SUMMARY
With your support, communities are transforming into safer, more loving places for children. Since 2016, World Vision has reached more than 5.4 million people through our child protection projects. Thank you for equipping us to show children that they are valuable, loved, and worthy of protection. We are excited to share highlights of our work so far this year in Kenya and Guatemala.

Promoting children’s rights in Kenya
In Kenya, we are empowering communities to address the root causes of child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM). During the reporting period, we continued to collaborate with local and national governments to raise wide awareness of child protection/FGM issues and to promote education. Forty-seven presentations on protecting children drew 4,738 participants, and 6,138 children attended child protection meetings. Radio talk shows reached more than 335,000 listeners, a Children’s Assembly engaged 55 children, and a public gathering attracted 278 adults.

Opportunities for youth in Guatemala
The Community Roots Project helps communities reduce violence and offers young people, like Jennifer (pictured on page 3), opportunities to thrive at home. Thanks to the skills she learned in a floral arrangement course, Jennifer was able to open her own floral-delivery business. With income from her business, she saved enough to attend college and become a social worker. World Vision empowered her to reach her goals and avoid the pressure to migrate. “I feel that I am a woman who is contributing to the development of her country,” said Jennifer.

GLOBAL UPDATE & PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES
119,437 PEOPLE,* INCLUDING 70,035 CHILDREN AND YOUTH have been protected by partnering with families, communities, faith leaders, and governments in the first half of FY23 to address the root causes of violence.

1,351 people attended Community Change sessions in 17 communities in Kenya. The sessions promoted the well-being of children and resulted in a positive shift of attitudes, behaviors, and practices.

801 young people participated in vocational and technical training courses in Guatemala, learning skills such as carpentry, construction, engine repair, beekeeping, baking, and more.

*This report reflects two sets of data: first, the status of programs which began during the Every Last One campaign and are still in process; second, a summary of activities and people reached through our new campaign in the first half of fiscal year 2023 (October 2022 through March 2023).
**KENYA**

**SUMMARY**

Through your generous support, you have helped World Vision reach 113,109 children and adults in the past six months and 1,114,412 since the Kenya Big Dream project started in 2019.

The project moved forward in the first half of FY23, launching Phase 3 (Migori County) to continue protecting vulnerable children from the harmful cultural practices of child marriage and FGM, and other types of maltreatment.

Integrating multiple sector project models has produced promising results in the three phases of Kenya Big Dream. In Phase 1 (West Pokot and Baringo counties), the project continued to transform mindsets and finances, empowering caregivers to better provide for their children and not marry off their daughters for a bride price in the face of poverty. In Phase 2 (Samburu County), we helped different generations understand the need for change and prepare for alternatives to FGM as a cultural precursor to marriage. In Phase 3, the project highlighted the need to address the spiritual issues influencing FGM.

Highlights of Kenya Big Dream’s impact so far in FY23:

- Various child-focused stakeholders collaborated with World Vision to train participants in Citizen Voice and Action in Nomboroi (Samburu County), teaching them to be engaged in their communities. Participants learned about government laws and policies opposing FGM and sexual offenses. **A day after the training, nine girls destined for child marriage removed their bride-to-be necklaces and enrolled in school.**
- 304 girls received help to pay their school fees since the project began.

**PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES**

781 children graduated from five-day Alternative Rites of Passage ceremonies.

153 Savings for Transformation groups were established.

116 people were trained to lead the Community Change program to address issues that affect child well-being.

Students Joshua and Joy will benefit from a new secondary school being built in Akoret in Baringo County through the support of private donors to Kenya Big Dream. The school will include a dormitory, and the county committed to supply water. Without an opportunity to be educated, Joshua said he might be “herding goats,” while Joy thought her alternative would be to “undergo FGM and be married off ... It would be so sad.”
GUATEMALA

SUMMARY

Since December 2016, World Vision has walked alongside communities in Guatemala to create safe environments for children, reduce irregular migration, and offer opportunities for youth to thrive at home. The Community Roots Project brought together local government, business, and community leaders to reach more than 530,000 people over a seven-year period.

In the first half of FY23, we focused on equipping local leaders with all the needed tools for sustainable, ongoing impact as we prepared to hand over the project to be 100% community owned by May 2023. Following are a few examples of the achievements made possible with your support:

Communities creating change
Community leaders played an invaluable role in mobilizing community members committed to the welfare of local children and adolescents. They formed councils and solicited feedback from their neighbors about the changes they wanted to see and how to make them happen.

Over the life of the project, community councils enacted 92 violence prevention plans and supported 49 school violence prevention plans, in coordination with local police and municipal officials.

Expanding opportunities for youth
The project partnered with local and national entities to teach communication skills, and provide alternative education, vocational training, and job placement services. Since the project began we have:

• Worked with 53 private sector partners to provide vocational and technical training to 2,961 people
• Helped 1,198 youth obtain internships or jobs
• Supported 61 entrepreneurs to create businesses, 35 of which are female-owned and operated
• Trained 1,753 young people to promote behavior change through digital communications, and 23 youth in radio and journalism, public speaking, digital platforms, and audiovisual resources

Many young people in Guatemala, like Jennifer, face challenges in their homes and communities, where resources are often limited. When given opportunities for training, education, and social support, youth overcome these barriers and are able to thrive.

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

357 community-led activities were carried out.

3,225 at-risk youth received services such as counseling, psychosocial support, and education.

2,525 children and youth received support to attend school or vocational training.
FINANCIALS
Child Protection Fund
(October 2016 through March 2023)

$24,209,546 program-to-date funding
Program-to-date spending: $18,952,531 78%

CHALLENGES AND LOOKING AHEAD

Kenya: From April through September 2023, we plan to:
• Move a cohort of 39 students who have graduated from the Kongor Accelerated Learning Program (KALEP)—
designed for children who have been denied the opportunity to gain a formal education—to the Ministry of
Education’s school system. Students on the KALEP waiting list will form the next cohort.
• Introduce a social norms assessment tool to implement the project. World Vision received training in the tool
through our partnership with Georgetown University professors. We also will identify community members to
help with program monitoring.
• Complete assessment in Migori County (Phase 3) for baseline, local value chains, and Gender Equity and
Social Inclusion.
• Develop a working agreement with the University of Nairobi to become a learning partner in the project.

Guatemala: Through the generous support of private donors, a small number of project activities will continue in
the second half of FY23. We plan to:
• Conduct household surveys and focus group interviews as part of an endline evaluation to measure the project’s
impact. The data will then be analyzed and a final report will be ready in July.
• Coordinate with community and municipal councils to plan and budget for activities that they will implement
in the future.
• Complete referrals for psychosocial support services, vocational training, and alternative education programs.
• Refurbish public spaces to provide positive, safe spaces for children, youth, and community members.
Refurbishments include painting community spaces and upgrading recreational and sports facilities.

THANK YOU

May God bless you for your commitment to protecting vulnerable children and empowering them with
opportunities to thrive in the future.

“Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring
a reward from him.” —Psalm 127:3 (NIV)