Community development

Creating sustainable futures for families living in extreme poverty

World Vision’s unique, integrated model of development has been fine-tuned for more than 60 years. It is the foundation on which our work is built. We work with communities over a 10- to 15-year period to address not only immediate problems such as inadequate food and water supplies, or poor hygiene and health, but also long-term challenges such as food security, education, and economic stability. Communities are enabled to take the lead in their own development so that at the end of this period, when the community members feel they are ready, we transition out, leaving them to continue their development on their own.

To change children’s lives, you need to change the world they live in. Over the past 20 years, children in the communities of Tlilican, Goubi N’Kaba, Nueva Vision and Koro have experienced this change and transformation. This financial year, we said a bittersweet goodbye to these communities, who now have the skills, knowledge, and tools to continue their own development. We celebrate the life-changing initiatives which have improved access to education, water, healthcare, and nutrition. We now go where we are needed most, knowing these communities are committed to creating better futures for their children.

Changing lives, one community at a time

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Tlilican, Nicaragua

In 2005, Nicaragua was struggling with the effects of poverty and natural disasters, and recovering from the aftermath of political instability. Today, with over 20,000 lives transformed, the Tlilican community is equipped and ready to rally around its children, and to continue with the responsibility of building on solid foundations to create a strong future.

Goubi N’Kaba, Niger

In 1999, families in Goubi N’Kaba struggled with the effects of seasonal drought, food insecurity, unstable means of income, and lack of access to clean water and medical attention. Today the community sees education as a priority, and improved farming techniques have increased food supplies and family income. Over 63,000 lives have been transformed and the future is looking bright.

“‘I hold the World Vision team there in the highest regard, and feel incredibly proud to have been just a tiny piece of the puzzle that has brought this community to this point of self-sustainability.’

- New Zealander Johnny Lineham, Tlilican Child Sponsor on his visit to Tlilican.

“‘If World Vision was not there to offer me this second chance, life would certainly have been hard for me.’

- Harouna, an ex-sponsored child using his World Vision training and passion for mechanics to support himself, and even help others.

Highlights

97.8% of rural households have access to clean, safe water from new wells and water pump

1156 children aged 6-12 learned healthy habits and disease prevention from community health volunteers

360 youths participated in life skills and vocational training

71 farmers associations helped farmers improve agricultural activities and learn how to grow their businesses

22 health centres are providing medical attention to children and their parents and caregivers

75 new boreholes are providing children and families with clean, safe water
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With over 30 years’ experience working alongside communities in the Pacific, we are a trusted partner of the New Zealand Government, which helps fund a lot of our work in the region. This year, we asked New Zealanders to turn their attention to the plight of families living in our corner of the world – in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands – through our Hidden Pacific Campaign. In partnership with the New Zealand Herald, stories of struggle from families living in the region moved New Zealanders to donate over $250,000.

Our key programming areas include health, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), education, economic development, disaster management (disaster preparedness, response and recovery), and addressing gender-based violence.

Nueva Vision, Honduras

In 2005, families in Nueva Vision faced challenges of seasonal drought, food insecurity, and lack of access to clean water. Today, 13,000 lives have been transformed. Numerous youth initiatives have addressed gang violence, teen pregnancy, and issues around child protection. The youth of Nueva Vision have gained the skills to take their community forward.

360 toilets along with 43 water systems and 30 wells are improving children’s health and girls can attend school

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91% of children sleep under treated mosquito nets, reducing the spread of disease such as malaria

166 teachers have received teacher training and are now helping students improve literacy skills

“With the help of the community, World Vision, and the local government, Rodney’s dreams of providing good education to every child in his community became more of a reality. A new local ECE centre has opened in his local area and now the education needs of the community children can be met.”

Rodney sharing, “I am really happy with the help of World Vision, I started to teach these children in a new building with more space and a good learning environment. This is my school and I am looking forward to taking in more children who deserve to be educated.”

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Koro, Mali

In 1997, the children of Koro often had minimal access to clean drinking water and healthcare. Children were often sick with waterborne diseases and malnutrition rates were high. Today, immunisations have prevented common diseases, and caregivers know how to recognise and respond to different childhood illnesses. Over 124,000 lives have been transformed.

When Rodney, an Early Childhood Education (ECE) teacher, saw the need for an education centre in his local area, he started a school right in his own home.

With the help of the community, World Vision, and the local government, Rodney’s dreams of providing good education to every child in his community became more of a reality. A new local ECE centre has opened in his local area and now the education needs of the community children can be met.

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"The future is a much brighter one, one filled with hope and continued success.”
- Guillermo Alonso Aguilar, Nueva Vision Programme Manager, stands proudly with students from his community, grateful for Kiwi supporters.

"We are confident for the future because now we know how to manage malnutrition and we will continue to take care of our children.”
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