

Educating to empower

The road to achieving gender equality



World Vision
Ireland

news

vision

Issue one ■ 2009

Greetings

Welcome to the Spring 2009 issue of NewsVision.

Here is a brief update from the past few months....

2008 review

Our financial year ended on 30th September 2008 and we were delighted to welcome an additional 3,215 new sponsors during that time. We now have 15 ADPs (Area Development Programmes) across Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Mauritania, Sierra Leone and Swaziland, allowing us to help some 500,000 people.

Sierra Leone Trip

I recently returned from a visit to Sierra Leone, West Africa, where we have 2 ADPs – Imperi, and the newly established Bonthe Island. I found the people I met so optimistic and determined despite the devastating social and economic impact of the 10 year civil conflict, which resulted in at least 20,000 people killed and many more injured and maimed.

Although the task is daunting, we are already making a huge difference to the lives of many people, particularly in relation to education where we have built three schools in Imperi with the assistance of Irish Aid.

Even more inspiring was my visit to the Imperi Women's Training centre (supported by Bank of Ireland staff funds), where the women who attend are learning to read and write as well as develop new skills such as weaving and soap making. With hard work, the right support, and finally some stability, this community will get the future they deserve.



Front cover image: ©World Vision

Run for World Vision Ireland

We are looking for women of all ages and fitness levels to run the Women's Mini Marathon in Dublin on 1st June 2009. You can register at www.womensminimarathon.ie or through the Evening Herald – but do it soon, closing date for entries is 21st April 2009! If you would like a fundraising pack, please drop us an email at info@wvi.org or call 1850 366 283.



A feel good film everyone should watch

During February you will have received a DVD of Pauline McLynn's trip to Gakungu ADP in Kenya. If you haven't had a chance, please watch it soon. It is just 10 minutes long but is something that should make you feel very proud to be a supporter of World Vision's work. The happy, confident and extremely motivated members of the community that you will meet in the DVD are an inspiration to us all!



Challenging times

Times are tough for a lot of people in Ireland at the moment but the global economic downturn is hitting poorer countries even harder. Imagine how families without savings and social security safety nets are experiencing these difficult times?

UN estimates for 2009 suggest an additional 46 million people in the developing world will have to survive on less than a dollar a day due to the economic crisis.

As a nation we have always been proud of our leadership in tackling international poverty – we must remember that. And we must keep working towards a fair and just world, whatever the economic climate.

Thank you, as ever, for all your help.

Helen Keogh
Chief Executive

International Women's Day

International Women's Day 2009

A girl born today in a poor community becomes part of the largest group of people to be denied basic needs and human rights – women.

For many Irish women, gender inequality may mean difficulty breaking through the glass ceiling of the corporate world or the unequal sharing of household chores and childcare. Others might even feel that gender equality has been fought for and won and that International Women's Day is no longer really necessary.

However, for many women in developing countries, the level of inequality between the sexes is much greater than it is in Ireland. March 8th provides a chance for the global recognition of the role of women in society and how it can be improved.

Boys still favoured over girls

In many cultures, a girl is devalued from birth. She may be given less food, denied education and assigned exhausting chores.

Whilst many girls in Ireland are now thinking of how they did in their mocks or are looking forward to the Easter holidays, millions of their peers across the developing world are being forced to leave school early in order to marry.

For many, educating a girl is considered a waste as you don't need to go to school to learn how to be a good wife. The result is a continuing spiral of poverty, illiteracy and maternal and child health problems in impoverished and under-developed communities worldwide.

Death in childbirth is also a real risk. Worldwide, one woman dies every minute due to problems related to pregnancy. 99% of these deaths are in the developing world.

Women essential to development

Human development cannot happen when entire sections of the population are prevented from realising their potential. Not only does education enable young girls and women to better their own lives, educated mothers are also more likely to send their own children to school.

World Vision actively pursues policies and practices in our Area Development Programmes that promote opportunities for women and young girls. As a World Vision child sponsor you are supporting these efforts. While it is clear that we have a long way to go toward achieving gender equality, with your help we are definitely narrowing the gap.

Gender Inequality – The Facts

Despite some progress over the past two decades, gender inequality remains a considerable challenge for development.

- ♀ Women account for two thirds of the world's poor.
- ♀ In developing countries, rural women are responsible for 60-80% of food production, but have limited control over land and other necessary assets.
- ♀ Women earn only 10% of the world's income, yet they work 66% of the world's labour hours.
- ♀ Early marriage is expected to claim the futures of some 100 million girls in the next decade. Most will not finish school and will be at higher risk of injury or death due to early childbearing and contracting HIV.



What is World Vision doing about gender inequality?

Our staff actively work to equip and encourage women around the world by recognising them as critical partners in all areas of development:

- > **Education:** World Vision programmes help provide access to education for girls and literacy training for women.
- > **Health care:** Along with basic health care, World Vision trains birth attendants and offers prenatal nutrition and hygiene classes for women.
- > **Human rights:** Our culturally sensitive staff promote recognition of the inherent value of girls and train women to advocate for their rights and become leaders in their own communities.



HOPE Update

The World Vision HOPE initiative is focused specifically on providing education, training and support to those affected by HIV/AIDS, particularly children.

Our HOPE donors, together with Irish AID, have helped us fund the following activities over the past two years.

H – hope and care for people living with AIDS
O – orphan care including vulnerable children
P – prevention
E – education

Recently we have been working with communities in the central zone of Tanzania, creating awareness about transmission and prevention of the disease focussing in particular on vulnerable children and female-headed households.

Protecting vulnerable children

With HOPE funding we are holding meetings in villages to talk to communities about the importance of supporting children who may have been made vulnerable by losing a parent or even both to HIV. So far, we have reached communities in 20 different villages using drama sketches and songs to educate them about the rights of the child and the importance of caring for those children who have no other family support mechanism. In the future, community care coalitions will take on the responsibility of ensuring that no child falls into poverty and vulnerability because of the affect of HIV.

Prevention and education

The HOPE project also trains important community members such as teachers and village leaders in how to teach others within their communities about the importance of prevention of HIV, rights of children and care for orphans and vulnerable children. An important part of this is working also within school health clubs to introduce messages about prevention and care at an early stage.

Care and counselling

The money has also helped to train local district government health workers in basic counselling skills. These outreach staff are now better equipped to support those families who have been affected by HIV. HOPE funding has supported 600 primary school children with school uniforms and books to encourage them to continue their education.

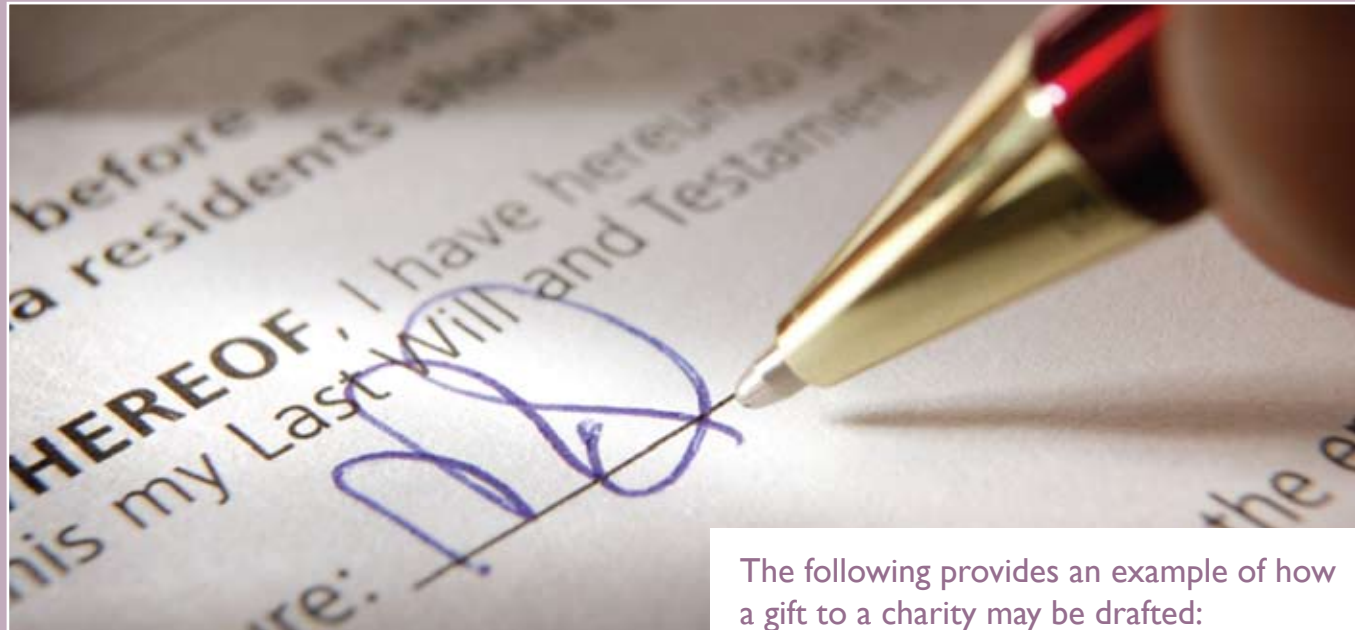
Case study:

Through the HOPE project, just under 100 local teenagers have so far been identified and enrolled in vocational training. For one of these girls – Nafsa Shabani who is 15, this vocational training means that not only will she be able to provide for herself but also for her elderly grandparents who took her in after both of her parents died due to HIV & AIDS related illnesses. After completing primary school, her grandparents were unable to support her with the secondary school fees and so she stayed home to farm and support the family. Nafsa was identified by her local community to benefit from HOPE funding and she is now enrolled in a tailoring course. “I had no dream of changing my future, but unexpectedly like a dream my life has changed and today I’m a trainee at the Mungiri vocational training centre.”

To learn more about HOPE
or to make a donation, please
visit www.worldvision.ie

Giving to charity in your will

Our supporters often ask us how they can make a donation in their will. It's a great way to leave a legacy to a cause you believe in. We asked Jennifer Tuite, Associate Solicitor at Matheson Ormsby Prentice for some advice.



The following provides an example of how a gift to a charity may be drafted:

"I GIVE (the sum of €(x)) OR ((x)% of my estate) to World Vision of Ireland, CHY number 6434, for the general purposes of the said charity, and I declare that the receipt of the treasurer or proper officer of the said charity shall be sufficient discharge to my executors on the payment of this gift.

If at the date of my death the said charity has ceased to exist or has amalgamated or become incorporated with another charity or has changed its name, then this gift shall not fail, but my executors shall pay the gift to such charitable organisation as they consider most nearly fulfils the objects of that which I intended to benefit."

When giving to a charity in your will, it is important to ensure that the gift is drafted properly, as otherwise it could fail.

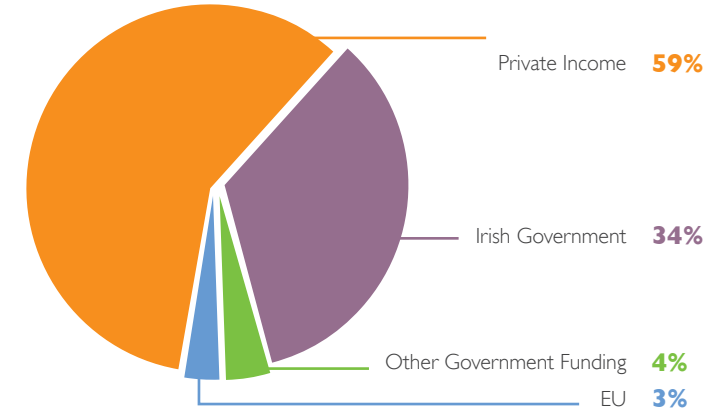
The following are a few points to remember:

- Ensure that you refer to the legal name of the charity, rather than a casual name.
- If in doubt, call the organisation and ask how it should be referred to in your will.
- If you wish to donate to a branch of a charity, leave the gift to the main body, with an instruction that the gift be applied to the charitable purposes at that branch.

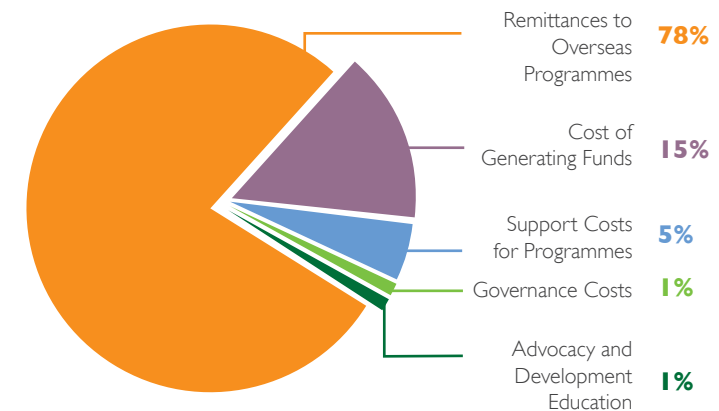
World Vision Ireland Accounts

Every year we publish our accounts and make them available on our website www.worldvision.ie. In order to keep costs down, we don't post a copy to all of our supporters, however if you would like a printed copy, please call us on **1850 366 283** and we'll gladly post one to you.

World Vision Ireland Total Income Analysis – Year Ended 30th September 2008



World Vision Ireland Expenditure Analysis – Year Ended 30th September 2008



Emergencies update: March 2009

As an international organisation working in almost 100 countries, World Vision is committed to responding swiftly and effectively to reduce the impact of humanitarian emergencies. We also work with communities to rebuild livelihoods in the short and long term, and to increase their ability to cope with future emergencies.

Gaza

The upsurge in fighting in Gaza since 27th December 2008 has killed and injured thousands of people, destroying lives and infrastructure. World Vision Jerusalem is scaling up its emergency relief response to reach more than 100,000 people in the coming months.

This assistance will then evolve into longer term agricultural development and job-creation programming in communities over time.



A Palestinian man carries a child injured on 28th December 2008.

Gaza – Facts and Figures

- Half of Gaza's 1.5 million residents are children.
- 49.1% of Gazans are unemployed.
- More than 50% of Gazan families live below the poverty line.
- Half of Gaza's 1.5 million residents rely on food aid.
- 50,000 children in Gaza are malnourished. About half of children under age two are anaemic and 70% have vitamin A deficiency.

Zimbabwe

World Vision is currently responding to a devastating cholera epidemic in Zimbabwe that has killed more than 3,000 people. Over 54,000 cases have been reported and there are fears that the situation will worsen as the rainy season moves through the country.

Interventions managed by World Vision include distribution of cholera kits, community health awareness, drilling of boreholes and response leadership in three provinces.

Cholera, an easily treatable waterborne disease, thrives in poor sanitary conditions. It has been accelerated by systematic underfunding in water and sanitation infrastructure and health delivery services by the government.



A mother and baby receiving treatment at the Beitbridge cholera quarantine camp in Zimbabwe.

Somalia

"Mogadishu, in Somalia is one of the world's most dangerous cities" says Sheila Garry, Head of Programmes World Vision Ireland. "In the past year and a half, hundreds of thousands of Somalis have been forced to flee their homes there because of fighting between rival groups."

Years of Anarchy

According to the UN, years of anarchy combined with frequent drought have turned Somalia into the world's worst humanitarian crisis. More than 2.6 million people are in need of food aid and more than 1 million people have been displaced. Much of the country's infrastructure has been destroyed. Violence and lawlessness are common.

Living in camps

"Many of these people fleeing Mogadishu have arrived in areas where World Vision is working, such as Baidoa, Sakkow and Salagle districts "explains Sheila.

"These displaced people leave with only the bare minimum of belongings; almost three quarters are women and children as the men and boys often stay behind to try to safeguard their property. Although many find refuge with families or clan members, others have to stay in camps or out in the open."

A ten year old girl in one of the camps set up by people fleeing the violence in Mogadishu. The tent like shelters are made out of rags, plastic, unused bags, car doors, blankets – any material they can find in the fields or at rubbish dumps.



World Vision Ireland Response

World Vision Ireland, with support from the Irish Government was able to provide emergency relief in Somalia. "Survival kits have been provided to 2,000 households" says Sheila. "Each kit includes blankets, sheets, mosquito nets, cooking pots, soap and other essential items."

World Vision also provides medical supplies, chlorinated wells for clean water and carries out community health campaigns. "Of course it's not just about physical needs. Many of the children are traumatised by what they have seen or experienced in fleeing their homes. You can't forget about their emotional needs so we provide counselling and special support for children as well."



If you would like to support our emergency relief programmes please call **1850 366 283** or visit **www.worldvision.ie**

Planning a wedding?



No more kettles or toasters!

Use the Community Gifts Wedding Gift List to encourage your guests to send a life-changing gift, like a goat or a school classroom kit, to a child, family or community in need and spread the happiness of your celebration around the world.

How it works

First you log on to www.worldvisiongifts.ie. You can then create your own unique and inspiring Wedding Gift list, with your own personal welcome page. You can even upload a photograph of you both.

Email your guests with a link to your list and they can then access it and buy gifts online. You can keep track of the gifts bought by logging into your account online. Simple as that!

Congratulations and enjoy your day!

Sponsor Stories

Marathon Man

Congratulations to Tony Whitmore for successfully completing the Adidas Dublin Marathon in a staggering time of 3 hours 41 minutes!

The inspiration to fundraise for World Vision came from a small boy in Uganda called Gerald who Tony has been sponsoring since 2004.

Tony raised a staggering amount of €11,600 for World Vision! This money has been used to sponsor 5 additional children for a period of seven years each, plus a gift of €750 to Gerald's community to spend on a new business venture, school equipment or whatever they need.

Tony would like to say a big thank you to everyone who encouraged and sponsored him!



Tony in training along the Grand Canal, Dublin

Burrow National School

Burrow National School in Sutton, Co. Dublin raised €1,330 for a water harvesting tank by holding a Monster Cake Sale! A big congratulations to all the students and teachers on their fantastic fundraising and on earning their third Green flag for the Green Schools scheme, using water as their environmental theme.



Sinead Kirwan's Pink Party

Last year, Sinead Kirwan, aged 9, hosted a pyjama party and requested donations instead of gifts to allow her to sponsor a little girl called Amina. This year, to celebrate her 10th birthday, our star fundraiser hosted a **Pink Party**, and above is her lovely letter to our office.

O'Connell's CBS Primary School



At O'Connell's CBS Primary School in Dublin 1, everyone pitched in to raise €1,000!

They held a coffee morning, a uniform free day, made and sold Christmas decorations and held a Christmas concert!

The funds raised will provide 7 primary schools in Kenya with netting that will keep their fruit tree nurseries safe from the sun ensuring the children have a nutritious snack!

Evelyn and Caitlin's christening

Sponsor Marie Kenny raised €200 at the christening of her daughters Evelyn (aged 6) and Caitlin (aged 13 months). Both girls were lucky enough to have so much already, so Marie asked her family if they would consider making a donation towards the community of their sponsored child, Amne Badar Awadhi from Tanzania.



Sponsor **Dolores Martin** donated €490 towards a Community Gift Notification to Kwamtoro ADP in Tanzania. The community voted to use the donation to build a roof over the youth carpentry workshop at the ADP office.

Sponsor **Donal Power**, raised €390 for a Community GN for running the Cork City Marathon – the community decided to purchase equipment to build a feeder road out of their village to join a neighbouring one. This has a huge impact on trading and transport abilities.

Feedback & Contacts



Run with Team World Vision!

We're looking for women of all ages and fitness levels to join Team World Vision and take part in the Flora Women's Mini Marathon on 1st June 2009.

Get a group together and train for this amazing event that sees 40,000 women take to the streets of Dublin. Gather your friends, mothers, daughters, grannies and colleagues to run, walk or crawl the 10k route!



Lorraine Keane is running the mini-marathon for World Vision. She's getting in shape with the help of Noel Murphy, personal trainer from David Lloyd Riverview.

Entries are available in The Evening Herald every Wednesday and Saturday and on-line at www.womensminimarathon.ie

Every member of our team makes a difference. Contact us for a fundraising pack including t-shirt and sponsor forms. Read our blog at teamworldvisionireland.blogspot.com for training tips, nutrition advice and funny stories from other runners.

Fundraising has never been easier!

Just set up an online sponsorship page at www.mycharity.ie. For more information or help setting up your profile page please call us on **1850 366 283** or email ireland@wvi.org

Christmas cards

Children across Africa enjoyed receiving Christmas cards and messages from their sponsors in Ireland. They particularly get so much from the effort our sponsors make in telling them a little about life here as well as sharing photos and drawings. Thanks to all child sponsors for sending their Christmas cards and making donations, it really means so much.



Give a tax break to someone who deserves it!

By now you should have received a tax claim form from us, which explains how all charities can reclaim the tax portion of donations made by PAYE workers. As explained in the letter, if it is not reclaimed by the charity, it remains with the Revenue Commissioners.

This additional donation doesn't cost anything, it's simply a case of you signing your form and returning it to us – but it could mean up to an additional 70% on top of the donation you've already made to us. So if you have a moment, please complete it.

If you have any questions, please call us on **1850 366 283** or visit www.revenue.ie.

World Vision
Ireland

World Vision Ireland

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World Vision Ireland was founded in 1983 and is part of World Vision International, one of the world's leading international relief and development agencies. World Vision works towards ending poverty, fighting hunger and injustice, and bringing about lasting change for the better in the lives of more than 100 million people in some 100 countries worldwide.

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