

# WITH CLEAN WATER, SHE CAN SOAR

The global water crisis hits women and girls the hardest. Imagine what will happen when 25 million get access to clean water by 2030.



Eight-year-old Ireen with the women who will bring clean water to her community in Malawi. From left, Liddah Manyozo, Ireen, Mereena Mhone John, and Irene Chongwe.

## Dirty water is a thief.

Dirty water steals time, health, and income from families in the poorest countries, hitting women the hardest. Worldwide, women and children spend 200 million hours each day collecting water that they know may make their families sick. Girls suffer the most, often missing out on education. The long walk to collect water, and illnesses coming from contaminated sources, force girls to miss school, limiting their prospects for the future. Crushing the dreams that can transform a girl into the Woman of the Year.

Ireen is one of those girls. She spends her days walking for contaminated water. Right now, she has no choice. But Ireen is surrounded by strong women working to bring clean water to her commu-

nity. It's why she can smile. Change is coming soon.

Mereena Mhone John, a World Vision water program manager in Malawi, is part of the change. She understands that clean water fuels development. Easy access to clean water means fewer diseases like diarrhea and cholera. When mothers have access to safe water, they can participate in World Vision's economic programs, put their kids back in school, and put nutritious food on the table.

Working alongside Mereena is Liddah Manyozo, a World Vision technical advisor for a team of drillers, and Irene Chongwe, a community champion of sanitation and hygiene. "We are like role models to Ireen," says Mereena. "She can have hope that she can make it."

Mereena, Liddah, and Irene are made even stronger by women in the United States like Dana Dornsife. With her husband, Dave, Dana has invested \$115 million since 2010 to bring water to millions of girls like Ireen through World Vision.

Dana, a Strong Women Strong World ambassador, has seen firsthand the impact clean water has on girls and women. "The quickest way to empower a woman is to make sure she has clean water," she says. "And then, she can soar." Dana and hundreds of leading women philanthropists are dreaming big with World Vision. They know the next Woman of the Year may be walking down a dusty path right now, and that clean water is the fastest way to change her future.

And who knows? It could be Ireen.

World Vision reaches  
1 new person with  
clean water every

**10**  
seconds



and will reach

**50**  
million

people (half of them  
women and girls)



in

**47**  
countries  
by 2030



Dana Dornsife

**World Vision**

STRONG WOMEN  
STRONG WORLD

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