthening approach. The Nadowli-Kaleo District in the Upper West Region emerged as the overall best district in the maiden Baobab District WASH Awards, 2023.

SUCCESS STORY

From Water Wars to Water Harmony: The Story of Kangba Community

Kangba is a community in the Wa West AP with a population of about 2,000 people. The Kangba community also has a school and a Healthcare Facility. The main source of water for the community was one borehole fitted with a hand pump. All households in the community both far and near depend on the borehole resulting in overcrowding at the water point often especially at peak times like early mornings and in the evenings when women mostly gathered to fetch water for their household needs. The long queues at the borehole mostly brought about misunderstandings and quarrels among the women who argued about who was there earliest. As a result of these quarrels, grudges were held beyond the boreholes with some women not in talking terms with their friends or neighbours just because of disagreements at the borehole.

The Kangba community was prioritized as one of the communities for the water supply interventions of the World Vision Wa West Area Programme in the 2023 fiscal year. The proposal for the provision of additional water facilities for the Kangba community was pursued vigorously in collaboration with the district and community WASH stakeholders including during planning sessions, formation of Water and Sanitation Management Teams and consensus-building on the selection of locations of communal standpipes to ensure water was accessible within a 30-minute round trip of every household in the community.

Following the initial stakeholder engagements, World Vision completed a solar-powered mechanized water facility with eight (8) standpipes installed and distributed across all sections of the community. As a result of this intervention, all households can now conveniently access clean water close to their homes. Clean water is now available conveniently to all sections of the community including extensions to the school and healthcare facility.



World Vision has really helped us. There are no longer long queues and quarrels among women disagreeing on whose turn it is to fetch water. By the turn of a tap, we have water, in fact, a lot of water and we do not have to exert much energy to pump as we did with the borehole with hand pump.

Yeldidong 42, Kangba - Wa West AP.





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We are so grateful to World Vision. We look forward to extending into our households as we have discussed with World Vision at the beginning of this great project

Richard, Assemblyman

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KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **307 Community Health Committees (COMMs)** from **10 APs** were formed/revived
- **1,640 children (aged 0-59 months)** were supported to acquire the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) cards
- **1,092 posters and 300 booklets** distributed to beneficiary communities, promoting awareness and preventive measures against Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs).
- **230,000 protective gowns** were donated to the Ghana Health Service
- **103,000 individuals** were reached with nutritional information on exclusive breastfeeding, 4-star diets, good agronomic practices, and Infant and Young Child Feeding.



Health and Nutrition

The Health and Nutrition Programme used project models and approaches such as Channels of Hope-Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (CoH-MNCH) and Community Health Committees (COMM) models to contribute to the overall HEAL TP goal. Furthermore, WVG ensured continuous partnerships with KIA Motors, World Vision United States (WV US), WV Canada, FHI360, American Leprosy Mission, USAID, Ministry of Health, Ghana Health Service, CBOs to enhance the sustainability of interventions and broaden the scale of programme impact.

Increasing Community Health Care Access

As part of efforts to enhance access to healthcare services in communities, WVG formed and trained 307 Community Health Committees (COMMs) across 10 APs and collaborated with 10 District Health Directorates to revive the COMM concept in 90 Community Health Planning and Services (CHPS) Zones, including organizing Child Welfare Clinic services in various communities. Through collaboration with the Ghana Health Service, 926 children under five years received Polio vaccines while 882 community members were vaccinated against COVID-19. Furthermore, 1,640 children aged 0-59 months and another 1,000 Most Vulnerable Children (MVC) were supported to acquire NHIS cards. Additionally, 154 Faith leaders were trained to provide psychosocial support and raise awareness about Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), with an extensive distribution of educational materials including 1,092 posters and 300 booklets in beneficiary communities.

The KIA Green Light Health Centre at Saaman in the Fanteakwa AP recorded 3,004 Out-Patient Department (OPD) attendants, 280 Ante Natal Care (ANC) visits, 27 deliveries and growth monitoring for 314 children during the reporting period. The top morbidity cases recorded at the Health Centre were malaria, hypertension, pneumonia, arthritis, acute bronchitis, ulcers, skin infections, urinary tract infections, diarrhoea, and anaemia.

World Vision Ghana also contributed significantly towards strengthening the quality of healthcare delivery in various APs through the donation of about 230,000 pieces of protective gowns to the Ghana Health Service, aimed at supporting the COVID-19 response and management of other health issues.

Reducing Maternal and Child Malnutrition

World Vision Ghana conducted extensive sensitization and education sessions on nutritional topics across its APs. As a result, about 103,000 community members received information on exclusive breastfeeding, 4-star diets, good agronomic practices, and Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices. According to the WVG's Annual Monitoring of Indicators of Child Wellbeing (AMIC) Report (2023), 69.02% of children under 2 years received early initiation of breastfeeding, particularly in deprived communities.

To increase access to nutritious food by children, especially for children under five years as well as pregnant and lactating mothers, WVG distributed 3,085 pawpaw seedlings to 400 farmers and 17 schools for planting in the farms and gardens. Additionally, 334 farmers received training on the production and utilization of Orange-Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP), leading to a harvest of 3,083 kilograms by 360 farmers in FY23. Additionally, Village-Based Entrepreneurs sold a total of 9,336 sachets of Koko Plus nutritional supplements to caregivers in three districts, Sekyere East, Kintampo South and Kassena-Nankana West Districts. The Koko Plus contributed significantly to the nutritional status of 771 children under two years old.

Furthermore, WVG collaborated with the Ghana Health Service to train 22 WVG staff in the Positive Deviance/Hearth (PDH) project model to enhance their capacity for nutritional assessment of children in deprived communities.

Caregivers' Knowledge on Preventable Diseases and Appropriate Health-Seeking Behaviour

In collaboration with the Ghana Health Service and School

Health Education Programme (SHEP) of the Ghana Education Service, a total of 6,970 children, including 3,019 Registered Children (RC), and 2,736 adults (1,722 women and 1,014 men) were sensitized on hygiene practices. The intervention aimed at promoting good oral health and improved Menstrual Hygiene Management among adolescent girls.

In support of maternal health services, WVG assisted the Upper Denkyira West District Health Directorate in training 23 midwives on critical maternity health topics. The training focused on Maternity Early Obstetric Warning, the Partograph, Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care, Postpartum Haemorrhage Management, and Hypertensive Disorders in Pregnancy with Magnesium Sulphate (MgSO₄).

To combat the spread of preventable diseases, WVG trained 1,898 individuals (201 girls, 185 boys, 1,075 women, and 437 men), including members of Mother-to-Mother Support Groups (MTMSG), Daddy's Clubs, and Children's Clubs on the prevention and management of malaria, diarrhoea, and Acute Respiratory Infections, as well as promoting appropriate health-seeking behaviours with 1,792 children receiving vaccinations from OPV1 to PCV3.





KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- 19,871 children participated in Unlock Literacy interventions across 7 districts through the WVG RISE Technical Programme (TP).
- Conducted refresher training for 80 District Teacher Support Team (DTST) members from 7 District Education Offices in Unlock Literacy and Learning Roots methodology.
- Provided in-service training in Learning Roots and Unlock Literacy methodologies to 526 Early Childhood teachers and 672 Early Grade teachers with the support of DTST
- Supported the DTST to conduct 151 coaching and mentoring sessions for teachers on instructional methodologies in 178 schools.
- Supported 837 lower primary (KG 1-3) classrooms to become print-rich, facilitating self-learning for children.
- Improved literacy instruction for 35,295 learners from 198 schools (KG1 – Primary 3).
- Developed 50 titles of mother language readers, with 100,000 copies (2,000 copies per title) printed and distributed to after-school reading clubs, increasing children's access to reading material.
- Distributed 40,000 copies of assorted storybooks (GIK) to 178 schools and 196 community reading clubs, significantly increasing access to books per child.
- Supported the implementation of 207 after-school reading clubs, benefiting 15,390 children within communities.
- Empowered 5,422 parents/ caregivers to support their children's learning, resulting in 135 households establishing reading corners.



READING IMPROVEMENT AND SKILLS ENHANCEMENT (RISE)

The RISE Programme made progress towards the attainment of its goal of ensuring "1.3 million school-age vulnerable children (boys/ girls) thrive and are able to read and comprehend grade-level text by 2025" through the implementation of models such as Unlock Literacy (UL), Learning Root (LR) and Citizen Voice and Action (CVA).

The (RISE Program is dedicated to empowering 1.3 million vulnerable school-age girls and boys to thrive academically through the implementation of innovative educational

models, such as Unlock Literacy and Learning Roots. The RISE programme is being implemented in seven (7) APs namely; Krachi West, Krachi Nchumuru, Diaso, Fanteakwa, Afram Plains, Agortime-Ziope and Kadjebi APs.

Enhanced School Environment and Teacher Support for Increased Reading Performance of Schools

World Vision Ghana (WVG) trained 80 District Teacher Support Team (DTST) members, including 29 females and 51 males from seven APs (Krachi West, Krachi Nchumuru, Diaso, Fanteakwa, Afram Plains, Agortime-Ziope and Kadjebi APs), in the UL methodologies to serve as master trainers. These trainers then trained 1,198 teachers (526 Early Childhood and 672 Early Grade teachers) to integrate UL methodologies into the curriculum. Additionally, refresher training was provided for 24 Early Child Development (ECD) coordinators (18 females and 6 males) from seven districts, focusing on play-based learning, print-rich classrooms, and alternative discipline methods. Monitoring reports indicate that 11,201 children (aged 3-6 years) attended ECD centres, nearing the target of 12,000.

Improved community networks and support for children's learning

World Vision Ghana (WVG) enhanced children's motivation to read by establishing 207 After-School Reading Clubs with 441 facilitators. These clubs were provided learning resources through the distribution of 140,000 readers in the English local language (Ewe, Asante Twi, and Akuapem languages) to provide valuable opportunities for children to read and learn. Additionally, WVG empowered 5,422 parents

and caregivers through workshops to support their children's learning at home, leading to the creation of 135 reading corners in households.

Career Day Celebration

WVG in partnership with the Ghana Health Service, organized Career Day celebrations for 2,800 children during the year. Under the theme "Empowering Young Children for the Future," the events aimed to provide a platform for children to explore different career paths and gain valuable insights into various professions. The beneficiary children have been inspired after being exposed to various careers (police, fire service, and nursing among others) thus fostering their love for learning and encouraging them to dream big.

International Mother Language Day

World Vision Ghana, in collaboration with Pencils of Promise, World Reader, UNESCO, and the Complementary Education Agency, leveraged the Accra World Book Capital initiative to celebrate International Literacy Day. The event, themed "Books and Reading as Catalysts for Positive Social Change," had a significant impact on promoting literacy and fostering a culture of reading. As a result of this celebration, 160 representatives from NGOs, state agencies, and colleges of education were mobilized to strengthen their commitment to literacy initiatives. The Chief Director of the Ministry of Education, Mrs. Maamle Andrews, highlighted the critical importance of literacy to national development at the event. The National Director of World Vision Ghana, Madam Laura Cristina Del Valle called for concerted efforts and partnerships towards improving literacy rates, ultimately contributing to better educational outcomes for children across Ghana.

Advocating for Improved Basic Education in Ghana

WVG collaborated with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Education to petition the Government of Ghana on the poor state of basic education in the country. During a press conference held at the International Press Centre in Accra, the coalition presented an 18-point resolution to address this issue and proposed medium to long-term solutions. The initiative aims to urge the government to increase its commitment to basic education in Ghana.

SUCCESS STORY

Empowering Minds: Bubune's Journey to Confidence

Bubune, a 10-year-old Class 3 girl from the Aforkpui community in the Agortime Ziope District, lives with her parents and two siblings; Aseye and Seyram. Like many other children, Bubune and her siblings struggle with speaking and reading in the English language. "My peers and teachers thought I was not sociable because I always distanced myself to avoid the shame of not being able to speak good English and the punishment from teachers for using the vernacular, as English was the accepted medium of communication in school. My performance was very bad as I could not understand whatever the teacher teaches" Bubune recounted. She also mentioned that the English language, especially literacy and comprehension, was the subject she disliked the most, making her reluctant to attend school. In 2022, Bubune's life took a positive turn when her class teacher; Mrs Ahenkorah advised her to join

an After-school Reading Club established in her community by World Vision Ghana.

The After School Reading Club, an essential part of the Reading Improvement and Skills Enhancement Project, serves as a space where children, after school and on weekends, enhance their literacy skills. The activities of the Clubs are facilitated by trained community volunteers. Furthermore, children are allowed to actively participate in literacy activities such as singing, dancing, and storytelling, focusing on improving reading skills in both their local languages and the English language. Through the After School Reading club activities, there has been a noticeable improvement in pupils' performance in their mother tongue and English.

Initially hesitant, Bubune found a love for books and learning within the supportive environment of the After-School Reading Club. By exploring various literary activities, she enhanced her reading skills and, most importantly, built her confidence. With each session, Bubune's reading abilities improved, boosting her self-esteem.

The impact of the After School Reading Club on children extended beyond academic work, as Bubune continued to develop strong interpersonal skills through group discussions and collaborative activities. "I am confident to engage with my friends now and happy at school too," she expressed. The club not only fostered a love for reading but also instilled in Bubune a sense of belonging and companionship.

Additionally, Bubune's enthusiasm for learning positively influenced her family and community.

I share the stories and books I read with my siblings and friends, and I also teach my younger siblings in the kindergarten sounds of the alphabet during the After-School Reading club meetings when our facilitator is not around. Bubune's journey exemplifies the profound impact of an after-school reading club on a child's life, transcending the classroom boundaries to illuminate a path toward a brighter and more promising future.

**Thank you, World Vision and our facilitator,
for helping me learn to read.**





CHILD PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY

Child Protection

To ensure that Improved safe environment, resilience and life skills for vulnerable girls and boys and their families, WVG collaborated with NCCE, DSWCD and other stakeholders to conduct sensitization sessions for 1,029 parents across 21 programme communities to reduce abuse and also trained 807 parents and caregivers in positive parenting and discipline.

To strengthen Community Feedback and Response Systems, 23 suggestion boxes were installed in 21 communities, and 1,121 community members including 268 children were

sensitized on feedback and reporting channels. Additionally, 30 communities, including 28 registered children's communities in the Savelugu-Nanton AP, benefited from communication tools like hotlines, mass communication gadgets, and Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) voice pop applications, ensuring accessible and effective communication for all community members.

Child Participation

A total of 32,435 children benefited from the implementation of activities aimed at improving resilience, developing life skills, and ensuring the protection of children across various area programs. World Vision Ghana collaborated closely with district-level partners, focusing on three key areas: (i) Building the capacity of communities and community groups in child rights, child protection, and social inclusion,

- (ii) Conducting local Child Protection context analysis, and
- (iii) Enhancing the capacity of boys, girls, and their families in understanding and promoting online safety.

Furthermore, 4,733 children actively participated in children's groups and clubs, where they received training on identifying, preventing, and responding to child protection issues.

To promote child participation in decision-making, the East Gonja and Wa West APs facilitated the formation of their first district Child Parliaments. This platform allowed children to debate important issues like child marriage and teenage pregnancy. In East Gonja, children presented a petition to the Municipal Coordinating Director, urging intensified efforts to end violence against children. In Wa West, children petitioned law enforcement to enforce laws against child marriage. Additionally, the WVG supported Child Parliamentarians across various districts, empowering them to advocate against teenage pregnancies and raise awareness about adolescent girls' vulnerabilities. Overall, 1,031 individuals, including 350 children and 681 adults, participated in these engagements.

Advocacy

World Vision Ghana actively engaged in the review of child policy guidelines at the national level during the reporting period including the Domestic Violence Act 2007 (ACT 732) and its Legislative Instrument. World Vision Ghana, together with other stakeholders, emphasized the need for the revised legislation to respond to contemporary trends and

dynamics in Domestic, Sexual, and Gender-Based Violence (DSGBV) among others. Additionally, the organization played a key role in the annual general of the Girls Not Bride, Ghana, where it was elected to serve on the Media and Safeguarding Committee. The organization also took part in the Domestic Violence Secretariat's annual stakeholders review meeting, specifically focusing on efforts to end child marriage in Ghana and was selected to be a member of the National Child Protection in Emergencies Working Group, further demonstrating its commitment to addressing critical issues related to child protection.

Campaigns

Out of over 300 nominations received from 56 countries across the World Vision Partnership for the annual "It Takes a World" (ITAW) to "End Violence Against Children" Campaign Global Mobilizations, two girls from WVG operational areas representing the West African Region, namely, Shamima and Saraphina were selected amongst the 17 Child "Global Campaign Changemakers".

The "ENOUGH Campaign" initiated by the WVI Partnership was launched globally in New York and Emmanuella, a child advocate from Afram Plain AP, served as a keynote speaker, addressing hunger and malnutrition. At the launch, she highlighted the impact of poverty on children and urged collaboration between governments and NGOs to provide healthy food for vulnerable children and end hunger and malnutrition. The ENOUGH Campaign seek to ensure a world where every child enjoys ENOUGH nourishing food so they can thrive.

SUCCESS STORY

“My name is Evans Baboni. I am 17 years old and I recently completed my Senior High education. I live with my parents and siblings in a small community called Toma in the Saboba District. My father is a farmer and my mother is a petty trader.”

World Vision’s Kids Club model serves as a platform where children acquire knowledge about child rights and advocacy, and are empowered to champion these rights by identifying and addressing issues that impact children. The Kids club facilitators, who engage in discussions through enjoyable activities and peer-to-peer learning, are empowered to lead sessions that foster confidence and vocal expression. This model approach allows children to deepen their understanding of child rights, empowering them to confidently advocate for protection and realize their full potential. Evans shared his experience with World Vision’s Kids Club and Child Parliament, highlighting how these initiatives provided him with the opportunity to learn about child rights, roles, and responsibilities. These groups, established by World Vision, aim to nurture young children into ambassadors for the voiceless, fostering a commitment to advocating for child rights and protection.”

Child Protection issues such as teenage pregnancy, child marriage, lack of parental care and provision of basic needs, and physical abuse in the district limited many children from realizing their dreams as they were

held back by society. Most children were not aware of their rights, reporting and referral systems that can protect them from harm.



Evans with peers on the extreme right-hand side (in a sea-blue Shirt)

Active participation in club activities has significantly enhanced Evans' confidence and communication skills. Alongside his colleagues, he was empowered to take on a child marriage case, successfully resolving it within the family. His in-depth understanding of child rights and advocacy has opened up opportunities for him to present on both district and national platforms, providing valuable exposure. "Being part of the Children's group has had a profound impact on me, boosting my activity levels, building my self-confidence, and expanding my knowledge of child rights. My friends and I identified a case of teenage pregnancy among our peers and took proactive steps to address it. We engaged with the parents, advocating forgiveness and support for the girl's return to school both before and after childbirth. I also took the lead in organizing a meeting with elders and caregivers to discuss issues affecting the well-being of children in our community," shared Evans.

Over 2000 children's lives have been impacted by child protection issues through Kids club activities, "Birthday bounce-back" activities, integration with other project activities that have increased children's knowledge of Child Protection, and participation in decision-making at various levels.

In 2022, with the help of World Vision, I was selected to participate in coaching and mentoring sessions for children to partake in the Triennial Council in November 2023. Through this coaching, I was selected to host the children's session because I could speak well publicly. "It was like a dream come true". I could not imagine myself standing in front of over 400 people from countries around the world and not feeling shy and tense. This exposure helped me to make friends, and share ideas and it has inspired me a lot to achieve more in life to become what I want to be in future".



Evans (in middle) and wearing a blue and white striped shirt



Evans (in an ash-coloured World Vision T-shirt) delivering a speech



FAITH AND DEVELOPMENT

A total of 27,697 children participated in various Spiritual Nurturing of Children (SNC) related activities organized in various APs aimed at ensuring improved relationships and connection with God and neighbours. The interventions such as Kids Club activities contributed to 89% of boys and girls (12-18 years) who report experiencing God's love and 91% of girls and boys expressing hope for the future (WVG AMIC Report 2023).

To foster an environment that values children and child participation, 284 pastors, church leaders, and children's ministry teachers were trained on "valuing children in the church".

Furthermore, 168 faith leaders were trained and resourced to mobilize communities to hold conversations on gender, disability inclusion, negative sociocultural practices, and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/Psychosocial First Aid (MHPSS/PFA).

World Vision Ghana engaged a total of 376 participants in the Empowered World View (EWW) Curriculum for Children, which is aimed at building children's worldviews and spirituality, improving their relationship with God, and empowering them to initiate and lead changes in their communities. This initiative was complemented by a national stakeholder dialogue with 45 Christian denominational leaders, utilizing the Empowered World View model to address Creation Care Issues such as environmental degradation and Climate Change and to formulate a national framework for Creation Care.

Furthermore, WVG conducted Celebrating Families Curriculum (CFC) Facilitators' training for over 200 Faith leaders, aimed at empowering them to create a safe environment for children and break the cycle of brokenness and poverty in families. Similarly, over 305 Faith leaders were equipped to use their pulpits to educate congregants and communities on issues of WASH using the WASH sermon guide. Consequently, reaching 1,156 people from 10 communities in Bawku West and other World Vision Ghana operational communities with WASH messaging.

To strengthen WVG's collaboration with the churches at the national level and resource them to effectively nurture children spiritually, World Vision Ghana engaged the National Directorate of the Children's Ministry and conducted a review meeting with key partners like AWANA and Jesus Life Ghana. Efforts to deepen collaboration at the national level included training Children's Ministry teachers on the EWW Curriculum for Children and pursuing partnerships with Biblica and Hope Spring International for spiritual nurturing and staff formation.



CHILD SPONSORSHIP

World Vision Ghana demonstrated strong performance in monitoring and engaging Registered Children, timely handling Sponsorship Operating Indicators, and effectively conducting sponsorship events and activities. Regarding Registered Children (RC) monitoring and participation, WVG monitored a total of 56,254 Registered Children in the first quarter, achieving a 100% monitoring rate within the standard 90-day period. This performance was maintained throughout the year with 61,054 RC monitored in the fourth quarter. All the RC monitored during the fiscal year were present and actively participating in project activities. At the end of the 2023 fiscal year, 99.97% of RC participated in Health and Nutrition programs, with 99.4% attending school and no cases of severe or acute malnutrition recorded.

In the area of Sponsorship Operating Indicators (SOI), NO achieved a 96% (GREEN rating) timely response rate for 20,217 SOI in the first quarter, including Gift Notifications, Support Office Queries, Introductory Letters, and Annual Progress Reports.

For Sponsorship 2.0 deliverables, 96.26% of 30,303 child content pieces were produced and submitted on time. WVG achieved a 99% data quality rating for FY23 Annual Progress Report (APR) RC data, enabling the timely production of the APR for all RC.

A total of 28 CHOSEN events were held across various APs during the reporting period, involving 2,293 RC. CHOSEN is an initiative that empowers vulnerable children to choose their sponsors for a life-changing relationship where selected children are registered and presented with several pictures of sponsors to choose who or which family they would want to sponsor them.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- One limited mechanized water system constructed to provide safe water to asylum seekers
- Construction of **62 bathrooms and 62 biogas digester toilets** for Asylum Seekers,
- 90 sanitation facilities at the settlement site of the Asylum Seekers' camp at Tarikum
- **632 pieces of solar panels** were secured and distributed to the GI-WASH Project to support its operations.
- **1,201 households** assisted with multipurpose cash amounting to a total amount of **₵ 751,507.44 (\$68,318.85)**.
- **1,330 (643 female & 687 males) stakeholders** trained in Peacebuilding and Conflict Sensitivity/Resolution

HUMANITARIAN AND EMERGENCY AFFAIRS/ SECURITY

Emergency Response

Burkina Faso Asylum Seekers Emergency Response (BFASER) Project

World Vision Ghana commenced the implementation of the 6-month BFASER Project with funding from the UNCHR across selected districts in the Upper East and Upper West Regions of Ghana. During the reporting period, WVG reached 1,096 Asylum Seekers (266 men, 435 women, 263



girls and 132 boys) from neighbouring Burkina Faso with humanitarian assistance through the BFASER Project. The response intervention included (i) Construction of a limited mechanized water system to serve 610 asylum seekers comprising 104 men, 150 women, 146 boys and 210 girls, (ii) Construction of 62 bathrooms and 62 bio-digester toilet facilities to serve the same number of beneficiaries, (iii), Sensitization of beneficiaries on hygiene on weekly basis, (iv) Provision of two (2) skip containers to support effective solid management, (v) Fumigation of the refugee camp, and (vi) Weekly coordination meeting with project implementing partners (vii) provision of 90 sanitation facilities and bathrooms at the settlement site of the camp.

World Vision Ghana also collaborated with the World Food Programme (WFP), Ghana Household Registry, and MTN Ghana Foundation to target and register a total of 1,201 households as part of the Gulf of Guinea Project, which aimed at providing cash assistance to communities that hosted asylum seekers. Subsequently, a total amount of GHC 751,507.44 (\$68,318.85) was had been transferred to beneficiaries.

Training of Partners in Peacebuilding and Conflict Sensitivity

To ensure peace reigns within communities and families, WVG trained and sensitized 1,330 (643 female and 687 males) partners and stakeholders comprising; Chiefs, Assembly members, Faith leaders, Staff of decentralized departments, Security agencies, NCCE, and National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) on the local capacity for dispute/conflicts preventions and management. Conflict assessments and scenarios, building local capacity for peace, faith, and violence, and Do-No-Harm principles/framework are among other concepts WVG used to empower the trained personnel.

Gift-In-Kind (GIK) Programming

World Vision Ghana received 632 pieces of solar panels from WV Canada to support the operations of the Ghana Integrated WASH Project in the provision of safe drinking water sources for vulnerable children and their communities. Additionally, WVG distributed shoes to over 400 children through the (BFASER) Project as part of its GIK programming.

Sponsors & Partners



Birth and Death Registry



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