

Fact sheet

Solomon Islands



working together

Total People Supported
72,000+
 Children Supported
34,000+

207 Communities we work with 

7 Program Locations

24

Projects

5

Provinces We Work In (of 9)

114

Staff

ABOUT WORLD VISION SOLOMON ISLANDS

World Vision commenced work in the Solomon Islands in 1983. Key focus areas: Health, Education, Economic Development, Disaster Risk Reduction, Water & Sanitation and Hygiene, and Protection. Our 'Channels of Hope for Gender' program through church and government partnerships promotes equity, and is a strong voice for change particularly against gender-based violence (GBV).

Human Development Index (HDI) rank

Solomon Islands ranks 157 on the HDI list, placing it in the category of least developed countries on earth. In comparison, Australia ranks 2 and New Zealand ranks 7.

EDUCATED FOR LIFE

World Vision encourages education at an early age as an important step in promoting a culture of learning for children and their parents. Children who attend quality Early Childhood Education programs will benefit as they continue to primary school and beyond. To improve quality and access to education, we support government and communities in the development of culturally appropriate literacy training materials, and train early childhood educators. Our adult literacy programs are improving the economic, social and cultural well-being of communities.



Basic literacy rates range from **25-40%**
60% of women have never attended school

HEALTHY CHILDREN & COMMUNITIES

Our health projects prioritise prevention and awareness to address child malnutrition, stunting and child mortality. Our holistic approach to Maternal, Newborn and Child Health and Nutrition (MNCHN) considers the entire ecosystem, such as access to health services, when addressing these issues.

SAFE WATER & ACCESS TO SANITATION

World Vision's Water & Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) projects promote practices like hand washing, and increase access to safe water and better sanitation. Our program provides clean and reliable water supplies through developing natural springs, deep boreholes and rainwater capture with associated storage and distribution systems. We have implemented a Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) methodology nationally to end the unsafe practice of open defecation.

"Gone are the fearful days when returning from the streams and water holes, suspicious husbands would be waiting with strings of questions about marital honesty for spending too long away at these streams - for doing laundry, washing cooking and eating utensils, bathing and the other normal things women would usually do with water. Often these ended with some women getting beaten up and scorned."

Matilda, Weather Coast province.



60% of households have access to clean drinking water.
22% of households have access to adequate sanitation facilities

SAFE & PRODUCTIVE COMMUNITIES

Two out of three women in Solomon Islands have experienced physical and/or sexual violence from an intimate partner. Due to a strong culture of silence, 70% of women whom experienced violence did not tell anyone.*

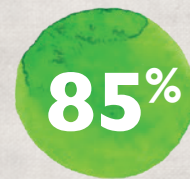
World Vision's Gender projects use an innovative and evidence-based biblical approach to challenge deeply held beliefs about gender equity. They provide church leaders, community leaders, police and service providers with the knowledge and tools to address and reduce gender-based violence in their communities.



38% of women state that their first sexual experience was forced.
OVER 50% of arguments between husband and wife lead to physical violence

ECONOMICALLY DEVELOPED COMMUNITIES

World Vision's Economic Development projects provide opportunities for Solomon Islanders to engage in economic activities. Our goal is to develop economically sustainable and resilient households. Using the Saving Groups project model, we help set up village-based savings and loans schemes. Training programs help Producer Groups support production, processing and market access in response to market demand.



85% of the population depends on subsistence-based livelihoods


BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

The Solomon Islands lies within the volcanic belt known as the Ring of Fire so experiences numerous earthquakes and tsunamis. Cyclones are another hazard. The country ranks sixth on the global Disaster Risk Index.

Helping communities during times of disasters such as floods, earthquakes and tsunamis, as well as working with communities to adapt to climate change is an essential part of our work. Our Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation projects help people plan, prepare and mitigate potential disasters, with the aim of reducing the impact on lives.

Sources:
*Secretariat of the Pacific Community for the Ministry of Women, Youth and Children, 2009, p.61 and p.132.
(World Risk Report, 2012, p. 18).
Office, Department of Finance and Treasury, 2009 A, p. 23).
(Source: World Vision/Australian National University Baseline Survey. Results supported GoS's 2009 study.)

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LEARN MORE: www.wvi.org/solomon-islands  WorldVisionSI

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