EVERY CHILD FREE FROM FEAR

Winam, Kenya 2014

GROWING HOPE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

A personal tale of change in Winam

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World Vision

EVERY CHILD FREE FROM FEAR
Dear friend,

Thank you for all your help and support. Together this year, we have enabled communities to increase their incomes, and thereby improve the quality of children’s lives. When people are given the tools to build a secure source of income, everyone benefits, as you’ll see from the story we tell below.

When there’s enough work for their parents, the children of Winam are free to attend school rather than having to go to work themselves. And when their parents can buy and grow nutritious food, children are protected from the illnesses that so often result from a poor diet. We’re delighted to report that in the last year disease has been reduced and school attendance in Winam has gone up. The percentage of 11-year-olds who can read and write has increased from 40% to 54%.

The progress we’ve made with your support over the past many years makes me confident that the children of Winam will have a bright and positive future even after we leave the community next year. Thank you for coming on this journey with us.

Alfred Otungo
Area Development Programme Manager, Winam

A chicken and egg story

From incorporating modern agriculture methods to setting up their own financial institutions, there are many ways the people of Winam can be assisted in improving their circumstances. It only takes a bit of a boost to give them the inspiration they need to

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become successful farmers, entrepreneurs and business people. And ensuring the economic security of their parents means a safer future for the children of Winam.

One very personal example of this is Vincent, the father of a sponsored child who lives in the Winam region. Vincent has become chairperson of a Poultry Farmers Self Help Group. Starting with just 16 members, the group now comprises 14 women and 11 men. As Vincent reveals: “Our members could not take their children to school or afford three meals a day, and even some did not have shelter. Now we are doing local poultry keeping with support and training from World Vision. We started with 50 chicks…currently we have 300 chickens!”

The group has managed to raise enough money to open two M-Pesa stores – mobile phone-based finance co-operatives that are often the only way for those in rural Africa to transfer money and access loans. The community as a whole benefits from this locally-run service which they can use to deposit, transfer and withdraw money, and which they know is free from corruption. The group themselves all receive monthly dividends from the store.

Habil, a member of the group, can now afford to send his son to class. Although his son is a year behind his peers because Habil could not afford to send him before, he’s working hard to catch up.
The group’s successful poultry rearing means that they are now able to offer a better and more secure future to their children. Habil, a member of the group, can now afford to send his son to class. Although his son is a year behind his peers because Habil could not afford to send him before, he’s working hard to catch up. Habil’s family has also been able to move out of a tiny rented house into their own home. The positive effects of the group’s success are being felt by orphans from the region as well. The Tido Buffalo Self Help group is supporting four orphans by paying their secondary school fees.

Another Tido Buffalo member, Nancy, has demonstrated her entrepreneurial side by opening four second-hand stores selling clothes and shoes. Her success is inspiring others from the community, who Vincent says are now visiting the poultry sites to see how they too can use chickens as a springboard for business success.

With the M-Pesa shops, community members can now feel safe to open bank accounts which they know are free from corruption.
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Vincent also wants to share his own story with you. “I have managed to construct six semi-permanent rental houses, having completed a building and construction course paid for by the money I make from poultry keeping. I have a bright future because of World Vision.” Along with his construction business, Vincent is now known for being a premium supplier of chicken meat to local hotels in town.

As Vincent says: “We have seen people move from poverty to a bright life. Thank you to our sponsors for the training and support you have given us.”
Milking it for everyone

One of the most successful projects you’ve helped to establish in Winam is that of the Food Security group’s dairy goats. Improving the flock and teaching the group how to care for them has helped increase the milk and meat yield. Those involved in the project have seen their incomes grow, nutrition is improved and children are healthier. Thanks to you, Joyce is now able to send the orphaned children of her son and daughter to school, and give them milk to drink when they get home.

Listening and learning

Raising education standards is vital to the long-term improvement of children’s lives in Winam. And who better to tell us what they need than the children themselves? That’s why we’ve encouraged five local schools to set up child advocacy groups. Groups help make decisions on issues concerning their schools, and identify what needs to be done to help them learn. The children speak out about schoolbooks, meals and classrooms. Having their say means that more of them are enrolling in these schools – and their exam scores have noticeably improved too.
Kenya is located on the east coast of Africa, and shares borders with Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania. The natural landscape includes a coastal plain with sandy beaches, extensive semi-arid plateau, fertile highlands and the dramatic Rift Valley which cuts across Kenya from north to south. Tea is the leading agricultural export, followed by coffee, flowers and various vegetables and fruits. Unfortunately world prices for these products fluctuate wildly, affecting the incomes of farmers.

While blessed with some amazing geography Kenya has significant development challenges – HIV and AIDS remain a major problem in Kenya. With over one million people infected with HIV, Kenya has the seventh highest HIV prevalence of any country in the world. Poverty is widespread - 80% of people are subsistence farmers and the poorest of these struggle to buy enough food for their children. Malnutrition, and especially stunting, is common.

World Vision is working in partnership with local people to empower children and improve household income, agriculture, access to food and safe water, health care and education. Building these strong foundations will enable communities to achieve a better quality of life, and a more stable future.

A bit more about Kenya

The flavour of the future

Your support for your sponsored child is helping their community eat a more varied diet. We have been able to run training programmes for local farmers on modern methods which allow greater food productivity, cost savings and environmental conservation. Farmers now grow more diverse vegetables to feed their children, and have extra to take to market. That means more to eat, more to sell, and a more secure future for the farmers’ children.

Here are the facts

- Life expectancy: 57.7
- Infant mortality per 1,000: 42
- Mean years of schooling in adults: 7
- Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births: 360


Winam, Kenya
Lifecycle of a World Vision sponsorship programme

**Phase 1**
Building trust and laying groundwork.

- Partnership with community established.
- Communities and World Vision plan long-term projects together.

**Phase 2**
Contributing to child well being together

- World Vision and communities work together building skills so children and families benefit and participate in projects such as education, nutrition, clean water, child protection, food security and healthcare.

**Phase 3**
Preparing to leave behind more resilient communities

- As World Vision prepares to leave, communities are better equipped to continue their own development: caring, protecting and providing for children.

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In some instances, names have been changed to protect children’s identities

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