WELLS AND WATER SYSTEMS

Water is the most basic necessity of life. Yet every day, nearly 1,000 children younger than 5 die from diarrhea caused by contaminated water, poor sanitation, and unsafe hygiene practices. Your donation to the Gift Catalog was combined with funds from other generous donors to make clean water accessible for thousands of families. In the six months between October 2016 and March 2017, World Vision provided clean water to 9,065 people per day by drilling or rehabilitating 7,340 wells and water points.

INDIA

A chance to dream

For the children living in Tepari village, such as 10-year-old Rajima, collecting water is part of their daily lives. “I like studying,” said Rajima. “My favorite subject is English. School is from 9 to 3, but sometimes I’m late because I go to collect water in the morning from the village well. It’s a long walk, but that’s the only water source we have.”

Unfortunately, the water from the well is contaminated, causing sicknesses such as diarrhea, which leads to children missing school and adults unable to work. The village is so remote that, to seek medical help, the sick must be carried on a stretcher about three miles to Daringbadi town.

Recently, Rajima and her sister Runima fell ill. “We had high fever and diarrhea,” said Rajima. “We were too weak to even get up and missed school for three days. I first thought it was malaria, but later learned it was a stomach infection because both of us drank unclean water.”

Sabitri, Rajima’s mother, shared, “I never knew that boiling water would help make the water safe to drink. It was only after World Vision taught me about the importance of drinking boiled water, that I ensure my family [only] drinks safe and clean water.”

SYRIA CRISIS RESPONSE

In camps for refugees and those internally displaced, as well as host communities in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria, children and families are living healthier lives because of your gift to support water, sanitation, and hygiene.

(Left) Students at Gail School are overjoyed. They no longer have to stand in long lines to use the restroom. Before, there was only one functional latrine for 1,050 students. Today, because of your support, the Iraq WASH team was able to build six new latrines at the school.

(Right) World Vision staff teaches mothers water treatment techniques that can be used when clean water is not readily available in informal settlements.
**NIGER**

*Haoua becomes a community activist for good hygiene*

Haoua, a 55-year-old widow and mother of six, is a trader and raises livestock. After her community received two hand-pump wells constructed by World Vision, she became an energetic community advocate for good sanitation and hygiene habits.

Before they had access to clean water, both children and women had to travel nearly two miles into the bush to collect water from a river. She said, “If you set off early in the morning to go and fetch water, you would be lucky to return by midday. We used to get snake bites all the time, and as for Guinea worm infection and diarrhea, it was very common.”

According to Haoua, getting water to bathe the children and prepare them for school was a challenge. That meant most children either could not go to school or had to go without bathing.

“God being so good to us, World Vision came to our aid,” she said. “We were also given wheelbarrels, waste bins, shovels, and rakes to help us keep our surroundings clean. And so I took it upon myself to be an advocate to ensure our community is clean. As a WASH committee member in charge of hygiene, I always organize the women and children to clean the hand-pump well site and toilet facilities every day.”

Training from World Vision equipped her to make liquid soap and mosquito repellent using local ingredients. The sale of these supports her family and promotes good sanitation and health in her community.

This powerful transformation in Haoua’s family and community was made possible through your generous giving. Thank you.

**HAITI**

*Children enthusiastically support good hygiene*

World Vision’s combined approach of providing access to clean water and teaching good sanitation and hygiene practices is contributing to the prevention of sicknesses such as diarrhea and cholera in Haiti.

Mikenson, a teacher who attended training that explained the benefits of handwashing, said, “It’s a small, simple, inexpensive gesture that has enormous health value. I am committed to replicating the training received to other teachers and students to promote handwashing in schools and communities.”

Children are embracing what they’ve learned. Bertho, a 9-year-old, said, “Now everybody in my family regularly washes their hands before eating or from leaving the latrines. It’s a good thing. Now my sisters and I will not have abdominal pain or diarrhea because washing your hands is second nature to us.”

Five-year-old Judelie also has become an enthusiastic supporter. “I would like my school to be always clean ... I will motivate people around me not to throw their junk and waste in the streets and always wash their hands with clean water and soap.”