



WATER

RWANDA

As of November 2018

World Vision®



# RWANDA | WATER

## Project summary

World Vision believes every child is worthy of a strong, vibrant, and healthy life, and providing clean water is the first step that enables children to thrive and achieve this. Also, access to safe sanitation and hygiene is critical. Together, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), help make possible lasting improvements in health, education, gender equality, economic development, and even spiritual well-being. We are committed to providing WASH and WASH education for the betterment of children worldwide. In Rwanda, we can achieve a milestone in reaching everyone, everywhere we work with clean water by 2022.



Isabelle (blue sweater) walks to get clean water from a World Vision tap near her home.

Access to rural water coverage in Rwanda

49%

Access to rural sanitation coverage in Rwanda

64%

## A VISION FOR CLEAN WATER

For decades, we have worked to provide cost-effective, sustainable programs that increase water access and improve sanitation and hygiene. We are more than just WASH implementers, we are tenacious, inspiring problem solvers who love the poor and are poised to accomplish even more.

Globally, World Vision has committed to reach everyone, everywhere we work with clean water by 2030. We are aiming to reach everyone everywhere we work in the entire country of Rwanda—by 2022.

## THE NEED IN RWANDA

Of the country's 11 million citizens, 6 million still lack access to clean water. While Rwandans have made significant progress in the last 25 years, clean water is currently only available to half of the rural population.

The inaccessibility of potable water, combined with a lack of sanitation facilities and a poor understanding of the importance of good hygiene, are major factors in the unacceptably high rates of child disease and death in Rwanda. Similarly, low prioritization of nutrition in the health sector compounded with inadequate access to WASH facilities, poses a challenge to improving the well-being of children in Rwanda.

In the areas where we work, 1 million people—including a sizable refugee population and the country's most vulnerable children—do not have clean water. Supporting the Rwandan government's ambitious goal of 100 percent water and sanitation coverage by 2024, we'll demonstrate global leadership by finishing the job in the area's we work by 2022.

## RWANDA AT A GLANCE

**11.9** million people live in Rwanda

**4.7** million people live below poverty

**\$718** average annual income

**1 in 25** children die before the age of 5

Source: WHO/UNICEF 2017

## OUR WORK IN RWANDA

World Vision began working in Rwanda in 1994 to respond to the unprecedented chaos caused by the genocide, in which more than a million people died. World Vision initially provided emergency help to those displaced, cared for unaccompanied children, and then helped people resettle as they returned home. Since 2000, World Vision has been working with communities in Rwanda to find long-term solutions to poverty and injustice.

## WHY RWANDA?

Rwanda is an ideal place to finish the job of providing everyone everywhere we work with clean water in five years, thanks to the following factors:

**Our track record.** As the leading nongovernmental organization providing water access in Rwanda, World Vision has invested \$22.6 million to reach more than 340,000 people between 2012 and 2017. We organize community groups that advocate for water issues, train community members on proper hygiene practices, and handle operation and maintenance of water systems, so water keeps flowing after we leave.

## EAST AFRICA: RWANDA

### Area Programs targeted for WASH services (FY19-24)



#### EAST

Gwiza  
Kahi  
Kiramuruzi  
Rugarama

#### SOUTH

Gisagara  
Maraba  
Nyaruguru  
Simbi

#### KIGALI

Kabuga  
Tubehoneza

#### NORTH

Kageyo  
Kinihira  
Kisaro  
Kivuruga  
Nyarutovu  
Rutare

#### WEST

Bugarama  
Byiringiro  
Matyazo  
Mubuga  
Nyange  
Ubumwe  
Umucyo  
Umwezi

## WATER THROUGH THE HILLS

Due to abundant rainfall over most of the country, Rwanda possesses adequate water resources, primarily in the form of springs and groundwater. Drilled wells are less common in such hilly terrain, and nearly 90 percent of rural areas can be served by springs or rivers that are protected, and water piped via gravity or solar-powered pumps through the hills of Rwanda to communities.



*For families in Rwanda, clean water, sanitation, and hygiene can transform the lives of generations to come.*

**The country's size.** Rwanda covers only 10,170 square miles—a distance drivable, in any direction, in a single day. This makes it easier to implement projects, monitor sustained use of water systems, and plan donor visits.

**The government's commitment.** The government of Rwanda tracks water coverage progress and rewards public staff who meet targets. It recognizes World Vision's role in providing clean water, and has even helped fund some of our water systems. Officials at the highest levels are champions of our work, and both the central and district governments—as well as the private sector—support the people in operating and maintaining water services and a holistic approach of delivering WASH services in Rwanda.

## PROGRAM TARGETS AND OUTCOMES

Together with the government of Rwanda, local partners, and donors, World Vision can provide lasting clean water to **1 million people** in Rwanda along with improved sanitation and hygiene practices.

Feasibility studies are underway in each Area Program, which help determine which types of water points can best serve communities, schools, and health centers. World Vision staff along with community health workers already are teaching communities the importance of having household sanitation facilities, and the need for healthy hygiene practices.

### Project 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

## INCREASING WASH SERVICES BEYOND THE HOME

In alignment with U.N. Sustainable Development Goal 6 (ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all), we are increasing work in schools and healthcare facilities. We are reaching toward higher service standards, including universal, equitable, safe, and affordable WASH coverage at homes and in the community.

We are working to ensure that everyone in the areas we work has access to improved drinking water supplies nearby, adequate sanitation, and hand-washing facilities, at home, at school, and in health centers. Community members and schoolchildren also will be trained on hygiene promotion and behavior change. We are holding ourselves to higher standards because every child deserves clean water, at home, at school, and at healthcare facilities.

## FROM HEALING TO HOPE

Since the devastating genocide more than 20 years ago, Rwandans have made incredible progress through reconciliation and development. Today, Rwanda can become the first country in the developing world to solve its water crisis.

## SUSTAINABILITY

Water continues to flow from World Vision water points long after they are complete because we co-create solutions that last. Our WASH efforts are part of a full plan that addresses the many factors that perpetuate poverty. We invest in each community for an average of 15 years, and work alongside communities so they take ownership in the maintenance and repair of water points. We also help establish water management committees to maintain and operate water points. These committees collect small fees to pay for repairs as needed—an approach that helps ensure communities have the knowledge and financial resources to keep their water points working for many years to come.

## A LEGACY OF IMPACT

For us to reach everyone, everywhere we work in Rwanda with clean water that lasts, we need to reach 1 million people in 2,000 communities. You can be the answer to prayer and help bring clean water to a community of 500 people for \$25,000, or to 10 communities for \$250,000.

Give a Rwanda Legacy Gift today—and help make history by transforming lives with clean water.

## DREAMS DEFERRED



*Esther holds a glass of the dirty water she and her sisters collect from a small lake near her home.*

Esther's family lives in Bihinga in Gatsibo district in the Eastern province. Bihinga used to be part of Ankagara National Park where lions roamed. Today, the dangers lurk below ground. The area does not have enough reliable clean water. The government's pipeline supply is insufficient for the increasing population. In some places, there are water taps that do not produce water for days on end. People are left to their own methods for gathering water, such as the local dam that has leech-infested water. For Esther and her family, the cleanest source of water is 40-minute walk away. . . a journey that is difficult and dangerous for an 8-year-old.

Esther knows three girls who go to her school who have clean water. They live 30 minutes from her. There is a pipeline with reliable water where they live. "Because they have clean water, they don't often get coughs like we do," says Sandrine, Esther's sister. While Esther dreams of being a mathematician one day, those dreams are on hold until clean, safe water is brought to her community.

*“... I was thirsty and  
you gave me something  
to drink ...”*

*—Matthew 25:35 (NIV)*



## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

To powerfully meet the needs of children and families in the communities we serve, World Vision has scaled our WASH programs in Rwanda. Our unprecedented global impact and our belief that every child deserves clean water, have driven us to go even further. We have real hope that through the collective efforts of World Vision, our donors and partners, governments, and other sector partners we can end the global water and sanitation crisis by 2030. This will require faith and ingenuity, as we work alongside communities and partners to accomplish this vision. We invite you to join us in this journey to ensure that everyone in the areas we work has access to clean water that lasts.



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World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

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