

Rwanda

Country Factsheet

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization, dedicated to working with children, their families and communities worldwide to see them reach their full potential by tackling the root causes of poverty and injustice.

We have been working in Rwanda since 1994, and for the first six years, the key focus of our interventions was relief and rehabilitation for the close to 3 million people that were displaced because of the genocide. In the year 2000, we began long-term, child-focused area development programmes in different parts of the country, targeting vulnerable children and their families with interventions in the areas of education and child sponsorship; health and nutrition; water, sanitation and hygiene; and economic empowerment of households.

Our more than 300 staff in Rwanda currently work in 24 out of 30 Districts, supporting more than 1.2 million people – especially children – through 27 area development programmes.

Priority areas of our work

-  Education and Life Skills
-  Water, Sanitation & Hygiene
-  Health & Nutrition
-  Resilience & Livelihoods
-  Advocacy & Child Protection

Over 1.2 million beneficiaries

World Vision Rwanda works closely with different partners from both the private and public sectors to bring development to communities and push for the realisation of the objectives in Rwanda's second and current Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS 2), and other local and global development priorities.

World Vision Rwanda's goal is to contribute towards measurable improvement in the well-being of millions of children within their families and communities. We continuously strive towards that goal each year with projects to reach the most vulnerable children and their families all across the country. Our joy is in transforming vulnerable children's life stories, and witnessing God's people turn little into so much more.



Building brighter futures for vulnerable children

EDUCATION & LIFE SKILLS

Throughout the last year, World Vision Rwanda has worked to improve equitable access to education in targeted communities. We strengthened strategic alliances with key local and international stakeholders to ensure effective and efficient education interventions, in terms of increasing enrolment of school age children and retention through reduction of school drop-out rates. This was achieved through contributing to the construction of classrooms, training of teachers and facilitating school with teaching and learning materials, and supporting vulnerable families with school fees and tuition.

This past year, a total of well-being outcomes 84,413 students within World Vision Rwanda operation areas received learning materials (including books and starter kits). We distributed more than 10,000 books to over 100 newly-opened community libraries in the catchment area of more than 50 schools.

HEALTH & NUTRITION

World Vision Rwanda works with different partners to address issues related to inadequate access to maternal, newborn and child health services; early child mortality; malnutrition; infant and young child feeding; and protection of children under five from communicable diseases.

Over the last year, we increased access to basic health facilities for more than 24,000 children among 45,000 community members, ensuring that they can all access these services from within their cells; equipped close to 500 more community health workers with materials needed to conduct their jobs well, and trained a total of 2,337 on Positive Deviance/Hearth, which is a community-based rehabilitation and behaviour change intervention for families with underweight preschool children.

Among other successes, our findings showed that our interventions contributed towards a good rise in the proportion of women offered and taking timely testing during pregnancy, as well as improvement in the management of diarrhea and pneumonia for children under five years of age in many of our reporting area programmes.

This means more young children's lives saved.

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE

World Vision Rwanda works to ensure that there are piped water systems in place and rain water harvesting in communities where there are children and their families; as well as latrines and menstrual hygiene management facilities at schools.

As a result of our interventions this past year, our findings revealed an increase in the proportion of parents and caregivers adopting appropriate hand-washing behaviours in more than 65% of our reporting area programmes. These area programmes scored between 78% and 90% on this indicator, significantly surpassing the international threshold of 70%. A percentage decrease in reported cases of illnesses caused by use of unsafe water has already started to show across our operation areas.

RESILIENCE & LIVELIHOODS

Our interventions in this sector intentionally target those who have low incomes and limited means of production and consumption. These are mainly small-scale producers of agricultural products, handcrafts, food, and service providers.

World Vision Rwanda supported the creation of more than 2,000 new small and medium enterprises, and these new enterprises were able to acquire close to quarter of a million US Dollars from micro-finance institutions. More than 550 commercial producer groups with a total of 17,280 members were linked to new markets for their produce.

With the training of 10,971 more heads of households on our Empowered World View model to equip them with a renewed mindset this past year, we contributed towards a rise in the proportion of adolescents who ranked themselves as thriving on the ladder of life, and children with access to food within our reporting area programmes.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT & HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY AFFAIRS

World Vision Rwanda is currently implementing a WASH project in Mugombwa refugee camp in partnership with UNHCR, reaching more than 9,000 refugees and 3,615 host community members with safe water and improved sanitation.

In addition to providing clean water to the refugee community, we work to ensure that refugee communities are living in satisfactory hygiene and sanitation conditions by conducting repair and maintenance of sanitation infrastructures in refugee camps, and hygiene sensitization household by household.

ADVOCACY & CHILD PROTECTION

On 19 July 2018, World Vision Rwanda, jointly with the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion (MIGEPROF) and the National Commission of Children (NCC), officially launched a new advocacy campaign calling all Rwandans to join hands in the fight to eliminate the two worst forms of violence against children in Rwanda – child labour and sexual abuse. Part of World Vision's global campaign, 'It Takes a World to end Violence against Children', the new campaign (contextualized to 'It Takes Every Rwandan to End Child Exploitation' or 'It Takes Every Rwandan') will be a five-year campaign whose priorities will be to, among others, ensure that child labour and sexual abuse cases are highlighted and punished by law as required; and to advocate for an end to this kind of violence across the nation.



Contacts