

This provides an update on World Vision's efforts to end extreme poverty by 2030 through Economic Empowerment.



JUNE 2018

Greetings!

World Vision is delighted to send you our Executive Briefing for Economic Empowerment. You are an integral part of our work to end extreme poverty by 2030, so we want to keep you updated on our progress!

VisionFund Cambodia



This week, VisionFund International sold 100% of its shares in VisionFund Cambodia to Woori Bank of Korea. Arguably, VisionFund Cambodia has been the “jewel” in the VisionFund family. With 117 branches, approximately 200,000 loans, a loan portfolio of \$165 million, and 50,000 savings clients with deposits of \$40 million, VisionFund Cambodia is thriving. The reasons for the sale and the signals it sends are positive and forward looking. VisionFund International is declaring its mission complete in Cambodia, as the country has “graduated” economically, and the majority of the poor now have access to financial services.

[Continue reading the announcement here.](#)

VisionFund Annual Report

Christopher Shore, Chief Development Officer, Economic Empowerment



Interested in a sneak preview of VisionFund International's annual report? I have connections!

VisionFund continues to grow its size and its impact, and is pushing hard to align with World Vision's emphasis on smallholder farmers.

- Value of loans disbursed - \$836,660,000
- Loan portfolio at year end - \$601,000,000 (18% growth from previous year)

[Continue reading the article here.](#)

NEWS FLASH

VisionFund International has just received a loan from a World Vision USA donor for \$3 million for 3 years. This takes the total amount of loans currently under management from donors to \$8.1 million. These loans allow VFI to increase the portfolio, lower the cost of borrowing, and improve its financial sustainability.

Travel with Chris

Christopher Shore is regularly in the field with donors and visiting our THRIVE projects. You can follow his travels by signing on to INSTAGRAM on your smart phone, and finding Chris at **christopher.shore.wv**. Chris assures us there are no personal photos or videos posted – just World Vision THRIVE stuff!

Here is a [link to a sample video](#) – from his trip to Tanzania.



A New Team Member

We are very pleased to welcome a long-time THRIVE partner to the World Vision US Economic Empowerment “family”. **Adrian Merryman** serves as the Chief Development & Impact Investment Officer for VisionFund International, a Christian mission-driven regulated microfinance bank, and is the former CEO of VisionFund’s global flagship in Cambodia (“VFC”).

Adrian is based in the USA, and is relocating from San Francisco – where he and his family have been living since leaving Cambodia – to the Cape Cod area. Adrian works extremely closely with the WVUS THRIVE teams on all aspects of planning, fundraising, donor loans, and promoting and supporting our microfinance work.

Previously Adrian served as CEO of VisionFund Tanzania (“VFT”), and prior to joining VisionFund, Adrian served as CEO of the Opportunity International Network, which operated in 35 countries across Africa, the Asia Pacific Rim, Latin America and Eastern Europe. Adrian has an MBA from Harvard Business School and BA from Swarthmore College.

Upcoming Calendar Events

- **Vision Trips** (please contact your World Vision representative about participating, or [email ee@mail.worldvisionphilanthropy.org](mailto:ee@mail.worldvisionphilanthropy.org))
 - Zambia (November 3-10, 2018) with Christopher Shore and Bob & Sandy Hoover
 - Kilimanjaro Climb plus Tanzania THRIVE (February 2-15, 2019) with Vinh & Leisle Chung
 - **Strong Women Strong World** – 30 November, 2018 – New York, New York
 - **South Florida Economic Empowerment Summit** – January 25-26, 2019 – Naples, Florida
 - **Every Last One Conference** – March 8-9, 2019 – Carlsbad, CA
 - **THRIVE / Building Secure Livelihoods Forum** – April 1-5, 2019 – Lilongwe, MALAWI
-

Prayer Requests

PRAISE

- We celebrate the **success of VisionFund Cambodia**, for the amazing growth because of it, and for the redeployment of funds now available.
- For the **new \$3 million loan to VisionFund** that allows for us to serve many more clients and improve VisionFund's financial sustainability.

REQUESTS

- **For Mali** – in an area so far unaffected by the conflict, we are implementing the Eco-Agriculture Project, which is THRIVE in all but name. *Please pray for the significant fundraising needed to raise the match funds (every \$1.00 raised becomes \$4.00 in new funding).*

- **For Upcoming Vision Trips** - there are trips to Honduras, Rwanda, Malawi and Zambia. Please pray for travel safety, and that donors hearts would be broken by the things that break the heart of God.
- **For the THRIVE/Building Secure Livelihoods Forum** - planning has began for the THRIVE/BSL Forum in April 2019 in Malawi. Pray for the planning team to have discernment as the schedule takes shape and *for the right participants to be in attendance.*
- **For Program Staff** - there are needs for additional staff because we are growing! Please pray for the funding for these positions and *for the right people to be hired.*



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Forward

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. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

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