VisionFund International Annual Review

We are VisionFund – *15 Years Empowering Lives*

VisionFund International celebrated its 15th anniversary since its founding by World Vision. Since 2003, we have empowered millions with financial solutions to build brighter futures and help transform communities through the support of our donors. The small loans and financial services that VisionFund provides have helped clients to develop successful businesses, and enabled their children to grow up healthy and educated. Our microfinance institute (MFI) network is located across 29 countries in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America.

Our work in 2018

No. of clients/ borrowers	Female community bank clients	Values of loans disbursed	No. of children impacted	Repayment rate
1,108,000	70%	US$726,747,000	4,100,000	97.8%

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Social Performance

Our work across the MFI network is reaching more rural communities, which represents 63% of the total client base. The reach to smallholder farmers increased from 37% in 2017 to 42% of the client base in 2018. These achievements are essential, especially as industry trends see key players moving away from rural and harder-to-reach places, where the need is greater.

Financial education, a vital part of our work, helps equip clients with the essential skills they need to manage and grow their business. It covers borrowing wisely, savings, budgeting, and insurance. Providing this education in 16 countries, we facilitated over 585,000 education sessions with clients in 2018.

Success Story

We empower families to create income and jobs. Through our financial services and training, impoverished households will be able to grow successful businesses and use the income to support their families.

Francisco's Story

Francisco is a fish breeder from the Dominican Republic. At start up, he scavenged plastic bottles and water tanks from the dumps to provide a home for his fish.

Later on, he applied for a loan from VisionFund to dig a well and install a water pump to draw fresh water for his business. It was a leap of faith for VisionFund because Francisco had little credit and income, a family to feed and a business idea that seemed crazy. Thankfully, since Francisco took out his loan, he has never missed a payment. Moreover, Francisco generously shares the pump with his community, providing free access to potable water for others. "I'm not interested in profits. It's what the community needs," he says.

Francisco plans to build a small treatment plant to provide potable drinking water to the community for a small fee to cover his costs. He also plans to pay off his loan, grow his business and improve his house, so that his three children do not have to share the same bed anymore.