



STORIES OF OUR
COLLABORATION IN REAL LIFE

OUR PROMISE
for Vulnerable Children

OUR STRATEGY IS A PROMISE TO VULNERABLE CHILDREN



Deepening our commitment to the **most vulnerable children**

Changing from primarily working in places where we are most comfortable and confident: to shifting where we work, and how we allocate resources, towards the most vulnerable



Focusing our ministry for greater results

Changing from spreading our resources across a broad agenda, to focusing on a limited range of programme types and sectors, becoming excellent in each



Collaborating and advocating for broader impact

Changing from largely working on our own, in our way, to partnerships, joint ventures and advocacy with those who share our goals



Delivering high **quality, sustainable funding**

Changing from a funding mix that no longer serves us well, to raising the right funds from the right donors for the right programmes in the right places



Living out our **Christian faith** and calling with **boldness and humility**

Changing from an identity and strength not yet fully utilised, to living out our Christian faith in all we do, in harmony with those of other faiths and none

THE MECHANICS OF HOPE

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and blue denim jeans is leaning over a blue motorcycle, working on the engine. The person is holding a long, thin metal tool. The background is a bright, outdoor setting with green grass and trees. The image is split into two panels: the left panel shows the person from the back, and the right panel shows the person from the side, focusing on their hands and the motorcycle engine.

Central Africa Republic

Project name:

ECAP (Empowering Children as Peacebuilders)

Donor:

WV Korea

Budget:

USD \$ 400,000

Sector/project model:

Youth Ready

Project length:

24 months

Total beneficiaries:

8000 direct beneficiaries

Goal:

Increase the economic prosperity of youth through vocational training

Joining a militia as a young teen, to fight in a civil war, seemed like a great adventure for Hugo. Instead, it cost him a leg and gave him a memory poisoned with scenes of torture and depravity.

Central African Republic (CAR) was plunged into crisis in September 2013. Nearly half the country's 4.5 million population endured a humanitarian crisis and vicious civil conflict. Armed groups responded to the fluid political situation and took self-defence into their own hands. Defending their communities quickly became a licence to recruit children.

Hugo was a child of Gbago village in the Ombella Mpoko sub-prefecture when it was torn apart by violence. Children like him, who lost relatives, joined militias for their own protection.

"It seemed like a good adventure, joining an armed group," says Hugo, now 20 years old. "But it was not. It was a prison. I was cut off from my family."

Hugo lost his right leg in the fighting, but the memories are clearly just as painful: "I suffered psychological torture seeing people act as animals against their own brothers."

Relief began when he encountered World Vision's 'Peace Kids Club'. This project supports and trains children who have been most deeply affected by conflict. The aim is to reintegrate them into their communities.

Hugo got his chance to join a club in 2014, when World Vision came to assist nearly 8,000 children in nearby Damara. Their staff, local leaders and community members rescued children from armed groups, then began the process of rehabilitation, enrolling them in the peace clubs.

"I experienced God's hand during those difficult times of my life," Hugo says. "We try to forget the times of war, and what it was like to be in armed groups."

Some children returned to school, while those who were too old were enrolled in vocational training.

"I was trained in mechanics. World Vision provided all the children who had been involved in armed groups with vocational kits, so that we could earn a living by working together."

Hugo says that he and his peers were grateful for a safe space in which to spend time playing, learning and socialising with each other.

Hugo has chosen to adopt a positive attitude, motivated by the need to take care of his young family. He is a star in his village, repairing generators, motorcycles and other machines at his local church.

His income enabled him to build a small house for his family.

Children have no business fighting in wars, he says firmly, and those who recruit children to fight are wrong.

"I tell others who are going through this to trust in God and make peace with everyone. I tell them to not think of revenge or to consider re-joining armed groups."

Hugo cranks the generator he has been working on into life. Satisfied, he adds, "My experience was very traumatic and difficult, but through support from this project by World Vision, I have been able to cope."

I MADE MY SON MARRY TOO YOUNG

Central African Republic

Project name:

Ti Kinda Yere (CARJ4)

Donor:

Government of Netherlands

Budget:

USD \$ 830,648

Sector/project model:

Ultra-poor Graduation model

Project length:

12 months (Jan 2018 - Dec 2018)

Total beneficiaries:

19,720 people

Goal:

Alleviating human suffering through interventions in the food security and protection sectors

Trauma and loss drove Marie, 42, to arrange a marriage for her teenage son, Sadrack, with Cécile, an 11 year old girl. But she is glad, now, that World Vision intervened to save their childhoods.

The family's life fell apart in September 2017 when armed fighters invaded the region around Bocaranga, in the north-west of Central African Republic.

The raiders looted civilians and destroyed homes and

farms. They imposed illegal taxes and restricted people's freedom to travel and work. They made violence, rape and abuse commonplace.

Marie's home was in Moundi, one of the hardest-hit villages in the area. Her older son, Jean-Luc, was killed in the conflict – a huge blow for the family. Sadrack, just 14 years old and in the fifth year of primary school, was forced to drop out of school.

“My brother was the one who supported the family. It’s still hard to accept he is not here with us,” says Sadrack.

He longed to leave Moundi village after the bloodshed.

“My mother advised me to get married instead of leaving the village. She convinced me that I should marry and have children, since my late brother had not had any,” he recalls.

Marie confirms the story: “I pushed him to get married early not just because I wanted him have children, but to keep him close to me. He had already dropped out of school and he wanted to escape the country, like his friends had done.”

Taking on the responsibility of married life would stop Sadrack from abandoning her, she reasoned: “I was afraid I would lose him, too, like I lost Jean-Luc.”

So, Sadrack married 11-year-old Cécile, and they lived together with his mother.

World Vision had been working in the area since the beginning of Central African Republic’s crisis in 2013. In March 2017, its staff were distributing seeds in Moundi to help vulnerable families re-start their farms. Sadrack introduced himself as the head of his household.

Concerned about his age and the responsibility he bore, the team referred him to World Vision’s child protection specialists.

They visited Sadrack and Cécile’s families and explained how they were risking their health, wellbeing and education by being married so young. The parents agreed to separate the young couple and Cécile returned to her family.

World Vision is now supporting Sadrack through a project which pays people in exchange for work. It has helped the young man to begin planning for his own future again.

“At the end of this project, I will save a part of what I have earned, and perhaps I will register to go back to school. I still want to leave this village, to look for work outside this country, because here the wages are not good.”

He admits there were times he wished he was still married to Cécile. “But I know that it is not the right age for this to happen, and I will wait until it is the right time.”



MOSQUITO NETS FOR ALL

Central African Republic

Project name:

Kindango Kobela Ti De (Global fund Malaria)

Donor:

Global Fund

Budget:

USD \$27,097,646

Sector/Project model:

Health - Community Health Committee

Project length:

3 years

Total beneficiaries:

Entire country population through 838 Health Facilities

Goal :

By the end of 2020, reduce by 40% the malaria morbidity and mortality rate in the general population compared to 2016.

“I don’t get a large income,” 38-year-old mother Therese Nabia says. “I have to choose how to spend it, and my priority must be school and food for my children, before I can afford mosquito nets or medication.”

Therese lives in Central African Republic (CAR), one of the poorest countries in the world. It has a precarious health system and a high rate of infant and child deaths. These deaths, and abundant sickness, are driven by malaria, AIDS and tuberculosis.

Parents like Therese know that fighting malaria is especially important – but limited income in a fragile economy can only be spent once.

To help the parents of CAR to protect their children against malaria, World Vision and its partners provided nearly two million mosquito nets to populations in the north of the country. Each net has long-lasting insecticide-treatments which repel mosquitoes.

An insecticide-impregnated bednet costs 6,000 CFA francs (US\$10) – far beyond the reach of most of the vulnerable population in this conflict-affected country.

“Every week I used to have to leave my work at the carpentry shop to take my kids to the hospital,” said one recipient. “It’s a relief to know that from now they are going to sleep under a mosquito net.”

Dr Regis Mady, District Medical Chief at Ndele Hospital, said nine out of every 10 consultations at the hospital are for children under five years old suffering from malaria. The disease is particularly rampant in the rainy season, when mosquitoes are more abundant.

World Vision’s bednet distribution campaign provided training to families on how best to use the nets to prevent mosquito bites and the malaria parasite they carry.

Communities are encouraged to demonstrate their awareness of how to wash and dry their nets, and how to properly cover a bed.

The mosquito net distribution by World Vision and its implementing partners was made possible by funding from the Global Fund. It enables the CAR Ministry of Health to take a large step forward in its plans to ensure universal coverage with bednets for all children in the country.

BRINGING CHANGE WHERE NONE HAS COME BEFORE

Chad

Project name:

Integrated WASH and Protection Program for improved access and use of WASH facilities and humanitarian protection for conflict affected children, youth and vulnerable households in Western Chad

Donor:

Skala Foundation (Germany)

Budget:

USD \$2,500,000

Sector:

Integrated WASH, Protection and Resilience

Project length: 3 years (2018-2021)

Total beneficiaries:

16,500 people (9900 Female, 6600 Male including 8125 children among the two groups)

Goal:

Improve access and use of WASH facilities, humanitarian protection and building resilience of children, youth and vulnerable households affected by conflict in western Chad



“**S**ince we fled for our lives, no-one was helping us – until World Vision came. Your soap, basin, cup, containers – these are the first aid we have received to support us. It is a relief!”

Mahamat Mallam, the leader of the refugees in Kitiri Blafo, a community of around 200 houses near Baga

Sola in Chad, adds that his group hopes they will be able to settle down and rest in safety, now they have these tangible signs of hope.

“More than a year ago, we ran away from the Boko Haram militia’s criminal activities in a village bordering Nigeria,” he explains.

“From one day to another, we became displaced people in our own country, looking for places to settle.”

They ended up at Kitiri Blafo, “in the middle of nowhere”, but chose to stay because it was near the lake, and they could catch fish to eat.

Baga Sola city is less than 100 km away from the Nigerian border, where the Boko Haram fighters still bring violence and distress to vulnerable communities. It makes this a difficult place to work for the community and protect people from harm.

That explains why Mahamat and his group did not find humanitarian organisations queuing up to help them. But, as a World Vision staff member put it, “the common thing you will find everywhere here is need”. That creates an imperative for an organisation committed to seeking out vulnerable people in the most fragile situations.

It’s not just here in Baga Sola, either. Insecurity, poverty and the absence of development initiatives are exacerbating the current humanitarian crisis across the Lake Chad Basin.

More than 130,000 people have been displaced due to the insecurity. Half of children cannot go to school, and most of the population needs food assistance - 18% of children are acutely malnourished. More than a third of the population does not have access to safe water, and many of those who do are relying on open wells and water from the lake.

World Vision’s response team decided this was an opportunity to show the organisation’s commitment to “most-vulnerable” children. They set themselves the target of reaching out to displaced people in remote,

insecure and difficult-to-reach places like Kitiri Blafo.

People like Mahamat can think they are forgotten by the rest of the world, said Boukary Gambo, World Vision’s Baga Sola Response Manager.

“We are especially focused on finding children who are not being reached by other aid organisations and who cannot access the formal refugee camps,” Boukary explains, noting that children tend to suffer the worst during displacements.

Life for Mahamat’s people looks more hopeful now. Some community members have done well with their fishing and are able to sell their catch at the nearest market, 10 kilometres away. Extra income is welcome, but there are still huge problems to face. There is no school, no health centre, no land suitable for farming, and no roads.

With funding from the Skala Foundation, provided through World Vision Germany, the Baga Sola team has drilled 15 boreholes. Added to 30 boreholes drilled in similar locations, they are providing water to more than 17,000 vulnerable people.

With safe water available, World Vision is providing 5,000 households with the materials necessary for hygienic washing and cleaning utensils. The next plan is to open four Child Friendly Spaces to provide safe play, counselling and education for vulnerable children.

Funding for the Lake Chad response is low, however. That makes every contribution all the more valuable, changing the lives of thousands of people and ensuring they are not forgotten.

AN ACTION PLAN FOR ADWUMAMU

Ghana

Project name:

Cocoa Life – Cohort 3

Donor:

Mondelez International

Budget:

USD \$ 500,000

Sector:

Resilience and Livelihood

Project length:

2019 - 2020

Total beneficiaries:

No. of children: 48, 991

Goal:

Empowered, thriving cocoa communities as the essential foundation for sustainable cocoa

Too many babies and mothers were dying, and the cocoa-farming families of Adwumamu, in Ghana, didn't know who could help them. They were surprised when WorldVision came to their region and told them – you can do it.

Adwumamu means “Workplace”, and the people know

about hard work on their cocoa plantations and food farms. So they took the advice and did something with it. The result is Mondelez Cocoa Life programme, a showpiece of development in Juabeso District.

The area was neglected and lacked electricity, good roads and drinking water. Access to health care was

so poor that pregnant women, mothers and infants, facing a journey of 10 kilometres on poor roads to the district capital for care, were dying in large numbers. Children were left unvaccinated, and other childhood ailments untreated.

World Vision's approach was to engage the community in discussions which led to the people writing their own Community Action Plan.

Focus groups – women, men, youth, and children – identified their collective needs over three days of talking. They highlighted the need for a health facility, better access to drinking water, improved school outcomes, additional sources of livelihoods, better tools, seeds and fertilisers for their farms, and roads that could survive the rainy season floods.

The answer to the pressing health challenge was for a community health facility, and the people started work through communal labour and levies. They renovated a three-room house.

World Vision convened a meeting of local, district and government officials, and helped Adwumamu leaders to present their Community Action Plan. That led to official endorsement and contributions – 25 bags of cement and roofing sheets from the District Assembly, and a commitment to provide drugs and other necessary materials from the District Health Directorate.

By October 2018, the community had a functioning, stocked and staffed health facility. In the first two months after it opened, the facility provided care for 117 new-born babies, 25 malaria patients, three victims of road accidents, and several cases of snake bite.

“Now I have no excuse not to go for antenatal and postnatal care, come rain or shine,” says Elizabeth Konadu, a mother nursing her three-week old baby boy. “This will make such an improvement to my family, and the entire community.”

Community health nurse Elizabeth Koffi said lives have been saved. In addition, the facility has motivated people to take more care of their health – especially pregnant women and new mothers.

“The Adwumamu community can now boast of lower rates of maternal and infant deaths, and easy access to good health care,” says Nana Bennieh II, Chief of Adwumam.

“Community communal spirit has been revived through the development of the Community Action Plan. Everyone now feels we play key roles in the development of our community and should not depend solely on the government.”

That revival of a communal spirit of self-improvement will encourage Adwumamu to chart its own course for future development, he adds. The next phase of fulfilling the plan has just begun – the construction of a new borehole to provide clean water.



MOSES LEADS HIS PEOPLE TO LITERACY

Ghana

Project name:

KOICA-Literacy Boost Project

Donor:

KOICA/WVK

Budget:

USD \$ 1,318,200

Sector:

Education and Life skills

Project length:

March 2016- December 2018

Total beneficiaries:

109 Public school (109); 10,053 students; 545 Teachers

Goal:

By December 2018, functional literacy results for girls and boys in grades KG2-P3 in Fanteakwa District are improved

The sun sets over the horizon. Pots clatter in the kitchen, and chickens squawk noisily as they eat their evening meal. Moses, a teenage reading club volunteer in Nkankama, Ghana, sits under a tree, speaking with a wisdom beyond his young age.

“If someone holds a book written in his own language, or any other language, but doesn’t know how to read the words, it’s like a starving person holding a tuber of yam without knowing what to do with it.”

Moses might not be a prophet like his Biblical namesake but his statement rings true. More children are in school globally than ever before but, in Ghana, two-thirds of them are not learning.

The education system is weakened by unmotivated teachers with little capacity to teach literacy, and a lack of supplies.

One Ghanaian in 12 suffers in extreme poverty – including more than a million children, many in rural areas.

Moses was among them. He was educated in a dilapidated building with few learning materials and no storybooks. He could barely read, progressing through school only because of Ghana's policy that students do not repeat a year.

After failing his High School exams, he travelled to the capital city, Accra, to work on mini-bus taxis. He worked hard, but life in the city was tough and expensive. So, he returned to Nkankama, unsure what to do next.

World Vision had come to the community, and a local leader suggested that he should volunteer to run an after-school reading club they had set up.

Reading clubs are a component of World Vision's early grade reading project, Unlock Literacy. Funded by a grant through the Korea International Cooperation Agency, World Vision ran the project in 108 primary schools in Fantekwa District in support of government efforts to improve reading outcomes. Moses agreed to set one up in Nkankama.

The approach incorporates teacher training, parental awareness and community-led reading clubs that provide a safe, fun environment for children to practice reading. World Vision worked with book suppliers and universities to ensure that children have learning materials in their mother language.

Does it work? Moses brings eight-year-old Fiifi forward as a witness. She is a fifth grade student who used to run around the community unsupervised after school, but thrived when the reading club facilitator opened up a world of books in her language, Twi. Fun-filled activities led to rapid improvements.

"Today, I can read in Twi and English," says Fiifi proudly. "Wherever you are, celebrate with us as we see our dreams coming true."

Before Unlock Literacy began, only one in 100 sampled students could read an English passage with comprehension.

An assessment after two years found that 65 percent of Unlock Literacy students could read – significantly more than the 40 percent in similar schools who were not yet part of the programme.

Moses admits that he, too, has gone into the Promised Land with his students.

"I registered for the High School exam and this time I passed. God willing, I will be enrolling in the teacher training college. I am not sure I could have achieved this without being a facilitator at the reading club."

DIVERSITY MATTERS IN NUTRITION

Ghana

Project name:

Building capacity for sustainable livelihoods and health through public-private linkages in agriculture and health systems

Donor:

Global Affairs Canada

Budget:

USD \$ 877,688

Sector:

Health and Nutrition

Project length:

2013_2018

Total beneficiaries:

21600 Directs beneficiaries, 90,000 indirect beneficiaries

Goal:

Improve physical, cognitive, social and economic well-being of rural families living in rural Upper Manya Krobo District



40-year-old Tettey expected many things from World Vision’s “Nutrition Links” programme when it came to his home area of Mensah Dawa.

But he didn’t expect it to transform life in him, his wife and his three children in quite the way it has.

Nor did he think it would turn him into a leader in a new appreciation of men and women’s roles in his community in Upper Manya Krobo District.

Tettey’s wife, Mamle, 25, says the first signs of change came after her husband attended three “gender and diversity” trainings put on for the community.

“Now, whenever I am busy cooking in the morning, my husband will always help to prepare the kids for school,” she says. “The Gender and Diversity programme has really influenced my husband and changed the way things are done in my community.”

Tetty and Mamle raise their children in a rural community where every action and attitude is scrutinised by neighbours. That can lead to mockery, but it also makes positive lessons more powerful.

Helping out with household chores, or taking care of the children, was traditionally seen as “women’s duties”. Along with fetching water, preparing food, shopping at market, mending clothes, and a range of other work.

Tetty explains the logic which led him to share out these tasks more equitably: “Helping my wife with household chores reduces the time she spends doing them, and that gives her time to rest.”

Mamle is not as tired as she was before, and this enables them to spend more time together as a couple and helping the children with their homework.

She stands up for Tetty when others in the community make fun of him.

“Men in the community always tease him when they see him helping in household chores or carrying his youngest child on his back. Some even try to talk him out of it, but he explains to them that he is determined not to be influenced by them, because he knows it is the right thing to do.”

The area chief, known as the Dademantse, is a man called Quist, and he, too, went through the training and believes it is time for men and women to examine the traditional roles they play.

Before the training, he and his elders spent most evenings settling disputes among couples, he recalls. Since the training, couples no longer come to settle disputes.

“The Gender and Diversity training has brought peace to many homes. When a man helps his wife, she is satisfied and this reduces quarrels in a lot of homes. The woman is also able to rest, which is good for her health.”

Dademantse Quist has visibly modelled the behaviour he recommends, sharing in washing dishes and doing the laundry with his wife Gladys. When a couple is arguing, he invites them to come and see how he helps his wife around their household and on the farm, and learn from him.





WASHING AWAY POVERTY

Ghana

Project name:

Cocoa Life – Cohort 3

Donor:

Mondelez International

Budget:

USD \$ 500,000

Sector:

Resilience and Livelihood

Project length:

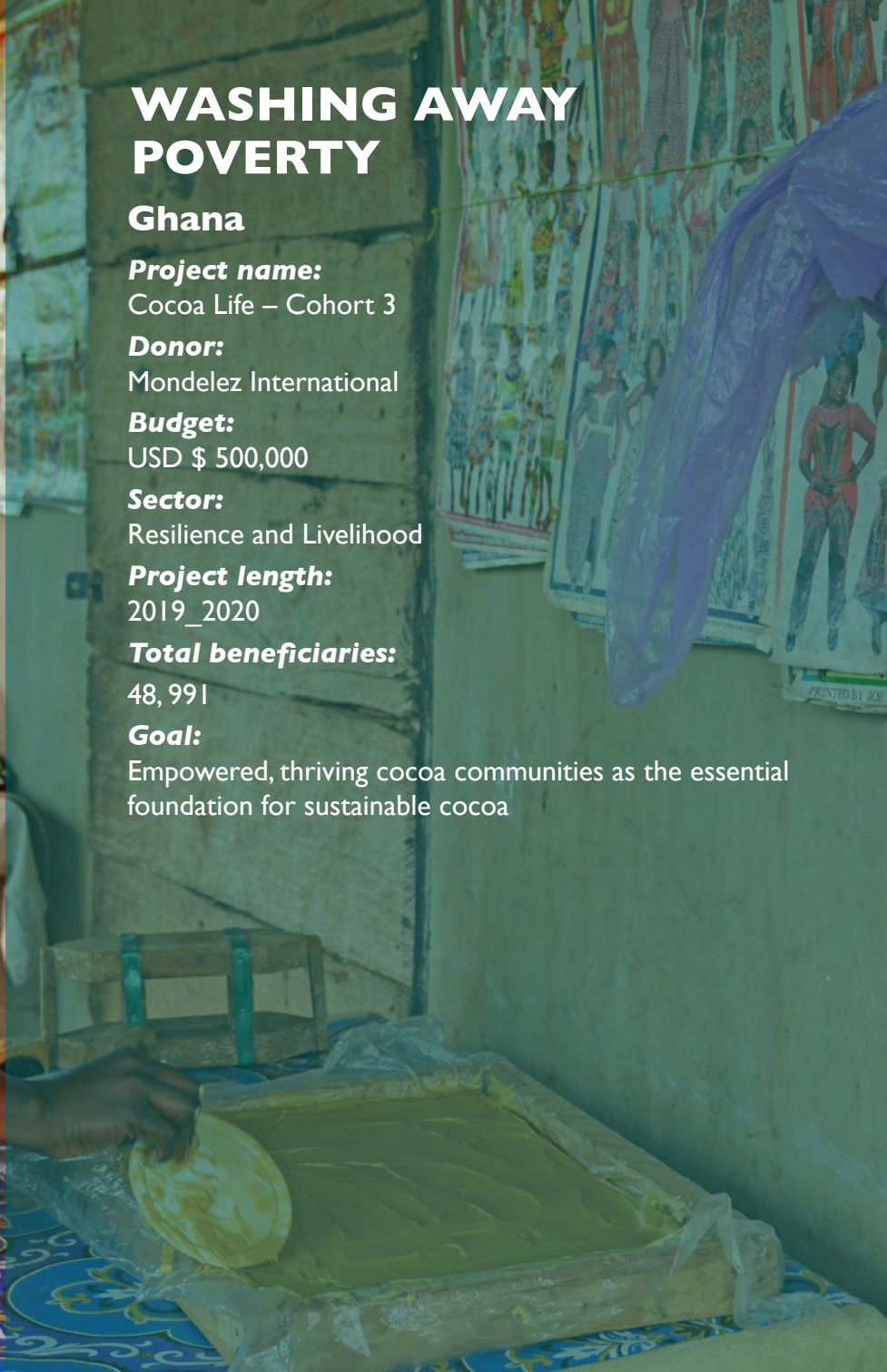
2019_2020

Total beneficiaries:

48,991

Goal:

Empowered, thriving cocoa communities as the essential foundation for sustainable cocoa



The Ghanaian adage, Samina, Ahote Aduro (“soap, curing with cleanliness”) means something more to Patience Senadzu.

In fact, soap has cured a lot in Patience’s life. It has become a major source of income for her family, freeing her from the worries that go along with being a cocoa farmer in Nkwankwanua, in the Sekyere East District of the Ashanti Region.

“When the cocoa season was over, my sleepless nights began,” she remembers. Then, she would be worried about how her husband and children would eat, and whether the kids would be able to stay in school.

That was, at least, until World Vision’s Cocoa Life project came to the community.

Cocoa Life introduced new ways for cocoa farmers to earn a living, and Patience chose to learn the skills needed to make soap. She is emphatic that she wants all her children to complete school well, and that motivates her in the soap business. She produces bar soaps, liquid soaps, and the popular alata samina black shea butter soap.

Patience had first become a member of Boafo Savings for Transformation group, after training from World Vision. Group members contribute savings regularly, then share out the proceeds when they have amassed a good amount.

She used her share-out profit to start soap production, and has steadily grown the business for a year, supplying private households and commercial businesses. She has been able to reach beyond her community and found buyers in other parts of the Ashanti Region.

That leads to a tidy monthly profit.

“Now I contribute a lot to my children’s education. I buy them the text books and support their fees.

“My husband is much happier and we decided together to buy World Vision’s household digni-loo latrine for ourselves.”

Eager to diversify her business, Patience has started selling honey. The profit from that is enabling the family to buy inputs to help boost the productivity of their cocoa farm.

Patience is so enthusiastic about her progress that she wants others to share it; she plans to train other young women in her community in how to make soap.





POND LIFE

Niger

Project name:

Safe Water for Niger project

Donor:

P&G

Budget:

USD \$ 158,607 and 2,270,400 “Purifier of Water” packets

Sector:

WASH

Project length:

6 months

Total beneficiaries:

25,000 people from household-level

Goal:

Contribute to a reduction in water-related diseases among poor and vulnerable communities and in emergency situations such as floods and cholera outbreaks.

If you are lucky enough to live where you can simply open a tap and get drinkable water, it will be astonishing to learn that the lack of clean drinking water causes more deaths than AIDS and malaria combined.

Unfortunately, for millions of people in Niger, access to clean water remains a daily puzzle to be solved.

Mehana, a densely-populated district in Téra department, is notorious for its poor groundwater and failed attempts to drill boreholes. The inhabitants make with what surface water they can find, heedless of the risks.

Reaching Siram village in Mehana requires a painful drive on a sandy path. Along the way, women and children with donkeys, loaded with yellow plastic jerry cans, walk miles to water points. They spend most of the day collecting water that may well make their families sick. The water point is simply a pit; a pond dug in an area of dried-out mud. Jerry cans are lined up beside it, their owners waiting their turn to fill them with the murky water. Nearby, others lead their cattle to drink.

For months, during and after the rainy season, the rain water stagnates, but people never stop collecting it. As the pond dries up, they dig a pit to access the receding water.

All types of matter falls in – dust, animal dung and even human waste. Yet the water is used untreated, for drinking, cooking, bathing and washing plates.

Boureima is supporting a team of young men to dig a second pit.

“The new pit will shorten the waiting time for women in the long queue,” he says. “That dark water is what they drink and use for all domestic purposes.”

People are always getting sick, he confirms.

“Myself included! We learned that it was due to the water we drank, but we had no means to treat the water before usage.”

All that is about to change.

For several years, P&G has been supporting World Vision Niger with funding for “Purifier of Water” packets through its Children’s Safe Drinking Water programme.

The aim is to help communities such as Boureima’s. Along with the magical packets, the project provides training and the purchase of water treatment utensils.

The “Purifier of Water” technology enables Boureima and his fellow citizens to treat dirty water in a simple and affordable way. The four-gram packet, invented by P&G with the US Centers for Disease Control, transforms 10 litres of dirty water into clean, drinkable water in 30 minutes, using a bucket, a spoon and a cloth.

More than 47,000 vulnerable people in 43 communities have benefited from “Purifier of Water” packets in the past three years, reducing the incidence of disease. This year, Siram is one of 31 villages in which World Vision Niger is providing the P&G packets.

For now, the water will still come from a pond – but with a greatly reduced risk of waterborne diseases. Meanwhile, World Vision continues to work with the local government and community organisations to find long-term solutions to the daily puzzle of water.

WATER FLOWS FROM PARTNERSHIP

Niger

Project name:

Ever Green smart agriculture

Donor:

European Union Commission through World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF)

Budget:

1,003,487 Euros

Sector:

Livelihoods

Project length:

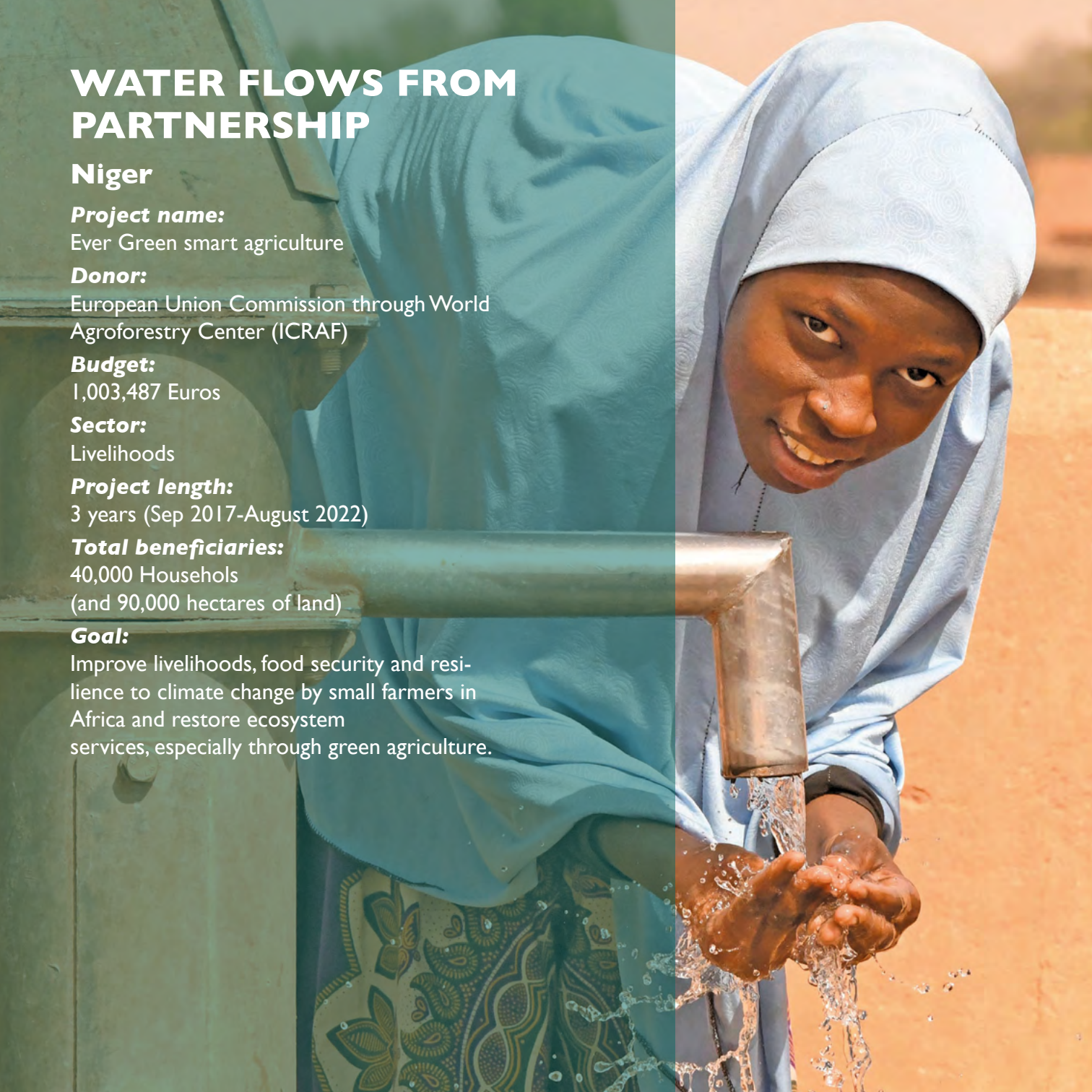
3 years (Sep 2017-August 2022)

Total beneficiaries:

40,000 Households
(and 90,000 hectares of land)

Goal:

Improve livelihoods, food security and resilience to climate change by small farmers in Africa and restore ecosystem services, especially through green agriculture.



When Danja village, home to a hospital famous for supporting patients with leprosy and fistula, needed water, they knew where to turn.

The Government of Niger had twice named World Vision its “INGO Partner of the Year”. They had provided 1,300 boreholes to supply water in other communities. So why not ask them to come?

Danja Leprosy Referral Hospital is owned by one faith-based organisation, Serving In Mission, and supported with funds and staff by another, The Leprosy Mission. World Vision seeks partners of all kinds to pursue its goal of life in all its fullness for all children, but its own Christian faith background made this opportunity even more attractive.

Danja’s previous water supply had come from the health centre, whose mechanised system was extended to reach the village.

As the population grew, from 6,000 to 10,000, the demand for water for both the health centre and the community exceeded the capacity of the system.

The World Vision team came and surveyed the needs, the scope of the existing system and the local geology, and proposed a suitable drilling site.

Collaborations and partnerships of all kinds are going to be needed if we are to achieve the Sustainable Development

Goals together, and this project was no different. World Vision Niger provided the drilling, testing and technical work. The Leprosy Mission’s UK supporters covered the remaining costs.

On 11 December 2018, staff from both partners joined exhilarated villagers for the breakthrough moment. Nothing quite describes the satisfaction and joy when a huge effort culminates in the first appearance of water in this most arid part of the world. There were shouts of joy and applause as water spewed from the drilled site for the first time, after a week of hard manual work.

“Bringing drinking water to a community is a noble act for me,” says Hajara Hamadou Alguima, World Vision Niger’s Hygiene and Sanitation Officer, and one of three women in the water, sanitation and hygiene team. “Seeing the joy on the faces of people who have access to drinking water for the first time, is a source of comfort and motivation me.”

The appearance of water is only the first part of a long process. World Vision staff oversaw the water quality tests, securing the site and other building work to make the water point a sustainable, safe feature. Wherever it brings water, World Vision also works hard to introduce good sanitation and hygiene practices, often in close collaboration with local faith leaders.

World Vision Niger continues to forge new partnerships to ensure universal access to safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030.

YOUTH PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE

Senegal

Project name :

STEP (Skills Training for Employment Programme)

Donor:

Global Affairs Canada

Budget:

USD \$3,347,569

Sector:

Livelihood – Youth Ready Project Model

Project length:

3.5 years (Dec. 2016 – July 2020)

Total beneficiaries:

1362 youth aged 18-24

Goal:

Increase the economic prosperity of youth through vocational training



The youth of Koukané in Senegal have decided to sow the seeds – or seedlings – of a better future.

They planted 100 shade tree seedlings on World Tree Day, 5 August 2018, learning from experts in environmental conservation provided by the Government of Senegal.

The action followed the successful completion of a “Youth Ready” module, promoting good citizenship, which was provided as part of World Vision’s Skills Training for Employment Programme (STEP).

They planted the trees around key government buildings and meeting places, including the health post and firefighters’ camp. Each youth also planted a tree in front of their own home.

The highly-motivated young people put together 90,000 CFA (US\$200) to start their own sanitation campaign in the town. They bought and distributed garbage bins in the local market, in tailors’ workshops, at the sub-prefecture, at the Mayor’s office and at the Health Post.

STEP is a four-year, \$4 million project, supported by the Government of Canada, which aims to engage 1,362 people aged 18 to 24 in vocational training to improve their lives and economic opportunities.

“Youth Ready” is a World Vision model which STEP uses to help youth with literacy, life-skills and livelihood preparation. It helps the young people to form associations to support one another and takes them through a curriculum to discover their potential, plan for their future, and gain the skills and support they need to succeed. It then offers financial, peer and mentor support as they put their plans into action.

SAVING WOMEN'S FUTURES

Sierra Leone

Project name:

Women Empowered for Leadership and Development (WELD)

Donor:

USAID

Budget:

USD \$5314940

Sector:

Livelihood and Resilience

Project length:

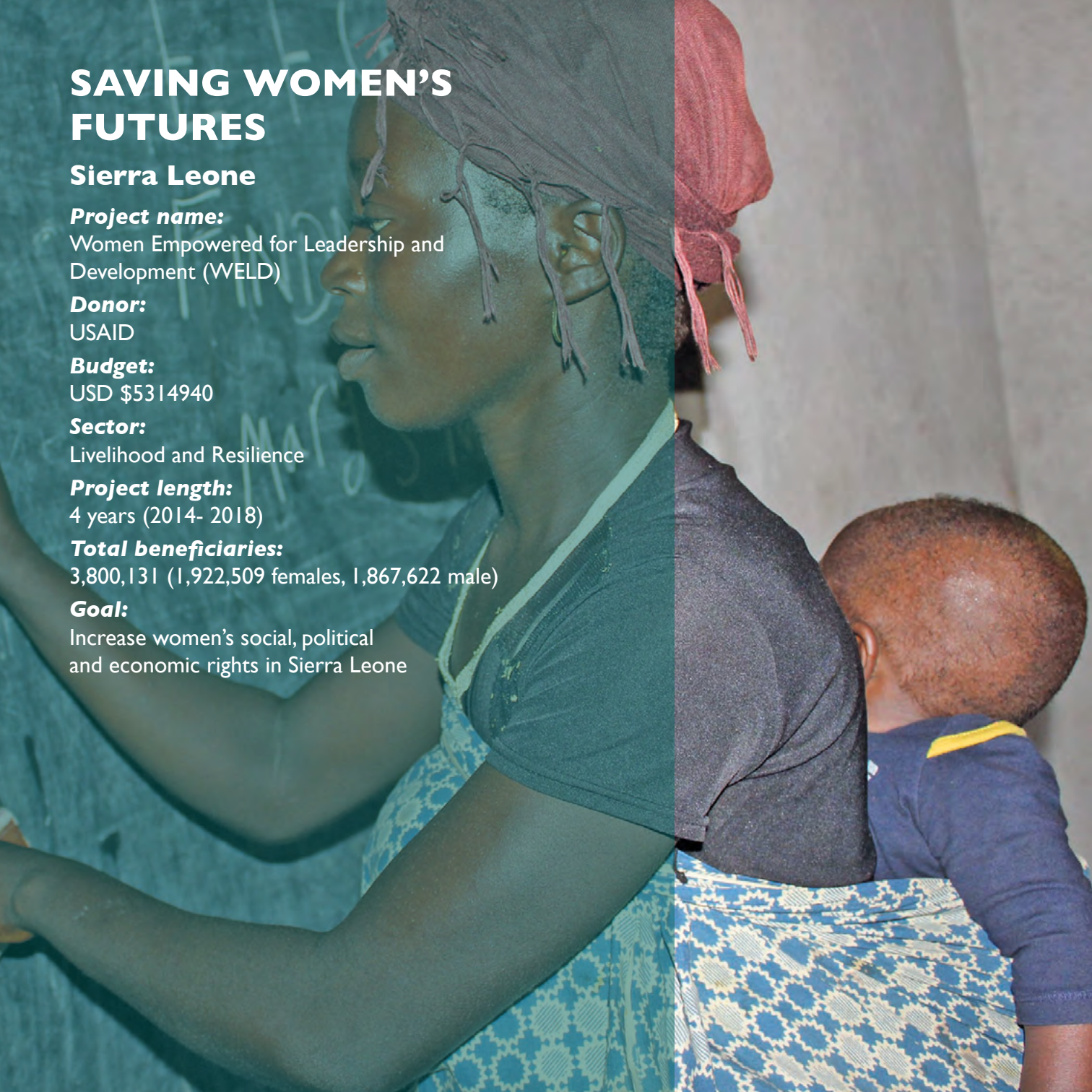
4 years (2014- 2018)

Total beneficiaries:

3,800,131 (1,922,509 females, 1,867,622 male)

Goal:

Increase women's social, political and economic rights in Sierra Leone



“After the death of my husband this group is all I have,” says Adamsay Conteh. “If my four children are going to school and living a good life, then it is because of God and this group.”

The group is a women’s savings group in Bombali district of Paki Masabong chiefdom, in Sierra Leone. Her group was formed thanks to a project called Women Empowered for Leadership and Development (WELD), a USAID-funded effort to increase women’s social, political and economic rights in the seven districts where women are not well represented on councils or in Parliament.

For Adamsay, though, national politics is secondary to the personal support her group has given her.

“I run to this group for anything I want concerning my children’s school, health and feeding,” she says.

“My husband’s family were not supportive of our marriage, so when he died nobody was willing to support us.”

The savings group has given her friendship and support without judgement. Members contribute money to the groups on a regular basis, giving loans to those among them who have needs or good business ideas. But they also contribute to a social fund which is used to address emergencies and support social events in the community.

Some groups have used the fund to build classrooms, support schools with desks and pay tuition fees for needy youth in tertiary institutions.

“If any member of my family falls ill, I take a loan and they will contribute money or take from our social fund to help me,” confirms Adamsay. “I’m happy. My life

is better now with my children going to school and having food to eat. That is the prayer of every woman – to see her children having a better life.”

The WELD Consortium (World Vision, Action Aid, NMJD and AMNet) was formed in 2014 to reach 3.8 million people. The savings groups are one part of the strategy. So far, 361 groups have helped nearly 10,000 people, mostly women, to save \$410,000 and disburse \$252,000 as loans.

WELD has also tackled women’s illiteracy, providing 63 trainers to facilitate adult learning programmes for savings group members.

Mary Jawara, from Koinadugu district, Musaia chiefdom says she never went to school. “The only lessons I have had in my life is from the savings group.”

The chair of her group explained the importance of being able to read and write, and Mary seized the opportunity to take the lessons.

“I thank God I listened to her advice. The only thing I knew then was how to go to the bush to farm, but I can now count to one hundred and read the alphabet.” Mary was humble enough to ask her children for additional lessons, based on what they were learning at home, and says her favourite hobby now is reading. She has found her numeracy improving, too.

“I know the amount of change I should give my customers whenever I go to the market to sell my vegetables.”

DIGNITY THROUGH WASH

Mauritania

Project name:

Mauritania water sanitation and hygiene project

Donor:

WV USA

Budget:

USD \$ 1,534,131

Sector:

WASH

Project length:

01 October 2015 – 30 sept 2019

Total beneficiaries:

75,600

Goal:

Improved access to water and hygiene & behavior change practices for poor vulnerable communities and children



The lack of suitable latrines is not just a failure of personal hygiene and a risk to public health – it is also an affront to individual dignity.

“Little children in the community use to see me when I would go to defecate in the bushes,” laments Raky Sow, a grandmother living in Ganki village in the Brakna region of Mauritania.

Her community traditionally had no sanitation facilities, but that didn’t make the problem easier. She resented the fact that she was forced to urinate and defecate in the open areas around her village. When she was lucky – which means, during the rainy season – that might be behind bushes.

Since her advancing age has made her more dependent, she often found it difficult to find suitable places by herself. Worse, having struggled to find somewhere, local children might easily encounter her in a vulnerable position.

“It was very embarrassing to have children young enough to be my grandchildren stumble upon me,” says Raky, admitting the immense shame and discomfort from such accidents.

She and everyone in the community also knew that open defecation was a health risk, thanks to public education, but few had any idea how to install hygiene facilities. They had no choice but to do what they knew to be harmful.

In 2017, World Vision agreed to be a partner with Ganki villagers by launching a water, sanitation and hygiene programme there. The organisation provided this, and neighbouring communities, with water sources, and trained people in sound hygiene and sanitation

practices, emphasising latrine construction and proper hand-washing.

Raky became an enthusiastic proponent of the new teachings, seeing an answer to her desire for such facilities and good practices to take root in her neighbourhood. World Vision provided 10 household latrines, normally costing US\$250 each, for the most vulnerable people who were identified by the community – widows, those at an advanced age and families with a member who have a handicap.

“Today, I no longer need anyone to go with me when I want to use the facilities,” says Raky. “I use it when I need to and I make sure to keep it clean.” Raky also makes sure she washes her hands, understanding that her age makes her a role model. The woman who once risked daily indignity is now a champion of hygiene and sanitation in her community.

Most homes in her Ganki now have access to household and community latrines. The expense is kept low as materials are locally sourced, making it more likely that the step forward in sanitation will last.

“When I use the bathroom, there’s no chance anyone will see me,” says Raky. “World Vision has taught us and helped us, and they have given us back our dignity.”

MY FARM TAKES CARE OF ITSELF

Mali

Project name:

Eco-Agriculture dans le Sahel

Donor:

Margaret Cargill Philanthropy (MACP)

Budget:

USD \$5,314,940

Sector:

Livelihood and Resilience

Project length:

1st phase of 2 years (2013-2015); 2nd phase of 4 years (2015-2019)

Total beneficiaries:

40,000 direct beneficiaries

Goal:

Improving resilience, livelihoods and environmental stewardship by initiating a network of FMNR / Anti Erosive actors in the Sahel



The land was so degraded I could only plant every other year,” laments Sidi Toure, a farmer in the Koulikoro Region of Mali. “Then we would either run out of money or food – and as soon as one ran out, so did the other.”

Sidi had been struggling to feed his family and make ends meet while only being able to cultivate his millet and sorghum in two-year cycles. The situation was so dire that his children could not go to school. The father of five was desperate.

Although he owns a four hectare farm – about the size of four rugby fields – he could barely produce 10 to 15 sacks of grain each harvest. That would have to provide for his family for the next 24 months.

“You could definitely say we did not have enough food,” Sidi says. He remembers how often his children would get sick because they were not eating enough.

Sidi followed the local farming traditions. He would clear the land for planting by removing saplings and burning shrubs and foliage.

“I used to have shea tree stumps on the farm, and would cut down the new growth each year.”

As a result, there was nothing to stop the water from the annual rains from flowing through the farm. Little was retained and the soil was eaten away by erosion.

In 2014, Sidi was one of many farmers in the region to join a World Vision agriculture project which emphasises the importance of the local ecology. Experts taught farmers to manage their land using the Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration technique. This calls for an end to the indiscriminate harvesting or destruction of the re-growth from tree stumps,

roots and sprouting seeds. Farmers are encouraged to protect trees from their livestock until they mature, pruning them and leaving the foliage to decay instead of burning it.

This was a completely new world for Sidi and his contemporaries but he decided to give it a go.

“I didn’t have anything to lose by giving it my best effort,” he says. “They also advised us to build stone barriers around the farm to aid in water retention, and I did that too.”

Five years later, Sidi is not only planting every year, but the yield from his efforts keeps rising.

“Last year, I harvested two metric tonnes of millet and sorghum. My wife and I have been able to branch out into other crops. She harvests nuts from the shea trees and grows groundnuts.”

Today, Sidi’s children eat three meals a day and go to school. He says they are happy, healthy and have a brighter future. All it took was the proper management of what they already had – land.

“We have enough food and I can take care of my family. Now I can harvest different things, I am not at risk when one crop has a sub-standard harvest. All I had to do was create the conditions for my farm to take care of itself.”



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