



World Vision started its operations in Antique province in 1984 through a church partner. Over the years, the scope of work expanded and transited into longer term development programmes. With an established presence in the area, World Vision has been able to bring people together and empower local leaders and partners to make a difference for children in their community.

#### BRIEF INFORMATION

IMPACT AREA POPULATION  
22,862 people

PROGRAMME LIFESPAN  
2015–2030

CHILDREN AVAILABLE FOR  
SPONSORSHIP (AS OF FEB 2019)  
616

#### GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Antique is a province located in the western portion of Panay Island, which is in the Western Visayas region. Most villages are located on high ground, while some villages in the community are situated on low land, coastal areas and three are island villages.

#### PROGRAMME GOAL

To improve the wellbeing of children and their families in the Antique community.

# ANTIQUE PHILIPPINES

## REALITIES

### Economic Poverty

Families depend mainly on farming and fishing to earn an income. 13% of agricultural land is devoted to crop production and the main crops grown include rice, coconuts, vegetables and root crops. Besides fishing, harvesting seaweed is another main method of generating income. 26% of the population in Antique live below the national poverty line. In several vulnerable families, men and boys work as *sakadas*, or sugarcane farmers, which is perilous work and does not generate much income. In order to ensure their families can afford basic necessities, men and boys work in other provinces and young women work as maids.

### Child Protection Challenges

Low income levels have far reaching implications on children. It can lead to them dropping out of school to work in order to support their family. As parents are focused on finding food for the family, other responsibilities are left behind. The lack of parental guidance often leads to children engaging in delinquent behaviour as they seek affirmation from their peers who introduce them to vices and negative habits like teenage pregnancies, selling scrap items and other social evils.

### Healthcare Concerns

The Antique province has the highest rate of malnutrition in the entire Western Visayas region. With malnutrition present in the target community, children face an increased risk of wasting, stunted growth, respiratory illnesses and impaired brain development. Their health condition also greatly influences their learning ability and performance in school as well as participation in community activities that are meant to benefit children.



**KEY CHALLENGES AND WORLD VISION'S KEY INITIATIVES**

**CHALLENGE** Limited economic opportunities hinder the growth of the community

**INITIATIVE** Empower families to meet the basic needs of their children by enhancing economic resilience and providing economic opportunities

Natural farming practices are promoted and the community's farming knowledge is improved. Aside from material provision and training, farmers are also linked with markets and service providers so they can sell their produce. Access to financial services is established and strengthened and community members are supported in forming savings groups.



Local farmers are trained and educated on better farming knowledge and techniques for better harvests.

**CHALLENGE** Lack of literacy and child protection mechanisms lead to child labour

**INITIATIVE** Improve functional literacy and numeracy and promote child protection

To reduce the vulnerability of children, World Vision works with the relevant stakeholders to improve functional literacy and numeracy and promote child protection. Teachers are equipped with improved teaching methodologies and the culture of reading among children is strengthened. Youths and children undergo essential life skills development activities to nurture them in critical thinking, decision making and self-awareness. Community stakeholders are also trained on child protection case management such as proper protocols, reporting and referrals.



Reading hubs are established in schools and in the community to promote a culture of reading.



Nutrition clubs are created to educate mothers and caregivers about nutritious food for children.

**CHALLENGE** Poor nutritional status of community children

**INITIATIVE** Educate community about health and nutrition through nutrition clubs and training

Nutrition clubs are strengthened by engaging local stakeholders, disseminating knowledge and training mothers and caregivers on proper feeding practices. Immunisations, micronutrient supplements and medical check-ups are provided to the most vulnerable children with health issues. Local and national level advocacy activities are also conducted to strengthen hygiene practices in the community.

Through all these interventions, World Vision is transforming the lives of children in Antique, making a change today as well as giving them hope for the future!

**HOW YOU CAN HELP**

**Sponsor a child** or give towards a **Gift Catalogue item**, which benefits the community!

Thank you for your heart for the poor, and for making a difference in the lives of children and families in the Philippines.

**Because of our community-focused solutions, for every child you help, four more benefit too!**