

OUR GROWING URBAN FOOTPRINT



ABOUT US

World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organisation dedicated to working with children, families and communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice.

World Vision is dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people. We serve all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.

With over 40,000 staff working across 90 countries, World Vision is already present in the world's most rapidly urbanizing countries and regions.

World Vision is a lead partner for UN-Habitat's World Urban Campaign and a standing committee member co-leading the children and youth constituency.

World Vision is a member of the Global Alliance for Urban Crises.

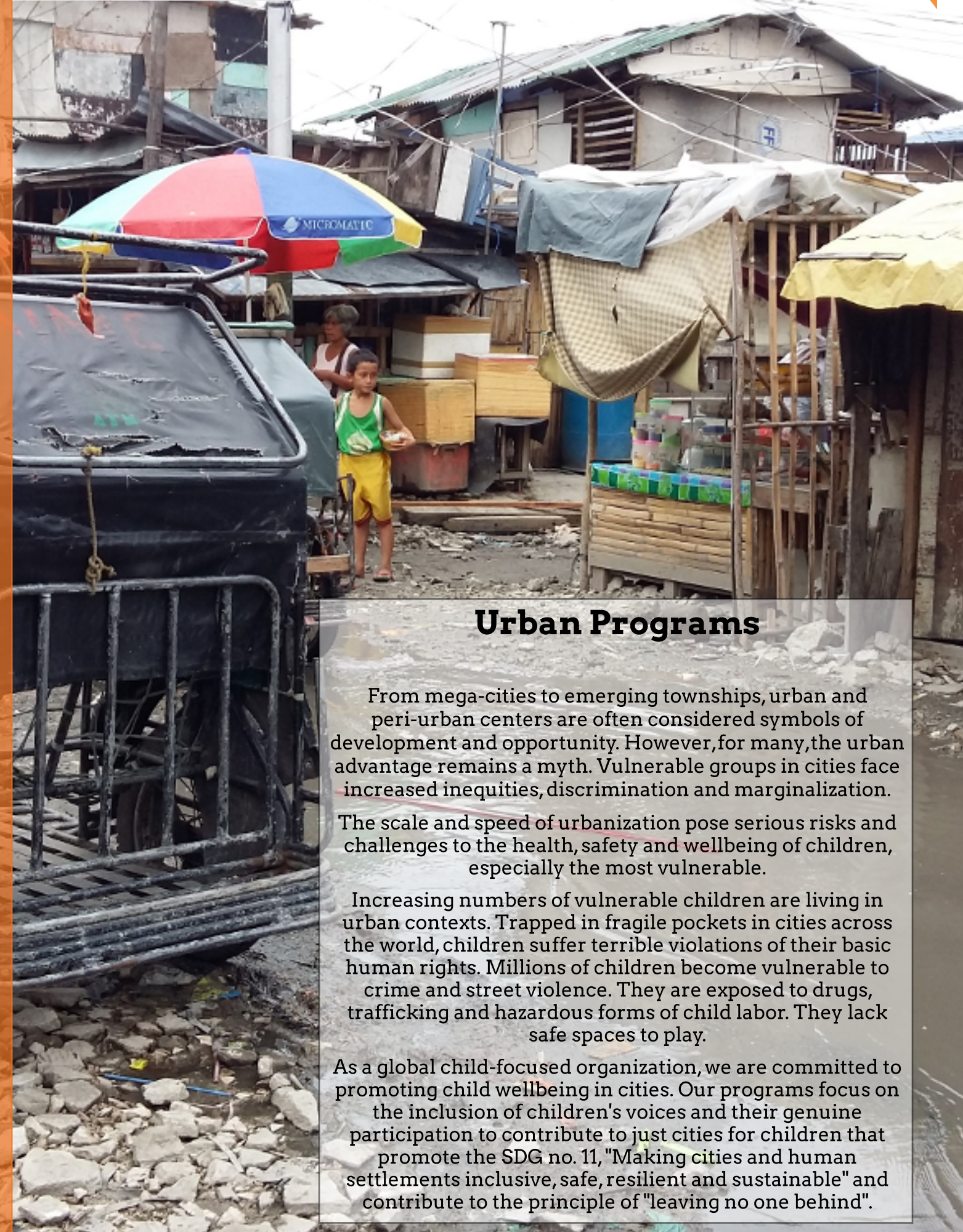
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Visit our website:
www.wvi.org/urban

World Vision International



Urban Programs

From mega-cities to emerging townships, urban and peri-urban centers are often considered symbols of development and opportunity. However, for many, the urban advantage remains a myth. Vulnerable groups in cities face increased inequities, discrimination and marginalization.

The scale and speed of urbanization pose serious risks and challenges to the health, safety and wellbeing of children, especially the most vulnerable.

Increasing numbers of vulnerable children are living in urban contexts. Trapped in fragile pockets in cities across the world, children suffer terrible violations of their basic human rights. Millions of children become vulnerable to crime and street violence. They are exposed to drugs, trafficking and hazardous forms of child labor. They lack safe spaces to play.

As a global child-focused organization, we are committed to promoting child wellbeing in cities. Our programs focus on the inclusion of children's voices and their genuine participation to contribute to just cities for children that promote the SDG no. 11, "Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" and contribute to the principle of "leaving no one behind".

Our vision

World Vision is a credible global partner addressing child wellbeing in stable and fragile urban contexts by contributing to safe, sustainable and just cities for children, especially the most vulnerable.

What we do

- We provide leadership and strategic direction to World Vision's urban learning and practice.
- We develop urban programming approaches and scalable solutions with partners.
- We promote and share innovative and promising practices in stable and fragile urban contexts.
- We advocate for inclusion, justice and equity for the most vulnerable children.
- We seek multi-disciplinary partnerships to strengthen the urban research and policy.
- We contribute to global discourse and dialogue regarding the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

Our evidence base

In 2008, recognizing an organizational need to respond and adapt to the growing trend of urbanization, and its negative impact on the most vulnerable groups, especially children, World Vision launched an action-research and learning approach to investigate the relevance of its current development models and frameworks in urban settings.

The lessons from this first phase of action research are informing effective and innovative ways to tell the complex story regarding World Vision's impact in dense and diverse informal settlements and slums. City strategies are recommended to ensure World Vision's investment in programming and policy leads to sustainable change for marginalized urban communities. World Vision proposes Just 'Cities for Children' that are healthy, safe, resilient and prosperous where children thrive.

The learning from this first phase is documented in the report 'Making Sense of the City: Developing evidence through action research and learning' available on our website.

CITIES FOR CHILDREN

'Cities for Children' is World Vision's emerging framework for addressing children's vulnerabilities in urban contexts. It is anchored in World Vision's child wellbeing aspirations and links with tested urban approaches developed by various UN and development agencies.

The Framework consists of four inter-related domains of change affecting child wellbeing in cities: health, safety, resilience and prosperity. Underpinning these domains is the enabling factor of advocacy to seek justice and inclusion of the most vulnerable through policy change.

The Framework identifies critical strategic pillars and enablers of change common to all domains that are essential for sustainable development in urban contexts.

Strategic pillars are drives of impact: Social Cohesion, Urban Governance, Knowledge Building, and Built Environment, Services and Public Space.

Enablers of Change are instruments for scale: Partnerships, Technology, Urban Planning and Design, and Urban Policy.

The CITYWIDE SELF-SUSTAINING MODEL

The 'Citywide Self-Sustaining Model' is an integrated approach to urban programming that aims to maximize World Vision's contribution to large scale, sustained impact in the lives of the most vulnerable children in urban areas.

The model leverages World Vision's global branding and local presence, with emphasis on scaling with and through partners, building coalitions for effective action, and influencing policy development and implementation.

It proposes exponential growth with and through partners, generating sustainable social impact in cities, focusing on inclusion of the most vulnerable, especially children.

The intended outcomes of the model include:

- Identification and inclusion of the most vulnerable children and groups.
- Building coalitions and partnerships for citywide scale, effectiveness and impact.
- Contribution to global and national discourse and dialogue that shape urban policy.



'World Vision's Cities for Children' Framework