

# CAPACITY STATEMENT

## WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)



3



Vietnam is among the nations facing water shortage, with an average surface water per capita lower than the standard 4,000m<sup>3</sup> per annum. 20% of Vietnam's population lack access to clean water and still use water from the sources below the quality standards<sup>1</sup>.

The percentages of rural population with access to improved water sources and improved sanitation facilities are lower than their urban counterpart (93% and 78% versus 99% and 94%, respectively)<sup>2</sup>. Rural and mountainous regions in World Vision Vietnam's working areas see an even worse situation due to the lack of physical infrastructure and financial capacity. For example, in Tuần Giáo District, 41.1% of households had sufficiently clean drinking water, and only 8.3% of households had proper sanitation facilities<sup>3</sup>.

Moreover, water and sanitation quality in remote areas has been severely affected by untreated waste and wastewater from agricultural production, domestic activities, and open defecation habit by both human and livestock. Vietnam's susceptibility to natural hazards - such as typhoons, flashfloods, landslides, and droughts - leads to a multitude of problems including water pollution and waterborne diseases, which compromises the health of those with limited access to medical services, especially children and mothers. Every year in Vietnam, about 9,000 people die from poor water and sanitation, and nearly 250,000 people are hospitalized due to contaminated drinking water<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Ministry of Health

<sup>2</sup> Summary of Policy on Clean Water and Sanitation in Vietnam, UNICEF, 2020

<sup>3</sup> National Baseline Survey Report, World Vision Vietnam, 2018

<sup>4</sup> Ministry of Health

## Priority Focus

### Goal

Mothers and children are protected from illnesses.

### Objective

- + Increase households' access to improved water sources
- + Increase households' access to hygienic latrines
- + Change behaviors towards water, sanitation and hygiene in households, schools and communities

### Approach

The interventions aim to raise awareness among community members and create a movement within communities in which households learn from and encourage each other to replicate good practices regarding water, sanitation and hygiene that are simple and appropriate to households' financial capability.

## Technical Expertise

**At national level**, we have a full-time Technical Program Manager for Health and Nutrition including WASH with 27 years of experiences in public health, including rural water supply. To ensure the outcomes of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene interventions complement World Vision Vietnam's efforts to improve the health of the most vulnerable children, the Technical Program Manager for Health and Nutrition works closely with the Health and Nutrition Specialist, who has clinical background, to develop technical guidelines and provide supportive supervision to the program implementation at grassroots level.

**At field level**, 4 full-time Health and Nutrition Technical Program Officers, and 28 Development Facilitators receive annual capacity building on WASH, ensuring our WASH interventions are implemented effectively in the communities.

# Advantages & Strengths

Through our long-term Area Programs, we are able to fully grasp local contexts and needs as our program staff are stationed at the **grassroots** to work directly with the community people. Based on their particular needs, our models and approaches are carefully tailored to ensure program efficiency and impact. During the implementation process, communities' feedback is welcomed in order to make appropriate and timely adjustments in each and every component of our intervention.

Given each Area Program's timeline of 10-15 years, we have established solid **partnerships** with local authorities and communities, which enables effective mobilization of local resources, participation and ownership, and in turn contributing to the sustainability of the models and outcomes upon the Area Programs' closure.



## Partnerships

At national level, we partner with the **National Center for Rural Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation** under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to develop technical guidelines in order to ensure the alignment with Vietnam's National Program regarding water and sanitation.

At grassroots level, representatives of **local authorities** and **local groups/networks** participate in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes of all interventions, which heightens the communities' ownership and ability to continue and replicate the work in the long-run.

We also collaborate with the **Committee for Disaster Prevention and Control**, **Red Cross**, related sectoral departments, and mass organizations in the provinces where World Vision Vietnam is operating for implementing WASH in Emergency interventions.

In recent years, we put a strong focus on partnering with the **private sector** and have established sound connections with various enterprises such as Made Blue Foundation, a social enterprise that invests in clean water projects in developing countries.







## Technical Models



**Nutrition Club Platform** is a community-based and community-led behavior change initiative which involves home visits and monthly meetings for mothers and caregivers of children under five to learn about basic nutrition knowledge, child care practices, and common diseases prevention through WASH practices and food preparation. It is also a platform to implement integrated interventions such as livelihoods, food security and water, sanitation and hygiene.



**Household Water Treatment and Safe Storage** aims to increase the accessibility to improved water sources at household level in situations where people rely on contaminated water sources due to the lack of piped water system or where stored water becomes contaminated because of unhygienic handling during transport or storage at home.

The model informs households about the impact of unsafe drinking water to create demand, then provides different options of products and services for households to choose from based on their context.



**Community-Led Total Sanitation** is applied to help target communities understand the causes of diarrhea and other waterborne diseases, conduct appraisal in their own villages, identify context appropriate ways to improve their basic sanitation condition and thereby prevent the communicable diseases that can lead to malnutrition among children.

Through this model, communities also make commitment to eradicate open defecation practice and agree on action plan to upgrade and build affordable hygienic latrines.

**Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene** includes Behavioral change communication at grassroots level implemented at communities and schools to improve personal hygiene practices for children and provide caregivers with instructions on child hygiene to reduce infectious diseases among children under five.

## Highlighted Achievements in FY20

**798** households with malnourished children were supported to improve nutrition and hygiene practices at home through the integration of multiple interventions (livelihood, saving, and sanitation) into nutritional rehabilitation sessions.

**6,797** households with children under 5 had sanitation facilities constructed for their own family's use.

**391** handwashing stations and **181** water tanks/sanitation facilities were established within communities.

**55%** of the target population had improved sanitation facilities and 60% had sufficient drinking water.

# Grant Experiences

Through grant projects, we have introduced suitable and affordable models to people from rural communities and ethnic minorities, and provided them with support to set up basic facilities in both houses and schools. This contributes to changing their behaviors and practices towards a more hygienic and healthy living environment as well as improving their children's health status.

Below are some highlighted projects among many others that we have implemented in the past recent years:

## 1 Clean Water for Ethnic Minority Groups in Diên Quang Commune (Thanh Hóa Province) (2019-2021)

**Budget:** 295,810 US dollars

**Donor:** Made Blue Foundation

**Goals:**

- + To increase communities' access to safe water through setting up a water supply system, in integration with enhancing knowledge and practice of target people on WASH
- + To improve health status of local people through reduction of water-borne diseases and improved quality of life for 2,172 adults and 1,356 children
- + To save time, labor and finance resources once used for fetching water, enabling local people, especially women, to have more time participating in economic development activities

## 2 Emergency Relief Response to Central Vietnam Flooding (2020)

**Budget:** 1,213,222 US dollars

**Donor:** Australian Humanitarian Partnership, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, Dutch Relief Alliance, New Zealand Embassy in Vietnam, World Vision Singapore

**Results:** 113,887 affected people in Quảng Trị, Quảng Nam and Quảng Ngãi Provinces benefited from WASH intervention according to their needs. The support included provision of water tanks, water buckets, water filters, hygiene kits, and chloramine B; repair of degraded water facilities and latrines; training on flood water treatment; and guidance on the operation and maintenance of water facilities.

## 3 Emergency Relief Assistance to Bình Thuận Province (in response to El Niño-induced drought) (2016)

**Budget:** 149,939 US dollars

**Donor:** United Nations Development Programme

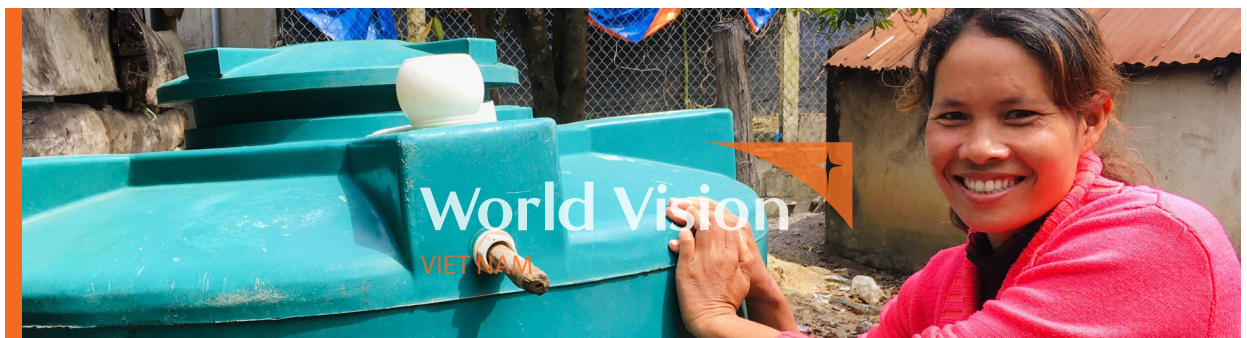
**Results:** 1,477 one-thousand-liter water tanks and 20,000 twenty-liter water bottles were distributed to 1,477 needy households (4,677 adults and 1,421 children) in Hàm Thuận Bắc and Bắc Bình Districts within two months. These households also benefited from the hygiene, sanitation- and nutrition-related behavioral change activities implemented by the on-going Area Programs.

## 4 Participatory WASH for Poor Communities (2011-2015)

**Budget:** 875,000 US dollars

**Donor:** Australian Agency for International Development

**Results:** The program benefitted 27,000 adults and children from rural communities and ethnic minorities in Northern Vietnam and Quảng Trị Provinces



World Vision is a movement of people called to improve the lives of vulnerable children around the world. We believe that a country, and a world, where all children are protected and free from extreme poverty and able to reach their full potential is possible. Since 1988, World Vision Vietnam has been devoted to the most vulnerable children and communities, helping them overcome poverty. Every year, over 200,000 Vietnamese children benefit from our work in three key areas: Child Protection, Nutrition, and Sustainable Livelihoods.