GLOBAL UPDATE

2.8 MILLION PEOPLE benefited from work you helped support in fiscal year 2016. Thank you for giving generously to transform the lives of children and families in need.
CHILD PROTECTION

GLOBAL SUMMARY

Thank you for giving so generously to protect children from violence—including sexual exploitation, female genital mutilation, domestic abuse, and gender-based violence—and to ensure child survivors have the services and support they need to heal.

It’s never easy to hear about a child who has been trafficked, raped, or beaten. It never will be. But please be encouraged that your love, generosity, and prayers are making a difference.

The projects you supported are helping to create safer homes, schools, and neighborhoods by raising awareness of the threats children face and by calling upon parents and all the members of a community to be on guard to stop violence against children.

Through our work in Armenia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kenya, and Mozambique, we are changing the attitudes and behaviors that put children at risk. It is challenging work. It takes time. But our mission could not be closer to the heart of God—because it is His precious children we are protecting.

As you know, our approach brings people together for a common purpose. World Vision staff members come alongside mothers, fathers, faith leaders, social workers, teachers, healthcare providers, police officers, court personnel, government officials, and community leaders to ensure everyone understands that each child has value and the right to be protected.

Our message is simple: You have a role to play in keeping your children safe. We will help equip you to fill that role well.

We also engage in advocacy for laws and policies that establish children’s rights, along with implementation that gives those laws and policies the impact they are intended to have.

Thank you for being part of these efforts in fiscal year 2016. Please pray for continuing safety and healing for children who have been hurt. We ask God to help us reach even more children this year.

583,678 PEOPLE, INCLUDING 320,546 CHILDREN, benefited from our Child Protection programming.
We are humbled and grateful for your faithful commitment to helping local churches in their ministry and ensuring that children and youth have abundant opportunities to learn about and experience God’s love. Without your prayers and support, none of this would be possible.

As this fiscal year closes, it marks the completion of three projects—Ethiopia, India, and Zambia.

We are celebrating these projects’ successes as they exceeded planned targets and left in place local churches that have taken to heart the Bible’s call to care for the vulnerable.

In Ethiopia, the project’s final evaluation showed that children who learn about the Bible through age-appropriate methods (e.g., games, songs) were eager to share their faith with parents and nonbelieving friends. In India, the number of churches that always or often support the poor has increased from 42 percent to 64 percent. In Zambia, children involved in ministry activities increased from 35 percent to 87 percent.

Although our existing project in El Salvador will be winding down next year, it leaves in place local churches that have invested $6 for every $1 invested by World Vision in ministry activities.

As we look toward the next fiscal year, we will be focusing even more intentionally on fostering the Christian formation of children and youth. Our Kenya Christian Discipleship Project will expand from three to 12 program areas and three new Christian Discipleship projects will be launched in the Philippines, Central America (El Salvador and Honduras), and Ethiopia.

227,147 PEOPLE benefited from ministry activities during fiscal year 2016.

35,377 children and youth participated in discipleship activities.

9,095 pastors and church leaders were trained in theology and children’s ministry.

1,048 churches engaged in holistic ministry to serve people in need in their communities.
GLOBAL SUMMARY

“It’s very painful to see your child crying because they don’t have food.” For a parent, there is nothing more devastating than not being able to care for a child. Your generous gift is helping parents like Vedaste Nyumvira improve the lives of their families. (See Vedaste’s story on page 9.)

The United Nations has set the goal of ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture as its second most important priority. This is one of its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to achieve by the year 2030.

The first SDG priority is ending poverty in all its forms everywhere. Today, however, 75 percent of the world’s poor live in rural areas where agricultural workers suffer the highest incidence of poverty.

Although food production has risen tremendously over the last three decades, an estimated 842 million people still continue to experience chronic hunger.

In developing countries, the poor spend up to 75 percent of their income on food, leaving little for education and health.

Finally, more than 70 percent of rural people depend on agriculture for their survival; the majority of them in “environmentally damaged hotspots,” where poverty and food insecurity are enhanced by droughts and floods.

World Vision is directly contributing to reaching the United Nation’s top two priorities through its economic empowerment project THRIVE (Transforming Household Resilience in Vulnerable Environments).

Already deployed in five countries, THRIVE (and its pilot, Securing Africa’s Future in Tanzania) integrates proven approaches to increasing incomes and strengthening resilience of rural families and communities.

It focuses on:

• Helping farmers move from subsistence farming to managing their farms like for-profit businesses
• Managing natural resources to safeguard farm investments for future generations
• Developing systems for managing emergencies
• Providing Empowered Worldview training based on biblical values that transform and strengthen the social and spiritual capital of communities

Along with the THRIVE initiative, World Vision and VisionFund, its microfinance institution, also are providing access to financial services for rural farmers and other vulnerable people.

424,003 PEOPLE provided with access to economic empowerment activities during fiscal year 2016.
When disaster strikes, lives can be torn apart, leaving people vulnerable and without hope. Your partnership with World Vision is helping these families know they are not alone, and that others many miles away care about them.

Natural disasters can strike without warning, claiming thousands of lives in seconds. Man-made crises can simmer, putting millions at risk over the long term. Wherever the place, whatever the cause, a humanitarian crisis always delivers the heaviest blow to those living in poverty, especially children.

God is with those suffering from disasters—the refugee, the earthquake survivor, the family facing famine. He calls us to follow Him in offering hope to every last one.

Because no two disasters are the same, World Vision’s response strategy considers the impact, context, and causes of each one. Our goal is to support families beyond immediate needs as they face the challenges of rebuilding their lives and livelihoods.

World Vision’s emergency relief programs give priority to children—the most vulnerable community members during disasters. Children usually comprise more than half of the people affected.

That is why one of World Vision’s core commitments is to be equipped by 2020 to reach 20 percent of vulnerable children when responding to conflict and natural disasters.

In 2016, World Vision reached 15.4 million people in disasters and crises with life-saving aid and critical relief. Some of these disasters dominated the news, but most received little attention.

World Vision is invested in people impacted by disasters—people who have lost homes, possessions, and loved ones. We are invested in the hardest, most challenging places—including those that are not in the news.

Through the support of grant funds and our private donors, $401 million in humanitarian aid was provided to people across the globe.

But these figures do not capture the true impact of your support. Reaching someone in their greatest hour of need provides so much more than food, water, or shelter—it reminds them of our linked humanity. It restores hope and dignity. It is our faith in action.

Thank you for partnering with World Vision in this humbling work.

296,749 PEOPLE in disasters and crises provided with critical relief or life-saving services during fiscal year 2016, through the support of U.S. private funding donors. This was part of a worldwide effort that reached 15.4 million people with humanitarian relief.

130 DISASTERS AND HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES in 63 countries responded to by World Vision offices around the world.
MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH

GLOBAL SUMMARY

World Vision is determined—with your help—to put a stop to needless deaths among mothers, infants, and young children. Thanks to your support, thousands are receiving life-enhancing—and often life-saving—care that is basic, yet effective, in some of the most vulnerable communities in some of the most dangerous places for mothers and children.

We join thousands of children and their families in sharing our gratitude for trained community health workers who are providing the valuable frontline healthcare and priceless knowledge that is critical to mother and child survival.

Women in Ethiopia are receiving treatment for debilitating damage caused by having babies without the aid of trained medical personnel. Children in Uganda are getting growth monitoring and referrals to nutrition programs when needed. Zambian health facility staff and volunteers are learning from U.S. medical service volunteers who are sharing their knowledge and time to improve care in two health facilities.

Your partnership is expanding access to healthcare for families that have suffered for want of simple, basic services. They are now receiving that vital care. May God richly bless you for loving your neighbors who are a world away.

140,555 PEOPLE were provided with access to maternal and child health and nutrition services, which includes 57,179 children younger than 5 during fiscal year 2016.

These global beneficiary numbers include people who might have received more than one service. For example, women who delivered their babies in a health facility often also received prenatal care services.

Contributed to 50,080 children under 5 receiving essential vaccines in FY16  
FY16 target: 44,768  
112%

Contributed to 39,711 women delivering their babies in a health facility in FY16  
FY16 target: 41,382  
96%

Trained 1,434 community health workers in FY16  
FY16 target: 1,337  
107%

Trained 326 faith leaders on the importance of maternal and child healthcare in FY16  
FY16 target: 420  
78%
GLOBAL SUMMARY

Thanks to the ongoing support of Global Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Program donors and partners, we have reached 12.5 million people with clean water since October 2010.

Through this continuing program, World Vision is bringing the life-saving benefits of safe WASH to even more people around the world, with the vision of reaching every person, everywhere we work by 2030.

This past year, your generosity enabled World Vision to scale up the Global WASH program to 36 countries. We expanded efforts in fragile states, responding to the Syria crisis and other emergencies, to serve some of the world’s most vulnerable children. Further, in-country teams are securing partners and additional funding to support their WASH programs.

In 2016, World Vision WASH teams met or exceeded most major targets. The program reached 1.6 million sanitation beneficiaries and 3.2 million hygiene beneficiaries in 2016. In total, 2,152 villages gained universal access to water. Nearly nine villages per day were certified as Open Defecation Free. In addition, several WASH teams were busy responding to conflict and emergency situations in the Middle East, East Africa, and many of the areas where our WASH teams were active in 2016.

Please join us in thanking God and seeking His guidance and provision as we continue serving Him through the Global WASH Program.

1.12 MILLION PEOPLE provided with access to clean drinking water during 2016 through U.S. private funding, with 4.67 million people reached globally.

21,831 new and rehabilitated wells and water points

2016 target: 17,176 127%

247,132 sanitation facilities built

2016 target: 211,208 117%

239,495 hand-washing facilities built

2016 target: 315,565 76%

5,929 water committees formed with fee-collection systems

2016 target: 4,942 120%

* Universal access is defined as 95 percent of all people within the village have access to safe water within a 30-minute or less collection time.
CHILD PROTECTION

Sreyleak Yung, 18, has become an effective youth leader, and, in the process, has gained skills and self-confidence. The youngest of three girls, Sreyleak lives with her mother and middle sister. Sreyleak has taken her grade 12 diploma examination and is awaiting the results. She hopes to further her education at the college level and become a construction engineer.

Away from school, Sreyleak leads a busy life. She helps with household chores, the family business (selling snacks and other items), and community activities. Sreyleak took part in training on child protection and personal safety. Sessions covered topics such as violence, child abuse, trafficking, drugs, and unsafe migration.

As a youth leader, Sreyleak talks to her peers about nutrition, healthcare, and personal hygiene, and she encourages them to share the information with others. A strong proponent of education, she said, “I want to see children become knowledgeable so they can have appropriate jobs.”

Sreyleak’s mother is pleased with all her daughter is doing. She said, “I am happy to see my child get engaged with community work.”

As a result of her service, Sreyleak was promoted last year, becoming a provincial deputy youth leader of Kandal and Kompong Speu provinces in Cambodia—and receiving recognition from the village chief and provincial governor.

CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Although Yerosen’s parents faithfully brought her to church each Sunday as a child in Ethiopia, she says that it was mostly a time to play with friends and she learned little about Jesus.

Volunteers at the church, such as her teacher, Genet, had a heart for teaching children, but realized that simply reading the Bible didn’t hold their interest. But that was the way Sunday schools had always been taught, and they had no model for anything different.

That changed after attending World Vision’s children’s ministry training. Genet and the other teachers learned to use games, songs, and fun activities.

Yerosen said she noticed the difference in their teaching, and that Bible stories became more interesting to her. But her real passion is music. She loves the worship songs she learned in Sunday school and decided to join the church choir. She now dreams of writing and recording her own songs on an album some day.

“I know I can preach the Word of God through the songs I sing,” said Yerosen.
Vedaste wanted to farm, but the acidic soil of his farm in Rwanda, coupled with the steep slopes, meant meager harvests. During the dry season, he couldn’t get water to his crops, and during the rainy season, torrential downpours often washed away all his hard work.

As more children came along (nine in total), more mouths to feed increased their need for food. “It’s very painful to see your child crying because they don’t have food,” Vedaste says. It made him more determined to take on the challenge of feeding his family.

Vedaste started learning new farming techniques from World Vision between 2010 and 2013. He began to see some improvements in his farming income. Then in September 2014, through Rwanda’s Economic Empowerment project, Vedaste was chosen to travel to Yatta, Kenya, to learn about improved agricultural techniques from Bishop Titus Masika. Once he returned, Vedaste applied his newly learned farming techniques to his onions, improving fertilizer and drip irrigation to help improve the growth.

He earned about $450 from that first crop. “An amount I’d never received,” he said. Vedaste embraced that principle by planting a variety of crops including bananas, passion fruit, eggplant, onions, tree tomatoes, sugar cane, sweet potatoes, and avocadoes.

Vedaste needed to hire a man to work in the fields to produce enough for his family. When that couldn’t be done, he sold the excess vegetables and used the money to buy goats. His wife, Beata, now runs a successful tailoring business, thanks to training and loans she received through VisionFund.

Hundeya Ersilo, a 35-year-old mother of seven children in drought-stricken Ethiopia, is a member of a savings group in her community. The group is composed of 10 mothers who have been trained on how to start and manage backyard gardens and develop a savings culture.

In Hundeya’s modest backyard, she grows vegetables that give her family nutritious food to eat. “I also sell the excess vegetables. With that money I was able to buy goats and a variety of seeds,” she said.

Shega Haji Nasir (pictured at right), 28 and a mother of three, also is a member of the savings group. She said, “Before now, my husband was the sole breadwinner. He would go out early to work in the farm. But when the rain did not come, he could not plant. Around that time, World Vision came and supported and trained us on how to save money, raise poultry, produce fruit and vegetables right within our backyard. I planted onion, cabbage, carrots, and beetroot. World Vision also provided us six chickens. My children get to eat nutritious food, and I manage to sell the surplus.”

Life continues to be tough for Hundeya and Shega, just like it is for most people in their community. But these mothers have learned how to help their families thrive, even as they wait for the rain to return.
Sepiso is a community health worker in Zambia who befriended 16-year-old Kabangu after she became pregnant and was shunned by her grandparents, leading her to thoughts of suicide.

The young woman had lived with extended family following the deaths of both parents to AIDS-related complications when she was an infant. Their legacy to Kabangu was HIV, and the young woman was worried about its effects on her baby.

“It was not easy to live with my grandparents and aunties. They always treated me differently,” Kabangu said.

Sepiso convinced the family to reunite with Kabangu. She made sure the teen attended prenatal care clinics, ate the right foods, and got enough rest. She also taught her what was necessary to prevent passing HIV on to her baby. With proper care during pregnancy, baby Mavis was born premature and small, but healthy. At 6 weeks, she had the first of three HIV tests she will have by the time she reaches 15 months, and the result provided great reason for hope: It was negative.

Many health clinics across Africa and in Niger lack on-site functional WASH facilities. Tallage Integrated Health Center was one such clinic.

Through the generous support of World Vision donors, the health center benefited from a mechanized borehole with a tap stand, powered by solar panels, which provides a continuous supply of water to the health center and maternity ward.

Hadiza Seyni, an assistant nurse from the health center, shared, “In the whole Tallage area, the population suffers from lack of enough safe water, because of a water shortage in the taps, almost seven months [of] 12. When women come for delivery to the health center maternity, they have to bring their 20-liter container of water along with them.

“I am in charge of the cleanliness and hygiene in the maternity, and I really cannot do my job well because of lack of water. Now, thank God, we can rejoice because water is available in the health center, and I can be happy looking at the clean toilets when I leave for home at the end of work time,” she said.

With a new water tap on-site, the midwife, nurses, and patients now have the water they need to practice handwashing and good hygiene that helps save lives. Access to water at the health center is encouraging women to use the center more, since some would rather deliver at home than go to a clinic with no water.