

Democratic Republic of Congo

World Vision

COUNTRY STRATEGY 2021-2025



World Vision

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A woman with dark hair in braids, wearing a pink and orange World Vision vest over a blue shirt, is holding the hands of a young child in a red patterned shirt. They are standing in a field with tall green plants and trees in the background. The woman is smiling and looking down at the child's hands.

« Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness; our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so »

A man in a white shirt is using a green ruler to measure the arm of a young child. A woman is holding the child, who is wearing an orange shirt. Other people are visible in the background under a thatched roof.

“Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness; our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.”

ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS

The impact and reach we are able to achieve with our strategy depend strongly on our operational performance. We have identified five organizational goals and a sub-set of strategic ambitions that will enable the deliver of our strategy. A dedicated operational performance improvement plan will be developed to support their delivery.

- 1 Enhanced programme quality and accountability**
 - Increase the number of most vulnerable children we reach
 - Strengthen timeliness, effectiveness and efficiency of our project and program implementation
 - Improve project and programme MEAL
 - Develop more effective implementation partnerships
- 2 Increased financial sustainability to meet programme ambitions**
 - Diversify and increase our funding
 - Increase the value for money of our work
- 3 High-performing human resources and teams**
 - Improve human resource management
 - Improve staff diversity and inclusion
 - Increase staff's sense of belonging
- 4 Strengthened staff safety and security**
 - Strengthen our security system and processes
 - Improve staff awareness and ability to manage safety and security risks
- 5 Increased visibility and influence for greater impact**
 - Increasing our influencing and communication efforts, making use of quality evidence we have gathered

COUNTRY CONTEXT

World Vision International
Democratic Republic of Congo

Despite being blessed with bountiful natural resources, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is one of the most fragile countries in the world. Poor health, education, severe food insecurity and normalization of violence undermine the well-being and God-given potential of most Congolese children. In 2020, the country ranked 175th on the Human Development Index¹.

At the roots of the situation are decades of exploitation and poor governance which led to high levels of poverty. These

are being aggravated by recurring and protracted crises and violent conflicts over political power and natural resources. Religious institutions play an important role in providing essential social services and in supporting the spiritual and behavioural changes needed for peaceful development.

Key trends that concern us :

Health & Nutrition

Children's survival and health in the DRC remain at risk due to precarious health, nutrition, water and sanitation conditions. Stunting rates have not improved in years and access to sanitation is worsening. Recurrent pandemics exacerbate the situation.

Education

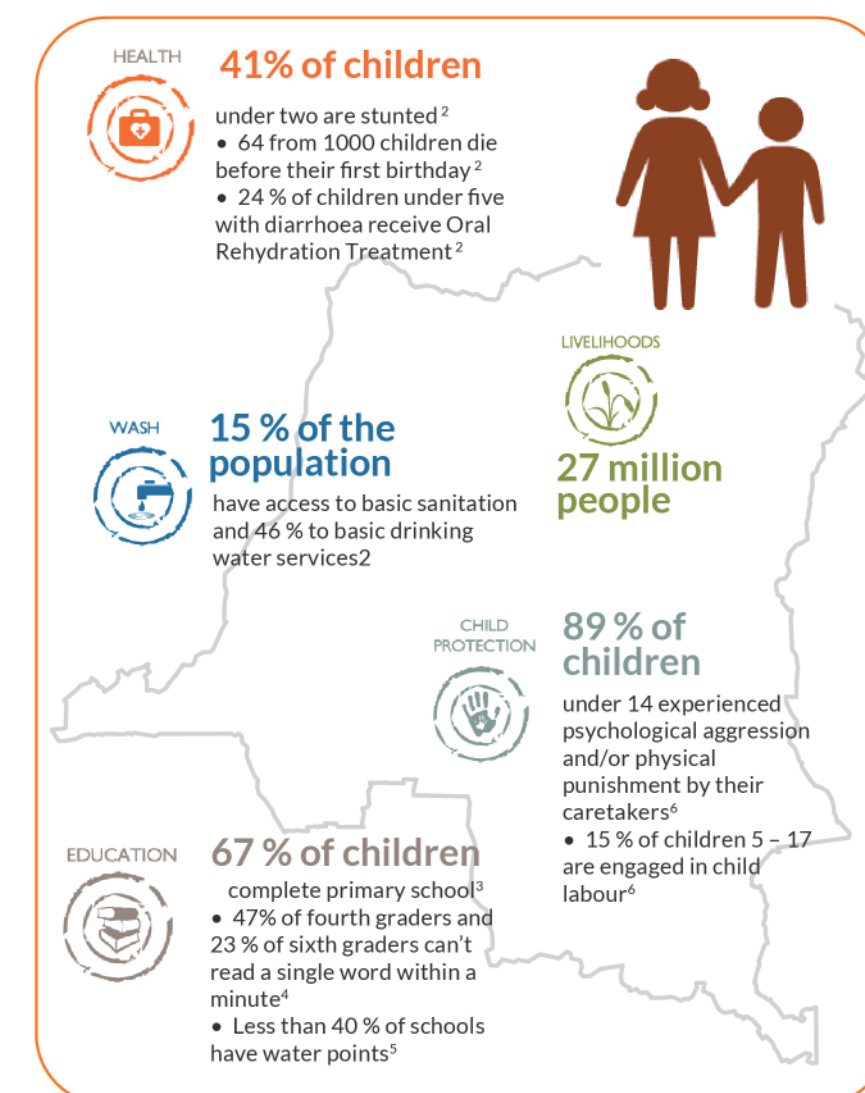
Despite significant efforts made, children's development remains substantially impacted by low education outcomes and transition rates, particularly for girls. Violent conflict and attacks on schools affect children's access to education and educational experiences.

Protection

Violence is normalized and most children experience multiple forms of violence in their homes and communities, harming children's psychological and physical well-being. In conflict areas, between 60 and 70 % of combatants are under 18.6

Humanitarian Situation⁷

2.8 million people are internally displaced, due to conflict and



disaster, and 20 million people need humanitarian assistance.



For each child, the material, social and spiritual well-being within thriving families, communities, and the Congolese nation.

Our Values

1. We are Christians
2. We are committed to the poor
3. We value people
4. We are stewards
5. We are partners

Our History

Since 1984, World Vision has contributed to improving the well-being of the most vulnerable children and families throughout the DRC.

Today, we work, in partnership with local organisations, in 12 provinces. We aim to expand our programme in this coming strategy cycle into four more (Ituri, Kwilu, Haut Lomami, and Kasai).

Grounded firmly in our Christian faith, we tackle the spiritual roots of vulnerability and empower children, families, and communities through integrated and transformational development practices and life-saving emergency responses.

Our core competencies

Health and nutrition: We successfully support mothers and caregivers to adopt healthy feeding and nutrition practices and identify and refer children to therapeutic feeding. We prevent infectious diseases (malaria and HIV) and promote birth spacing and antenatal care.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH): We effectively promote safe hygiene practices, access to water and sanitation, school WASH and menstrual hygiene.

Education: We promote children's school enrolment and help children improve their reading outcomes. We also strengthen children's and young people's socio-emotional learning outcomes, enabling them to live and work positively and peacefully with each other.

Food Security and livelihoods: Our savings, loans, and agricultural training and support activities make demonstrable improvements in household economic levels, food security and children's dietary diversity and food frequency. We are a recognised partner for food distribution and school feeding in emergencies.

Child Protection: working with faith leaders and effective community approaches, we foster social cohesion and positive family relationships; advocating and improving community mechanisms, we strengthen national child protection systems



Our Contribution to National and Global Goals for Sustainable Development

World Vision 2021 - 2025 Strategy	PNSD 2019 - 2023	SDG
WVI DRC priority Results	PNSD Pillars & Objectives	SDGs
Increase in children protected from infection and disease (ages 0 to 5)	Pillar 1: Value Human Capital and socio-cultural development A5. Public Health	2 ZERO HUNGER, 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING, 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION, 5 GENDER EQUALITY
Increase in children aged 0 - 5 who are well nourished	Pillar 1: Value Human Capital and socio-cultural development A5. Public Health	2 ZERO HUNGER, 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION, 1 NO POVERTY
Increase in primary school children who can read	Pillar 1: A1. Primary and Secondary Education	4 QUALITY EDUCATION, 5 GENDER EQUALITY
Increase in girls and boys protected from violence	Pillar 1: A10. Gender, family, children	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS, 5 GENDER EQUALITY
Increase in children who have positive and peaceful relationships in their families and their communities	Pillar 2: Good governance, state authority and consolidation of peace B2. Internal Security	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS, 5 GENDER EQUALITY
Cross-cutting contributions		
Promoting integrated WASH, including WASH infrastructure	Pillar 4: Reconstructing and modernising infrastructure D4. National Water Network Pillar 5: Environmental protection and fighting climate change E2: Sanitation and Hygiene	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION, 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
Promoting savings and access to micro-finance Promoting social accountability ("citizen Voice and action")	Pillar 2: Good governance, state authority and consolidation of peace B.11 Development of the financial system B4. Strengthen political governance	5 GENDER EQUALITY, 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

OUR APPROACH

World Vision International
Democratic Republic of Congo

We will mainstream the use of our fragile context programme approach to allow an agile shift from meeting intermediate humanitarian needs to addressing root causes and supporting transformative shifts – even in the context of continued fragility.

This approach will be key for our ability to work along the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

We strategically commit to:

- Strengthen our engagement in humanitarian clusters
- Build partnerships with specialist organisations
- Ensure the use of a no-harm-approach in all our work



Integrating WASH

Good Governance

Fostering social inclusion

Our goal is to reach 130,000 people with WASH services using an **integrated WASH approach**. This means that we will, wherever possible, integrate WASH into our health, nutrition, food security, livelihoods, and education programs and projects.

Our approach focuses on the whole water and sanitation chain, promotes intersectoral partnerships, and sustainable financing mechanisms to ensure steady financial flows into and between local and national levels. We will also contribute to national, regional, and global learning in multi-sector interventions

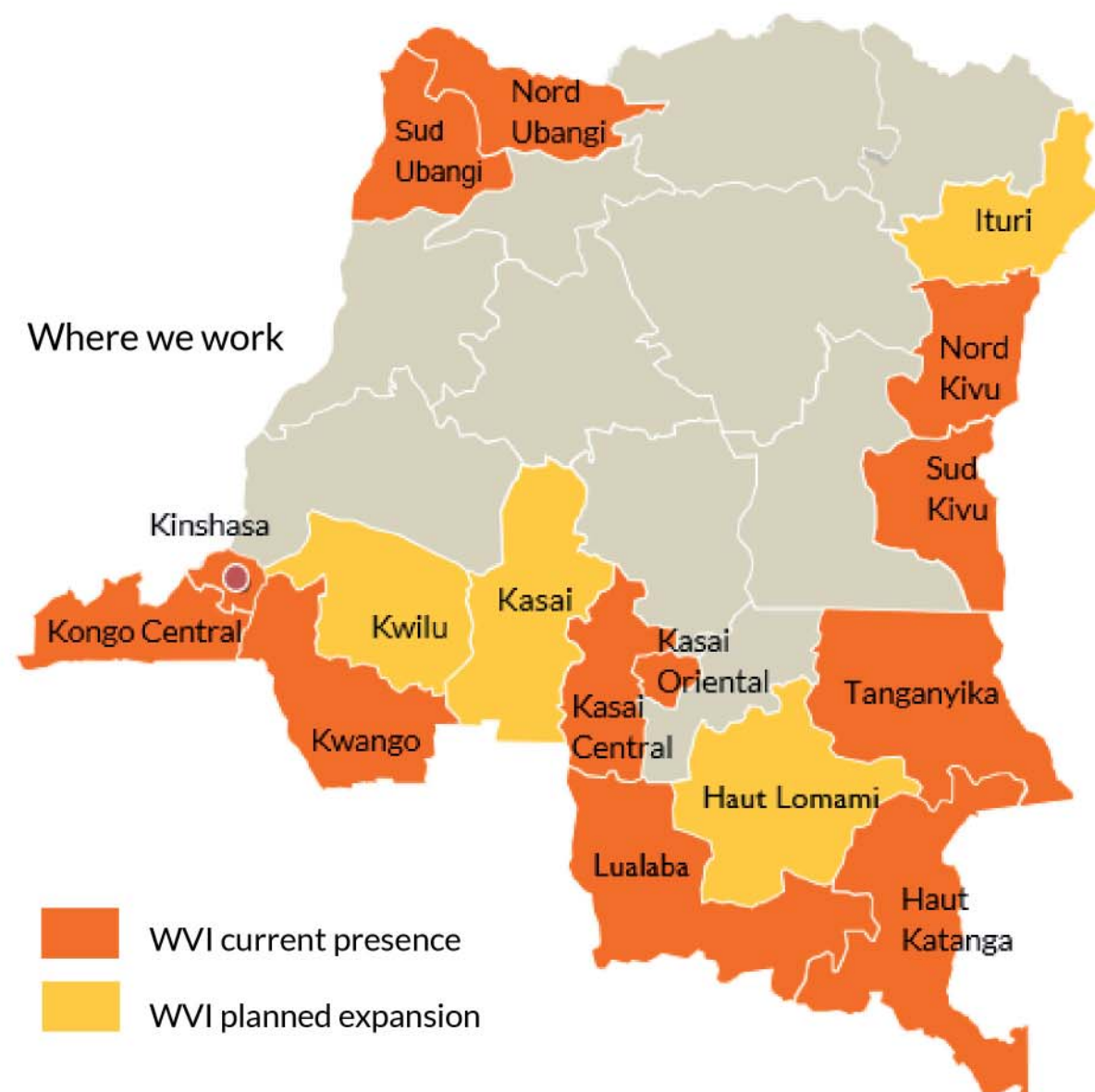
Using our community scorecard methodology, “citizen voice and action” and child protection advocacy, we will promote improvements in the quality and availability of health, education, and protection services. Both models will be primary drivers for our advocacy as they generate bottom-up pressure for change.

At the same time, our long-term development Programmes processes will build on and strengthen existing government efforts and influence the improvement of decentralised governance and the use of resources. At the national level, we will continue to nurture productive relationships with line ministries and public service leadership to influence change.

We are dedicated to reaching the most vulnerable children in the DRC. This means we must apply an intersectional approach to assess social factors that lead to exclusion of groups of children – such as age, gender, disability, and ethnicity.

We commit to assessing these factors systematically at the project level and to using effective methods to address harmful social norms at the roots of different discrimination., wherever possible together with faith leaders and children and youth themselves.

World Vision in the RDC



Goal

Sustainably improve the well-being of 2.7 million most vulnerable children while reaching a total of 10 million vulnerable women and men through effective development, humanitarian and influencing programmes.

	Health & Nutrition	Food Security & Livelihoods	Education	Protection
Outcomes	Children are protected from infection and disease	Children from 0 – 5 years are well nourished	Children of primary school age can read	Children have positive and peaceful relationships and are protected from violence Adolescents & youth can access decent work
Pathways for Change	- Health system strengthening - Strengthen community healthcare - Promoting healthy practices and service use - Health & WASH in emergencies	- Promoting sustainable agriculture and value chains - Access to credit & loans	- Improving access and quality - School governance - Community-led education support - Education in emergencies	- Community social cohesion & conflict resolution - Protection system strengthening - Strengthen people's protective capacities and behaviours - Child protection advocacy - Youth skills, education & training
Life-saving interventions in emergencies:	Health and WASH in emergencies	- Food distribution - Cash & voucher assistance	- Education in Emergencies in primary school - School feeding	- Child Protection in Emergencies - Advocate for protection of civilians, children, and survivors of GBV; and for humanitarian access
Supporting Interventions	- Partnering with faith leaders/CSO - Promote citizen engagement in monitoring health service - Integrate WASH in health & nutrition service delivery	- Partnering with faith leaders/CSO - Promote citizen engagement in monitoring education services - Use of sustainable water solutions	- Partnering with faith leaders/CSO - Promote citizen engagement in monitoring education services - School WASH and Menstrual Hygiene Management	- Partnering with faith leaders/CSO - Promote citizen engagement in the monitoring of protection services