



COVENANTKIDS

Congo

powered by
World Vision

- » Democratic Republic of the Congo
- » Ledia Area Development Program in Gemena

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LEDIA AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



Your gifts are a blessing for the children you sponsor, their families, and their community. Our partnership with you, as brothers and sisters in Christ, gives us the privilege of reflecting God's love to children and families in this region. It is our joy to be part of God's work together.

We are deeply grateful for your support of the Covenant Kids Congo powered by World Vision partnership. This partnership supports a specific community called the Ledia Area Development Program (ADP) in Gemena, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

This report describes progress in the Ledia ADP from July 1 through December 31, 2016. For our water, sanitation, and hygiene work, reporting is through March 2017.

Where it is feasible, cumulative reporting is included.

"I could not expect that my five grandchildren would go back to school after they had been affected by flooding, which destroyed their school kits, among other things. I could not believe when I was called at the Catholic Church to receive assistance provided by Ledia program, which included school bags and uniforms, notebooks and pens for all my five grandchildren, along with other community children in the same conditions. For me this is God's work through this program that is supported by the donors and World Vision partners. My grandchildren have resumed classes thanks to this gift from God."

—Marie, grandmother of five children, one of whom is sponsored by a CKC donor

SPONSORSHIP

CHILD AND MOTHER SURVIVAL

Reporting period: July through December 2016
(Fiscal 2016-Quarter 4 and Fiscal 2017-Quarter 1)

The program works on a number of levels to promote and ensure improved health for infants, children, pregnant women, and mothers. Implementing the *Extended Program for Immunization* has proved successful in reaching more children, due to the ability to refrigerate and store temperature-sensitive vaccines. In fiscal year 2016 alone, more than 85,000 children were immunized, which is nearly three times the number of children immunized during the previous three years.

CHILD AND MOTHER SURVIVAL				
Ledia ADP: Sponsorship accomplishments through December 2016 (Through Fiscal 2017, Quarter One)				
ACTIVITY / OUTPUT	October 2012 through September 2015	TOTAL Fiscal 2016 (Oct 2015 to Sept 2016)	QUARTER ONE Fiscal 2017 (Oct-Dec 2016)	TOTAL through December 2016
Malnourished children supported with care and food in nutrition centers	1,282	855	0	2,137
Orphans and vulnerable children supported with healthcare	237	568	90	895
Children immunized due to the <i>Extended Program for Immunization</i> , which helps to ensure adequate refrigeration for vaccine storage and transport	29,189	85,587	17,039	131,815
Community members trained to educate pregnant women in prevention efforts to avoid HIV transmission from mother to infant	624	197	158	979

SPONSORSHIP

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Reporting period: July through December 2016
(Fiscal 2016-Quarter 4 and Fiscal 2017-Quarter 1)

In an effort to support sustainable farming, ensure access to sufficient food, and promote improved nutrition, the program continues to focus on empowering small farmers and home gardeners. As shown in the chart below, the program has been expanding to meet the increasing business needs of a growing number of farmers and entrepreneurs.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT				
Ledia ADP: Sponsorship accomplishments through December 2016 (Through Fiscal 2017, Quarter One)				
ACTIVITY / OUTPUT	October 2012 through September 2015	TOTAL Fiscal 2016 (Oct 2015 to Sept 2016)	QUARTER ONE Fiscal 2017 (Oct-Dec 2016)	TOTAL through December 2016
Small farmers trained in new techniques and provided with seeds and tools	875	700	0	1,575
Farmers trained on the importance of a balanced diet	875	1,398	0	2,273
Households supported to start home gardens	105	150	0	255
Women received training on cooking nutritious meals using local agricultural produce	375	358	350	1,083
Households trained in income generating activities and provided with support to start a small business	250	140	146	536
Community members trained on property rights, land ownership laws, forest regulations, and business law	0	0	80	80

SPONSORSHIP

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Reporting period: July through December 2016
(Fiscal 2016-Quarter 4 and Fiscal 2017-Quarter 1)

To further engage community members in advocacy, social justice, and child protection efforts, the program continues to focus on training. During the first quarter of fiscal 2017, children learned about protection, rights, and advocacy by participating in a newly formed child parliament. Additionally, a growing number of public officials were trained to improve their ability to effectively protect children.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT				
Ledia ADP: Sponsorship accomplishments through December 2016 (Through Fiscal 2017, Quarter One)				
ACTIVITY / OUTPUT	October 2012 through September 2015	TOTAL Fiscal 2016 (Oct 2015 to Sept 2016)	QUARTER ONE Fiscal 2017 (Oct-Dec 2016)	TOTAL through December 2016
Children attended Bible camps	3,437	202	0	3,639
National Test fees paid for vulnerable primary schoolchildren	100	295	0	395
Sunday school teachers trained in Sunday school teaching methodology	86	55	0	141
Church leaders trained in Channels of Hope program	41	204	0	245
Parents sensitized on gender bias and the importance for both girls and boys to receive an education	n/a	2,100	0	2,100
Public officials trained in child protection	0	50	110	160
Children trained in child rights and participating in a newly formed child parliament.	0	0	100	100

SAVERINE LEARNS TO READ

At 11 years old, Saverine's life took a significant turn—she started learning to read.

As a CKC sponsored child in the Ledia Area Development Program, Saverine was introduced to a reading club—a place where children can improve their reading and writing skills, study Bible verses, and are provided with books.

Saverine is the third of five children in her family. Her mother works to support the family as a small-scale farmer and her father is jobless. Two of Saverine's siblings also are sponsored by CKC donors.

After only three months with the reading club, Saverine had made great strides with her reading ability and comprehension. She enjoys reading on her own, practices regularly, and has gained the confidence to be part of the reading team at her church.

“The reading club has motivated me to go further and it has made of me a good reader in the church. I do not know only reading and writing but understanding the content of what I am reading,” Saverine said, with a smile.

Eager to teach her siblings what she is learning,



Saverine delights in reading, a treasured skill that will be critical to opening doors for her future. Saverine is a CKC sponsored child.

Saverine created a reading board at home and spends time sharing what she has learned with her brothers and sisters.

When she thinks and dreams about her future, Saverine says she plans to become a nun and care for children.

To support the management of 11 reading clubs in Ledia, World Vision facilitated the training of 30 community volunteers.

I thank World Vision and our sponsors who support our community. This has helped me to know how to read, understand, and write.”

—Saverine, 11-year-old CKC sponsored child in Ledia ADP

SPONSORSHIP

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

INNOVATION AND LESSONS LEARNED

To address the issue of malnutrition, the program initially focused on families having the ability to grow nourishing food from kitchen gardens. As families began to harvest their vegetables, they found they had enough not only to feed their families, but to sell. It became clear that efforts to improve nourishment could also improve household income—they could work hand-in-hand.

Due to capacity building training in project management and financial management, several community based organizations have engaged in successful fundraising efforts. For example, the Lys De La Vallee organization was awarded support for sanitation activities, and another organization received support for the provision of agricultural kits for farming households.

HOW DO YOU SEE GOD WORKING IN THIS PROGRAM?

FY16 Q4: God has been working among the various churches, organizations, women's associations, and institutions, all of which are increasingly interacting despite their differences, in order to achieve common objectives for the well-being of children and families.

FY17 Q1: A number of different churches participated in World Vision's annual Day of Prayer. They came together to call upon God's grace for effective, smooth implementation of project activities throughout the new fiscal year.

DESCRIBE HOW COMMUNITY MEMBERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS PROGRAM. HOW HAVE THEY WORKED TOGETHER TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS OF THIS PROGRAM?

FY16 Q4: Diverse members of various churches and organizations rallied together, shared the work, and accomplished project activities collaboratively. They are discovering the value of working together.

SPONSORSHIP

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE OR IMPROVEMENT THAT HAS OCCURRED IN THE COMMUNITY BECAUSE OF THIS PROGRAM.

FY16 Q4: Participating churches and organizations have developed a stronger sense of shared responsibility for the project, allowing management and implementation to be more effective, while enabling improved access to resources.

For example, empowered by capacity building training, five community-based organizations worked together to submit a proposal to the United Nations Development Program. They were awarded funding, which enabled them to support a reconciliation process between two estranged communities, and then helped these communities to develop income generating activities. Nearly 275 households benefited.

Celebrating Families Training

Centered on creating space for love and grace, reasons for thanksgiving, and opportunities for forgiveness.

FY17 Q1: The Celebrating Families program has been a catalyst for positive changes in behavior and relationships among family members. Those who participated in the training are making time to share what they learned with their families, churches, and communities.

For Mr. William Welende, the training allowed him to rethink how he responds to George, his 13-year-old son. George had been behaving badly, including stealing money. As a result, William kicked his son out of the family home. However, after the training, William decided it was important to find his son, bring him home, and talk through the difficulties.

Now, with the support of both his parents, George is home and back in school.

“This training has helped me to understand the love of my children from God’s perspective”

—Mrs. Mayaka, a participant in the Celebrating Families training

WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

WASH SUMMARY THROUGH MARCH 2017

The number of people with access to clean water in Ledia ADP has grown to **28,234**. The number of water taps (faucets) has grown to **66**.

The following is both a recap and an update on water sources developed in Ledia ADP.

SAZA MECHANIZED SYSTEMS

Description: These include three mechanized water systems, each comprised of a deep borehole, mechanized pump, water tank, pipes, kiosks, and taps. Water is mechanically pumped from the borehole to an elevated water-holding tank, then gravity-fed with enough pressure to flow water through the pipes to eight kiosks, each with three water taps.

Date: Two of the three mechanized water systems were completed in 2016.

Number of Taps: 48

Update: Based on information from the recent feasibility study, a drilling contractor with specialized equipment has been selected to drill a borehole for the third mechanized water system. The drilling is expected to take place this summer (2017). The water tank is in place, pipes are connected, and the eight kiosks have been built and are ready to be connected to the water system.

SUZIA SPRING SYSTEM

Description: This is a natural spring, connected by a system of pipes to 10 taps. The Suzia spring naturally has sufficient water pressure to pump water to an elevated water-holding tank, from which water flows through a piped system to individual taps.

Date: Completed in 2016.

Number of Taps: 10

THREE LARGE SPRINGS (MAYI YA POTO, CHUNGU, LIBENGE)

Description: These are natural springs, each protected by a concrete catchment.

Date: Completed in 2015 and 2017.

Number of Taps: 8

"I have been living in Libenge Moke area for years without clean water. By God's grace in my old age, I can now see and get clean water from this new capped Libenge Spring that has been put in place by the church with support from people of God with good heart. This is unbelievable."

—Nzongo Gese, 73-year-old resident benefitting from the large spring in Libenge

"I thank my God for sending World Vision ... with the support from churches in USA, to develop our community by providing us with clean water that helps to reduce waterborne diseases."

—Mrs. Maguy Olomi, grateful resident

WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

INNOVATION AND LESSONS LEARNED

Lessons Learned A flexible approach has been especially valuable when suddenly faced with unforeseen challenges or opportunities. Being open to making slight adjustments to an existing plan and budget, and making these decisions quickly, have been important aspects to accomplishing the work in a timely manner. For example, the Chungu spring improvement was planned to include two taps. However, in the process of developing the spring, it suddenly became clear that creating three taps would increase the water flow. Immediate revisions to the work plan and budget were made accordingly, making way for three taps instead of two.

HOW DO YOU SEE GOD WORKING IN THIS PROGRAM?

FY16, Q4: When one of the borehole pumps was in need of repair, the community was very anxious because the work required water provision to be suspended for a period of time. Discouraged and anticipating months without clean water, community members were elated and thankful to God when the problem was solved in just a few days. Trained local technicians, along with a handful of community members, put their heads together and figured out the quick fix. Clean water ran freely once again. Praise God!

FY17, Q1: The community has had a great sense of God's hand in the development of the Libenge spring. This is because they have observed how the work has gone much more smoothly and quickly when compared to the development of the other springs. They also see how God is working in the hearts of diverse people as they come together, with all their differences, for a common goal of working on this project.

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE OR IMPROVEMENT THAT HAS OCCURRED IN THE COMMUNITY BECAUSE OF THIS PROGRAM.

FY16 Q4: Sanitation and hygiene training has inspired some families to start building improved latrines with local materials. Also, schoolchildren have changed their behavior on handwashing. It has been noticed that in schools and homes there is improvement in the practice of handwashing and the management of waste.

FY17 Q1: Families without access to clean water are noticing the practical benefits of clean water—observing the positive impact of clean water in their neighbors' lives. These households are requesting extensions of water systems so they can have access to clean water as well. And there seems to be a ripple effect: households with clean water have become interested in improving their homes.

DESCRIBE HOW COMMUNITY MEMBERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS PROGRAM. HOW HAVE THEY WORKED TOGETHER TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS OF THIS PROGRAM?

FY17 Q1: Some of the project activities are designed and implemented in such a way that two or more partners are involved for synergy and expertise. For example, when the project completed work on two large springs—Libenge and Chungu springs—Community of Churches of Christ in Ubangi (CECU) collaborated with the local health department to provide training for water management committees and community health workers. The local health department facilitated training on keeping a clean environment, while CECU focused on infrastructure sustainability and finance management.

WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE

“I thank my God for having given us water ...”
—Merveille, 12

IMPACT STORY

GRATEFUL FOR CLEAN WATER

Merveille and her younger siblings were used to bathing and playing in the murky waters of their neighborhood brook. Sadly, they were also frequently ill because they, like others in their community, used these same waters for drinking. But, your gifts helped bring them clean water.

Living without access to clean water was troubling to 12-year-old Merveille from Gemena in the South Ubangi province within the Ledia ADP region.

“Every morning my sisters and I went to the brook, three kilometers [nearly two miles] from our house to wash ourselves before going to school,” said Merveille. “I usually came late to school ... and my teacher didn’t stop punishing me. ... I sometimes arrived to school without washing, and I felt ill at ease among my friends.

“I often was sick. I suffered bellyaches because of the bad water qualities, and this caused my absence to the school.”

Thankfully, because of your support, World Vision’s DRC WASH Program was able to provide Merveille’s community with improved access to clean water.

Today, Merveille is strong and healthy and no longer experiences bellyaches from contaminated water. She also is able to fetch water for her

morning wash and still arrive at school on time.

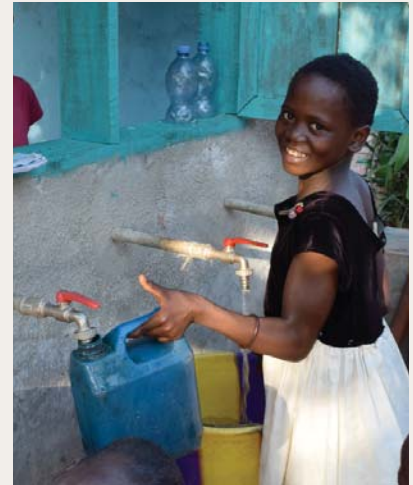
“I thank my God for having given us water in the district. We suffered for a long time to wash ourselves in the brook. The bellyaches, diarrhea, and the vomiting did not stop affecting us. ... I know that the donors contributed largely for this realization. It is through their contribution which my district begins to have change,” she added with a bright smile.

Merveille’s grandparents also were elated for your gift of clean water.

“Having the safe water in my area is an appeasement [relief] for my family,” said Liawe, Merveille’s grandmother who is the family caregiver and farmer. “Today, thanks to the water in our area, I’m able to wash [my little grandchildren] as well as my kitchen utensils.”

Merveille’s grandfather is a nurse, and operates a local health center for the community.

“I’ve lived here since 1991 without having seen a water



fountain. [Now,] the safe water made its triumphant entry in our area where all the people consider it a relief,” exclaimed Fakulu, Merveille’s grandfather.

“Since we’ve had the water in our area, I’ve noticed in my health center that there is a reduction in the rate of waterborne disease,” he concluded.

Your generosity has not only made possible clean water for Merveille, her family, and community, but has provided water, sanitation, and hygiene to children throughout the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Thank you for your support, your partnership, and for being a shining example of our Lord’s love to the people of the DRC.

THANK YOU

Thank you for your faithfulness and your prayers as we follow God's call, and strive to respond with compassion to the needs of citizens in one of the most vulnerable, impoverished areas in our world.



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The Evangelical Covenant Church



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