

## SUMMARY

Participants in World Vision’s THRIVE Project continued to progress toward economic empowerment in fiscal year 2022, helping participants care for their families and build better futures in the face of an enduring global pandemic, climate change, natural disasters, and rising costs.

More than 2.5 million people benefited from THRIVE (Transforming Household Resilience in Vulnerable Environments) this year in Honduras, Malawi, Rwanda, and Zambia, as well as in the Recovery Lending for Resilience Project.

### Mindset trainings, value chains, savings groups, and microloans

Over the life of the THRIVE project, more than 66,000 people have been trained in Biblical Empowered Worldview in the four countries, learning to break the mindset of dependency. More than 51,000

have engaged in value chain sales to increase profits. Participants have saved nearly \$3 million in savings groups to invest in their livelihoods, and more than 21,000 have taken out loans to invest in agriculture and small businesses. In almost every category, we have nearly reached or exceeded project targets.

### Loans for pandemic response

Since starting two years ago, Recovery Lending for Resilience has provided nearly 1.2 million loans worth more than \$550 million to help mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Expansion plans ahead




Our new [Economic Empowerment Business Plan: THRIVE 2030](#) aims to reach 10 million people in 10 countries—including Honduras, Malawi, Rwanda, and Zambia—with the tools they need to lift themselves out of extreme poverty.



*“Thanks to [THRIVE], I have built a network that spans the whole community. I learned to manage my business better, using modern farming skills and tools,” said Christine, a mother of three in Rwanda. Kickstarted by a savings group loan, she raises more than 250 chickens and sells eggs to hotels, restaurants, and community members, helping to provide for her family’s needs.*

## GLOBAL UPDATE & FY22 HIGHLIGHTS

**5,873,199** PEOPLE, INCLUDING 4,191,364 CHILDREN AND YOUTH, have benefited from our economic empowerment projects since they began in October 2015. In FY22, these projects benefited 2,523,231 people.

-  **128%** In Rwanda, sales from value chains rose to \$679,033 in the fourth quarter, a 128% increase from the first quarter.
-  **\$1M** In Honduras, we made \$1 million in loans to program participants to help them improve their livelihoods.
-  **8,278** In Malawi, 8,278 farmers—including 4,048 women—earned \$1.23 million through selling crops collectively, a 44% increase in revenue from FY21.

# HONDURAS

## SUMMARY

We are pleased to report that THRIVE met or exceeded most FY22 goals—despite ongoing challenges faced by farmers in Honduras, especially soaring costs for fertilizer and other agricultural supplies.

### Savings group update

During the reporting period, 1,531 Savings for Transformation group members saved \$77,135 (including emergency funds) and granted loans totaling \$108,957 to one another.

### Food security and diverse incomes

Promoting coffee production and linking farmers to potential buyers improved their ability to make a profit and experience food security. We also emphasized good agricultural

practices, along with income diversification.

For instance, coffee-growing members of the Amistad savings group diversified their income by selling bread, nacatamales (a type of meat tamale), and soft drinks, earning \$8,163 to care for their families' needs.

### Loans and strategic approaches

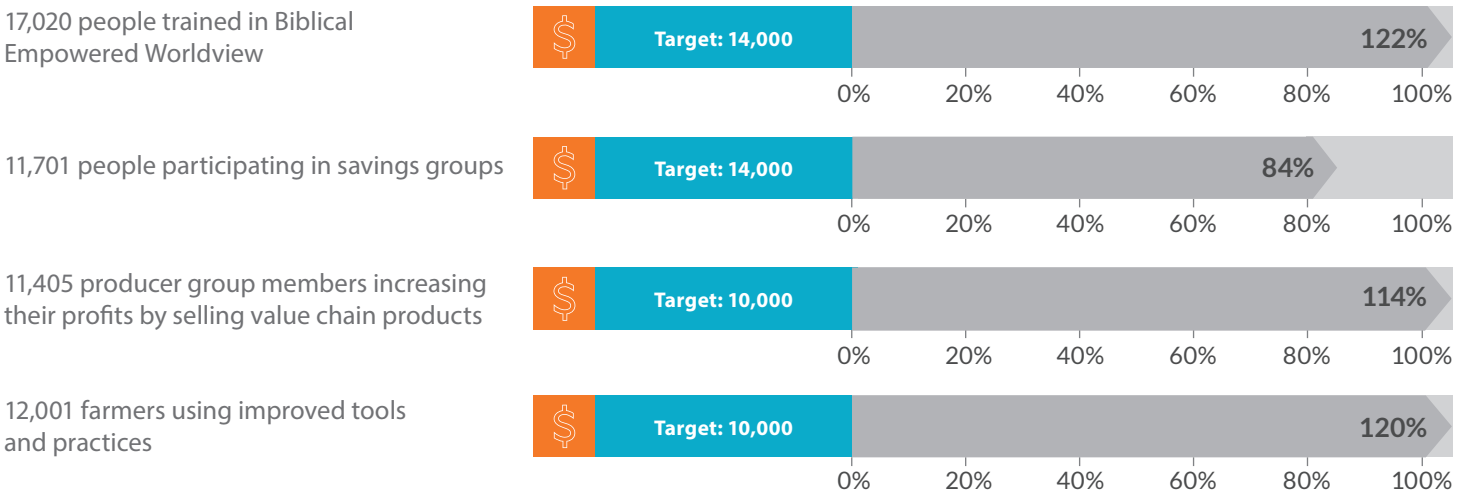
In FY22, the project disbursed nearly \$464,000 in loans through VisionFund, World Vision's microfinance subsidiary.

Using the market system development approach to identify and solve gaps in value chains, and in conjunction with two partners, we lent \$536,000 to help farmers buy vital supplies.



*“Learning this new agricultural skill will allow me to be an independent farmer on my own plot of land and have more diversified crops,” said Juan, 21, who lives in the Honduran community of La Campa that had lacked job opportunities. Juan represents a new generation of farmers who have benefited from THRIVE training.*

## PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES (LIFE OF PROJECT: FY17-FY23)



# MALAWI

## SUMMARY

With your help, THRIVE has impacted the lives of 17,098 farming families, including 12,251 women, 54,343 children, and 255 people with disabilities—some of the most underserved people in Malawi. Today, 90% of participants say they're practicing values gleaned through Biblical Empowered Worldview, 84% are using improved agricultural technologies, and 100% are involved in a savings group. As a result, these families are better able to weather economic shocks and the effects of climate change, while investing in their businesses and communities.

### Empowered farmers, flourishing families

By implementing new irrigation methods, planting with improved seeds, and using other agricultural technologies, farmers are seeing, on average, a 90% increase in crop yields. Additionally, by participating in

collective selling, 8,278 farmers (4,048 of whom are women) earned a total of \$1.23 million in FY22, a 44% rise compared to FY21. These improvements translate to more marketable products, boosting household income and increasing food security for families.

### Savings groups offer equity and opportunity

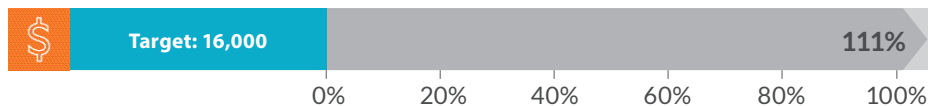
Focused training with 1,971 savings group leaders (including 683 women) showed how creating a saving culture at home can protect family income. This training was especially empowering to those often left out of household decision-making, such as women, those with disabilities, and the elderly. Further, in the last quarter of the fiscal year, 1,347 members (941 women) accessed \$97,889 in loans from VisionFund to grow their businesses.



*After undergoing Biblical Empowered Worldview training and joining a savings group, Martha Nyirenda and her husband began working together to farm and open a grocery store. Among 16,593 savings group members, 90% say they now practice shared decision-making between men and women, encouraging gender equity in homes and communities.*

## PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES (LIFE OF PROJECT: FY17-FY22)

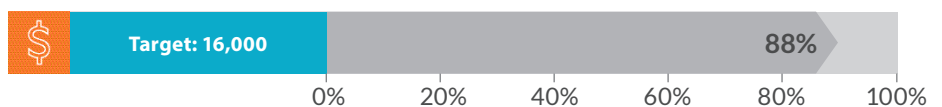
17,737 people trained in Biblical Empowered Worldview



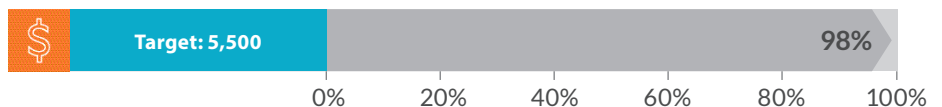
\$1.86 million saved by savings group members to invest in their businesses and cover emergencies and expenses



14,084 producer group members increasing their profits by selling value chain products



5,413 people using VisionFund loans to invest in agriculture and small businesses



# RWANDA

## SUMMARY

FY22 ended on promising notes for Rwanda THRIVE. Mass vaccinations decreased the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, easing restrictions as participants resumed activities, nearing or exceeding many savings and sales targets.

### Savings group update

During the reporting period, 628 Savings for Transformation groups saved \$406,487 and helped 15,712 families to feed themselves, pay school fees for children, and meet other essential needs.

### Transformed minds and actions

Trainings in Biblical Empowered Worldview (with 17,737 participants to date, 121% of target) and cooperative management helped people transform their mindsets and improve their farm-based livelihoods.

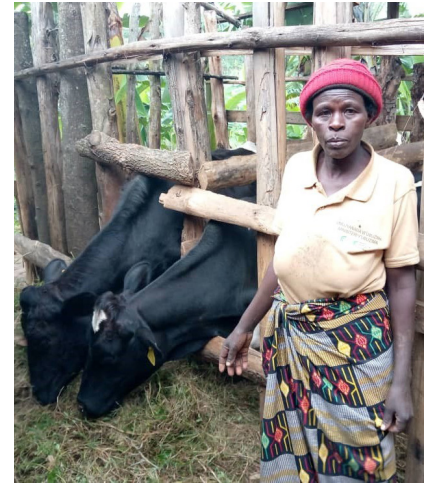
### Crop and livestock farming

In the fourth quarter of FY22, 88 families bought land, 714 invested in agricultural supplies and equipment, 1,980 acquired small livestock, and 141 improved their houses.

### Value chains and points of sale

Sales from value chains rose to \$679,033 in the fourth quarter, a 128% increase from the first quarter.

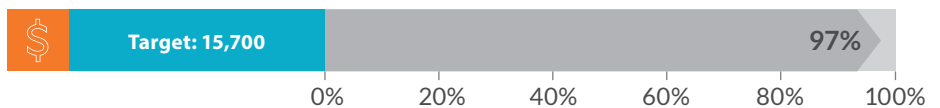
To make livelihoods more sustainable, the project created five points of sale for 350 farmers to market their produce, as well as three points of sale and a pig slaughterhouse for pig farmers. Improved breeding helped 86 producer groups earn \$240,450 from pig and manure sales.



*THRIVE trainings and saving money “allowed me to buy a pig, which farrowed nine piglets,” said Anatolie, a mother of five children. “I later sold them and got [\$134].” The profits enabled her to upgrade her house with cement walls. With \$325 from her savings group share-out and a loan, she added an iron roof and bought her first cow, using its milk for income and to help feed her children.*

## PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES (LIFE OF PROJECT: FY17-FY22)

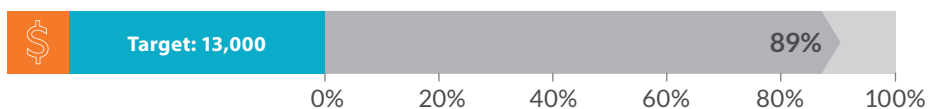
15,287 people trained in Biblical Empowered Worldview



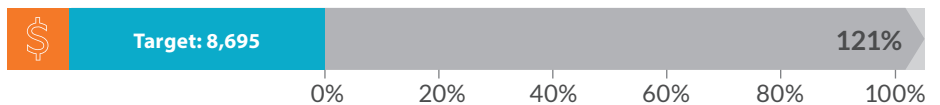
\$426,158 saved by savings group members to invest in their businesses and cover emergencies and expenses



11,524 producer group members increasing their profits by selling value chain products



10,515 people using VisionFund loans to invest in agriculture and small businesses



# ZAMBIA

## SUMMARY

World Vision continued to meet or nearly reach key goals in the Zambia THRIVE Project, as participants increased savings and improved farming in FY22 to meet economic challenges.

### Savings groups increase

Participation in savings groups rose to 14,343 people, with cumulative savings nearing \$690,000. The project worked with local officials and traditional leaders (chiefs) to further enhance the savings group model.

### Value chain success

Nearly 14,500 people have actively participated in selling value chain products in local markets. An individual success story is Memory Ndowneni, who earned \$673 for selling bean seeds. More broadly, growers in Buyantanshi and Mpika combined to sell 22 tons of bulked beans for \$29,905.

Honey products remain another strong value chain, with 1,672 beekeepers selling \$145,500 worth during the review period.

### Sustainable farming

More than 11,000 farmers have been trained so far in our climate-smart agricultural approach. Participants are practicing sustainable farming techniques on 20% of land under production. The project also continues to work with traditional leaders to help protect land identified for conservation.

### Changed mindsets

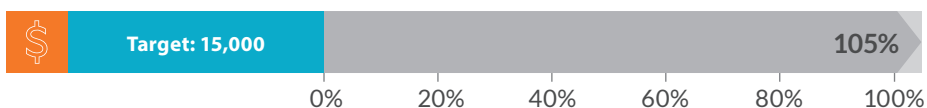
Nearly 15,800 people have undergone training in Biblical Empowered Worldview to lessen mindsets of dependency and increase their ability to become agents of change.



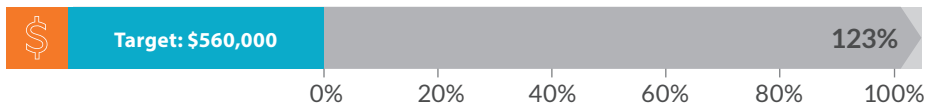
*“Life was hard. I could only feed my family one meal a day and [even] that was not assured,” said Able, who is married to Jennifer and has nine children. Through THRIVE, Able joined a savings group, bought seed, and learned conservation farming techniques. That “enabled me to do more than I had ever imagined,” he said. “My yield is now much bigger than before and my kids are healthy and able to stay in school.”*

## PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES (LIFE OF PROJECT: FY17-FY23)

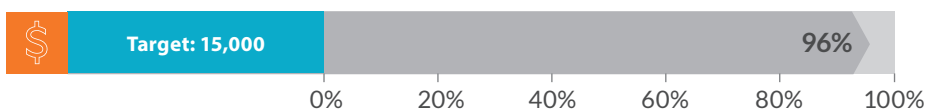
15,745 people trained in Biblical Empowered Worldview



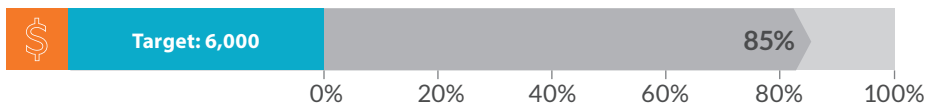
\$687,119 saved by savings group members to invest in their businesses and cover emergencies and expenses



14,446 producer group members increasing their profits by selling value chain products



5,114 people using VisionFund loans to invest in agriculture and small business



# RECOVERY LENDING FOR RESILIENCE

## SUMMARY

Beginning in 2020, experts began projecting that the COVID-19 pandemic would cause a historic rise in families being pushed into poverty. At World Vision, we knew bold action needed to be taken quickly—and you rose to the challenge. Your remarkable generosity helped launch Recovery Lending for Resilience (RLR), a vital response to the threat of the pandemic. The vision was to come alongside rural farmers, urban microbusiness owners, and savings group members, equipping them with tools to weather the storm.

### Celebrating incredible impact

Over the last two years, RLR has paved the way for 1,169,467 recovery loans totaling over \$553 million to reach those most vulnerable to the crisis, including 907,825 women (78%). Access to financing during such a critical period meant entrepreneurs were able to keep their businesses open, provide for their

families, and serve their communities. In total, the initiative impacted the lives of 3,581,473 children.

### Highlight: Great news from Ghana




Once COVID-19 restrictions lifted, members of the Anyinasu Ogyefo savings group participated in training on economic diversification, offered by VisionFund Ghana. The group then applied to increase its loan amount, which enabled members to invest even more into their businesses.

Nearly a year later, about 80% of Anyinasu Ogyefo members had pivoted to new businesses or added an additional enterprise to their portfolio. One member, Cecilia, went from trading secondhand clothing to trading rice in Ghana's capital. The business growth Cecilia achieved meant she could cover her daughter's school fees, rather than needing her daughter to begin working to help support the household.



*“The savings group is a life support for people like us; VisionFund, by heart, is the life-provider. If they had refused to lend to us because of the pandemic, I would’ve gone 10 times backward in my life,” said Joyce, a member of the Anyinasu Ogyefo savings group (above) in Ghana.*

## PROGRAM OUTCOMES (FY20-FY22)

-  **Recovery lending:** Smallholder farmers and entrepreneurs accessed 912,156 loans totaling \$542,840,211, with 720,809 (79%) female loan clients and 2,661,730 children benefiting.
-  **Finance Accelerating Savings Group Transformation (FAST) loans:** Savings group members accessed 257,311 loans totaling \$10,195,919, with 187,016 (73%) female loan clients and 919,743 children benefiting.
-  **Biblical Empowered Worldview training:** Across nine countries, programs hired eight leaders to spearhead the rollout of the transformed mindset approach and fully trained 1,204 staff members globally.
-  **Digitization:** Microfinance institutions in 14 countries improved their core banking systems, developed a mobile money option, or implemented other mobile banking solutions.

## FINANCIALS

Economic Empowerment Fund  
(October 2016 through September 2022)

\$90,108,658 program-to-date funding

Program-to-date spending: \$84,860,239

94%

## THANK YOU

Friday Zimba (center, in back) was just a subsistence farmer in Malawi, struggling to feed his wife and four children. After learning new farming methods, his maize harvest more than doubled to 70 bags.

“The same piece of land was giving me 30 bags of maize when we used the traditional way of farming,” Friday said, “but THRIVE trained us in improved agricultural technologies.”

Your gifts support World Vision’s THRIVE and RLR projects, helping participants like Friday to prosper, sustain their livelihoods, feed their families, keep their children in school, and build brighter futures.

We deeply appreciate your partnership in changing lives and instilling hope.

*Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.*

—Galatians 6:2 (NIV)



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economic-empowerment](http://worldvisionphilanthropy.org/economic-empowerment)



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