



WHO WE ARE

World Vision Australia is part of the World Vision International Partnership, an independent Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation operating in more than 90 countries.

We are dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. We aim to effectively engage all Australians in the fight against poverty.

Our Christian faith is the foundation for all we do and we strive to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ. We seek to express our Christian beliefs in an inclusive and non-judgmental manner. As an organisation inspired by Christian values, we are committed to serving people in need regardless of their religion, race or gender.

Viewed collectively, the World Vision International Partnership is the world's largest non-governmental humanitarian and development agency.

OUR VISION

Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness;

Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.

OUR MISSION

We are a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation that seeks to transform the lives of children and communities by tackling the causes of poverty.

CORE VALUES¹

We are Christian

We seek to follow, and are motivated by, Jesus Christ's identification with the poor; the powerless, the afflicted, the oppressed, the marginalised; in His special concern for children; in His respect for the equal dignity of women and men; in His challenge to unjust attitudes and systems; in His call to share resources with each other; in His love for all people without discrimination or conditions; in His offer of new life through faith in Him.

We are committed to the poor

We stand in solidarity with the poor in a common search for justice. We seek to understand the situation of the poor and work alongside them towards fullness of life.

We seek to facilitate an engagement between the poor and the affluent that opens both to transformation. We respect the poor as active participants, not passive recipients, in this relationship. They are people from whom others may learn and receive, as well as give. The need for transformation is common to all. Together we share a quest for justice, peace, reconciliation and healing.



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Pic A - When he's not in school, Feyisa helps in the family fields and tends the animals. World Vision is providing agricultural support to families in his Ethiopian village.

Pic B - In Myanmar, this young boy participates in activities in a Child Friendly Space that was established by World Vision following Cyclone Nargis. More than a year after the cyclone, the centre continues to respond to the social and developmental needs of local children.

Pic C - A World Vision child nutrition program in Niger has helped to restore these children to health and teach their mother about food hygiene and healthy eating practices.

We value people

We give priority to people before money, structures, systems and other institutional machinery. We act in ways that respect the dignity, uniqueness and intrinsic worth of every person – the poor, donors, our staff and their families, boards and volunteers. We celebrate the richness of diversity in human personality, culture and contribution. We practise a participative, open, enabling style in working relationships. We encourage the professional, personal and spiritual development of our staff.

We are responsive

We are responsive to life-threatening emergencies where our involvement is needed and appropriate. We are willing to take intelligent risks and act quickly. We do this from a foundation of experience and sensitivity to what the situation requires. We also recognise that even in the midst of crisis, the destitute have a contribution to make from their experience. We are responsive in a different sense where deep-seated and often complex economic and social deprivation calls for sustainable, long-term development. We maintain the commitments necessary for this to occur. We are responsive to new and unusual opportunities. We encourage innovation, creativity and flexibility. We maintain an attitude of learning, reflection and discovery in order to grow in understanding and skill.

We are partners

We are members of an international World Vision Partnership that transcends legal, structural and cultural boundaries. We accept the obligations of joint participation, shared goals and mutual accountability that true partnership requires. We maintain a cooperative stance and a spirit of openness towards other humanitarian organisations. We are willing to receive and consider honest opinions from others about our work.

We are stewards

The resources at our disposal are not our own. We are faithful to the purpose for which those resources are given and manage them in a manner that brings maximum benefit to the poor. We speak and act honestly. We are open and factual in our dealings with donor constituencies, project communities, governments, the public at large, and with each other. We endeavour to convey a public image conforming to reality. We strive for consistency between what we say and what we do. We demand of ourselves high standards of professional competence and accept the need to be accountable through appropriate structures for achieving these standards. We share our experience and knowledge with others where it can assist them. We care for the earth and act in ways that will restore and protect the environment. We ensure that our development activities are ecologically sound.



OUR HISTORY

In 1950, American Rev Dr Bob Pierce created World Vision to help children orphaned in the Korean War. In 1953, the World Vision child sponsorship program commenced to provide these children with ongoing support. The sponsorship program soon expanded into other Asian countries and then Africa and Latin America, assisting children from poor communities with food, healthcare and education. World Vision's emergency relief work began in the 1960s, delivering food, clothing and medical supplies to people affected by disasters.

World Vision Australia commenced its operations in 1966.

In the 1970s, World Vision began to embrace a broader community development model and focused more intently on addressing the causes of poverty by assisting communities to meet needs in areas such as clean water and sanitation, education, healthcare, leadership training and income generation.

WHAT WE DO

Today, World Vision Australia addresses poverty and injustice through the following core activities:

- **Community development:** We work within communities and across geographical areas to help individuals and groups improve the wellbeing of children and overcome poverty. We do this through long-term projects aimed at empowering communities to sustainably manage their own development.
- **Humanitarian and emergency relief:** We work on all aspects of disaster management. When disasters strike, World Vision has staff and supplies positioned around the globe to respond to immediate needs like food, water, shelter and safe spaces for children. We also work with communities to recover from disasters and reduce the impacts of future natural disasters through planning and capacity building, with the aim to transition to community development activities.
- **Tackling injustice through policy change and advocacy:** We engage governments, institutions, donors, communities and the public to address the underlying issues that perpetuate poverty. World Vision aims to empower communities to speak up for their rights and influence change, both locally and globally.
- **Engaging Australia:** We seek to educate Australians about the causes of poverty and to challenge them to be involved in its alleviation, including by making financial and non-financial contributions to our work. World Vision also seeks to make known God's offer of renewal and reconciliation through Jesus Christ, and to encourage people to respond.

HOW WE WORK WITH WORLD VISION PARTNER OFFICES

The World Vision International Partnership is a partnership of over 90 interdependent national offices, most of which are governed by local boards or advisory councils. By signing the World Vision International Covenant of Partnership, each partner agrees to abide by common



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policies and standards. This means that while we are accountable to other World Vision offices, World Vision Australia is a distinct legal entity with its own Board. World Vision Australia applies the policies and standards of the World Vision International Partnership in accordance with our local context. World Vision offices hold each other accountable through an ongoing system of accreditation and peer review.

World Vision Australia's relief, development and advocacy programs are implemented through World Vision's network of national offices.

Typically, World Vision Australia receives a proposal from a World Vision national office to provide support for a proposed project. World Vision Australia then assesses the proposal and makes a determination as to whether or not to support it. This determination occurs through a structured committee process and decisions are made based on criteria such as strategic fit, relevance of the proposed response, organisational capacity and budget requirements. If World Vision Australia agrees to support the program and provide funding for it, World Vision Australia works with the relevant World Vision national office on design, monitoring and evaluation of the program. Fundraising and marketing activities to generate financial support for the program are managed by World Vision Australia.

Where appropriate we work directly with communities in implementing activities, particularly in our Australian programs.

Additional information on the World Vision International Partnership (including key governance arrangements) is provided on our website at worldvision.com.au/AboutUs/CorporateGovernance/AnnualReports.aspx and also at wvi.org.

EXTERNAL COALITIONS AND PARTNERS

World Vision contributes to the efforts of a larger community of organisations and people working towards poverty alleviation and justice for the oppressed. In Australia, our work with other NGOs in coalitions such as Make Poverty History and Micah Challenge allows us to act on a broader scale and achieve greater results. ACFID and AusAID are also key partners.

World Vision Australia regularly works with universities, academics and NGOs on specific issues or activities. This includes cooperation on research, advocacy, professional knowledge exchange, teaching and learning, recruitment, professional experience for students, and community engagement.

We also seek to achieve better international humanitarian coordination through global mechanisms such as the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, as well as participation in initiatives to improve aid effectiveness.

Pic A - Korotimi has learned how to prepare nutritious food for her children at a World Vision-supported mothers' workshop in Mali.

Pic B - In rural communities in India, World Vision is raising awareness about the importance of education for girls like Nafisa.