



## **World Vision Pakistan Country Strategy Oct 05 – Sept 08** **Executive Summary, drafted 4 July 06**

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World Vision Pakistan's three-year country strategy was developed from a pre-quake strategy that prioritised Children, Livelihoods and Humanitarian Emergency Assistance in the disaster-prone North West Frontier Province (NWFP).

Following the massive 7.6 October 2005 earthquake, which claimed more than 73,000 lives and affected over 3.5 million people, World Vision Pakistan launched a large-scale relief programme with regional and international World Vision support that focused on the devastated Mansehra district of NWFP where World Vision had been working through local partners since 2003.

World Vision Pakistan's programme became an Earthquake Response Programme aiming to save, restore, and improve the lives of children and their families in earthquake-affected communities through the three programme pillars and their relevant sectors:

1) Children (Children in Crisis, Education) 2) Livelihoods (Food Security, Agriculture, Economic Development), and 3) Humanitarian Emergency Assistance (Disaster Mitigation, Emergency Response, Humanitarian Protection, HIV and AIDS).

Phase one of World Vision's response aimed to assist some 15,000 families through emergency shelter, food, protection for vulnerable groups (such as women, children, and the disabled), healthcare, emergency schooling, and restoration of livelihoods after relief staff conduct rapid needs assessments in affected areas.

The scale of the destruction and difficult terrain were compounded by other factors including the onset of harsh weather, lack of appropriate shelters for the victims, problems faced by women and children and especially the disabled, emergency schooling, health and nutrition, lack of livelihood, forced returns, landownership issues etc.

Working with local and international partners, and initially through the Federal Relief Commission and the military World Vision has been able to reach more than 37,000 families with non-food-items in the first phase, meeting the immediate needs of earthquake-affected families while creating the foundation for longer-term intervention.

Phase two of World Vision's response, beginning April 2006 to September 2008 focuses on early recovery and reconstruction and is aligned with World Vision's pre-earthquake strategy. The focus on livelihoods and education complements the three-year plan drafted by the Earthquake Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Authority addressing 11 development sectors in earthquake-affected areas.

Building on previous assessments, World Vision programme staff have recently conducted more detailed assessments, including a baseline data survey in three Union Councils of the Siran Valley to gauge livelihoods losses and other cross-cutting data.

Two of the cross-cutting themes of World Vision's programmes include gender and disability. These are crucial issues for a child-focused organisation in Pakistan since maternal mortality in Pakistan is among the highest in the world, stemming directly from lack of educational and healthcare access, lack of mobility, poverty, and cultural factors. Furthermore, the earthquake caused many new physical disabilities among children, some of who will suffer permanent disability.

Other cross-cutting themes include the protection of vulnerable groups and the earthquake's impact on the environment.

Given the size of target areas, complexity of activities and desire to ensure programme sustainability, World Vision Pakistan is adopting a community-based and integrated programme approach that builds on the gains made during the emergency phase.

This entails using community mobilisers and implementing a range of rehabilitation and reconstruction activities, including school reconstruction, livelihoods restoration, etc in any given union council or even village, with the guidance of community-level councils, elders, and other informants and respected decision-makers.

In order to achieve this depth of outreach, World Vision will actively partner with relevant government departments, UN agencies, and NGOs in delivering project outputs.

Apart from building capacity in the programme sectors, World Vision also recognises the important role that support departments play and the need to continually ensure adequate capacity in these departments, including logistics, security, communications and IT.

Capacities for design, monitoring and evaluation will also be built according to LEAP standards across the programme.

Internally, World Vision Pakistan continues to look at its place as a Christian organisation working in a Muslim context with the desire to create understanding of the organisation and also build the trust of the communities with whom we work.

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*Drafted by R Lyman, 4 July 06*