

## AFRICA WATER FUND »

SEMIANNUAL REPORT: October 2023 through March 2024



## **SEMIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**

October 2023 – March 2024 | Africa Water Fund

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## AFRICA WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH) UPDATE

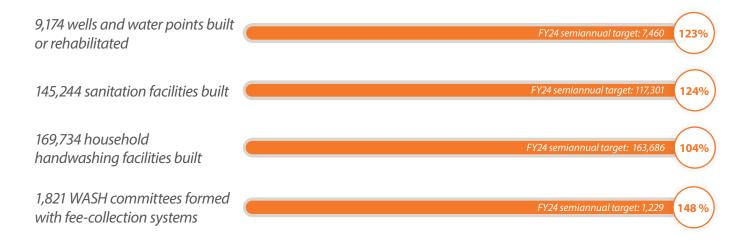
942,694867,713917,164

**PEOPLE** have gained access to clean drinking water since October 2023.

**PEOPLE** have gained access to improved household sanitation since October 2023.

**PEOPLE** have gained access to handwashing facilities since October 2023.

### **FISCAL YEAR 2024 SEMIANNUAL ACHIEVEMENTS**



## **AFRICA WASH UPDATE**

### **PROGRAM SUMMARY**

This report celebrates impressive progress made in the first six months of this fourth year of our Global WASH Business Plan (fiscal years 2021-2025). Thanks to your generous support, we have exceeded our targets in Africa, impacting nearly a million people with the gift of clean water and many thousands more with improved sanitation and hygiene.

In the first half of FY24, we reached 942,694 people with clean water (102% of target), saw 867,713 people gain improved sanitation (124% of target), and supported construction of handwashing facilities being used by 917,164 people (107% of target). Our rapid response to humanitarian crises—including civil war, drought, and famine—ensured 342,575 people benefited from emergency water services and 286,831 people received emergency hygiene supplies. Much of this work was focused on the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Mozambique, Somalia, and Sudan.

Our results were strong across all regions, with only a few exceptions due to procurement delays in Tanzania and Eswatini, slow acceptance of good hygiene practices in Tanzania, and security issues in Sudan and the Central African Republic (CAR). Despite these challenges, we remained committed to overcoming obstacles and continuing our mission. While we didn't meet semiannual water targets in Senegal, we still expect to complete a number of water systems by the end of the year.

In Rwanda, we proudly fulfilled our commitment to reach everyone, everywhere we work, in 39 sectors. Our focus now shifts to Zambia, where we aim to reach everyone, everywhere we work, by 2026. After careful review of the current gaps in water coverage in our program areas, we are increasing our target from 800,000 to 1 million people. We remain on track, having already reached 666,113 people, including 69,506 (121% of target) during this reporting period.

In alignment with our business plan goals to enhance water supply services, only 5% of water points were hand pumps, while 57% were community taps, and 38% were household connections. To support the sustainability of these systems, we established and trained 1,821 water committees (148% of target) and saw 2,683 businesses (225% of target) actively involved in repairing WASH facilities and providing WASH products.



Students at a school in Ahogorkpo, Ghana, are thrilled to have a tap on campus delivering water from a piped system constructed by World Vision. This wouldn't happen without support from dedicated partners like you.

We continued to make good progress at medical facilities and schools, providing 103 health centers (113% of target) and 254 schools (102% of target) with access to water, and equipping 336 health facilities (213% of target) and 656 schools (115% of target) with handwashing stations.

Recognizing their influence in the community, we trained 3,739 faith leaders (157% of target) on hygiene and sanitation behaviors. Empowering women also remained a top priority. In the first half of FY24, we saw 916 women become active in WASH businesses and 1,509 women trained in WASH advocacy, furthering our commitment to gender equality and giving women a voice in development that so heavily impacts their lives.

Your partnership enables us to be the hands of Jesus, extending life-changing—and often life-saving—water, sanitation, and hygiene services to the most vulnerable. Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication to this vital work. Together, we are making a profound difference in the lives of millions across Africa. May God richly bless you for your partnership with these families and with World Vision.

## AFRICA WASH GOAL AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Five-year program goal (FY21-FY25): Provide access to clean drinking water for 12.1 MILLION PEOPLE

## **Expected outcomes:**

Increased access to sustainable and safe water supply

Increased access to improved sanitation facilities

Improved hygiene knowledge and practices

Community empowerment to facilitate sustainable WASH interventions

Africa WASH achieved: **8,474,290** PEOPLE gained access to clean water since FY21.



## **AFRICA WASH ACHIEVED, CONTINUED**

World Vision uses indicator tracking tables (ITTs) to monitor the success and progress of our programs. Below is the ITT for the Africa WASH Program.

90% and above 51%-89% 50% and below

OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 Semiannual Target (All Africa)	FY24 Semiannual Achieved (EAR)	FY24 Semiannual Achieved (SAR)	FY24 Semiannual Achieved (WAR)	FY24 Semiannual Achieved (All Africa)	Achieved vs. Target (All Africa)
Water Supply and Security						
People reached with safer, more accessible drinking water	920,855	478,336	280,302	184,056	942,694	102%
Children reached with safer, more accessible drinking water in schools	122,145	68,152	47,979	18,039	134,170	110%
Successful boreholes completed and commissioned in communities, schools, and health centers	212	29	304	88	421	199%
Taps installed from successful water supply systems in communities, schools, and health centers	6,309	3,996	2,850	916	7,762	123%
Nonfunctioning water points rehabilitated in communities, schools, and health centers	939	730	153	108	991	106%
Schools gaining access to safer drinking water on site	249	108	102	44	254	102%
Healthcare facilities gaining access to a basic drinking water service	91	58	19	26	103	113%
Sanitation and Hygiene						
People gaining access to household sanitation	697,610	425,279	249,271	193,163	867,713	124%
People gaining access to handwashing facilities	853,514	370,515	230,387	316,262	917,164	107%
Children gaining access to sanitation facilities in schools	58,945	19,290	39,153	30,713	89,156	151%
Children gaining access to handwashing facilities in schools	132,991	34,204	45,270	110,654	190,128	143%
Schools gaining access to sex-separated, basic sanitation services (that comply with required ratios)	178	57	51	116	224	126%
Schools gaining access to improved sanitation for children/youth with limited mobility	182	65	51	64	180	99%
Schools gaining access to improved sanitation for girls, with facilities to manage menstrual hygiene	152	40	51	32	123	81%
Schools gaining access to basic handwashing facilities	570	90	92	474	656	115%
Healthcare facilities gaining access to a basic sanitation service	95	23	37	21	81	85%
Healthcare facilities gaining access to basic handwashing facilities	158	62	174	100	336	213%
Governance and Finance		· ·				
WASH committees formed and trained with a financing system in place for maintenance and repair	1,229	689	785	347	1,821	148%
Local businesses active in repair of WASH facilities and provision of WASH products	1,192	773	1,288	622	2,683	225%
Faith leaders trained to promote safe WASH practices	2,380	1,889	887	963	3,739	157%
Schools trained in planning and budgeting for WASH services	395	136	131	217	484	123%
WASH in Emergency Settings				ı		
People with access to emergency drinking water supplies	0	233,819	97,526	11,230	342,575	N/A
People with access to emergency hygiene supplies	0	221,362	59,588	5,881	286,831	N/A
People with access to emergency sanitation systems	0	18,474	76,020	7,270	101,764	N/A
People with access to appropriate solid-waste disposal facilities	0	32,005	0	0	32,005	N/A

## **ACRONYMS**

AP	Area Program	MOH	Ministry of Health		
CAR	Central African Republic	MOU	Memorandum of Understanding		
CLTS	Community-Led Total Sanitation	NGO	Nongovernmental Organization		
CVA	Citizen Voice and Action	NCG	Nurturing Care Group		
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo	ODF	Open Defecation Free		
DRI	Desert Research Institute	SAR	Southern Africa Region		
EAR	East Africa Region	UNC	University of North Carolina		
GFA	Golf Fore Africa	VIP	Ventilated Improved Pit		
ITT	Indicator Tracking Table	WAR	West Africa Region		
MHM	Menstrual Hygiene Management	WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene		
		WASH FIT	Water and Sanitation for Health		
			Facility Improvement Tool		



Somali students take a test on the hygiene curriculum called CHAST, or Children's Hygiene and Sanitation Training.

#### **PARTNERSHIPS UPDATE**



## charity: water

### charity: water

- Partner since 2012
- Areas of focus: WASH infrastructure, sanitation and hygiene promotion
- Locations: Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, and Niger

The 2023 grants in Mali, Mozambique, and Niger (totaling \$7.25 million) were completed in February and March 2024. In Niger, 53,725 people gained access to clean water from 124 water points, the Mali grant provided 47,304 people with clean water from 146 water points, and the Mozambique grant provided 42,866 people with clean water from 121 water points. These countries launched new grants in February and March, with Mali approved for \$2.6 million, Niger for \$1.9 million, and Mozambique for \$1.8 million.

A \$900,000 Malawi project, which started in August 2023, finished its third quarter. Favorable exchange rate fluctuations led to funding for an additional five water points, bringing the total to 86. The Malawi team has submitted a proposal for another \$900,000 grant, and that work should begin in August 2024.



## Children's Investment Fund Foundation

- Partner since 2018
- Areas of focus: WASH and health
- · Location: Ethiopia

The five-year \$79.8 million Water4Life+ project grant began in 2022 with a goal of reaching 1.6 million people. It targets schools, health facilities, and communities with clean water through piped systems that include 396 wells, 50 capped springs, and 48 rehabilitated water systems. We managed to drill more than 135 wells and completed 52 water supply systems benefiting 52 schools and 36 health facilities since it started. The project restarted in April 2024 after a pause during which we engaged with CIFF and the government of Ethiopia to tackle project challenges. The interim phase calls for World Vision to complete 38 additional water supply systems (those paused in October 2023).



#### Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

Partner since 1990 Areas of focus: Water supply, WASH in health facilities, governance and finance Locations: Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, and Niger

The Foundation approved a \$4.75 million, three-year grant for the Ahafo Region Integrated WASH Project in Ghana. Brett Gleitsmann, program officer for the Safe Water Initiative at the Foundation, visited the Ghana office in March to meet key project staff members, and said he looks forward to seeing progress on the Drinking Water Sustainability Fund approach for water service delivery.

The SAFE4HCF project in Ethiopia is in its final year, but due to the current security situation, there is an ongoing discussion between woreda government officials and World Vision to submit a one-year no-cost extension request to the Foundation, necessitated by unpredictable delays in the project area. Niger and Mali are on track to finalize all activities and submit final reports on time.





## Desert Research Institute (DRI) and Drexel University

- · Partners since 2014
- · Area of focus: Capacity building

 Locations: Africa WASH Program countries, plus Afghanistan, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Nicaragua, and Papua New Guinea

The FY24 WASH Capacity-Building Program registered 36 students for Drexel's Cohort 11, while DRI's Cohort 9 registered 39 students. They will finish studies in December 2024.

A new contract extension through 2025 has been signed, and in it we introduced professional courses. Included are Groundwater Development and Management, Water Supply Systems (with solar mechanized piped systems), Integrated Water Resources Management and Climate Change, Water Quality Issues (including use of low-cost technologies to treat drinking water supplies), and Market-Based Approaches to WASH Service Delivery. Consultations are ongoing to design a follow-up WASH Capacity Building Program for FY26-FY30.



#### Golf Fore Africa

- Partner since 2012
- Areas of focus: Water supply, sanitation, and hygiene promotion
- · Location: Zambia

Golf Fore Africa (GFA) continues to support our Finish the Job efforts in the five targeted APs (Manyinga, Mbala, Moyo, Mufumbwe, and Nkeyema).

Through this partnership, we will reach the final two health facilities in Mbala this year, ensuring that all facilities in the district have piped water. Both facilities planned for this year will gain new maternity wards with piped water, flush toilets, and showers. GFA also will fund school piped-water systems and flush toilets with handwashing, as well as community water sources.

#### **PARTNERSHIPS UPDATE**



#### GivePower

- · Partner since 2023
- Areas of focus: WASH and energy, desalination
- Locations: Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia

GivePower is a leading provider of desalination water treatment systems and solar energy solutions worldwide. To support World Vision's WASH and energy initiative to meet additional power demands, GivePower has helped design, vet, and oversee the energy component of our work. In 2023, World Vision and GivePower signed an MoU to codevelop projects that deliver WASH and energy solutions.

GivePower currently is working with our team in Zambia to design and install solar microgrid energy storage systems to meet the power needs of healthcare facilities, schools, local businesses, water pumps, and communities. GivePower also is building our capacity to support this WASH and energy delivery model in other countries and regions.

We are looking for opportunities in our programming to introduce GivePower's desalination technology when water quality standards can't be met using traditional approaches. Through a review of World Vision's water quality data and GivePower's operational areas, we have identified potential opportunities in Kenya and Tanzania.



#### Grundfos

- Partner since 2015
- · Area of focus: Water supply
- Locations: Chad, DRC, Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, India, Kenya, Lesotho, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe

In FY23 we reached more than 700,000

people with basic water access through piped-water systems that rely on Grundfos pumps. Grundfos continues to reinforce its commitment to provide technical support by working locally to improve procurement processes, training, and capacity building.

## iDE

Powering entrepreneurs to end poverty.

## iDE (International Development Enterprises)

- Partner since 2023
- Area of focus: Market-based sanitation and hygiene, research and learning
- Locations: Burundi, Ghana, Mozambique, and Zambia

With a strong evidence base, the right product and service mix, and a deep understanding of local markets, an iDE and World Vision partnership is leading to sustainable gains in sanitation coverage and attracting much-needed investment in the sector. We are collaborating to develop and pilot innovative approaches to sanitation and hygiene in alignment with our sanitation and hygiene strategy of creating demand, improving supply, strengthening governance, and expanding financing.

Phase 1 field research has been completed in Ghana and Mozambique, with findings dictating interventions to be tested in Phase 2, which began in April for both countries. Phase 1 for Burundi and Zambia is ongoing, with Zambia launching in January and Burundi in February.



#### P&G

- · Partner since 2007
- · Areas of focus: Water treatment and

- purification, hygiene promotion, emergency response
- Locations: Bangladesh, Cambodia, El Salvador, Ghana, Honduras, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Philippines, Senegal, and Zimbabwe

World Vision continues to provide P&G Purifier of Water packets and filtration materials to ensure families have clean drinking water. So far in FY24, nearly 34 million P&G packets were distributed in 14 countries, benefiting more than 669,000 people.

These packets are part of a bridge strategy for communities in the short term, while they wait for a permanent, sustainable water source. To strengthen this approach, new monitoring tools and surveys were piloted in a few countries. This year, four projects are targeted to have 20% or more of project participants graduate to sustainable water systems. For the remainder of the year, we will continue to roll out our approach, collect more data, and ensure communities have a path to sustainable water. Additionally, we aim to incorporate and analyze data to better understand and address the types of fragility occurring in project areas.



#### Sesame Workshop

- Partner since 2015
- Areas of focus: WASH in schools, behavior change, menstrual health
- Locations: Afghanistan, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Syria, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Expansion of WASH UP! to three new countries—El Salvador, Guatemala, and Kenya—is now complete. All materials for this hygiene behavior-change curriculum for young children have been piloted, refined, and finalized for scaling up.

#### **PARTNERSHIPS UPDATE**

Research efforts with Stanford University for WASH UP! in India were completed before the end of Q2, and now Stanford researchers, together with the local research partner in India—Oxford Policy Management—are conducting a final analysis of the endline data. World Vision expects a final report on these learnings in Q4.

WASH UP! Girl Talk, the curriculum focusing on puberty and menstrual health, is in the pilot phase in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Kenya. Kenya introduced WASH UP! Girl Talk to 37 head teachers who will manage implementation in their schools. In Honduras, 23 teachers from 10 schools were trained, and in Guatemala, five teachers from five schools were trained. In El Salvador, 30 teachers were trained, and teachers there are creating materials for parents of children participating in the program.



## Strong Women Strong World/Clean Water Here

- Partners since 2021
- Areas of focus: WASH, women and girls' empowerment, economic empowerment
- Locations: Kenya, Zimbabwe, Guatemala, and Honduras

The end of March marked the halfway point in the three-year Strong Women Strong World: Beyond Access program.

Most participating communities have completed activities in the first step, which focuses on transformed

mindsets through Biblical Empowered Worldview, ensuring household and school access to water and sanitation, and forming savings groups.

Project teams are now emphasizing the second step, which includes supporting healthy water and sanitation behaviors in schools and households, building financial literacy, and increasing income generation and business ownership for women who are engaging in a variety of businesses, from soap making and agriculture, to animal husbandry and cosmetics. When they are ready, women will be connected to VisionFund and other microfinance institutions for small loans to grow their businesses.

WASH teams and representatives of Emory University met for a learning workshop in February. Data from research efforts conducted by Emory in the summer of 2023 were presented, and learnings from that research were used to conduct an in-depth exercise to evaluate how activities are aligned to the needs identified. One common gap identified across all countries is related to male engagement. To address this, each country is exploring ways to better engage men so they can support women's empowerment.



### University of North Carolina Water Institute (UNC)

- Partner since 2015
- · Areas of focus: Research and learning
- · Locations: Ghana and Niger

UNC and World Vision have been improving supply chains and working with manufacturers to ensure that higher-quality parts are available for

water systems. Research is ongoing in Ghana, where we continue to investigate root causes of water quality issues and develop local laboratory capacity. System problems have been identified for correction, and water quality will be monitored to better understand the most cost-effective actions and how global guidance should be shaped for World Vision and the broader sector.

In December 2023, World Vision and UNC met with government officials in Ghana to share preliminary findings, which stimulated national-level progress on improving policies regarding sourcing and tracking quality construction materials.



#### University of Toronto

- Partner since 2022
- · Areas of focus: Research and learning
- · Location: Zambia

We continue to partner with the university on research related to the equitable delivery of piped-water services, to better understand how to ensure all people have equal and equitable access to the water provided. The results will provide a more comprehensive understanding of the social and technical challenges faced by rural water system designers and operators. We expect results will be used to improve the way piped-water systems are designed and managed.

We hope to continue our partnership with the university through presentations at conferences and webinars and potentially sponsoring a Ph.D. student to continue this work and develop tools to support our mission.

## **EAST AFRICA WASH**

#### **REGIONAL SUMMARY**

WASH Programs in the East Africa region are making great strides in leveraging their strengths to garner substantial financial support from governments to share the costs of new water systems.

In Rwanda, the government is providing more than \$560,000 for new projects, and in Kenya the WASH team has secured more than \$150,000 in government funding for some of our work there. A government partnership in Uganda provided 81 miles of water piping, with plans to share expenses

for construction of a new water treatment plant.

More communities in our program areas also are taking on additional responsibility, such as increased efforts to protect water resources by regrowing trees on farmlands, grazing lands, and in degraded forests, to improve soil structure, slow erosion, retain water, and increase biodiversity.

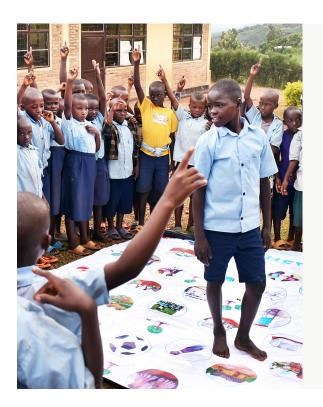
Solid waste management businesses are springing up in communities

across the region. Two such ventures in Ethiopia are women-led enterprises, which help empower women while supporting efforts to keep communities cleaner and healthier for children and families

WASH business centers continue to grow throughout East Africa, with training provided to new artisans and entrepreneurs who can now make a living providing vital supplies and materials needed to move families up the sanitation ladder locally and more affordably.

478,336

**PEOPLE** in East Africa have gained access to clean drinking water since October 2023.



#### WASH lessons lead to school enrollment for Jean Claude

Jean Claude had never been to school before age 10, when a student from Karwiru Primary School in Rwanda visited him to share what he'd learned through Sesame's WASH UP! "I was very dirty. I couldn't remember when I last washed my body, and then it was only with water, and no soap," he said.

That visiting student also encouraged Jean Claude to attend school with him. He was reluctant at first because he had no money for uniforms or supplies, but when students and teachers rallied around to provide what he needed, he eagerly began going to classes. This made Jean Claude the first of five children in his family to attend school. He shared the WASH lessons he was learning with his siblings and mother, and a year later, he convinced his older brother, Emmanuel, to attend school as well.

"I am thankful to World Vision for having brought WASH Club here. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't have joined school," he said. At left, he leads classmates through a sanitation and hygiene lesson.

#### **COUNTRY SNAPSHOTS**



## Burundi

- Nearly 7.5 acres surrounding the Mugero-Mugogo water system in Karusi Cluster have been protected against erosion. Planting trees and native plants and digging contour lines (trenches to collect runoff and slow the flow of rainwater) are being used. This work is being done in partnership with the Gihogazi Commune agronomist and engineer.
- The team launched a fragile context project in February in Bukemba, to better understand how WASH services can impact household fragility. A baseline assessment completed in March is providing data that will be analyzed using mWater, which will create an interactive dashboard to track changes.



## Ethiopia

- Three solid waste management enterprises were established in Nedjo and Omo Nada APs, two of which are led by women. Groups are organized to collect waste from homes and transport it directly to a disposal site for safe processing.
- WASH business centers are making a difference in our program communities, with 34 established in 23 APs. So far this year, 4,282 concrete slabs and 48,206 bottles of liquid soap were produced and sold, and 204 entrepreneurs were trained to produce and sell WASH goods and services.
- WASH FIT training for 253 health workers from 22 health facilities focused on activities aimed at creating safe and healthy environments for patients and staff. Appropriate medical waste containers also were provided to the facilities.



## Rwanda

- Since we launched our Finish the Job commitment in 2018, work has expanded from 39 to 69 sectors. Our team has encouraged government support for the additional program areas, and in just the first half of FY24, that has generated \$560,653 for three water systems.
- To help families move up the sanitation ladder, we introduced the sanitation marketing approach by training and supporting local vendors to provide the materials and supplies necessary. Using mobile technology, families are linked to vendors, and in some instances, receive cash vouchers to help pay for the materials through the same technology. Families also are encouraged to use funds from participating in savings groups to buy WASH products.
- Household connections continue to rise, and so far this year, 235 families have paid to have water taps installed at their homes. This helps improve managing water safely, as these families don't have to store large quantities of water drawn at communal sites, and can access water whenever they need it.



## the sanitation ladder to build higher-quality latrines.

Kenya

• WASH Business Centers continued to gain acceptance and were established in two APs, with growing interest to bring them to other APs. We are hoping availability of products, combined with ongoing educational efforts, will continue to successfully move people up

· Local governments in Kalawa and

Salgaa APs committed \$152,422

toward water projects.

 Planning and implementation began in two new universal service coverage areas: Mwala and Mutomo. This brings universal coverage target areas to four, as these areas are added to the existing sites of Kalawa and Bartabwa. Kalawa and Mutomo both have large river intake systems currently under construction.



## **COUNTRY SNAPSHOTS, CONTINUED**



## South Sudan

- The WASH team introduced the Children's Education and Sanitation Transformation (CHEST) model to teach students and teachers about proper hygiene practices. More than a dozen school health clubs were established using CHEST.
- The team tackled a list of 492 nonfunctioning water points—most in emergency settings—and constructed 734 water points served by 25 water systems in our program areas.
- 43 faith leaders began helping to improve sanitation results after being trained on best practices.



## Tanzania

- The program spread hygiene messages through mass campaigns and Nurturing Care Groups, while training 320 faith leaders to further share these valuable lessons.
- The WASH team trained communities and other stakeholders to monitor groundwater levels, surface water flow rates, water quality, and community use through collecting and analyzing data. This data is being used to create strategies to address issues as they are identified.
- Communities were trained to create water management plans to protect water ecosystems from contamination and promote groundwater recharge by planting trees and using other ecofriendly methods.



## Somalia

- We constructed six garbage pits and helped seven communities implement solid waste management systems, improving cleanliness in displacement camps.
- To improve sustainability, World Vision worked with community members and the government to establish feecollection systems, which help ensure water systems are wellmaintained and sustainable.
- When we implemented Biblical Empowered Worldview in tandem with water activities, we saw people using water for economic opportunities, such as irrigation, leading to increased income from food sales.
- The team signed an MoU with the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources in Hirshabelle, to improve opportunities to cofund water systems.



## Sudan

- 12,500 people in East Darfur and Blue Nile gained basic water access, as calmer conditions allowed operations to continue with minimal disruption. This stability enabled us to complete two water systems and repair 20 nonfunctioning hand pumps.
- 64,000 urban residents, including internally displaced persons and host community residents, benefited from improved water services when we provided logistical support and spare parts to the Sudan Water Corporation. This helped prevent service disruptions, ensured smooth operations, and maintained regular water quality monitoring.
- Emergency response efforts improved community health through collaboration with the Ministry of Health on clean-up campaigns, distributing cleaning tools, and training volunteers on chlorinating water.



## Uganda

- Partnering with government agencies to co-fund WASH projects resulted in constructing an 81-mile piped-water network. Plans also were laid to share expenses for a new water treatment plant.
- In the first half of FY24, \$44,924 in VisionFund loans were disbursed to improve water and sanitation services. This brings WASH loans disbursed over the past two years to more than \$200,000.
- We are collaborating on districtwide digital water point mapping

- and monitoring to support the Rural and Urban Management Information System. Our WASH team is providing training and supporting the rollout of mWater across Buikwe and Kamwenge districts.
- Water access at health facilities and schools improved, with five health centers (four that perform deliveries and provide maternal care) gaining 15 taps—many at critical points of care. Six primary schools benefited from new water supply systems that brought 33 taps directly to school sites.

#### **CHALLENGES & LESSONS LEARNED**

#### Challenges

El Niño brought heavy flooding to *Kenya*, washing away roads, displacing families, and causing latrines to collapse. Community health volunteers have been teaching families to reinforce the walls of new latrines with cypress wood, which makes them more resistant to collapse.

Some schools in *Rwanda* are hesitant to build permanent handwashing facilities because they fear accruing large water bills. This calls for close follow-up on solutions such as locking taps to reduce non fee-payer use, and training school staff members and parent-teacher committees to better plan, budget, and manage these amenities.

Heavy rains in *Somalia* led to severe flooding, increasing cases of cholera and diarrhea, and prompting our team to initiate an emergency response. This required reallocating funds that originally were earmarked for development activities.

Getting the government of *South Sudan* to uphold its responsibility to keep water systems running has been difficult. World Vision repaired the Renk urban water treatment plant in 2018, but by 2022 it was inoperable again due to government mismanagement. World Vision received grant funding to repair the facility again, but longterm sustainability will be a challenge. We are partnering with UNICEF to advocate with the government to provide a qualified electro-mechanic, mechanical engineer, and water quality expert to run the system.

Water quality tests in *Tanzania* showed two of six systems drilled this year had problems—one with high electrical conductivity and the other with high fluoride—making water unsafe. The WASH team is looking to partner with the government and private sector to install solar-powered desalination plants.



Amarch, 16, is thrilled that this new water point was built right next to her home in Ethiopia's South Ari AP. She used to spend hours a day carrying water from sources that were unsafe.

#### Lessons learned

Our team in *Ethiopia* is experiencing great success through the rural water utility model, which mirrors the urban water utility approach. It's being used for 29 water systems in the Geshiyaro project and in South Ari, Bena Tsemay, Chilga, Dera, Dembia, Jimma Genete, Mersa, and Melka Belo APs. The rural utilities hire a staff that is accountable to a water board, and World Vision works with the government to improve the utilities' ability to manage water systems safely and efficiently and ensure sustainability.

The percentage of improved-quality latrines being built in *Kenya* has risen to 45%. This is attributed to introducing microfinance for loans to build better-quality latrines and the work of Nurturing Care Groups to promote latrine construction and improving existing facilities.

Many donors prioritize funding emergency response over development work in *Somalia*. To extend the impact of this funding, we advocate for rehabilitating broken infrastructure instead of

providing temporary services, such as water trucking. This strategy has similar costs, but far greater longterm benefits.

The *South Sudan* WASH team has been working closely with the Livelihoods team to protect water sources and improve supply. This helps provide water for multiple uses, such as gardening and raising livestock. Working together has increased the number of joint proposals created for funding this type of work.

A study was conducted in the Rakai District of *Uganda* to gauge community willingness to take out and repay microloans used for improved WASH services. Of those who applied for loans, 92% were approved, and of those, 51% spent the funds on water supply and 49% on sanitation. Based on this, VisionFund has approved scaling up WASH microfinance here. An abstract of the study's findings was submitted to the UNC Water and Health Conference and presented at the annual Makerere University Environmental Health Student Association's Scientific Conference.

## **SOUTHERN AFRICA WASH**

#### **REGIONAL SUMMARY**

Our work across Southern Africa is garnering attention from high places. While we often receive thanks and praise from community members and local government officials, it's not every day our programs receive visits from heads of state

Following a tour of the \$1.1 million Mpolonjeni Water Project, Eswatini Prime Minister Russell Mmiso Dlamini announced a commitment to partner with World Vision and others to achieve universal access to clean water. We have been working with the government's Eswatini Water Services



Eswatini Prime Minister Russell Mmiso Dlamin speaks at a World Vision WASH

Corporation (EWSC) in Mpolonjeni, where EWSC provided technical expertise during construction and post-construction maintenance.

"This flagship project is the way to go, because other water schemes have been tried before, but this model is the most sustainable," the prime minister said

In Lesotho, His Majesty King Letsie III was one of more than 4,000 people who attended a ceremony kicking off a project to protect watersheds in our program areas.

280,302

**PEOPLE** in Southern Africa have gained access to clean drinking water since October 2023.



## World Vision brings Garikai to the village of Chinhema, Zimbabwe

The Rushinga District of Zimbabwe typically experiences low and erratic rainfall, creating challenges for the peanut farmers and livestock owners who live there. Hazvinei, a 38-year-old mother and wife, lives in the village of Chinhema, where the groundwater sources frequently dry up. She and others sometimes spent as many as nine hours a day in search of water. "I would queue up at 7 in the evening ... and get back home at 4 in the morning," she said. This way of life exposed her and other women and girls to risks as well as draining business, education, and family time.

Once the village was certified as Open Defecation Free, World Vision drilled a well and built a piped-water system that is serving Chinhema, four other villages, and two local schools, making water available within a 30-minute round trip. Hazvinei loves the time she's gotten back, and said she's going to use her gray water to keep a vegetable garden.

"The kind of assistance we got from World Vision needs to be applauded," said Hazvinei, at far left in the photo. "The water point has been named Garikai," she added, which means "settling well," or "finding relief" in the Shona language.

#### **COUNTRY SNAPSHOTS**



## Angola

- The WASH team began implementing a community management model, or MoGeCa, using data to assist with water governance. It focuses on decentralized management of water systems, community participation, fees for use, and creating partnerships for WASH services.
- To sustain water services, seven boreholes were equipped with hand pumps to function in reserve, as the 24 solar-powered systems constructed typically supply water only during the day. This provides the flexibility to access water whenever necessary.
- Three dams were constructed to provide farmers with irrigation for their crops.
- A dedicated World Vision water quality team began operating a portable laboratory to monitor and detect points of contamination during the treatment, handling, and storage of water.



## DRC

- The Water Management
  Committee at Maluku AP
  raised roughly \$13,000 from
  water tariffs on two piped
  networks serving 21,000
  people. Some of those funds
  were contributed to a nutrition
  program for vulnerable
  children, and to expand the
  piped systems to reach other
  areas of the municipality.
- To address a cholera outbreak in Kolwezi AP, 42 chlorination sites were installed to disinfect drinking water.
- Three boreholes previously equipped with hand pumps were upgraded to mechanized pumps, to meet the needs of internally displaced people in six camps in North Kivu.
- At each cluster where we have built water systems, water quality test kits from Wagtech were being used by WASH staff members and community volunteers to monitor water quality and address issues as they were identified.



## Eswatini

- Of the 6,441 people who gained clean water so far this year, 62% have it delivered directly to their homes.
- The WASH and Livelihoods teams partnered to implement improved water resource management in two wetlands covering just over 6 acres.
   Aside from protecting water sources, the work is providing income for an estimated 230 people who are harvesting grasses from the wetlands to make crafts.
- World Vision helped communities access funds for WASH services though loans from the government's Rural Development Fund and Microprojects Program, which are mandated to fund development projects. That includes water services in communities, and such funds are being used to extend water systems and repair nonfunctioning infrastructure.

 His Majesty King Letsie III was among the dignitaries on hand at a ceremony to kick off efforts to improve watershed management in three clusters by planting 9,000 indigenous trees. The trees will improve vegetation cover to trap and protect moisture, reduce

runoff and erosion, and help

- replenish the water table. We are partnering with the Ministry of Forestry in this work.
- The WASH team developed a database to better track and record that all materials used in our water projects meet World Vision's quality standards.

## Lesotho

- WASH team members have been directed to check all materials before construction begins.
- Two producer groups were engaged to make and sell liquid soap to support hygiene promotion efforts and create income for soap producers.

## **COUNTRY SNAPSHOTS, CONTINUED**



## Zambia

- The new sanitation marketing model introduced last year showed strong results, with 13,643 new toilets constructed in 422 communities.
- A partnership with VisionFund helped families in six APs take out 139 loans for WASH services—63 for high-quality latrines and 76 for water supply systems (mostly for farming purposes).
- Sesame WASH UP!, first introduced in 2016, continued to expand, thanks to the Ministry of Education encouraging schools to include funding for it in their budget allocations from the government. The drive to expand was stepped up following the cholera outbreak.
- Marc Nosbach was announced as the new national director, replacing John Hasse. He comes from CARE and begins June 24.



## Malawi

- Catchment area protection
   was provided through proven
   environmental practices that
   included planting 719,162 trees,
   constructing check dams,
   swales, eyebrow basins, and
   trenches to help replenish
   groundwater. The WASH team
   partnered with the Livelihoods
   and Disaster Management
   teams in these efforts.
- World Vision provided support to the government's review of District Investment Strategic Implementation Plans in Dowa and Chiradzulu districts. These plans are vital to securing funding for WASH as we partner with the government and other stakeholders to achieve universal coverage in these districts. The work entailed revising targets and budgets while considering factors such as WASH investments already made in the districts and changes in populations.



## Mozambique

- The WASH team surveyed 435 water collection points, and found 405 (93%) to be functional. Another 32 communal water points and 2,141 households were tested for water quality, specifically for E. coli, and all samples met safety standards.
- World Vision launched a fragile context WASH project in Guijá and Mabalane districts in Southern Gaza Province, where high salinity, cyclones, and droughts have created challenges. A baseline survey found 35% of households in the project areas lacked safe water sources. The project is exploring alternative water approaches, such as haffir dams (catchment basins with earthen walls) and sand abstraction pumping. The project also will promote climate-resilient latrines and sanitation marketing.
- A cholera outbreak in Nampula required an emergency response. We reached 36,923 people with water, 8,775 with sanitation services, and 20,940 with hygiene services.
- A new partnership with iDE began helping to identify sanitation needs and markets, with the aim of developing affordable latrine options—especially for those who find themselves repeatedly rebuilding their latrines. By promoting sanitation marketing, it is hoped families can find locally available and affordable materials to build latrines that will withstand storms and heavy rains.



- The WASH team began exploring alternative water supply technologies that extract water from the sandy beds of intermittent and perennial rivers. If proven viable, these will have solar-powered pumps and water quality stations.
- The El Niño-induced drought has hurt the livelihoods of many families, and they are struggling to afford sanitation and hygiene materials. To address this, the team encouraged families to pool resources to help each

## Zimbabwe

- other build household latrines. In communities certified as ODF, struggling families received donations of materials, such as cement, to help construct latrines.
- 116 faith leaders were trained to support WASH services, working with government extension workers, school development committees, health center committees, sanitation action groups, and water point management committees to promote improved sanitation and hygiene practices.

#### **CHALLENGES & LESSONS LEARNED**

### Challenges

The *Angola* WASH team has struggled with unrealistic integrated community plans developed by local government in areas where we work. This creates inconsistencies with national government priorities and support. To address this, the team has placed a stronger focus on working with local government and other partners to create integrated programs that align with our mission and implementation realities.

A lack of clear policies for WASH in health facilities has hurt sustainability efforts in the *DRC*, resulting in poorly maintained facilities. Part of the problem lies with local community members, who are reluctant to share responsibilities for managing the facilities, which can lead to conflict between the facility staff and local water management committees. World Vision is working more closely with health facility managers and water management committees to develop specific plans on how to best share operations and maintenance responsibilities for facilities used by health centers and members of the surrounding community.

Heavy rains and overflowing rivers in *Lesotho* this past April affected latrine construction in some APs, such as Senqu. The WASH team continues to monitor the conditions, and aims to complete such work during winter, when water levels will be lower, making for safer river crossings and other travel

A steep devaluation of the national currency in *Malawi* saw the kwacha drop 44% against the U.S. dollar. This led to inflation and rising cost of goods and services, which impacted budgets. The WASH Program had to resubmit tenders and renegotiate contracts to align with changes in costs. The team began closely tracking changing

market rates for goods and services, so budgets could be accurately adjusted and contracts renegotiated.

A January cholera outbreak spread to nine of *Zambia's* 10 provinces, with Lusaka being hit hardest. The national office declared a Category 1 disaster response, which called for improved water for affected communities. We conducted extensive water quality monitoring on 97 water points and trucked 1.4 million liters of water to an estimated 93,000 people in Kanyama, a cholera hot spot. A World Vision water truck was used to transport the clean water.

Changing climate conditions in *Zimbabwe* are making it difficult to find water, and drill teams have had to increase drilling depths to hit aquifers. This has significantly increased the cost of drilling, but so far, the APs have been able to cover additional expenses.

#### Lessons learned

As in most WASH countries, the *Angola* program has found that teaming with religious leaders improves sanitation and hygiene outcomes. Using the Bible as a tool, they have helped address resistance to sanitation approaches and improved community participation in WASH activities. The 33 leaders trained so far this year—and others previously trained—also have helped reduce child labor, forced marriages, and practices linked to mysticism.

As water quality monitoring by the Department of Water Affairs has been inconsistent, the WASH team in *Eswatini* has prioritized training and capacity-building, as well as advocating with the government for improved monitoring. The team is going to increase the use of field testing and use home kits where possible, so WASH promoters can test water samples during their visits.



The World Vision Malawi drill team brings water to Gochi.

In FY23, the *Lesotho* team experienced procurement challenges due, in part, to a shortage of qualified contractors in the database. In FY24, the team began pushing for an earlier tendering process and created an internal procurement system that led to better results. So far this year, contracts have been awarded and work completed on or ahead of schedule, with the team achieving more than 70% of its annual target for people reached by the end of Q2.

The *Malawi* team has been collaborating with Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine on a research project in Chiradzulu District. The research is looking at the impact of CLTS versus CLTS-plus (stimulating sanitation markets and addressing supply-side challenges, including the use of Nurturing Care Groups). Baseline data was collected before sanitation activities started in FY23, and endline data was collected in Q2 this year. The results are still being analyzed and should be ready in draft form by the end of this fiscal year.

Introducing the Nurturing Care Group model in *Zambia* empowered these teams of volunteers to share information on the importance of good hygiene and sanitation practices. So far, families in 11 communities have constructed handwashing facilities and latrines for the first time.

## **WEST AFRICA WASH**

### **REGIONAL SUMMARY**

We are excited to be adding Burkina Faso to our West Africa portfolio, especially as the needs there are so great.

World Vision began working in Burkina Faso just three years ago, but already the WASH team there has made significant progress. As the national office has grown in not just size, but ability, it made strong sense to integrate the country into our WASH Business Plan.

Some 10% of the country's 21 million people are displaced and 6.3 million (55% children) need humanitarian

assistance. Sixty percent of households have no access to clean water, and in Dedougou, home to thousands of displaced families, 40% of people use water drawn from contaminated wells. Sanitation and hygiene needs are great, especially among the displaced.

Insecurity has been increasing across West Africa and our teams have had to continually adapt to changing contexts. Despite this, the region still achieved 110% of its semiannual target for water access, with Chad hitting 154% of its target and Mali achieving 147% of its target.

We also have noted that applying the Water and Sanitation for Health Facility Improvement Tool model is improving health outcomes in places like Dosso and Zinder in Niger.

WASH FIT is used to make improvements at healthcare facilities through water; sanitation; hand hygiene; environmental cleaning; waste management; and energy, building, and facility management. Nearly 100 facilities in Niger have adopted cleaning policies, with 30 WASH FIT task forces trained

**184,056 PEOPLE** in West Africa have gained access to clean drinking water since October 2023.



## Clean water is keeping mothers, babies, and health workers safe

Nurse Aissata said she was blessed to be living in a city where her three children could be delivered in a fully equipped health facility with running water. But now she works at the Sae Saboua health facility in rural Niger, which, until recently, had no running water. Pregnant women, newborns, and healthcare workers ran a high risk of being exposed to germs and illness.

"We instructed [mothers] to bring some jerrycans of water for washing and cleaning needs, and it was not always enough ... to protect the women, newborns, and even ourselves from contamination," she said.

A new water supply system now serves her facility. "We have water available for all cleaning purposes, including at the new latrine block constructed by World Vision. You cannot imagine how much this intervention changed our working environment and the extent to which it added to my motivation as a health worker," Aissata said, adding, "I want to thank World Vision and charity: water for their work transforming the world for better."

#### COUNTRY SNAPSHOTS



### CAR

- Community mobilizers used theater and dance groups at carnival events and mass gatherings to teach 9,770 people in Paoua, Birao, and Bangassou how to safely collect, transport, and store water.
- 54 latrine stalls were constructed at 18 schools in Bouar and Paoua, with each building including a stall designed for students with limited mobility.
- While exploring new ways to prioritize women's empowerment in WASH projects, the team started providing cash vouchers to women for purchasing hygiene and sanitation kits. This is expected to address financial difficulties often faced by female-headed households.



## Mali

- Thanks to the Nurturing Care Group approach, the number of caregivers who know proper handwashing techniques and the most crucial times to wash hands skyrocketed, from 3.3% to nearly 61%. The approach was expanded to Mercoya and Bassala in the Kolokani health district, with 4,890 neighbor groups trained.
- All 25 health facilities in the Kolokani health district achieved "clean" health center status.
- We took the lead in two WASH partner working groups: the WASH cluster advocacy working group and the Forum of International NGOs in Mali WASH Technical Working Group.



## Ghana

- Studies by iDE will identify solutions to community members' reliance on subsidies to construct durable latrines that won't collapse.
   Solutions likely will focus on microfinance options in partnership with VisionFund.
- Eight data logging devices were installed in seven communities in Nabogo and Nasia. They will monitor groundwater level fluctuations and impact on aquifer recharge patterns.
- We worked with other organizations to advocate for protecting the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources, which is in danger of elimination. This department is essential to keep WASH work a priority and to maintain standards.

## Chad

- 143 communities were certified as ODF, and trained artisans provided materials to construct 25 improved latrines. They also sold more than 4,000 bars of soap, earning \$1,925 and enabling 28,120 people to wash their hands.
- 36 new water points were constructed from five solarpowered systems, along with 22 boreholes with manual pumps. Of the
- 31,320 people who now have clean water, 770 benefit from having that water delivered from taps on their property.
- Fences were built around pumping stations and water sources for protection, and 22 water management committees were formed and trained to oversee financial management, operations and maintenance.



## Burkina Faso

- Our work here included providing clean water for 6,000 internally displaced people through three new boreholes and repairing one nonfunctioning borehole. Three solar-powered water systems also now supply water to water tanks that serve 16 community taps.
- Water systems began providing irrigation for nearly 5 acres of gardens that are benefiting 60 women in Dedougou.
- Trees were planted in urban areas to help protect watersheds, and farmers were trained to use biofertilizers instead of chemicals, which can contaminate drinking water sources.

## **COUNTRY SNAPSHOTS, CONTINUED**



## Mauritania

- The 135 households that gained on-premises water connections were chosen with local partners according to their need and level of vulnerability. World Vision paid the \$350 cost for families with chronically ill members, people living with disabilities, and households headed by the elderly, youth, or women.
- The program teamed with the Livelihoods sector to promote joining savings groups to acquire small, low-interest loans for building or improving latrines. So far this year, 250 savings group members have taken out microloans to build household latrines.
- World Vision provided support in six communes in Kaedi to develop and operate solid waste management programs. Three-wheeled motorcycles are used to collect garbage twice weekly at homes and dispose of it at designated waste-management sites.



- A random sampling of water quality at the source and at households showed an unacceptably high rate of contamination during transportation and storage.
   To address this, the program partnered with the Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation to teach 6,028 people in several communities how to safely use water cans and buckets with lids to collect and store water.
- We partnered with the Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation to support long-term monitoring of

### Sierra Leone

- water systems through tracking groundwater levels, water quality, and volume used. This protects water sources by identifying the need for buffer zones, land use planning, regulation enforcement, and community education on activities such as planting trees to preserve catchment areas.
- We are giving girls a stronger voice through school health clubs that target leadership skills. This will lead to their increased participation in water resource management and other issues.



### We worked with the government on raising awareness of P&G packets, to ensure their proper use.

- World Vision worked with farmers to manage watersheds and cultivate market garden areas. Working alongside our Livelihoods sector, the team provided support for reforestation to battle desertification and promote groundwater recharge.
- The 24 school latrines (at six schools) that were installed

## Senegal

- with water for handwashing met government standards for student-latrine ratios for boys and girls. They also have menstrual hygiene management areas for girls, and ramps to ease access for people with mobility challenges.
- The program placed a strong emphasis on including women, children, and people with disabilities on WASH committees. Each of the 12 new committees established so far this year have such representation.



- 30 WASH FIT task forces in Zinder and Dosso were formed and trained on infection prevention, while 98 health facilities developed new environmental cleaning policies. Additionally, waste management areas, complete with incinerators and protective fencing, were constructed to improve safety.
- 20 local masons were trained as village agents to connect communities with sanitation services. In addition, four sanitation resource centers were piloted, and they will improve access to sanitation products, services, and financing opportunities.
- A WASH UP! workshop in Sae Saboua commune for teachers, government representatives, and school officials focused on best practices and lessons learned. This will help improve sustainability and effectiveness, while incorporating feedback from students.

## Niger

#### **CHALLENGES & LESSONS LEARNED**

### Challenges

The security situation in *Burkina Faso* continues to deteriorate, especially in the Boucle du Mouhoun and Centre-Nord regions. Fighting between armed groups and national defense forces has pushed 2.1 million people out of their homes since 2015, and eight of 13 regions have been in an emergency state since March 2023. Supplies and staff are transported by the U.N.'s Humanitarian Air Service, as roads are not safe for travel. While this has increased costs, it hasn't stopped our team from achieving its goals.

Rising prices for materials and poor road conditions in *CAR* slowed or halted progress in Paoua, Birao, and Bangassou. Some construction companies were hindered by their inability to fully prefinance drilling activities. To address this, the team will recruit companies earlier in the procurement process.

WASH programming in *Chad* schools had to be rescheduled because primary and secondary school teachers staged a two-month strike over pay and benefits.

Water quality in *Mali* continued to pose a significant challenge, often requiring considerable time and resources for repeated testing and treatment at water points. While the Nurturing Care Group approach has shown promise in improving household water quality through behavior change, a more robust plan is being developed to enhance water quality at the source by establishing more stringent standards and practices.

The WASH FIT model in *Niger* significantly improved infection prevention and control in health facilities, but a shortage of permanent cleaning staff members contributes to inconsistent implementation of hygiene standards. To combat this, advocacy efforts with local authorities will focus on hiring cleaners and collaborating with health management committees

to ensure sustainable and effective hygiene practices are carried out across health facilities.

The *Sierra Leone* procurement team had to put its negotiation skills to the test to navigate steep price increases in the cost of construction materials caused by inflation. The team managed to negotiate costs without impacting product quality and planned to build in extra funds to cover future cost spikes.

#### Lessons learned

The team in *Burkina Faso* worked to identify reliable suppliers for projects such as latrine construction and rehabilitation. An accelerated review process was developed to recruit new suppliers who can best meet budgets and timelines.

Monitoring in 50 communities that had previous charity: water grants indicated that satisfaction with latrine infrastructure in *Mali* program areas remained low. To address this, future grants and programming will integrate sanitation marketing to improve access to low-cost construction materials and increase satisfaction with household latrines, especially in communities that have completed CLTS and been certified as ODF.

In *Niger*, a model for water point management was piloted to handle operations and maintenance of mechanized water systems. It mandates that users pay for all types of water use, whether for consumption, livestock, or agriculture. A contractor operates and maintains the system, which includes routine maintenance and timely replacement of parts. Additionally, water-user associations actively report any water supply issues directly to the local commune. While this is proving effective, the coordination of these roles can delay maintenance responses.

Employing Channels of Hope paid strong dividends in Sierra Leone. House-to-house visits by faith leaders led to a decrease in open defecation and an increase in households that are keeping family compounds clean. Some communities even set aside a regular day for cleaning. In addition, the number of cases of diarrheal disease at the Bumbukoro health facility dropped from 120 in March 2023 to just 51 in March 2024. While we can't make a direct link to pastoral training, improved community hygiene likely played a key role in the reduction in those numbers.



Midwife Fatoumata fills a container with drinking water for patients and staff members at the Zankorola health center in Mali.

#### WASH LEADERSHIP PROFILES



## Cynthia Fosuah WASH Coordinator for Behavior Change and WASH Software World Vision Ghana

Cynthia Fosuah leads the WASH Software and Behavior Change units at World Vision Ghana, overseeing programming across more than 14 districts and municipalities.

With more than 12 years of experience in development and emergency WASH scenarios, Cynthia has a keen interest in behavior-change programming. She has directed several initiatives, including the Nurturing Care Group pilot in 2020, which expanded to more than 13 APs in Ghana. She also led the WASH microfinance project and other WASH financing projects in the region.

Cynthia holds master's degrees in Environmental Security and Public Health. She lives in Tamale with her husband and their 3-year-old daughter, Mawufedusi.

## Paul Oyesigye WASH Program Manager World Vision Uganda

Growing up in Isingiro District, one of Uganda's most water-stressed areas, Paul experienced firsthand the daily challenges of finding clean water. He joined World Vision Uganda as an engineering assistant in 2011, and in October 2019 he became the WASH Program Manager.

Paul's efforts focus on sustainable development in the humanitarian sector, with a special emphasis on gender equality and social inclusion in WASH initiatives. His leadership has led to partnerships with the Ugandan government and financial institutions, mobilizing more than \$2.7 million in local resources for WASH work. He also has been instrumental in integrating the Household Engagement and Accountability approach into WASH programs, which promotes self-reliance and enhances community cohesion. In March 2024, his team celebrated reaching 1 million people with clean water access since 2016.

Paul holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a postgraduate certificate in international WASH programming from the University of Nevada, Reno, along with several certifications in water quality testing and strategic partnership development.



#### **SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT**

# Sanitation and hygiene solutions need to be lasting and sustainable for everyone

While Community-Led Total Sanitation has played an integral role in our sanitation work, we are moving beyond its scope to ensure all national office strategies focus on four essential elements: governance, supply, demand, and financing. By ensuring gaps are addressed and implementation is strengthened in each pillar, we expect to see more sustainable sanitation improvements for families and communities. As we continue to focus our work on the most vulnerable, we will be better able to build long-term resilience of infrastructure, which leads to positive community health impacts.

Governance: It is vital that we advocate for inclusive and widespread sanitation programs and demonstrate their effectiveness at the local level. Alignment with government policies is crucial for securing the support needed to expand and sustain our sanitation programs. This is best done by building strong relationships between AP staff and local government, which is one of World Vision's strengths. While governments often commit to water services, they typically see sanitation and hygiene as the responsibility of individual households. This makes it even more crucial that we advocate with governments to support households in their move up the sanitation ladder by providing monitoring, technical assistance, and even financing where necessary.

**Supply and Demand:** To ensure communities have ongoing access to necessary sanitation materials and services, we focus on maintaining a robust supply chain. For example, our WASH Business Centers in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Malawi help make sure sanitation supplies are available



locally. We also work on making these products appealing and accessible. Through partnerships, like the one we have with iDE, we address specific market gaps, ensuring communities have the products and services they need and want. We employ innovative strategies to boost

demand for these products, such as supporting WASH Business Centers through Nurturing Care Groups in Kenya or working alongside sales agents in Malawi.

Financing: Achieving universal access to sanitation and hygiene means not just providing initial coverage, but also ensuring communities can maintain these services over time. To do this, World Vision uses a combination of microfinancing and targeted subsidies to make sanitation affordable and enco urage households to build improved facilities. This financial approach, supported by governments and private investors, aims to eliminate economic



WASH business centers provide communities with the materials needed to build and upgrade latrines while also creating or expanding businesses for entrepreneurs. This event in Kenya introduced vendors and their products to the community.

barriers for the poorest, while fostering market-driven solutions that benefit the entire community.

By incorporating lessons learned from these initiatives, we are developing a strategy that can be applied globally as a fundamental part of our next business plan. This will increase construction of high-quality latrines, ensuring the long-term sustainability and effectiveness of our sanitation efforts.

## **FINANCIALS**

### **AFRICA WASH FINANCIALS**

Program spending October 2023 through March 2024

\$56,473,587 spent from all funding sources

18% from U.S. base funds

82% from funds leveraged from other sources

Note: Base funds are generated primarily through private donations from a mix of highly committed individuals and mass marketing campaigns. This flexible funding is allocated to country WASH teams and enables them to strategically implement interventions based on community- and district-driven WASH needs, while enabling and strengthening long-term program commitments. Base funds also serve as leverage to raise additional funds.

### A LOOK AHEAD: PLANS FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

In the second half of FY24, our efforts will be concentrated on completing ongoing projects with the highest quality standards, while simultaneously planning and procuring materials for FY25 initiatives.

The majority of our FY24 construction is scheduled for completion in the third and fourth quarters, propelling us toward our annual goals for reaching program participants. We will prioritize rigorous follow-up on construction to ensure the correct materials are used and all specifications are met.

As FY24 draws to a close, we will begin planning for FY25, including project selection, drafting design documents, and initiating procurement processes. This strategic groundwork is essential for a strong start to construction in the upcoming fiscal year.

With the rollout of our revised sanitation and hygiene strategy, country teams will focus on integrating the pillars of governance, supply, demand, and financing into their work. This will pave the way for successful project planning and implementation in FY25.

### **THANK YOU**

Excited. Energized. Encouraged. These words capture the spirit of our work as we bring life-changing access to clean water and improved sanitation and hygiene to children and their families across Africa. We are excited that the campaign continues to grow to meet our goal of helping 12.1 million people by 2025 and 30 million by 2030. We are energized by your support. And we are encouraged by the results we are seeing. Thank you for helping us reach out as the hands of Jesus to so many.



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