

# Sharing Our Hope Stories

World Vision  
Moçambique



World Vision Mozambique  
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National Director

Greetings friends,

2012 has been both challenging and exciting for World Vision Mozambique.

We created a group of **“Friends of World Vision Mozambique”** who are community and business leaders and who are potential new members of the Advisory Council – some of whom will be voted in by the end of the year. We are excited about the energy and ideas of the “friends” and look forward to paving the way into the future.

World Vision Mozambique lead Maputo in a **“Green Day”** event, where we clean up one of our city parks. Business, civic and governmental leaders supported us and even ambassadors joined the event. All equipment and cleaning material was donated and over 200 volunteers participated.

This past year has been trying for World Vision Mozambique due to the financial crises and exchange rate issue (US dollar to meticals). With stringent cost cutting measures at all levels of the organization we were successful to stay within budget. Our grants and programs are running well and we are constantly looking for ways to improve, whether it is service delivery or accountability. The economic explosion in Mozambique will bring benefits to the country and challenges for us. An economic forecast along with other intelligence will inform our strategy in the next five to ten years. The economic boom also has a negative impact on our budget. Rents are doubling every six months and some staff is being forced to move.

We are testing a **“virtual business process”** which will improve our efficiency and improve turn around for approvals. Our QM departments have performed admirably and our finance department has been a leader in the region. World Vision Mozambique is leading an Extractive NGO consortium to engage in dialogue and formulate a larger strategy and is one of the leaders in the Tete province by working with communities and facilitation between the various actors.

In summary we are looking ahead optimistically. We have weathered the storm of the financial crises and impact of the negative exchange rate. We have the confidence of the donors, the support of our partners, the commitment of our staff and the constant improvement in our efficiency and accountability. **We are here on the front lines to realize life in all its fullness for every child, our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so.....**

## Malaria cases drop 13%

**Cases of killer disease malaria are reported to have dropped by a massive 13 % in parts of the Mozambique’s northern region, since mosquito bed nets started being distributed as part of a Global Fund project currently being implemented by World Vision.** The news comes as a massive boost to local communities, where malaria remains as the main cause of mortality. **An average three thousand people, mostly children, die every year in Mozambique due to the infectious disease.** Tragically, however, a simple mosquito bed net could make all the

difference, literally between life and death.

Just take the case of the Muecate community, in Nampula province, whose resident Maria Jacinta, cannot stop smiling, when talking about her daughters Ofelia, 9, and Yara, 6.

**“My daughters were victims of malaria constantly, am even countless of the times I had to take them to the hospital. The youngest one, Yara, was forced to abandon school early due to malaria”** says Maria Jacinta. A widow, Maria, explains that she could not afford to buy mosquito nets for the entire family.

**“Since we received mosquito nets from World Vision my entire family sleeps protected and we haven’t had any malaria case” she explains beaming.**

Maria Jacinta and her family are amongst the 600 000 beneficiaries of the first phase of a project that will distribute over 200 000 mosquito nets, in Nampula province alone.

Together with the distribution process, activities are underway for the adoption by communities of hygiene methods that created conditions for the presence of the mosquito responsible for malaria.

## FACTS AND NUMBERS <sup>\*</sup> FY011

### 33 ADP's

More than **1.360.000** indirect beneficiaries

#### Education

More than 200 school committees formed  
More than 120 000 children enrolled  
More than 6000 teachers trained  
More than 70 schools built or improved

#### Wash

Total beneficiaries: 298.495

#### Global Fund Malaria

200 000 Mosquito nets in distribution to 600 000 beneficiaries

#### Sponsorship

108 694 Registered Children  
82 820 Sponsored

#### Agriculture

Beneficiaries: More than 261 000 families  
88 tons of improved seeds distributed in 4 ADP's

## The battle to save twins in Mozambique

Twins Esmenia and Judina, then eight months old, battled against malnutrition. The twins' empty stomachs threatened them from the time they were born. Their mother, Amina, could not provide enough milk to feed them and could not afford to buy milk. "They were crying every time and fighting for the breast. They did not smile, play or do anything else than cry. All my life stopped because they were sick," Amina says.

Sitting on a grass mat laid in the corner of the clay house, roofed with grass, Amina holds her two babies. She looks at them. She sighs of relief. "**By this time I could not imagine my children would be alive,**" Amina says. An eye-catching smile comes across her face. The eyes get wet. Tears of joy roll down her face.

Judina and Esmenia, nine months old, are bit-by-bit recovering from a severe malnutrition in northern Mozambique.

**Their empty stomachs have threatened them since they were born.** "They were crying every time and fighting for the breast. They did not smile, play or do anything else than cry. All my life stopped because they were sick," Amina says, recalling the drama.

Amina could not guess what was wrong with the twins. "I thought that maybe somebody who hates me did some kind of witchcraft." **But the sickness had a name – hunger.** "The nurse told me that my children were crying [because of] hunger. I was not providing enough milk to feed them. It was an empty stomach [that was] killing my children." In fact, Amina had a very complicated pregnancy. "I was so sick during the pregnancy and I could not feed myself as I should, and that led me to this situation."

When she thought that things could not get worse, "My husband abandoned me for no reason when they were born." Amina was left alone to raise the twins and her four other children – Anita, 19, Celua, 13, Atia, 10, and Eleute, 5. This was her second husband as her first husband died in 2008.

The tragic and terrified stories of losses in her family come to the surface when she looked at the twins Judina and Esmenia. A mother ten times, Amina has lost three children. After nine months carrying the baby in the womb, the first one was stillborn. The second did not resist to abscesses and died. The third was killed

by pneumonia. "I was afraid they [Esmenia and Judina] would die also," she says. "I don't know if I could survive. It is a lot of death for a single mother." **Desperate to keep her children alive, she tried everything.** "I used to grind peanuts to prepare porridge for them. So young they were. They could not eat." Every month she went to the health centre but the twins continued to lose weight.

"The nurse told me to look for help at World Vision's office." As the children were in danger, "World Vision promptly gave me 10 cans of milk for them. After a while, when my babies could eat something, **a World Vision assistant came to my house who taught me how to prepare nutritious meals for my children.** He was so patient with me. He regularly came to see the children's improvements and to talk with me about good practices to feed them." Since she was abandoned by her husband, no one could take care of her field where she used to grow maize, peanuts and cassava.

"As I am alone now, the solution was to do odds jobs in my neighbour's gardens. In return I get some money to buy maize flour, sugar and other ingredients to prepare food for my children." "The health condition of my daughters started to improve step by step. Just look at the kids now. [They] are growing and their weight has increased a lot. **This to me is a clear example that came from World Vision to help children within our community.**"

The chronic malnutrition is listed as one of the top diseases affecting children under five in Mozambique. **Four in 10 children are malnourished.** "It is responsible for taking [away] so [many] early possibilities of children developing to their full potential of growth and intelligence," says the World Vision's health coordinator, Antonio Santana.



“When the nutrients are deficient, the body is adapted to continue functioning and often these changes cause as implications such as decreased height and weight, weakness, difficulty thinking and mutilation in motor movements.” To overcome malnutrition, World Vision has created and trained groups of mothers. The mission is teaching their peers how to prepare nutritious meals for their children. “The issue here is not about the lack of food, but how to combine them to have nutritious meals and this is the key point of our work,” Santana adds.

“Every time I went out I was not sure if I would return home with my children alive or dead” says Amina holding her twins.

On behalf of her daughters, Amina says, “I can't express my gratitude to World Vision for helping me save my children. If you could open my heart and see my happiness, you would understand what I am talking about.” Inspired by World Vision work, Amina has no doubt remaining of what she wants for her twins when they grow up. “If my wishes come true, would like to have them [to be] working at World Vision for all he [World Vision] has done for them.

They are alive thanks to World Vision and if [they are] working there, they will have an opportunity to help other children.”

Know our Programmes

**Child Protection Project**

**Duration:** 5years  
**Cost:** 4 million USD  
**Location:** Gaza – Tete – Zambézia  
**Sector:** Advocacy

**Beneficiaries:**  
 Direct: 49.000  
 Indirect: 172.000

**Goals:**  
 Prevent abuse and exploitation by raising awareness on the issues of child protection. Protect vulnerable children by increasing access to immediate care and services, among others.

**Latest News**<sup>sept12</sup>: 6 ADPs in Tete - Child Protection evaluation process joins children and their families with partners and staff in focal group discussions to:

- Identify most relevant issues regarding child protection and their causes;
- Map existing Child Protection systems and reflect on their effectiveness.

**MozWash**

**Duration:** 5years  
**Cost:** 51 million USD  
**Location:** Gaza – Tete – Zambézia - Nampula  
**Sector:** Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

**Beneficiaries:**  
 Direct: 1 million  
 among them 400.000 children

**Goals:**  
 Improving health quality, through the provision of safe water, better sanitation means and promotion of hygiene.

**Latest News**<sup>ag12</sup>: World Vision Mozambique and Mozambican Government (through the National Directorate of Water) signed a memorandum of understanding aimed to strengthen the partnership between the two institutions and enable the implementation of MozWash.

MozWash presented in Nampula in preparation for the beginning of activities scheduled for October.



This edition of Sharing Our Hope Stories was edited by António Matimbe, Eleutério Fenita, Rita da Silva, Lucia Rodrigues



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