

STATEMENT BY WORLD VISION
International Dialogue on Migration

Session 3: Rethinking partnership frameworks for achieving the migration-related targets

1) THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS

- We are delighted that Agenda 2030 is an ambitious agenda. We are also delighted that Agenda 2030 very clearly calls for a multi-stakeholder approach. We realise that a business-as-usual approach to implementation will not deliver the transformation that is essential to reach ‘zero targets’ in areas such as preventable child deaths, hunger and violence against children.
- We are convinced that cross-sector partnerships – partnerships between organisations from different sectors of society – including governments, faith groups, civil society and the private sector - have a huge role to play in delivering the innovation and scale of response needed to achieve the SDGs. Including those related to migration.
- Migration is a multi-faceted phenomenon and truly addressing the push factors that contribute to migration flows—and particularly forced migration--requires an inclusive, multi-stakeholder approach which draws on a clear understanding of the political economy of each context. We must all do more to bring together political, business, academic, religious, humanitarian, development and civil society actors to design more courageous, context-appropriate migration pathways that benefit both the migrating families and communities hosting them.
- World Vision is calling for an integrated holistic approach that leverages the full spectrum of resources to address immediate and longer-term needs of displaced children and their families. This includes partnering with multi-stakeholder groups, including those within migrating populations and hosting communities, to develop context-appropriate strategies that result in far-reaching benefits for all. This also requires the needs and capacities of migrating populations be systematically incorporated into national development plans of concerned host governments and supported by the international community. Hosting communities must shift towards integrative approaches to migrating populations, which in turn requires a significant shift in the way the international community offers support.
- The role of business and cross-sector partnerships as a key means of implementation has been - and continues to be -a key theme of our advocacy during the post-2015 debates and now into SDG implementation. We have written five policy papers on these subjects which can be found at <http://wvi.org/agenda2030partnering>

2) LESSONS LEARNED FROM WORLD VISION’S EXPERIENCE

- World Vision is not a migration or resettlement organisation, but works closely with children on the move and communities in origin, transit and receiving countries to ensure that the rights and dignity of all affected children are upheld and their

immediate and longer term needs are met. Doing so requires us to work in partnership at every step.

- We are “walking the talk” - entering into cross-sector partnerships at all levels of our organization. For example:
 - At the local level our long term development programmes start with a collaborative approach and we partner with many thousands of organisations - for example community based organizations and local government service providers.
 - At the national level we have worked with the sugarcane industry and government to tackle child labour in Philippines.
 - At the regional level we are working with Cartoon Network in Latin America to tackle bullying of children as part of our regional campaign to create a “region free of violence against children”
 - At the global level we are very active in partnerships such as Scaling Up Nutrition, the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, and the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children.

- However, the challenges of global development and humanitarian action are immense and confronting.
- We need *more* cross-sector partnerships and more cross-sector partnerships *delivering at scale*.
- Our latest paper “Delivering on the promise” explores how multistakeholder platforms can be fit for purpose in the SDG era and specifically explore platform leadership, integration, and how they can best deliver for those left behind – the most vulnerable...including children. The SDGs promise a focus on the most vulnerable; Agenda 2030 states, ‘We pledge that no one will be left behind. . . . And we will endeavour to reach *the furthest behind* first’.
 - therefore businesses, cross-sector partnerships, and multi-stakeholder platforms must deliver for the most vulnerable including the most vulnerable children
 - all too often the most vulnerable are not included in the goals of initiatives – this needs to change
 - In addition, it is critical that relevant citizen groups (including the most vulnerable children where appropriate) should be engaged from the beginning. Most vulnerable children. These citizen voices should be heard directly in within partnership initiatives rather than solely through an intermediary.

- We are committed to advocating for and playing a co-convening role in setting up platforms where they are needed
- This year, we have played a leadership role in the creation of two new platforms – the Asia P3 Hub focused on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and a multi-stakeholder disaster management focused platform in East Africa

3) THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS FOR ACHIEVING MIGRATION RELATED SDGs AND TARGETS

The Secretary General’s Agenda for Humanity stresses the importance of ensuring that “no one is left behind”. In order to achieve the targets of the SDGs, including those related to migration, World Vision believes we must take seriously the needs of vulnerable children and

families on the move. Doing so requires developing innovative and scalable strategies and partnership to better serve the millions of migrants, refugees, and internally displaced persons who leave their homes due to conflict, disaster, climate change, violence or threat of violence.

- The recent UN Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants and the adoption of the New York Declaration affirmed the international community's commitment to developing a new way of collectively working to address historic migration flows and levels of displacement.
- Yet, even as we work towards the development of Global Compacts on Migration and Refugees, we must actively develop new partnering models.

There are several kinds of partnerships that WV has entered in when it comes to migration and forced displacement that are pertinent:

- **We begin with partnerships with the affected communities:** both host communities and populations on the move, including children and youth, must be meaningfully included in the early development of migration strategies. Causes and cycles of displacement are complex and very seldom do blanket solutions work. Migrating and hosting populations must be appropriately informed of all decision-making processes related to their wellbeing, be allowed space and opportunity to contribute their perspectives and actively participate as partners in the development of mutually-beneficial solutions
- Children want to be involved:
 - In August 2016, with World Vision's support, children affected by forced displacement from South Sudan, Uganda and other East African countries met with policy makers in Nairobi at the East African Community Conference on the Rights of the Child. At the event, children voiced their strong desire to work with policy makers to develop solutions to address the many drivers of forced displacement. These child representatives also pressed policy makers to work with them to ensure the effects of displacement do not negatively define the futures of the displaced and those who are hosting them.

"We want all individuals, communities and governments to protect children. When children are hurt by others, they will grow to hurt others. But if children are protected and treated with respect, they will grow up to protect and treat others with respect."

Ludia, age 14, South Sudan.

- **Partnerships with governments:** Partnerships with governments are essential because governments are ultimately responsible to protect their citizens and to comply with obligations vis-à-vis migrants and refugees. World Vision works together with governments to make sure that our approach to forced displacement fits into broader national policies and that we also inform governments on what is happening on the ground in order to adjust policies. For example, at the moment, World Vision is working in partnerships with the governments of Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan, to address the refugee crisis in their region. All three governments are responsible for addressing the needs of refugees on their territories and World

Vision works with them to ensure alignment, information sharing and where possible partnerships for service provision to the displaced populations on their territories, but also to host communities. World Vision works particularly closely with local governments in all three countries, while maintaining relationships with the relevant national ministries.

- **Partnerships with other CSOs or UN Agencies:** World Vision is a firm believer that coordination saves lives. This relates to both program implementation and advocacy. As children migrate across borders, World Vision works with other UN, NGO, and government agencies to ensure unaccompanied and separated children and minors receive the extra care they need. With highly mobile populations, this is both especially challenging and especially critical. In terms of advocacy for the rights of young migrants and refugees, World Vision is partnering with many CSOs and UN Agencies in numerous contexts around the globe; the #TeamRefugees campaign that was launched around the Olympic Games in Rio is one of such examples. WVI's engagement in the #withrefugees campaign was through the #teamrefugees social media effort during the Olympics. This campaign included UNHCR, UNICEF and numerous NGOs.
- **Partnerships with faith communities:** Faith actors— formal and informal – are integral members of the communities which aid organisations like World Vision seek to serve. In many contexts, faith leaders are go-to authorities in times of personal and community distress and provide spiritual comfort, practical advice, and refuge for those in crisis. They occupy a unique space amongst influencers and often speak to areas of individual and community life to which other actors do not have access. While faith identity can and has been used to pit communities against one another, it has also been a powerful force for peace that drives compassion and humanitarian action. That is why World Vision is committed to actively engaging faith communities.
 - o At the local level, we are developing interfaith platforms to strengthen inter-faith dialogue to promote peace, collective solution and mutual care.
 - o At the global level, in partnership with the Joint Learning Initiative, World Vision is generating evidence on the critical value of partnering with faith communities to best meet the needs of both displaced populations and those who host them. We are doing this not just to create a catalogue of good practice, but to show the multiplying effect of partnering with faith communities who are often the first to respond to displaced populations and the last to leave.
- **Partnerships with the private sector:** the private sector plays an important role in the economy of countries and has the resources to influence behaviour. It is important that, while their activities are properly regulated, they are brought to the table when designing development plans, for example to create incentives to integrate migrants legally into their work force. World Vision has significant experience on the delivery of assistance to displaced populations in the form of cash. In some cases, we have partnered up with the private sector in order to effectively deliver assistance. This is crucial in order to give back choice and

dignity to displaced populations and because responding to the needs of displaced populations is a shared responsibility. More specifically, we have recently signed a multi-layered partnership with MasterCard which has a specific focus on digital identity and electronic payment technology – which are becoming increasingly critical to effectively reach the most vulnerable including refugees.

- More than half of the world's displaced are children. Children on the move are extremely vulnerable and face specific challenges like the limited or no access to health care and education, being separated from their families, social isolation, the possibility of detention and violence or exploitation.
- The ability of the international community to cope with and bring resolution to an ever-increasing rate of forced displacement has stagnated. Practical solutions and concrete commitments to protect children on the move and share responsibility for their care and fulfilment of their rights are desperately needed.
- In this context, World Vision, during the high level UN High-level Summit on Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants, the Leaders' Summit on the Global Refugee Crisis and other events around the current Un General Assembly session, has called on states and relevant actors World Vision calls on all parties to uphold the rights of the displaced and the communities who welcome them by, among other, partnering with multi-stakeholder groups, including those within displaced populations and hosting communities, to develop context-appropriate durable solutions to protracted displacement.
- In sum, the role of partnerships is really crucial when it comes to achieving the migration-related SDGs. Since migration is a global issue, inter-state partnerships are extremely important. However as we see with the issue of unaccompanied minors, human trafficking etc., cooperation between a much broader range of public and private stakeholders is key. One of the most important kinds of partnerships will always involve collaborating as closely as possible with displaced populations, making their participation a reality and listening to their needs. The role of hosting communities is also of outmost importance to ensure integration, maximize positive impacts of migration and minimize possible tensions.
- Multi-stakeholder platforms – as mentioned earlier – at the regional level – focused on migration which systematically bring together key actors from different sectors of society will be critical to catalysing effective collaborative responses to these issues.
- None of this will happen on its own. Champions of collaboration are needed. Champions could be organisations or individuals - from different sectors of society - who can make the case, cast a vision and inspire action.
- We at World Vision are committed to play our part to support the realisation of the hopes and dreams of millions of the most vulnerable children around the world, including migrant children. Agenda 2030 is a promise to those children – and World Vision will strive over the next 15 years to partner with others to ensure that together, we deliver on the promise.

Thank you.