

# World Vision



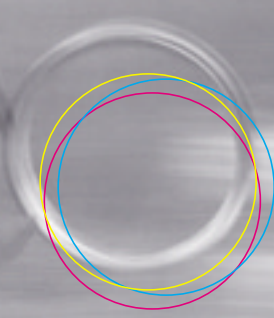
World Vision:  
who we are







*A boy plays in Malawi*





LEFT - Malawi girl  
RIGHT - Displaced boy in Congo

## Our vision:

World Vision's relief, development and justice work is based on a vision of a world committed to the well-being of children. World Vision strives to build thriving communities where peace and justice will prevail and all can enjoy security, opportunity and happiness.

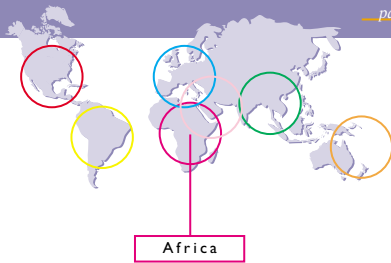
On 1 October 2003, we proclaimed this statement of our vision:

*Our vision for every child,  
life in all its fullness.*

*Our prayer for every heart,  
the will to make it so.*



*War has displaced millions of Congolese children*



## Who we are:

World Vision International is a Christian humanitarian organisation working for the well-being of poor and vulnerable people – especially children – through:

- **Sustainable development.** In partnership with disadvantaged communities, World Vision works to achieve healthy, fuller lives of dignity, justice, and hope. With appropriate assistance, poor communities enhance education, improve health care, grow food, create jobs, foster self-development and nurture children.

- **Disaster relief.** In responding to humanitarian emergencies, World Vision seeks to protect vulnerable people, provide emergency relief such as food, water, shelter, medicine and clothing, and preparedness for future disasters.

- **Raising public awareness and advocating for justice.**

By increasing understanding of poverty and injustice, World Vision seeks to promote public involvement and government policies that alleviate poverty.

*Two Angolan girls delight  
in fresh water*



## Who we serve:

World Vision helps transform the lives of the world's poorest children and families in nearly 100 nations. Our assistance is community-based and child-focused and available to all those in need, regardless of race, gender, ethnic background or religious belief.

We also seek to serve our donors - private and public – and our staff by providing opportunities to make positive and lasting differences in the lives of people struggling with the effects of poverty.



*These Indonesian girls sing in buses to help support their family*

## Why we serve:

World Vision follows Christ's example to love one another, especially children and the poor. By addressing the root causes of poverty, we seek "life in all its fullness" for all people.

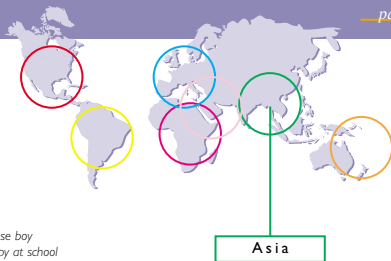
While World Vision is motivated by Christian faith, we are respectful of other faiths and beliefs. We do not proselytise or engage in any form of religious coercion. There are no conditions attached to our assistance other than human need.



*Afghan boy shows food card*



Burmese boy  
is happy at school



## How we serve:

World Vision joins with communities, churches, governments, and other aid agencies to deliver services effectively and efficiently.

- **Communities.** World Vision's primary partners are the poor themselves. Poor communities take responsibility for directing the work supported by World Vision.

- **Churches.** World Vision seeks relationships with churches, ad hoc Christian committees, and interchurch groups in working with poor and vulnerable people. For example, we are actively engaged with the World Evangelical Fellowship, the World Council of Churches, and with Roman Catholic and Orthodox Church organisations.

- **Governments.** World Vision endeavours to work in a manner that parallels or complements national development objectives. Typically, we do not fund government programmes or assign funds to government agencies. We prefer to establish relationships at a grassroots level with local groups. We support local communities in their efforts to effect government policies that benefit the poor. World Vision works with government agencies and accepts government funding only for programmes or projects that are consistent with our mission. We have firm policies to safeguard our independence and impartiality in providing aid and assistance.

- **Aid Agencies and Multilateral Organisations.** World Vision co-operates and advocates with non-governmental organisations, other aid agencies, global institutions such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, and with the specialised agencies of the United Nations. These include UNICEF, the UN High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Food Programme (WFP), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), and others. World Vision is represented on several international coalitions and committees dealing with such issues as child soldiers, fair trade, and the status of women.



## From the President:

WorldVision is a Christian humanitarian organisation. We follow the great commandment to love our neighbours as we love ourselves. Heeding Christ's model of unconditional love, our work is focused on those who are most vulnerable or most in need: those who are sick, hungry, persecuted, homeless or defenceless.

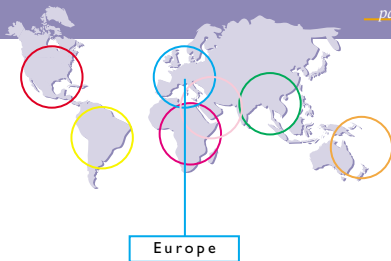
The purpose of this leaflet is to tell you a little about what we do, how we do it, and what we hope to achieve. We encourage you to learn more about our work at [www.wvi.org](http://www.wvi.org). And we invite you to support our mission of serving poor and oppressed people, especially children.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean R. Hirsch". The signature is written in a cursive style with some loops and flourishes.

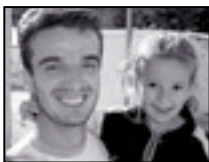
Dean R. Hirsch  
President, World Vision International



*Adriana, a sponsored child in Romania,  
receives a doll for Christmas*



*Boys in Azerbaijan play soccer outside their Soviet-era apartment building*



*A Bosnian father and daughter participate in a children's programme.*



*A Chechen psychologist comforts refugee children*

## Our History:

The Rev. Bob Pierce, an American evangelist profoundly moved by the poverty and hunger he encountered in Asia, founded World Vision in 1950. In 1953, he established a programme of child sponsorship to assist children orphaned by the Korean War. Pierce appealed to North Americans to underwrite the costs of caring for these children by pledging a certain amount each month. Operations were directed from a head office near Los Angeles.

Over the next two decades, World Vision expanded its work throughout Asia, and into Latin America and Africa. Monies from child sponsorship assisted poor children with food, education, health care, and vocational training.

In the 1970s, World Vision embraced a broader community development model and established an emergency relief division. It attempted to address the causes of poverty by focusing on community needs such as water, sanitation, education, health, leadership training, and income-generating projects. At the same time, large-scale relief efforts were initiated on behalf of earthquake victims in Central America, cyclone survivors in India, and refugees adrift in the South China Sea.

Recognising the international scope of both operations and fundraising, World Vision International was established in 1978 as a partnership of interdependent national offices.

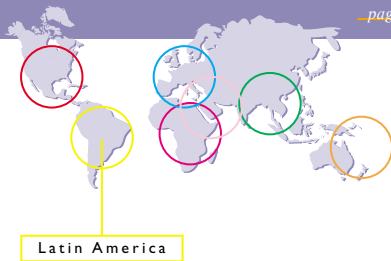
By 1985, World Vision maintained development projects in 84 nations and was responding to the globe's worst humanitarian disasters. A major relief effort was mounted in Ethiopia where widespread famine threatened to claim millions of lives.

With the collapse of communism in the 1990s, World Vision began operations in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. It concentrated on small loans for poor entrepreneurs and finding homes for disabled and institutionalised children within their own communities.

In Rwanda, World Vision assisted child-headed households whose parents were killed in the 1994 genocide. In Kosovo, it set up a reconciliation programme that brought together Serbs and Albanians to explore peaceful co-existence. In North Korea, it provided medicine, food aid, and agricultural expertise to a hungry and malnourished population. And in Central America, it helped rebuild homes and businesses destroyed by the ravages of Hurricane Mitch.



*Peruvian student with  
new school supplies*



Latin America



*Girls sell flowers at a community centre in Mexico City*

On World AIDS Day 2000, World Vision announced the HIV/AIDS Hope Initiative, a major effort to help stem the global AIDS epidemic through prevention measures and care for those affected, particularly orphans and vulnerable children.

World Vision began its second half-century by strengthening its advocacy efforts, particularly on issues related to child survival and poverty alleviation. It became more active in working with government, business, and other organisations in addressing issues such as child soldiers, child labour, and sexual exploitation of women and children. It also addressed the impact of global economics and trade on poverty and advocated for conflict prevention and peace building.

At the same time, World Vision strengthened its relief efforts, distributing hundreds of thousands of tonnes of emergency food, and created an international capital fund for financing small loans to poor entrepreneurs, two-thirds of them women. More than 2 million children benefit directly from World Vision sponsorship while its relief and development work enhances the lives of nearly 100 million people.



*Iranian sisters, their home destroyed by a massive earthquake, find temporary housing with World Vision*

## How we are governed:

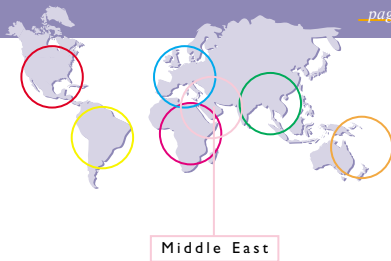
World Vision International functions as a partnership of interdependent national offices, overseen by their own boards or advisory councils. A mission statement and shared core values bind the Partnership. By signing the Covenant of Partnership, each partner agrees to abide by common policies and standards. Partners hold each other accountable through an ongoing system of peer review.

Twenty-four board members, from 19 different nations, comprise the Board of World Vision International. The Board oversees the international President, approves strategic plans and budgets, and determines international policy.

National boards exercise responsibility for governance in those offices that have achieved full membership in the Partnership.

As much as possible, operational decisions are made at the local or national level. National directors approve more than 90 percent of all projects within previously approved budgets. Larger projects go forward on the recommendation of national directors, national boards of directors and Partnership senior management. Special task forces on various issues of concern are created as needed for specific assignments.

A World Vision International Council, comprised of international board members and national board delegates representing World Vision national offices, meets every three years to discuss Partnership concerns. The Council reviews overall objectives, confirms international board members, and exercises authority over the bylaws and general membership functions.



LEFT - Palestinian children live among Roman ruins

RIGHT - A displaced Iraqi girl enjoys fresh water



## How we are funded:

World Vision raises private and public funds in most of the countries in which we work. We receive contributions in two forms:

- **Financial support from child sponsors,** other private donors, businesses, foundations, government grants and investment income.
- **Gifts-in-kind,** typically food commodities, clothing, medicine and other items donated by corporations or government agencies.

Funds from child sponsorship account for about half of World Vision's cash income. Sponsors pledge a monthly amount to assist the poor community in which the sponsored child lives. Child sponsorship helps pay for basic needs such as clean water, sanitation, nutrition, and health care. It also helps communities build a better future through education, income generation, and self-organisation.

The majority of World Vision's resources comes from private sources, including individuals, corporations and foundations. The remainder comes from governments and multilateral agencies. World Vision does not accept funds or gifts incompatible with its mission or its capacity.

## How we are accountable:

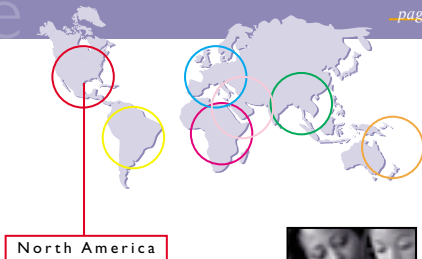
World Vision is accountable to those whom we serve, to their communities, to our donors, and to our staff. As a Christian organisation, World Vision is also accountable to God. To ensure effective and responsible use of resources for the purposes for which they were given, World Vision reviews all costs and programmes on a regular basis.

For development accountability, World Vision measures its work in communities against project designs and annual plans. Indicators related to quality of life and long-term sustainability are used to assess the extent of change. The indicators cover child health, education, participation, hope, household resilience, community relationships, and social sustainability.

For financial accountability, all Partnership and national offices are audited, either by independent, external auditors or by World Vision International auditing teams. Audited financial statements for large national offices are published annually, and World Vision International produces an annual report. National office teams audit all projects. Special teams carry out specific project evaluations to verify improvements in the lives of those whom World Vision serves.

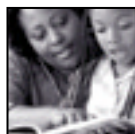


*New York girls, affected by September 11 terrorist attack, enjoy a magic show*



North America

*World Vision USA volunteer  
assists with reading*



Administrative and fundraising costs across the Partnership average about 20 percent of all resources received, although the percentage varies somewhat by national office. Details on overheads and related costs are published in annual reports.

World Vision is a signatory to numerous codes of conduct, which set standards of governance, management, and accountability for non-government development organisations. Among them is the Code of Conduct of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Non-Government Organisations in Disaster Relief, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Sphere Humanitarian Charter for Non-Government Organisations. World Vision is a member of national and international NGO bodies such as the Australian Council for International Development, the Disaster Emergencies Committee (UK), the Canadian Council for International Co-operation, the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (US), InterAction (US), and the Association of German Development Non-Governmental Organisations (VENRO). It is also on the steering committee of the Geneva-based Humanitarian Accountability Project.

## Who we employ:

World Vision desires staff members who are professionally skilled, compassionate, and committed to its core values. As an international organisation, World Vision employs staff members who reflect the world's diversity and are knowledgeable about the cultural situations in which they work. More than 98 percent of World Vision's 22,500 staff members serve in their home countries.

World Vision expects its staff to work in ways consistent with its mission, vision and core values.



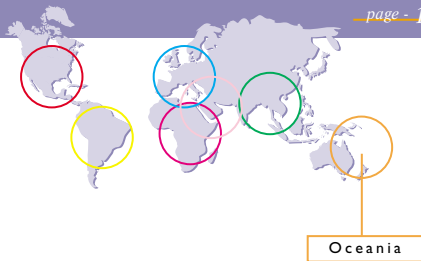
A Papua New Guinea mother and her three daughters receive school assistance

## Our Mission Statement and Objectives:

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

We pursue this mission through integrated, holistic commitment to:

- **Transformational Development** that is community-based and sustainable, focused especially on the needs of children;
- **Emergency Relief** that assists people afflicted by conflict or natural disasters;
- **Promotion of Justice** that seeks to change unjust structures affecting the poor among whom we work;
- **Partnerships with Churches** to contribute to spiritual and social transformation;
- **Public Awareness** that leads to informed understanding, giving, involvement, and prayer;
- **Witness to Jesus Christ** by life, deed, word, and sign that encourages people to respond to the Gospel.



TOP - A tribal elder in Papua New Guinea talks about AIDS.

BOTTOM - Brother and sister in Papua New Guinea

## Our Core Values:

### 1. We are Christian.

In the abundance of God's love, we find our call to serve others.

### 2. We are committed to the poor.

We are called to relieve their need and suffering, engaging a relationship between the poor and the affluent.

### 3. We value people.

We regard all people as created and loved by God, each with a unique claim to dignity, respect and intrinsic worth.

### 4. We are stewards.

We are faithful to the purpose for which we receive resources and manage them in a manner that brings maximum benefit to the poor.

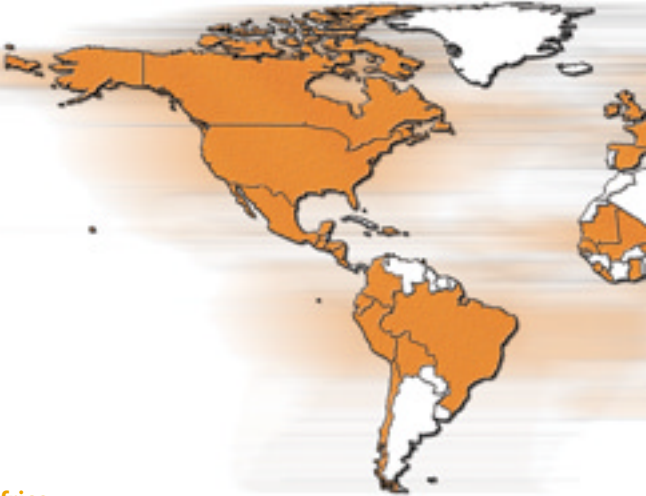
### 5. We are partners.

As members of the World Vision Partnership, we accept the obligations of joint participation, shared goals, and mutual accountability.

### 6. We are responsive.

We are responsive to life-threatening emergencies as well as to complex socio-economic situations requiring long-term development.

## Countries in which World Vision works:



### Africa

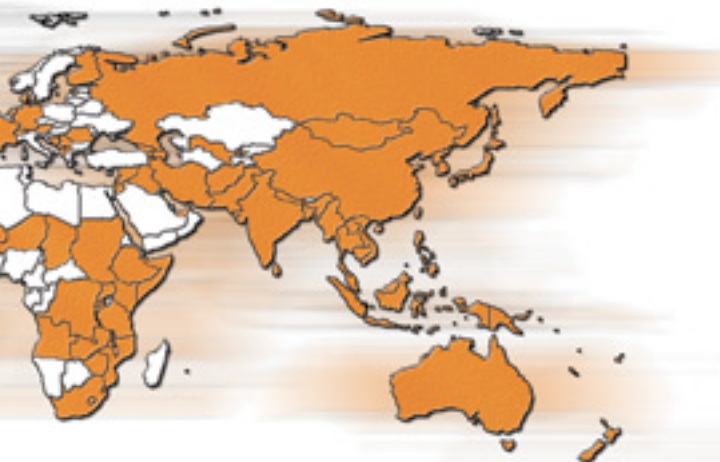
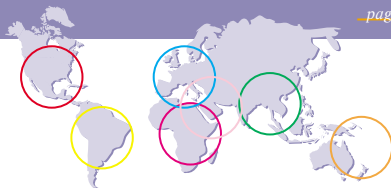
Angola  
 Burundi  
 Chad  
 Congo (Dem. Republic of)  
 Ethiopia  
 Ghana  
 Kenya  
 Lesotho  
 Liberia  
 Malawi  
 Mali  
 Mauritania  
 Mozambique  
 Niger  
 Rwanda  
 Senegal  
 Sierra Leone  
 Somalia  
 South Africa  
 Sudan  
 Swaziland  
 Tanzania  
 Uganda  
 Zambia  
 Zimbabwe

### Asia

Afghanistan  
 Bangladesh  
 Cambodia  
 China (People's Republic of)  
 East Timor  
 India  
 Indonesia  
 Japan  
 Laos  
 Malaysia  
 Mongolia  
 Myanmar  
 Nepal  
 North Korea  
 Pakistan  
 Philippines  
 Singapore  
 South Korea  
 Sri Lanka  
 Taiwan (Republic of China)  
 Thailand  
 Uzbekistan  
 Vietnam

### Europe

Albania  
 Armenia  
 Austria  
 Azerbaijan  
 Bosnia-Herzegovina  
 Denmark  
 Finland  
 France  
 Georgia  
 Germany  
 Ireland  
 Kosovo  
 Macedonia  
 Netherlands  
 Romania  
 Russia (Chechnya/Ingushetia)  
 Serbia and Montenegro  
 Spain  
 Switzerland  
 United Kingdom



Emergency food arrives by truck in India.



**Latin America**

- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- Honduras
- Mexico
- Nicaragua
- Peru

**Middle East**

- Iran
- Iraq
- Jerusalem -
- West Bank - Gaza
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Syria
- United Arab Emirates

**North America**

- Canada
- United States

**Oceania**

- Australia
- New Zealand
- Papua New Guinea
- Solomon Islands
- Vanuatu

## World Vision Offices

### Partnership Offices

800 West Chestnut Avenue  
Monrovia, CA 91016-3198  
USA  
Tel. 1.626.303.8811  
Fax 1.626.301.7786

### International Liaison Office

6 Chemin de la Tourelle  
1209 Geneva  
Switzerland  
Tel. 41.22.798.4183  
Fax 41.22.798.6547

### European Union Liaison Office

22 Rue de Toulouse  
B-1040 Brussels  
Belgium  
Tel. 32.2.230.1621  
Fax 32.2.230.1621

### United Nations Liaison Office

222 East 48th Street  
New York, NY 10017  
USA  
Tel. 1.212.355.1779  
Fax 1.212.355.3018

### International Communications Office

1 Vision Drive  
Burwood East, Vic. 3151  
Australia  
Tel. 61. 3.9287.2250  
Fax 61. 3.9287.2561

[www.wvi.org](http://www.wvi.org)

### Regional Offices

#### Africa Regional Office

P.O. Box 50816  
Karen Road, Off Ngong Road  
Karen  
Nairobi  
Kenya  
Tel. 254.2.883652  
Fax 254.2.883942

#### Asia-Pacific Regional Office

SSP Tower, 19th floor  
555 Sukhumvit 63  
(Soi Ekamai)  
Klongton-Nua, Wattana  
Bangkok 10110  
Thailand  
Tel. 66.2.391.6155  
Fax 66.2.381.1976

#### Latin American and Caribbean Regional Office

Apartado 133  
Torres del Campo  
Edificio 1, Piso 1  
Barrio Tournón  
San José  
Costa Rica  
Tel. 506.257.5151  
Fax 506.257.5151

#### Middle East and Eastern Europe Regional Office

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2084 Nicosia  
Cyprus  
Tel. 357.22.870.277  
Fax 357.22.870.204