

A horizontal bar composed of four colored segments: orange, grey, green, and blue.

“Women, Extreme Poverty and the Economic Ladder”

October 2014

EXTREME POVERTY



Face of Poverty

- The World Bank estimates that 75 percent of the world's poor, defined as living on less than \$1.25-2.50 a day, live in rural areas, and most of these people depend on agricultural work (earn from \$457 to \$913 a year)
- In the areas WV is working, it is believed that 80% of those are women and girls (difference between poverty in the US and poverty in Africa)
- “The face of poverty is female,” Quote by Obiageli Ezekwesili, World Bank Vice President for the Africa Region

EXTREME POVERTY



Agriculture as livelihood...

Most of the poor depend on agriculture as a form of livelihood. Agriculture is mainly characterized by :

(In Africa, 90% of farming is done by women)

- Poor inputs
- No access to market information
- No access to financial services
- Not organized (Individual small sales)
- High middle men costs
- Low prices for produce
- No value addition- no grading no post harvest no cleaning no packaging
- No Insurance
- Total dependence on rains

EXTREME POVERTY



The African girl...

- She is 18.5 years old.
- She lives in a rural area.
- She has dropped out of school.
- She is single, but is about to be married or be given in marriage to a man approximately twice her age.
- She will be the mother of six or seven kids in another 20 years.
- She is taking care of 4 of her younger siblings.

findings of the latest edition of the annual World Bank publication, Africa Development Indicators (ADI).

INTERVENTIONS

World Vision Interventions

World Vision has developed different interventions to be implemented along all levels of the economic ladder. And designed project models **to build strong economic structures and resilience** within its area programs.

WVUS participates in -

- Savings Groups
 - Access to markets - Local Value Chain Development
 - Access to Finance through Vision Fund International (WV affiliate)
- to reach people at different levels of poverty and help them move up the ladder in the interest of child well-being.
- *“Illustrate using the Economic Ladder”*

INTERVENTIONS



Picture of Anna counting her share out

<http://bit.ly/lywqlUT>

Savings Groups

- Savings groups coupled with “empowered world view” are the main cornerstone for “pushing” women up the economic ladder.
- World Vision helps people with no habit of savings form small clubs to save money on a regular basis and borrow money from time to time.
- To ensure good management and sustainability, World Vision provides extensive training on group formation, elections, by-laws, procedures, security, savings transactions, the social fund, and the end-of-year share-out of funds.

INTERVENTIONS



Picture of bags of pigeon peas to be sold by a producer group

Access to Markets

Access-to-markets programs benefit the Poor and Transient Poor categories, and continue providing support for the Not Poor. Here's how:

- Groups of producers build their **collective capacity**, strengthen their credit readiness, and are trained to assess the local economy.
- Producers make useful **connections** with people in the market, gather critical pricing information, determine the stage at which a product offers the highest income yield, and meet potential buyers.
- Producer groups then set out to meet product and **market standards** (such as packaging, storage, and transport), contract requirements (such as product quality, quantity, and delivery dates), and financing terms (often through VisionFund's microlending program).

INTERVENTIONS



Producer Group member paying out to the rest of the group

Access to Financial Services

- For people without collateral, a credit history, or demonstrable employment, microfinance is usually the only way to **obtain capital** to start a small business.
- Typically, beneficiaries are on the Poor and Transient Poor rungs of the economic development ladder, but microfinance also continues to benefit many individuals who join the ranks of the Not Poor.
- Saving Groups prepare individuals to **borrow in a group** as they form producer groups. As these groups climb the ladder, they then start qualifying for individual loans to start small businesses

INTERVENTIONS: Pilot in Tanzania



Highlights to date

- **Price Increase:** Prices for peanuts rose by **50%**, onions by **42%** and rice by **10%**
- **High Productivity:** Corn & Rice yield has increased from **200Kg to 1,500 kg** per acre and **400 kg to 3,600 kg** per acre
- **Positive Parenting:** According to surveys from 14 ADPs in FY13, children had strong positive relationships with their parents
- **Child Safety:** Surveyed parents/caregivers indicated a strong care and protection of children ranging from **69% to 99%**

Highlights to date

- **1,059 Producer Groups with 25,412 farmers** have been formed promoting high value agricultural crops and livestock breeds
- **180 Commercial Villages (CV)** have been formed
- **60,118 farmers** are securing profitable markets through CVs aggregation of their production
- More than **300 water pans** in ADPs have been constructed resulting in increased income, food production, and improved nutrition for children in the ADP communities
- **2,261 savings group** have been formed with **55,829 savers/members**
- **The Total Savings from SG in 59 ADPs is S\$2,631,724.**
- **Total loans disbursed to 25,412 members is \$1,870,500**
- **Care of Others:** Total fund that have been used from SG to support **15,790 OVC is US\$ 112,900**