WATER
Every child deserves clean water:

Goal
Provide 25 million* people with access to clean water—halfway toward our 2030 goal

*Includes $500 million from World Vision U.S. donors in addition to revenue from outside World Vision U.S. as part of the global WASH business plan.

Progress
20 million people reached from October 2015 through March 2021

Investment
$500 million (fiscal years 2016–2023)
Committing to help end the global water crisis

Every day, more than 800 children under 5 die from diarrhea caused by contaminated water, poor sanitation, and unsafe hygiene practices. And the daily walk for water is robbing women and girls of their futures. One in 10 people on the planet still have no access to clean water. That’s 771 million people.

Together with our donors and partners, we have an extremely ambitious but achievable plan to reach everyone, everywhere we work with clean water by 2030—around 50 million people. We’re on track with this commitment, having already empowered 20 million people with lasting access to clean water since October 2015.

What is our approach?

World Vision is the leading nongovernmental provider of clean water in the developing world, with 1,200 water, sanitation, and hygiene professionals who live and work in the communities they serve. To ensure access for people in most need, we focus on the extremely poor—including those with disabilities—in rural areas with the greatest disease burden. And we help not only households get clean water, but also schools and healthcare facilities.

World Vision ensures clean water access through right-sized equipment and use of appropriate water sources, manual drilling to reduce costs, and mechanized wells with solar pumps. In 2020, we installed nearly 100 community water points per day.

Community lead the installation of latrines and handwashing stations, as well as hygiene behavior-change efforts, to help eliminate open defecation and prevent the spread of deadly infectious diseases.

We strengthen local water system management so communities can sustainably fund, repair, and maintain their water points long after World Vision’s work is done.
We’ve obtained an additional $4 in leveraged funds for every $1 given to either our Global Water Fund or Asia Pacific Water Fund. This means that every $1 investment will have an impact of $5.

Proven sustainability

An independent study funded by the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and conducted by the University of North Carolina Water Institute in the Greater Afram Plains region of Ghana showed that nearly 80% of wells installed by World Vision were still functioning at high levels after nearly two decades. In contrast, previous studies have shown that 30% to 50% of non–World Vision-installed wells are not repaired when they inevitably break down. The reason for this high level of success is that we work with communities to ensure they own the water points and are able to maintain them.

A promising “big bet” in philanthropy

Forbes’ independent panel of experts ranked Dana and Dave Dornsife’s $40 million grant to World Vision’s water work as one of that year’s top five major philanthropic gifts for social change. The panel cited the clarity of World Vision’s goals and plan along with the realism of our strategy, and awarded the strength of the relationship between World Vision and our donors the highest score possible.

“World Vision stands apart in their commitment to self-evaluation and reflection and to progressively improving service delivery to those that are hardest to reach.”

—Dr. Aaron Salzberg, director, University of North Carolina Water Institute
Every 10 seconds, World Vision reaches one new person with clean water and one new person with handwashing behavior-change promotion.

High-impact partners

We’re able to reach more people and your investment is leveraged for greater impact because of our local and global partnerships within the private and public sectors.

Contact your World Vision representative or visit worldvisionphilanthropy.org/water.